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Strasbourg, 20 December 2023

GEC (2023) 7 Report

**GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION
(GEC)**

*24th meeting
14-16 November 2023*

MEETING REPORT

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

1. Ralph Kass (Luxembourg), Chair of the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), opened the meeting and welcomed the new GEC members. He emphasised that the main point on the agenda would be to finalise consideration of the new Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 and recalled the importance of this Strategy as it will frame the work of the Council of Europe and its member States during the next six years. A highlight of the agenda would be an exchange of views with the President of European Court of Human Rights, Síoifra O'Leary and the judges in respect of Switzerland, the Republic of Moldova and the Czech Republic. Another important exchange of views would be with Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, the new President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO).

The Chair encouraged the members to express their interests for the various positions available, including for the GEC/ADI-AI and GEC/PC-eVIO subordinate bodies. He indicated that, if more time were needed to discuss the draft Strategy, other points on the agenda could be dealt with by written procedure. The list of participants is attached to this report (Appendix II) as is the abridged report (Appendix III).

2. Marja Ruotanen, Director General of Democracy and Human Dignity, congratulated the GEC on the progress achieved since its first meeting in June 2012 by helping to make Council of Europe standards more accessible and a reality on the ground. She encouraged a continued productive partnership with key partners such as the UN, the European Union and civil society.
3. The Director General reiterated that the proposed deliverables of the GEC for 2024-2027 are in line with priorities of the Reykjavik Declaration, including the need to address challenges posed by new technologies. The draft terms of reference 2024-2027 to be adopted imminently by the Committee of Ministers include two draft Recommendations, one on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (GEC/PC-eVIO), and one on the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on equality including gender equality and discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI).
4. Claudia Luciani, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, conveyed her appreciation for the work of the GEC throughout the years she has worked with them. She reiterated the importance of the work on AI bias and on technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. She informed the GEC that she would be taking on new functions as of January 2024 and wished them all the best in their future work. On behalf of all the GEC members, the Chair thanked Claudia Luciani for her support of GEC's work over the last years and wished her all the best in her new professional challenge.
5. The GEC adopted the draft agenda as it appears in Appendix I to this report.

2. Report from the GEC Chair

6. The GEC took note of the information from the Chair about his activities since the last meeting on 24-26 May 2023 including about the GEC Bureau meetings.

3. Exchange of views with Síofra O’Leary, President of the European Court of Human Rights and Judges Andreas Zünd (Switzerland), Kateřina Šimáčková (Czech Republic) and Diana Sarcu (Republic of Moldova)

7. Síofra O’Leary, President of the European Court of Human Rights, emphasised that the Court does not work in a vacuum and needs to exchange with non-judicial bodies; she stated that the work of the GEC bridges the gap between policy and social and legal reality.
8. The President underlined that gender-based violence and domestic violence are not explicitly mentioned in the European Convention for Human Rights (ECHR) but they fall within the context of Articles 2, 3, 8 and 14 and equal protection before the law. Very weighty reasons must be established before a difference of treatment on grounds of sex can be regarded as compatible with the ECHR and references to traditions, general assumptions, prevailing social attitudes, or stereotypical understandings are insufficient justifications for a difference in treatment on grounds of sex.
9. The President stressed the positive obligation of the State to protect individuals against risks or threats to their life; reasonable measures must be taken by the State. In case of allegations of domestic violence, the State must respond immediately, otherwise there can be a sense of impunity and a risk of escalation in the violence. The State would be held responsible for its actions or failure to act when attention on the allegations was brought to the State and it remained passive.
10. The President recalled that these issues are issues that affect all member States. She touched upon relevant recent case-law: *Jurčić v. Croatia*,¹ *Kurt v. Austria*,² *A.E. v. Bulgaria*,³ *Landi v. Italy*.⁴
11. President O’Leary stated that at present there is limited case-law related to artificial intelligence systems impacting equality including gender equality as victims must first exhaust national remedies. She did mention *Volodina v. Russia*,⁵ in which the State had failed to protect domestic abuse victim from her partner’s cyberviolence, and *Buturugă v. Romania*,⁶ in which the State failed to respond to a woman’s complaints of domestic violence and cyberbullying by her former husband. The President recalled that the Convention is a living instrument and new developments would inevitably come. Other relevant instruments, including the Istanbul Convention, would continue to be referred to.
12. The President insisted that courts and national authorities must keep in mind that victims of violence have to navigate a complex criminal justice system designed by and for law enforcement officers and legal professionals at what is probably the most vulnerable point in their lives. She also underlined that statistics show that most complaints are filed by men, which indicates that women’s access to justice still needs to be improved.

¹ *Jurčić v. Croatia*, no. 54711/15, § 63, 4 February 2021.

² *Kurt v. Austria* [GC], no. 62903/15, 15 June 2021.

³ *A.E. v. Bulgaria*, no. 53891/20, 23 May 2023

⁴ *Landi v. Italy*, no. 10929/19, 7 April 2022.

⁵ *Volodina v. Russia (No 2)*, no. 40419/19, 14 September 2021.

⁶ *Buturugă v. Romania*, no. 56867/15, 11 February 2020.

13. During the discussion with the GEC members, questions were raised on how to improve the awareness of the judicial systems on existing gender inequalities and equal access to justice of women, including women with disabilities, and on how to ensure effective redress at national levels. It was recalled that gender equality issues are not a “women’s” problem, but for society as a whole to grapple with. Women are not, nor should they be treated as a vulnerable minority. The importance to ensure balanced composition of the bench, but also to further train legal professionals, including judges, on gender equality, gender-based violence and domestic violence was mentioned.
 14. Judge Zünd highlighted the importance of increasing investigation and prosecution capacities, in particular in cases of cyberviolence. Judge Sarcu mentioned *Luca v. Republic of Moldova*⁷ in which the State failed to protect the applicant from psychological violence, which was not considered to constitute domestic violence. Judge Šimáčková underlined the challenge of transforming legal approaches in spite of the subsidiarity principle, the need for judges, including women, to be able to identify systemic problems and avoid secondary victimization, and to ensure victim’s access to specialised legal aid.
 15. The GEC took note that there is a gender equality strategy within the Court and that currently 17 women out of 46 judges are women. To ensure gender-balance on the Court, States are also asked to put forward at least one candidate from each sex. Single-sex lists of candidates are only accepted when the candidates belong to the sex which is under-represented in the Court (i.e. the sex to which under 40% of the total number of judges belong), unless the Committee on the Election of Judges finds by a majority of two-thirds that exceptional circumstances justify an exception.⁸ The Court’s registrar is a woman - the first in the Court’s history - and three deputy registrars have been women.
 16. The Chair thanked the President of the Court and her fellow judges for their presentations and the honest and valuable exchanges. He expressed the GEC’s continued interest in supporting the work of the Court through the development of relevant standards, including future recommendations on artificial intelligence and equality including gender equality and on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.
4. **Election of the Chair, Vice-Chair and Member of the Gender Equality Commission**
21. The GEC re-elected Ralph Kass (Luxembourg) as Chair and Maria Ellul (Malta) as Vice-Chair until 31 December 2024, and elected Sara Slana (Slovenia) as Bureau member until 31 December 2025.
5. **Draft Terms of reference of the GEC 2024-2027**
22. The Secretariat presented the draft terms of reference 2024-2027 to be adopted in the context of the Council of Europe Programme and Budget. As with all Steering committees, new main tasks were included. The GEC would be asked to take into account the Reykjavik Declaration, including the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy, and to contribute to their implementation; reference was also made to strengthening meaningful engagement with civil society organisations and national human rights institutions. Novelties included the frequency of reporting on the Gender Equality Strategy (every two years rather than yearly) and a compilation of best practices of member States on the involvement of men and boys in gender equality policies.

⁷ *Luca v. The Republic of Moldova*, no. 55351/17, 17 October 2023.

⁸ [Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights.](#)

23. The GEC took note of the information provided by the Secretariat. One delegation expressed its support for the new deliverable to follow up on the guidelines on the place of men and boys in gender equality policies but also expressed concerns about the limited resources allocated to the GEC and the Secretariat to carry out its work and complete the expected deliverables. The Secretariat reassured the GEC that the resources allocated had not been reduced and should allow for the completion of the deliverables.
 24. The Secretariat informed the GEC that a new call for secondment would be launched in the coming weeks in particular to support the development of a campaign to deflect the anti-gender narrative.
 25. The Secretariat presented the two new subordinate bodies to be set up by the GEC: one jointly with the CDADI (GEC/ADI-AI) to draft a Recommendation on the impact of AI systems, their potential for promoting equality – including gender equality – and the risks they may cause in relation to non-discrimination, and one jointly with the CDPC (GEC/PC-eVIO) to draft a Recommendation on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. The composition of the committees and the proposed timeline of work were shared. One delegation raised the issue of having the first meeting of the GEC/PC-eVIO in March as it may conflict with the dates of the CSW68 (11 to 22 March 2024); the Secretariat informed the GEC that the date may be changed to May 2024.
 26. The GEC appointed representatives from Austria, Czech Republic, Luxembourg and Norway as members of the Committee of experts on artificial intelligence, equality and discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI) whose travel and per diem will be covered by the Council of Europe and took note that Switzerland would participate at its own cost.
 27. The GEC appointed representatives from Belgium, Iceland, Portugal and Türkiye as members of the Committee of experts on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (GEC/PC-eVIO) whose travel and per diem will be covered by the Council of Europe.
- 6. Appointment of rapporteurs on mainstreamed perspectives and a focal point on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) issues**
28. The GEC appointed Elena Groždanova (North Macedonia) as Rapporteur on Roma and Traveller issues, Stefania Chiru (France) as Rapporteur on children's rights, Andreia Lourenço Marques (Portugal) as Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and asked the Bureau to appoint a Rapporteur on youth.
 29. The GEC invited members to express their interest in the role of focal point on sexual orientation and gender identity issues.

7. Council of Europe Transversal Programme on Gender Equality

1. Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023

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

- Report on the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism GEC (2023)4
30. The Secretariat recalled the process for the preparation of the report on the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism in the member States and presented the main findings and recommendations of the report. Twenty-eight member States and nine NGOs provided answers to the questions. The Secretariat also explained that an action page and resources were available to member States.
 31. The Chair stressed the importance of the Recommendation which was the first international instrument to give a legal definition of sexism and gave visibility to this widespread phenomenon. The Recommendation should be understood as a toolbox for member States. The Chair expressed also his satisfaction on the outcome of the report as it comprises useful information and recommendations on how to implement the recommendation and to intensify the fight against sexism in its different dimensions.
 32. Several delegations expressed their interest in learning from each other through the promising initiatives included in the report. Some of these initiatives could be presented more in detail during the next GEC plenary meeting.
 33. The Secretariat reminded the GEC that a thematic report on the Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism was to be delivered in 2026 and that the focus should be discussed at a future meeting.
 34. The GEC approved the Report of the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism and instructed the Secretariat to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers for information.

b. Objective 2 – Prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence

- Exchange of views with Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)
35. The GEC held an exchange of views with Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, the new President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO).
 36. The President of GREVIO expressed her appreciation of the good co-operation between the GEC and GREVIO. She reported to the GEC about certain developments featured in GREVIO's 4th General Report of activities.

37. In particular, nine baseline evaluation reports (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Iceland, Norway, Romania and Switzerland) and seven additional reports (Croatia, Greece, Ireland, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, and the Republic of Moldova) were adopted in 2023. The baseline evaluation cycle will be finalised once the United Kingdom, Ukraine, and the European Union are evaluated.
38. The President of GREVIO announced that the new evaluation round launched in 2023 focuses on the theme of “Building trust by delivering support, protection and justice”. The new questionnaire addresses 19 provisions of the Istanbul Convention and aims to identify developments, since the first baseline evaluation, in key areas such as comprehensive and co-ordinated policies and funding and data collection. The first evaluation reports of the new round will be published in 2024 and five more visits will take place in early 2024 (Finland, Montenegro, Portugal, Sweden and Spain).
39. The GEC took note that GREVIO chaired the Platform of Independent Expert Mechanisms on Discrimination and Violence against Women (the EDVAW Platform) in 2022, and that they focused on the digital dimension of violence against women during their mandate.
40. The GEC took note that the EU acceded to the Istanbul Convention in June 2023 entering into force in October 2023; and that Tunisia and Mexico have expressed interest in becoming Parties to the Istanbul Convention.
41. An exchange followed with GEC members who asked how GREVIO would conduct the evaluation of the EU. The President of GREVIO explained that a working group is developing the methodology for the evaluation of the EU.
42. The GREVIO President called on the GEC to showcase good practices in the implementation of the Istanbul Convention on the occasion of the 10th anniversary, in 2024, of its entry into force.
 - Sharing experiences by States Parties on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention and information on further ratifications
43. The GEC took note of the information provided by **Latvia** on progress concerning ratification of the Istanbul Convention. The ratification of the law is currently under discussion in Parliament but significant opposition persists, with an ongoing public discussion on what ratification will mean for Latvia. **Poland** has made amendments to its Criminal Code with regard to genital mutilation and to recording the testimonies of children to prevent their re-victimisation. **Ukraine** has strengthened its criminal and civil legislation. State budgets will include a subvention to support services and institutions working with survivors of gender-based violence and domestic violence and a new department working on gender-based violence and sexual violence as consequences of the war has been established. The **Czech Republic** informed that a vote would take place in January 2024 on the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. The **Republic of Moldova** had approved its 2nd national programme on combatting gender-based violence and domestic violence, including the digital and technological dimension of violence against women. **Lithuania** reported that its constitutional court was evaluating the compatibility of some provisions of the Istanbul Convention with its national legislation. **Croatia** reported that the Ministry of Justice was drafting amendments to the Criminal Code and the addition of femicide could be adopted in December 2023. **Belgium** reported that femicide was now included in its criminal law.

- Update by the Secretariat of co-operation projects undertaken by the Gender Equality Division concerning violence against women and domestic violence
44. The Secretariat presented an overview of the on-going co-operation activities carried out in the fields of violence against women and domestic violence namely the upcoming projects in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. In addition, a gap analysis was being carried out in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in the Republic of Moldova on the alignment with the Istanbul Convention and GREVIO General Recommendation no.1 on the digital dimension of violence against women.

c. Objective 3 – Ensure the equal access of women to justice

45. The Secretariat presented developments regarding co-operation projects in Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo*⁹, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Ukraine and Türkiye on women's access to justice. All interventions, targeting primarily legal professionals, were aimed to remove barriers women encounter in accessing justice and to strengthen legal professionals' competences in ensuring equal access to justice in line with Council of Europe standards, in particular the Istanbul Convention.
46. The GEC took note of the information from the Secretariat about the various activities being undertaken in the field of women's access to justice. Morocco informed the GEC about recent developments in its Family Code and the creation of the OJSG (Observatory of gender-sensitive Justice) within the Ministry of Justice, which is responsible for an Action Plan to ensure and improve women's access to justice; and the establishment of a national consultative platform on women's access to justice.

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

- Committee of Ministers Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls – update on translations, dissemination and promotion
47. The GEC took note of the information provided, in particular as regards possible closer synergies to promote implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)17 on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women. Member States were invited to approach the Secretariat if they were interested in taking part in cooperation activities be it as donor or beneficiary.

⁹ *This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on Kosovo Declaration of Independence

Objective 6 - Achieve gender mainstreaming in all policies and measures

- Gender mainstreaming in Council of Europe activities
48. The Secretariat informed the GEC about the ongoing gender mainstreaming activities within the different sectors of the Council of Europe. It was recalled that some GEC members, supported by the Secretariat, participated in the work of certain steering committees, currently the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), the Committee of Experts on Hate Crime (PC/ADI-CH), the Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM) and the Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Violence against Children (ENF-VAE). The aim was to ensure gender mainstreaming in other intergovernmental work but this participation also showed that more and more sectors were working on specific standards relating to gender equality in their areas.
 49. The Secretariat stressed new developments in the sport sector with the continuation of the gender equality project entitled ALL-IN PLUS (until February 2025 and involving 25 member states). The project focused on data collection, collecting promising practices and promoting women's sport through the media. Other examples of continued gender mainstreaming work included the sectors working on anti-doping and on legal cooperation.
 50. The Secretariat informed the GEC that a training session for Gender Equality Rapporteurs (GERs) took place at the end of September 2023. An extract was presented from the Council of Europe's soon to be launched online course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming, which it is hoped will be mandatory for Council of Europe staff. The course should be available online on the HELP platform in the first half of 2024. While it primarily targets Council of Europe staff and experts, it may also be useful more broadly. Explanation was given on the methodology of the course as a self-learning tool. Translation and adaptation in other languages will be possible within Council of Europe cooperation projects or by national authorities. Ukraine and Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed interest in a possible translation of the course.
 51. The GEC took note of the presentation by the Secretariat about ongoing gender mainstreaming in the Council of Europe activities.
 - Reports from members of the GEC and Secretariat who have participated in the following meetings of Council of Europe bodies:
 - Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) and its subordinate committee, the Committee of Experts on Hate Crime (PC/ADI-CH)
 52. The GEC took note of the report by Andreia Lourenço Marques (Portugal) about the draft Recommendation on the active political participation of national minority youth prepared by the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI). She indicated that a gender equality perspective was integrated in the text. Andreia Lourenço Marques also contributed to the work of the CDADI regarding a "Feasibility study and a possible new legal and/or benchmarking instrument on comprehensive strategies for inclusion" in order to integrate a gender equality perspective. Regarding the preparation of a draft Recommendation on combating hate crime, the GEC submitted comments in July 2023, in order to make the text more gender-sensitive. Most proposals were accepted by PC/ADI-CH.

- Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM, subordinate body of CDADI) – preparation of a draft Recommendation on equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls
53. The GEC took note of the information provided by Elena Groždanova (North Macedonia) regarding the preparation of the draft Recommendation on equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls. Elena Groždanova explained that she participated in two meetings of the drafting committee and gave input to the text, notably to ensure the inclusion of relevant gender equality-related standards. The draft Recommendation was completed and would be presented to the CDADI for adoption. Once adopted by the Committee of Ministers in 2024, it would be interesting for GEC members to disseminate and use it at national level. Elena Groždanova also informed the GEC about her planned participation in the 9th Roma Women Conference in Skopje (North Macedonia) in December 2023, dedicated to the empowerment of Roma and Traveller women through the implementation of the soon to be adopted Recommendation on Equality for Roma and Traveller Women and Girls.
- Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Violence (ENF-VAE) – work on violence against children and comprehensive sexuality education
54. The GEC took note of the information provided by Sara Slana (Slovenia) on the work of the Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Violence (ENF-VAE), which is a subordinate body of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) dealing with violence against children and comprehensive sexuality education. Sara Slana participated in the second meeting of the Committee and gave input on a “Feasibility study on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education to strengthen responses for - inter alia - preventing and combating violence, including risky or harmful sexual behaviour by children” and on a draft questionnaire in view of the “Implementation review report on Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)10 on Council of Europe policy guidelines on integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence, including the development of model prevention approaches”. The study included comprehensive data highlighting the gendered nature of violence against children, but the gender equality perspective, the specific needs and situation of girls, as well as information about the Istanbul Convention were otherwise not properly included in the documents. These issues were highlighted by Sara Slana during the meeting and in subsequent written comments to the documents. Sara Slana suggested that GEC members contact their counterparts in CDENF to support the inclusion of a gender perspective in the work of ENF-VAE.
- Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI) preparation of a draft [Framework] Convention on Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights, Democracy, and the Rule of Law.
55. The GEC took note of the information provided by Radan Safarik (Czech Republic) regarding the work of the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI). Radan Safarik participated in the 7th plenary meeting of the CAI. He recalled that the draft Convention would be a key document and that artificial intelligence has strong gender equality-related impacts, including discriminatory impacts. The Convention was to be finalised by May 2024. Two provisions referred to equality, including gender equality and discrimination (Articles 9 and 17), but negotiations were still ongoing. Further advocacy would be needed, in order for these references to be retained in the final draft.

Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029

56. The Chair recalled that, in accordance with its terms of reference, the GEC has been mandated to develop a third Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy for the period 2024-2029.
57. The Chair recalled that at its 23rd plenary meeting on 24-26 May 2023, the GEC had agreed on the overall structure of the draft Strategy and had revised the text of parts I and II and the 2 first objectives under part III (up to paragraph 58). The GEC had also agreed that issues on which agreement was reached would not be reopened (cf. full report of the 23rd GEC plenary meeting). A revised consolidated version of the draft Strategy was sent out on 20 October. The Chair explained that the amendments adopted during the last plenary were no longer visible and that the proposals made by the Secretariat as per the GEC's request and references to the Reykjavik Declaration were in bold and underlined.
58. The Secretariat briefly presented these proposals, in particular the insertion of Box 1 after paragraph 3 on the inclusive and intersectional approach of the Strategy, the simplification of paragraphs 19 and 48 in line with box 1, as well as adjustments to paragraphs 25, 44, 54 and 58.
59. The Chair proposed the following methodology for consideration of the text: to start the discussion at paragraph 59 and to continue until the end of the text and then to come back to the additions in bold up to paragraph 58. The GEC approved the proposal made by the Chair, who encouraged members to carry on working in the same constructive atmosphere.
60. The Chair then guided the GEC through the text, paragraph by paragraph, opening discussions on the proposed amendments. The following is a summary of those discussions.
61. Several members highlighted the importance of being consistent when listing the different personal characteristics or statuses of persons, while acknowledging that the list may vary depending on the area/ strategic objective. The GEC agreed to remove the words "racialised" and "racial" throughout the text; where relevant these words would be replaced by "belonging to national, ethnic or religious minorities".
62. Data collection was discussed under several objectives. Several delegations stressed the difficulty to collect disaggregated data by ethnicity, sexual expression, gender identity or other characteristics due to legal and practical constraints at national level. The GEC agreed to include "by sex and age". The other characteristics could be covered through research where relevant.
63. On the subject of access to justice for women and girls, some delegations questioned the reference to interagency coordination mechanisms to respond to child abuse cases in an efficient, timely and child-friendly manner. While supporting such mechanisms, it was decided not to include a specific mention. This aspect would be covered where relevant through the mainstreaming of children's rights, in line with the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child.

64. One delegation (Hungary) proposed throughout the text to refer to “sexual and reproductive health and reproductive rights” instead of “sexual and reproductive health and rights”. However the majority of delegations supported the original wording, as it is agreed language at European and international levels.
65. Two delegations (Malta and Poland) expressed a reservation on the reference to “safe and legal abortion” in paragraph 73, while not opposing the adoption of the text. The GEC took note of the statement by a participant (the Holy See) that abortion is not a fundamental or human right. The Secretariat proposed to requalify this right as a basic right.
66. The expression “political violence against women” was replaced by “violence against women in politics”.
67. One delegation proposed to aim for decision-making processes that are “gender-transformative”. Other delegations supported the proposal with the addition of a footnote with a definition. The UNFPA definition indicates that “gender transformative approaches seek to challenge gender inequality by transforming harmful gender norms, roles and relations, while working towards redistributing power, resources, and services more equally” (2023). Reference to gender-transformative standards was also included in paragraph 82.
68. Several delegations suggested adding “sexual violence” to “gender-based violence” where relevant (“sexual and gender-based violence”). As agreed in May, “against women and girls” was added after “gender-based violence” where appropriate.
69. Several delegations asked for the addition of a paragraph on resources to implement the Gender Equality Strategy (2024-2029) and support the achievement of its ambitious objectives (paragraph 95).
70. Several delegations agreed that partners of the Strategy should also include academic, educational and research institutions. To encapsulate the broad variety of civil society actors, reference was made to “women human rights defenders, women’s and feminist organisations and other civil society organisations specialising in women’s rights and gender equality issues”.
71. Two non-member States suggested to add a reference to the possible contribution of non-member States, with or without Observer status, through sharing of best practices.
72. After reaching the end of the text, the new proposals in bold paragraphs 1 to 58 were discussed. The proposal to insert box 1 “A gender equal Europe for everyone” to clarify certain terms and expressions used throughout the text found a large support among delegations. The amended text was approved.

73. Two delegations (Bulgaria and Hungary) expressed a reservation about using the words sex and gender in the same sentence. Another delegation (Türkiye) reiterated the view that the Strategy should focus on issues regarding women and girls and that the text includes an unbalanced amount of language on LGBTQI persons.
74. The remainder of the proposed amendments in bold were accepted.
75. One delegation asked to adjust the reference made to the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine in paragraph 55 in line with agreed language.
76. The Chair concluded the discussion and asked the GEC to approve the text as amended during the discussion. The draft Strategy was unanimously approved. The Chair thanked all members for their constructive approach to discussion and approval of the draft Strategy.
77. The GEC instructed the Secretariat to transmit the document to the Committee of Ministers for its examination and adoption.
78. The Secretariat informed the GEC that the document would be sent to the Committee of Ministers at the beginning of 2024 after editorial revision by the relevant in-house services.

8. Co-operation with international/regional organisations

- Council of the European Union – gender equality agenda:

79. The GEC took note of the information provided by Elisabeth White (Sweden) and Carine Joly (Belgium) about the gender equality programme of their respective presidencies of the Council of the European Union.
80. The GEC took note of the information presented by the representative of EIGE, including on the 2023 Gender Equality Index and the forthcoming EIGE / FRA / EUROSTAT survey on gender-based violence.

9. Current and future activities at national and international level

81. The GEC took note of the information provided by the representatives of Latvia and Liechtenstein about the gender equality programme of their respective presidencies of the Committee of Ministers and looked forward to hearing about the priorities of Lithuania at the next GEC meeting in April 2024.

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

82. Members were invited to make proposals for the agenda of the next GEC meeting.
83. The GEC took note of the proposals to include in its meeting agenda: exchanges of views with ODIHR, CEDAW, the Chair of ECRI, the Vice President of the European Parliament, and the presentation of promising practices on measures to combat sexism, included or not in the report of the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism (GEC(2023)4).

11. Other business

84. No other point was raised.

12. Dates of forthcoming meetings

85. The GEC agreed on the dates of the 25th GEC meeting (16-18 April 2024) and the 26th GEC meeting (19-21 November 2024) both to be held in Strasbourg.

13. Adoption of the abridged report of the 24th GEC meeting (14-16 November 2023)

86. The GEC agreed on the abridged report of the meeting and instructed the Secretariat to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers for note to be taken of it.

APPENDIX I

Agenda

1. **Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda**
 - *Draft agenda* *GEC(2023)OJ2*
2. **Report from the Chair of the GEC**
3. **Exchange of views with Siofra O’Leary, President of the European Court of Human Rights**
4. **Election of Bureau (Chair, Vice-Chair and Member) of the GEC**
5. **Draft terms of reference of the GEC 2024-2027** *Draft terms of reference*
 - Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI)- designation of experts¹⁰
 - Committee of Experts on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (GEC/PC-eVIO) - designation of experts¹
6. **Appointment of rapporteurs on mainstreamed perspectives and a focal point on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) issues**
7. **Council of Europe Transversal Programme on Gender Equality**
 - 7.1 Gender Equality Strategy (2018-2023)
 - a. Objective 1 – Prevent and combat gender stereotypes and sexism
 - Report of the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism *GEC(2023)4*
 - b. Objective 2 – Prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence
 - Exchange of views with Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)
 - Sharing experiences by States parties on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention and information on further ratifications
 - Update by the Secretariat of co-operation projects undertaken by the Gender Equality Division concerning violence against women and domestic violence
 - c. Objective 3 – Ensure the equal access of women to justice
 - Update by the Secretariat on co-operation projects on women’s access to justice
 - d. Objective 5 - Protect the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls
 - Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)17 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls – update on translations, dissemination, promotion and cooperation activities

¹⁰ Subject to the adoption by the Committee of Ministers of the terms of reference 2024-2025.

- e. Objective 6 - Achieve gender mainstreaming in all policies and measures
 - Gender mainstreaming in Council of Europe activities
 - Reports from members of the GEC, experts and Secretariat who have participated in meetings of Council of Europe bodies

7.2 Draft Gender Equality Strategy (2024-2029)

GEC(2023)02 rev

8. Co-operation with international/regional organisations

- Council of the European Union – gender equality agenda:
 - o Swedish Presidency (January – June 2023)
 - o Spanish Presidency (July - December 2023)
 - o Belgium Presidency (January - June 2024)

9. Current and future activities at national and international level

- Gender equality agendas of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers Presidencies:
 - o Latvia (May - November 2023)
 - o Liechtenstein (November 2023 - May 2024)
 - o Lithuania (May - November 2024)
- 68th session of the Commission on the Status of Women CSW68 (New York, 11-22 March 2024)
- Annual GEC conference 2024

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

11. Other business

12. Dates of forthcoming meetings

- 25th meeting of the Gender Equality Commission: Strasbourg, 16-18 April 2024
- 26th meeting of the Gender Equality Commission: 19-21 November 2024

13. Adoption of the abridged report of the 24th GEC meeting (14-16 November 2023)

Calendar of forthcoming events and meetings

- 25th meeting of the Gender Equality Commission: Strasbourg, 16-18 April 2024
- 26th meeting of the Gender Equality Commission: 19-21 November 2024

APPENDIX II**List of Participants****Members/Membres**

Albania	Etleva Sheshi Director Directorate of Social Inclusion and Gender Equality Policies General Directorate of Social Protection Ministry of Health and Social Protection	<i>No reply</i>
Andorra	Mireia Porrás García Head of the Equality Policies Department, Ministry of Social Affairs	
Armenia	Armine Hovhannisyan Deputy to the Permanent Representative of Armenia	
Austria	Laura Christandl Federal Ministry of Labour International and European Social Policy and Labour Law Unit	
Azerbaijan	Sadagat Rahimova Leading adviser of the Gender and Women Issues Department State Committee for Family, Women and Children's Affairs	
Belgium	Carine Joly Adviser Institute for Gender Equality	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Samra Filipović Hadžić Director Agency for Gender Equality Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees	
Bulgaria	Irina Ivanova Head of Unit Equal Opportunities, Antidiscrimination and Social Assistance Benefits Ministry of Labour and Social Policy	
Croatia	Maja Sporiš Adviser, Government Office for Gender Equality	
Cyprus	Niovi Georgiade Officer, Office of Commissioner for Gender Equality	
Czech Republic	Radan Šafařík Head of the Secretariat of the Government Council for Equality of Women and Men Acting Director of the Gender Equality Department Kristina Kabzanova Desk Officer Gender Equality Department Office of the Czech Government	
Denmark	Kira Appel Deputy Head of Department/Chief Consultant Department for Gender Equality Ministry of Digital Government and Gender Equality	

Estonia	Lee Maripuu Head of Gender Equality Policy Ministry of Social Affairs
France	Stefania Chiru European and International Affairs Office Directorate General of Social Cohesion Ministry of Solidarity/Ministry Delegate for Gender Equality
	Anaïs Kintgen Policy Officer on International Affairs, Parliamentary Monitoring and Impact Studies European and International Affairs Office Directorate General of Social Cohesion Ministry of Solidarity/Ministry Delegate for Gender Equality
Finland	Tony Paso Deputy Permanent Representative
	Iiris Jokinen Trainee
Georgia	Ketevan Chemia First Secretary Permanent Representation of Georgia to the Council of Europe
	Ekaterine Zodelava Deputy to the Permanent Representative
Germany	Alexander Sopp <i>Excused</i> Senior Legal Officer Division for European and International Gender Equality Policy Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Woman and Youth
Greece	Eleni Ntalaka Policy Officer-Independent Department of European and International Cooperation General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family
Hungary	Dóra Tonté Senior Adviser Women's Policy Unit Department for Adoption and Women's Policy Ministry of Culture and Innovation
	Olivér Varga Permanent Representation of Hungary to the Council of Europe
Iceland	Tryggvi Hallgrímsson Special Adviser Directorate of Equality Department of Equality and Human Rights, Prime Minister's Office
Ireland	Deirdre Ní Néill Assistant Principal Officer Inclusion, Equality and Gender Equality Unit, Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth
Italy	Stefano Pizzicannella <i>Excused</i> Director, Office for International and General Affairs, Department for Equal Opportunities

Latvia	Agnese Gaile Senior Expert Department of Social Policy Planning and Development Ministry of Welfare
Liechtenstein	<i>Excused</i> Awaiting nomination
Lithuania	Sandra Čergelytė Equal Opportunities and Women and Men Equality Group Ministry of Social Security and Labour
Luxembourg	Ralph Kass (Chair) Senior Advisor 1st Class Ministry of Gender Equality and Diversity Christopher Witry Attaché Ministry of Gender Equality and Diversity
Malta	Abigail Brooke Manager I Human Rights Directorate Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance
Republic of Moldova	Lilia Pascal Head, Division of Policy for ensuring Gender Equality Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
Monaco	Margaux Girardin Trainee Directorate of Human Resources and Training of the Public Service
Montenegro	<i>Excused</i> Biljana Pejović Head of the Gender Equality Department Ministry for Human and Minority Rights
The Netherlands	Lisanne Post Senior Policy Officer Directorate for Gender Equality and LGBTIQ+ Equality Ministry of Education, Culture and Science Lisette Kuyper Head of Unit Directorate for Gender Equality and LGBTIQ+ Equality Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
North Macedonia	Elena Grozdanova State Counsellor for Equal Opportunity Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
Norway	Tori Loven Kirkebø Adviser Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs
Poland	Pawel Kosmulski Head of the Equal Treatment and Human Rights Unit Ministry of Family and Social Policy
Portugal	Andreia Lourenço Marques International Relations Adviser Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality

Romania	Ramona Maria Ciucă Deputy to the Permanent Representative
San Marino	Gloria Valentini <i>Excused</i> Second Secretary to the Department of Foreign Affairs
Serbia	Gordana Predić Special Advisor to the Vice Prime Minister and the Minister of Culture Aleksandar Dzeletović Expert associate in Coordination Body for Gender Equality to the Government of the Republic of Serbia
Slovak Republic	Marián Lizanec <i>Excused</i> Principal State Adviser Department of Gender Equality and Equal opportunities Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and the Family
Slovenia	Sara Slana Secretary Equal Opportunities Department Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities
Spain	Lara Ferguson Vázquez de Parga <i>Excused</i> Senior Adviser Director's Support Unit Institute of Women State Secretariat for Equality and against Gender Violence, Ministry of Equality
Sweden	Elisabeth White Deputy Director Ministry of Employment, Division for Gender Equality
Switzerland	Sandra Lengwiler International Affairs Officer Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA, Federal Office for Gender Equality FOGÉ Sylvie Durrer Director Federal Department of Home Affairs FDHA, Federal Office for Gender Equality FOGÉ
Türkiye	Onur Dinçer Expert on Family and Social Policy General Directorate on the Status of Women Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Affairs
Ukraine	Kateryna Levchenko Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy Olga Dunebabina Communication manager, La Strada-Ukraine
United Kingdom	Charles Ramsden Head, International Policy Government Equalities Office

Participants

Conference on INGOs	Bettina Hahne Rapporteur
Group of Experts on Action Against Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)	Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou President, GREVIO
European Court of Human Rights	<p>Síofra O’Leary President (Ireland)</p> <p>Diana Sârcu Judge (Republic of Moldova)</p> <p>Kateřina Šimáčková Judge (Czech Republic)</p> <p>Andreas Zund Judge (Switzerland)</p> <p>Rachel Kondak Adviser, Private Office of the President</p> <p>Valérie Albus Trainee, Private Office of the President</p>
European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)	<p>Carlien Scheele Director</p> <p>Dennis van der Veur Head of Outreach and Engagement Unit</p>

Non-member States having observer status with the Council of Europe

Holy See	Anne-Julie Kerhuel Section for Relations with States
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Observers

EL*C - Eurocentralasian Lesbian Community	Ilaria Todde Advocacy Director Anastasiia Danilova Advocacy and Community Engagement Manager
University Women Europe	Anne Nègre President
WAVE Network (Women Against Violence Europe)	Anca Ciupa Senior Manager

Non-member states

Morocco	Fatima Barkan Adviser to the Private Office of the Minister of Justice Ministry of Justice
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Secretariat

Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity

Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity	Marja Ruotanen Director General
Directorate of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance	Claudia Luciani Director
Human Dignity and Gender Equality Department	Roberto Olla Head of Department
Gender Equality Division	Caterina Bolognese Head of Division Camille Gangloff Head of Unit/ Secretary to the GEC Valerie Poppe Principal Administrative Assistant/Co-Secretary to the GEC Cécile Gréboval Programme Manager, Senior Gender Equality Adviser Evrydiki Tseliou Administrative Assistant Anne Brunellière Division Assistant

	<p>Co-operation Unit</p> <p>Marta Bercerra Project Manager/Head of Unit</p> <p>Anca Sandescu Project Manager</p>
Violence against women division	<p>Carolina Lasén-Diaz Head of Division</p> <p>Sara Prifti Trainee</p>

Directorate General of Administration/Direction Générale de l'administration

Interpretation, Travel, Events and Multimedia	<p>Morgane Lamothe Interpreter</p> <p>Isabelle Marchini Interpreter</p> <p>Sarah Linder Technician</p>
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APPENDIX 3

ABRIDGED REPORT

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the Agenda

The Gender Equality Commission (GEC) held its 24th meeting in Strasbourg from 14 to 16 November 2023, with Ralph Kass (Luxembourg) as Chair.

The agenda of the meeting is contained in Appendix 1.

Items for decision by the Committee of Ministers

At this meeting, the GEC:

- further examined and approved the draft Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 as revised during the meeting and instructed the Secretariat to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers for consideration with a view to its adoption;
- approved the report on the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism and instructed the Secretariat to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers for information.

Items for information of the Committee of Ministers

The GEC:

- re-elected Ralph Kass (Luxembourg) as Chair and Maria Ellul (Malta) as Vice-Chair until 31/12/2024, and elected Sara Slana (Slovenia) as Bureau member until 31/12/2025;
- appointed representatives from Austria, Czech Republic, Luxembourg and Norway as members of the Committee of experts on artificial intelligence, equality and discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI) and took note that Switzerland would participate at its own cost;
- appointed representatives from Belgium, Iceland, Portugal and Türkiye as members of the Committee of experts on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (GEC/PC-eVIO);

RAPPORT ABRÉGÉ

Ouverture de la réunion et adoption de l'ordre du jour

La Commission pour l'égalité de genre (GEC) a tenu sa 24^{ème} réunion à Strasbourg du 14 au 16 novembre 2023, sous la présidence de Ralph Kass (Luxembourg).

L'ordre du jour de la réunion figure à l'annexe 1.

Points pour décision du Comité des Ministres

Lors de cette réunion, la GEC :

- poursuit l'examen et approuve le projet de Stratégie pour l'égalité de genre 2024-2029 tel que révisé au cours de la réunion et charge le Secrétariat de le transmettre au Comité des Ministres pour examen en vue de son adoption ;
- approuve le rapport d'examen de la mise en œuvre de la Recommandation CM/Rec(2019)1 sur la prévention et la lutte contre le sexisme et charge le Secrétariat de le transmettre au Comité des Ministres pour information.

Points pour information du Comité des Ministres

La GEC :

- ré-élit Ralph Kass (Luxembourg) en qualité de président et Maria Ellul (Malte) en qualité de vice-présidente jusqu'au 31/12/2024, et élit Sara Slana (Slovénie) en tant que membre du Bureau jusqu'au 31/12/2025 ;
- nomme des représentant·es de l'Autriche, de la République tchèque, du Luxembourg et de la Norvège en tant que membres du Comité d'expert·es sur l'intelligence artificielle, l'égalité et la discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI) et prend note de la participation de la Suisse à ses frais ;
- nomme des représentant·es de la Belgique, de l'Islande, du Portugal et de la Türkiye en tant que membres du Comité d'expert·es sur la lutte contre la violence à l'égard des femmes et des filles facilitée par la technologie (GEC/PC-eVIO) ;

- appointed Elena Groždanova (North Macedonia) as Rapporteur on Roma and Traveller issues, Stefania Chiru (France) as Rapporteur on children's rights, Andreia Lourenço Marques (Portugal) as Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities and asked the Bureau to appoint a Rapporteur on youth;
- invited members to express their interest in the role of focal point on sexual orientation and gender identity issues.

As regards the other items on its agenda, the GEC:

- took note of the information from the Secretariat about the follow-up to the 4th Council of Europe Summit of Heads of State and Government ;
- took note of the Bureau's activities since the 23rd GEC meeting on 24-26 May 2023;
- held an exchange of views with Síofra O'Leary, President of the European Court of Human Rights and Judges Andreas Zünd (Switzerland), Kateřina Šimáčková (Czech Republic) and Diana Sarcu (Republic of Moldova) with a particular focus on the principles of general application regarding gender equality and violence against women and domestic violence in the Court's case law;
- took note of the presentation by the Secretariat of the draft terms of reference of the GEC for 2024-2027, including those of its subordinate bodies, the GEC/ADI-AI and the GEC/PC-eVIO;
- decided to present at its next meeting promising practices identified in the report on the review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism and to discuss possible themes for the next review;
- held an exchange of views with Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, President of GREVIO, and took note of the information put forward by member states regarding national developments and experiences regarding the ratification and implementation of the Istanbul Convention;
- took note of information from the Secretariat about the co-operation projects undertaken in the fields of violence against women and

- nomme Elena Groždanova (Macédoine du Nord) comme rapporteure sur les questions relatives aux Roms et Gens du voyage, Stefania Chiru (France) comme rapporteure sur les droits de l'enfant, Andreia Lourenço Marques (Portugal) comme rapporteure sur les droits des personnes handicapées, et demande au Bureau de nommer un-e rapporteur-e sur la jeunesse ;
- invite les membres à exprimer leur intérêt pour la fonction de point focal sur les questions liées à l'orientation sexuelle et l'identité de genre.

En ce qui concerne les autres points à l'ordre du jour, la GEC :

- prend note des informations du Secrétariat concernant le suivi du 4^{ème} Sommet des Chefs d'Etat et de Gouvernement du Conseil de l'Europe;
- prend note des activités du Bureau depuis sa 23^{ème} réunion du 24 au 26 mai 2023 ;
- procède à un échange de vues avec Síofra O'Leary, Présidente de la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme et les juges Andreas Zünd (Suisse), Kateřina Šimáčková (République tchèque) et Diana Sarcu (République de Moldova) avec un accent particulier sur les principes d'application générale concernant l'égalité de genre et la violence à l'égard des femmes et la violence domestique dans la jurisprudence de la Cour ;
- prend note de la présentation du Secrétariat sur le projet de mandat de la GEC pour 2024-2027, y compris ceux de ses organes subordonnés, le GEC/ADI-AI et le GEC/PC-eVIO ;
- décide de présenter lors de sa prochaine réunion des pratiques prometteuses identifiées dans le rapport d'examen de la mise en œuvre de la Recommandation CM/Rec(2019)1 sur la prévention et la lutte contre le sexisme et de discuter les thématiques à envisager pour l'examen suivant;
- procède à un échange de vues avec Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, Présidente du GREVIO, et prend note des informations communiquées par les États membres concernant les développements et les expériences nationales en matière de ratification et de mise en œuvre de la Convention d'Istanbul ;
- prend note des informations fournies par le Secrétariat concernant les projets de coopération entrepris dans les domaines de la violence à l'égard des femmes et la violence domestique et de l'accès des femmes à la justice ;
- prend note des informations fournies par les membres de la GEC et par le Secrétariat sur les activités mises en œuvre pour protéger les droits des femmes et des filles migrantes, réfugiées et demandeuses d'asile ;

- domestic violence and women's access to justice;
- took note of the information from the GEC members and the Secretariat about activities implemented to protect the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls;
 - took note of the presentation by the Secretariat about ongoing gender mainstreaming within Council of Europe activities and welcomed the upcoming launch of the HELP course on gender equality and mainstreaming;
 - took note of information provided by the GEC representatives on the ongoing work in the areas of anti-discrimination, including hate crime and the rights of Roma and Traveller women and girls, violence against children, comprehensive sexuality education and artificial intelligence;
 - underlined the importance of the participation of GEC members in the work of other Council of Europe bodies to support gender mainstreaming;
 - took note of information regarding the gender equality agendas of Latvia, Liechtenstein and Lithuania during their respective Presidencies of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe;
 - took note of information regarding the gender equality agendas of Sweden and Belgium during their respective Presidencies of the Council of the European Union;
 - took note of the information presented by the representative of EIGE;
 - took note of the thematic discussions proposed for the next plenary and agreed that the GEC Bureau would decide which ones to include in the agenda of the next meeting;
 - agreed to re-convene for its 25th meeting in Strasbourg from 16 to 18 April 2024 and for its 26th meeting from 19 to 21 November 2024;
 - adopted the present abridged report of its 24th meeting.

Resource implications

The financing of the activities described in this report is assured.

The GEC noted that further to changes within the Secretariat, Camille Gangloff was appointed as Secretary and Valérie Poppe as co-Secretary to the GEC.

- prend note de la présentation par le Secrétariat des activités en cours liées à l'intégration de la dimension de genre dans les activités du Conseil de l'Europe, y compris le lancement prochain du cours HELP sur l'égalité de genre et l'approche intégrée de l'égalité de genre ;
- prend note des informations fournies par les représentant·es de la GEC sur les travaux en cours dans les domaines de la lutte contre les discriminations y compris les crimes de haine et les droits des femmes et des filles roms et issues de la communauté des Gens du voyage, de la violence à l'égard des enfants, de l'éducation complète à la sexualité et de l'intelligence artificielle ;
- souligne l'importance de la participation des membres de la GEC dans les travaux des autres organes du Conseil de l'Europe pour soutenir l'intégration de l'égalité de genre;
- prend note des présentations du programme de la Lettonie, du Liechtenstein et de la Lituanie en matière d'égalité de genre lors de leurs présidences respectives du Comité des Ministres du Conseil de l'Europe;
- prend note des présentations du programme de la Suède et de la Belgique en matière d'égalité de genre lors de leurs présidences respectives du Conseil de l'Union européenne ;
- prend note des informations présentées par la représentante d'EIGE ;
- prend note des discussions thématiques proposées pour la prochaine plénière et convient que le bureau de la GEC décidera de celles à inclure dans l'ordre du jour de la prochaine réunion ;
- convient de se réunir à nouveau pour sa 25^e réunion à Strasbourg du 16 au 18 avril 2024 et pour sa 26^e réunion du 19 au 21 novembre 2024 ;
- adopte le présent rapport abrégé de sa 24^e réunion.

Ressources nécessaires

Le financement des activités décrites dans ce rapport est assuré.

La GEC note que suite aux changements au sein du secrétariat, Camille Gangloff a été nommée en tant que Secrétaire et Valérie Poppe en tant que co-Secrétaire de la GEC.

Evaluation of completed activities

The GEC underlined the quality and ambition of the draft Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029, which would guide the work of the Organisation and its member states in the coming years. It expressed its deep gratitude to all those who contributed to its preparation.

The GEC also took note of the completion within the expected deadlines of the deliverables due thus far.

Évaluation des activités menées à bien

La GEC souligne la qualité et l'ambition du projet de Stratégie pour l'égalité de genre 2024-2029 qui guidera les travaux de l'Organisation et de ses États membres dans les années à venir. Elle exprime sa profonde gratitude à toutes celles et tous ceux qui ont contribué à sa préparation.

La GEC prend également note de la finalisation, dans les délais impartis, des livrables attendus jusqu'à présent.

