



**Report submitted by Slovenia
pursuant to Article 68, paragraph 1
of the Council of Europe Convention
on preventing and combating violence
against women and domestic violence
(First thematic evaluation round)**

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SECOND REPORT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

1st thematic evaluation round: Building trust by delivering support,
protection and justice

Ljubljana, August 2025

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	3
Part I: Changes in comprehensive and co-ordinated policies, funding and data collection in the area of violence against women and domestic violence	4
Article 7: Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies.....	4
Article 8: Funding	10
Article 11: Data collection and research	13
Part II: Information on the implementation of selected provisions in priority areas in the field of prevention, protection and prosecution.....	16
Article 12: General obligations	16
Article 14: Education	17
Article 15: Training of professionals.....	19
Article 16: Preventive intervention and treatment programmes	24
Article 18: General obligations	25
Article 20: General support services	28
Questions specific to the public health sector:	29
Article 22: Specialist support services	32
Article 25: Support to victims of sexual violence.....	36
Article 31: Custody, visitation rights and safety	37
Article 48: Prohibition of mandatory alternative dispute resolution processes or sentencing	41
Criminal law:	41
Civil law:	42
Articles 49 and 50: General obligations and immediate response, prevention and protection ...	42
Article 51: Risk assessment and risk management	45
Article 52: Emergency barring orders	47
Article 53: Restraining or protection orders.....	49
Article 56: Measures of protection	51
Part III: Emerging trends on violence against women and domestic violence	52
Part IV: Administrative data and statistics.....	54
APPENDIX	61

Introduction

In accordance with Article 66 of the Convention, the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). Following its baseline evaluation procedure which provided an overview of the implementation of the full spectrum of provisions of the Convention by each State Party, Article 68 of the Convention and Rule 30 of the Rules of Procedure of GREVIO mandate GREVIO to carry out subsequent evaluation procedures.

GREVIO decided to focus its first thematic evaluation round on the theme of building trust by delivering support, protection and justice. To address this overarching theme GREVIO has developed a thematic questionnaire designed to identify developments in key areas such as comprehensive and co-ordinated policies, funding and data collection that have ensued following the completion of the baseline evaluation procedure. On the other hand, it seeks to gather more detailed information on the implementation of selected provisions in the areas of prevention, protection and prosecution, where the baseline evaluations and the conclusions adopted by the Committee of the Parties to the Istanbul Convention identified significant challenges and the need for further implementation. The third section of the questionnaire addresses emerging trends in the area of violence against women and domestic violence. The fourth and last section requests annual statistics for two complete calendar years prior to receiving this questionnaire on specific administrative and judicial data.

The Republic of Slovenia signed the Convention on 8 September 2011 and ratified it on 5 February 2015. The ratification of the Convention represents an important milestone in the history of the fight for women's human rights and for new European standards in this field. By adopting this important international instrument in the field of the protection of women's human rights and the fight against discrimination, the Republic of Slovenia joined the group of the most advanced states that had already ratified the Convention. In doing so, it demonstrated its firm commitment to taking a significant step forward in preventing violence against women and domestic violence. To this end, over the past ten years, important legislative, institutional and operational measures have been adopted to strengthen the systemic response to all forms of violence against women and to ensure comprehensive protection for victims.

Slovenia recognises that trust in institutions is essential to the effective prevention and handling of all forms of violence against women and girls. For this reason, Slovenia actively implements the principles of the Convention, with a focus on ensuring accessible and responsive support for victims, strengthening protection mechanisms, preventing secondary victimisation, and guaranteeing a fair trial.

Emphasis is also placed on enhancing the capacity of all stakeholders within the system – the Police, prosecution services, judiciary, social work centres, non-governmental organisations and educational institutions – in order to promote a more co-ordinated and comprehensive approach to addressing gender-based violence. Slovenia is also committed to identifying new forms of violence, including violence in digital environments, and to empowering all victims, particularly those from vulnerable groups, such as women with disabilities, older women, asylum seekers and Roma women.

The following measures and initiatives illustrate Slovenia's progress in fulfilling its obligations under the Convention, with a focus on building trust by ensuring support, protection and access to justice for all women and girls who are victims of violence. This report of the Republic of Slovenia has been prepared on the basis of GREVIO's first thematic questionnaire. The report was co-ordinated and compiled by the Equal Opportunities Division of the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the Republic of Slovenia. The preparation of this report involved the participation of members of the interministerial working group established on 7 April 2016 for the purpose of monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

The Interministerial Commission on Human Rights considered and approved the Second Report of the Republic of Slovenia on the Implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence at its 19th correspondence session, which concluded on 14 July 2025.

The final report was considered by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and will also be submitted to the National Assembly for information.

Part I: Changes in comprehensive and co-ordinated policies, funding and data collection in the area of violence against women and domestic violence

Article 7: Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies

1. Please provide information on any new policy development since the adoption of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report on your country to ensure comprehensive policies covering the areas of prevention, protection, and prosecution in relation to stalking, sexual harassment and domestic violence, including their digital dimension, rape and sexual violence, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, forced abortion and forced sterilisation, thereby demonstrating further implementation of the Convention. Please specify the measures taken particularly in relation to those forms of violence against women that have not been addressed in past policies, programmes and services encompassing the four pillars of the Istanbul Convention.

*In 2019, the Act Amending the Social Assistance Act¹ was adopted, transposing into the Slovenian legal order the provisions of Articles 8 and 9 of Directive 2012/29/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA. The Social Assistance Act introduced a new social assistance service – support for victims of criminal offences – as a general support service provided by social work centres. This service includes professional support and counselling for any person who has suffered harm directly as a result of a criminal offence. Professional support consists of identifying the person's distress, informing them of available forms of assistance, and referring them to appropriate services that may help improve their psychological, social or financial situation resulting from the offence. The service is available to any person who finds themselves in distress and claims to be a victim of a criminal offence committed in the Republic of Slovenia, regardless of whether the offence has been formally reported. Where a criminal offence is committed outside the territory of the Republic of Slovenia, the support service is available to any person who holds either permanent or temporary residence in Slovenia. Particular attention is devoted to the most vulnerable groups of beneficiaries, notably children, persons with disabilities, older persons, victims of sexual violence, victims of terrorism, and those at risk of repeat victimisation. As part of the service, persons are informed about appropriate specialised programmes and referred to them, or made aware of the support options offered by such programmes. Specialist support services are primarily provided through the implementation of social assistance programmes and within the framework of other applicable legal provisions, such as the **Domestic Violence Prevention Act**². A substantial part of the key elements of specialist support services envisaged under Directive 2012/29/EU is already available through the implementation of social assistance programmes — for example, the provision of suitable temporary accommodation for victims of criminal offences who require it due to victimisation, threats or intimidation. Support for victims of criminal offences who have experienced domestic violence is also provided under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the measures introduced by that Act, which fall within the framework of specialist support services.*

It should be noted that the social assistance service support for victims of criminal offences is available to victims of all criminal offences, not only to those affected by violence against women or domestic violence. Furthermore, access to this service, which is voluntary and initiated at the request of the user, is not conditional upon the reporting of the criminal offence to the competent authorities.

*In March 2022, the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the **Resolution on the National Social Assistance Programme for the Period 2022–2030 (ReNPSV22–30)**³, which constitutes Slovenia's key programme document in the field of social assistance for the period until 2030. The second and third objectives of the National Social Assistance Programme 2022–2030 are*

¹ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o socialnem varstvu (Act Amending the Social Assistance Act (ZSV-I): <https://www.uradni-list.si/1/objava.jsp?sop=2019-01-1329>

² Zakon o preprečevanju nasilja v družini (Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO5084>; <https://pisrs.si/aktualno/zakonodaja-v-anglescini>

Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o preprečevanju nasilja v družini (Act Amending the Domestic Violence Prevention Act) (ZPND-A): [Vsebina Uradnega lista | Uradni list](#)

³ Resolucija o nacionalnem programu socialnega varstva za obdobje 2022–2030 (ReNPSV22–30) (Resolution on the National Social Assistance Programme for the Period 2022–2030 (ReNPSV22–30)): <https://pisrs.si/pregledNpb?idPredpisa=RESO137&idPredpisaChng=RESO137>

aimed at improving the availability and diversity of services and programmes, ensuring their accessibility and reach, establishing the necessary conditions for the operation of service providers, and strengthening quality and development in the field of social assistance. These objectives also support the provision of social assistance services and programmes for victims with experience of violence.

In September 2023, the National Assembly adopted **the Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2023–2030 (ReNPEMŽM30)**⁴. This serves as the overarching strategic document in the field of gender equality, developed in cooperation with experts and civil society. The Resolution covers all areas in which women are in a disadvantaged position in society, placing particular emphasis on the prevention of, and response to, all forms of violence against women and girls. Zero tolerance for all forms of such violence remains one of the core orientations of the new national programme. Violence against women and girls continues to be one of the main obstacles to achieving gender equality and remains among the most widespread human rights violations, including in Slovenia. Crisis situations, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, have contributed to an increase in intimate partner violence and underscored the need for measures that specifically address the most vulnerable groups in society and ensure that victims are not left to deal with violence and its consequences alone or solely with the support of friends and family. The Istanbul Convention serves as the principal reference framework for setting standards in this area. The new Resolution also places emphasis on ensuring a quality, safe and healthy working environment free from violence and harassment, in accordance with the recommendations of ILO Convention No. 190

The objectives of the Resolution are:

- strengthening inter-ministerial integration and cooperation to address more effectively all forms of violence against women and to better inform the professional and general public about the causes and consequences of domestic violence and violence against women;
- providing comprehensive and appropriate support for victims of domestic violence and violence against women, with a particular focus on vulnerable groups, including the provision of adequate legal protection;
- ensuring improved professional capacity and awareness of cyber violence, including a gender perspective;
- ensuring a safe working environment free from violence, sexual harassment and gender-based harassment.

In April 2024, the National Assembly adopted **the Resolution on the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women 2024–2029 (ReNPPND24–29)**⁵. This Resolution brings together, for the first time, the areas of domestic violence and violence against women. The purpose of the Resolution is to strengthen areas where shortcomings have been identified. It was prepared by a broad inter-ministerial working group, which included all relevant authorities.

The key objectives of the Resolution are:

- strengthening and improving the quality of programmes in the field of domestic violence and violence against women;
- improved treatment, status and protection of victims of such violence;
- (further) enhancement of the professional competence of staff working in the field of domestic violence and violence against women;
- increased public awareness and zero tolerance for domestic violence and violence against women;
- improved regulations in the field of prevention of domestic violence and violence against women;
- improvements in monitoring domestic violence and violence against women;
- improved organisation of the field, stakeholder cooperation and sustainable operation of the system.

In December 2024, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted the first Action Plan for the implementation of the Resolution on the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women 2024–2029, which serves as the Resolution's implementing instrument.

⁴ Resolucija o nacionalnem programu za enake možnosti žensk in moških 2023–2030 (ReNPEMŽM30) (Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2023–2030 (ReNPEMŽM30)): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=RESO132>

⁵ Resolucija o nacionalnem programu preprečevanja nasilja v družini in nasilja nad ženskami 2024–2029 (ReNPPND24–29) (Resolution on the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women 2024–2029 (ReNPPND24–29)) <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV13506>; <https://pisrs.si/aktualno/zakonodaja-v-anglescini>

In June 2021, Slovenia adopted **the Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act**⁶, which introduced a shift from a coercion-based model to one of affirmative consent with respect to criminal offences set out in Articles 170 to 172 of the Criminal Code. These include offences of rape, sexual abuse of a defenceless person, and sexual violence against such a person.

In December 2020, **the Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act**⁷ (amendments to Article 65a) were adopted, requiring competent authorities to inform victims, at the first point of contact, of the possibility to withhold their address or place of residence. This procedural safeguard is particularly important in cases of violence against women and domestic violence, as it prevents disclosure of victims' personal data in the accessible parts of the court file.

In accordance with the 2023 **Act Amending the Crime Victim Compensation Act**⁸, victims of violent criminal offences against sexual integrity, domestic violence, and other violent offences, when committed intentionally, who are not nationals of EU Member States are now also entitled to claim compensation, as the EU nationality requirement has been removed. Under the Crime Victim Compensation Act, victims of criminal offences involving sexual integrity were previously entitled to compensation only if they met the nationality requirement, which was removed by this amendment. Under Article 7 of the same Act, priority is given to victims of domestic violence, as well as children, persons with disabilities, victims of unknown perpetrators and foreign nationals. These individuals are not required to seek compensation from the perpetrator first, provided that other conditions are met.

In February 2025, **the Act Amending the Police Tasks and Powers Act**⁹ was adopted. The amendments include measures to enhance the effectiveness of police activities related to the protection of victims of violence. They include an expansion of the grounds for issuing a restraining order, now explicitly encompassing serious threats to the victim's health — a circumstance that had previously not been clearly defined. The questionnaire for individual risk assessment was also updated, based on a proposal by the Police within the working group established by the Ministry of Justice. This measure falls under the scope of **the Criminal Procedure Act**¹⁰.

The Police also developed and adopted domestic violence action plans for the periods 2023–2024 and 2025–2026, both signed by the Director General of the Police. The action plans focus on prevention, professional handling of cases, cooperation with other institutions in the field of domestic violence, raising awareness of its scope, and providing (interinstitutional) support to victims.

As part of the preparation of the Police's 2023 annual work plan, the Minister of the Interior, through guidelines and mandatory instructions, set a strategic objective in the area of preventing, detecting and investigating criminal offences. In cases of domestic violence, the Police were expected to strive for more frequent use of the power to deprive suspects of liberty and bring them before an investigating judge, pursuant to the paragraphs one and two of Article 157 of the Criminal Procedure Act. Victims of criminal offences — particularly victims of domestic violence, sexual offences, stalking, and all forms of trafficking in human beings — must also be encouraged to report such offences, with every effort made to prevent their re-victimisation to the greatest possible extent. Awareness-raising on the importance of reporting criminal offences should also target individuals in whom victims place their trust, as victims are often reluctant to come forward themselves. All measures introduced by the Minister were implemented by the Police.

Furthermore, in the guidelines, the Minister of the Interior specified that the Police must ensure that victims of domestic violence are treated with the utmost care at the first point of contact with the Police. A system must be established to ensure a swift and effective investigation of such criminal offences, so that evidence is preserved without delay and the victim is protected immediately through a restraining

⁶ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Kazenskega zakonika (Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act) (KZ-11): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?sop=2021-01-3697>

⁷ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o kazenskem postopku (Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act) (ZKP-O): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO8127>

⁸ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o odškodnini žrtvam kaznivih dejanj (Act Amending the Crime Victim Compensation Act) (ZOZKD-B): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO8797>

⁹ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o nalogah in pooblastilih policije (Act Amending the Police Tasks and Powers Act) (ZNPPol-C): <https://pisrs.si/pregledNpb?idPredpisa=ZAKO9030&idPredpisaChng=ZAKO9030>

¹⁰ Zakon o kazenskem postopku (uradno prečiščeno besedilo) (Criminal Procedure Act (official consolidated text)) (ZKP-UPB16): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO8497>

order or other appropriate measure. All measures introduced by the Minister were implemented by the Police.

In 2021, **the Act Amending the Residence Registration Act¹¹** was adopted, introducing new provisions for determining lawful residence for victims of trafficking in human beings and domestic violence. Lawful residence had previously been understood to mean permanent residence; however, in practice, the need arose to also determine lawful residence for foreign nationals who are victims of trafficking in human beings or domestic violence. An administrative unit may now determine lawful residence to a foreign national who does not hold a permanent residence permit in Slovenia but does have a valid temporary residence permit, a certificate of registration of residence, or a long-stay visa and has been a victim of domestic violence or trafficking in human beings. Such lawful residence is treated as temporary residence.

In 2023, **the Act Amending the Higher Education Act¹²** was adopted, which lays down every student's right to a safe learning environment with zero tolerance for sexual and other forms of harassment and mistreatment. The relevant article defines sexual and other harassment in the educational context and designates the minister responsible for higher education as the authority responsible for adopting regulations governing the procedure for addressing reported violations.

Also in 2023, **the Act Amending the Employment Relationships Act¹³** was adopted. The amendment introduces up to five working days of paid leave for victims of domestic violence during periods in which they are required to manage matters with social work centres and courts, organise supervised contact visits, or—in some cases—relocate or temporarily reside in a safe house. To claim this right, a victim of domestic violence must submit to their employer a certificate of risk assessment due to domestic violence, proof of reporting the violence to the Police, and supporting documentation on actions taken in connection with the violence. The amendment also provides the possibility of reduced working hours for victims of domestic violence. An employee who is a victim of domestic violence may request to conclude a part-time employment contract for the duration of the employment relationship, in order to better reconcile work and personal life. The contract is linked to the period during which protective, legal or other proceedings are being carried out and the consequences of domestic violence are being mitigated.

In 2023, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted a decision to establish a governmental working group tasked with examining the effectiveness of responses to all forms of violence, including domestic violence, femicide, sexual abuse of women and children, and peer violence. The purpose of the working group is to assess the effectiveness of how cases of violence are handled in Slovenia and, based on its findings, to formulate recommendations or proposals for improving the effectiveness of responses within the remit of the Police and, indirectly, of other stakeholders involved in the prevention and handling of all forms of violence. The aim is to ensure appropriate action against perpetrators and the effective protection of victims. The tasks of the working group include identifying measures to ensure an effective and coordinated response by the Police and other competent authorities in handling individual cases of violence; preparing the groundwork for potential amendments to legislation in the areas of misdemeanours, substantive criminal law and criminal procedural law; and identifying emerging forms of violence related to migration and the associated challenges in handling such cases. The mandate also includes strengthening public trust in state institutions, encouraging the reporting of violence, and laying the groundwork for updating training and education programmes for police officer recruits, serving police officers, and other stakeholders involved in responding to cases of violence.

2. Where relevant, please provide information on any measures taken to ensure the alignment of any definitions of domestic violence and of violence against women in national legislation or policy documents with those set out under Article 3 of the Istanbul Convention and provide the relevant applicable provisions in English or French.

¹¹ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o prijavi prebivališča (Act Amending the Residence Registration Act) (ZPPreb-1A): <https://www.uradni-list.si/glasilo-uradni-list-rs/vsebina/2021-01-0717>

¹² Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o visokem šolstvu (Act Amending the Higher Education Act) (ZViS-M): <https://www.uradni-list.si/glasilo-uradni-list-rs/vsebina/2023-01-2873>

¹³ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o delovnih razmerjih (Act Amending the Employment Relationships Act) (ZDR-1D): <https://www.uradni-list.si/glasilo-uradni-list-rs/vsebina/2023-01-3325>

In 2021, **the Act Amending the Criminal Code**¹⁴ entered into force, introducing into the Slovenian legal order a new approach to sexual offences, based on the “only yes means yes” model.

Article 1

Two new paragraphs were added to Article 170 of the Criminal Code, which now read as follows:

“(1) Whoever, without the other person’s consent, causes that person to engage in sexual intercourse or sexual conduct equal to sexual intercourse shall be sentenced to imprisonment for not less than six months and not more than five years.

(2) The consent referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed to have been given if the person has, through their outwardly perceptible, unambiguous and free will, agreed to the sexual intercourse or sexual conduct equal to sexual intercourse, and was capable of making such a decision.”

Article 2

Two new paragraphs were added to Article 171 of the Criminal Code, which now read as follows:

“(1) Whoever, without the consent of another person, causes that person to perform or endure a sexual act not covered by the preceding article shall be sentenced to imprisonment of up to five years.

(2) The consent referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be deemed to have been given if the person has, through their outwardly perceptible, unambiguous and free will, agreed to the sexual act referred to in the preceding paragraph, and was capable of making such a decision.”

The Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act¹⁵ adopted in 2024 further strengthened sentencing rules under Article 49, by introducing a provision that the perpetrator’s motive for committing a criminal offence—when based on a personal circumstance of the victim—shall always be treated as an aggravating circumstance. Such a personal circumstance may also include the sex of the victim, which is now explicitly listed by way of example in the new third paragraph of Article 49. This amendment provides that specific motives of the perpetrator for committing a criminal offence, when linked to a personal characteristic of the victim, shall constitute an aggravating circumstance, justifying the imposition of a more severe sentence within the prescribed sentencing framework. The paragraph three of Article 49 of the Criminal Code reads as follows:

“(3) If the motive for committing the criminal offence was the victim’s nationality, race, religion, ethnic origin, sex, skin colour, origin, property status, education, social status, political or other belief, disability, sexual orientation, or any other personal circumstance, this shall be regarded as an aggravating circumstance.”

3. Please provide information on how your authorities ensure that policies on violence against women and domestic violence put women’s rights and their empowerment at the centre and on any measure taken to enhance the intersectionality of such policies, in line with Article 4, Paragraph 3 of the Convention.

Slovenia has integrated the principles of gender equality and human rights into its legislative and policy framework to combat violence against women and domestic violence. Specifically:

- **The Domestic Violence Prevention Act** strengthens the protection of victims and underscores the empowerment of women by providing targeted support measures, such as access to safe houses, legal aid and psychosocial support services.
- **The International Protection Act**¹⁶ incorporates a gender-sensitive approach, foreseeing special treatment for vulnerable groups, including girls and women. Slovenia is committed to preventing discrimination and abuse on the basis of gender and to addressing violations at all stages of the international protection procedure, while also ensuring support for the empowerment of girls and women and the implementation of their rights. The law defines a vulnerable person with special needs as including, in particular, a minor, an unaccompanied minor, a person with a disability, an elderly person, a pregnant woman, a single parent with a minor child, a victim of trafficking in human beings, a person with a mental disorder, a person with mental health difficulties, or a victim of rape, torture or other serious forms of psychological, physical or sexual violence.
- **The Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2023–2030** addresses gender inequalities in Slovenia that hinder the realisation of women’s and

¹⁴ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Kazenskega zakonika (Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act) (KZ-1H): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO8338>

¹⁵ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Kazenskega zakonika (Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act) (KZ-1J): <https://pisrs.si/pregledNpb?idPredpisa=ZAKO8703&idPredpisaChng=ZAKO8703>

¹⁶ Zakon o mednarodni zaščiti (International Protection Act) (ZMZ-1): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7103>:

men's personal potential, as well as economic progress, prosperity, and competitiveness. Women who face intersecting and multiple forms of discrimination — such as migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women, women with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ women, Roma women and others — are particularly vulnerable to violence. As such, they must be ensured comprehensive support and protection, and their fundamental rights must be respected.

- **The Resolution on the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women 2024–2029** addresses the area of domestic violence and violence against women and sets out objectives and measures to enhance the protection, treatment and situation of victims, while also defining measures for the prevention of such violence. The measures set out in the resolution specifically address women victims of (domestic) violence, focusing on their empowerment, increased protection, and improved quality of treatment. The resolution also includes measures targeting particularly vulnerable groups, such as children, older persons, Roma women, migrant women and others.
- The National Programme of Measures of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Roma for the period 2017–2021 also included targeted measures and recommendations in the area of social protection, with a focus on child and forced marriages, the elopement of minors into harmful environments, and procedures for dealing with cases of non-marital cohabitation involving minors. Targeted measures in this area continue under **the National Programme of Measures of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Roma for the period 2021–2030**¹⁷. An ad hoc working group was established in 2017 to coordinate and monitor the implementation of these measures and has been meeting regularly to follow up on related activities. At the group's initiative, the Handbook on the Identification and Intervention in Cases of Early and Forced Marriages in the Roma Community was prepared in 2021 and presented to the public the same year. Based on the Handbook, several multi-stakeholder training sessions and workshops were organised for professionals from various institutions. In addition, several awareness-raising activities were carried out (e.g. a video competition), aimed at potential victims of human trafficking in Roma communities, with a particular focus on early and forced marriages. Work in this area will continue in a comprehensive manner, involving all relevant stakeholders throughout the entire implementation period of the governmental programme.
- The Action Programme for Persons with Disabilities 2022–2030 also places particular attention to the intersectional dimension, specifically, to the prevention of violence and discrimination against women with disabilities. In society, women, older persons and children are recognised as particularly vulnerable to violence and discrimination, and are therefore afforded special consideration in prevention and protection measures.
- Action plans to combat trafficking in human beings provide for the implementation of key actions and activities in the fight against human trafficking. In the preparation of the current action plan, particular attention was paid to aligning measures with the EU Strategy on Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings (2021–2025) and the recommendations issued by the GRETA monitoring mechanism in the third evaluation round of the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings in the Republic of Slovenia. The adopted measures and objectives are tailored to the needs of the most vulnerable groups.
- The policies are based on a victim-centred approach, with an emphasis on upholding the dignity, autonomy and safety of women who are victims of violence.
- At the two largest district courts—Ljubljana and Maribor—the Support Service for Injured Parties (hereinafter: the “SPO”) assist victims, judges, and court staff in communicating with injured parties and preparing protection measures. The SPO's mission is to prevent or mitigate secondary victimisation, feelings of discomfort, fear, and distress experienced by injured parties. The SPO's staff explain court proceedings to injured parties, provide information and assistance in accordance with Article 65a of the Criminal Procedure Act, refer them to relevant non-governmental organisations where appropriate, inquire about their sense of safety and any contact with the accused person, and explain available options for pursuing pecuniary claims, accessing free legal aid, and any other information the injured party may require. Although the SPO provides support to all injured parties of criminal offences, statistics show that the majority of cases involve violence against women and domestic violence, as cases concerning offences against sexual integrity and

¹⁷ Nacionalni program ukrepov Vlade Republike Slovenije za Rome za obdobje 2021–2030 (National Programme of Measures of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Roma for the period 2021–2030):

<https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.si%2Fassets%2Fvladne-sluzbe%2FUN%2FNPUR-2021-2030%2F108NPRomi.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

offences against marriage, family, and children account for more than 70% of all cases handled.

- *The Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants ensures, through psychosocial support and staff training, that women are informed and made aware of their rights and of cultural differences. Self-help groups provide them with a safe space and offer support for their integration into the host society. All staff are also familiar with the protocol for protection and response in cases of identified violence, particularly among vulnerable groups in asylum and accommodation centres.*
- *As in Article 12 of this document:
In accordance with **the Police Tasks and Powers Act**¹⁸, police officers shall, in the performance of their duties, respect and protect the right to life, human dignity, personal integrity, and other human rights and fundamental freedoms. Particular care and sensitivity must be exercised in dealing with victims and with individuals requiring special attention, support, or care, such as children, minors, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and victims of domestic violence. In the performance of their duties, police officers must ensure equal protection of rights for all individuals. No one shall be subjected to discrimination on grounds of nationality, race, skin colour, sex, language, religion, sexual orientation, political or other opinion, property, birth, genetic heritage, education, social status, disability, or any other personal circumstance.*

In accordance with paragraph three of Article 4 of the Istanbul Convention, Slovenia addresses intersectional discrimination across its policy measures.

- *Particular attention is given to vulnerable groups, including women with disabilities, Roma women, migrant and refugee women, older women, and women living in rural areas. Dedicated funding and strategic partnerships are directed towards women's organisations that provide specialised support services for women from minority and migrant communities.*
- *Training programmes for professionals—such as police officers, members of the judiciary, and social workers—include content on intersectionality.*
- *Educational materials convey messages on equality, non-discrimination, and the importance of recognising multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.*
- *Efforts to collect data are being strengthened with the aim of disaggregating statistics by sex, age, disability, and other personal circumstances, in order to better identify and respond to intersecting vulnerabilities.*

Since 2023, the non-governmental organisation the Society Ključ has been implementing the project "Prevention of Human Trafficking, Sexual Violence and Support for Women (PATs)". The project aims to inform vulnerable groups of applicants for international protection, temporary protection, and refugees about the risks of human trafficking, sexual and gender-based violence, and the available avenues for protection and support. Self-help groups for women are also operating within the framework of the project. In previous years, information activities were implemented on an ongoing basis, either through dedicated projects or by trained professional personnel.

Professional staff in centres also receive regular training on working with vulnerable groups. In line with the above, various informative, awareness-raising and psychosocial relief conversations are held with all accommodated persons, and workshops are organised to inform them about their rights, cultural differences, and related topics. These conversations also address the position of women in society and attitudes towards women. During such conversations, women are encouraged to pursue education and to enter the labour market, and are provided with the necessary support in doing so.

Self-help and support groups for women also operate in the accommodation centre for vulnerable groups. These are organised by non-governmental organisations and implemented within the scope of their own programmes.

Issues concerning violence against women, self-protection, and available avenues for seeking protection are also included in the introductory course on Slovenian society, which is delivered to persons with recognised international protection status. These topics are dedicated to both women and men. Through a public call for proposals, the Office also funds a non-governmental organisation that organises various workshops and activities for women with international protection status. These

¹⁸ Zakon o nalogah in pooblastilih policije (Police Tasks and Powers Act) (ZNPPol):
<https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO6314>

activities aim to empower women for more rapid integration into society and to raise awareness of gender-based violence.

Article 8: Funding

4. Please provide information on any new development since the adoption of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report on your country concerning the allocation of appropriate and sustainable financial and human resources for the implementation of integrated policies, measures and programmes to prevent and combat all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention.

In 2024, the Slovenian Government adopted the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women, which includes measures ranging from awareness-raising initiatives to legislative amendments. The programme is implemented in a coordinated manner by various ministries, which have also allocated funding for the proposed activities. In addition, an Action Plan for the period 2024–2025 was prepared to operationalise the measures.

Funding is also allocated under the Police's Action Plan on domestic violence for the period 2023–2024.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, a public call was issued for the implementation of projects aimed at alleviating or eliminating the social hardship experienced by the most vulnerable population groups as a result of the epidemic. The call co-funded projects offering a range of approaches in areas such as psychosocial counselling, awareness-raising, information provision, outreach work, user support, establishment of new safe spaces, digital solutions for responding to distress, and provision of emergency accommodation for target groups. Victims of gender-based violence were among the target groups covered by the call. At the onset of the pandemic, Slovenia established a 24-hour telephone helpline for women victims of violence. The helpline continues to operate uninterrupted to this day.

To mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia funded additional projects and programmes providing assistance to the most vulnerable groups, including victims of violence. These projects and programmes promote innovative approaches to addressing social challenges that were further deepened by the pandemic. They include psychosocial counselling, awareness-raising, outreach work, direct support to users, the establishment of new safe spaces, digital solutions to respond to distress, the provision of shelters, and the operation of telephone helplines.

Gender equality is a key priority of Slovenia's international development cooperation policy. Slovenia continues to make voluntary contributions to international organisations working across the full spectrum of gender equality issues, including the prevention of all forms of violence against women and girls, domestic violence, and support for victims of such violence.

Table 1: Slovenia's Voluntary Contributions Dedicated Exclusively to Combatting Violence against Women and Girls (2021–2024)

<i>VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS BY SLOVENIA</i>	<i>2021 - 2024</i>
<i>United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women</i>	<i>90,000</i>
<i>International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) – for the prevention of gender-based violence</i>	<i>570,000</i>

5. Please provide information on any development concerning the provision of appropriate and sustainable financial and human resources for women's rights organisations that provide specialist support services to victims, including those supporting migrant women and girls.

The Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) increases funding each year for crisis centres operating within the framework of social work centres. Since 2022, the Ministry has provided each crisis centre for children and adolescents with funding for the additional employment of one professional staff member, and the crisis centre for children with funding for two additional professional staff members. In 2023, Slovenia also opened a new crisis centre for children aged 0 to 6.

In addition to the crisis centres operating within social work centres, specialist support for victims of violence and domestic violence has been provided since 1993 through social assistance programmes, including those specifically aimed at preventing violence against women and domestic violence.

Greater emphasis and enhanced funding stability for complementary social assistance programmes have been ensured through the adoption of the National Social Assistance Programme. Most of these programmes are implemented by non-governmental organisations, while some public institutions also apply as implementing organisations, although these programmes are not carried out as part of public service provision.

Particular emphasis is placed on the establishment and funding of the national telephone helpline for victims of violence, which operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, and provides confidential and anonymous counselling and information to victims.

In 2021 and 2022, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) co-funded 35 programmes aimed at preventing violence. Of these, 34 were public social assistance programmes included in a seven-year co-financing scheme, while one was a developmental social assistance programme supported through one-year co-financing. Among all violence prevention programmes, 21 provided accommodation to victims (residential programmes). These included eight residential shelters for mothers and children, and 13 programmes for safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres. MDDSZ also co-funded 12 counselling centres, one programme focused on preventing violence against older persons, and one telephone counselling programme.

In 2023, a total of 38 violence prevention programmes were co-funded, 31 of which were implemented by non-governmental organisations (NGOs). This included 35 public social assistance programmes under the seven-year co-financing scheme and three developmental social assistance programmes under the one-year scheme. Among all violence prevention programmes, 22 provided accommodation to victims (residential programmes). The number of residential shelters for mothers and children, safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres remained unchanged. In addition, MDDSZ co-funded 13 counselling centres, two programmes focused on the prevention of violence against older persons, and one telephone counselling programme.

In 2024, a total of 35 programmes were co-funded in the field of violence prevention, support for victims of violence, and work with perpetrators. Of these, 28 were implemented by non-governmental organisations (NGOs). This included 35 public social assistance programmes under the seven-year co-financing scheme and three developmental social assistance programmes under the one-year scheme. Other programmes continued to receive funding as in the previous year.

The share of funding allocated by MDDSZ for social assistance programmes in the field of violence prevention has increased each year. Funding for the prevention of violence was allocated as follows: EUR 3,467,649.31 in 2021; EUR 4,654,207.21 in 2022; EUR 4,802,839.61 in 2023; and EUR 5,444,941.40 in 2024.

Violence prevention programmes also support female victims of violence who are foreign nationals. In view of their specific needs and additional circumstances, individualised solutions are developed in cooperation between providers of social assistance programmes and institutional care services.

Between 1 January and 31 December 2023, MDDSZ co-funded the developmental programme "Counselling Office for Migrant Women Victims of Violence", implemented by the non-governmental organisation Association SOS Help-Line for Women and Children – Victims of Violence. During the one-year reporting period, the counselling office supported 254 users, including migrant, refugee, and foreign national women who were victims of domestic violence. It was also contacted by 164 professionals seeking information or support in working with users with a migrant background. The counselling office ceased operation in 2024.

Information is also provided to vulnerable groups of applicants for international protection, temporary protection, and refugees on the risks of human trafficking, sexual violence, and gender-based violence, as well as on available options for seeking protection and support. Since 2023, a project co-funded by the European Union has been implemented.

As part of integrated funding, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities is financing a network of 12 family support programmes for the period 2021–2025. These programmes are implemented through family centres, which serve as inclusive community spaces fostering intergenerational interaction, strengthening individual social roles, supporting the reconciliation of family and working life, improving interpersonal relationships and parenting competencies, and facilitating the exchange of good practices and positive experiences. The family support programmes are aimed at children, adolescents, and their families, as ensuring the healthy development of younger generations is a shared responsibility of society as a whole. The programmes are widely recognised at the local

level as effective and beneficial, as they are free of charge, accessible to all, and based on modern support and self-help approaches. They provide informal spaces for social interaction, educational and practical workshops promoting positive parenting, holiday activities for children, structured workshops for children and adolescents, and counselling to support emotional regulation, build self-esteem, and strengthen problem-solving skills. Although these projects do not explicitly target girls and women, they contribute significantly to enhancing their overall well-being and long-term life outcomes.

The Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities publishes an annual public call for proposals for non-governmental organisations working in the area of equality between women and men. Between 2019 and 2023, five projects in the field of violence against women were co-funded. These included awareness-raising and prevention projects, with a particular focus on violence against women, including online violence. A total of EUR 49,997.44 was allocated to projects addressing violence against women.

In the same period (2019–2023), the Ministry of Public Administration funded a fund for non-governmental organisations, which provided financial support to NGOs working to prevent and respond to gender-based violence. The total amount allocated was EUR 148,635.63.

Within the framework of international development cooperation and humanitarian aid, Slovenia regularly supports programmes and projects implemented by women's and other non-governmental organisations working to empower women and girls. Many of these programmes include components such as awareness-raising on violence against women and girls, psychosocial support, and economic empowerment for women who are victims or survivors of domestic or gender-based violence. These programmes and projects are implemented by Slovenian NGOs in cooperation with local non-governmental organisations in partner countries.

As these initiatives are multiannual, the information provided refers to the period 2020–2025. These programmes and projects contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in particular: SDG 5.2 – Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation; SDG 5.3 – Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation. The primary beneficiaries of these programmes and projects during the reporting period were refugee women from Syria, Palestine, Sudan, and the Democratic Republic of Congo, with some projects also involving local women in Lebanon and Uganda. A total of EUR 910,000 was allocated to the programmes and projects implemented in Lebanon, and EUR 410,000 to those carried out in Uganda.

Article 11: Data collection and research

6. Please provide information on any new development since the adoption of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report on your country on the introduction of data collection categories such as type of violence, sex and age of the victim and the perpetrator, the relationship between the two and where it took place, for administrative data of relevance to the field of violence against women and domestic violence emanating from law enforcement agencies, the justice sector, social services and the public health care sector.

In response to GREVIO's recommendation, following its latest report, to establish comprehensive data collection on victims of criminal offences, disaggregated by sex, age, and relationship to the perpetrator, at all stages of criminal proceedings, the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (SURS) has worked in cooperation with the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia and the Supreme Court of the Republic of Slovenia, as holders of administrative records on reported, indicted, and convicted persons, in order to obtain relevant statistical data on victims. According to current findings, the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia has taken the necessary steps to develop a records system that enables the linking of data between perpetrators and victims of criminal offences. SURS has already received data on victims of criminal offences reported in 2023. These data are now being analysed and cross-referenced with data on the corresponding perpetrators.

Regarding the systematic collection of disaggregated personal data, the Ministry of Justice has previously explained to evaluators—citing repeated recommendations from international organisations—that it is not possible to mandate such collection by law. Requiring this could result in harm to specific individuals (victims, complainants, or others), and it would be difficult to justify such a generalised intrusion into protected personal data, as defined under Article 38 of the Constitution of the Republic of Slovenia (Protection of Personal Data). There is therefore no systematic legal framework

in the Republic of Slovenia for the collection and processing of disaggregated personal data. Only a few specific statutory arrangements allow such collection and processing, and only where it is necessary for determining an individual's personal status or for the purpose of positive discrimination.

In view of the above, within the State Prosecutor's Office, a practice has been adopted whereby case files are manually flagged when it is established that a perpetrator acted out of hostility based on the victim's personal circumstances. This approach allows such cases to be included for research and analytical purposes.

In connection with the establishment of a new social assistance service for the support of victims of criminal offences, MDDSZ has upgraded its social data collection system. In addition to recording the services provided (disaggregated by sex), the system now also records the reason (problem) for which the victim accessed the service, and the referral pathway, i.e. where the person was directed for further assistance. In addition, if the victim voluntarily discloses the type of criminal offence for which they are seeking support, and states that they have reported the offence, professional staff working within the support for victims of criminal offences service can record this information using the criminal offence classification system also applied by the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia. It is important to note that reporting a criminal offence is not a prerequisite for accessing the service at a social work centre. As a result, this data does not reflect all criminal offences experienced by service users.

In primary reproductive health care for women, aggregate data is collected across all outpatient consultations. Since 1 January 2023, the Health Data Centre of the National Institute of Public Health (NIJZ) has been collecting data on the care of pregnant women through the following mechanisms:

- *Self-reporting by pregnant women using the NADO questionnaire¹⁹. The data are collected at the individual patient level and include a full range of socio-economic information, but do not contain information about the perpetrator. This information is collected solely within women's health care during the first preventive pregnancy check-up.*
- *The use of the WAST (Woman Abuse Screening Tool) to assess exposure to intimate partner violence. This tool is also used solely in women's health care, specifically during follow-up preventive pregnancy check-ups (around the 24th and 32nd weeks), at the midwife-led preventive check-up, and during the postnatal preventive examination. The data are collected at the patient level and may include all pieces of socio-economic information. The details about the perpetrator are available;*
- *NIJZ collects data on domestic violence based on the 11th version of the International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD-10-AM, version 11) for statistical purposes. For the period 2026–2027, the analysis of administrative data sources and the preparation of a final report are planned. This will constitute the first report on domestic violence data based on the International Classification of Diseases (ICD-10-AM, version 11). The analysis will include available data on domestic violence, disaggregated by sex, number of victims, age of victims, perpetrator information, and the relationship between victim and perpetrator. This does not involve new data collection but rather the first systematic processing of existing data.*

In accordance with the Police Tasks and Powers Act, the Police maintain a register containing the following information: full name, date of birth, personal identification number (EMŠO), sex, residential address, citizenship, and an identification code assigned in police records. The register of criminal offences may also include additional information such as: aliases or false identities used by the perpetrator; physical descriptions; administrative unit of birth; family and financial circumstances of the perpetrator; level of education, occupation, and employment status; general information about injured parties, complainants, and other informants; general information on natural persons, legal entities, and public bodies that received property gains acquired through or as a result of the criminal offence, or to whom such gains were transferred; details of the criminal offence, including type, location, time, method, motive, description of items involved, damage caused, as well as photographs, audio and video recordings, and other relevant circumstances; information on the type and value of material benefits obtained through or as a result of the criminal offence; and details on the type and value of property equivalent to the benefit that may be subject to confiscation.

¹⁹ The NADO questionnaire is a screening tool covering violence, alcohol, drugs, and addiction

In 2021, within the framework of the Targeted Research Project 2020, the Police commissioned a study on the effectiveness of restraining orders, conducted by the Institute of Criminology. The study examined the issuance of restraining orders during the period 2010–2021, assessing the scope of issuance, trends, potential variations across police directorates, the characteristics of cases in which the Police decided to impose this measure, and its effectiveness.

7. Where relevant, please provide information on any new development since the adoption of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report on your country to enable disaggregated data collection:

- a. on the number of emergency barring and protection orders and the number of breaches and the resulting sanctions;
- b. on the number of times custody decisions have resulted in the restriction and withdrawal of parental rights because of violence perpetrated by one parent against the other.

No new measures were adopted; specifically disaggregated data on temporary restraining orders and protection measures, violations, sanctions, and custody decisions involving parental rights remain limited.

8. Please provide information on measures taken to allow cases of violence against women and domestic violence to be tracked from reporting to conviction, at all stages of the law-enforcement and judicial proceedings.

The Police provide a dedicated website for victims or injured parties of criminal offences, offering access to information about the status, stage, and outcome of pre-trial proceedings in the criminal offence affecting them. Upon entering requested data into fields drawn from the official police records, users automatically receive a notification. The form ends with a link to the rights of the victims of the criminal offence.

The Criminal Procedure Act, as amended by ZKP-N²⁰, further specifies the status and support mechanisms for victims of criminal offences. These provisions notably ensure that victims are: duly informed at all stages of pre-trial and criminal proceedings, thereby enabled to monitor the progress of their case. The amendments have significantly contributed to establishing a victim-centred approach; preventing or reducing secondary victimisation, feelings of discomfort, fear and other adverse emotional consequences; ensuring the provision of appropriate information, referral to specialised support services and relevant NGOs where required; explaining available options for pursuing pecuniary claims; guaranteeing access to free legal aid; and providing all other necessary information.

In criminal proceedings concerning criminal offences against sexual integrity, marriage, family and children, enslavement, and human trafficking, a minor injured party must have a legal representative throughout the entire process from the initiation of the proceedings. This representative must ensure the protection of their rights, particularly regarding the safeguarding of their integrity during the interrogation and the pursuit of pecuniary claim. A minor injured party of the aforementioned offences must also have a legal representative when being interviewed during the pre-trial proceedings. For the minor injured party who does not yet have a legal representative, the court shall appoint one ex officio from among qualified lawyers.

Similarly, in the pre-trial and criminal proceedings involving the minor injured party, the injured party who is a victim of violence, or other injured party, where required by the type and gravity of the criminal offence, their personal circumstances, or degree of vulnerability, a person chosen by the injured party themselves may be present, unless this would conflict with the interests of the proper conduct of the pre-trial or criminal proceedings or the welfare of the injured party.

The authority conducting the pre-trial and criminal proceedings must ensure the injured party is protected from unwanted contact with the suspect or the accused, except where such contact is strictly necessary for the proper conduct of the pre-trial or criminal proceedings.

It is equally important that during the first contact, the competent authority in pre-trial or criminal proceedings must inform the injured party of the method of providing information on:

²⁰Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Zakona o kazenskem postopku (Act Amending the Criminal Procedure Act) (ZKP-N): <https://pisrs.si/pregledNpb?idPredpisa=ZAKO7508&idPredpisaChng=ZAKO7508>

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- free medical, psychological and other assistance and support;
 - assistance and measures to the Act governing the prevention of domestic violence;
 - protective and other measures for ensuring personal security under this Act and the Act governing the protection of witnesses;
 - the rights referred to in Article 65 of ZKP (explained in preceding paragraphs) and the right to free legal aid under the Act governing free legal aid;
 - the possibilities for compensation for damages under this Act and the Act governing compensation to victims of crime;
 - payment and reimbursement of the costs incurred by the injured party under Article 92 of this Act;
 - the right to interpretation and translation under this Act;
 - the possibility of concealing address or residence details;
 - the contact person of the competent authority with whom he or she can communicate about his or her case;
 - any other rights or benefits that may be relevant to the injured party.

The extent and type of information depend on the personal characteristics and vulnerability of the injured party, their specific needs for protection, the nature, gravity and circumstances of the crime and the stage of pre-trial or criminal proceedings. Upon request or where required by law, the injured party may receive information about the status of pre-trial or criminal proceedings, and final judgements. For personal safety purposes, the injured party may request notification regarding the release or escape of the suspect or the accused person from house arrest or from detention or from prison.

Part II: Information on the implementation of selected provisions in priority areas in the field of prevention, protection and prosecution

Article 12: General obligations

9. Please provide information on any primary prevention measures aiming to change mentalities and attitudes in relation to violence against women and to reduce women's exposure to gender-based violence by:

a. addressing harmful gender stereotypes and prejudices, customs and traditions based on the idea of the inferiority of women;

b. addressing the heightened exposure to gender-based violence by women and girls at risk of intersectional discrimination;

c. encouraging all members of society, including men and boys, to contribute actively to preventing all forms of violence against women covered by the scope of the Istanbul Convention, and promoting the empowerment of women and girls in all areas of life, notably their participation in politics at all levels and in the labour market.

Since the adoption of the GREVIO's baseline evaluation report, Slovenia has introduced a number of preventive measures aimed at challenging gender stereotypes and reducing women's exposure to gender-based violence. These measures address harmful gender stereotypes, recognise intersectional discrimination, and actively involve all members of society in the promotion of gender equality.

The Resolution on the National Programme for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men 2023–2030 sets out strategic objectives for the prevention of violence against women. The programme highlights the importance of challenging social norms and stereotypes that reinforce the idea of women's subordination. It supports educational initiatives and public awareness campaigns that promote gender equality and a zero-tolerance approach to violence.

Slovenia places a strong emphasis on the active involvement of all members of society, including men and boys, in efforts to prevent violence against women and advance gender equality. The National Programme promotes:

the inclusion of gender equality and non-violence topics in school curricula, with the aim of fostering respectful relationships from early childhood;

raising awareness of the importance of gender equality and zero tolerance for violence against women and girls;

encouraging men and boys to take part in initiatives that challenge traditional gender roles and support the empowerment of women.

In addition, Slovenia is committed to promoting women's participation in political life and the labour market, recognising that empowerment in these areas is essential to preventing violence and achieving genuine gender equality.

The Resolution on the National Programme for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women 2024–2029 outlines a wide range of preventive measures, including: ensuring that revised school curricula meaningfully incorporate topics such as gender equality, non-stereotypical gender roles, mutual respect, non-violent communication in interpersonal relationships, gender-based violence against women and girls, the right to personal integrity, empowering children to speak out about violence, and raising awareness of the consequences of peer violence; promoting principles such as gender equality, non-stereotypical gender roles, mutual respect, non-violent communication, and the right to personal integrity across non-formal educational settings, including in sport, culture, media, and other community spaces; raising awareness of violence and identifying early warning signs of abuse in intimate partner relationships among young people; increasing recognition and understanding of gender-based violence against girls; encouraging children to speak up about violence they may experience or witness; and conducting annual awareness-raising and training activities on online violence against women and children, including how to recognise and report such violence, targeting pupils in primary and secondary schools, as well as other relevant groups.

In addition, the Advocate of the Principle of Equality—an independent state authority established under the Protection Against Discrimination Act—plays a key role in promoting equality and combating discrimination. The Advocate carries out independent research, provides support to individuals who have experienced discrimination, and raises public awareness on issues related to gender-based discrimination, harassment, and sexual harassment.

Under the Police Tasks and Powers Act, police officers are required to treat victims and persons in need of additional care and support with particular sensitivity. This includes children, minors, older persons, persons with disabilities, pregnant women, and victims of domestic violence. Police officers must ensure equal protection of rights in the performance of their duties. No one shall be subjected to discrimination on grounds of nationality, race, skin colour, sex, language, religion, sexual orientation, political or other opinion, property, birth, genetic heritage, education, social status, disability, or any other personal circumstance.

*The article “**Where to Seek Help in Times of Distress**” is included in the guidebook *We Are Expecting a Baby*. A printed copy of the guidebook is given to pregnant women at gynaecological clinics during their first prenatal check-up, or upon receiving their maternity record book. As pregnancy is a period of heightened vulnerability, it is particularly important that women are informed about their rights, the available protection mechanisms, and the various forms of support.*

The article “Where to Seek Help in Times of Distress”, page 56. Further information is provided on page 58, including details on available support services in cases of violence, as well as a directory of the network of safe houses, residential shelter for mothers and children, and social work centres throughout Slovenia. <https://nijz.si/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/Pricakujemo-dojencka-E-IZDAJA-2024.pdf>

In 2024, the Police published a handbook on the recognition and response to domestic violence, titled “Together Against Violence”, intended for both the general public and expert audiences. The publication includes descriptions of the various forms of domestic violence and provides a historical overview of the legislative response to domestic violence in Slovenia. It encourages readers to reflect on common myths associated with domestic violence and sheds light on the often hidden impacts of abuse on victims and children. The handbook also introduces the basic principles of interviewing children who are victims of domestic violence. The second part of the handbook shifts focus to the reader and society as a whole, inviting reflection on the role of each individual in contributing to a future free from violence and abuse. The aim of the publication is not only to raise awareness of domestic violence, but—more importantly—to encourage thinking about and supporting long-term solutions for its prevention. The handbook is available in digital format at the following link:

https://www.policija.si/images/stories/Publikacije/PDF/Skupaj_proti_nasilju_Prirocnik.pdf

In 2023, the Police also published a leaflet titled “Domestic Violence – key information for victims”, which has been translated into nine foreign languages. The leaflet is also available on the official website of the Police: https://www.policija.si/images/stories/Publikacije/PDF/Nasilje_v_druzini_SLO.pdf

Article 14: Education

10. Please provide a few examples of promising teaching or prevention programmes, materials, or initiatives for use in formal education (from pre-school to higher education) that:

- a. educate children and youth about equality between women and men, the right to personal integrity, mutual respect and non-violent conflict resolution in interpersonal relationships, including the notion of freely given consent.

The National Education Institute Slovenia (ZRSŠ) is implementing a development initiative titled “A Safe and Supportive Learning Environment”, which is based on a comprehensive whole-school approach. The initiative promotes the systematic development of pupils’ social and emotional competences and fosters a school culture grounded in respect and non-violent communication. Themes such as gender equality, the importance of free and informed consent, and personal integrity are incorporated into classroom teaching and into Active Citizenship, a mandatory subject in all secondary schools.

In-service teacher training programmes—such as those listed in the KATIS catalogue—place particular emphasis on developing competences for creating a safe and inclusive learning environment, to promote tolerance, understanding of equal rights, and active civic engagement.

- b. Many of these programmes address various forms of gender-based violence against women and girls, as defined in the Istanbul Convention.

The Ministry of Education (MVI) In cooperation with ZRSŠ has developed and continues to update protocols for recognising and responding to sexual violence, sexual harassment, and domestic violence in educational institutions. These protocols are supported by visual materials (posters, infographics), an online repository of resources, and regular training sessions for school principals and education professionals. Special emphasis is placed on the comprehensive prevention and early identification of violence in school environments, as well as on providing support to victims.

Materials developed for schools include examples of good practice that promote a culture of zero tolerance towards violence and encourage pupils to actively contribute to creating a safe and inclusive learning environment.

- c. These resources also support the integration of digital literacy and online safety into formal curricula, in line with GREVIO’s General Recommendation No. 1 on the digital dimension of violence against women.

The Ministry of Education, in cooperation with partners such as Safe.si, the National Institute of Public Health and ZRSŠ, leads a range of awareness-raising activities addressing online violence, hate speech, and cyber-harassment, along with measures for their prevention. A comprehensive online library of educational resources is available under the title “Recognising and Preventing Violence in Schools”²¹, which also includes e-classrooms and webinars.

The KATIS catalogue currently offers over ten programmes—such as Online Safety Using Minecraft Education, Educational Challenges in the Digital Age, and Critical and Media Literacy—that help strengthen digital competences, promote critical thinking, and encourage the safe and responsible use of the internet.

For over 15 years, Safe.si, Slovenia’s national awareness-raising node for online safety, has been providing education to children, adolescents, parents, and teachers on how to use technology safely and responsibly—maximising its benefits and enjoyment while minimising potential risks and harm. In this context, Safe.si has developed two specialised lectures tailored to the needs of various profiles of school staff: Safe and Responsible Internet Use in the Classroom, and Legal Aspects of Online Safety in Schools. Schools can choose to organise one of the lectures or both. In addition, a core mission of the online safety awareness node Safe.si is to educate children and young people on the safe and responsible use of the internet. Ongoing awareness-raising on these topics is essential, which is why age-appropriate workshops are offered for each stage of primary education and for the first year of upper secondary education. Each workshop includes a theoretical component, in which pupils learn

²¹ <https://www.gov.si/teme/prepoznavanje-in-preprecevanje-medvrstniskega-nasilja-v-solah/>

key concepts, rules, and safety tips through explanations, discussions, shared experiences, and video content, and a practical component, featuring various engaging and interactive activities adapted to the age group. As part of the “Odklikni!” (Log Off!) project – Stop Online Violence Against Women and Girls, implemented in 2017 and 2019, national-level activities aimed at preventing online violence were further developed. Particular emphasis was placed on integrating a gender perspective into teaching and learning materials, educational modules, training programmes, and the formulation of recommendations and policy measures. The project resulted in the development of teaching materials, training modules, and school-specific guidelines.

Between 2018 and 2021, the European project CyberSafe was carried out. Its main outcome was the development of an educational programme based on a serious game (the CyberSafe tool), addressing online violence against women and girls. The aim of the educational programme and the serious game was to raise young people’s awareness of online gender-based violence and to encourage safe and responsible online behaviour.

In 2022–2023, based on the project’s findings and the developed game, an online training course for teachers was introduced. The course is designed to support teachers in understanding online violence against girls and to strengthen their capacity to recognise, prevent, and respond to such violence. To date, more than 1,200 teachers in Slovenia have completed this free online course, supported by the Academic and Research Network of Slovenia (ARNES).

- d. Efforts are made to ensure that teaching materials used in schools are free from harmful gender stereotypes relating to women and men of all ages.

The National Education Institute of the Republic of Slovenia, through its textbook review and approval procedures, as well as in curriculum reform processes, ensures that teaching materials do not contain gender stereotypes and that girls and boys are equally represented across a range of social roles. The ongoing curriculum reform, carried out under the Recovery and Resilience Plan (RRP), is clearly focused on promoting gender equality and social justice.

- e. Tailored interventions are also provided to prevent gender-based violence and to empower all girls, including those exposed to intersectional discrimination.

ZRSŠ and the Ministry of Education implement a number of programmes supporting vulnerable groups, such as Roma girls, children from migrant backgrounds, children with special educational needs, and members of the LGBTQIA+ community. Key initiatives include projects involving Roma classroom assistants and multilingual approaches, the development of inclusive learning environments for migrant children, and specialised training for professionals working with diverse intersectional groups.

Special support materials are being developed, drawing on international good practices, along with guidelines for identifying discriminatory practices and enhancing the visibility of marginalised groups. As part of development projects—such as *The Illusion of Equality: Addressing Diversity to Achieve Inclusive Educational Institutions*—training sessions are organised for principals and educational staff, with particular attention paid to intersectional discrimination.

Article 15: Training of professionals

11. Please complete tables I and II included in the Appendix in order to provide a comprehensive overview of the professional groups that receive initial and in-service training on the different forms of violence against women and domestic violence. Please specify the frequency and scope of the training and whether it is compulsory.

The Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) funds training and capacity-building activities for professional staff and specialized assistants employed at social work centres and in social assistance programmes. These are delivered by the Social Chamber of Slovenia. The Social Chamber of Slovenia holds a public mandate under **the Social Assistance Act**²² to plan and organise continuous professional education and training for professionals and specialized assistants working in the field of social assistance. These training programmes are conducted on an

²² Zakon o socialnem varstvu (Social Assistance Act): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO5111>

annual basis. The Social Assistance Act stipulates that professional staff and specialized assistants in public social assistance institutions are required to participate in continuous training and education.

The training and capacity-building programmes provided by the Social Chamber of Slovenia cover a wide range of topics, including, among others: provisions of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act; working with foreigners, refugees, migrants, and victims of trafficking in human beings; the network of social assistance programmes in Slovenia; support for victims of criminal offences; the delivery of specific social assistance services; work with perpetrators of violence; and the impact of intimate partner violence and custody/contact decisions on women and children.

In 2024, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities funded and organised a two-day training for social work centre professionals and the Police, entitled “Improving Response and Strengthening the Coordination of First Responders in Cases of Domestic Violence”. Regular training in the field of domestic violence is also provided by the Association of Centres for Social Work.

The Judicial Training Centre (JTC) was established to ensure a comprehensive approach to training processes in the judiciary. Its role extends beyond the organisation and delivery of training events. In preparing its annual work programme, JTC takes into account proposals from judicial bodies, feedback from training participants, and other suggestions from the interested public groups. The programme proposals, once reviewed by the JTC Expert Council, are adopted by the Minister of Justice.

Educational events/Trainings by Year:

2024:

- Training on the Protection of Children in Criminal Proceedings and Their Comprehensive Treatment in the Children’s House was designed for judges, judicial advisers, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor’s offices. It was delivered in two sessions and attended by 69 participants. Lecturers addressed selected topics concerning the protection of children involved in criminal proceedings and their treatment within the Children’s House.

- 22nd Expert Conference titled “The Child – A Mirror of Society!” was intended for state prosecutors, professional staff of state prosecutor’s offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers, and representatives of the Police. It was attended by 209 participants. The programme covered selected interdisciplinary topics, including aspects of family law and practical case examples, with an emphasis on the complex interplay between child victims and perpetrators. Lecturers also presented content from the Domestic Violence Prevention Act.

- Family Law School was dedicated to judges, judicial advisers, (senior) state attorneys, candidates for state attorney positions, and lawyers. It was attended by 196 participants. The lecturers addressed current issues in substantive and procedural family law, as well as recent developments in national and international case law. The programme included lectures and workshops on topics such as efficient proceedings, awareness raising and protection of vulnerable groups, eliminating the digital divide in alternative dispute resolution, and strengthening judicial skills and competences in performing their role.

- Training Days of the Association of State Prosecutors and the Supreme State Prosecutor’s Office of the Republic of Slovenia were designed for state prosecutors, professional staff and other employees of state prosecutor’s offices. It was attended by 179 participants. The lecturers presented participants with up-to-date content and open issues related to the work of state prosecutors. One lecturer provided a detailed account of a real-life murder case in which the perpetrator, following prolonged drinking, took the lives of three individuals—his partner and her parents—in the presence of a small child.

- The Prosecutors’ Training Days were intended for state prosecutors and professional staff working in the state prosecution service. The event was attended by 187 participants. The programme covered current topics in criminal procedural and substantive law, as well as recent developments in case law in the field of criminal justice. In addition, general non-legal themes relevant to prosecutors in conducting proceedings were addressed. Particular attention was given to a lecture entitled “Sentencing in Sexual Offence Cases in Slovenia”.

2023:

- The 21st Expert Conference titled “The Child – Used as Evidence?!” was intended for state prosecutors, professional staff of state prosecutor’s office, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers, and representatives of the Police. It was attended by 207 participants. It focused on selected interdisciplinary topics and practical case studies, with an emphasis on the intertwined roles of victim and perpetrator in cases involving children. Lectures were delivered on topics such as the treatment of children in police procedures, the process of gynaecological examination of child victims, and the role of the Children’s House.

- The seminar EU Gender Equality Law was designed for judges and other justice sector professionals. It was attended by 12 participants. The programme addressed current issues and case law in the field of equal opportunities. The content was prepared in cooperation with ERA (Academy of European Law). A keynote lecture was delivered under the title “Combating Gender-Based Violence in the EU”.

– The 2023 Conference of Judges of the European Court of Human Rights on Family Law was intended for judges, state prosecutors, state attorneys, and lawyers. The conference was attended by 104 participants. The lecturers addressed selected topics in family law and recent case law of the ECHR. One of the lectures, titled “Developments in the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights” focused on domestic violence, including forms of online violence.

– The 2023 Family Law School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was attended by 198 participants. The lecturers addressed selected current topics in family law, presented domestic and international case law, and explored selected non-contentious matters related to the conduct of proceedings in family cases.

– The workshop titled “Expert Witnessing in Family Law Cases” was designed for first-instance judges and their judicial advisers, court-appointed expert witnesses in the field of family law, and representatives of social work centres who prepare expert opinions in family court proceedings. The workshop was held three times and was attended by 119 participants. Its aim was to deepen understanding of key challenges in expert witnessing in family law proceedings, improve the quality of expert reports and opinions of the social work centres, strengthen communication among stakeholders, and enhance the quality of judicial practice when formulating questions and drafting orders. Clarifications were also provided regarding the distinction between psychological and psychiatric expert witnesses, as well as between expert opinions and the opinions provided by social work centres.

– The Criminal Law Judicial School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was held twice and attended by a total of 331 participants. The lecturers addressed current issues in procedural and substantive criminal law, presented national and international case law, and explored selected legal topics related to the conduct of proceedings. Special attention was given to the development of violent personality traits.

– The Prosecutors’ Training Days were intended for state prosecutors and professional staff working in the state prosecution service. The event was attended by 185 participants. The programme covered current topics in criminal procedural and substantive law, as well as recent developments in case law in the field of criminal justice. It also addressed general non-legal topics relevant for prosecutors in conducting proceedings. The lecturers explored the topic of violence against women and the psychological aspects of why victims remain in abusive relationships.

2022:

– “Addressing Domestic Violence and Victims of Domestic Violence” was intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor’s offices. The seminar was attended by 103 participants. The aim of the event was to explore issues related to the prevention and detection of acts of violence, prosecution, adjudication, and enforcement of sanctions for domestic violence. The seminar addressed open issues regarding gender equality, as well as the needs and rights of victims and the prevention of secondary victimisation.

– The Criminal Law Judicial School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was held twice and attended by a total of 301 participants. The lecturers addressed current issues in procedural and substantive criminal law, presented national and international case law, and explored legal topics related to the conduct of proceedings. One of the central topics was a lecture titled “The Psychological Aspects of Victims Remaining in Abusive Relationships”.

– **The Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in Children’s House Act²³** was a seminar intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor’s offices. It was attended by 116 participants. The lecturers covered selected topics related to the protection of children in criminal proceedings and their comprehensive treatment in the Children’s House.

– State Attorneys Days were intended for (senior) state attorneys, candidates for state attorneys, and state attorney office staff. It was attended by 92 participants. The lecturers addressed selected current topics and open issues related to the work of state attorneys and the functioning of the State Attorney’s Office. The programme included a lecture titled “Dealing with Violence and (Non-)Violent Communication”.

– A one-hour seminar was also delivered, attended by 85 participants. One lecturer delivered a presentation on “Victims of Domestic Violence among Members of Vulnerable Groups: Navigating the Line Between Tradition and Criminal Offence”.

2021:

– The seminar titled “Responding to Domestic Violence and Supporting Victims of Domestic Violence” was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts, as well as state prosecutors and

²³ Zakon o zaščiti otrok v kazenskem postopku in njihovi celostni obravnavi v hiši za otroke (Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in Children’s House Act) (ZZOKPOHO):

<https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO8216>

professional staff at state prosecutor's offices. It was held four times, and attended by a total of 171 participants. The seminar covered topics related to the prevention and detection of acts of violence, prosecution, adjudication, and the enforcement of sanctions for domestic violence offences. It also addressed open issues regarding gender equality, while lecturers highlighted the needs and rights of victims of domestic violence and the importance of preventing secondary victimisation.

– The seminar titled “Emerging Case Law in the Field of Family Law” was intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, professional staff from social work centres, (senior) state attorneys, and state attorney candidates. It was attended by 120 participants. The lecturers introduced participants to new case law developed following the entry into force of the new Family Code. They also discussed current open issues and analysed different legal positions. The seminar included a presentation titled “The Domestic Violence Prevention Act – Case Law”.

– The 19th Expert Conference “Addressing the Needs of Particularly Vulnerable Children” was intended for state prosecutors, professional staff at state prosecutor's offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers, and the representatives of the Police. It was attended by 338 participants. The programme covered interdisciplinary themes and real-life examples, with a focus on the treatment of particularly vulnerable children. The conference was included in the EJTN Catalogue+ of the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).

2020:

– The seminar for criminal case mediators was intended for mediators working in criminal proceedings and was attended by 27 participants. The lecturers addressed selected topics related to mediation in criminal cases and discussed outstanding issues in this area. Two dedicated lectures were delivered under the titles “Challenges in Prosecuting Domestic Violence from the Perspective of the Prosecution Service” and “The Psychosocial Situation of Victims in Cases of Domestic Violence”.

– The 2020 Criminal Law Judicial School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was held twice and attended by a total of 221 participants. The lecturers covered current topics in procedural and substantive criminal law and presented relevant domestic and international case law. They also explored selected legal issues concerning the conduct of proceedings. A special focus was placed on the session titled “Sexual Offences”.

– The 2020 Enforcement Law Judicial Training School was organised for judges, judicial assistants, judicial advisers at courts, (senior) state attorneys and candidates for state attorney positions. It was held twice and attended by a total of 440 participants. The programme addressed current topics and recent developments in enforcement law and included non-legal content relevant to procedural conduct. Particular attention was given to the lecture titled “Enforcement in Cases Concerning Custody and Contact Arrangements – Focus on Cases Involving Removal of Child”.

– The Training Programme for Heads of Offices, Human Resources and Legal, and Financial and Accounting Services was intended for staff in managerial positions within the judiciary. It was held twice and attended by a total of 221 participants. Participants were introduced to general and specialised topics in the areas of human resources and legal and financial-accounting matters. The sessions addressed challenges posed by increasingly demanding work tasks and complex workplace relations. Particular emphasis was placed on the prevention of workplace bullying (mobbing), including real-life experiences and related dilemmas.

In addition to the Judicial Training Centre (JTC), the General Directorate of the Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (URSIKS) also organises both basic and advanced training programmes for professional staff working in correctional facilities with perpetrators of violence. These training activities are systematically planned in the Annual Training and Education Plan for URSIKS employees. Under the auspices of the Association for Nonviolent Communication, ongoing supervision and professional support is provided, along with updates on recent developments and guidelines related to the treatment of violence and intervention approaches. In addition to the primary goal of building knowledge, techniques, skills and methods for direct work with perpetrators of violence, participants also gain theoretical understanding of domestic violence – including who the victims are, the consequences of violence, available support programmes for victims, what zero tolerance for violence entails in practice, and the importance of coordinated action in the field.

The Police organise a number of events, with the most notable listed below by year.

2022

– The expert conference entitled “A Multidisciplinary Approach to Addressing Domestic Violence” was organised for police officers, staff of social work centres, prosecutors and judges, and was held in the congress hall of the DSU Palace. Following plenary lectures delivered by experts from various institutions, a roundtable discussion focused on inter-agency cooperation in addressing domestic violence. It was attended by 130 participants.

2023

– The expert conference entitled “Crossing Borders: International Perspectives on Addressing Domestic Violence” was organised for police officers, social work professionals, prosecutors and judges. The conference focused on the international dimension of addressing domestic violence, with particular emphasis on measures for the protection of children. The event featured contributions from international guest speakers. The event was attended by 130 participants.

2024

At an expert conference on domestic violence, held at the Slovene National Theatre (SNG) in Nova Gorica, police officers, professionals from social work centres, prosecutors and judges attended a theatre performance titled “Five Kinds of Silence”. The performance, delivered by actors from the Nova Gorica theatre, portrayed the lived experiences of victims of domestic violence—experiences often difficult to express in words. Following the performance, a roundtable brought together experts to discuss various aspects of domestic violence and to propose specific measures for its prevention and effective response. The event was attended by 100 experts.

– At a conference held to mark the publication of the handbook “Together Against Violence”, representatives from the Police and social work centres participated in roundtables focused on prevention, media reporting, and institutional cooperation. The event brought together 90 participants.

2025

– A national campaign was launched to accompany the publication of the handbook “Together Against Violence”, with the Police organising roundtables in various towns and cities across the country. Held at the local level, these roundtables aim to raise awareness of the importance of recognising and responding to domestic violence. In addition to representatives of the Police, local experts from the health and education sectors, social work centres, and non-governmental organisations have participated in the discussions. The objective is to inform victims about available support services in their communities and introduce them to individuals within institutions who can provide assistance. Another aim is to promote discussion of domestic violence in all settings and to raise public awareness that violence is unacceptable and that everyone has the right to live free from it.

The Slovenian Armed Forces conduct regular (annual) military education and training activities, primarily through workplace-based programmes. These include specific modules on recognising inappropriate conduct—including violence—against the servicemembers of the Slovenian Armed Forces, as well as on the prevention, response, and sanctioning of such behaviour. At all levels of the organisation—strategic (General Staff of the Slovenian Armed Forces), operational (Force Command), and tactical (brigades)—the Chief of the General Staff has appointed Dignity Advisors. These are designated individuals whom members of the Armed Forces can turn to for support in cases involving inappropriate conduct.

For personnel deployed to international operations and missions (IOM), the training also incorporates relevant guidance issued by international and regional organisations to which the Republic of Slovenia contributes troops. This includes, for example, NATO’s Military Guidelines on the Prevention of, and Response to, Conflict-Related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence. As part of pre-deployment preparation, all personnel are briefed on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, along with related resolutions addressing the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence. Training also includes information on the local cultural context, social norms, and religious practices in the area of deployment.

12. Please specify if the expertise of women’s rights organisations or specialist support services is integrated in the design and/or implementation of the training.

The expertise of women’s rights organisations and specialist support services is actively integrated into the design and implementation of training programmes on violence against women and domestic violence. For example, the non-governmental organisation Association for Nonviolent Communication has developed and implemented a programme entitled “Social Skills Training (SST)” for men who perpetrate violence against women. These programmes focus on promoting non-violent communication, conflict resolution, and challenging harmful gender stereotypes and attitudes. They are delivered across various cities in Slovenia and combines group workshops with individual counselling sessions. A central aim of the SST programme is to promote an understanding of violence against women as a direct consequence of deeply rooted structural gender inequality.

Article 16: Preventive intervention and treatment programmes

13. Please provide information on measures taken to increase the number of available preventive intervention and treatment programmes for perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence both for voluntary and mandatory attendance.

In 2024, two new areas of work with perpetrators of violence were added to the public call for co-financing of social assistance programmes. In addition to the general content for working with perpetrators of violence, new content was introduced specifically targeting children and adolescents who are perpetrators of violence, and content aimed at perpetrators of violence within the Roma community. In 2024, no provider applied under these new categories. However, in 2025, one provider – Društvo Življenje brez nasilja (Life Without Violence Association) – applied with the programme RESET, a programme for children and adolescents who perpetrate violence, including peer violence.

The Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (URSIKS) ensures that persons deprived of liberty in correctional institutions have access to brochures titled “STOP VIOLENCE”, available at several locations within the institutions. These brochures inform individuals about self-help options in cases where they perpetrate violence, and about the possibility of seeking support if they recognise themselves as victims. In addition, persons deprived of liberty have access to leaflets that raise awareness about the unacceptability of violence and promote non-violent communication, behavioural change, and the challenging of harmful attitudes and beliefs. These leaflets are translated into English, German, and Italian.

All perpetrators of criminal offences against sexual integrity are offered psychological counselling in connection with their criminal offence and/or the opportunity to participate in a programme for perpetrators of violence. In the Dob correctional facility, which houses the largest number of perpetrators of sexual offences, a new psychologist position has been created to strengthen the existing team of psychologists working with this group. This addition will help optimise treatment and expand professional support.

Social skills training is conducted across all prison facilities and their units as part of the treatment of perpetrators of violence. Upon completion of the training within the facility, convicted persons may also participate in other forms of intervention for perpetrators of violence carried out outside the prison setting.

The participation in programmes for perpetrators of violence and in those addressing criminal offences against sexual integrity is voluntary; however, convicted persons who choose to take part and demonstrate active engagement may qualify for certain privileges.

In 2022, the Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (URSIKS), in collaboration with the Association for Nonviolent Communication, organised an expert conference titled “Building a Network for Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence”. The event brought together domestic and international experts from the Police, centres for social work, the prosecution service, the judiciary, the probation service and the prison system. A wide range of relevant topics were discussed, and expert contributions helped to advance the professional field.

14. Please provide information on measures taken to:

- a. a. increase the number of men and boys attending perpetrator programmes for domestic and sexual violence;
- b. ensure that the perpetrator programmes apply standards of best practice;
- c. ensure the safety of victims and co-operation with specialist support services for victims;
- d. ensure that the outcomes of the programmes are monitored and evaluated.

The treatment within correctional institutions is both provided and guaranteed for all perpetrators of criminal offences against sexual integrity and for perpetrators of domestic violence. Perpetrators of domestic violence are enrolled in treatment programmes both within the correctional institution and in external programmes delivered outside the institution. Correctional institutions cooperate with external

programme providers, specifically the Association for Nonviolent Communication and the Association for the Development of Nonviolent Relations. These programmes are attended by convicted persons who have completed social skills training within the institution, as well as by those who are eligible for privileges outside the institution and are therefore able to participate in external programmes independently. This ongoing form of work with perpetrators of violence — which begins within the correctional institution and continues externally during the enforcement of the prison sentence — has proven to be a good practice, as many individuals continue their engagement with these programmes even after serving their sentence. For further information on the treatment of perpetrators of sexual offences, see item 13.

The programme for perpetrators of violence is implemented in accordance with two adopted strategies, both of which have been endorsed by qualified external experts.

Persons deprived of liberty and visitors to correctional institutions have access to informational leaflets outlining how to seek help if they are perpetrators of violence or recognise themselves as victims. Before granting privileges outside the correctional institution, prior to conditional release, or at the end of a sentence, the institution proposes that the competent social work centre convene a multidisciplinary team to address domestic violence. This team, composed of relevant professionals, ensures that appropriate and comprehensive support and protection are provided to the individual victim. The team assesses the level of risk to the victim and determines the necessary protection measures. One such measure during the enforcement of a prison sentence may include the planning of temporary leave for the convicted person to a pre-designated location. Victims have the right to request notification. In such cases, the correctional institution where the convicted person is serving their sentence informs the victim of any temporary leave from the institution, release, or escape.

All professional staff in correctional institutions who work with perpetrators of violence and sexual violence are included in ongoing group supervision. In addition, individual supervision is available up to once per month. No evaluations of the programmes have been carried out.

The Social Protection Institute of the Republic of Slovenia (IRSSV) conducts annual monitoring of social assistance programmes to assess the suitability of programme content for users and to identify any challenges encountered by service providers. In addition to this regular monitoring, the IRSSV carries out targeted, in-depth evaluations of selected thematic areas—such as homelessness, mental health, children and adolescents, and violence. These evaluations are publicly available on the Institute's website. Research activities in the field of social assistance include: monitoring the implementation and achievement of the objectives set out in the Resolution on the National Social Assistance Programme 2022–2030; evaluating public social assistance programmes; and monitoring the implementation of social assistance programmes, including the role of volunteering. All three tasks are carried out annually. In 2024, in addition to its regular activities, the IRSSV conducted a separate study entitled “Analysis of the Needs of Vulnerable Population Groups for Social Assistance Programmes and Programmes in Support of Families”.

Article 18: General obligations

15. Please provide information on any multi-agency co-operation mechanisms, structures or measures in place designed to protect and support victims of any of the forms of gender-based violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention (e.g., interdisciplinary working groups, case-management systems, cross-sectoral protocols/ guidelines...). Please describe:

- a. a. the state agencies involved in their functioning (law-enforcement agencies, judiciary, public prosecutor, local authorities, healthcare services, social services, educational institutions etc.);
- b. b. whether they involve specialist support services provided by civil society organisations, especially women's rights organisations;
- c. c. how they adopt a gender-sensitive approach to violence against women, including the prioritisation of the safety of women and girl victims, their empowerment and a victim-centred approach;
- d. d. the financial and human resources dedicated to their implementation; and e. any

*The response to victims of domestic violence is carried out in accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND) and is implemented by a multidisciplinary team. In line with the ZPND and the **Rules on Cooperation between Authorities and on the Functioning of Social Work Centres, Multidisciplinary Teams and Regional Services in Addressing Domestic Violence**²⁴, the Social Work Centre (CSD) aims to enhance the safety of the victim of violence, prevent further violence, motivate the victim to engage with available support services, and adopt measures to safeguard the rights and interests of the victim. In responding to cases of domestic violence, the CSD works in coordination with other relevant institutions. Upon receiving information about an incident of domestic violence, the CSD immediately assesses the circumstances of the case and compiles any existing information already held by the Centre. On the basis of this information, it prepares a risk assessment of the victim and evaluates the need to draw up a victim support plan. Where the involvement of other institutions is deemed necessary, the CSD convenes a multidisciplinary team. If urgent intervention is required, immediate steps are taken to ensure the victim's safety, followed by the procedures outlined above. In cases where the CSD alone receives the report of domestic violence, the responsible professional promptly notifies the Police. Where there is a suspicion that a criminal offence has been committed and the victim is a child, the case is immediately reported to the Police or the State Prosecutor's Office. The CSD then takes all appropriate protection measures in accordance with professional guidelines on working with victims of violence.*

In accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND), a Social Work Centre (CSD) may establish a multidisciplinary team to address cases of domestic violence. The Rules on Cooperation between Authorities and on the Functioning of Social Work Centres, Multidisciplinary Teams and Regional Services in Addressing Domestic Violence, adopted under the ZPND, set out procedures for mutual notification and coordination among state authorities, public service providers, holders of public mandates, and other relevant actors in the fields of social welfare, healthcare, education, local self-government, and the non-governmental sector. The Rules also define the organisation, composition and functioning of multidisciplinary teams within CSDs, the role of the CSDs in responding to domestic violence, the structure of regional services for coordination and victim support, and the training of professionals in social welfare institutions. The CSD conducts a risk assessment of the victim and determines whether a support plan for the victim should be developed. Where the involvement of other institutions is deemed necessary, the CSD convenes a multidisciplinary team. The multidisciplinary team for addressing domestic violence is composed of experts from relevant institutions and is tasked with providing comprehensive support and protection to the individual victim. A multidisciplinary team is established where the case-holding professional at the social work centre (CSD) assesses that cooperation with other authorities is necessary to determine whether a victim support plan should be developed, or to prepare and implement such a plan. The CSD invites the relevant authorities to participate in the team. Authorities invited to join the team in a specific case are required to respond to the CSD's invitation and to appoint a representative to serve as a member of the team. In their work within the team, members are accountable to the authority that appointed them. Participation in the team is mandatory for all invited institutions. Experts with specific knowledge who may contribute to a more appropriate response to the victim or help clarify particular issues may also be invited to individual meetings of the team. However, such experts are not considered members of the team. Based on the risk assessment, the team prepares a victim support plan, which must be aligned with the victim's capacities and preferences. The support plan sets out the activities and measures to be undertaken, and is developed by the team in cooperation with the victim. The victim is invited to the team meeting at which the support plan is adopted and may be accompanied by an accompanying person. The support plan must clearly define the forms of assistance, the method of monitoring, the duration of support, and the objectives of the intervention. The team assigns specific tasks and responsibilities to each participating authority for the implementation of the plan. The team may, in cooperation with the victim, revise the support plan if this is necessary due to new or changed circumstances. If the victim of violence is a child, the non-offending parent is invited to the team meeting to prepare the support plan, provided their participation is in the child's best interest; alternatively, the child's guardian is invited. In accordance with the support plan, the CSD issues an assessment of the individual's level of risk for the purpose of obtaining free legal aid for proceedings before a court, pursuant to the legislation governing the prevention of domestic violence and the legislation regulating family relations. Within the

²⁴ Pravilnik o sodelovanju organov ter o delovanju centrov za socialno delo, multidisciplinarnih timov in regijskih služb pri obravnavi nasilja v družini pri obravnavi nasilja v družini (Rules on Cooperation between Authorities and on the Functioning of Social Work Centres, Multidisciplinary Teams and Regional Services in Addressing Domestic Violence): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV9598>

framework of the support plan, a separate risk assessment is carried out for the child and appropriate measures are identified for working with the family and for work with the child, with priority given to ensuring the child's safety. The support plan must define how the child will be protected in the long term and how support will be provided to the family to facilitate behavioural change. The support plan must also determine whether there is a need for the CSD to propose the initiation of proceedings to impose protective measures under the legislation governing the prevention of domestic violence, either with the victim's consent or without it in cases involving a minor. At each meeting, the team reviews progress and monitors the implementation of the agreements adopted in the victim support plan, and participates in guiding the continued work of the competent authorities. During the meetings, team members inform each other about all activities carried out by themselves and by their respective institutions in support of the victim. They also conduct an evaluation of the plan and the effectiveness of the procedures, continuously monitoring any changes in the circumstances of the case and adjusting their work accordingly. The tasks of the multidisciplinary team for addressing domestic violence, aimed at ensuring the long-term safety of the victim, are as follows:

- the exchange of information to clarify circumstances necessary for the protection of and assistance to the victim, by telephone, email and at meetings convened by the CSD;
- the coordination of activities;
- informing the victim of all available forms of assistance offered by the competent authorities;
- the preparation of a support plan for the victim and the monitoring of its implementation, where this is required based on the risk assessment;
- the provision of the most appropriate protection for the victim;
- taking decisions on the implementation of assistance.

In accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the Rules on the Cooperation of Authorities and on the Functioning of Social Work Centres, Multidisciplinary Teams and Regional Services in the Handling of Domestic Violence, upon receiving a report of domestic violence, the CSD shall:

- take all necessary measures to ensure the victim's protection and provide assistance within its competence;
- collect information on the victim's risk level from all authorities that are expected to hold such information;
- if, in the process of gathering information, circumstances indicating the commission of a criminal offence are identified, or if such circumstances are evident from the report, the CSD shall notify the Police and coordinate initial actions and procedures in accordance with their respective competences and professional rules.
- within five days, provide the authority that reported the suspected violence with feedback on the initial actions undertaken.

In accordance with the Criminal Procedure Act, the competent authority (the Police or the State Prosecutor's Office) shall, at the first contact with the victim and where possible, carry out an individual assessment to determine the level of risk of secondary and repeat victimisation, intimidation or retaliation. Such individual assessments are also conducted in cases involving victims of criminal offences of violence against women and domestic violence. Where deemed necessary, the competent authority may request an opinion from the CSD. As part of the preparation of the individual assessment, the victim is also informed of organisations providing general support and assistance, or specialist support. From the perspective of violence against women and domestic violence, specialist support is provided by crisis centres, safe houses, residential shelters for mothers and children, and other social assistance programmes forming part of the network of programmes for the prevention of violence, support for victims of violence, and work with perpetrators.

16. Please detail whether any such co-operation mechanisms or structures set up for the delivery of support services for a specific form of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention is based on a legal or policy document advocating for or requiring such approaches.

The cooperation of authorities and institutions, as well as the establishment of a multidisciplinary team in cases of domestic violence, is governed by the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the adopted Rules on the Cooperation of Authorities and on the Functioning of Social Work Centres, Multidisciplinary Teams and Regional Services in Addressing Domestic Violence.

17. Please explain whether all or some of the services of protection and support offered for victims of the different forms of violence against women are provided on the basis of a one-stop-shop approach.

If, based on the individual assessment, a victim of a criminal offence is referred to a social work centre, or if the victim independently seeks assistance and support from the social work centre, the centre provides support within the framework of the social assistance service Support for Victims of Criminal Offences. As part of this service, professionals assess the victim's needs and expectations in cooperation with the victim, inform them of their rights and the available forms of support and services provided by the social work centre and of the existing network of programmes and services for the protection of victims of criminal offences. They also provide information on the competences of other stakeholders (such as the Police, judicial authorities, and non-governmental organisations), and refer the beneficiary to appropriate specialist programmes and other available forms of support. As previously stated, the social assistance service Support for Victims of Criminal Offences, delivered by the social work centres, is a general support service intended for all victims of criminal offences. If the beneficiaries include victims of violence against women or domestic violence, they may also, depending on their needs, be referred to support and assistance provided by social work centres in accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act.

As reported in the first Report, the 2019 amendment to the Criminal Procedure Act (ZKP-N) introduced substantial changes concerning the position of victims of criminal offences throughout the criminal proceedings. It was also noted that, in 2019, the Ministry of Justice established a working group on the implementation of the amendments to the Criminal Procedure Act (ZKP-N), focusing on victims' rights.

Close cooperation between key stakeholders continues with regard to the application of the individual assessment form for victims of criminal offences, as provided for in Article 143 of the Criminal Procedure Act (ZKP-N). In the summer of 2023, a dedicated working meeting was thus convened, bringing together representatives of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, the General Police Directorate and the Victim Support Service, with the aim of reviewing the existing form. One of the resulting changes provided a more "open" option for including a risk assessment in cases where the standard scoring mechanism does not reflect the actual risk as professionally assessed by the Police. The updated form began to be used in practice in 2024.

It should also be noted that, pursuant to paragraph one of Article 6 of the Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in Children's House Act – prepared by the Ministry of Justice – the public institution Children's House (Barnahus) has been operational since 2022. The Children's House is intended for the comprehensive treatment of minors who have been victims or witnesses of criminal offences against sexual integrity, as well as other offences where such an approach is required. The Children's House ensures that such minors are interviewed in appropriate settings and with the involvement of qualified professionals during criminal or pre-trial proceedings, thereby preventing secondary victimisation. They also receive immediate, free psychosocial support and crisis assistance. On the basis of the above-mentioned Act, the Children's House public institution was established by a decision of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia.

In 2023, the Government of the Republic of Slovenia established a governmental working group to examine the effectiveness of responses to all forms of violence, including domestic violence, femicide, sexual abuse of women and children, and peer violence. In addition to representatives of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police, the working group included representatives of the ministries responsible for education, labour, family, social affairs and equal opportunities, health, justice and digital literacy, the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, and civil society. The working group proposed a number of measures and recommendations.

The Police, in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, prepared a leaflet on the rights of victims of criminal offences, offering a one-stop-shop overview of all entitlements afforded to victims. Available at the following link:

<https://www.gov.si teme/pravice-zrtev-kaznivih-dejanj/>

Article 20: General support services

18. Please provide information on programmes and measures aimed at ensuring, through general services, the recovery of victims of violence, including in the health and social areas, financial assistance, education, training and assistance in finding employment and affordable and permanent housing.

As outlined in the previous response, social work centres provide a general social assistance service entitled Support for Victims of Criminal Offences, which offers professional support and counselling to individuals who have sustained any form of harm directly caused by a criminal offence. The service involves identifying the distress experienced by the beneficiary, providing information on appropriate forms of assistance to help improve their psychological, social and financial situation resulting from the offence, and referring them to such services. This support is available irrespective of whether the criminal offence has been formally reported, thereby enabling victims to access appropriate psychosocial support and information on where further assistance is available.

In Slovenia, a nationwide network of services has been established, including Child and Adolescent Mental Health Centres (CAMHCs) operating within community health centres throughout the country. These centres play a key role in providing support and assistance to children and adolescents in distress, as close as possible to their home environment, through a multidisciplinary approach to mental health care. The CAMHCs also cooperate with other relevant services and organisations in the local community that can provide additional support and assistance. There are currently 22 Child and Adolescent Mental Health Centres and 19 Adult Mental Health Centres in operation in Slovenia. No referral is required to access these services. The Adult Mental Health Centres (AMHCs) provide professional support and assistance to individuals over the age of 18 who experience a broad range of mental health difficulties. They ensure a prompt and integrated response to mental health concerns within their respective areas and aim, to the extent possible, to prevent the escalation of mental distress into crisis or acute states. Prompt intervention enables early detection, appropriate treatment, and prevention of the deterioration of mental health conditions. Anyone experiencing mental distress may choose to speak with a professional at an Adult Mental Health Centre. Support and advice may also be sought on behalf of a family member or close relation.

Psychological counselling services for adults and adolescents in distress represent an important source of assistance. Such support is also provided through a network of psychological counselling centres operated by the non-governmental organisation POSVET – Centre for Psychological Counselling, which operates under the umbrella of the Slovene Centre for Suicide Prevention. The service is accessible via the following website: <http://www.posvet.org/>. These counselling services complement those offered within the public healthcare system. Individuals can access the programme free of charge, without a referral or health insurance card, with a waiting time of up to three weeks. For those in acute mental distress, immediate telephone counselling is available for 12 hours on every working day. Counselling centres are available in all regions, and support is also available to victims of violence against women and domestic violence.

Questions specific to the public health sector:

19. Have specific measures been taken to ensure that public health services (hospitals, health centres, other) respond to the safety and medical needs of women and girls victims of all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention on the basis of national/regional standardised protocols?

Pursuant to the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, **the Rules on Procedures for Dealing with Domestic Violence in the Implementation of Health Activities**²⁵ entered into force in 2011. In 2015, the Ministry of Health issued professional guidelines for the treatment of domestic violence within the healthcare system. These guidelines include standardised protocols for the identification and treatment of both adult and child victims of violence. They place particular emphasis on violence during pregnancy, thereby addressing violence against women.

<https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV10303>

<https://www.prepoznajnasilje.si/docs/default-source/zakonodaja/strokovne-smernice-za-obravnavo-nasilja-v-dru%C5%BEini-pri-izvajanju-zdravstvene-dejavnosti.pdf>

20. Do such protocols detail the procedure to:

- a. identify victims through screening;
- b. provide treatment for all the medical needs of victims in a supportive manner;

²⁵ Pravilnik o pravilih in postopkih pri obravnavanju nasilja v družini pri izvajanju zdravstvene dejavnosti (Rules on Procedures for Dealing with Domestic Violence in the Implementation of Health Activities): <https://pisrs.si/pregledNpb?idPredpisa=PRAV10303&idPredpisaChng=PRAV10303>

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- c. collect forensic evidence and documentation;
 - d. ensure that a clear message of support is conveyed to the victim;
 - e. refer to the appropriate specialist support services that form part of a multi-agency co-operation structure; and
 - f. identify children who may have been exposed to domestic violence or other forms of gender-based violence against women and girls and require further support.

In 2015, the Ministry of Health issued professional guidelines for the treatment of domestic violence within the healthcare system. The professional guidelines include and describe the following:

- 20 a) *The guidelines provide clear instructions for asking about exposure to domestic violence. Chapter 4, Treatment of Adult Victims of Domestic Violence, Section 3.4, Guidelines for Identification and Detection of Children - Victims of Violence and Abuse.*
- 20 b) *Article 2 of the Rules on Procedures for Dealing with Domestic Violence in the Implementation of Health Activities stipulates as follows:*

"In responding to domestic violence, healthcare professionals shall treat victims with respect and compassion, without judgement, prioritising their health and safety."

"The response to domestic violence shall also include psychological support, counselling, the provision of information on available support services for victims of violence, and the procedures for reporting domestic violence."

- 20 c) *Where assistance is required in documenting injuries or signs of violence or abuse, or in securing biological evidence, a clinical forensic outpatient service is available 24 hours a day. This service is organised by the Institute of Forensic Medicine at the Faculty of Medicine, University of Ljubljana. It provides forensic medical examinations for victims of physical or sexual violence, including access to the department or other emergency outpatient facilities for the documentation of injuries or other indicators of violence or abuse, and the collection of biological samples (e.g. swabs) for preservation and further forensic analysis in the context of criminal offences or suspected criminal offences. The clinic also offers expert guidance on how to proceed in individual cases of violence or abuse or suspected violence or abuse, and on the appropriate documentation and safeguarding of evidence. It is further connected to a legal advisory service and an on-call toxicologist.*
- *The professional guidelines include a dedicated protocol for the examination of a child in cases where there is a suspicion of sexual abuse. They provide a detailed explanation of all physical examination procedures, with particular attention to minimising the child's fear—especially during the examination of anogenital areas.*
(See pages 24 and 43: <https://www.prepoznajnasilje.si/docs/default-source/zakonodaja/strokovne-smernice-za-obravnavo-nasilja-v-dru%C5%BEini-pri-izvajanju-zdravstvene-dejavnosti.pdf>)
- 20 d) *Article 2 of the Rules on Procedures for Dealing with Domestic Violence in the Implementation of Health Activities stipulates as follows: "The response to domestic violence shall also include psychological support, counselling, the provision of information on available support services for victims of violence, and the procedures for reporting domestic violence."*
- 20 f) *The relevant structures and procedures have already been established. The Rules and the guidelines include instructions and guidance on addressing domestic violence; however, gender-based violence is not explicitly referenced.*

21. Please provide information on the procedures in place for the documentation and collection by actors of the public health sector of forensic evidence in relation to victims of domestic violence, victims of sexual violence, including rape, and victims of female genital mutilation.

See response under 20(c).

See pages 24 and 43 <https://www.prepoznajnasilje.si/docs/default-source/zakonodaja/strokovne-smernice-za-obravnavo-nasilja-v-dru%C5%BEini-pri-izvajanju-zdravstvene-dejavnosti.pdf>

22. Are all women victims of violence, irrespective of any of the grounds listed in Article 4 paragraph

3 of the Istanbul Convention, in particular asylum-seeking women, refugee women, migrant women, women from national or ethnic minorities, women with irregular residence status, women with disabilities and LGBTI women, able to benefit on an equal footing from existing healthcare services? Please describe any measure taken to reduce legal or practical barriers to their accessing regular healthcare services.

As part of health promotion and prevention programmes, primary mental health prevention initiatives are regularly co-funded, with a particular emphasis on those with greater outreach to the most vulnerable and hard-to-reach population groups. and facilitating their inclusion in support services. These efforts aim to facilitate access to support services—for example, programmes providing assistance to victims, particularly women who are victims of criminal offences, as well as to female remand prisoners and sentenced women in detention. Equal access to healthcare services is ensured for all women, regardless of their personal circumstances.

Applicants for international protection are entitled to receive emergency medical treatment. Vulnerable individuals with specific needs—and, in exceptional cases, other applicants—may be granted access to an extended range of healthcare services, as determined by a special commission. Applicants for international protection are also entitled to access contraception, healthcare during pregnancy and childbirth, and termination of pregnancy.

Upon recognition of refugee status or the granting of subsidiary protection, the individual becomes entitled to mandatory health insurance coverage. Registration for such coverage is completed following the granting of international protection status. https://nijz.si/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/health_literacy_booklet_-_slovenia_-_slovene_za_splet.pdf

23. Please provide information on the measures in place to facilitate the identification and care of victims of violence against women in institutions for persons with disabilities and for the elderly as well as for those in closed reception facilities for asylum-seekers and to respond to their safety and protection needs.

The specialised social programme Violence against Persons with Disabilities is co-funded by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and implemented by the Društvo Vizija (in English: Association Vision). The programme is designed to ensure a comprehensive response and protection from violence for persons with disabilities and those with mobility impairments. As part of the Violence against Persons with Disabilities programme, professionally trained staff, in cooperation with volunteers, provide comprehensive support, assistance and case management for victims of violence with disabilities or mobility impairments. The programme ensures access to a safe shelter (House of Trust), support for victims as they transition into a new living environment, and awareness-raising among both professionals and the general public about violence against persons with mobility impairments and the support available to victims through the programme mentioned.

The programme Violence against Persons with Disabilities pursues the following objectives:

- the provision of professional and physical assistance to enable victims to leave a violent environment safely;*
- the availability of a safe shelter (House of Trust) and comprehensive support services for victims of violence with disabilities or physical impairments;*
- continued professional support for users after leaving the House of Trust, as well as support for victims seeking to exit a violent setting;*
- informing users of their right to live free from violence, the relevant legislation, and organisations working to prevent violence against persons with disabilities;*
- raising awareness among the target and professional public about violence against persons with disabilities and older persons with physical impairments.*

The target group of the Violence against Persons with Disabilities programme comprises persons with various types and degrees of disability who have experienced violence. It also includes persons with mobility impairments who are victims of violence. Victims with disabilities or physical impairments may be accommodated in the safe shelter House of Trust together with their minor children. Minor children with disabilities who are directly or indirectly exposed to violence may only be accommodated in the shelter if accompanied by their parent, guardian, or legal representative.

Prevention of trafficking in human beings, sexual violence and support for women (PATS – Project Against Human Trafficking and Sex and Gender-Based Violence)

Between 2024 to 2026, the Society Ključ continues to implement activities under the Project Against Human Trafficking and Sex and Gender-Based Violence (PATs).

The PATs project is aimed at informing applicants for international and temporary protection about the risks of human trafficking, gender-based and sex-based violence, and the available forms of support within the national assistance framework for potential and actual victims of trafficking and of various forms of violence in Slovenia.

Activities aimed at providing information, prevention and raising awareness about human trafficking, sexual violence and gender-based violence include individual and group interviews with persons expressing an intention to apply for international protection, applicants for international protection, and persons already granted such protection, conducted in a language understood by the target group. A women's support group is also held once a month. Within the framework of the project, informational materials are available in 15 languages.

<https://drustvo-kljuc.si/nase-delo/preventivni-projekti/pats-amif/>

https://slovenia.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd11361/files/documents/PROTECT%2520National%2520Mapping%2520Report_SLO.pdf

24. Please provide information on how the authorities ensure that different groups of women and girls, inter alia women with disabilities, Roma women and other women belonging to national or ethnic minorities, migrant women and intersex persons are fully informed, understand and freely give their consent to procedures such as sterilisation and abortion.

The Patients' Rights Act²⁶ enshrines the right to make independent decisions regarding medical treatment. Every patient has the right to decide independently on their treatment, subject to the conditions laid down by law. Healthcare professionals are required to ensure that these groups are properly informed, understand the procedures and possible consequences, and make their decisions voluntarily and without coercion.

Article 22: Specialist support services

25. Please describe the type of specialist support services dedicated to women victims of the forms of gender-based violence covered by the Istanbul Convention (e.g., stalking, sexual harassment and domestic violence, including their digital dimension, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, forced sterilisation, forced abortion), including those specialist support services providing:

a. shelters and/or other forms of safe accommodation

b. medical support

c. short- and long-term psychological counselling

d. trauma care

e. legal counselling

f. outreach services

g. telephone helpline

h. other forms of support (e.g. socio-economic empowerment programmes, online assistance platforms etc.)

Social assistance services for the prevention of violence include:

- *telephone, in-person or electronic counselling;*
- *provision of accommodation in safe houses, crisis centres and residential shelter for mothers and children;*

²⁶ Zakon o pacientovih pravicah (Patients' Rights Act) (ZPacP): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO4281>

-
- assistance in navigating institutional procedures;
 - legal assistance;
 - social skills training for perpetrators;
 - public awareness-raising on zero tolerance for violence in society, through a range of preventive activities.

The Residence Registration Act²⁷ establishes the obligation for individuals to register their permanent or temporary residence. A number of rights in various fields are linked to the address of one's permanent or temporary residence. Certain vulnerable groups do not meet the requirements for a standard registration of residence at a specific address. For these individuals, the administrative unit may, through a determination procedure, assign a so-called statutory residence, which has the legal status of a permanent residence (and of a temporary residence for foreign nationals) and enables the exercise of rights, even if the person does not in fact reside at that address.

The address of the municipality in which the individual is located is registered as the place of residence for the individual accommodated in a social care institution providing institutional care, a prison, a correctional facility, an educational institution, a training institution or their satellite units, or for persons accommodated in the following residential social assistance services: mental health residential groups, homeless shelters, residential groups for adolescents, therapeutic communities, reintegration programme accommodation or other residential programmes.

The address of the social work centre in the area where the individual has or last had residence is registered for the individual accommodated in the following residential social assistance services: shelters for victims of domestic violence, shelters for victims of trafficking in human beings, safe houses, residential shelter for mothers and children or crisis centres for adult victims of violence with children. This approach also serves to protect this group of individuals from the disclosure of the actual address of the shelter, as a social work centre typically covers the territory of several municipalities.

For individuals covered by the law governing the conditions and procedures for the protection of witnesses, as well as for victims of domestic violence or victims of trafficking in human beings, statutory residence may also be determined upon the proposal of the State Prosecutor's Office, the Police or the social work centre.

Programmes are implemented on the basis of verification or guidelines published in public calls for their (co-)financing and are designed to take into account the characteristics and needs of the specific target group of users, as well as the particularities of the local environment and the area in which they are implemented. Programmes are co-funded on a multi-annual basis by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ), but they may also be funded from other State, municipal and/or private sources.

The majority of programmes in the field of violence prevention are aimed at women, with or without children, who are in social, housing or material distress and require counselling, assistance, or a safe and peaceful space, and/or who are experiencing or have experienced various forms of violence, often also facing mental health difficulties. Some counselling programmes also provide services to children who have experienced violence, while others also address the needs of adult men. The target group for the prevention programme consists primarily of older residents of the local community, particularly those dependent on home care and with a limited social network, as well as households with an elderly family member.

In the area of violence prevention programmes:

in 2021, 10,747 individuals participated in the main programme. A further 4,772 individuals took part in various other activities. A total of 432 beds (including reserve capacity) were available for the temporary accommodation of users. Among underage participants, the gender distribution was relatively balanced, with 447 girls and 383 boys;

in 2022, 10,124 individuals participated in the main programme, in which 2,184 services were also provided. A further 5,444 individuals participated in various other activities, in which an additional 630 services were provided. A total of 486 beds (including reserve capacity) were available for the temporary accommodation of users. Among underage participants, the gender distribution was relatively balanced, with 470 girls and 466 boys;

²⁷ Zakon o prijavi prebivališča (Residence Registration Act) (ZPPreb-1): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO6046>

in 2023, 11,659 individuals participated in the main programme, in which 1,953 services were also provided. A further 2,721 individuals participated in various other activities, in which an additional 538 services were provided. A total of 505 beds (including reserve capacity) were available for the temporary accommodation of users. Among underage participants, the gender distribution was relatively balanced, with 519 girls and 548.

In violence prevention programmes co-funded by the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ):

in 2021, 227 persons were employed, the majority on regular contracts (either fixed-term or open-ended). Within the framework of public works or other active employment policy programmes, 16 persons were employed. A further 46 other paid providers or external collaborators participated in violence prevention programmes in 2021. In addition, 368 volunteers contributed up to 100 hours of voluntary work during 2021, 89.7% of whom were women.

in 2022, 223 persons were employed, the majority on regular contracts (either fixed-term or open-ended). Within the framework of public works or other active employment policy programmes, 11 persons were employed. A further 38 other paid providers or external collaborators participated in violence prevention programmes in 2022. In addition, 327 volunteers contributed up to 100 hours of voluntary work during 2022, 89.7% whom were women.

in 2023, 251 persons were employed, the majority on regular contracts (either fixed-term or open-ended). Within the framework of public works or other active employment policy programmes, 17 persons were employed. A further 39 other paid providers or external collaborators participated in violence prevention programmes in 2023. In addition, 332 volunteers contributed up to 100 hours of voluntary work during 2023, 89.7% of whom were women.

Shelters

In 2021, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) co-funded 21 residential programmes providing beds for victims of violence, including sexual violence, and their children. This group of programmes comprised eight residential shelters for mothers and children and 13 programmes of safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres.

In 2022, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) co-funded 21 residential programmes providing beds for victims of violence, including sexual violence, and their children. This group of programmes comprised eight residential shelters for mothers and children and 13 programmes of safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres.

In 2023, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) co-funded 22 residential programmes providing beds for victims of violence, including sexual violence, and their children. This group of programmes comprised eight residential shelters for mothers and children, 14 programmes of safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres, and one counselling programme providing accommodation for its users (Violence against Persons with Disabilities, implemented by the Association of Persons with Physical Disabilities and Victims of Violence - Društvo Vizija).

Residential programmes were available in all regions except the Zasavje and the Primorsko-notranjska regions. In 2021, there were ten units of residential shelters for mothers and children and 19 units of safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres. In 2023, there were 14 units of residential shelters for mothers and children and 29 units of safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres.

In 2021, 331 persons, including 179 minors, were accommodated in residential shelters for mothers and children, with an additional 177 persons participating in other activities. These programmes offered a total of 175 beds. In the same year, 542 users, including 248 minors, were accommodated in safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres, with an additional 986 persons participating in other activities. These programmes offered a total of 257 beds.

In 2022, 499 persons, including 174 minors, were accommodated in residential shelters for mothers and children, with an additional 199 persons participating in other activities. These programmes offered to their users a total of 171 beds (including reserve capacity). In the same year, 712 users, including 223 minors, were accommodated in safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres, with an additional 998 persons participating in other activities. These programmes offered a total of 292 beds.

In 2023, 376 persons, including 209 minors, were accommodated in residential shelters for mothers and children, with an additional 226 persons participating in other activities. These programmes offered to their users a total of 176 beds (including reserve capacity). In the same year, 530 users, including 239 minors, were accommodated in safe houses, shelters, and crisis centres, with an additional 1,668 persons participating in other activities. These programmes offered a total of 299 beds.

Counselling Centres and Helplines

In 2021, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) co-funded 12 counselling centres, one programme aimed at preventing violence against older persons, and one telephone counselling programme. Counselling centres were available in all regions except Zasavje and Primorsko-notranjska, while the telephone counselling programme was accessible to users throughout Slovenia. In 2021, 4,977 users, including 403 minors, were enrolled in counselling centres, with a further 3,013 users participating in additional activities. The prevention programme included 10,747 users, of whom 830 were minors. This programme was available in five regions (Savinja, Jugovzhodna Slovenija, Osrednjeslovenska, Primorsko-notranjska, and Obalno-kraška).

In 2022, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MDDSZ) co-funded 12 counselling centres, one programme aimed at preventing violence against older persons, and one telephone counselling programme. Counselling centres were available in all regions except Zasavje and Primorsko-notranjska, while the telephone counselling programme was accessible to users throughout Slovenia. In 2022, 6,207 users, including 670 minors, were enrolled in counselling centres, with a further 1,524 users participating in additional activities. The prevention programme included 3,773 users, none of whom were under the age of 18. This programme was available in five regions (Savinja, Jugovzhodna Slovenija, Osrednjeslovenska, Primorsko-notranjska, and Obalno-kraška).

In 2023, MDDSZ co-funded 13 counselling centres, two programmes aimed at preventing violence against older persons, and one telephone counselling service. Counselling centres were available in all regions except Zasavje and Primorsko-notranjska, while the telephone counselling programme was accessible to users throughout Slovenia. In 2023, 5,989 users, including 466 minors, were enrolled in counselling centres, with a further 3,550 users participating in one of the sub-programmes. In the prevention programme, 4,764 users were included, of whom 22 were under the age of 18. The prevention programme was available in the Osrednjeslovenska, Podravje and Savinjska regions.

SOS Helpline for Women and Children Victims of Violence – 080 11 55

Since 1989, Slovenia has had the SOS Helpline for Women and Children Victims of Violence, operated by the Association SOS Helpline. The service operates at the national level, providing assistance to users throughout Slovenia. Counsellors on the SOS Helpline are specially trained to work with women, children, and all others who have experienced violence.

The helpline is intended for anyone who has experienced violence in the family, in intimate partner or other family relationships, in the workplace, or in other settings — including children, adolescent girls and boys, women and men with experience of violence — as well as for anyone seeking to support a person who is a victim of violence, or who requires information relating to violence. All forms of violence are addressed, including physical, psychological (emotional), economic, and sexual violence.

Other forms of assistance

25 b) Women who have undergone female genital mutilation or forced abortion have access to gynaecological care in public healthcare institutions. Specialist gynaecological services include the physical treatment necessary for rehabilitation following injuries caused by female genital mutilation.

26. Which type of specialist support service includes child psychologists or other professionals specialised in supporting children who have been exposed to domestic violence, including violence perpetrated by one parent against the other?

In 2022, the Children's House (Barnahus) was established. Its purpose is to provide support and protection to children who are witnesses of, or victims of, sexual violence. A key innovation introduced by the Children's House is the multidisciplinary and inter-institutional approach to handling cases involving child victims of criminal offences. This approach enables the coordination of concurrent criminal proceedings and child protection procedures, while ensuring that children receive all necessary assistance in one place, within a child-friendly and safe environment. The Children's House facilitates

case management through cooperation among relevant institutions, including the Police, social services, mental and physical health services, and the judiciary.

Within the Children's House, both a forensic interview and a medical examination of the child are conducted. In addition to police officers and medical professionals, the comprehensive process also involves prosecutors, judges, and defence lawyers. An assessment is also made of the need for short-term or long-term therapeutic and family support.

27. Do specialist support services exist that cater to the specific needs of migrant women and girls or those belonging to national or ethnic minorities who are victims of violence against women, including women and girls seeking asylum and those granted refugee or international protection status?

The Legal Aid Act has not been amended since 2018, and the information provided in the first report remains exhaustive. Under this Act, women and victims of domestic violence have an unconditional right to free legal aid, in accordance with the provisions of the Act. The Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND) contains the same provision, as reported in the first baseline report.

Violence prevention programmes also support female victims of violence who are foreign nationals. In view of their specific needs and additional circumstances, individualised solutions are developed in cooperation between providers of social assistance programmes and providers of institutional care services.

In the period from 1 January 2023 - 31 December and 31 December 2023, the development programme Counselling Office for Migrant Women Victims of Violence was co-funded. It was implemented by the non-governmental organisation SOS Helpline Society for Women and Children – Victims of Violence. During the one-year reporting period, the counselling office supported 254 users, including migrant, refugee, and foreign national women who were victims of domestic violence. It was also contacted by 164 professionals seeking information or support in working with users with a migrant background. The counselling office ceased operation in 2024.

Article 25: Support to victims of sexual violence

28. Please indicate if any of the below services are available in your territory:
- a. sexual violence referral centres (e.g. specialist support services offering immediate medical care, forensic examination and crisis intervention to victims of sexual violence);
 - b. rape crisis centres (e.g. specialist support services offering long-term counselling, therapy and support to victims of sexual violence regardless of whether the sexual violence occurred recently or in the past);
 - c. any other specialised services offering short-term and/or long-term medical, forensic and psycho-social support to victims of sexual violence.

At the Children's House (Barnahus), a forensic interview and medical examination of the child victim of sexual violence are carried out. In addition to police officers and medical professionals, prosecutors, judges and defence lawyers are also involved in the comprehensive process of addressing the child's needs. An assessment is also made of the need for short-term or long-term therapeutic and family support.

*In addition, in February 2020, the Government Office for the Support and Integration of Migrants, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, the Police, the Ministry of Justice, eleven participating non-governmental organisations, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) signed the revised **Standard Operating Procedures for the Prevention of and Response to Sexual and Gender-Based Violence against persons**²⁸ covered by the provisions of **the International Protection Act**²⁹. The purpose of this document is to ensure the safety of persons who have experienced sexual and gender-based violence, prevent further escalation of violence, mitigate and eliminate its consequences, and empower them. Under the agreement, a group of professional staff meets regularly to address cases of sexual and gender-based violence. The overall objective is to provide a comprehensive response to potential victims, deliver assistance, and ensure coordinated action among actors involved in different procedures and support services. As noted under Article 7, professional staff receive regular training on providing psychosocial*

²⁸ <https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.gov.si%2Fassets%2Fvladne-sluzbe%2FUOIM%2FNOVICE%2FSOP-SNNPS-za-objavo.docx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK>

²⁹ Zakon o mednarodni zaščiti (International Protection Act) (ZMZ-1): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7103>

support, working with vulnerable groups and victims of all forms of violence. Self-help groups are also organised for women.

29. Please provide information on the number of such services and the number of women and girls supported annually.

Table: Number of Girls and Boys Interviewed at the Children's House (Barnahus), 2023–2024

Year	Female	Male
2023	46	10
2024	54	25

30. Please indicate the procedures and time frames for collecting and storing forensic evidence in cases of sexual violence (e.g. existence of protocols, use of rape kits) in the relevant services.

If assistance is required in documenting injuries or signs of violence or abuse, and in the procedure for securing biological evidence, a clinical forensic outpatient clinic is available 24 hours a day. It enables a forensic medical examination of victims of physical or sexual violence, attendance at a department or other emergency outpatient clinics for the purpose of documenting injuries or other signs of violence or abuse, and the taking of swabs to secure and subsequently analyse biological samples.

In cases of sexual violence, a protocol in digital form (physical examination) has been established for securing evidence, in which the data and findings obtained are recorded and compiled. Standardised equipment for the taking of swabs is used in the work, supplied by criminal investigators involved in the case. The instructions provided are followed for the storage and labelling of samples.

31. Please describe any applicable access criteria for use of these services (e.g. affiliation with a national health insurance, residence status, prior reporting of the case to the Police, other).

In Slovenia, emergency healthcare services are generally provided without co-payment, as they are funded through the public healthcare system, which covers most costs for urgent medical cases. Where there is suspicion of sexual abuse, the examination is included among emergency healthcare services, as this is a case requiring prompt action to protect health and ensure access to necessary diagnostic procedures (such as the collection of evidence, treatment of injuries, and similar). In such cases, services relating to examinations and treatment are free of charge, as they fall under emergency medical services. There are no restrictions or conditions on access to these services.

Victims of sexual violence have access to various programmes run by non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that provide support to victims of sexual abuse. These offer telephone assistance, in-person counselling, advocacy, self-help groups, training, and similar services. Where victims of sexual violence require removal from their environment, they are accommodated in safe houses or shelters for victims of violence.

There are no dedicated centres of this kind in Slovenia; however, victims – regardless of residence status or nationality – receive immediate professional assistance upon reporting to the Police, as a criminal investigator, who is specially trained to handle such offences, becomes involved in the case. Victims also receive immediate medical care and a specialised examination. Where necessary, centres for social work or NGOs are also notified.

Article 31: Custody, visitation rights and safety

32. Please indicate whether under national law incidents of violence covered under the scope of the convention must be taken into account in the determination of custody and visitation rights of children. If this is the case, please clarify to what extent these provisions:

- a. explicitly list domestic violence as a criterion to be taken into account when deciding on custody and/or visitation rights in the applicable legislation. If so, please clarify whether this criterion is/has been applied in practice in the determination of both custody and visitation

rights;

- b. acknowledge the harm that witnessing violence by one parent against the other has on a child;
- c. ensure that custody with the non-violent parent is preferred over foster-care;
- d. foresee the screening of civil proceedings related to the determination of custody or visitation rights for a history of domestic violence among the parties;
- e. foresee that judges conduct risk assessments or request the disclosure of risk assessments drawn up by law-enforcement agencies or other competent stakeholders for victims of domestic violence, with a view to taking them into account and determining the best interest of the child in the context of custody and visitation decisions.

The Family Code³⁰ lays down the duties and rights of parents and children (Articles 135–150) and the exercise of parental care (Article 151). In decisions concerning the care and upbringing of a child and contact arrangements, the primary consideration is the best interests of the child.

The Code first presumes that parents, taking into account the best interests of the child, are able to reach an agreement on care and upbringing. Where agreement is not possible, this is done with the involvement of the social work centre.

Parents may propose that a court settlement be concluded if they have reached the agreement on the care and upbringing of their children. The court may reject an agreement on care and upbringing reached by the parents if it finds that it is not in the best interests of the children. If the parents, even with the assistance of the centre for social work, are unable to agree, the court shall decide on the care and upbringing of the children. In doing so, the best interests of the child are taken into account.

The law also provides that the court shall decide again if circumstances change, and in such cases too it shall act in the best interests of the child.

The law also establishes that a child has the right to maintain contact with both parents, with such contact serving the best interests of the child. Where parents cannot reach agreement on contact arrangements (either on their own or with the assistance of the social work centre or a mediator), or where an agreement on contact is not in the best interests of the child, the court shall decide on the matter. In doing so, it shall be guided by the best interests of the child.

With regard to the exercise of parental care, the law provides that both parents exercise parental care jointly, in accordance with the best interests of the child. Where they are unable to reach agreement, the social work centre assists them in doing so, and mediators may also assist at their request. Where parents cannot agree on matters that have a significant impact on the child's development, the court may take a decision on this matter, acting on the basis of the best interests of the child.

In proceedings for the protection of the best interests of the child (which include proceedings concerning care and upbringing of the child and contact arrangements), the court checks the court registers to establish whether measures have already been ordered under the Family Code, the law governing the tasks and powers of the Police, the law governing the criminal procedure, or the law governing the prevention of the domestic violence for the protection of the best interests of the child or other family members.

Article 154 of the Family Code provides that parents have the right and duty, before all others, to safeguard the rights and best interests of their children. The State therefore takes measures to protect the best interests of the child only where parents fail to discharge their duties in the best interests of the child.

The Domestic Violence Prevention Act stipulates that domestic violence is prohibited. Under this Act, a child enjoys special protection against domestic violence. A child is also considered to be a victim of

³⁰ Družinski zakonik (Family Code) (DZ): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7556>;
<https://pisrs.si/aktualno/zakonodaja-v-anglescini>

violence if they are present when violence is committed against another family member or live in an environment where violence is perpetrated.

Authorities and organisations have a duty to take all procedures and measures necessary to protect the victim in accordance with the level of risk to which they are exposed and to safeguard their interests, while ensuring respect for the victim's integrity. Where the victim of violence is a child, the best interests and rights of the child take precedence over the interests and rights of other participants in the proceedings.

Social work centres provide victims of violence with social assistance services, with the aim of eliminating immediate danger and ensuring the victim's long-term safety by addressing the causes or circumstances in which the violence occurs, and by securing the victim's social and material living conditions. Social work centres give particular attention to cases of violence where the victim is a child, especially where there is a suspicion of child sexual abuse.

Social work centres are also the competent authority that, in judicial proceedings concerning child custody, upbringing, and contact arrangements, prepares an opinion for the court. In its decision, the court takes into account the opinion of the social work centre regarding what is in the best interests of the child.

Parents must ensure the best interests of the child in all activities concerning the child and must bring up their children with respect for their person, individuality, and dignity. Parents have precedence over all others in fulfilling the responsibility to safeguard the best interests of the child. The State intervenes in parental care only where parents fail to exercise their rights and obligations towards the child, or fail to do so in the child's best interests. Children are primarily cared for and brought up by their parents or one of them. The State intervenes in the exercise of parental care, by means of measures to protect the best interests of the child and by placing the child in foster care, only if the child is at risk.

33. Please describe the measures in place to ensure that judges, court-appointed experts and other legal professionals:

- a. have sufficient knowledge of the law and understanding of the dynamics of intimate partner violence, including the psychological impact of witnessing violence on the child;
- b. duly take into account victims' grievances in cases of domestic violence and hear children victims/witnesses, where applicable, in the determination of custody and visitation rights;
- c. are informed of the unfoundedness of notions of "parental alienation" or analogous concepts that are used to overshadow the violence and control exerted by perpetrators of domestic violence over women and their children.

Judges receive continuous professional training in their respective areas of expertise, as outlined in item 12 of this Report.

The participants taking part in proceedings concerning the protection of the best interests of the child are: the applicant initiating the proceedings; the respondent (the person against whom the application is filed); the person concerned by the proceedings or directly affected by the court decision; and any person whose legal interest may be affected by the decision. Until the decision concluding the proceedings at first instance is issued, participants may at any time present new facts and propose new evidence if these are in the child's best interests. Participants may also lodge legal remedies against the court's decision.

In proceedings for the protection of the best interests of the child, the court invites the social work centre to inform a child who is capable of understanding the nature of the proceedings and the consequences of the decision, in an appropriate manner, of the initiation of the proceedings and of their right to express their views. When a child wishes to express their views, they may do so at the social work centre or in an interview with a child advocate appointed to them in accordance with the law governing the Human Rights Ombudsman. Depending on the child's age and other circumstances, the child may also express their views in an informal interview with the judge, possibly in the presence of a professionally qualified person, but always without the parents being present. During the interview at the social work centre or with the judge, a person whom the child trusts and has chosen themselves may be present, or the child's advocate, if one has been appointed in accordance with the law governing the Human Rights Ombudsman. This trusted person or the child's advocate may assist the child in expressing their views.

34. Please provide details on the procedures in place to ensure that the competent court for family-related issues co-operate/communicate with other relevant bodies/professionals, including, but not limited to, criminal courts, law-enforcement agencies, health and education authorities and specialist women's support services when taking decisions on custody and visitation or when offering family law mediation. Please specify whether the law provides a legal framework for any of the procedures in place.

The Family Code places an obligation on various institutions to cooperate with one another. In fulfilling the tasks laid down by the Code, social work centres and other holders of public authority, providers of public services, state and judicial authorities, local community authorities, and humanitarian and other non-governmental organisations are required to work together.

Under the provisions of the Non-Contentious Civil Procedure Act, the court carries out certain inquiries ex officio. In proceedings to protect the best interests of the child, the court verifies in the court registers whether measures have already been imposed for the protection of the child or other family members under the Family Code, the law governing the tasks and powers of the Police, the law governing the criminal procedure, or the law governing the prevention of domestic violence.

A social work centre may act as the applicant in proceedings to protect the best interests of the child and participates in court proceedings. Where the social work centre is not the applicant in such proceedings, the court obtains an opinion from the social work centre regarding the best interests of the child.

35. Please provide detailed information on the procedures in place (including, if applicable, the relevant personnel used, the specific infrastructure available), in the exercise of custody and visitation rights, to:

- a. eliminate the risk for the abused parent to be subjected to further violence;
- b. eliminate the risk for the child to witness or experience violence.

The risk is addressed by restricting or revoking visitation rights, or by ordering that contact take place under supervision. Pursuant to the Family Code, the court may, by means of an interim order, require that contact be exercised in the presence of a qualified professional from the social work centre or from the institution in which the child has been placed. The court determines the location and timing of such contact in consultation with the social work centre or the relevant institution. Supervised contact may be provided for a maximum of two hours per week. An injunction order for supervised contact may last no longer than nine months and, notwithstanding the paragraphs one and three of Article 160 of the Family Code, may not be reissued or extended. The qualified professional monitors the conduct of contact sessions and prepares a monthly report for submission to the court. In accordance with Article 173 of the Family Code, the court may restrict or revoke the right of one or both parents, or of any other person who has acquired the right to contact with the child by court decision or settlement, if such contact places the child at risk and the child's best interests can only be safeguarded through such restriction or revocation. The court may also determine that contact shall not take place through in-person meetings and interaction but through alternative means, if this is the only way to protect the child's best interests.

The risk of the child witnessing violence (against the other parent or siblings) is mitigated through restraining orders issued under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, the Police Tasks and Powers Act, and the Criminal Code. In determining the arrangements for contact between the child and the perpetrator of violence, the court must take into account the protection of the parent (the victim of domestic violence);

- c. ensure that the responsible personnel are trained and that the facilities are suited to enable safe supervised visitation.

In accordance with the Family Code, supervised contact is conducted in the presence of a qualified professional from the social work centre or from the institution in which the child has been placed. The Rules on Minimum Technical Requirements for Social Assistance Service Providers specify the technical standards for premises used for supervised contact. Such a room must be furnished with small tables, armchairs, a two-seater or three-seater sofa, chairs, fixed shelves for books and toys, and fixed cupboards. The furniture must have rounded edges and be made of durable materials with surface finishes that are easy to maintain. A supervised contact room must not exceed 20 m² in size.

36. Please indicate whether national provisions foresee the withdrawal of parental rights in criminal

sentences if the best interest of the child, which may include the safety of the victim, cannot be guaranteed in any other way.

The following constitutes the reply to Article 31 in its entirety.

The Family Code has not been amended since the previous reporting period, and the arrangements concerning custody, care and contact therefore remain as described in the last report.

The Non-Contentious Civil Procedure Act (ZNP-1) was adopted in 2019 and has not been amended since. Consequently, there are no changes to the Report beyond those already set out in the first report.

In proceedings concerning custody, care and contact, the court is obliged to take incidents of violence into account as part of all relevant circumstances when determining what is in the best interests of the child.

The manner in which the court proceeds in determining guardianship, contact, and custody and care has already been described in detail in the first report. In proceedings to protect the best interests of the child, the court verifies in the court registers whether measures have already been imposed for the protection of the child or other family members under the Family Code, the law governing the tasks and powers of the Police, the law governing the criminal procedure, or the law governing the prevention of domestic violence. The court takes into account the information thus obtained when reaching its decision, the guiding principle of which is the best interests of the child.

Where parents do not properly exercise their rights and obligations towards their children and the child is at risk, the court may intervene in family life. This is done by imposing specific protective measures to ensure the child's adequate protection. Proceedings may be initiated by one of the parents, by a child aged 15 or over who is capable of understanding the significance and legal consequences of their actions, by the child's guardian, by the social work centre, or by the state prosecutor. Proceedings for placing a child in an institution are initiated on the proposal of the social work centre. In such cases, the court works in cooperation with the social work centres. The social work centre also participates in proceedings even when it is not the applicant. Moreover, if the social work centre is not the applicant, the court must, before deciding on the removal of a child from the parents, the placement of a child in an institution, or the withdrawal of parental care, obtain the opinion of the social work centre on the person, foster carer or institution with whom or in which the child should be placed. Proceedings concerning measures for the protection of the best interests of the child are urgent. The court may decide that one or both parents will not be informed of the child's place of residence and will be served with a copy of the decision with the address omitted.

Judges receive continuous professional training in their respective areas of expertise, as outlined in item 12 of this Report.

The relationship between children and their parents is governed by the Family Code. Criminal proceedings do not determine rights arising under the Family Code. The legal basis for the withdrawal of parental rights is laid down in the Family Code.

Article 48: Prohibition of mandatory alternative dispute resolution processes or sentencing

Criminal law:

37. Please provide information on the measures taken to ensure that mandatory alternative dispute resolution processes are prohibited in criminal proceedings related to cases involving the different forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention.

No new measures were adopted during the reporting period to ensure the prohibition of mandatory alternative dispute resolution processes in criminal proceedings related to cases involving the various forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention.

38. Where voluntary alternative dispute resolution processes exist for any criminal offences within the remit of the Istanbul Convention, such as conciliation or mediation, please provide information on the safeguards incorporated to ensure the free and informed consent of the victim to such processes and the measures taken to avoid that direct or indirect pressure is placed on the victim. Please also

state whether the offer of alternative dispute resolution processes may result in the discontinuation of criminal investigation and prosecution or other consequences for the victim.

The Criminal Procedure Act³¹ provides for a settlement and a deferred prosecution as alternatives to criminal prosecution. Both alternatives are generally applied to less serious criminal offences —those punishable by a fine or by a term of imprisonment of up to three years— and may be used only with the explicit consent of the victim.

In cases involving special circumstances, the settlement and the deferred prosecution may also be applied where charges are brought against a minor for other criminal offences punishable under the Criminal Code (KZ-1)³² by a term of imprisonment of up to five years. The deferred prosecution is further permissible for the criminal offence of domestic violence under paragraphs one and two of Article 191 of the Criminal Code, where both parties live in a family or other long-term cohabiting relationship, but even then only as an exception—that is, where special circumstances exist. When deciding whether to refer a case to the settlement, the competent authority must take into account the type and nature of the offence, the circumstances in which it was committed, the offender's personality, any previous convictions for the same or other criminal offences, and the degree of the offender's criminal responsibility. In cases of the deferred prosecution, the offender is required to carry out specific measures aimed at reducing or eliminating the harmful consequences of the criminal offence.

Civil law:

39. Please provide information on the measures taken to ensure that alternative dispute resolution processes such as mediation or procedures which can be considered tantamount to the latter are not used in family law proceedings such as divorce proceedings or proceedings related to custody and visitation of children, where there is a history of violence.

Article 22e of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act explicitly excludes the use of alternative dispute resolution in all proceedings concerning any form of violence. Similarly, Article 210 of the Family Code provides that, in cases where domestic violence is suspected, mediation between the parties shall not take place.

Articles 49 and 50: General obligations and immediate response, prevention and protection

40. Please describe the human, financial and technical resources provided to law enforcement agencies to diligently respond to and investigate all cases of violence against women, including their digital dimension.

The Police provide regular training and continuous professional development for officers on all forms of online violence against women — including online stalking, harassment, and the non-consensual sharing of intimate images — and maintain close cooperation with a range of authorities and organisations, such as social work centres and non-governmental organisations. In handling such cases, police officers systematically collect all available information and evidence relating to the criminal offence and promptly inform the competent district state prosecutor's office. Financing for these activities is ensured through the catalogue of the Police training and professional development programmes, as well as the annual plan for such activities.

41. Which measures have been taken to ensure that the premises of police stations are accessible and suitable for receiving and interviewing victims of violence while ensuring their privacy? Is it possible to report cases of violence against women elsewhere than in police stations, including through digital means?

Victims of violence against women and domestic violence are received by police officers or criminal investigators at police stations, where every effort is made to ensure their privacy in designated offices, enabling them to speak freely about the traumatic events they have experienced. Reports of violence may also be submitted via the online reporting system, in writing, or taken by police officers at the victim's home.

³¹ Zakon o kazenskem postopku (Criminal Procedure Act) (ZKP): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO362>

³² Kazenski zakonik (Criminal Code) (KZ-1): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO5050>

42. Please explain whether specialist police/prosecution units exist to investigate and prosecute violence against women and specify:

- a. which forms of violence against women they are competent for;
- b. whether such units exist in all police/prosecution districts throughout the country.

Since 2022, the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia has operated a dedicated working group on criminal offences in the field of sexual crime and trafficking in human beings. The group is composed of state prosecutors and senior judicial advisers from all district state prosecutor's offices and from the Specialised State Prosecutor's Office. Functioning as a permanent expert, contact, and advisory body, the working group addresses current legal issues at regular meetings, monitors court practice, and works to harmonise prosecutorial practice in this field.

Within the Police, there are no units specialising exclusively in violence against women and domestic violence. However, certain police officers have undergone more extensive training to strengthen their capacity to handle domestic violence cases.

43. Please describe any measures taken to ensure swift investigation into and effective prosecution of cases of violence against women and domestic violence such as prioritisation through fast-tracking, benchmarking or other initiatives, without compromising the thoroughness of the investigation.

*Pursuant to Article 191 of **the State Prosecutor Act**³³, and with the aim of ensuring specialisation, greater efficiency and coordinated action, departments for the prosecution of domestic violence, sexual offences and offences against minors have been established at several larger district state prosecutor's offices. Within these departments, prosecutors specialise in the handling and prosecution of criminal offences included in the catalogue of criminalised forms of violence against women. Such departments operate in five of the eleven district state prosecutor's offices. In the remaining, smaller district state prosecutor's offices, individual prosecutors are assigned through the annual work schedule to handle cases concerning criminal offences against sexual integrity and against marriage, family and children. This approach ensures both professional competence and the effective resolution of cases in these areas.*

The Police devote particular attention to cases of violence against women and domestic violence, treating all such cases as a matter of priority.

44. Are any measures taken to encourage women and girls who experience any of the forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention to report incidents of violence to the authorities? Please provide examples of any measures taken to instill confidence in law-enforcement officials, including those aimed at addressing any language or procedural difficulties they encounter when lodging complaints, in particular those of migrant women, asylum-seeking women, women with disabilities, women with addiction issues and other women and girls at risk of intersectional discrimination.

As already outlined in the relevant sections above, all women are informed of their rights, and a range of dedicated programmes is implemented to support them. Particular emphasis is placed on ensuring the availability of information in multiple languages, including in digital format. This information covers available support programmes, the work of non-governmental organisations, legal aid, and the rights and obligations applicable in Slovenian society. Upon arrival, all residents are first provided with an introductory interview in a language they understand, followed by further interviews designed to create a safe space in which they can confidently disclose their personal circumstances. In all accommodation facilities, Slovenian language courses are also provided, which residents may attend. The authorities cooperate closely with various organisations and bodies, encouraging residents to participate in events that help them expand their social networks and facilitate smoother integration into Slovenian society.

The Police regularly publish content on their official website and social media channels to raise awareness among both victims and witnesses of violence against women and domestic violence, urging them to report such incidents, as violence never stops on its own. To further support victims, an

³³ Zakon o državnem tožilstvu (State Prosecutor Act)(ZDT-1): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO5812>

information leaflet entitled “Domestic Violence – key information for victims”- has been produced and translated into nine foreign languages.

45. Please indicate whether protocols/standard operating procedures or guidelines for police officers are in place providing guidance on how to receive reports, interview victims, investigate and collect evidence in cases of rape and sexual violence, domestic violence, psychological violence, stalking, sexual harassment (including their online manifestation), forced marriage, female genital mutilation and forced sterilisation/abortion. Please provide information on how the authorities ensure the comprehensive collection of evidence beyond the victim’s testimony.

Police officers follow clear guidelines for the investigation of criminal offences, with more detailed instructions in place for specific offences such as domestic violence, where it is necessary to collect additional information and conduct various interviews. The pre-trial proceedings are led by the district state prosecutor, who, where necessary, directs police activities. Upon receiving a criminal complaint from the Police, the district state prosecutor may, if required, instruct the Police to obtain further information.

46. Please describe the efforts taken to identify and address all factors that contribute to attrition (the process whereby cases drop out of the criminal justice system) in cases of violence against women and domestic violence.

The criminal offence of domestic violence is prosecuted ex officio, which means that even if the victim does not file a complaint, the matter is treated as a criminal offence if the elements of the offence are identified.

Other criminal offences involving elements of violence are likewise prosecuted ex officio.

However, under the current wording of paragraph six of Article 170 and paragraph six of Article 171 of the Criminal Code, the perpetrator of the criminal offence of rape or sexual violence committed against a spouse or an extra-marital partner or partner of a registered same-sex civil partnership, is prosecuted upon a complaint. In such cases, the victim is required only to submit the complaint for prosecution, after which the state prosecutor conducts the prosecution ex officio. The prosecution must, however, be discontinued if the victim withdraws the proposal during the proceedings.

In view of the above, the Ministry of Justice has prepared a draft act amending the Criminal Code, which has already been considered by the Government of the Republic of Slovenia and submitted to the legislative procedure. The consideration by the National Assembly of the Republic of Slovenia is currently scheduled for September. The draft act also contains a proposal to delete the aforementioned paragraphs of Articles 170 and 171 of the Criminal Code, which, upon entry into force, will mean that such perpetrators will also be prosecuted ex officio, independently of whether the victim submits or withdraws the complaint for prosecution.

47. Please indicate if legislative or other measures have been taken to issue a renewable residence permit to migrant women who have become a victim of any of the forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention if the competent authority considers that their stay is necessary for the purpose of their co-operation in investigation or criminal proceedings.

Article 35 of the Foreigners Act³⁴ provides that a temporary residence permit in the Republic of Slovenia shall also be issued to victims of trafficking in human beings and to victims of domestic violence.

In accordance with paragraph seven of Article 50 of the Foreigners Act, a victim is issued a temporary residence permit for the expected duration of the criminal proceedings, but for no less than six months and no more than one year. This permit may be extended, upon the victim’s request and subject to the fulfilment of the prescribed conditions, until the conclusion of the criminal proceedings, for periods of up to one year.

The Foreigners Act further provides that a victim of trafficking in human beings who is residing illegally in the Republic of Slovenia may, at her request or ex officio, be granted by the Police a permission to stay for 90 days in order to decide whether she will cooperate as a witness in criminal proceedings for

³⁴ Zakon o tujcih (Foreigners Act) (ZTuj-2): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO5761>

the offence of trafficking in human beings. The Police may also, at her request or ex officio, grant a permission to stay for the same period to a victim of illegal employment, to allow her to decide whether she will cooperate as a witness in criminal proceedings against her employer for the criminal offence of illegal employment, or if she has brought legal action against her employer to assert her rights arising from the employment relationship. Likewise, the Police may, at her request or ex officio, grant a permission to stay for the same period to a victim of domestic violence, in order to allow her to decide whether she will cooperate with the competent authorities in the investigation or act as a witness in criminal proceedings for domestic violence. A victim of trafficking in human beings who is residing illegally in the Republic of Slovenia, as well as a victim of domestic violence, may also, at her request, be granted a permission to stay in the Republic of Slovenia for 90 days if the victim demonstrates the existence of personal circumstances justifying her stay. For duly justified reasons, the permission to stay granted to a victim of trafficking in human beings, a victim of illegal employment, or a victim of domestic violence may be extended for up to an additional 90 days.

Article 51: Risk assessment and risk management

48. Please describe any standardised and mandatory risk assessment tools in use by all relevant authorities in all regions for forms of violence against women such as stalking, violence committed in the name of so-called honour and domestic violence and to what extent these tools are being used in practice to assess the lethality risk, the seriousness of the situation and the risk of repeated violence with a view to preventing further violence. Please specify whether the following elements are considered as red flags when carrying out the risk assessment:

- a. the possession of or access to firearms by the perpetrator;
- b. the filing for separation/divorce by the victim or the break-up of the relationship;
- c. pregnancy;
- d. previous acts of violence;
- e. the prior issue of a restrictive measure;
- f. threats made by the perpetrator to take away common children;
- g. acts of sexual violence;
- h. threats to kill the victim and her children;
- i. threat of suicide;
- j. coercive and controlling behaviour.

For all criminal offences involving elements of violence, an individual risk assessment of the victim is carried out immediately upon the reporting of the offence.

Under the Criminal Procedure Act (ZKP), the responsibility for the individual risk assessment lies with the Police and the State Prosecutor's Office; a social work centre provides its opinion only at their request. Following the amendment of Article 143č of the Criminal Procedure Act, the individual risk assessment of the victim may also be prepared or updated by the internal organisational unit of the court responsible for providing support to injured parties, or by a person designated by the court to provide such support.

In accordance with the Domestic Violence Prevention Act and the Rules on the Cooperation of Authorities and the Functioning of Social Work Centres, Multidisciplinary Teams and Regional Services in Addressing Domestic Violence, a social work centre, immediately upon receiving information on a case of domestic violence, examines the circumstances of the case and gathers all available information within its remit. On the basis of this information, it prepares a risk assessment of the victim and evaluates the need to draw up a victim support plan. If the social work centre determines that the involvement of other authorities is necessary, a multidisciplinary team is convened at the social work centre. Risk assessments are prepared in accordance with established professional guidelines.

Risk assessment level	Perpetrator	Victim	Social network
Low	<i>Issues threats but partially accepts</i>	<i>Considers it unlikely that the perpetrator will carry out the threats;</i>	<i>Relatives, neighbours, friends and colleagues do</i>

	<p>responsibility for violent behaviour;</p> <p>demonstrates some willingness to cooperate with relevant institutions;</p> <p>– no new incidents of violence have occurred.</p>	<p>– is not socially isolated and possesses the necessary information on available protection measures;</p> <p>– does not feel afraid and believes the perpetrator should participate in treatment.</p>	<p>not condone violent behaviour;</p> <p>the victim has the support of their social network to take action in the event of any recurrence of violence.</p>
Medium	<p>Threatens to harm or kill family members or themselves;</p> <p>– refuses to accept responsibility for violent behaviour, shifting blame to the victim or external circumstances;</p> <p>– the violence has been ongoing for a longer period, with its intensity and frequency increasing.</p>	<p>Feels fear and, based on past experience, believes the perpetrator will act on the threats;</p> <p>– is planning to leave but has not developed a safety plan.</p>	<p>Psychosocial risk factors are present (e.g. unemployment, alcohol abuse, poverty, unresolved housing issues);</p> <p>the victim's social network supports efforts to leave the situation of violence.</p>
High	<p>– Openly makes threats and engages in violent behaviour; possesses weapons; refuses to accept responsibility and shows no interest in change;</p> <p>displays a high degree of jealousy and controlling behaviour towards the victim;</p> <p>has a history of violent conduct;</p> <p>the frequency and intensity of violence are escalating;</p> <p>– personality traits indicate an obsessive, sadistic or psychopathic disposition.</p>	<p>– Experiences intense fear of the perpetrator;</p> <p>– based on past experience, is convinced that the perpetrator is capable of carrying out threats to harm them or their children;</p> <p>– has no safety plan; employs survival strategies that inhibit active responses.</p>	<p>High-risk psychosocial factors are present (e.g. chronic unemployment, mental illness, alcohol abuse, drug addiction, bereavement in the family, chronic illness, post-traumatic stress disorder);</p> <p>the victim lacks any support from their immediate environment.</p>

49. Please specify how effective co-operation is ensured between the different statutory authorities and specialist women's support services in making risk assessments and whether the risks identified are managed by law enforcement agencies on the basis of individual safety plans that include also the safety of the victim's children.

In Slovenia, effective cooperation between the competent authorities – such as the Police, social work centres and the judiciary – and specialised support services for women, in the context of risk assessment and the handling of cases of violence against women and domestic violence, is guided by a coordinated, multi-agency approach, grounded in established policies and legal frameworks. This cooperation demonstrates both notable strengths and ongoing challenges; overall, however, it is assessed as highly effective.

Individual safety plans are primarily prepared by social work centres, often in cooperation with the Police, schools, health services and non-governmental organisations. These safety plans are intended to address the needs of both the victim and any children who have been exposed to violence, with the law recognising children as either direct or indirect victims. The Police may issue a prohibition measure where the statutory conditions under Article 60 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act are met, and also monitor compliance with such measures. Where statutory conditions are fulfilled, the Police may also detain the perpetrator under the Criminal Procedure Act.

If a victim of domestic violence leaves the family home (for example, by being placed in a safe house), she may request the Police to ensure her safety when entering the dwelling to collect belongings necessary for meeting her basic needs and those of her children, pursuant to Article 18 of the Domestic Violence Prevention Act.

Upon receiving a criminal complaint, the Police also prepare an individual risk assessment of the victim of the criminal offence. The purpose of this assessment is to determine the degree to which the victim is exposed to secondary and repeat victimisation, intimidation and retaliation. Participation in the preparation of the assessment is voluntary, and the outcome is taken into account when deciding on the application of special protective measures during subsequent proceedings. The assessment may be carried out with or without the participation of the victim and with or without obtaining the opinion of the social work centre. If, during the proceedings, any circumstances arise that could affect the victim's risk level, the assessment is updated accordingly. The assessment is attached to the criminal complaint, which is then submitted to the competent District State Prosecutor's Office.

50. Please describe the efforts made to analyse retrospectively all cases of gender-based killings of women, in the context of domestic violence and other forms of violence against women to identify the existence of possible systemic gaps in the institutional response of the authorities with the aim of preventing such acts in the future.

In Slovenia, efforts to conduct comprehensive reviews of all gender-related killings of women, particularly in the context of domestic violence, remain limited but are gradually developing in response to international obligations and growing awareness of systemic shortcomings.

At present, Slovenia does not have a systematic, institutionalised mechanism for the retrospective review of all gender-related killings of women. Case reviews are sometimes carried out internally within the Police or judicial structures; however, these are not standardised, public, or conducted on a multidisciplinary basis.

Certain non-governmental organisations and academic researchers have undertaken studies on femicides committed within intimate partner relationships, which have highlighted systemic deficiencies, such as the ineffective implementation of protection measures, lack of coordination, and underestimation of risk.

Article 52: Emergency barring orders

51. Have any legislative or other measures been taken to introduce and/or amend the legal framework governing emergency barring orders in order to align it with the requirements of Article 52? If yes, please specify whether:

- a. emergency barring orders may remain in place until a victim can obtain a court-ordered protection order in order to ensure that gaps in the protection do not arise;

Pursuant to Article 60 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act, the Police shall, by order, impose a restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific place or another person for a period of 48 hours. Such an order is immediately forwarded to the investigating judge of the district court, who may confirm, amend or revoke the measure. The investigating judge shall decide on the measure within a maximum of 24 hours. If the investigating judge confirms the restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific place or another person, the measure may be imposed for a period of up to ten days.

Where there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the offender will continue to pose a threat after the expiry of the ten-day period for which the restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific place or another person was imposed, the injured party may, no later than three days before the expiry of the measure, request the investigating judge to extend it for up to 60 days.

- b. support and advice are made available to women victims of domestic violence in a proactive manner by the authority competent to issue an emergency barring order;

Supervision of compliance with the restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific place or another person is monitored by the Police, who must immediately remove from the area any offender found in breach of the order. The Police must also immediately notify the investigating judge orally of any established infringements of the restraining order. An offender who, despite the fine imposed due to infringement of the restraining order, repeatedly infringes this order shall be detained according to the provisions of this Act.

- c. children are specifically included in contact bans issued under the emergency barring order;

Where children are at risk, the restraining order prohibiting the suspect from approaching will also extend to them.

- d. any exceptions to contact bans are made and in which circumstances;

In Slovenia, contact bans (restraining orders), issued in cases of domestic violence and violence against women, generally prohibit the perpetrator from initiating contact with, or approaching, the victim. However, in certain cases, exceptions to these contact bans may be made, usually in accordance with the law and at the court's discretion.

Such exceptions are rare and strictly defined. The primary objective remains the protection and safety of the victim and her children. The most common and legally recognised exception concerns contact relating to the care and custody of children.

52. Please provide information on the measures taken to enforce emergency barring orders and on responses to any violations of such orders.

Since the submission of the first report, there have been no further legislative changes in this field. In accordance with Article 195a of the Criminal Procedure Act (ZKP), where there is a risk that the accused person shall influence witnesses, accomplices or concealers, or repeat the criminal offence, the court shall order a restraining order prohibiting the accused person from approaching a specific place or person. The court shall set an appropriate distance from the specific place or person which the accused person must respect and may not cross intentionally, or prohibit the accused person from contacting such person by any means, including through the use of electronic means of communication; in the contrary case, the court may order detention against him or her. The court shall supervise the implementation of house arrest either directly or through the Police. The Police may, at any time and without a court request, verify compliance with the house arrest, and must immediately inform the court of any breaches.

The relevant measures were already in place at the time of submission of the first report.

In the 2025 Act Amending the Police Tasks and Powers Act (ZNPPol), the powers relating to the imposition of a restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific person, place or area were expanded. To ensure better protection of victims of domestic violence, the grounds for imposing such a measure were broadened to include, in clear and unambiguous terms, serious threats to the

health of the victim, which, under the current regulation, cannot be unequivocally categorised as threats to the life, personal safety or liberty of the person.

The proposed amendment to paragraph one of Article 60 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act (ZNPPol) therefore expressly adds serious threats to the victim's health to the grounds for imposing a restraining order. In dealing with cases of domestic violence, police officers often encounter situations in which victims report prolonged and severe psychological violence that cannot be clearly classified as a threat to life, personal safety or liberty. Frequent psychological violence, which is often linked to direct or covert threats of killing, assault, grievous bodily harm, deprivation of children or prevention of contact with them or with relatives and friends, placement in a psychiatric facility, and so on, can severely damage victims' health, often leading to various addictions, psychosomatic disorders or illnesses, and, in extreme cases, to self-harm and suicidal tendencies.

Considering the 2021 decision of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Slovenia, proceedings concerning the extension of a restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific person, place or area must include both ex ante and ex post adversarial proceedings (Article 61 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act (ZNPPol)).

Article 53: Restraining or protection orders

53. Have any legislative or other measures been taken to introduce and/or amend the legal framework governing restraining and protection orders in order to align it with the requirements of Article 53? If yes, please specify whether:

- a. restraining or protection orders are available – in the context of criminal proceedings and/or upon application from civil courts - to women victims of all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention, including domestic violence, stalking, sexual harassment, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, violence related to so-called honour as well as digital manifestations of violence against women and girls;

*The restraining order prohibiting the perpetrator from approaching or communicating with the victim of a criminal offence was introduced as a new security measure into the Criminal Code by the insertion of new Article 71a, pursuant to the 2015 **Act Amending the Criminal Code**³⁵.*

This security measure may be imposed by the court on an offender convicted of a criminal offence against life and limb, honour and reputation, sexual integrity, human health, or any other criminal offence involving elements of violence, for a period ranging from one month to three years. Within the scope of the measure, the court may determine: a prohibition on approaching the victim or their close relatives; a prohibition on initiating direct or indirect contact or communication with the victim or their close relatives, including through electronic communication means; a prohibition on accessing certain places that the victim or the victim's relatives regularly visit, or a prohibition on associating with the victim or their close relatives.

The court may impose this measure if the perpetrator commits a criminal offence affecting the victim's physical and mental integrity and if the court deems that the perpetrator's contact or communication with the victim or the victim's relatives could pose a risk of repeated criminal offences of the same or a different kind against the victim or the victim's relatives. The court shall select one or several methods of enforcing the measure referred to in the preceding paragraph, defining in particular the persons to which this measure applies and the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator or the victim's relatives, the appropriate distance to maintain between the perpetrator and the victim or the victim's relatives or the places to be taken into respect, individual types of prohibited forms of communication and the prohibited forms of association.

- b. children are specifically included in protection orders;

Yes, children are expressly included in protection orders.

- c. any exceptions to contact bans are made and, if so, in which circumstances these may be made.

³⁵ Zakon o spremembah in dopolnitvah Kazenskega zakonika (Act Amending the Criminal Code) (KZ-1C): <https://pisrs.si/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO6928>

A restraining order is issued as an immediate protective measure without any financial burden for the victim. It is imposed for a period of up to ten days, with the possibility of extension to a maximum of sixty days. This refers to the restraining order under Article 60 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act (ZNPPol), which is issued by a police officer. In this instance, the victim does not have a say in the decision, as the measure falls within the competence of the Police and constitutes an immediate safety measure for the victim's protection.

The victim may also apply for a longer-term restraining order in civil proceedings under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND).

Since the previous reporting period, no changes have been introduced in this area. Under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act, the court may prohibit a perpetrator of violence who has physically harmed the victim, or harmed their health or has in any other way unlawfully encroached on their dignity or any other personal rights, in particular from:

- *entering the accommodation premises where the victim lives;*
- *coming within a specified distance from the accommodation where the victim lives;*
- *loitering in and approaching places which the victim frequents regularly (workplace, school, preschool facility, etc.);*
- *contacting the victim in any way whatsoever, including means of telecommunication, and through third persons;*
- *setting up any kind of meeting with the victim;*
- *publishing the victim's personal information, documents from court or administrative files, and personal records referring to the victim;*
- *the court may decide to transfer accommodation in common use to the victim.*

The court may order the perpetrator of violence who lives in a common household with the victim to transfer the accommodation to the victim for exclusive use in the extent enjoyed by the perpetrator. The court shall not set a time limit on the measures if the perpetrator of violence is not the owner, the co-owner or joint owner of the accommodation in common use. If the victim and the perpetrator of violence co-own or jointly own the accommodation in common use, hold a right of superficies, usufruct or right of use, or have jointly rented it, the court shall limit the duration of the measures referred to in paragraph one of this Article to a maximum of 12 months. On the victim's proposal the court may extend the measure for a maximum period of 12 months. The court shall limit the measure to a maximum of six months in the event that the perpetrator of violence owns, co-owns or jointly owns the accommodation that is in common use, or if they themselves or together with the third party have a right of superficies on the land on which the accommodation stands as well as the right to use it, usufruct or if they or together with a third person rented it. If the victim is unable to find any other suitable accommodation in the deadline set by the court, despite diligent efforts made, then the court may – on the victim's proposal – exceptionally extend the deadline given in the preceding sentence for a maximum of six months, unless this should cause a disproportionate burden for the third party. The perpetrator of violence who must transfer accommodation to the victim for exclusive use must refrain from all actions that could impede or present obstacles to any such use. The victim to whom exclusive use of accommodation has been transferred must cover the costs of regular management of the accommodation during the period of exclusive use.

Paragraph one of Article 60 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act (ZNPPol) stipulates that police officers may issue a restraining order prohibiting a person from approaching a specific place or another person if there is a reasonable suspicion that the person has committed, or has been apprehended in the act of committing, a criminal or minor offence involving elements of violence, and there are grounds for suspecting that they will endanger the life, personal safety or freedom of a person with whom they are, or have been, in a close relationship, within the meaning of the provisions of the Criminal Code and the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND). Police officers shall establish reasonable suspicion primarily on the basis of the offender's previous abusive behaviour, from circumstances directly observed upon arrival at the scene, from statements collected from victims or witnesses, and from information obtained from a Social Work Centre, humanitarian organisations or non-governmental organisations. The place where the victim resides, works, studies, is under protection, or habitually moves about in on a daily basis shall be deemed to be such a place. The restraining order shall also include a prohibition of harassment through means of communication.

The restraining order is issued by a police officer by issuing an on-the-spot verbal order to the offender under the police procedure, and later, within six hours, by serving a written order relating to the measure ordered. The written order must contain information on the offender against whom the measure has been ordered, the measure ordered (the measure will also include a determination of the distance from

the place or person within which the offender may not move, this distance being a maximum of 200 metres), a description of the threat (manner, scope, duration), justification of the reasons for the measure ordered (previous measures taken by the Police, long-standing or prior abusive behaviour, etc.) and a statement indicating that the order will be sent ex officio for judicial review. Police officers shall call upon the offender to furnish them with the address at which the written order can be served. If police officers do not find the offender at the address given, or if he refuses to supply the address, they shall serve the order on the offender by affixing it to the bulletin board of the competent police station, to which the offender's special attention shall be drawn upon being issued a verbal restraining order by police officers (paragraph two of Article 60).

Paragraph three, inter alia, specifies that the Police shall immediately inform the locally competent Social Work Centre of the measure imposed. If the offender is prohibited from approaching an educational institution attended by a child or minor who is the injured party, the Police shall also inform the responsible person of that institution.

The Police shall impose the measure for a period of 48 hours and shall immediately send the order for review to the district court investigating judge, who may uphold, amend or revoke the measure. If the investigating judge upholds the restraining order, the measure may be imposed for an additional period of 15 days, taking into account the time when the measure imposed by the Police took effect.

Supervision of compliance with the restraining order shall be carried out by the Police, who shall immediately remove the offender if he is caught in the area covered by the restraining order. The Police shall immediately notify the investigating judge of any infringements of the restraining order issued (paragraph six of Article 60).

Pursuant to paragraph eight of Article 60, an offender who, despite the fine imposed due to infringement of the restraining order, repeatedly infringes this order shall be detained in accordance with the ZNPPol (second indent of paragraph one of Article 64).

The provisions of Article 60 thus permit the Police to find the perpetrator either in the very act itself, or after the perpetrator has already ceased the conduct upon the arrival of the police officers. It is, however, essential that the perpetrator has committed a criminal offence or a minor offence involving elements of violence, and that the police officer establishes both the existence of a "close relationship" and reasonable grounds to suspect that the person will endanger the life, personal safety or freedom of the victim. These circumstances are determined primarily on the basis of the offender's previous abusive behaviour, the circumstances directly observed by police officers upon their arrival at the scene, and, where relevant, information obtained from the victim or witnesses, as well as data from the competent Social Work Centre. The restraining order is a security measure rather than a procedural power of the Police. It is imposed by police officers at the very outset of proceedings involving the offender or suspect, although it need not necessarily be issued directly at the scene of the incident. The order is first issued verbally, followed within the statutory time limit by service of a written order on the perpetrator (or suspect).

In accordance with Article 61, if there are reasonable grounds to suspect that the offender will continue to pose a threat after the expiry of the 15-day period for which the restraining order has been issued, the injured party may, before the order expires, apply to an investigating judge for its extension.

54. Please provide information on the measures taken to enforce protection orders and on responses to any violations of such orders.

Since the submission of the first report, there have been no legislative changes in this field. The relevant measures were already in place at the time of submission of the first report.

Article 56: Measures of protection

55. Please provide information on the measures taken to ensure the following: Please provide information on measures taken to provision of:

- a. that the relevant agency informs the victim when the perpetrator escapes or is released temporarily, at least when they or their family might be in danger (paragraph 1 b);
- b. the protection of the privacy and the image of the victim (paragraph 1 f);
- c. the possibility for victims to testify in the courtroom without being present or at least without the presence of the alleged perpetrator, notably through the use of appropriate communication technologies, where available (paragraph 1 i);
- d. the provision of appropriate support services for victims so that their rights and interests are duly presented and taken into account (paragraph 1 e).

- a) *Under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND), no information that could enable the identification of a victim or her family may be communicated to the public. Such communication of information is permitted only if the adult victim has given explicit consent and this does not expose children or their personal data. Parents, a child's guardian, foster parent or adoptive parent have a duty, in the course of exercising care for the child, to protect the child from exposure to the public.*
- b) *Under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND), no information that could enable the identification of a victim or her family may be disclosed to the public. Such disclosure of information is permitted only if the adult victim has given explicit consent and this does not expose children or their personal data. Parents, a child's guardian, foster parent or adoptive parent are obliged, in the course of exercising care for the child, to protect the child from exposure to the public.*
- c) *As already reported in the first report, protective measures are in place to safeguard the integrity of injured parties in criminal and pre-trial proceedings. The authority conducting the pre-trial or criminal proceedings must ensure that the injured party does not come into unwanted contact with the suspect or the accused person. This includes the option of giving testimony via videoconference (paragraph one of Article 244a of the Criminal Procedure Act). The extent and type of information depend on the personal characteristics and vulnerability of the victim, their particular protection needs, the nature, gravity and circumstances of the criminal offence, and the stage of the pre-trial or criminal proceedings. An injured party who so wishes may also receive information on the status of the pre-trial or criminal proceedings and on final judgements, if the injured party so requests or if this is provided by law. For the purpose of ensuring personal safety, the injured party may also request to be notified of the release or escape of a suspect or accused person from house arrest, detention or prison.*

It should be noted that, in 2021, the Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in the Children's House Act (ZZOKPOHO) was adopted, with the aim of ensuring the comprehensive treatment of underage injured parties and witnesses in pre-trial and criminal proceedings. Comprehensive treatment is provided as a public service within the public institution Children's House.

- d) *Yes, all the points referred to are covered in the individual assessment of the level of risk to the injured party of a criminal offence.*

Part III: Emerging trends on violence against women and domestic violence

56. Please provide information on new developments since the adoption of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report on your country concerning:

- a. emerging trends in violence against women and domestic violence, including its digital manifestations (types of perpetration, groups of victims, forms of violence);
- b. emerging trends in domestic case law related to violence against women;
- c. emerging trends in the allocation of funding and budgeting by your state authorities;
- d. innovative approaches to primary prevention, for example new target audiences and means of communication, public/private partnerships etc.
- e. emerging trends related to access to asylum and international protection for women victims of violence against women.

According to data maintained by Social Work Centres (CSDs), the number of injured parties of domestic violence is decreasing.

Number of Injured Parties of Domestic Violence Dealt with by CSDs (by Year and Gender); Social Data Set

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
<i>Number of injured parties – male</i>	599	727	638	591	499	401	419	358

<i>Number of injured parties – female</i>	1748	2109	1885	1848	1716	1543	1575	1540
<i>Total</i>	2347	2836	2523	2439	2215	1944	1994	1898

Although no research on this topic is available, observations from monitoring in this field indicate an increase in violence by children against their parents.

Part IV: Administrative data and statistics

57. Please provide annual statistics for two complete calendar years prior to receiving this questionnaire on administrative and judicial data on:

- the number of reports, investigations opened, prosecutions, final convictions secured and sanctions imposed in respect of all forms of violence against women and domestic violence covered by the Istanbul Convention;
- the number of emergency barring orders issued by the competent authorities, the number of breaches of such orders, and the number of sanctions imposed as a result of these breaches;
- the number of protection orders issued, the number of breaches of such orders and the number of sanctions imposed as a result of such breaches;
- data on the number of decisions issued by family courts on custody/visitation/residence of children that have expressly taken into account incidents of domestic violence.

Administrative data of the Police

Number of Actual Injured Parties, Female, in Criminal Offences Dealt With Under Selected Articles in the Republic of Slovenia, 2019–2024

Article	Classification of offence	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
122	Slight bodily injury	435	406	341	356	443	549
123	Serious bodily injury	34	20	18	19	33	33
124	Particularly severe bodily injury	2		2			1
170	Rape	36	41	47	62	64	74
171	Sexual violence	36	37	41	53	60	84
172	Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	18	22	20	8	10	16
173	Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	109	75	100	112	137	120
174	Violation of sexual Integrity through abuse of authority	12	10	10	21	16	13
176	The presentation, manufacture, possession and distribution of pornographic material	69	75	74	65	91	133
191	Domestic violence	1,271	1,378	1,245	1,099	1,231	1,387
192	Neglect and maltreatment of minors	372	367	374	360	428	545

Total number of measures imposed is the sum of measures from the restraining order register:

Measure/Offence	Year	Total
Total measures imposed	2019	1,025
	2020	980
	2021	878
	2022	871
	2023	1,022
	2024	1,088
	year-on-year	6.5

	change (%)	
Measures up to 2 days	2019	51
	2020	53
	2021	44
	2022	37
	2023	32
	2024	50
	year-on-year change (%)	56.3
Extension up to 15 days (after 12 April 2017)	2019	643
	2020	629
	2021	517
	2022	543
	2023	618
	2024	619
	year-on-year change (%)	0.2
Extension up to 60 days	2019	316
	2020	278
	2021	299
	2022	271
	2023	353
	2024	395
	year-on-year change (%)	11.9
Revoked measures	2019	15
	2020	20
	2021	18
	2022	20
	2023	19
	2024	24
	year-on-year change (%)	26.3
Appeals against the decision of the court – first instance	2019	5
	2020	5
	2021	2
	2022	11

	2023	5
	2024	7
	year-on-year change (%)	40.0
Violations of the measure (under paragraph three of Article 162 of ZNPPol)	2019	451
	2020	457
	2021	417
	2022	446
	2023	592
	2024	476
	year-on-year change (%)	-19.6
Detention (indent two, paragraph one of Article 64 of the Police Tasks and Powers Act – breach of the imposed restraining order)	2019	21
	2020	13
	2021	12
	2022	7
	2023	36
	2024	19
	year-on-year change (%)	-47.2

Annual statistical data for the two preceding calendar years on the number of reports, investigations initiated and prosecutions brought in relation to all forms of violence against women and domestic violence covered by the Istanbul Convention, as recorded in the case management and registration system of the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, in respect of procedural events and criminal sanctions imposed, taking into account the scope of data requested in the questionnaire. In both tables, the data were collected using the method of counting events at the level of the criminal offence in which the injured party was recorded as female. In both tables, the data on convictions refer to first-instance judgments, while in the table on sanctions, punitive orders were also included.

Table 1 - Procedural events

	2023	2024
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT	3802	4182
KZ-1 122 - Slight bodily injury	608	633
KZ-1 123 - Serious bodily injury	38	47
KZ-1 124 - Particularly severe bodily injury	1	3
KZ-1 132 - Criminal coercion	6	6
KZ-1 135 - Stalking	1164	1197
KZ-1 170 - Rape	97	103
KZ-1 171 - Sexual violence	62	87
KZ-1 172 - Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	13	18
KZ-1 173 - Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	212	174
KZ-1 174 - Violation of sexual Integrity through abuse of authority	12	14

KZ-1 191 - Domestic violence	1138	1370
KZ-1 197 - Workplace harassment	49	38
KZ-1 296 - Violent conduct	206	265
KZ-1C 132A - Entry into a forced marriage	1	
KZ-1C 134A - Stalking	195	227
INVESTIGATION REQUEST	892	1035
KZ-1 122 - Slight bodily injury	90	126
KZ-1 123 - Serious bodily injury	18	22
KZ-1 124 - Particularly severe bodily injury		2
KZ-1 135 - Stalking	36	34
KZ-1 170 - Rape	60	65
KZ-1 171 - Sexual violence	43	53
KZ-1 172 - Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	10	7
KZ-1 173 - Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	105	87
KZ-1 174 - Violation of sexual Integrity through abuse of authority	9	6
KZ-1 191 - Domestic violence	503	616
KZ-1 197 - Workplace harassment	2	
KZ-1 296 - Violent conduct	16	15
KZ-1C 134A - Stalking		2
MOTION OF INDICTMENT OR MOTION FOR IMPOSITION OF PRECAUTIONARY MEASURE	1420	1489
KZ-1 122 - Slight bodily injury	219	236
KZ-1 123 - Serious bodily injury	19	16
KZ-1 132 - Criminal coercion	2	
KZ-1 135 - Stalking	409	491
KZ-1 170 - Rape	48	44
KZ-1 171 - Sexual violence	34	51
KZ-1 172 - Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	8	3
KZ-1 173 - Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	94	66
KZ-1 174 - Violation of sexual Integrity through abuse of authority	7	5
KZ-1 191 - Domestic violence	385	359
KZ-1 197 - Workplace harassment	6	14
KZ-1 296 - Violent conduct	123	124
KZ-1C 134A - Stalking	66	80
JUDGMENT/DECISION	1008	919
KZ-1 122 - Slight bodily injury	149	137
KZ-1 123 - Serious bodily injury	18	13
KZ-1 124 - Particularly severe bodily injury		1
KZ-1 132 - Criminal coercion	1	1
KZ-1 135 - Stalking	294	281
KZ-1 170 - Rape	34	13
KZ-1 171 - Sexual violence	12	33
KZ-1 172 - Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	6	9
KZ-1 173 - Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	49	38
KZ-1 174 - Violation of sexual Integrity through abuse of authority	10	3
KZ-1 191 - Domestic violence	319	279
KZ-1 197 - Workplace harassment	6	14
KZ-1 296 - Violent conduct	71	59

KZ-1C 134A - Stalking	39	38
JUDGMENT ON PUNITIVE ORDER	358	378
KZ-1 122 - Slight bodily injury	84	85
KZ-1 123 - Serious bodily injury	1	4
KZ-1 135 - Stalking	190	204
KZ-1 173 - Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	2	
KZ-1 191 - Domestic violence	15	15
KZ-1 197 - Workplace harassment	4	10
KZ-1 296 - Violent conduct	38	27
KZ-1C 134A - Stalking	24	33

Table 2 – Criminal Sanctions

	2023	2024
KZ-1 122 - Slight bodily injury	162	166
Fine	26	21
Supervision by social welfare authority		1
Compulsory psychiatric treatment in liberty	2	3
Compulsory psychiatric treatment and confinement in a medical institution	1	9
Seizure of objects	1	
Suspended sentence	104	92
Suspended sentence with additional condition	1	
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision	13	7
Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim		1
Judicial admonition	1	1
Imprisonment	13	31
KZ-1 123 - Serious bodily injury	17	14
Instructions and prohibitions (points 1-11)	1	
Suspended sentence	8	11
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision	1	
Imprisonment	7	3
KZ-1 124 - Particularly severe bodily injury		2
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision		1
Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim		1
KZ-1 132 - Criminal coercion		1
Imprisonment		1
KZ-1 134A - Stalking	46	56
Fine	7	6
Compulsory psychiatric treatment in liberty		1
Suspended sentence	21	33
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision	15	11
Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim	1	1
Imprisonment	2	4
KZ-1 135 - Stalking	297	325
Fine	71	41
Instructions and prohibitions		2

(points 1-11)		
Compulsory psychiatric treatment in liberty	4	2
Compulsory psychiatric treatment and confinement in a medical institution		1
Compulsory treatment of alcoholics and drug addicts	1	
Seizure of objects	2	8
Suspended sentence	180	216
Suspended sentence with additional condition	1	7
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision	18	20
Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim	1	2
Sanction not imposed	1	
Judicial admonition	2	3
Reprimand		1
Imprisonment	16	22
KZ-1 170 - Rape	23	11
Expulsion of a foreign national from the country	1	1
Compulsory psychiatric treatment and confinement in a medical institution		1
Suspended sentence	4	1
Imprisonment	18	8
KZ-1 171 - Sexual violence	10	34
Expulsion of a foreign national from the country		3
Compulsory psychiatric treatment and confinement in a medical institution		2
Suspended sentence		16
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision	8	3
Imprisonment	2	10
KZ-1 172 - Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	1	7
Suspended sentence		1
Imprisonment	1	6
KZ-1 173 - Sexual assault on a person younger than fifteen years of age	43	32
Expulsion of a foreign national from the country		1
Instructions and prohibitions (points 1-11)	1	
Suspended sentence	15	8
Suspended sentence with custodial supervision		2
Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim	1	
Imprisonment	26	21
KZ-1 174 - Sexual abuse of a vulnerable person	9	6
Suspended sentence	5	1
Prohibition on practising a profession	1	
Imprisonment	3	5
KZ-1 191 - Domestic violence	283	253
Fine	1	1
Supervision by social welfare authority	2	1

<i>Instructions and prohibitions (points 1-11)</i>	4	3
<i>Compulsory psychiatric treatment in liberty</i>	2	9
<i>Compulsory psychiatric treatment and confinement in a medical institution</i>	5	4
<i>Seizure of objects</i>	1	2
<i>Suspended sentence</i>	178	135
<i>Suspended sentence with custodial supervision</i>	37	37
<i>Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim</i>	1	6
<i>Imprisonment</i>	52	55
KZ-1 197 - Workplace harassment	4	11
<i>Fine</i>		9
<i>Suspended sentence</i>	4	2
KZ-1 296 - Violent conduct	89	64
<i>Supervision by social welfare authority</i>	1	1
<i>Compulsory psychiatric treatment in liberty</i>	3	2
<i>Compulsory psychiatric treatment and confinement in a medical institution</i>	1	2
<i>Suspended sentence</i>	50	40
<i>Suspended sentence with additional condition</i>	1	2
<i>Suspended sentence with custodial supervision</i>	13	6
<i>Restraining order or prohibition of communication with the victim</i>	4	
<i>Imprisonment</i>	16	11

APPENDIX

Table 1: Initial training (education or professional training)

Professionals	Do they benefit from initial training on violence against women and domestic violence?	Is this training mandatory?	Are training efforts supported by guidelines and protocols?	Who funds the training?	Please describe the content and the duration of the training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Prevention of domestic violence – work with perpetrators of violence One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Prevention of domestic violence – sexual violence One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Work with victims of criminal offences One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Work with victims of trafficking in human beings One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Impact of intimate partner violence and decisions-making procedures concerning child custody and contact arrangement on women and children One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Work with foreign nationals, refugees, migrants and victims of trafficking in human beings – work with victims One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Communication with aggressive clients and conflict resolution through de-escalation techniques One-day training
Professional staff or professional assistant staff in the field of social welfare				MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Work with families – preparation of motions for the initiation of court proceedings in cases of domestic violence, risk assessments (for adult victims and children) and preparation of opinions on risk assessment for the court One-day training
Specialist paediatricians, specialist family physicians	Paediatrics and family medicine	Yes, the recognition and handling of victims of	Yes, based on the Professional	Funding for medical specialisation for the public	Within the specialisation programme, the recognition and

	specialisation programme	domestic violence is included in the specialist study curriculum.	Guidelines for the Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Provision of Health Services.	healthcare network is provided from compulsory health insurance funds.	handling of domestic violence is addressed as part of the basic training/education programmes in paediatrics and family medicine; neither the duration nor the number of hours is specified.
Paediatric specialist trainees	Postgraduate course	No	Yes, based on the Professional Guidelines for the Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Provision of Health Services.	Costs are reimbursed from the budget for compulsory courses under the paediatrics specialisation.	<p>The course content includes: psychosocial development and health of children, adolescents and families; neglect, ill-treatment and abuse of children and adolescents.</p> <p>Lectures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The role of social work centres in protecting the child as the victim • The multidisciplinary team in addressing violence against children • The role of the Police in protecting the child as victims and the forensic interview • Public health aspects of child ill-treatment <p>Psychosocial development and health of children, adolescents and families</p> <p>Lectures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's rights • Rights and obligations of physicians in criminal proceedings involving child victims <p>Duration: 8 weeks</p>
Professional staff and professional associates staff in the field of social welfare, and the Police	yes	no	No	MDDSZ (Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs)	Improving the response and strengthening cooperation among first responders in cases of domestic violence

Police	Yes	No	Yes	Police	24 teaching hours over three days Programme content: response to domestic violence, police powers, receiving reports and conducting interviews, lawful and professional interventions, legal basis, measures and procedures for protecting victims, knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence, cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organisations, prevention of domestic violence.
Police	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police	8 teaching hours (one day) Programme content: police response to reports of domestic violence, police powers in interventions in cases of domestic violence, receiving reports and conducting interviews, legal basis for police action, investigation and evidence-gathering, measures and procedures for protecting victims, cooperation with other institutions, knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence, characteristics of domestic violence.
Prison officers	Yes – a basic understanding and knowledge of the field is acquired	yes	yes	Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (URSIKS)	Sexual preference disorders and the treatment of perpetrators of sexual criminal offences – 6 hours Mental disorders and personality disorders – 6 hours Work with perpetrators of violence – 3 hours Communication and social skills, levels 1 and 2 – 24 hours Mediation as a method of conflict management – 3 hours



Table 2: In-service training

Professionals	Number of professionals trained	Is this training mandatory?	Frequency	Training efforts supported by guidelines and protocols	Please describe the content and duration of the training
Nurses, midwives and healthcare technicians	More than 400	<p>Yes, in accordance with in the Implementation of Health Activities, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 38/11, which stipulates the mandatory training of healthcare professionals engaged in healthcare activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– the fields of general or family medicine, paediatrics, gynaecology, psychiatry and community nursing;– Accident and Emergency (A&E) or trauma outpatient clinics and hospital departments;– counselling services. <p>Training:</p> <p>Trainings are accredited by the Nurses and Midwives Association of Slovenia – Association of Professional Societies of Nurses, Midwives and Health Technicians of Slovenia and the Medical Chamber of Slovenia.</p>	Several times a year	Yes, based on the Professional Guidelines for the Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Provision of Health Services.	The training covers various forms of violence and their treatment (for example, violence against the elderly, domestic violence – challenges for society and the individual, recognition of addiction, mental disorders and violence during the perinatal period, etc.).

Heads of offices, human resources/legal and financial/accounting services	221	NO	2	N/A	The Training Programme for Heads of Offices, Human Resources and Legal, and Financial and Accounting Services was intended for staff in managerial position within the judiciary. It was held twice and attended by a total of 221 participants. Participants were introduced to general and specialised topics in the areas of human resources and legal and financial-accounting matters. The sessions addressed challenges posed by increasingly demanding work tasks and complex workplace relations. Particular emphasis was placed on the prevention of workplace bullying (mobbing), including real-life experiences and dilemmas.
Judges, judicial assistants, judicial advisers, (senior) state attorneys and candidates for state attorneys	440	N/A	2	Particular attention was given to the lecture titled "Enforcement in Cases Concerning Custody and Contact Arrangements – Focus on Cases involving Removal of Child".	The 2020 Enforcement Law Judicial Training School was organised for judges, judicial assistants, judicial advisers, (senior) state attorneys and candidates for state attorney positions. It was held twice and attended by a total of 440 participants. The programme addressed current topics and recent developments in enforcement law and included non-legal content relevant to procedural conduct. Particular attention was given to the lecture titled "Enforcement in Cases Concerning Custody and Contact Arrangements, Focus on Cases involving Removal of Child".
Judges and judicial assistants	221	N/A	N/A	A special focus was placed on the session titled "Sexual Offences".	The 2020 Criminal Law Judicial School was intended for judges and judicial advisers. It was held twice and attended by a total of 221 participants. The

					lecturers covered current topics in procedural and substantive criminal law and presented relevant domestic and international case law. They also explored selected legal issues concerning the conduct of proceedings. A special focus was placed on the session titled "Sexual Offences".
Mediators in criminal cases	27	N/A	N/A	Domestic violence from the perspective of the prosecution and the psychosocial situation of the victim in cases of domestic violence	The seminar for criminal case mediators was intended for mediators working in criminal proceedings and was attended by 27 participants. The lecturers addressed selected topics related to mediation in criminal cases and discussed outstanding issues. Two dedicated lectures were delivered under the titles "Challenges in Prosecuting Domestic Violence from the Perspective of the Prosecution Service" and "The Psychosocial Situation of Victims in Cases of Domestic Violence".
State prosecutors, professional staff at state prosecutor's offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers and representatives of the Police	338			The programme covered interdisciplinary themes and real-life examples, with a focus on a treatment of particularly vulnerable children.	The 19th Expert Conference: the treatment of particularly vulnerable children was intended for prosecutors, judicial advisers at state prosecutor's offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers, and the representatives of the Police. It was attended by 338 participants. The programme covered interdisciplinary themes and real-life examples, with a focus on the treatment of particularly vulnerable children. The conference was included in the EJTN Catalogue+ of the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN).

Judges, judicial advisers at courts, professional staff at Social Work Centres, (senior) state attorneys and candidates for state attorneys	120				<p>– The seminar on emerging case law in family law was intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, professional staff from social work centres, (senior) state attorneys, and state attorney candidates. It was attended by 120 participants. They examined new case law that has emerged following the entry into force of the new Family Code. They also discussed current open issues and analysed different legal positions. The seminar included a presentation titled “The Domestic Violence Prevention Act (ZPND)– Case Law”.</p>
Judges, judicial advisers at courts, state attorneys, and professional staff at state prosecutor's offices	171		4		<p>The “Addressing Domestic Violence and Victims of Domestic Violence” was intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor's offices. It was held four times, and attended by a total of 171 participants. The seminar covered topics related to the prevention and detection of acts of violence, prosecution, adjudication, and the enforcement of sanctions for domestic violence offences. It also addressed open issues regarding gender equality, while lecturers highlighted the rights of victims of domestic violence and the importance of preventing secondary victimisation.</p>
(Senior) state attorneys, candidates for state attorney and professional staff at state attorney's offices	85				<p>One-hour seminar, attended by 85 participants, titled “Victims of Domestic Violence among Members of Vulnerable Groups: Navigating the Line Between Tradition and Criminal Offence”.</p>

intended for (senior) state attorneys, candidates for state attorneys, and professional staff at state attorney's offices	92				State Attorneys Days were intended for (senior) state attorneys, candidates for state attorneys, and state attorney office staff. It was attended by 92 participants. The lecturers addressed selected current topics and open issues related to the work of state attorneys and the functioning of the State Attorney's Office. The programme also included a lecture titled "Dealing with Violence and (Non-)Violent Communication".
Judges, judicial advisers at courts, state attorneys, and professional staff at state prosecutor's offices	116				The Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in Children's House Act (ZZOKPOHO) is a seminar intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor's offices. It was attended by 116 participants. The lecturers covered selected topics related the protection of children in criminal proceedings and their comprehensive treatment in the Children's House.
Judges and judicial advisers at courts	301		2		The Criminal Law Judicial School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was implemented and attended by a total of 301 participants. The lecturers addressed current issues in procedural and substantive criminal law, presented national and international case law, and explored legal topics related to the conduct of proceedings. One of the central topics was the psychological aspects of why victims remain in abusive relationships.

Judges, judicial advisers at courts, state attorneys, and professional staff at state prosecutor's offices	103				The seminar on Addressing Domestic Violence and Victims of Domestic Violence was intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor's offices. The seminar was attended by 103 participants. The aim of the event was to explore issues related to the prevention and detection of acts of violence, prosecution, adjudication, and enforcement of sanctions for domestic violence. The seminar addressed open issues regarding gender equality, as well as the needs and rights of victims and the prevention of secondary victimisation.
State prosecutors and professional staff at state prosecutor's offices	185				The Prosecutors' Training Days were intended for state prosecutors and professional staff working in the state prosecutor's offices. The event was attended by 185 participants. The programme covered current topics in criminal procedural and substantive law, as well as recent developments in case law in the field of criminal justice. It also addressed general non-legal topics relevant for prosecutors in conducting proceedings. The lecturers explored the topic of violence against women and the psychological aspects of why victims remain in abusive relationships.
Judges and judicial advisers at courts	331		2		The Criminal Law Judicial School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was held twice and attended by a

					total of 331 participants. The lecturers addressed current issues in procedural and substantive criminal law, presented national and international case law, and explored selected legal topics related to the conduct of proceedings. Special attention was given to the development of violent personality traits.
First-instance judges and their judicial advisers, court-appointed expert witnesses in the field of family law, and representative of social work centres who prepare expert opinions in family court proceedings	119		3		The workshop titled "Expert Witnessing in Family Law Cases" was designed for first-instance judges and their judicial advisers, court-appointed expert witnesses in the field of family law, and representatives of social work centres who prepare expert opinions in family court proceedings. The workshop was held three times and was attended by 119 participants. Its aim was to deepen understanding of key challenges in expert witnessing in family law proceedings, improve the quality of expert reports and opinions of the social work centres, strengthen communication among stakeholders, and enhance the quality of judicial practice when formulating questions and determining tasks in decisions. Clarifications were also provided regarding the distinction between psychological and psychiatric expert witnesses, as well as between expert opinions and the opinions provided by social work centres.
Judges and judicial advisers at courts	198				The 2023 Family Law School was intended for judges and judicial advisers at courts. It was participated by 198 participants. The

					lecturers addressed selected current topics in family law, presented domestic and international case law, and explored selected non-contentious matters related to the conduct of proceedings in family cases.
Judges, state prosecutors, state attorneys and lawyers	104				The 2023 Conference of Judges of the European Court of Human Rights on Family Law was intended for judges, state prosecutors, state attorneys, and lawyers. It was attended by 104 participants. The lecturers addressed selected topics in family law and recent case law of the ECtHR. A lectured titled "Developments in the Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights" was also delivered, also discussing forms of online violence.
Judges and other participants from judicial bodies	12				The seminar EU Gender Equality Law was designed for judges and other justice sector professionals. It was attended by 12 participants. The programme addressed current issues and case law in the field of equal opportunities. The content was prepared in cooperation with ERA (Academy of European Law). A lecture was also delivered on Combating Gender-Based Violence in the EU.
State prosecutors, professional staff at state prosecutor's offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers and representatives of the Police	207				The 21st Expert Conference titled "The Child – Used as Evidence?" was intended for state prosecutors, professional staff of state prosecutor's office, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers, and representatives of the Police. It was attended by 207 participants. It focused on selected

					interdisciplinary topics and practical case studies, with an emphasis on the intertwined roles of victim and perpetrator in cases involving children. Lectures were delivered on topics such as the treatment of children in police procedures, the process of gynaecological examination of child victims, and the role of the Children's House.
State prosecutors and judicial advisers at state prosecutor's offices	187				The Prosecutors' Training Days are intended for state prosecutors and professional staff working the state prosecutor's offices. The event was attended by 187 participants. The programme covered current topics in criminal procedural and substantive law, as well as recent developments in case law in the field of criminal justice. In addition, general non-legal themes relevant to prosecutors in conducting proceedings were addressed. Particular attention was given to a lecture entitled "Sentencing in Sexual Offence Cases in Slovenia".
State prosecutors, professional staff and other employees of state prosecutor's offices	179				Training Days of the Association of State Prosecutors and the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Slovenia were designed for state prosecutors, professional staff and other employees of state prosecutor's offices. It was attended by 179 participants. The lecturers presented participants with up-to-date content and open issues related to the work of state prosecutors. One lecturer provided a

					detailed account of a real-life murder case in which the perpetrator, following prolonged drinking, took the lives of three individuals—his partner and her parents—in the presence of a small child.
Judges, judicial advisers at courts, (senior) state attorneys and candidates for state attorneys	196				Family Law School was dedicated to judges, judicial advisers at courts, (senior) state attorneys, candidates for state attorney positions, and lawyers. It was attended by 196 participants. Lecturers addressed current issues in substantive and procedural family law, as well as recent developments in national and international case law. The programme included lectures and workshops on topics such as swift and efficient proceedings, awareness raising and protection of vulnerable groups, eliminating the digital divide in alternative dispute resolution, and strengthening judicial skills and competences in performing their role.
State prosecutors, professional staff at state prosecutor's offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers and representatives of the Police	209				22nd Expert Conference titled "The Child – A Mirror of Society" intended for state prosecutors, professional staff of state prosecutor's offices, judges, judicial advisers at courts, lawyers, and representatives of the Police. It was attended by 209 participants. The programme covered selected interdisciplinary topics, including aspects of family law and practical case examples, with an emphasis on the complex interplay between child victims and perpetrators. Lecturers also presented content from the Domestic Violence

					Prevention Act.
Judges, judicial advisers at courts, state attorneys, and professional staff of state prosecutor's offices	69				The seminar on Protection of Children in Criminal Procedure and their Comprehensive Treatment in Children's House Act was a seminar intended for judges, judicial advisers at courts, state prosecutors, and professional staff of state prosecutor's offices. It was held twice, and attended by 69 participants. Lecturers addressed selected topics concerning the protection of children involved in criminal proceedings and their treatment within the Barnahus model.
Police	Yes	No	Yes	Police	24 teaching hours over three days Programme content: response to domestic violence, police powers, receiving reports and conducting interviews, lawful and professional interventions, legal basis, measures and procedures for protecting victims, knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence, cooperation with governmental and non-governmental organisations, prevention of domestic violence.
Police	Yes	Yes	Yes	Police	8 teaching hours (one day) Programme content: police response to reports of domestic violence, police powers in interventions in cases of domestic violence, receiving reports and conducting interviews, legal basis for police action, investigation and evidence-gathering, measures and procedures for protecting victims,

					cooperation with other institutions, knowledge and understanding of the dynamics of domestic violence, characteristics of domestic violence.
Sexual harassment and workplace violence	YES – participants acquire theoretical knowledge on how to prevent violence, how to practise non-violent communication, and become familiar with the programme for working with perpetrators of violence.	NO	YES	Prison Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (URSIKS)	<p>Definition of sexual harassment and other forms of workplace violence</p> <p>Description of inappropriate conduct</p> <p>Experiences of victims and perpetrators</p> <p>Role of witnesses</p> <p>Duties of the employer and of all those involved</p> <p>Societal tolerance of sexual harassment and violence</p> <p>Current shifts in public opinion</p> <p>Zero tolerance for violence</p> <p>Creating a community free from harassment and violence</p>
Professionals	Number of professionals trained	Is this training mandatory?	Frequency	Training efforts supported by guidelines and protocols	Please describe the content and duration of the training
Nurses, midwives and healthcare technicians	More than 400	<p>Yes, in accordance with in the Implementation of Health Activities, Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No. 38/11, which stipulates the mandatory training of healthcare professionals engaged in healthcare activities:</p> <p>– the fields of general or family medicine, paediatrics, gynaecology, psychiatry and</p>	Several times a year	Yes, based on the Professional Guidelines for the Treatment of Domestic Violence in the Provision of Health Services.	The training covers various forms of violence and their treatment (for example, violence against the elderly, domestic violence – challenges for society and the individual, recognition of addiction, mental disorders and violence during the perinatal period, etc.).

		<p>community nursing;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Accident and Emergency (A&E) or trauma outpatient clinics and hospital departments; – counselling services. <p>Training:</p> <p>Trainings are accredited by the Nurses and Midwives Association of Slovenia – Association of Professional Societies of Nurses, Midwives and Health Technicians of Slovenia and the Medical Chamber of Slovenia.</p>			
Heads of offices, human resources/legal and financial/accounting services	221	NO	2	N/A	<p>The Training Programme for Heads of Offices, Human Resources and Legal, and Financial and Accounting Services was intended for staff in managerial position within the judiciary. It was held twice and attended by a total of 221 participants. Participants were introduced to general and specialised topics in the areas of human resources and legal and financial-accounting matters. The sessions addressed challenges posed by increasingly demanding work tasks and complex workplace relations. Particular emphasis was placed on the prevention of workplace bullying (mobbing), including real-life experiences and dilemmas.</p>
Professional staff in reception centres	All employed professional staff of the Government	Not mandatory, but all newly recruited staff are referred to		Yes/EU Asylum Agency (EUAA) guidelines.	Reception of persons with vulnerabilities – identification of

(international and temporary protection)	Office of the Republic of Slovenia for the Support and Integration of Migrants.	this training and to all subsequent trainings.			vulnerabilities and provision of initial support: the concept of vulnerability in the reception context; different categories of vulnerable persons; indicators of vulnerability; protective factors; special reception needs.
Professional staff in reception centres (international and temporary protection)	All employed professional staff of the Government Office of the Republic of Slovenia for the Support and Integration of Migrants.	YES		YES / EUAA guidelines	Victims of gender-based violence: recognising and understanding the potential needs of victims of gender-based violence in the asylum context and how to respond to them
Slovenian Armed Forces	YES	YES	Upon recruitment and before each deployment to international operations and missions.	YES	The training is implemented in accordance with the Order on Work in the Slovenian Armed Forces, as set out in SOP GŠSV No. 03-0007: Procedures and Measures for the Protection of Dignity in the Slovenian Armed Forces (GŠSV, No. 804-228/2018-1 of 14 September and the First Supplement to SOP GŠSV No. 03-0007 (GŠSV, No. 804-228/2018-4 of 14 August 2019).