

Committee of the Parties



Council of Europe Convention
on preventing and combating violence
against women and domestic violence
(Istanbul Convention)

Conclusions on the implementation of recommendations in respect of Spain adopted by the Committee of the Parties to the Istanbul Convention

IC-CP(2024)5

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The Committee of the Parties to the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), acting under the terms of Article 68(12) of the Convention and Rule 1(2b) of the Committee of the Parties’ Rules of Procedure;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 66(1) of the Convention concerning the monitoring role of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “GREVIO”);

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Parties;

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Spain on 10 April 2014;

Having regard to the Baseline Evaluation Report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Spain adopted by GREVIO at its 22nd meeting (13-15 October 2020), as well as the comments of the Government received on 25 November 2020;

Having regard to the recommendation on the implementation of the Convention addressed to Spain by the Committee of the Parties, published on 18 December 2020;

Bearing in mind the adoption, at its 9th meeting on 15 December 2020, of a reporting form which focuses on a maximum of ten areas of the Convention and which states are required to use to report back to the Committee of the Parties on measures taken to implement the recommendations addressed to their authorities;

Having examined the information provided by Spain on the implementation of the recommendation addressed to its authorities, through the reporting form provided for that purpose;

A. Welcomes the measures taken and progress achieved by Spain in the implementation of recommendations for the implementation of the Convention, noting in particular:

- the continued efforts to set up comprehensive and long-term strategies to prevent and combat violence against women, including the state strategy to combat male violence (2023-2027), the first strategic plan for the prevention of sexual violence (2023-2027) and the adoption, in 2020, of a set of measures to combat violence against women (as part of the plan “Spain protects you”) making use of European Union funds allocated to post-Covid-19 recovery measures, as well as the substantial and continuous increase in the funding allocated by the Spanish authorities to prevent and combat violence against women since 2020;
- the efforts made to reinforce the co-ordination between the national and decentralised government structures, notably through the adoption of the Multi-Annual Joint Plan on Violence against Women (2023-2027) aimed at establishing a stable co-operation framework between the different levels of authority and at ensuring a sustainable and co-ordinated response of all the relevant institutions and administrations as well as the adoption of a Reference catalogue of policies and services on violence against women aimed at guaranteeing a set of minimum services to be provided by all the levels of administration concerned;
- the enhancement of the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in relation to the forms of violence against women that were less addressed by legislation and policies, in particular sexual violence, following the adoption of Organic Law 10/2022 on the Comprehensive Guarantee of Sexual Freedom;
- the focus placed on the need to prevent and combat violence against women with an intersectional lens, by including this approach in the above-mentioned national strategies and plans; the inclusion of a specific emphasis on combating violence against women in the National Strategy for Roma Equality, Inclusion and Participation (2021-2030) and the National Disability Strategy (2022-2030);
- the measures taken to further improve data collection on violence against women, including the setting up of the category of femicide, covering gender-based killings in present and past intimate partner relations and outside this context;

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- the substantial steps taken to enhance the safety of children and their mothers in decisions regarding custody and visitation rights in situations involving violence against women, in particular the introduction, through Organic Law 8/2021 on the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents against Violence, of the principle of suspension of custody and visitation rights in situations involving violence against women, unless the child's best interests require maintaining joint parental authority.
- B. Encourages the Government of Spain to take further measures to implement the recommendations addressed to its authorities, in particular by:
1. furthering efforts to harmonise the level of support and protection for women victims of violence throughout the country and to evaluate the implementation of measures taken to prevent and combat violence against women at the regional and local level;
 2. enhancing efforts aimed at meeting the protection needs of women exposed to intersecting forms of discrimination by ensuring the effective implementation of the existing comprehensive set of policies and measures pursuing this aim;
 3. stepping up the support, including financial, to women's rights NGOs, in particular community-based and grassroots organisations and those working with women victims of or exposed to intersecting forms of discrimination;
 4. taking additional measures to ensure swift access of asylum-seeking women to the asylum procedure and to safe accommodation and by ensuring the effective and gender-sensitive detection of asylum-seeking women in need of protection against gender-based violence.
- C. Invites the Government of Spain to report back on these measures by 30 May 2026.
- D. Invites the Government of Spain to continue taking measures to implement the Convention, particularly on the basis of the conclusions of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report.