

Strasbourg, 20 January 2021

Restricted IC-CP(2020)12 rev

Committee of the Parties
Council of Europe Convention
on Preventing and Combating
Violence against Women
and Domestic Violence
(Istanbul Convention)

Reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties

measures to be taken to implement the conclusions of GREVIO.

In accordance with Article 68, paragraph 12, of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, the Committee of the Parties adopts, based on the report and conclusions of GREVIO, recommendations addressed to state parties concerning the

The applicable procedure for issuing recommendations was settled by the Committee of the Parties at its 4th meeting and is described in document IC-CP(2018)6. In accordance with this procedure, the recommendations call upon state parties to implement all the proposals and suggestions set out in GREVIO's baseline evaluation report. However, the obligation to report on measures taken is limited to those specifically outlined in section A of the recommendation, namely: a) all the proposals and suggestions formulated by GREVIO throughout the report which require immediate action – these are qualified by the use of the verb "urge", and b) the proposals and suggestions related to Chapters I and II of the convention which require taking remedial action in the near future and are qualified by the use of the expression "strongly encourage". According to the agreed procedure, state parties are given a period of three years to implement the recommendations of the Committee of the Parties and report back to the Committee.

To facilitate this reporting, state parties are requested to use this questionnaire to report on the implementation of recommendations issued by the Committee of the Parties. Recommendations not issued in relation to Denmark do not need to be reported on. Please see the accompanying letter for full details on the recommendations to be reported on by Denmark.

The reporting deadline given to Denmark is set at **30 June 2021**. Information related to the monitoring of Denmark is available on the <u>dedicated country</u> monitoring webpage.

I.	Fundamental rights, equality, and non-discrimination (Article 4)		
1	Have your authorities taken measures to ensure that the provisions of the Istanbul Convention are implemented without discrimination on any grounds listed in Article 4, paragraph 3, of the convention, including in terms of the availability of services and the protection by law enforcement agencies?	Yes ⊠	No 🗆
1.1	If yes, please specify:		
	1.1.1. In 2019, Denmark criminalized coercive control in Section 243 of the Danish Criminal Code. Coercive control is person belonging to or closely related to another's household or by a person who has previously had such a relation to exposes that person to behavior that is grossly degrading, insulting or offensive and thus suited to improperly control the	said household	
	The specific mention of negative social control was added in March 2021. The law now explicitly states that this type provision, and that the control at hand may consist of drawing up marriage and divorce contracts that aim to ensure the not leave the marriage or marriage-like relationship, or pressures a party to the contract to make or to refrain from material divorce or engaging in new intimate relations.	at a party to the	e contract does

The law also broadened the scope of Section 260 of the Danish Criminal Code regarding the ban on forced marriages, to include 'other marriage-like relationship'. These relationships are often entered into without the presence of a religious authority, for example by drawing up a written or oral marriage contract, and to include forced retention in both marriages and marriage-like relationships.

Furthermore, the law criminalized the conclusion of a religious marriage and other marriage-like relationship with a person under the age of 18 in Section 260a of the Criminal Code. The criminalization supplements the absolute prohibition in Section 2 of the Marriage Act against the legal marriage of minors.

- **1.1.2.** In December 2020 Denmark introduced consent-based rape legislation. Section 216 of the Danish Criminal Code now defines rape as sexual intercourse with a person, who has not consented.
- **1.1.3.** The police guidelines for handling domestic violence, rape, stalking and honour-related crime are all gender neutral in the sense that all victims regardless of their gender or other characteristics have equal access to the relevant protective measures, when reporting a crime to the police.
- **1.1.4.** In a political agreement regarding the economy of the police and the public prosecutor between 2021-2023 ("Flerårsaftalen"), a number of initiatives have been taken to ensure a continuous focus on preventing violence in close relationships and victims of rape.

In ultimo 2019, the Director of Public Prosecutions developed an e-learning course on communication with victims. The course focuses on better communication with vulnerable victims of crime, for instance by adjusting communication to the specific victim's needs. The course is mandatory for all prosecutors in Denmark. In order to strengthen the work process of the police and the prosecution service in cases of violence in close relationships, stalking, rape and so-called honour-related crimes, a new e-learning course in trauma-informed practice will be introduced by the Director of Public Prosecution later this year. The new course will provide the prosecutors with information on reaction patterns when traumatized victims are in contact with authorities and in situations where re-experiencing the trauma is necessary, e.g. during interrogation in court.

- **1.1.5.** To follow up on the new consent-based rape law in Denmark, the Ministry of Children and Education will update the curricular framework on Health, Sexual and Family Education to primary and secondary schools in 2021.
- **1.1.6.** The health system has an essential role in preventing, detecting and treating health consequences of violence, not only in relation to women, but to all human beings including children. As described in previous contributions to GREVIO, healthcare in Denmark is provided by the Regions. In addition to the general health system (hospitals, general practitioners, midwifes and health nurses etc.), there is a range of specialized units. Examples of such units are outpatient family units (Familieambulatorier), associated with the local department of gynaecology. The national guidelines for health visits for pregnant women as well as for preventive child healthcare focus on domestic violence in some chapters.

In Denmark, nine regional centres across the country provide treatment against the consequences of sexual violence. Some of them are separate centres, e.g. Centre for Sexual Assaults at Rigshospitalet in The Capital Region (Center for seksuelle overgreb, Rigshospitalet.dk) and provide treatment for both adults and children; others are connected to the Emergency Room or the department of gynecology. In the Capital Region, a

specialized centre (Center for voldsramte) provides treatment for adult women and men who are victims of domestic violence and violence in a close relation. In addition, the centre provides counselling towards health professionals from all regions across the country.

Since 2017, several new initiatives concerning systematic screening programs to detect domestic violence during pregnancy have been initiated. At Rigshospitalet and Odense University Hospital, a questionnaire is sent to pregnant women before the 1st trimester scanning (PRO-schema based on AAS, Abuse Assessment Screen) including questions about domestic violence.

Since the beginning of 2020, Amager Hvidovre Hospital (the largest maternity unit in Denmark with more than 6,000 births annually) has screened all women/families systematically, and all midwives are trained in detecting domestic violence. The systematic screening takes place at the first midwife consultation (week 17-20) as well as in week 28. The initiative includes group intervention for couples, and a special initiative for ethnic minorities as well as referring the families to public and civil society support. The preliminary results indicate that out of 6,400 women, between 1-3% were victims of domestic violence. This is a five-year project developed and implemented in close collaboration between the civil society organization called 'Dialogue against Violence', the Mary Foundation, Amager Hvidovre Hospital and the association Østifterne with the latter as the main donor. The digital screening tool (a PRO-questionnaire) will most likely be incorporated in the new national digital health record for obstetric care and pregnant women by September 2021, which will allow online screening even before the first midwife consultation.

1.1.7. Since 2017, the Danish Prison and Probation Service has taken a number of steps to strengthen the efforts against violence towards women and violence in close relationships. The initiatives concern:

1. Protection of female inmates from abuse

Towards the end of 2021, a new prison solely for female prisoners' will be operational. Prior to the establishment of the prison for women, female inmates served time in gender-mixed prisons. The decision to discontinue a gender-mixed practice was due to the identified need to protect female prisoners against abuse in a predominantly male prison community. From October 2021 and onward, female inmates – with a few exceptions – will serve their prison-time in an exclusively female population.

2. Cognitive program

Sex crime offenders who either will not or cannot participate in a treatment program, which target their profile will serve their time in Nr. Snede Prison. The Danish Prison and Probation Service has developed a motivational cognitive program, called MOVE, with the purpose of motivating this particular group of sex offenders to participate in their treatment. The program has been implemented and is continuously operated at Nr. Snede Prison.

3. Strengthening the efforts against violence against women – the prison initiative

Today the Danish Prison and Probation Service offers, in collaboration with the organization Dialogue against Violence, treatment against violence towards women. However, the treatment option is primarily part of the probation service and therefore lacking in prisons. The Danish Prison and Probation Service is therefore considering – based on an analysis of possibilities – implementing a cognitive treatment program against violence in close relationships.

	1.1.8. A qualitative research project will study the experiences and needs of LGBT victims of domestic violence in order to ensure that their needs are addressed. The results will be published in a report by the end of 2021.		
	1.1.9. Finally, at present, Danish police is undergoing extensive organizational changes. These changes seek, amongst and development in the area of domestic violence, rape, stalking and honour related crime.	other things, to	ensure quality
1.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
2	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to prevent and combat violence against women who are or might be exposed to intersectional discrimination?	Yes □	No □
2.1	If yes, please specify:	<u> </u>	1
2.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
3	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relatio covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:	n to Article 4, v	which were not
II.	Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies implemented under the responsibility of an adequately ma ordinating body (Articles 7 and 10)	ndated and r	esourced co-
4	Have your authorities developed a long-term plan/strategy to prevent and combat violence against women?	Yes ⊠	No □
			N/A (a plan/strategy was already developed at the time of GREVIO's baseline evaluation)
4.1	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:	ı	1

5	Which forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention are addressed by the plan/strategy? Please offer a brief description specifically indicating the forms of violence not previously addressed in plans or strategies at national level.		
	5.1. Since the baseline evaluation, the Danish government has finished implementation of the National action plan (National close relationships 2014-2017/2018. Furthermore, the government has launched a new NAP covering 2019-2022, were predominantly focused on physical domestic violence and stalking, the 2019 NAP also places a specific emphasioners digital forms of stalking and sexual harassment.	Whereas the	previous NAPs
6	Was specific attention given to place the rights of women victims at the centre of all measures planned?	Yes ⊠	No □
6.1	If yes, please specify how:		1
6.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
	6.2.1. While the NAP covers programs, policies and projects targeting both women and men as victims of domestic viole women are affected by domestic violence disproportionately. Furthermore, the NAP includes two initiatives targeting or violence: Information for women's shelters on how to prevent digital tracking, and improved outpatient programmes proffering support and counselling for women subjected to physical violence. The NAP includes an awareness raising of the campaign focuses primarily on the coercive control experienced by young women, as young women are the grant highest.	nly female victir provided by wo ampaign on co	ms of domestic men's shelters percive control.
7	Do the plan/strategy and the measures contained therein involve all relevant actors, such as government agencies, the national, regional and local parliaments and authorities, national human rights institutions and civil society organisations?	Yes □	No □
7.1	Please specify the actors involved:		
7.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
8	Have the authorities assigned the role of co-ordinating body to one or more fully institutionalised entities?	Yes □	No □
			N/A (a co- ordinating body was already established at the time of

			GREVIO's baseline evaluation) ⊠
8.1	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
9	Please specify the mandate, powers, and competences, as well as the composition, of the co-ordinating body/bodies: 9.1. The Inter-ministerial Working Group against VAW and domestic violence is Denmark's coordinating body. The maclear and has been communicated widely in the domestic violence NAP 2019-2022, which states that the working group ensuring that the ministries exchange knowledge and coordinate cross-sectoral measures, ocoordinating data collection on violence against women and domestic violence, assessing the need for additional measures to combat violence against women and domestic violence pursual obligations, and international, political joint declarations. The working group has been active since 2002 and carries out regular follow-ups on the implementation of the recommendary force of the proparing the five NAPs on VAW and domestic violence. In this work, the governmental actors. The government views it as a strength, and not a weakness, that the co-ordinating body is not a separate body but authorities involved in combatting VAW and domestic violence. The Department for Gender Equality chairs the working group, making sure that a gender perspective permeates the weakness are regularly initiate external evaluations of policies on VAW and domestic violence. The Danish Institute for human rights obligations of the Danish government – including the obligations under the Istanbul Convention.	p is responsible int to Denmark' mendations by e group always t instead consi	s international GREVIO. The involve non- sts of all state ing group.
9.1	In particular, please indicate whether the co-ordinating body/bodies is/are responsible for:		
	- Co-ordination of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes ⊠ The coordination body responsible is:	No □

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	- Implementation of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes □ The co- ordination body responsible is:	No ⊠
	- Monitoring and evaluation of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes □ The co- ordination body responsible is:	No ⊠
	- Co-ordination of the collection of data, analysis and dissemination of its results	Yes ⊠ The co- ordination body responsible is:	No □
10	Please specify the human and financial resources allocated to the co-ordinating body/bodies:		l
	10.1. Since the Inter-ministerial Working Group is not a separate organizational entity, it does not have a separate budg in the relevant ministries and agencies and these organizations allocate the resources needed for members to take p group.		
11	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:	on to Articles 7	and 10, which
III.	Financial resources (Article 8)		
12	Have your authorities allocated specific funds at the		
	- national	Yes ⊠	No □
	- and/or regional	Yes ⊠	No □

- and/or local

levels of government for activities to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention?

Ves ⊠ No □

Convention?

12.1 If yes, what is the annual amount of these funds? If possible, please specify the percentage of the total national state budget that the amount represents.

The national state budget has varied within the reporting period. In 2021 it amounted to approximately 1.238.370 mill. DKK and a number of different initiatives involve funding allocated to combating violence against women.

12.1.1. The Financial Act for 2021: the Danish Government has allocated an annual budget of 10 mill. DKK yearly for the period of 2021 to 2024 to strengthen efforts against honour-based violence and abuse (HBV/A). The funds are targeted public authorities, civil society and NGOs for a strengthened detection effort, skills upgrade for professionals and exit possibilities for the survivors.

The National Action Plan 2017 – 2020:73.4 mill. DKK were allocated through the National Action Plan for the prevention of honour-based violence and abuse. 22 initiatives have been launched through the Action Plan. These initiatives are primarily targeted groups, to whom HBV/A constitute a particular vulnerability. They are not explicitly targeted women on the grounds that the Danish social policy stipulates equal entitlement to social services and protection schemes, regardless of ethnicity, gender, religion etc.

The initiative More Employment amongst Immigrant Women, managed by the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration (2019-2022 has allocated 95 mill DKK involving 15 Danish municipalities in a reinforced employment effort for women. The initiative applies a holistic approach with a focus on individual case mapping, coordinated multiagency, and qualifications upgrade along with cross-municipal knowledge sharing of best practice. In 2022, a best practice catalogue will be published by the Agency for dissemination in all municipalities. The initiative explicitly includes HBV/A as an aspect of negating women's access to labour market. Part of the initiative is to develop a tailored job centre training programme, enabling them to identify and handle such cases.

Volunteer-based initiatives to support immigrant and refugee women's labour market participation 2021-2022: The *Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration* provides financial support to three NGOs, targeted vulnerable ethnic minorities with yearly stipends, allocated through the Finance Bill. These organisations are:

- Neighbourhood Mothers, a community-based organization primarily consisting of and managed by ethnic minority women (4.5 mill. DKK)
- The SABAAH Association, which aims to improve the conditions of LGBT+ people with a minority background (1.4 mill. DKK)
- Sisters against Violence and Control civil society organisation, supporting ethnic minority women in vulnerable communities (3.8 mill. DKK)
- RED Counselling (6.8 mill DKK), who is specialised in cases of HBV/A. RED's counselling unit offers anonymous counselling and support to parents and individuals (young and adults) on the HBV/A.

- **12.1.2.** 95.8 mill. DKK has been allocated for the period 2021-2023, to strengthen the police's handling of cases of domestic violence, rape, stalking and honour-related crime (please refer to the answer to question 32 for a summary of the agreement on the economy for the police and the public prosecutors for 2021-2023).
- **12.1.3.** In order to strengthen the mandatory education in Health, Sexual and Family education a grant fund of 15 mill. DKK have been set aside through 2021-2023. The detailed guidelines for the allocation of funds are not in place yet.
- **12.1.4.** The Danish municipalities are according to the Consolidation Act on Social Services obligated to offer temporary accommodation to women who have been subjected to violence, received threats of violence or who are experiencing equivalent crises in their family or their relationship. This obligation of accommodation and counselling is described in Section 109 of the Consolidation Act on Social Services. In 2020, the total public expenditure for Section 109 was around DKK 453 million (in 2021 funds). To secure that all women, who are victims of violence in close relations, can find shelter and support, the capacity of shelters for battered women has been increased. The Government has thus funded 96 new permanent accommodations at women's shelters across the country as part of the Finance Act of 2020. The funds to establish the shelters are not included in the above total expenditure.

In the weeks following the outbreak of COVID-19 and the consequent restrictions, calls to the national hotline regarding temporary accommodation at shelters for battered women almost doubled. Consequently, the Danish government decided to fund approximately 55 temporary accommodations at shelters for battered women across the country. The extra accommodations was in place for four months. The government was in close dialogue with the sector and civil society organizations about the need for extra accommodations at the shelters and the location of them. Following new restrictions in December 2020, the Danish government decided to fund approximately 25 accommodations at women's shelters for four months. In addition to the emergency shelters, all the parties of the Danish parliament signed an agreement, which secured DKK 15 million to increase the capacity of ambulatory counselling and treatment programs for victims of violence in close relations as well as perpetrators

The Finance Act for 2020 also allocated DKK 48 million in the period 2020-2023 and DKK 18.7 million in annual funds permanently thereafter to ambulatory counselling for people affected by violence in close relations.

In 2020, Denmark also allocated funds to extend the national unit against violence Live without Violence (Lev Uden Vold) to mid-2024. The unit receives DKK 39.6 million during 2021-2024 to fund its tasks regarding violence in close relations. 16.1.5. Furthermore, Live without Violence is Denmark's national organization that works to secure more and better assistance for people who experience close partner violence. The unit was established in 2017 as part of the rate adjustment pool agreement for 2017 and consists of five of the central NGOs in the area of violence in close relations. The unit also operates the national hotline, which accepts calls from victims and perpetrators of violence, their relatives and professionals seeking assistance and advice. The hotline provides assistance for all types of domestic violence and rape and is open 24/7.

As part of the national reserve for social, health and labour market measures for 2021-2024, Denmark allocated DKK 24.3 million in the period 2021-2024 to the initiative "Early intervention for victims of violence and perpetrators of partner violence". The initiative consists of three components. First, the intervention-model, to which there has been allocated DKK 14.5 million in 2020. The goal of the project is to provide an early and preventive contribution against violence in close relations. The model consists of a collaboration between the police, the municipality and a NGO. When the police responds to calls of domestic disturbances or violence, they will attempt to motivate the persons involved into starting an ambulatory treatment

program at the NGO in collaboration with the municipality. The model has previously been tested. The evaluation showed that the model helped secure an earlier response to violence in close relations. An application pool will be published in 2021 where relevant NGOs can apply.

Secondly, funds have been set aside for the National Board of Social Services to offer training to public employees, in which they are taught to use tools to make a risk-assessment of citizens' risk of being exposed to and committing violence. Thirdly, funds have been allocated to provide more information about how many women seek assistance at shelters for battered women to improve evaluations of the capacity at shelters.

Furthermore, Denmark has allocated DKK 3.6 million to Save the Children and the Danish Women's Society, so that they can strengthen their

Furthermore, Denmark has allocated DKK 3.6 million to Save the Children and the Danish Women's Society, so that they can strengthen their counselling efforts for victims of digital infringement. The goal is that victims of digital infringement always find that they are helped on to the right specialized counselling when they seek out one of the two organizations.

As part of the adjustment pool agreement for 2019 (Satspuljen), it was decided to allocate state funds to a pilot project testing ambulatory counselling to young people (age 18-24) that experience partner violence. The initiative received DKK 6 million in the period 2019-2022.

As part of the rate adjustment pool of 2017, the Danish parliament has allocated funds to an ongoing survey on violence in close relations. Over two years, DKK 2 million are allocated for the survey. The survey is focused on women and men who are victims of violence in close relations and their accompanying children. Data is collected continuously on a voluntary basis from a majority of women's shelters, men's shelters and social services providing specialized counselling or treatment on an outpatient basis.

12.1.5. The Ministry of Children and Education annually supports The Danish Family Planning Association (Sex & Samfund) (an NGO working for sexual and reproductive health and rights by – amongst others - informing children and adolescents in regards to sex, sexuality and identity) with DKK 2.6 million (€ 350.000).

The funding includes the development and maintenance of web portals with educational material for primary and lower secondary school and post-compulsory education (including the annual campaign 'Week Sex').

Week Sex is aimed at children and teenagers in primary and lower secondary school and post-compulsory education across the country. In 2021, just over 330,000 pupils and more than 11,000 teachers from primary and lower as well as upper secondary school participated in Week Sex. The campaign aims at increasing the knowledge of children and young people and strengthening their ability to make good choices in relation to well-being, rights, relations, sexuality and health.

Free educational material is offered to support teachers, school pedagogues and school nurses in organizing and implementing contemporary and age-appropriate health and sexual education. Teachers can subsequently reuse the educational material across the country. Material for parents in five languages and for parent-teacher cooperation is available as well.

12.1.6. The Department for Gender Equality supported research into the prevalence of domestic violence and rape with DKK 1 million in 2018 and will again in 2022. Since 2016, the Department for Gender Equality has provided annual funding for Danish Stalking Center. From 2021 onwards this amounts to DKK 8 million per year. The Departments has allocated DKK 1.7 million in 2017 and DKK 2.9 million in 2021 for awareness raising

	campaigns. In the period 2020-2022, it provides DKK 500.000 per year for supporting victims of rape. The Department h	nas allocated ar	nnual funds for	
	counselling for victims of dating violence since 2016. In 2021 this amounts to DKK 1.6 million.			
	Some of the above initiatives are included in the NAP on violence in close relations 2019-2022, which has an overall but	udget of 101 mi	llion DKK.	
12.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:			
13	Have these funds increased since the publication of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report?	Yes ⊠ If yes, by what	No □	
	For new initiatives and funds allocated to combat violence against women please refer to the answer provided under question 12.1.	amount:		
14	Have your authorities taken measures to foster long-term and sustainable financial support for non-governmental organisations working to support victims and prevent violence?	Yes ⊠	No 🗆	
14.1	If yes, please specify:			
	14.1.1. Since the baseline evaluation, specialist services for victims and perpetrators of violence have received permanent funding. These include Danish Stalking Center who among others provides counselling for victims of stalking and treatment for stalkers who need help to change their behaviour.			
	14.1.2. The financial act for 2020 allocated DKK 48 million in the period 2020-2023 and DKK 18.7 million in annually funds permanently thereafter to ambulatory counselling for people affected by violence in close relations. The NGOs Mothers' Aid (Mødrehjælpen), Danner and Dialogue against Violence (Dialog mod Vold) received permanent funding. From 2021 and onwards, Dialogue against Violence will receive an additional DKK 0.8 million in funds annually. Furthermore, the financial act for 2020 secured an application pool of 13.6 mil. DKK to expand ambulatory counselling and treatment programs. Project Q-Værk and Danner (offering ambulatory counselling to female victims of violence in close relations) received funding.			
	14.1.3. Please also refer to the answer to 12.1 and 16.1.			
14.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:			
15	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:	n to Article 8, v	vhich were not	
IV.	IV. Non-governmental organisations and civil society (Article 9)			

Have your authorities taken measures contributing to further recognise, encourage and support the work of relevant 16 No □ Yes ⊠ non-governmental organisations and of civil society active in combating all forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention, including in terms of funding and co-operation? 16.1 If yes, please specify: 16.1.1. According to guidelines provided by The Danish National Police, the police should always instruct both victim and perpetrator to contact those authorities and NGO's, who offer relevant counselling and treatment and if necessary refer the victim to a crisis shelter. The following are examples of relevant NGO's: Live without Violence Mother Help Dialogue against Violence Danish Stalking Centre • RED 16.1.2. A number of NGO's also receive funding from the Government, among others Neighbourhood Mothers, The SABAAH Association, Sisters against Violence and Control, RED Counselling, The Danish Family Planning Association (Sex & Samfund). Reference is made to question 12.1. Neighbourhood Mothers, The SABAAH Association, Sisters against Violence and Control, RED Counselling all cooperate with the Danish Agency for International Recruitment and Integration, and part of the allocated funds is targeted towards the dissemination of the organisations' work and experience to the municipalities in Denmark. 16.1.3. The NAP allocates funds for a pilot project developing counselling for young women and men who are victims of dating violence. The project is carried out by three NGOs (Danish Family Planning Association, Dialogue against Violence and Headspace). Authorities have cooperated closely with civil society in developing campaigns. When developing the draft for the NAP on domestic violence 2019-2022, the Inter-ministerial Working Group involved experts and NGOs working with victims and perpetrators. The involvement included a workshop with group sessions to develop themes and measures for the NAP. When designing the campaign on coercive control as part of the 2019-2022 NAP on domestic violence, the Danish Crime Prevention Council involved NGOs engaged in the field. When designing the campaign on rape and sexual consent, which was launched in 2020, the Department for Gender Equality met with NGOs engaged in the field, and invited them to give inputs based on draft campaign concept and materials. When developing a 2020 campaign on digital harassment, the Department for Gender Equality involved non-government actors, and invited them to give inputs on campaign concept and materials.

The establishment of Live without Violence (Lev Uden Vold), the national unit against domestic violence comprising of five key NGOs, has provided one more platform for regular involvement and cooperation between state authorities and nongovernmental actors. The Department for Gender

	Equality has regular meetings to involve and inform NGOs working on gender equality issues including GBV. Apar involvement, Danish authorities generally value an open ad hoc dialogue with NGOs.	t from these fo	ormal forms of
	Please also refer to the answer provided under question 14.1.		
16.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
V.	Data collection and research (Article 11)		
17	In implementation of the recommendation addressed to your authorities, have new sectors of the administration started the collection of data in accordance with the requirements of Article 11, paragraph 1?	Yes ⊠	No □
17.1	If yes, please specify which sectors:		
	The Danish National Police and Statistics Denmark are working on a project with the objective of being able to acc relationship between victim and perpetrator in police data systems. This will enable a collection of administrative data domestic violence in Denmark, including the age and nationality of the victims and perpetrators. Since 1 January 2017, The Ministry of Social Affairs and Senior Citizens, together with Statistics Denmark, has introduced statistics from the shelters for battered women. The statistics include data on when and for how long the women and Furthermore, the names and the CPR-number of the women and their children are registered. With the CPR-number, Furthermore, it is possible for strict statistical purposes to link the CPR-registered data from the women's shelters to collected by Statistics Denmark. This enables researchers, government and others to preform analyses on e.g. the charmon on the women's educational background, physical and mental illnesses, whether they receive other interventions concerned. However, it is possible for the women to decline to inform their CPR-number and stay anonymous.	d harmonized danger the children stay a it is possible to other CPR-representations of the	ata in annually at the shelters. o identify age. egistered data ne women e.g.
	Furthermore, The National Board of Social Services publishes a new biennial report containing gender-specific target violence-specific data and in depth analyses combining violence-specific data. Main results from the survey are publis website. At the request of the Danish government, further analysis of the data can be acquired. The report is called "Vio (UNVR: "Vold I Nære relationer") and replaces the earlier annually report published in cooperation with the National Orga in Denmark (LOKK). The first report will be published on the website of The National Board of Social Services in 2021.	hed annually o blence in Dome	n The Board's stic Relations"
17.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
18	In implementation of the recommendation addressed to your authorities, have sectors of the administration improved their data collection?	Yes ⊠	No □

18.1 If yes, please specify which sectors and how, in particular whether new data categories were added:

- **18.1.1.** As part of the early prevention of honour-based violence and abuse on youths in Denmark, a method for family therapy was developed and tested in 2019-2020. The method is developed in a collaboration between the Danish Agency of International Recruitment and Integration and University College Copenhagen. The main goal of the family therapy method is to generate behavioural change within the family (i.e. child/parent), and thereby healthier conflict resolutions. The method is unique in its utilisation of a multidisciplinary approach, combining socioecological theory as the basis for a holistic family assessment, and methodologies from structural family therapy, for generating behavioural change. Key elements of the method include a multi-agency approach, holistic assessment, and cultural competences. Specialised documentation tools supporting all processes of the family therapy are developed, including evaluation and effect documentation. Presently, the Agency is turning its attention towards survivor subgroups in a study on c. 900 residents of RED Shelter for Survivors of HBV/A from 2006 to 2019. The aim of the study is to gain survivor/perpetrator insight in HBV/A cases. The study relies on a socioecological framework and data sampling in a mixed-method analysis. The data includes statistics on the residents and their parents, obtained through Statistics Denmark, e.g. sex, country of origin, age, etc., and semi-structured interviews, conducted with professionals affiliated to the shelter. All educational programs provided by the Agency include evaluation. The data compiled by the evaluations is actively applied for further improvement of the programs.
- **18.1.2.** Since 2005, the National Institute for Public Health has carried out regular surveys estimating the prevalence of physical domestic violence, rape and attempted rape allowing for comparing prevalence over time. The last was conducted in 2017 and the next will be conducted in 2021. For the first time the survey will also include estimated prevalence of coercive control. The survey will have a similar methodology as the previous ones and data will be disaggregated by sex, age and other variables.
- **18.1.3.** In the data from the Danish women's shelters collected by Statistics Denmark, a new adjustment will be collected from 2021 and reported in 2022. The expansion on data means an inclusion of information on battered women's inquiries to the shelters for battered women. The purpose of the expansion is to provide more information about how many women seek assistance at shelters for battered women to improve evaluations of the capacity at shelters. In addition, the new statistic will provide information concerning how often a woman is declined to stay at a shelter for battered women and the reason why.

The National Board of Social Services (The Board) conduct a Survey on Violence in Close Relations (SVCR) (Undersøgelse om vold i nære relationer). Data is collected continuously on a voluntary basis from a majority of women's shelters, men's shelters and social services providing specialized counselling or treatment on an outpatient basis.

The survey is focused on women and men who are victims of violence in close relations and their accompanying children. The women and men are offered to participate in a questionnaire. The questionnaire is comprehensive and covers a range of background information, some of which are suggested by GREVIO in the Base Line Evaluation, such as:

- Gender
- Age
- Social security number
- The name of the shelter or counselling- or treatment service

Previous residence at shelters or counselling.		
regarding violence requested by GREVIO in its recommendations. Among other things, the respondents are asked whe variety of violent actions against them categorized into eight forms of violence (psychological violence, physical violence, economic violence, cyber violence, stalking and other violence). Other aspects of each form of violence are also examined such as: The frequency of the violence The status of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator The gender of the perpetrator	ther they hav	ve experienced a iolence, material
[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
Does statistical data collection by law-enforcement agencies and the judiciary enable cases of violence against women to be tracked in order to indicate:		
- Conviction rates	Yes □	No □
- Types of sentences	Yes □	No □
- Attrition rates	Yes □	No □
- Time-barred proceedings	Yes □	No □ N/A □
specifying the forms of violence covered: 20.1. The report "Violence and sexual abuse" published in 2017 by the National Institute for Public Health as part of the North of physical domestic violence, rape, attempted rape and sexual harassment (groping and unwanted sexual attention). 20.2. Working Environment and Health in Denmark' is a national survey, which covers negative acts e.g. bullying and sexual attention.	IAP estimate exual harassn	ion report, while d the prevalence
	In addition to the background information gathered by means of the questionnaire, the survey applies data from the st women conducted by Statistics Denmark. The statistic covers a large majority of women and children residing in women for in-depth analyses of this particular group of victims of violence in close relations. The main focus of the questionnaire, however, is the violence perpetrated against the respondent. The questionnaire regarding violence requested by GREVIO in its recommendations. Among other things, the respondents are asked whe variety of violent actions against them categorized into eight forms of violence (psychological violence, physical violer violence, economic violence, physical violer aspects of each form of violence are also examined such as: The frequency of the violence The status of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator The gender of the perpetrator The duration of the violence (in the latest relationship where violence was perpetrated and in the respondent's respondent's in order to indicate: Conviction rates and the judiciary enable cases of violence against women to be tracked in order to indicate: Types of sentences Attrition rates Time-barred proceedings As regards population-based surveys, please indicate any survey conducted since the publication of GREVIO's bas specifying the forms of violence covered: 20.1. The report "Violence and sexual abuse" published in 2017 by the National Institute for Public Health as part of the Nof physical domestic violence, rape, attempted rape and sexual harassment (groping and unwanted sexual attention).	In addition to the background information gathered by means of the questionnaire, the survey applies data from the statistic of she women conducted by Statistics Denmark. The statistic covers a large majority of women and children residing in women's shelters at for in-depth analyses of this particular group of victims of violence in close relations. The main focus of the questionnaire, however, is the violence perpetrated against the respondent. The questionnaire includes ce regarding violence requested by GREVIO in its recommendations. Among other things, the respondents are asked whether they hav variety of violent actions against them categorized into eight forms of violence (psychological violence, physical violence, sexual violence, economic violence, cyber violence, stalking and other violence). Other aspects of each form of violence are also examined such as: The frequency of the violence The status of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator The gender of the perpetrator The duration of the violence (in the latest relationship where violence was perpetrated and in the respondent's entire adulthous the violence is a statistical data collection by law-enforcement agencies and the judiciary enable cases of violence against women to be tracked in order to indicate: Conviction rates Time-barred proceedings As regards population-based surveys, please indicate any survey conducted since the publication of GREVIO's baseline evaluat specifying the forms of violence covered: 20.1. The report "Violence and sexual abuse" published in 2017 by the National Institute for Public Health as part of the NAP estimate of physical domestic violence, rape, attempted rape and sexual harassment (groping and unwanted sexual attention).

20.3. The Danish Ministry of Justice is continuously conducting an annual crime victim survey (CVS) in cooperation with the University of Copenhagen and partially funded by the Danish Ministry of Justice, Danish National Police and the Danish Crime Preventing Council. Since 2013, the report has included a special section on violence by a present or a former intimate partner, which is equivalent to domestic violence. Furthermore, the survey includes a measure of the prevalence of rape. From 2019, the report has included a special section on sexual offences other than rape, and from 2020, several questions addressing coercive control and sextortion have been added. The annual CVS will include a new definition of rape from 2021 and onwards. The definition is now based on consent and is aligned with the new provision on rape in the Criminal Code of Denmark, which was amended in 2021.

In 2018, the Research Division of the Danish Ministry of Justice published a report on stalking in Denmark. The report includes a measure of the prevalence of stalking. It is possible to group the results by gender, type of stalking, duration of the stalking period, the victim's relationship to the offender and how the stalking affected the victim. The report is based on data collected through the annual CVS, however, the questions regarding stalking are not included in the CVS on a regular basis. The background of the stalking related survey questions was the presentation of a package of political initiatives "Stop stalking", where one aim was to obtain more knowledge about stalking.

- **20.4.** Presently, the Agency for International Recruitment and Integration is turning its attention towards survivor subgroups in a study on c. 900 residents of RED Shelter for Survivors of HBV/A from 2006 to 2019. The aim of the study is to gain survivor/perpetrator insight in HBV/A cases. The study relies on a socioecological framework. This implies a multifaceted understanding of the residents as individuals in a social system, within which they are in constant interaction. The social system encompasses five environments: individual, interpersonal, communal, institutional, and societal. These environments or levels form the basis of the data sampling in a mixed-method analysis. The data includes statistics on the residents and their parents, obtained through Statistics Denmark, e.g. sex, country of origin, age, etc., and semi-structured interviews, conducted with professionals affiliated to the shelter. The study provides a nuanced psychosocial understanding of survivor/perpetrator characteristics, which has crucial implications for enabling focused protection schemes for HBV/A survivors, which in the end also feeds into an improved prevention strategy.
- In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Article 11, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:
 - 21.1. Denmark is aware of the difference in prevalence between the Danish surveys and the FRA survey from 2014, but see no indications that the difference can be attributed to female respondents in the Danish survey not feeling safe and free to disclose incidents of violence. On the contrary, research suggests that self-administered surveys are more suitable for sensitive questions than face-to-face interviews. Instead, a number of other differences between the two surveys may explain the difference in prevalence. First, the FRA survey estimated prevalence of domestic violence including sexual and physical violence whereas the Danish survey estimates physical domestic violence and rape (partner and non-partner) separately. This is likely to result in higher prevalence of domestic violence in the FRA survey. Second, the FRA questionnaire contains more questions to cover various forms of physical domestic violence compared to the Danish survey, which is likely to result in a higher prevalence in the FRA survey. Other differences that may contribute to the difference in prevalence include different response rates (and number of respondents) and different age groups of respondents included in the surveys.

A key objective of the Danish survey is to monitor the development in prevalence over time. In order to allow for comparisons over time, researchers have kept methodological adjustments at a minimum.

danger, including witnessing violence.

The Danish government finds cross-country surveys at the European level valuable. This is why Statistics Denmark will be taking part in the upcoming Eurostat survey on GBV. The national unit against domestic violence, Live without Violence, is undergoing external evaluation. The evaluation covers, among other things, the national hotline and a legal counselling service for victims and professionals. An external evaluation of the 2014-2017 NAP on domestic violence was published in 2019. 21.2. Following the amendment of the Criminal Code in 2019, where coercive control in close relationships was criminalized, the National Board of Social Services wanted to provide more knowledge about coercive control against children and young people. On the basis of the latest research literature, VIVE, The Danish Center for Social Science Research, has described what is meant by coercive control and when children witness violence, and what manifestations these forms of violence have in close relationships. In addition, existing knowledge is uncovered in relation to the extent of the types of violence, risk factors and consequences for children and young people being exposed to coercive control or children, who witness domestic violence. In addition, VIVE has gathered knowledge about what efforts have been shown to be effective when practitioners have to prevent, detect or treat children and young people who have been exposed to coercive control or have witnessed domestic violence. Ottosen et al. (2020): Pychological/emotional child maltreatment and neglect. In Denmark, municipalities are obligated to use The Children's Houses when investigating cases regarding children exposed to violence or children suspected of being exposed to violence which involve several sectors e.g. the police and/or the hospital service. In The Children's Houses, municipalities, the police and the hospital service coordinate their efforts to help the children exposed to violence. The National Board of Social Services gathers data on the children. Among other things data on gender, age and forms of violence are gathered and summarized in reports published every year on the Board's website. **Custody, visitation rights and safety (Article 31)** VI. Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure that incidents of violence covered by the scope of the 22 Yes ⊠ No □ Istanbul Convention are taken into account in the determination of custody and visitation rights of children, notably by judicial authorities? If yes, please specify how this has been done (by legislative amendments or other means) 22.1 22.1.1. With the reform of the Family Law system (April 2019), the Act on Parental Responsibility is emphasizing that in all decisions, the Agency and the family court must focus on ensuring the child's well-being and protect the child from violence or other treatment that exposes the child to harm or

	It now also appears directly from the Act on Parental Responsibility that if a parent is sentenced to imprisonment for a children, gross violence and manslaughter, it is not in the best interest of the child that this parent has part of custody child.				
	Furthermore, the new system also includes provisions making it clear that a party in a family law case, for instance a mobliged to attend a meeting at the Agency with the other parent, if the other parent has exposed the parent or the child behaviour is suspected.				
22.2	If yes, please specify how the above obligation is implemented in practice, including by providing data indicating to we consider all issues related to violence against women in their decisions on custody and visitation rights:	hat extent judio	cial authorities		
	22.2.1. The reform of the Family Law System has strengthened cooperation between the Danish Agency of Family Law and municipal social services which pursuant to the Act on Social Services are tasked with ensuring children's welfare. Thus, the Agency of Family Law in complex cases with violence, abuse or mental illness must contact the Social Services to clarify if there are a case on the family. The authorities can exchange information and the Agency can conduct cross-sectorial meetings with the Social Services. The purpose is for the parents not to disclose their cases to several authorities and for the authorities to work together to find holistic solutions for the family.				
	As mentioned above, a parent is not obliged to attend a meeting at the Agency with the other parent, if the other parenthe child to violent behaviour or violent behaviour is suspected.	nt has exposed	d the parent or		
22.3	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:				
23	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure that visitation rights do not jeopardise the rights and safety of the victim or children?	Yes ⊠	No □		
23.1	If yes, please specify:				
	23.1.1. Please refer to the answer to question 22.1.				
23.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:				
24	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:	to Article 31, w	vhich were not		
VII	VII. Immediate response, prevention, and protection (Article 50)				

25	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to improve the prompt and appropriate response of law enforcement agencies, in particular by:		
	- Enhancing training of law enforcement officials on the gendered nature of violence against women and its consequences	Yes □	No □
	- Ensuring a sufficient number of female police officers	Yes □	No □
	- Setting up premises designed to establish a relationship of trust between the victim and the law enforcement personnel	Yes □	No □
	- Ensuring the efficient collection of evidence so that the reliance on the victim's testimony is lessened	Yes □	No □
25.1	If yes, please specify:		L
25.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
26	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to enable the identification and careful analysis of any failure of protection?	Yes □	No □
26.1	If yes, please specify what kind of measures, and if further preventive measures were adopted to remedy this situation:		
26.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
27	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:	to Article 50, v	which were not
VII	I. Emergency barring, restraining or protection orders (Articles 52 and 53)		
28	As regards emergency barring orders, have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure that the competent authorities are granted the power to order, in situations of immediate danger, a perpetrator of domestic violence to vacate the residence of the victim or person at risk, and to prohibit the perpetrator from entering the residence of or contacting the victim or person at risk.	Yes □	No 🗆
00.1			
28.1	If yes, please indicate which authorities have the power to issue emergency barring orders:		
28.2	If yes, please indicate the length of time for which emergency barring orders may remain in force:		

28.3	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:			
29	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure the availability of restraining or protection orders to victims of the following forms of violence against women?			
	- Domestic violence	Yes □	No □	
	- Stalking	Yes □	No □	
	- Sexual violence	Yes □	No □	
	- Sexual harassment	Yes □	No □	
	- Forced marriage	Yes □	No □	
	- Female genital mutilation	Yes □	No □	
	- Forced abortion	Yes □	No 🗆	
	- Forced sterilisation	Yes □	No 🗆	
		163 🗆	140 🗆	
29.1	If yes, please specify:			
29.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:			
30	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure the effective enforcement of barring, restraining or protection orders?	Yes ⊠	No □	
30.1	If yes, please specify:	<u>I</u>	.1	
	30.1.1. In the guidelines from the Director of Public Prosecutions, in the section on restraining and protection order bortvisning), general guidelines to the prosecutors and to the police on how to handle these types of cases are outlined		noldsforbud og	
	In 2017, the Prosecution Service monitored the implementation of new rules regarding barring, restraining and protection orders. In addition, a special supervision of the area was carried out in 2018 and 2019 looking to reduce case processing time. Although the development since 2016 shows a clear trend with shorter case processing time, there is still a need to maintain focus on reducing the case processing time.			
	The Prosecution Services' supervision will therefore from the 4th quarter of 2020 to the 2nd quarter of 2021 concentrol processing time and continue aiding the police districts in the management of these cases. Moreover, the Prosecution to see if the launched initiatives are working as intended. Overall, this should aid in reducing case processing time.			
30.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:			

In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Articles 52 and 53, which were not covered by the questions above, in particular in relation to the collection of data on the number of orders issued and their violations, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:

Specific recommendations

- Please report on measures taken by your authorities contributing to the implementation of the recommendation to increase the level of attention paid to women victims of gender-based violence in policy documents and funding choices and to ensure the full recognition of the different forms of violence against women covered by the Convention as gender-based violence (Recommendation A.1, IC-CP/Inf(2018)4).
 - **32.1.** The police districts are required to follow the "Overall strategy for strengthened action against homicide due to jealousy and other serious crimes in cohabitant relations/intimate partner relations" (2007).

The political agreement regarding the economy of the police and the public prosecutor between 2021-2023 ("Flerårsaftalen") aims, among other things, to strengthen the handling of domestic violence, stalking, sexual assault and honour-related crime. The agreement includes the following five initiatives:

Increase the use of trauma informed practice in the police and prosecution services by offering a new 12-day training course. The course aims to train around 125 police officers working in both investigative and crime prevention units throughout Danish police.

Systematic identification of relevant cases by developing a case identification tool in the police.

Specialized teams for handling domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and honour-related cases: each police district will form an interdisciplinary team.

Improvement of interrogation practices in sexual assault cases: by offering the possibility of use of video-recorded interrogation in sexual assault cases.

Strengthened effort towards hate crimes by issuing information materials and improving the training of police officers.

Furthermore The Danish National Police has published:

- Guidelines for handling cases of harassment, persecution and stalking (2017)
- Guidelines for handling cases of coercive control (2019)

- Revised guidelines for using the risk assessment tools: SARA:SV (Spousal Assault Risk Assessment), SAM (Stalking Assessment and Management) and PATRIARK (Assessment of Honour Based Violence). (2020).
- Guidelines for operating new GPS alarms for victims at risk of violence, incl. victims of domestic violence (2020).
- New and revised guideline on the handling of honour-related crimes and conflicts are expected to be published in 2021

32.2. Although Danish laws and policies use gender-neutral terms, the measures are gender-sensitive in nature. The Act on Gender Equality obliges all government agencies to promote gender equality in their work. The Gender Equality Action Plan of 2021 include a section titled "Combatting gender-based violence, abuse and human trafficking", which describes policies on e.g. domestic violence and rape.

Among others, awareness-raising measures used to prevent domestic violence and rape are based on a gendered understanding.

- The awareness raising campaign on domestic violence, which was part of the 2014-2017 NAP, consisted of three short films showing examples of coercive control. Two short films had a male perpetrator and a female victim, and one had a female perpetrator and a male victim. This was done to reflect, that while both men and women can be victims and perpetrators of domestic violence, in most cases the perpetrator is a man and victim is a woman.
- In late 2020, the government launched a campaign on rape and sexual consent. The campaign used films and influencers to inform about the new consent based rape legislation, support services for victims and inspire conversation about how to give and get consent. The campaign materials reflected that in most cases, the perpetrator is a man, and victim is a woman.
- Live without Violence ran a campaign in 2019 on different forms of domestic violence raising awareness of their hotline. The campaign used a film showing a number of situations with different forms of domestic violence. It portrayed both men and women as victims and perpetrators, and the proportions reflected that in most cases, the perpetrator is a man, and victim is a woman.

Please also refer to the answer to question 6.2 for a description of the level of attention paid to female victims in the domestic violence NAP 2019-2022.

- 32.3. The government is currently drafting a legislative proposal that aims at criminalizing stalking within the Danish Criminal Code. Thus, the proposal will set out a definition and a distinct criminalization of stalking as such.
- **32.4.** The government continues to place a strong focus on combatting violence against women. While Denmark applies a gender-neutral language on violence in close relations, the government is well aware that women are far more often than men exposed to physical domestic violence and coercive control, stalking and digital assaults. At the same time, violence against women is often of more severe character. Therefore, the government is aware of and acknowledges the gendered dimensions of violence, and thus Denmark's fight against violence in close relations is primarily structured to fit female victims of violence. Several measures have been taken to ensure that women suffering from physical violence or coercive control can seek help and receive proper treatment.

In Denmark, the municipalities are obligated to offer support and counselling to women who take residence in a shelter for battered women. The counselling shall support the individual elements of the facilities otherwise provided by the municipalities. The counselling is provided with respect to issues regarding housing, finances, labour market, education, day-care facilities, health sector, etc. In 2020, Denmark adopted a bill, which obligates

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the municipalities to offer a maximum of 10 hours of free psychological treatment to all women who come to stay in a shelter for battered women. The sessions are offered both during and after the stay at a shelter. The bill helps to secure the necessary counselling that allows the women to cope with their experience and rebuild a life for themselves and their children. To secure that all women whom are victims of violence in close relations can find shelter and support, the capacity of shelters for battered women has been increased. The government has thus funded 96 new permanent accommodations at women's shelters across the country as part of the financial act of 2020.

The government criminalized coercive control in 2019 by including an independent provision in the Criminal Code, ensuring that coercive control is punishable just as physical violence. The criminalization of coercive control ensures that women who experience coercive control are entitled to treatment equivalent to the treatment offered to women who experience physical violence. The government has also strengthened the effort to stop digital violence. Denmark have allocated funds to Save the Children and the Danish Women's Society, so that they can strengthen their counselling efforts for victims of digital infringement. The goal is that victims of digital infringement always find that they are helped on to the right specialized counselling when they seek out one of the two organizations.

Female victims of violence in close relations can call the national hotline operated by the national unit against violence in close relations Live without Violence (Lev Uden Vold). The hotline is a 24 hours service, which offers general advices and offers guidance to victims of all types of violence.

To conclude, Denmark applies gender-neutral language on violence in close relations, but the government is well aware of the gendered dimensions of violence. Thus, the Danish fight against violence in close relations is heavily structured around female victims.

Please report on measures taken by your authorities contributing to the implementation of the recommendation to recognise the power imbalances in relationships marred by violence and to ensure that parents with a history of abuse are granted separate meetings with the State Administration in order to reach a decision in the child's best interests on child custody/residence/visitation which does not jeopardise the rights and safety of the mother and her children (Recommendation A.10, IC-CP/Inf(2018)4).

With the reform of the Family Law system, it appears directly in the law that a party in a family law case, for instance a mother in a custody case, is not obliged to attend a meeting at the Family Law Agency with the other parent, if the other parent has exposed the parent or the child to violent behaviour or violent behaviour is suspected.