

# HIGH LEVEL PANEL EXCHANGE ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**THURSDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2021, FROM 2.30 TO 3.30 pm**

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**T**o mark International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women 2021, the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Commission, together with the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, will host a high-level panel exchange on 25 November from 2:30 to 3:30 pm. The Council of Europe's Secretary General, Marija Pejčinović Burić, will be joined on the panel by Elena Bonetti, the Italian Minister for Equal Opportunities and Family, and Iris Luarasi, President of the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence.

■ The Gender Equality Commission was established to help ensure the mainstreaming of gender equality into all Council of Europe policies and to bridge the gap between commitments made at international level and the reality of women in Europe. The Commission, whose members are appointed by member states, provides advice, guidance and support to other Council of Europe bodies and to member states. The Gender Equality Commission supports the implementation of the six objectives of the Council of Europe [Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023](#).

## PANELLISTS:

- ▶ **Marija Pejčinović-Burić**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- ▶ **Elena Bonetti**, Minister for Equal Opportunities and Family, Italy
- ▶ **Iris Luarasi**, President of the Group of Experts on Action Against Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)

## MODERATOR:

- ▶ **Robin Forestier-Walker**, journalist



Presidency of Italy  
Council of Europe  
November 2021 - May 2022

Présidence de l'Italie  
Conseil de l'Europe  
Novembre 2021 - Mai 2022

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



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## Speakers

**Marija Pejčinović-Burić** is the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the pre-eminent Pan-European international organisation in the field of human rights, democracy and the rule of law. Prior to being elected to her current position in 2019, Ms Pejčinović Burić was deputy prime minister and minister for foreign and European affairs of the Republic of Croatia, having served on two previous occasions as state secretary for EU affairs. During her tenure as a deputy in the Croatian Parliament, she chaired the delegation of the Croatia-E.U. Joint Parliamentary Committee, headed the delegation of the Croatian Parliament to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, and served on a range of foreign and European-themed committees, including as substitute member of the Croatian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. She has written, lectured and consulted widely on European affairs and has served as a president and board member for a number of organisations, and is a former secretary general of Europe House in Zagreb.



**Elena Bonetti** is Associate Professor of Mathematical Analysis at the University of Milan. Graduating in Mathematics in 1997 at the University of Pavia, in 2002 Ms Bonetti obtained a PhD in Mathematics at the University of Milan. She is committed to the Scout Movement and has experiences in the field of education and youth. On 5 September 2019, Elena Bonetti was appointed as Minister for Equal Opportunities and Family by the President of the Italian Republic.



**Iris Luarasi PhD.** is the President of GREVIO at the Council of Europe. She has been leading for 20 years the Counselling Line for Women and Girls (the National Helpline for victims of domestic violence and violence against women) and leads the first male centre in Albania – Counselling Line for Men and Boys that tries to rehabilitate perpetrators of domestic violence and works on prevention with young boys in the country and fatherhood campaigns. She was a member of the GREVIO Working Group on a General Recommendation on the digital dimension of violence against women at the Council of Europe.

Iris Luarasi is a professor in the Department of Journalism and Communications at the University of Tirana. She also trains Albanian journalists in human rights, journalism ethics, as well as countering fake news, hate speech and sexism. Her research and publishing activities include leading a study on domestic violence and sex crimes, a guide for reporters on Gender Based Violence and sexual assault, guidelines for data collection and authoring two books on radio journalism and media in Albania.

## Moderator



**Robin Forestier-Walker** is a writer, broadcaster and filmmaker based in Tbilisi, Georgia. He reports for the Al Jazeera Network chiefly in Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia.

[www.coe.int/equality](http://www.coe.int/equality)  
[www.coe.int/conventionviolence](http://www.coe.int/conventionviolence)