

# **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 Italy adopted by the Committee of the Parties to the Istanbul Convention**

IC-CP/Inf(2023)9

Adopted on 1 June 2023

Published on 2 June 2023

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 Italy on 18 November 2015;

Having regard to the Baseline Evaluation Report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Italy adopted by GREVIO at its 19<sup>th</sup> meeting (14-15 November 2019) as well as the comments of the Government received on 18 December 2019;

Having regard to the recommendation on the implementation of the Convention addressed to Italy by the Committee of the Parties, published on 4 February 2020;

Bearing in mind the adoption, at its 9<sup>th</sup> 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 Italy on the implementation of the recommendation addressed to its authorities, through the reporting form provided for that purpose, as well as the information submitted by non-governmental organisations and civil society;

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

- an overall increase in the funding ear-marked to prevent and combat violence against women, including for preventive intervention and treatment programmes for perpetrators and for specialist support services;
- the provision by law and the disbursement of dedicated financial support for victims of violence against women, to support their recovery and/or facilitate their training and the setting up of a business (“Micro-credit of Freedom and Income of Freedom”);
- the prolific work and inquiries on violence against women in Italy carried out by the Senate Joint Committee of Inquiry on femicide and all forms of gender-based violence;
- the legislative measures taken to strengthen data collection on violence against women, including through Law n. 53 of 5 May 2022 on “Provisions on statistics on gender-based violence”, which requires all public institutions and other bodies or entities that operate in this area to collect data disaggregated by sex and the setting up of an integrated system of data collection on violence against women between the Ministries of the Interior and of Justice;
- the ruling of the Supreme Court of 24 March 2022 establishing the lack of scientific basis and credibility of the concept of “parental alienation syndrome”, which is frequently referred to by experts appearing in Courts in family proceedings;
- a new database used by the Central Criminal Police Directorate to record and search information on incidents of domestic violence (SCUDO), which allows law enforcement authorities to have an overview on past police interventions involving the same perpetrator and to capture the repetition and/or escalation of violence;
- the amendments made to family law proceedings within the civil procedure code to address cases of domestic and gender-based violence, including the prohibition of mediation in cases of domestic violence and the requirement for family judges to request information on pending proceedings against the perpetrator or on previous convictions;

- 
- the measures taken to further expand the number of police stations and stations of the Carabinieri Corps with specific rooms offering a comfortable and private setting in which victims can report the violence;
  - the development of an application to facilitate the reporting of acts of gender-based violence to the police, including in an anonymous manner;
  - the use of electronic bracelets to enforce precautionary measures, such as the prohibition to approach places frequented by the victim.
- B. Encourages the Government of Italy to take further measures to implement the recommendations addressed to its authorities, in particular by:
1. designing and implementing comprehensive policies addressing all forms of violence against women, in close consultation with women's rights organisations, which clearly identify the actions to be taken, the authorities competent to implement them and the related financial allocations; and at the same time, harmonising the implementation of these policies at regional/local level, improving co-ordination among regional legislation and policies on violence against women, and ensuring that they adopt an intersectional approach;
  2. providing the bodies mandated to ensure the implementation and co-ordination of measures to combat violence against women with a strong institutional basis and sufficient human and financial resources, while ensuring the effective evaluation of policies and improving the co-ordination between national and decentralised governmental co-ordination mechanisms;
  3. strengthening the national and local institutional framework for co-operating with women's rights organisations during the design, monitoring, evaluation and implementation of measures and policies to prevent and combat violence against women;
  4. ensuring the adequate and prompt funding of measures to prevent and combat violence against women at the national and regional levels, providing long-term financial support to women's specialist services on the basis of a comprehensive needs assessment, and increasing the transparency and accountability in the use of public funds;
  5. taking legislative or other measures to ensure an effective response to violence against women by the competent authorities by ensuring that: a) effective civil remedies are available against any state authority that has failed in its due diligence obligations, as foreseen under Article 29 of the convention; b) an assessment of the victim's risk is carried out systematically by all relevant authorities in co-operation, while taking further steps to introduce a system to analyse all cases of gender-based killings of women; c) competent courts are under a duty to consider violence against women when determining custody and visitation rights; d) restraining/protection orders are promptly available to victims of all forms of violence against women and enforced; and that data are collected on the number of restraining/protection orders requested and on the number granted; and e) legislation is amended to bring it to conformity with the requirements of Article 55, paragraph 1 of the convention regarding *ex parte* and *ex officio* prosecution.
- C. Invites the Government of Italy to report back on these measures by 2 June 2025;
- D. Invites the Government of Italy to continue taking measures to implement the Convention, particularly on the basis of the conclusions of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report.