

Committee of the Parties



Council of Europe Convention
on preventing and combating violence
against women and domestic violence
(Istanbul Convention)

Conclusions on the implementation of
recommendations in respect of Iceland
adopted by the Committee of the Parties
to the Istanbul Convention

IC-CP(2026)9

Adopted on 2 June 2026

The Committee of the Parties to the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), acting under the terms of Article 68(12) of the Convention and Rule 1(2b) of the Committee of the Parties’ Rules of Procedure;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 66(1) of the Convention concerning the monitoring role of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “GREVIO”);

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Parties;

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Iceland on 26 April 2018;

Having regard to the Baseline Evaluation Report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Iceland adopted by GREVIO at its 28th meeting (10 – 13 October 2022) as well as the comments of the Government received on 7 November 2022;

Having regard to the recommendation on the implementation of the Convention addressed to Iceland by the Committee of the Parties, published on 12 December 2022;

Bearing in mind the adoption, at its 9th meeting on 15 December 2020, of a reporting form which focuses on a maximum of ten areas of the Convention and which states are required to use to report back to the Committee of the Parties on measures taken to implement the recommendations addressed to their authorities;

Having examined the information provided by Iceland on the implementation of the recommendation addressed to its authorities, through the reporting form provided for that purpose, and taking into account other available information;

A. Welcomes the measures taken and progress achieved by Iceland in the implementation of recommendations for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, noting in particular:

- steps taken to adopt the first National Action Plan Combating Gender-Based Violence Against Women for the period 2026–2030, the designation of a ministerial steering group to oversee the implementation of the national action plan and to act as co-ordinating body for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention;
- the legislative steps taken to introduce the concept of intersectionality into Icelandic law through the Acts on Equal Treatment, the adoption of a National Plan on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which includes targeted measures to address violence against women with disabilities, as well as the adoption of a dedicated LGBTQ+ Action Plan for 2022–2025 addressing domestic violence in LGBTQ+ relationships;
- improvements to data collection by the law enforcement authorities, with the National Commissioner of Police publishing quarterly statistics on domestic violence and on sexual offences, disaggregated by type of offence, sex, age and the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, as well as the publication of monthly joint data by the City of Reykjavík and the Reykjavík Metropolitan Police;
- the increase in funding allocated to non-governmental organisations providing specialist support services to women victims of violence and the conclusion of multi-year funding agreements with such organisations;
- the efforts made to strengthen the institutional capacity to respond to violence against women within law enforcement forces, especially in the Reykjavik Metropolitan Police;
- the planned setting up of an independent femicide review committee, tasked with analysing root causes of killings of women and identifying systemic failures with a view to preventing recurrence.

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- B. Encourages the Government of Iceland to take further measures to implement the recommendations addressed to its authorities, in particular by:
1. ensuring that the national co-ordinating body is endowed with a clear mandate to fulfil all of the functions as set out in Article 10 of the Istanbul Convention, with dedicated human and financial resources, that it exercises its functions in close consultation with relevant NGOs and civil society;
 2. furthering the harmonisation of data collection systems across law enforcement agencies, prosecution services and the judiciary, so as to enable case-tracking throughout all stages of the criminal justice process for all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention, with the aim of identifying reasons that may contribute to low conviction rates as well as attrition;
 3. ensuring that all relevant professionals, including social workers, child-protection officers, members of the judiciary, court experts and child psychologists, when deciding on custody and visitation, are duly aware of and take into account incidents of violence against women, and by evaluating the effects on the safety of women victims of domestic violence and their children of the current practice by the District Commissioners and the civil courts in this respect;
 4. reinforcing prosecutorial and investigative capacity in relation to all forms of violence against women and ensuring systematic and gender-sensitive risk assessment and safety management through an effective multi-agency approach.
- C. Invites the Government of Iceland to report back on these measures by 1 June 2028.
- D. Invites the Government of Iceland to continue taking measures to implement the Istanbul Convention, particularly on the basis of the conclusions of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report.