

Strasbourg, 8 April 2021

GEC (2021) OB/AA1

**GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION
(GEC)**

*19th meeting
14-15 April 2021*

**Wednesday, 14 April 2021, 10:00 am–1:00 pm/2:30–5:30 pm
Thursday, 15 April 2021, 10:00 am–1:00 pm
Central European Summer Time**

Online meeting

**ANNOTATED AGENDA
AND
ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Wednesday 10:00 – 10:15 am

I. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Members are invited to review and adopt the [draft agenda](#).

Wednesday 10:15 – 10:30 am

III. Council of Europe Transversal Programme on Gender Equality

1. [Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023](#)

a. [Draft 2020 annual report on the implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy](#)

[Activities and measures in member states towards the achievement of the objectives of the Gender Equality Strategy](#)

Members are invited to review and adopt the [2020 draft annual report](#) which has been prepared on the basis of activities undertaken by the GEC, the Gender Equality Division and various sectors of the Council of Europe, as well as information received from member states regarding the implementation of the strategy at the national level.

Wednesday 10:30 – 10:40 am

c. Conference “Gender equality and the Istanbul Convention: a decade of action” (online) (Berlin, 11 May 2021)

Members are invited to take note of the [programme](#) and [concept note](#) of the conference “Gender equality and the Istanbul Convention: a decade of action” which is being organised in co-operation with the German Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, and which will be broadcast from Berlin on 11 May 2021.

Wednesday 10:40 – 11:10 am

d. Objective 1 – Prevent and combat gender stereotypes and sexism

Promotion of the recommendation on preventing and combating sexism

- [Committee of Ministers Recommendation on preventing and combating sexism \(CM/Rec\(2019\)1\)](#) – follow up/update on promotional activities
- Presentation of the results and outputs of the grant awarded to the European Women’s Lobby (EWL) for the promotion of the 2019 Recommendation on preventing and combating sexism, through the Project “[Mobilise against Sexism!](#)” (2020), by Joanna Maycock, Secretary General of EWL

The Secretariat will present an update of the activities regarding the promotion of the [sexism recommendation](#) since the last meeting. This will be followed by a presentation by Joanna Maycock, Secretary General of EWL, regarding the results of the Council of Europe-funded project “Mobilise against Sexism!”. This is a follow-up to the exchange with EWL which took place at the last GEC meeting.

11:10 – 11:25 am Coffee break

Wednesday 11:25 am – 12:45 pm

The place of men and boys in gender equality policies

- Presentation by Christian Mogensen, author of the report “The angry internet – A threat to gender equality, democracy & well-being” (prepared by the Centre for Digital Youth Care, in the framework of the Danish Presidency of the Nordic Council of Ministers)
- Presentation of the mapping study on the place of men and boys in women's rights and gender equality policies, by Claire Guiraud and Romain Sabathier, authors of the report

Members are invited to take note of the presentation by Christian Mogensen, author of the report [“The angry internet – A threat to gender equality, democracy & well-being”](#). Following this presentation, Claire Guiraud and Romain Sabathier will present the document GEC(2021)3 [“Report on the place of men and boys in women's rights and gender equality policies”](#). There will be an opportunity for questions and answers following each presentation.

Member will be invited to discuss the next steps to be taken by the GEC on the subject of men & boys and gender equality, including the recommendations included in the mapping study.

Wednesday 12:45 – 1:00 pm

VI. Current and future activities at national and international level

- Council of Europe gender equality agenda:
 - o German Presidency (November 2020-May 2021)
 - o Hungarian Presidency (May-November 2021)
 - o Italian Presidency (November 2021-May 2022)
 - o Icelandic Presidency (November 2022-May 2023)

Members are invited to take note of the presentations by the national representatives of [Germany](#), Hungary, Italy and Iceland, regarding the gender equality agendas during their respective forthcoming Presidencies of the Committee of Minister of the Council of Europe.

1:00 – 2:30 pm Lunch Break

Wednesday 2:30 – 3:00 pm

g. Objective 5 - Protect the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls

- Report by Vera Eloi da Fonseca, Chair of the [Drafting Committee on migrant women \(GEC-MIG\)](#)

The Chair of the Drafting Committee on migrant women will update the members about the progress and current situation regarding the preparation of the draft recommendation on migrant women. Members are invited to take note of the reports of the [2nd](#) and [3rd](#) meetings of the GEC-MIG and to provide guidance to the GEC-MIG for the work ahead.

Wednesday 3:00 – 3:30 pm

h. Objective 6 - Achieve gender mainstreaming in all policies and measures

- Gender mainstreaming in Council of Europe activities

Members are invited to take note and discuss the ongoing [gender mainstreaming activities](#) in the different sectors of the Council of Europe.

- Reports from GEC members who have participated in the following intergovernmental committee meetings:
 - Meetings of the [Ad Hoc Committee on Artificial Intelligence](#) (CAHAI) and its subordinate committees

Members are invited to take note of the report of the Estonian member, Kätlin Sander, following her participation in the different CAHAI meetings.

- Meetings of the [Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion](#) (CDADI) and its subordinate committees

Members are invited to take note of the report of the Portuguese member and GEC Chair, Andreia Lourenço Marques, following her participation in the different CD-ADI meetings and including the preparation of a new Council of Europe recommendation on hate speech.

3:30 – 3:45 pm Coffee break

Wednesday 3:45 – 4:30 pm

e. Objective 2 - Prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence

- Exchange of views with Marceline Naudi, President of the [Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence \(GREVIO\)](#)

The members are invited to have an exchange with the GREVIO President about the ongoing activities regarding the Istanbul Convention and ongoing GREVIO activities.

- Sharing experiences by states parties on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention and information on further ratifications

The members have an opportunity to exchange information about national developments and lessons learnt regarding the ratification and implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

- Comments by the GEC on the draft General Recommendation on the digital dimension of violence against women

Members are invited to discuss and adopt the revised document GEC(2021)4 “[Comments of the Gender Equality Commission on GREVIO’s draft General Recommendation on the digital dimension of violence against women](#)”. The revised document includes comments received from member states on the text of the draft general recommendation.

- Update by the Secretariat of co-operation projects undertaken by the Gender Equality Division concerning violence against women and domestic violence

Members are invited to take note of the information from the Secretariat about the ongoing [co-operation projects in the member states](#) in the area of violence against women and domestic violence.

Wednesday 4:30 – 5:00 pm

III. Council of Europe Transversal Programme on Gender Equality

1. Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023

b. COVID-19: one year on

- Report of the Seminar “Advancing Gender Equality: The role and situation for gender equality mechanisms in the context of COVID-19”

Members are invited to take note of the [publication of the report](#) of the seminar which took place online in October 2020.

- Exchange of views

Members are invited to participate in an exchange of views to discuss the situation of women’s rights and gender equality, one year on from the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, including the recommendations of the report of the online seminar held in October 2020.

CLOSE OF DAY 1

Thursday 10:00 – 10:40 am

f. Objective 3 - Ensure the equal access of women to justice

- Exchange of views with Jasa Vrabec, Chair of the Working Group on Evaluation of Judicial Systems (GT-EVAL) of the European Commission for the Efficiency of justice (CEPEJ), and presentation of the 2020 edition of the “[European judicial systems: Efficiency and quality of justice](#) (2018 data)”

Members are invited to an exchange of views with the Chair of the Working Group on Evaluation of Judicial Systems, as regards the main findings of the 2020 edition of the “European judicial systems: Efficiency and quality of justice (2018 data)” concerning gender equality, as well as other activities to promote the equal access of women to justice.

- Update by the Secretariat of co-operation projects undertaken by the Gender Equality Division concerning equal access of women to justice

Members are invited to take note of the information from the Secretariat about the ongoing co-operation projects in member states in [the area of women’s access to justice](#).

Thursday 10:40 – 11:10 am

IV. Co-operation with international/regional organisations

- Exchange of views with Irena Moozova, Director for Equality and Union Citizenship, European Commission

Members are invited to an exchange of views with the Director for Equality and Union Citizenship of the European Commission and to discuss areas of common interest for possible further co-operation.

Thursday 11:10 – 11:25 am Coffee Break

Thursday 11:25 am – 12:05 pm

II. Gender Equality Commission

- Annual exchange of views and [main priorities](#) for the GEC's Terms of Reference for 2022-2025
- GEC working methods
- [GEC Work Plan](#)

In line with the GEC [terms of reference for 2020-2021](#), members are invited to “*hold an exchange of views annually in order to evaluate its activities and advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued*”. This exchange will take into account the current working methods of the GEC and contribute to define the future terms of reference of the GEC for the **four-year period** 2022-2025.

Thursday 12:05 – 12:30 pm

IV. Co-operation with international/regional organisations

- United Nations: related activities

Members are invited to exchange information about United Nations-related activities.

- [CSW65 – Commission on the Status of Women \(New York, 15-26 March 2021\)](#)

Members are invited to share information about their online side events during the CSW this year, as well as the agreed conclusions of the 65th Session.

- [Generation Equality Forum](#) (Mexico, 29-31 March 2021; Paris, 30 June-2 July 2021)

Members are invited to take note of an update from Alexis Rinckenbach, France, about the Generation Equality Forum.

- Council of the European Union – gender equality agenda:
 - German Presidency (June-December 2020)
 - Portuguese Presidency (January-June 2021)
 - Slovenian Presidency (July-December 2021)

Members are invited to take note of the presentations from the representatives of Germany, [Portugal](#) and Slovenia, about their respective Presidencies of the Council of the European Union.

Thursday 12:30 – 12:50 pm

VI. Proposals for the agenda of the next meeting, including thematic discussions

Members are asked to make proposals for the agenda of the next GEC meeting (24-26 November 2021).

VII. Other business

Members are invited to raise any additional issues.

VIII. Dates of forthcoming meetings

- *Conference (online) "Gender equality and the Istanbul Convention: a decade of action" (Berlin, 11 May 2021)*
- *4th meeting of the GEC-MIG (Strasbourg, 27-28 April 2021)*
- *5th meeting of the GEC-MIG (Strasbourg, September/October 2021 – dates to be confirmed)*
- *20th GEC meeting (Strasbourg, 24-26 November 2021)*

Members are invited to take note of the dates of the next GEC-related meetings.

Thursday 12:50 – 1:00 pm

IX. Adoption of the abridged report of the 19th GEC meeting (14-15 April 2021)

Members are invited to adopt the draft abridged report of the 19th GEC meeting and instruct the Secretariat to submit it to the Committee of Ministers for taking note of it.

CLOSE OF MEETING