

Implementation report of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029

Reporting period 2024-2025



**GENDER EQUALITY
COMMISSION (GEC)**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implementation report of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029

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Executive Summary

1. Adopted by the Committee of Ministers in March 2024, the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 (the Strategy) is the Organisation's third Gender Equality Strategy. It builds upon the vast legal and policy *acquis* of the Council of Europe as regards gender equality, as well as the achievements of the second Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023.
2. The Reykjavík Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe recalled that "gender equality and the full, equal and effective participation of women in public and private decision-making processes are essential to the rule of law, democracy and sustainable development, [and underlined] the pioneering role of the Council of Europe, including through the Istanbul Convention, in the fight against violence against women and domestic violence". In line with these principles, the Strategy is structured around six thematic objectives, addressing existing and emerging challenges to advancing gender equality. It provides a frame for the work of the Council of Europe and its member States in the field of gender equality for the coming years.
3. To assess progress in the implementation of the Strategy, the GEC takes stock of results achieved and prepares biennial implementation reports for the attention of the Committee of Ministers. In 2024, the Committee of Ministers took note of the final report on the implementation of the Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023 approved by the GEC. The present report covers the 2024-2025 period and reviews the implementation of each of the strategic objectives by the member States and by the Council of Europe as a whole.
4. A total of 37 member States responded to a questionnaire sent to all members of the GEC to provide the necessary information for this report. The data demonstrate a strong commitment among member States to implementing the Strategy, reflected in policy, legislative, and institutional actions across all six strategic objectives. Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 of the Committee of Ministers on preventing and combating sexism is widely cited, with nearly 80% of member States reporting the collection of sex-disaggregated data related to gender stereotypes and sexism, as well as conducting research to understand their root causes, prevalence, and strategies for prevention.
5. Progress is most evident in preventing and combating violence against women and girls, including domestic violence and technology-facilitated abuse, with nearly all respondent member States indicating positive action in this area. The majority reported measures to strengthen their capacity to remove barriers to justice for women and girls and highlighted efforts to collect sex-disaggregated data regarding access to justice. However, data on attrition rates within the criminal justice system reveal that ensuring women's access to justice remains a critical concern.
6. Additionally, 29 member States reported measures to promote equal representation of women, girls, men, and boys in political and public decision-making, primarily through policy and institutional initiatives. Furthermore, 28 member States demonstrated gender-responsive approaches to crisis prevention and mitigation across areas such as conflict, migration, public health, climate change, and economic downturn, including the intersection of these crises. Cooperation with civil society organisations, including youth organisations, to address anti-gender narratives was indicated by 72% of respondents.
7. Gender mainstreaming is firmly embedded in policy planning and development, with all 37 participating member States reporting taking active steps to integrate gender equality across all policies, including the use of gender equality impact assessments. The importance of addressing the needs of individuals and groups at risk of intersectional discrimination is also widely considered in both policy analysis and implementation. As explained in the Strategy, various grounds on which discrimination is based may intersect, leading to unique lived experiences and vulnerabilities. In the context of gender equality policies, an intersectional approach can be used to understand, take into account and address the interactions between gender and sex and other personal characteristics/statuses and the resulting compounded forms of discrimination.
8. At an Organisational level, the report highlights several milestones in the GEC's work in 2024-2025. In particular, the GEC completed its work on two landmark recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. First, CM/Rec(2026)1 on Equality and Artificial Intelligence, approved by the GEC and the Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) during a joint meeting on 20 November 2025, was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 March 2026. It provides guidance to

member States and other stakeholders to promote equality, including gender equality, and prevent and combat discrimination in all activities within the lifecycle of AI systems. This means from the design stage, through their use, and at all points up to their retirement. The Recommendation provides specific guidance on how to ensure that the growing use of AI systems in all sectors of life can support and promote equality, including gender equality. Second, Recommendation CM/Rec(2026)2 on accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, approved during a joint meeting with the Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) on 25 November 2025, was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 March 2026. It provides guidance for member States on enhancing their legal, institutional and regulatory responses to technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. Accountability for such violence includes prevention measures to foster the necessary environment in which it is neither facilitated, condoned, accepted nor ignored. This is the first international legal standard focused on accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. The approval of these two standards demonstrates a firm commitment of the 46 member States of the Council of Europe to address the intersection of technology with gender equality, non-discrimination and violence against all women and girls. This includes the commitment to ensure equal participation and opportunities in digital and technological developments.

9. Furthermore, a Practical guide for public authorities to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation (2022) on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls was produced in 2025 and disseminated to member States, for use, in particular, in relevant migration-related contexts. Efforts were also made to integrate a gender equality perspective in all workstreams and activities concerning migration at the Council of Europe.

10. Overall, in 2025, the Gender Equality Commission developed its work to highlight the benefits of gender equality policies, with a view to consolidating the *acquis* in this area, sustaining continued progress towards gender equality and attracting support from the wider public. This work stresses the link between democracy and gender equality and the fact that policies to address democratic backsliding must take into account the whole population, with particular attention given to gender equality and intersectional issues. In this context, the *Guidance for the development of positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric: A practical guide for values-based communication to advance gender equality* was adopted by the GEC as a communication toolkit to be used by national authorities, civil society organisations or other interested stakeholders.

11. In May 2024, the GEC organised in Strasbourg its annual conference “[United around gender equality: making space for women and girls](#)” jointly with the Lithuanian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers. The conference marked the launch of the Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 and the 10th Anniversary of the Istanbul Convention.

12. In September 2025, the GEC organised in Malta its annual conference on “[Tackling sexism and violence against women: an essential step towards equal participation](#)” jointly with the Maltese Presidency of the Committee of Ministers. The conference addressed the issue of violence and sexism against women in politics and what political parties and institutions should do to combat such phenomena.

13. The Gender Equality Cooperation programmes of the Council of Europe continued their work on improving normative frameworks, in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Greece, Kosovo¹, Latvia, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Türkiye² and Ukraine. Significant progress was achieved in strengthening legislative and policy frameworks in line with the Istanbul Convention and other relevant international standards.

14. Cooperation activities have extensively contributed to strengthening equal access to justice for women and have improved gender-responsive justice chains in the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkan regions. In both regions, judicial training institutions are taking measures to apply new competencies to enhance equal access to justice for women and men through an innovative [peer-to-peer mentoring programme for legal professionals](#).

15. The five deliverables under the GEC Terms of Reference for the reference period 2024-2025 were achieved.

1. All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.
2. The Republic of Türkiye withdrew from the Istanbul Convention on 1 July 2021.

Introduction

TERMINOLOGY (extract from the Gender Equality Strategy 2024 – 2029)

A gender-equal Europe for everyone

Equality, including gender equality, diversity and respect are fundamental to democracy and the enjoyment of human rights. However, inequality and discrimination persist in European societies and beyond. The Council of Europe takes a holistic approach in upholding equality and combating discrimination.

In this Gender Equality Strategy, certain terms and expressions are used as follows.

Discrimination can be based on a variety of grounds, such as sex, gender, “race”³, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, sex characteristics, age, state of health, disability, marital status, migrant or refugee status, or other status.

An **intersectional approach** can allow for insight into the more complex forms of discrimination, exclusion and violence to which individuals may be exposed. Various grounds on which such discrimination is based may intersect, leading to unique lived experiences and vulnerabilities. In the context of gender equality policies, an intersectional approach can be used to understand, take into account and address the interactions between gender and sex and other personal characteristics/statuses as listed above and the resulting compounded forms of discrimination. Anyone can be vulnerable to these forms of discrimination, but certain groups of women and girls are particularly exposed to them and thus stand to benefit in particular from an intersectional approach to gender equality policies.

The expression “**all women and men, girls and boys**” includes persons in all their diversity, with their different characteristics/statuses as listed above. This affirms the commitment to leave no one behind and to achieve a gender-equal Europe for everyone.

16. The Council of Europe launched its Transversal Programme on Gender Equality in 2012. This aimed to increase the impact and visibility of gender equality standards and support their implementation, both in member States and in Council of Europe structures. The first Council of Europe Strategy on Gender Equality for 2014-2017 was adopted by the Committee of Ministers in November 2013. Building on the strength and success of this first strategy, and taking into account new challenges, the second strategy for 2018-2023 was adopted by the Committee of Ministers in March 2018. It introduced a strategic objective dedicated to the rights of migrant women and placed a greater emphasis on the impact of socio-economic issues on women's empowerment and on the role of men and boys in the realisation of gender equality.

17. The Strategy for 2024-2029, adopted by the Committee of Ministers in March 2024, builds upon the second strategy, whilst also ensuring a focus on the impact of emerging threats such as technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, artificial intelligence, and the impact of gender biases on the balanced participation of women and men in many spheres of life. It is structured around six strategic objectives:

- ▶ SO1: Preventing and combating gender stereotypes and sexism;
- ▶ SO2: Preventing and combating violence against women and girls and domestic violence;
- ▶ SO3: Ensuring equal access to justice for women and girls;
- ▶ SO4: Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political, public, social and economic life;
- ▶ SO5: Ensuring women's empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges; and
- ▶ SO6: Achieving gender mainstreaming and including an intersectional approach in all policies and measures.

3. Since all human beings belong to the same species, the Committee of Ministers rejects, as does the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), theories based on the existence of different “races”. However, in this document, the term “race” is used in order to ensure that those persons who are generally and erroneously perceived as “belonging to another race” are not excluded from the protection provided for by the legislation and the implementation of policies to promote gender equality.

18. The Strategy is grounded on the belief that determined action to ensure effective equality between women and men at all levels and in all areas - not just declarations or laws which are difficult to enforce - will benefit society, as well as future generations, considerably. This fully aligns with the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW, 1979), the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women in 1995, and the 2030 Global Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015. The Strategy demonstrates the Council of Europe's commitment to providing leadership – through legal standards and policy guidance – for regional and global efforts to implement the Beijing Declaration and Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 to “achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”, as well as SDG 16 to “promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.

19. The Strategy establishes commitments towards the empowerment of all women, a change in both women's and men's rigid social roles – through an intersectional approach and a youth perspective –, an end to violence against women and domestic violence, including technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, and the elimination of sexism and gender stereotypes. The Strategy provides a framework for combating the pushback against gender equality policies and the rise of anti-gender movements that undermine existing achievements. It sets out guidelines to guarantee equal access to justice for all women and girls and to ensure the balanced participation of women and men in political, public, social and economic life.

20. The Strategy addresses existing and emerging challenges reflected in the Reykjavik Declaration of Heads of State and Government in 2023. It helps to sustain gender equality as a priority area for Presidencies of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Moreover, the Strategy's objectives apply to the Council of Europe's action as a whole and therefore to all activities conducted under its auspices. The Strategy follows the so-called dual-track approach, consisting of a) specific policies and actions, including positive action when appropriate, in critical areas for the advancement of women to achieve *de facto* gender equality, and b) gender mainstreaming in all policies and programmes. Gender mainstreaming means the (re)organisation, improvement, development and evaluation of policy processes, so that a gender equality perspective is incorporated in all policies and at all levels/stages, by the actors normally involved in policy making.

21. The Strategy adopts an intersectional approach, to include women and men, girls and boys in all their diversity, as well as a commitment to the integration of a youth perspective. Efforts are therefore made to systematically include young people in Council of Europe activities and events. Other mainstreamed perspectives at the Council of Europe (children, Roma and Travellers, and the rights of persons with disabilities) are also promoted, notably through bilateral meetings with relevant sectors and participation in internal coordinating groups. The Gender Equality Division coordinates promotion of gender mainstreaming among the bodies of the Organisation through a variety of training and advisory actions, contributing to the development of standards, tools and policies. An online HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming was developed, translated and promoted to assist with the integration of a gender equality perspective. The course targets all staff of the Organisation, Gender Equality Rapporteurs and the broader public, including national authorities, notably through cooperation programmes. Moreover, a Toolkit on gender mainstreaming in monitoring mechanisms was produced in consultation with monitoring mechanisms and disseminated and launched at an event in December 2024. Annual training sessions for Gender Equality Rapporteurs were organised. The Division also provided input towards the development of Organisation-wide guidelines on gender-inclusive language. These guidelines were published and widely promoted and disseminated. The Gender Equality Division contributed towards the activities of a broad range of intergovernmental bodies, to assist them in mainstreaming gender equality. Examples include policy work on children's rights, sport, Roma and Travellers, justice, equality mainstreaming, intersectional discrimination and artificial intelligence. The Council of Europe engaged with civil society initiatives on intersectional approaches, including related to advancing the rights and strengthening the agency of women belonging to minorities. Continued cooperation was provided with relevant sectors, to ensure coordination on issues of common interest, such as the consistent use of terminology around gender equality and preventing and responding to the anti-gender backlash.

Overview of progress made in implementing the Strategy by member States

22. To have an overview of the types of measures taken by member States to implement each of the objectives of the Strategy during the 2024-2025 period, a questionnaire was sent to member State representatives in the GEC. 37 member States delivered responses. 34 member States used the online data collection tool and 3 submitted responses via Word file formats. Detailed information and statistics can be found in Appendix 4 to this report.

23. Overall, the responses reveal that the majority of the 37 member states collect and monitor sex-disaggregated data and integrate intersectional and digital dimensions in gender equality policies. There have been notable legislative reforms focused on pay gap transparency and diversity in decision-making fora, and active cooperation between authorities and civil society, especially regarding preventing and combating violence against women and girls including domestic violence, and achieving balanced participation of women and men in political, public, social and economic life. Specialised campaigns, curricula and public sector reforms aiming to address stereotypes in education and the workplace have also been carried out. Notable examples include structurally embedding gender mainstreaming through coordinated action plans, government guidelines and fiscal strategy for gender budgeting; adaption of policies to address crises with a gender focus; recognition and codification of feminicides and intersectional discrimination; and support for gender equality in political life through quotas, funding and targeted mentoring.

Strategic Objective 1: Preventing and combating gender stereotypes and sexism

24. Member States continued to be particularly active in relation to this objective. 36 of 37 respondents replied that they had taken measures to promote or implement Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism. Policy measures were most common, followed by institutional and legislative actions with over 2/3 of respondents sharing promising practices or comments.

Type of measure	Number of MS
Policy measures	29
Institutional measures	18
Legislative measures	16

25. Most States reported that they had pursued research on the causes and prevalence of sexism and stereotypes. However, less than half reported specific actions tackling AI-driven and algorithmic discrimination. This may be indicative of a need for more specific research addressing algorithmic gender-based and intersectional bias to facilitate the development of strategies to address gender inequality resulting from AI systems.

Measure or activity	Number of MS
Development and implementation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and gender equality strategies and standards to address algorithmic gender-based and intersectional discrimination	14
Collection of sex-disaggregated data in the area of gender stereotypes and sexism	27
Research to understand the root causes of, prevalence of and/or how to prevent or combat, sexism and gender stereotypes	29

26. Responses to the questionnaire demonstrate that the majority of member States used Council of Europe standards and tools to support their work on preventing and combating sexism and gender stereotypes but that older recommendations are less known. It is important to clarify that statistics regarding member States declaring that Council of Europe standards or tools were “not known” or “not relevant/useful” are based solely on the number of member States explicitly indicating non-use of those tools during the 2024–2025 reference period. For example, in relation to CM/Rec(2019)1, 34 member States indicated that they had used it, and so 3 had not, and the figures in the three right-hand columns of the below table relate only to these 3 member States. The mention “not relevant/useful” is in the context of specific activities undertaken during the reference period and not as general statement.

CoE tools or standards	# MS which used it	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Standard or tool not known	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Not relevant/useful	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Other reasons
Recommendation No. R (90) 4 on the elimination of sexism from language	23	7	0	5
Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16 on combating hate speech	30	2	1	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)1 on equality of Roma and Traveller women and girls	22	3	6	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism	34	0	2	1
Council of Europe Guidelines on the place of men and boys in gender equality policies and in policies to combat violence against women	28	3	2	2
Case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)	27	n/a	n/a	10

Strategic Objective 2 – Preventing and combating violence against women and girls and domestic violence

27. Over 80% of respondent member States—including those that have not ratified the Istanbul Convention—reported that they have adopted measures to combat violence against women and, where applicable, to address recommendations made by GREVIO (the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence) regarding the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

Type of measure	Number of MS
Policy measures	28
Institutional measures	24
Legislative measures	29

28. Nearly all respondent member States are carrying out measures or activities to prevent and combat violence against women and girls and domestic violence, including technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. SO 2 has the highest rate of implementation.

Measure or activity	Number of MS
Developed measures to specifically address emerging forms of VAWG, including its digital dimension	35
Developed/had in place a strategy and/or action plan on preventing and combating VAWG and domestic violence	34
Exchanged good practices on preventing and combating VAWG and domestic violence (including in relation to perpetrator programmes, their impact and evaluation)	34

29. As shown by the table below, three key Conventions were widely used to support implementation of these measures. Usage rates show strong reliance on Council of Europe tools.

CoE tools or standards	# MS which used it	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Standard or tool not known	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Not relevant/useful	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Other reasons
Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)	32	0	n/a	4
Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention)	31	2	1	1
Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings	35	0	1	0
GREVIO General Recommendation No. 1 on the digital dimension of violence against women	30	1	1	4
Recommendation CM/Rec (2012)6 on the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls with disabilities	23	4	2	3
Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)10 on integrated national strategies for the protection of children from violence	23	4	4	2
Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2476 (2023) "Conflict-related sexual violence"	18	7	2	5
GREVIO thematic reports and country specific reports	28	1	1	7

Council of Europe Guidelines on the place of men and boys in gender equality policies and in policies to combat violence against women	26	4	2	2
Case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)	29	2	2	3
Council of Europe online course on Violence against Women and Domestic Violence	21	5	2	5

Strategic Objective 3 – Ensuring equal access to justice for women and girls

30. Member States overwhelmingly reported that they were taking measures to remove barriers and obstacles preventing women and girls from accessing justice and indicated that they collect sex-disaggregated data on access to justice. Only half indicated having used the Recommendations from the Council of Europe study of the impact of COVID-19 on women's access to justice.

Measure or activity	Number of MS
Took steps to strengthen its capacity to remove barriers and obstacles preventing women and girls from accessing justice	34
Collection of sex-disaggregated data in the area of access to justice	29
Carried out research in the area of access to justice for women and girls	20

31. The three most pertinent Conventions of the Council of Europe, namely on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, and on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings were widely used to implement SO 3 and SO 2. A significant number of member States indicated using other relevant Council of Europe tools such as recommendations, GREVIO thematic reports, the online HELP course on access to justice for women and the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.

CoE tools or standards	# MS which used it	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Standard or tool not known	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Not relevant/ useful	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Other reasons
Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)	31	0	1	5
Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention)	35	0	1	0
Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings	34	1	0	1

Recommendations from the Council of Europe study on the impact of Covid-19 on women's access to justice (2022)	16	9	4	4
Recommendation CM/Rec (2012)6 on the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls with disabilities	21	7	2	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)10 on improving access to justice for Roma and Travellers in Europe	20	4	4	4
GREVIO thematic reports and/or country specific reports	29	0	1	6
Report on the impact of COVID-19 on women's access to justice	15	8	6	7
Council of Europe online course on Access to Justice for Women	18	8	1	5
Case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)	28	3	3	2

Strategic Objective 4 – Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political, public, social and economic life

32. 29 member States undertook measures - mostly at policy or institutional level - to advance equal representation of women, girls, men and boys in political and public decision making. Legislative actions or other types of measures were less frequent. 'Other' measures reported include awareness-raising campaigns in professional fields where women are underrepresented, meetings with political parties to explain and promote equal representation in politics, research on obstacles holding women back, and advanced training programmes on gender-related issues.

Type of measure	Number of MS
Policy measures	21
Institutional measures	17
Legislative measures	12
Other measures	13

33. The figures indicate that measures taken mostly target women but also show that a quarter of respondent member States took measures targeting men, recognising their role as agents of change in promoting gender equality and challenging traditional gender norms. It should be noted that member States may have simultaneously targeted different groups through their measures.

Target	Number of MS
Women	29
Men	19
Girls	15
Boys	12
Total	75

34. Almost all respondent States declared that they had taken action to ensure women and men's equal participation in economic life. Just marginally fewer States took action to ensure effective access to affordable, equitable and quality mental health services as well as to sexual and reproductive health services and rights,

which include access to age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education, modern contraception, safe and legal abortion, quality gynaecological and maternal healthcare and the right to choose whom and whether to marry.⁴

Measure or activity	Number of MS
Measures undertaken for the equal representation of women, girls, men and boys in political and public decision-making	31
Action to ensure women and men's equal participation in economic life	35
Action to ensure effective access to sexual and reproductive health services and rights for all women, girls, men and boys	34
Action to ensure effective access to affordable, equitable and quality mental health services for all women, girls, men and boys	34

35. Measures undertaken to promote equal representation in political and public decision-making mainly targeted women and girls (in 59% of the measures taken). However, at least 20 member States also targeted such measures towards men and boys.

36. Nearly all respondents indicated taking action to ensure equal participation of women in economic life, in particular as regards women's access to the labour market, mainly through policy and legislative measures. Nearly 1/3 of respondents are tackling the issue of women's higher levels of precariousness and poverty.

37. As concerns access to sexual and reproductive health, approximately 1/3 of member States relied on civil society organisations to support actions to ensure effective access to affordable, equitable and quality reproductive health services, equally between women and girls and men and boys. Overall, the measures target women (29.59%) and men (20.41%), girls (28.57%) and boys (21.43%) quite evenly.

Type of measure	Number of MS Reproductive health	Number of MS Mental health
Policy	23	24
Institutional	14	18
Legislative	14	18
CSO support	15	18
Other	4	5

CoE tools or standards	# MS which used it	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Standard or tool not known	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Not relevant/useful	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Other reasons
Recommendation CM/Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision making	21	3	3	4
Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16 on combating hate speech	26	1	2	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2023)4 on Roma youth participation	19	4	6	3

4. Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 para 73.

Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)1 on equality of Roma and Traveller women and girls	17	3	8	3
Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism	30	0	2	3
Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)9 on gender equality in the audiovisual sector	19	7	6	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)2 on gender mainstreaming in sport	23	5	2	4
Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)1 on gender equality and media	20	5	5	3
Recommendation CM/Rec (2012)6 on the protection and promotion of the rights of women and girls with disabilities	17	6	3	6
Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)1 on the inclusion of gender differences in health policy	20	6	1	3
Recommendation CM/Rec (2007)17 on gender equality standards and mechanisms	20	5	4	2
Recommendation No. R (96) 5 on reconciling work and family life	26	4	1	2
Recommendation No. R (90) 4 on the elimination of sexism from language	20	6	3	5
European Social Charter	27	1	3	2
Council of Europe online course on Gender Equality & Gender Mainstreaming	23	5	1	3
case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)	22	3	4	3

Strategic Objective 5 – Ensuring women’s empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges

38. 28 member States reported that they took a gender-responsive approach to crisis prevention and mitigation in the context of conflict, migration, public health, climate change or economic downturn, including where these crises intersect. 19 member States indicated that the Council of Europe study on the impact of Covid-19 on women’s access to justice (2022) helped to inform this approach.

39. The majority of member States (72%) that took steps to address anti-gender narratives did so in cooperation with international organisations, such as the UN, UN Women, UN agencies, the Council of Europe, OSCE, and the Nordic Council of Ministers. All member States worked in cooperation with civil society organisations, including youth organisations. Local partnerships are growing but are still less common.

40. 60% of member States took measures to implement the Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls. This shows continued interest in this area since the adoption of the Recommendation in 2022.

Measure or activity	Number of MS
Undertook measures to implement Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)17 on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls	27
Took steps to address anti-gender narratives	28

41. The [Practical guide for public authorities to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls](#), published at the end of 2025, could further support member States in using the Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum seeking women in the context of SO 5.

CoE tools or standards	# MS which used it	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Standard or tool not known	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Not relevant/ useful	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Other reasons
Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)20 on human rights and the protection of the environment	12	9	2	9
Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)17 on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls	26	2	2	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)10 on the role of women and men in conflict prevention and resolution and in peace building	22	4	5	2
Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)1 on equality of Roma and Traveller women and girls	17	5	7	2
Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2476 (2023) "Conflict-related sexual violence"	17	6	4	4
Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 1385 (2004) Conflict prevention and resolution: the role of women	19	5	6	2
Case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)	24	1	4	2

Strategic Objective 6 – Achieving gender mainstreaming and including an intersectional approach in all policies and measures

42. Gender mainstreaming is widely understood as essential in all policy planning and development. All 37 respondent member States indicated having taken active steps to mainstream gender equality across all policies, including through the use of gender equality impact assessments. The importance of addressing the specific needs of individuals and groups at risk of intersectional discrimination is also widely understood and included in policy analysis and implementation.

Measure or activity	Number of MS
During the reference period, the member State took active steps to mainstream gender equality across all policies, including through the use of gender equality impact assessment	37
Put in place gender budgeting	24
Carried out policy analysis and/or implemented policies to address the specific needs of groups and individuals. Specific groups and individuals include but are not limited to the (young) women, girls, (young) men, boys (lesbian, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LBTI) women); Roma and Traveller women; women belonging to national, ethnic or religious minorities; women with disabilities; migrant and refugee women; older women; disadvantaged groups of women and persons facing multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination.	31

43. Responses regarding the use of Council of Europe tools or standards to support the implementation of SO 6 indicate that these tools or standards could usefully be further promoted and disseminated.

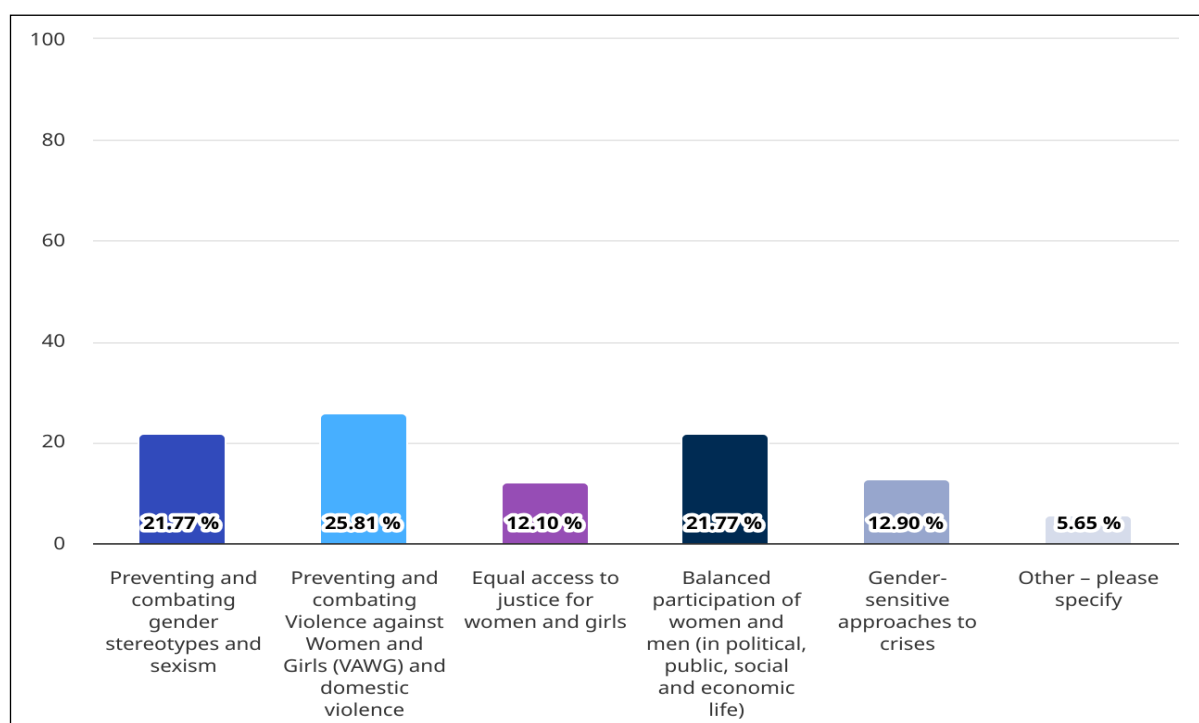
CoE tools or standards	# MS which used it	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Standard or tool not known	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Not relevant/ useful	Of the member States who did not use the standard: Other reasons
Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)20 on human rights and the protection of the environment	10	9	3	9
Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)17 on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls	21	5	1	4
Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)10 on the role of women and men in conflict prevention and resolution and in peace building	16	5	6	6
Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2476 (2023) "Conflict-related sexual violence"	16	6	5	5
PACE Resolution 1385 (2004) Conflict prevention and resolution: the role of women	17	5	7	3
Case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)	22	0	7	3
Council of Europe online course on Gender Equality & Gender Mainstreaming	23	6	1	3

44. 19 member States took measures in addition to the ones outlined under the six strategic objectives to ensure the implementation of the Strategy. These included developing new dedicated action plans, updating existing action plans, updating existing strategies and in the case of one member State, developing a new dedicated strategy. 15 member States undertook other measures, by integrating gender equality elements in action plans, strategies and documents not directly related to gender equality.

45. The data suggests that member States rely significantly on partnerships with civil society to advance gender equality.

Measure or activity	Number of MS
Established / had in place a system to monitor the level of gender equality on a regular and recurrent basis (examples include conducting regular surveys to help understand the level of gender equality or other monitoring mechanisms to keep track of the gender gap in at least one policy area)	32
GES encouraged the member State to advance gender equality in an area that would not otherwise be addressed by the member State during the reference period	16
Worked in partnership with civil society organisations (CSOs) to advance gender equality	36

46. 127 activities were undertaken in partnership with civil society organisations in the following policy areas:



Women's outcomes

47. This section seeks to present data on women's *de facto* outcomes (actual, practical results of a policy, measure or intervention) and the extent of the gender gap in selected areas. The corresponding indicators are necessarily selective and general for the purpose of comparability between countries. Some differences in this regard are difficult to reconcile, and member States provided data as per their own nomenclature and/or data collection methods. The table below presents an overview of the data indicated by the member States, including the minimum, maximum and average figures.

48. Data on outcomes show varied progress. The rate of attrition in justice systems, especially for sexual violence cases, remains high, on average, yet with very broad disparities among States. Attrition refers to the loss of cases throughout the criminal justice system process. It is often particularly acute in cases of rape and other forms of sexual violence and so provides an apt indicator of women's access to justice.⁵ Representation of women in political and economic leadership varies widely.

5. Marchiori, T. (2015). *A Framework for Measuring Access to Justice Including Specific Challenges Facing Women*. Report commissioned by UN Women realized in partnership with the Council of Europe. Available online: <https://rm.coe.int/1680593e83> (last accessed: 27 December 2024). UNODC 2023 Advocacy Brief on "Attrition of offences related to organized crime in the criminal justice system"

Rate	Minimum	Maximum	Average
Preventing and combating gender stereotypes and sexism: economically active women vs men			
Yearly activity rates (%) of women in the reference period	36.8%	84%	65.91%
Yearly activity rates (%) of men in the reference period	0%	88.3%	72.25%
Preventing and combating violence against women and girls (VAWG) and domestic violence: femicide rates			
Yearly femicide rates and total number of homicides of women aged 15 years and older, murdered for gender-related reasons	0	135	28.05
Yearly attrition rate in rape/domestic violence/sexual violence cases	0	90	29.4
Equal access to justice for women and girls: yearly attrition rates			
Yearly attrition rate in the criminal justice system as a whole	0	81	29.83
Balanced participation of women in political / public decision-making: women's representation			
% of women serving as ministers/cabinet members	0%	60%	32.22%
% of women serving as parliament members	14.2%	54.54%	34.31%
% of women serving as board members in public companies	0%	66%	35.96%
% of women serving as board members in private companies	13%	47.5%	27.88%

Overview of progress made in implementing the Strategy within the Council of Europe

49. Co-operation activities of the Council of Europe support member States to implement standards on gender equality. They are central to the activities, working methods and partnerships developed across the Transversal Programme on Gender Equality and to the implementation of the Strategy. A thorough assessment of the situation and ongoing progress in the member States has enabled the Council of Europe to better respond to their needs.

50. In 2024 and 2025, targeted bilateral and regional co-operation projects managed by the Gender Equality Division contributed to the implementation of the Strategy, in particular to strategic objectives 2, 3, 4 and 6. The geographical scope of this cooperation concerns the following States: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Türkiye and Ukraine. In addition, these programmes extend beyond the member States of the Council of Europe and include cooperation with Belarusian democratic forces and civil society, as well as in Kosovo⁶. Technical expert support was also provided in Bulgaria, Romania, Slovakia, and Lithuania through EEA and Norway Grants, and through its SYNERGY Network in Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Estonia, Greece, Latvia, Malta, Poland, Portugal and Slovenia. This work increased knowledge of Council of Europe standards on combating violence against women, domestic violence and gender equality, in line with the Gender Equality Strategy and the Istanbul Convention.

Development of activities, promotion, tools and co-operation programmes, monitoring/evaluation of standards to identify gaps and obstacles

Strategic Objective 1: Preventing and combating gender stereotypes and sexism

51. Efforts were made to address the challenges identified by the Strategy, notably by improving visibility of structural inequalities and persistent gender stereotypes affecting women and men, girls and boys, and men in the public and private sphere and taking steps to address them. This was done in the areas of education and media, by stressing the continuous unequal share of unpaid care work between women and men in all policy work, and by stressing the gendered aspect of hate speech in relevant activities.

52. Work continued to promote the implementation of [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2019\)1 on preventing and combating sexism](#) and the accompanying campaign: Sexism: See it, Name it, Stop it!, the tools of which are available in 31 national and regional languages. The first implementation report of the Recommendation, drafted in 2022-2023 and covering measures taken since its adoption in 2019 and up to and including 2022, was published and disseminated in 2024.

53. The Council of Europe also continued to promote the 2023 Guidelines on the place of men and boys in gender equality policies and in policies to combat violence against women, including during events and by integrating the provisions of the Guidelines in relevant policy work. For example, the Guidance for the development of positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric adopted by the GEC in 2025 includes a focus on men and boys and on how to communicate in a way that could generate their support for gender equality policies.

6. * All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

54. On 4 March 2026, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2026\)1 on equality and artificial intelligence](#). This Recommendation provides guidance to member States and other stakeholders to promote equality, including gender equality, and to prevent and combat discrimination in all activities within the lifecycle of AI systems – from their design, through their use, and at all points up to their retirement. Specific guidance is included on how to ensure that the growing use of AI systems, in all sectors of life, can support and promote equality, including gender equality. The Recommendation includes a focus on transparency and explainability of AI systems and on strengthening procedural safeguards and remedies. It aims to improve individuals' ability to identify discrimination and to access effective redress when discrimination occurs. This new standard also gives special attention to awareness-raising, training and independent oversight. The Recommendation's explanatory memorandum identifies policy fields in which AI may have a particularly acute impact as regards equality, including gender equality.

55. The Recommendation and its explanatory memorandum were developed as a joint deliverable of the GEC and the Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI). To this effect, the Committee of Experts on equality and artificial intelligence (GEC/ADI-AI) was set up as a joint subcommittee to both Steering Committees. GEC/ADI-AI was composed of representatives of member States on behalf of the GEC (Austria, Czechia, France, Norway) and on behalf of CDADI (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania), together with several member States who sent representatives in addition to those whose expenses were covered by the Organisation's ordinary budget, namely, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, the Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden and Switzerland. Six independent experts with established expertise in artificial intelligence, human rights, equality, including gender equality, and non-discrimination, also took part, alongside participants such as the EU Commission and NGO observers.

Strategic Objective 2 – Preventing and combating violence against women and girls and domestic violence

56. [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2026\)2 on accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls](#) was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 4 March 2026. It provides non-binding guidance for member States on enhancing legal, institutional and regulatory responses to strengthen accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. It also includes a specific focus on prevention measures. The aim is to create an environment of accountability, where such violence is not accepted, condoned or ignored. The Recommendation builds on existing instruments and tools, in particular General Recommendation No. 1 on the digital dimension of violence against women of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO).

57. The Recommendation and its Explanatory Memorandum were developed as a joint deliverable of the GEC and the Council of Europe Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC). To this effect, the Committee of Experts on combating technology-facilitated violence against women and girls (GEC/PC-eVIO) was set up as a joint subcommittee to both Steering Committees. GEC/PC-eVIO was composed of eight representatives of member States, four on behalf of the CDPC (Finland, Italy, Norway, United Kingdom) and four of the GEC (Belgium, Iceland, Portugal, Türkiye), together with several member States who sent representatives in addition to those whose expenses were covered by the Organisation's ordinary budget, namely France, Republic of Moldova and Spain. Six independent experts with established expertise in the fields of preventing and combating violence against women and girls and of criminal law and procedure, with experience and knowledge related to technology-facilitated violence, also took part, alongside a GREVIO representative, a Lanzarote Committee representative and several observers, including NGO representatives.

58. The work of the Organisation's cooperation programmes led to the improvement of normative frameworks, for example:

- a. Significant progress was achieved in strengthening legislative and policy frameworks in line with the Istanbul Convention and other relevant international standards. In the **Republic of Moldova**, legislative amendments addressed approximately 60% of the Council of Europe's recommendations, addressing *inter alia* the legal definition of femicide, criminalising stalking, and strengthening provisions addressing digital and economic violence. Recommendations stemming from studies on the digital dimension of violence against women and on the protection of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women were also reflected in draft legislative amendment packages.
- b. In **Azerbaijan**, a series of laws have been amended to ensure better protection against violence against women, through criminalisation of early cohabitation, the extension of short-term protection

orders, ensuring state-funded legal aid for victims, and prohibiting religious marriages⁷, also aligning with several recommendations from the gap analysis developed under the cooperation project.

- c. In 2025 national gender strategy/action plans were adopted in **Armenia** and in **Azerbaijan** based on cooperation support. In Armenia, a National Gender Policy Implementation Strategy 2025–2028 and its Action Plan were adopted, incorporating 87% of the Council of Europe’s recommendations, while in Azerbaijan, a National Action Plan on Gender Equality 2026–2028 was adopted, drawing on the project’s Gap Analysis and supported by related capacity-building initiatives.
 - d. Also in 2025, a report on the digital dimension of violence against women and girls was prepared at the request of the **Slovenian** Government, identifying key legal and practical challenges, whereas expert assistance was provided to assess the **Greek** legislation and policy and to recommend good practices concerning specialised services for victims of sexual violence.
 - e. Through the support of the cooperation project in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, legislative amendments to the Federation’s criminal code were adopted, to align with the Council of Europe standards on combating digital violence against women.
 - f. In **Kosovo**⁸ the National Programme for Treatment of Perpetrators of Violence against Women, developed through GED cooperation support, was fully implemented by the Kosovar authorities and integrated in the official training programme of the Ministry of Justice. This showed empirical evidence of a significant reduction in perpetrators’ attitudes of male dominance and their expressed intent or willingness to use violence of any kind. The project therefore showed meaningful progress in enhancing safety and protection for women.
 - g. In **Armenia**, progress was also achieved in developing a programme for perpetrators of domestic violence aligned with the Istanbul Convention.
59. Co-operation programmes also led to increased knowledge and skills of frontline and legal professionals:
- a. In **Eastern Partnership countries (Moldova, Ukraine, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan)**, approximately 900 justice professionals, law enforcement officers, civil servants and social workers enhanced their knowledge and skills on gender equality, violence against women, risk assessment, femicide analysis, trauma-informed approaches, data collection and multi-agency responses.
 - b. In 2024 in the **Republic of Moldova**, 43 law enforcement officials strengthened their capacity to address technology-facilitated violence.
 - c. In 2025, 23 journalists and media representatives in **Georgia** increased their knowledge of ethical and gender-sensitive reporting in the context of violence against women and domestic violence. 21 young ICT professionals were trained to develop better skills to address technology-facilitated violence against women. Furthermore, 2025 saw strong engagement with civil society organisations in Georgia: around 56 civil society representatives strengthened their ability to develop positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric, including the practical application of counter-narrative tools.
 - d. In 2024, 65 **Armenian media professionals** (43 women and 22 men) were trained on gender-sensitive journalism, with a focus on reporting stories about refugee women and girls. Post-training assessments showed a 30% improvement in knowledge of gender-sensitive reporting principles. In **Armenia**, cooperation programmes empowered around **550 Armenian schoolteachers** on gender equality standards in education, for which an online course on gender equality in education specifically was developed and promoted. Close cooperation was established with **Armenian law-**

7. “According to the amendments, a number of new legal provisions have been established with the aim of preventing the facilitation of early marriages, protecting the rights of children and young persons, as well as mitigating genetic and social risks arising from consanguineous marriages. The Criminal Code of the Republic of Azerbaijan provides for liability for the organization of the early marriage of a person under the age of sixteen (Article 176-2), as well as for coercion to enter into marriage or early marriage (Article 176-1). Furthermore, the Code of Administrative Offences of the Republic of Azerbaijan establishes liability for entering into arrangements concerning the marriage of a person under the age of sixteen (Article 189-1), conducting ceremonies related to the early marriage of minors (Article 189-2), and performing religious marriage rites involving minors (Article 189-3), thereby defining responsibility for a broad range of subjects.” In addition, the new Law “On the Rights of the Child” defines the concept of early marriage (Article 1), identifies the prevention of early marriage as one of the principal obligations of the State in ensuring the rights and freedoms of children (Article 5), and provides that the organization of ceremonies related to early marriage, as well as the performance of religious marriage ceremonies (religious marriages) in respect of children, constitute grounds for the imposition of liability as prescribed by law (Article 38).”

8. All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

enforcement officers, and a specialised handbook on handling cases on domestic violence was developed and used for capacity-building activities.

- e. In 2025, around 342 representatives of the authorities in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** strengthened their capacity to address cases of technology-facilitated violence and sexual violence against women.
 - f. In **Kosovo***, in 2024 and 2025, around 226 legal professionals demonstrated measurable improvements in legal knowledge, and professional attitudes, and a notable change in judicial practice related to cases of violence against women and domestic violence.
 - g. In **Türkiye** 201 lawyers from 22 bar associations strengthened their capacity for strategic litigation in promoting women's rights, while 389 Turkish university students from 43 universities trained on gender-sensitive⁹ and victim-oriented provision of legal services. Close to 98% of the respondents of the post-evaluation survey reported an improvement in their knowledge and skills about gender-sensitive legal practices. In **Türkiye**, 1937 women were empowered to claim their rights and report violations, including Roma women and women affected by natural disasters.
 - h. In **Ukraine**, cooperation programmes in 2024 and 2025 supported authorities, such as the National Social Service, enhancing the skills of around 340 civil servants. Approximately 130 law enforcement officers and legal professionals, in particular prosecutors, were trained to better respond to cases of domestic violence. A Manual was developed for Ukrainian prosecutors to address victims of sexual violence during armed conflict. Around 240 representatives of Ukrainian law enforcement agencies, social services, lawyers, forensic experts, international experts, and other professionals enhanced their knowledge through the November 2024 conference "Survivor-Centred Justice for Gender-Based Violence" initiated by the Ukrainian Women Lawyers Association "JurFem" for the Office of the Prosecutor-General, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, and the National Police of Ukraine.
 - i. In 2024, in **Azerbaijan**, a total of 185 participants, including law enforcement officials, civil servants, psychologists, lawyers, academics and civil society representatives enhanced their capacity to address cases of violence against women and domestic violence through workshops and thematic meetings. In 2025, a total of 128 participants, including justice professionals, police officers, civil servants and NGOs enhanced their professional knowledge and skills through trainings, workshops, round tables and a study visit.
60. Co-operation programmes also contributed to capacity building through the Perpetrators Programme:
- a. With the guidance of the Council of Europe, the first programme for perpetrators of domestic violence was launched in **Kosovo**¹⁰, where 20 perpetrators attended the pilot phase. In 2025, the Ministry of Justice assumed full institutional and financial responsibility for the National Programme for the Treatment of Perpetrators of Violence against Women, ensuring sustainability and local ownership.
 - b. **Armenia** also advanced the development of its perpetrator programme in line with international standards.
61. Capacity building was achieved through the HELP Programme:
- a. The online HELP (European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals) courses on violence against women and domestic violence for legal and law enforcement professionals became available, adapted in local contexts and languages. The HELP course on violence against women for legal professionals was translated in 25 languages, whereas the course for law-enforcement in 16 languages.
 - b. In **Latvia**, the HELP course successfully improved knowledge and skills for 22 police officers, achieving a reported 88% success rate in building capacity to respond effectively to cases of violence against women.
 - c. A new HELP module on technology-facilitated violence against women was developed to support capacity building of legal professionals on this increasingly significant and challenging form of violence against women, either as a standalone course or as an additional chapter within the existing violence against women HELP course.

9. The Republic of Türkiye interprets the term "gender", in the context of this cooperation, as identical with "sex" pursuant to the binary concept of biological female and male sex.

10. All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

- d. Dissemination and translation of the HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming further supported institutional transformation within the Council of Europe and its member States. In 2025 a Ukrainian adaptation of this course was supported by a Council of Europe cooperation project.
 - e. In **Ukraine**, the HELP online course “Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence for Law Enforcement” was held in 2024, enrolling 39 participants from the National Police and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. Additionally, an updated course on the same subject was delivered to 65 Ukrainian judges, prosecutors and lawyers, with a second cohort of 51 participants launched in October 2024 following positive feedback.
 - f. In **Azerbaijan**, a total of 11 women police officers successfully completed the HELP course on combating violence against women and domestic violence for law enforcement officials (achieving an average success rate of 87%), demonstrating enhanced capacity to apply victim-centred approaches, relevant legal frameworks and appropriate response measures in their professional practice.
62. Capacity building on issues related to refugee and migrant women was undertaken:
- a. In the **Republic of Moldova** in 2024, 26 migration and border police officers were trained on Articles 60 and 61 of the Istanbul Convention concerning gender-based asylum claims and non-refoulement.
 - b. In **Armenia**, refugee-led and other civil society organisations strengthened their capacity to support refugee women’s social and economic inclusion and to address gender-based violence risks. Across 2024–2025, targeted initiatives reached over 400 women and girls, including refugee women, providing practical skills development, economic empowerment opportunities and trauma recovery support.
 - c. The Council of Europe achieved increased promotion and understanding of the standards of the Istanbul Convention through awareness-raising initiatives. Awareness-raising remained a central pillar of activities, implemented in close co-operation with civil society and international partners, with the aim to reach more people, including duty bearers and right-holders. For instance, awareness-raising initiatives to better understand the Istanbul Convention, has reached 80 000 people on social media in the **Republic of Moldova**.
 - d. Civil society organisations were funded in multiple countries to promote the Istanbul Convention and to empower women, especially refugees and those facing multiple discrimination.
 - e. In 2024 and 2025, grants were provided to civil society organisations in Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cyprus Hungary, Lithuania, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Türkiye¹¹ and Ukraine to raise awareness of the Istanbul Convention, using the campaigning methodology developed by the Council of Europe, UN Women and the WAVE Network, supported through the Council of Europe’s multi-country programme.
 - f. In 2025, civil society organisations in **Cyprus, Romania, Spain, and Sweden** benefited from awareness-raising initiatives on the Istanbul Convention, reaching over 200,000 people online, directly engaging more than 1,500 participants through public events and trainings, producing 38 digital materials and 28 podcasts, and conducting large-scale outreach activities including a 2,350 km national tour in Sweden to reinforce advocacy and public understanding of the Convention.
 - g. In **Türkiye**, grants to civil society organisations enabled them to increase awareness of reporting mechanisms. In particular, 1340 women facing intersectional discrimination increased their awareness of their rights.
 - h. Under the multi-county programme, which includes support to civil society primarily through grants, **four Armenian civil society organisations** implemented tailored initiatives to promote the social and economic inclusion of refugee women, address risks of violence, and foster gender equality. This resulted in 256 refugee women and girls (and indirectly their whole families) benefitting and being equipped with practical skills, economic opportunities, and trauma recovery support.
63. The international conference “**Synergy for change: Civil society raising awareness on violence against women in a context of global challenges**”, held in Budapest in 2024, marked a key milestone in demonstrating the impact of the Council of Europe communication and advocacy methodology when applied through competitive grant schemes to civil society organisations (CSOs). Bringing together 91 CSO

11. Türkiye withdrew from the Istanbul Convention on 1 July 2021.

representatives from 26 countries, the conference presented results from the piloting phase in **Czechia**, **Latvia** and **Poland**, as well as grant-supported initiatives implemented between 2022 and 2024. Discussions confirmed that the methodology, developed by the Gender Equality Division in cooperation with UN Women and WAVE, had strengthened CSOs as strategic actors in promoting and supporting the Istanbul Convention. As highlighted during the conference, competitive grants implemented between 2023 and 2024 generated measurable results across Europe, including legislative amendments to the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence in **Bulgaria** (2023), reinforced municipal commitments in **Hungary**, nationwide mobilisation in **Lithuania** reaching over one million people, and innovative digital advocacy initiatives in **Serbia** and **other countries**. The consolidated impact demonstrates that combining piloting, structured grant support and peer exchange enhances evidence-based advocacy, strengthens coalitions, broadens outreach at community and institutional levels, and reinforces CSOs' long-term strategic role in advancing convention-aligned responses to violence against women across Europe.

Strategic Objective 3 – Ensuring equal access to justice for women and girls

64. Cooperation activities have extensively contributed to strengthening equal access to justice for women and improved the gender-responsive justice chain in the Eastern Partnership and Western Balkan regions. In both regions, judicial training institutions are taking measures to apply new competencies to enhance equal access to justice for women and men through an innovative **peer-to-peer mentoring programme for legal professionals**. This programme addressed the lack of gender-sensitivity, harmful gender stereotypes and bias in the context of access to justice. Such obstacles are often reflected in legislation and are very often seen in practice. Studies in the regions were developed to identify gaps. Under specific cooperation programmes, for instance in 2024, **Georgian** prosecutors and judges enhanced their capacity to ensure access to justice for women with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities, in line with the Istanbul Convention and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. In **Türkiye** a joint conference on women's access to justice after the earthquakes was organised in October 2024, focusing on legal and essential services, and social support in violence contexts. In addition, the conference on "Collective Impact for Women's Access to Justice", organised in September 2025, generated lessons learned and recommendations to guide future initiatives in promoting women's access to justice in Türkiye.

Strategic Objective 4 – Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political, public, social and economic life

65. Work was pursued to ensure visibility and wider ownership of the Council of Europe commitments to gender parity, to the meaningful participation of women in decision-making and to the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making. This was done particularly through input in the preparation for the Council of Europe's New Democratic Pact for Europe and in follow-up to the Reykjavik Declaration. Contributions in this regard were made to various activities of the Steering Committee for Democracy. Exchanges on this topic also took place with ODIHR/OSCE and with the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

66. Preparatory work began regarding the review and possible update of Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)1 on the inclusion of gender differences in health policy. In 2027, the GEC will consider an implementation review report, to be prepared in collaboration with the Steering Committee on Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO). Given the persisting gender inequalities in health policy and the disproportionate impact of the Covid-19 crisis on women, assessing implementation of the Recommendation could help member States identify effective practices as well as the challenges and key policy gaps to address.

67. In line with Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on Preventing and combating sexism, policy work continuously promoted the need for an equal distribution of unpaid care and domestic work among women and men, to be facilitated by paid care leave systems as well as access to quality and affordable childcare and other social services.

68. In 2025, the GEC organised its annual conference on "[Tackling sexism and violence against women: an essential step towards equal participation](#)" jointly with the Maltese Presidency of the Committee of Ministers on 17-18 September in Siġġiewi, Malta. The conference addressed the issue of violence and sexism against women in politics and the role of political parties and institutions to combat these phenomena.

69. In terms of capacity building, 12 members of the Belarusian democratic forces and civil society attended a leadership seminar for young women leaders. They successfully identified, analysed, and evaluated the

relevance of various examples of transformative female leadership, whilst strengthening their capacity and motivation to advocate for the meaningful consideration of gender and youth perspectives in policy discussions.

Strategic Objective 5 – Ensuring women’s empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges

70. Work focused on promoting of the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls and on sustaining progress towards gender equality in the context of the increasing impacts of anti-gender rhetoric.

71. A **Practical guide for public authorities to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls** was produced by the GEC in 2025 and disseminated in relevant migration-related contexts. Notably, it was distributed to the Council of Europe Network of Focal Points on Migration. This body is composed of members from relevant ministries in the member States and in relevant United Nations fora dealing with migration issues.

72. Efforts were also made to integrate a gender equality perspective in the general activities on migration of the Council of Europe.

73. In 2025, the Gender Equality Commission developed its work to highlight the benefits of gender equality policies, in an effort to consolidate the *acquis* in this area, to sustain continued progress towards gender equality and to attract support from the wider public. This work stresses the link between democracy and gender equality and the fact that policies to address democratic backsliding must take into account the whole population, including gender equality and intersectional issues. In this context, the **Guidance for the development of positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric: A practical guide for values-based communication to advance gender equality** was adopted by the Gender Equality Commission as a communication toolkit to be used by national authorities, civil society organisations or other interested stakeholders.

74. In autumn 2025, the GEC started preparing its 2026 annual conference on topic of women’s participation in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. The conference builds on Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)10 on the role of women and men in conflict prevention and resolution and in peace building, and will have a particular focus on Russia’s full-scale war of aggression against Ukraine.

Strategic Objective 6 – Achieving gender mainstreaming and including an intersectional approach in all policies and measure

75. Gender mainstreaming continued to be a transformative force within the Council of Europe in 2024 and 2025, including through the development of targeted support tools. Direct support was given by the Gender Equality Division to different sectors of the Council of Europe. A new online HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming was developed in English and French, targeting Gender Equality Rapporteurs, Council of Europe staff and the wider public. In 2024-2025, the HELP course was widely promoted and translated into six more languages. The course has proven successful and is integrated on the Council of Europe internal training platform. The Gender Equality Division also actively contributed to the adoption of Organisation-wide guidelines on gender inclusive language in both official languages, aiming to promote the use of more inclusive language throughout the Organisation.

76. In 2024, specific activities supporting the inclusion of a gender equality perspective within Council of Europe monitoring activities were carried out. A **Toolkit on gender mainstreaming in Council of Europe monitoring mechanisms: Gender mainstreaming in practice** was developed together with the secretariats of monitoring bodies and an event to publicise the Toolkit was organised.

77. Two annual training sessions for Gender Equality Rapporteurs were organised, and support was given to sectors of the Organisations to assist the organisation of their own gender mainstreaming training sessions. The intra-secretariat Gender Mainstreaming Team met once each year and the meetings were accompanied by capacity building sessions on inclusive language.

78. Specific sectoral support and capacity-building was provided to various sectors of the Organisation. The Gender Equality Division provided advice and input on specific tools and standards from a gender equality perspective. Such activities took place, for example, in the areas of democracy, including the New

Democratic Pact for Europe, sport (anti-doping, security at sport events), education, minority languages, national minorities, health, sexuality education, medicrime, and drug policies and prisons.

79. The Strategy contains a stronger focus on the integration of an intersectional perspective within the activities of the Organisation. The Gender Equality Division and Commission actively worked towards this aim, both by promoting mainstreamed perspectives (youth, children's rights, Roma and Travellers, disability) within their own activities and by collaborating with relevant sectors and with civil society organisations. The concept of intersectionality is integrated in all gender mainstreaming support tools and training sessions and in all gender mainstreaming advice provided. Active input was given to the work of the anti-discrimination sector on equality mainstreaming and on intersectional discrimination. Efforts were made towards ensuring more consistency in the list of grounds of discrimination used within the Organisation, aiming to ensure better protection against intersectional discrimination, which particularly impacts all women and girls.

80. In terms of awareness-raising, in Ukraine, three civil society organisations received a grant to develop and implement awareness raising initiatives to promote the Strategy. These included awareness-raising about CoE gender equality standards, strengthening women's leadership and promoting gender equality using an intersectional approach.

81. Finally, concerning capacity building, through cooperation work, 14 representatives of the Belarusian democratic forces and civil society enhanced their understanding of Council of Europe standards on gender equality and gender mainstreaming during a Study Visit to Strasbourg, and 8 increased their knowledge of gender-responsive policymaking standards and tools through online peer-to-peer sessions. In addition, the HELP course on Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming was translated into the Belarusian language and disseminated among the partners in exile.

Ensuring ownership by the member States of the Strategy and related processes and activities

82. In line with its Terms of Reference, the GEC organised its **2024 annual conference "United around gender equality: making space for women and girls"** jointly with the Lithuanian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on 30 May. The conference marked the launch of the Gender Equality Strategy 2024-2029 and the 10th Anniversary of the Istanbul Convention.

83. High-level events were organised in 2024-2025 by the Gender Equality Division or other parts of the Organisation, allowing for useful exchanges and discussions on gender equality-related issues. These are mentioned in other parts of this report concerning the GEC's own activities, those in co-operation with partners, and other Council of Europe initiatives – see Appendix 3 to this report for an overview of activities carried out by different sectors of the Organisation. The planning and design of co-operation projects also necessarily involve meetings with senior policy makers in member States, in addition to the various bodies directly concerned by the projects (ministries, training institutions for the police and justice system, gender equality bodies, NGOs, etc.).

84. Practical tools and publications, visibility and promotion materials on Council of Europe standards and their implementation were prepared and widely disseminated throughout member States and among other stakeholders during national, regional or global events. Such publications are in high demand from member States and internal/external partners and are very useful tools to monitor progress and compliance with benchmarks and standards. A full list of the 2024-2025 publications is included in Appendix 2 to this report.

85. The regular updating of **the gender equality website, as well as the increasing number of translations of Council of Europe standards**, have contributed to raising the visibility of both standards and activities among member States, experts and the public. As indicated earlier, particular efforts continued in 2024-2025 to promote Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)1 on preventing and combating sexism (now available in 28 languages), the Practical guide for public authorities to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls and the co-operation projects run by the Gender Equality Division with a strong focus on the promotion and implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

86. During the 68th Commission on the Status of Women (March 2024), a side-event entitled- **"Catalysts for ending stereotypes in the media and advertising"**, was co-organised with the Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein to the United Nations, as part of the Liechtenstein Presidency of the Committee of Ministers. The side-event highlighted how **media and advertising plays a transformative role in breaking down**

gender stereotypes and in promoting gender equality. The side-event showcased, in particular, initiatives and promising practices taken by the advertising industry to eliminate sexist advertising.

87. The development of new HELP (European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals) course module on technology-facilitated violence against women was developed, either as a standalone course or as an additional chapter within an existing violence against women HELP course. It was translated into 25 languages, including Ukrainian.

88. In 2025, the GEC organised its annual conference on “[Tackling sexism and violence against women: an essential step towards equal participation](#)” jointly with the Maltese Presidency of the Committee of Ministers on 17-18 September in Siġġiewi, Malta. The conference addressed the issue of violence and sexism against women in politics and the role of political parties and institutions to combat them.

89. In 2025, during the 69th Commission on the Status of Women, a side-event [Threats and opportunities of digital technologies: Women in the public eye](#) was co-organised by the Council of Europe and the Permanent Mission of Luxembourg to the United Nations, during the Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers. The side-event put forward initiatives and promising practices taken by the private and public sectors to prevent and combat technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, in particular, to facilitate its reporting to relevant authorities and to platforms.

90. In 2024-2025, work on the implementation of Strategic Objective 5 of the Gender Equality Strategy focused on promoting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls and in sustaining progress towards gender equality in the context of the increasing impacts of anti-gender rhetoric.

91. As mentioned above (paragraphs 71, 73), a Practical guide for public authorities to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls was produced in 2025 and disseminated in relevant migration-related contexts, and the *Guidance for the development of positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric: A practical guide for values-based communication to advance gender equality* was adopted by the Gender Equality Commission as a communication toolkit to be used by national authorities, civil society organisations or other interested stakeholders.

Transversal activities and cooperation with the various bodies and institutions in the Council of Europe to ensure gender mainstreaming in all Council of Europe policies and measures

92. As in paragraphs 71-78 above, gender mainstreaming continued to be a transformative force within the Council of Europe in 2024, including through the development of targeted support tools and through direct support to different sectors. A new online HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming was developed in English and French, targeting Gender Equality Rapporteurs, Council of Europe staff and the wider public. In 2024-2025, the HELP course was widely promoted and translated into six more languages. The course has proven successful and is integrated on the Council of Europe internal training platform. The Gender Equality Division also actively contributed to the adoption of Organisation-wide guidelines on gender inclusive language in both official languages, aiming to promote the use of more inclusive language throughout the Organisation.

Gender equality and gender mainstreaming activities in different Council of Europe sectors and bodies

93. Specific sectoral support and capacity building were also provided and various sectors of the Organisation led gender equality-related activities, by organising events or adopting specific tools or standards, for example in the areas of democratic participation, sport and deprivation of liberty. A gender equality perspective was also integrated in the activities of several intergovernmental committees, for example those on Roma and Traveller issues, drug policies, and sexuality education.

94. The gender equality and gender mainstreaming activities of different Council of Europe sectors and bodies were rich and manifold in 2024-2025.

95. Amongst monitoring bodies, the areas of national minorities (Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities), minority languages (European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages) and combating racism and intolerance (European Commission against Racism and Intolerance) continued their efforts to ensure the systematic consideration of a gender equality and gender mainstreaming perspective in monitoring activities, but also through specific activities (ex: translation of the action page on combating sexism in minority languages).

96. Intergovernmental work closely related to gender equality took place in the children's rights sector, notably regarding promoting sexuality education¹², the prevention of sexual violence and addressing the negative impacts of pornography. The education sector started its work on the development of a scoreboard on gender equality in education. The steering committee on Anti-discrimination, diversity and inclusion (CDADI) and its subordinate bodies (Committee of Experts on intercultural inclusion, Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues and Committee of Experts on Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression, and Sex Characteristics) were also active in the area of gender equality. They either worked directly on gender equality-related topics, such as gender equality and artificial intelligence, intersectionality or on promoting the rights of Roma women and LGBTI women, or they included a gender equality perspective in their work. The steering committee on democracy (CDDDEM) produced parameters for the implementation of the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy including the full, equal and meaningful participation and empowerment of women and girls and started developing guidelines for enhancing the participation in elections of women, girls and young persons, and vulnerable groups.

97. In the area of youth, gender mainstreaming is a precondition for allocation of grants by the European Youth Foundation, the participation of young women in different fora was supported and study sessions were organised on gender equality-related topics. In the sector of sport, the "All In Plus – promoting greater gender equality in sport" project produced data and recommendations to improve the situation of women in sport. A new project on promoting women's health in sport across generations was launched. Activities also took place regarding gender equality in anti-doping and in relation to safety at sporting events. In the area of audiovisual, both Eurimages, the European cinema support fund and the European Audiovisual Observatory produced data to monitor and promote the participation of women in the sector.

98. The Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) adopted different reports on gender equality issues, for example related to gender discrimination in health, combating violence and discrimination against lesbian, bisexual and queer women, on sexual violence against men and boys, protecting women human rights defenders, on promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary life, on women in the economy and on artificial intelligence and gender equality. In June 2025, PACE held an urgent debate on "Women's rights in Europe – Progress and challenges", which led to the adoption of a Resolution with the same title ([Resolution 2614 \(2025\)](#)). The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities conducted cooperation activities on women and democratic participation. The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) introduced gender equality as a cross-cutting priority in its Strategic Framework 2023-2027.

99. The Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights ensured the integration of a gender equality and women's rights perspective in its activities. In particular, women's rights and gender equality have been central to the Commissioner's priority work concerning the human rights of Roma and Traveller communities. The Commissioner's book, *The Unheard 12 Million: The Unstoppable Voice of Roma and Traveller Women*, and memoranda published following his visits to Slovakia, Ireland, Finland, Greece, and North Macedonia, draw attention to the lived experiences of Roma and Traveller women and girls. The Commissioner has also emphasised the importance of achieving justice and redress for Roma survivors of forced sterilisation in a letter to the Czech authorities. Numerous speeches and statements have called for member States to support the empowerment of Roma and Traveller women and girls.

Strategic partnerships and dialogue with other regional and international organisations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders

100. The Council of Europe continues to maintain strategic partnerships with regional and international organisations such as: the European Union-European Commission and its Advisory Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, the European Parliament, the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA); the United Nations – in particular

12. "Comprehensive sexuality education" is the internationally accepted term for an age- and developmentally appropriate and rigorous evidence-based education process about the cognitive, emotional, physical and social aspects of relationships, sexuality and sex. It aims to support and protect development, equip children in all their diversity with knowledge, skills, attitudes, values and critical thinking that will empower them to achieve multiple objectives. These include how to respect, protect and fulfil their health, well-being and dignity; to develop safe, healthy, equal and respectful relationships; and to consider how their choices affect their own well-being and that of others. Comprehensive sexuality education also seeks to impart knowledge to children on how to respond if they are a victim of any form of violence or to instances, suspicions or risks of violence towards others, and to understand and ensure the protection of their rights throughout their life course. The term used may vary when applied to different national contexts. This is the agreed definition of "comprehensive sexuality education" in the **Draft recommendation of the Committee of Ministers on the protection of children against violence through age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education** approved by the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF).

UN Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Human Rights Council; the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR); the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the Organization of American States (OAS); networks of women's organisations; Organisations working on men and boys and gender equality (Equimundo and MenEngage); other international NGOs, the private sector, research and think-tank institutions. In this context, the Chair or members of the GEC or its Bureau, as well as the GED, regularly provide input to the work of partners, including through attendance at events.

101. As a key partner of the **SYNERGY Network** against gender-based and domestic violence, the Council of Europe co-organised two high-level international conferences in Warsaw and Brussels in 2024 and early 2025, gathering over 200 governmental and non-governmental professionals from 15 EU countries to advance dialogue on the Istanbul Convention. The Council of Europe also strengthened strategic partnerships with regional and international organisations and civil society organisations. In the last two years, the Council of Europe had constructive, cost-effective cooperation and deepening synergies with UN Women and UNFPA, notably in the area of violence against women, including technology-facilitated violence. Joint capacity-building events were organised and knowledge tools developed for authorities, as evidenced in the Eastern Europe and the Western Balkan regions.

102. In **Georgia**, a joint conference on Women Human Rights Defenders in November 2024 (as part of the 16 Days of Activism), brought together 67 civil society and international participants, and joint capacity-building activities were organised for judges and prosecutors on women's rights and combating sexual violence, with particular focus on women with disabilities. In **Türkiye** a joint conference on women's access to justice after the earthquakes was organised in October 2024, focusing on legal, essential services, and social support in violence contexts. In addition, the conference on "Collective Impact for Women's Access to Justice, organised in September 2025, generated lessons learned and recommendations to guide future initiatives in promoting women's access to justice in Türkiye. In **Armenia**, the first Extended Gender Theme Group, in partnership with UN Women and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs was organised, with the aim to promote gender mainstreaming and capacity-building on gender equality standards. In **Kosovo**¹³, in collaboration with the Constitutional Court and the CSO "The AIRE Centre" Western Balkans Programme, a high-level conference was organised on implementing the Istanbul Convention through case-law, and intervention discussions were held in schools on the digital dimension of violence, with a focus on violence against girls. In **Ukraine**, a capacity development study visit to Spain was held in partnership with UN Women in July 2024 to exchange on legal and institutional frameworks regarding gender equality and combatting violence against women and domestic violence. In 2025, further cooperation was facilitated through the Spanish Ministry of Interior Attaché in Bulgaria (with extended accreditation to Ukraine), following a collaboration proposal submitted by the Ministry of Interior of Ukraine. Since 2024, an active engagement and cooperation with the DG ENEST is established through the EU EaP Working Group for Gender Equality, within the scope of the Eastern Partnership regional project on Women's Access to Justice: implementing Council of Europe gender equality and violence against women standards.

13. All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Conclusions and analysis

103. This implementation report provides an overview of the progress achieved by Council of Europe member States across six strategic objectives (SOs) in advancing gender equality. The data collected demonstrates an overall solid level of knowledge and use of Council of Europe norms and tools by member States, especially by departments or ministries working on gender equality. The reporting period 2024-2025 saw extensive policy activity and some legislative reform in member States across the six SOs. The biennium also marked the finalisation of the preparation by the Gender Equality Commission of two key recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, on Equality and Artificial Intelligence and on Accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.

104. While member States demonstrated notable commitment—evidenced by high rates of implementation, data collection, and collaboration with civil society—challenges remain, particularly regarding emerging risks such as AI-driven discrimination, anti-gender narratives, attrition rates in justice, underrepresentation of women in leadership, and uneven uptake of gender-responsive tools. The report highlights these achievements alongside persistent gaps, and proposes targeted recommendations to reinforce existing measures, enhance awareness and training, expand data-based strategies, and promote the wider dissemination of Council of Europe guidance and standards.

SO 1: Preventing and combating gender stereotypes and sexism

105. Member States demonstrated a high level of policy activity under SO1, with widespread implementation of Council of Europe recommendations and sex-disaggregated data collection. 97% of Member States reported active measures in this area, and 80% indicated regular collection of sex-disaggregated data. However, less than half of reporting States indicated that they have taken specific measures to address AI and gender dimensions of discrimination, which are often included in wider national strategies to combat sexism. This suggests a gap in the development of more targeted measures and tools focusing specifically on AI and gender dimensions of discrimination, as well as in the practical uptake of related tools and standards produced by the Council of Europe.

106. Given the completion of the work on two new Recommendations, on Equality and AI and on Accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls at the end of 2025, in the forthcoming period member States will be equipped with a policy framework to further strengthen research and initiatives on AI and gender bias and online sexism, and they should be encouraged to promote the awareness and use of Council of Europe standards and tools among relevant ministries and national institutions. To support these efforts, the Council of Europe should expand the dissemination of its standards and tools, with particular emphasis on guidance related to AI and gender inequality. As planned initial follow-up to the adoption of CM/Recommendation (2026)2 on Accountability for technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, the Council of Europe will publish infographics to present the key messages of the Recommendation in a clear and accessible format. The infographics will target stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Recommendation, including civil society, media, educators, and frontline practitioners as well as the general public. They will aim to support effective implementation by helping a wide range of actors understand the Recommendation, recognise its relevance, apply it in practice, and contribute to transparent monitoring and tracking of progress. By translating complex policy standards into concise visual narratives, the brochure will also support awareness-raising and facilitate wide dissemination. The visual approach is intended to extend reach, encourage engagement and support a clear understanding of the key messages of the Recommendation, while remaining aligned with the substance of the text. A similar approach could be envisaged for other standards and policy tools produced by the GEC, notably, the Recommendation on Equality and AI.

SO 2: Preventing and combating violence against women and girls and domestic violence

107. This objective remains the most advanced area across member States, characterised by widespread legislative, policy, and institutional reforms. Nearly all member States have undertaken action, resulting in a high rate of implementation and active use of the legally binding Istanbul Convention, and GREVIO thematic reports and recommendations. During the period 2024–2025, Latvia ratified the Istanbul Convention, further increasing its uptake among Council of Europe member States and reinforcing its role as a key reference framework.

108. Despite this high level of commitment, attrition rates in the justice system concerning cases of violence against women and girls remain significant. Additionally, some knowledge gaps persist, particularly regarding emerging forms of violence, such as technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.

109. In the light of this, Member States could focus efforts on addressing justice system attrition and expanding data collection related to technology-facilitated violence against women and girls, in order to strengthen prevention, protection, and prosecution. In this framework, the Council of Europe could continue promoting exchanges on innovative approaches to combat new forms of violence, including in the framework of GEC plenary meetings, the GEC annual conference, and thematic exchanges. Member States should be offered further opportunities to share challenges, learn from promising practices, and engage in multi-stakeholder dialogue as appropriate. The Council of Europe should also continue to organise training for legal professionals — including judges, prosecutors, lawyers, and law enforcement officials — and other key stakeholders, to ensure the effective implementation of existing standards and instruments related to gender equality and violence against women. Such training could be updated to include modules addressing recent legislative developments and technological advancements where relevant.

SO 3: Ensuring equal access to justice for women and girls

110. Member States reported solid progress in policy and legislative actions to advance equal access to justice, with continuous improvements in the collection of sex-disaggregated data. The majority of member States have adopted measures to remove barriers to justice for all women and girls, while approximately 50% took into account recommendations from the Council of Europe study of the impact of COVID-19 on women's access to justice. Nevertheless, the adoption of the lessons learned as set out in this study remains uneven, and persistent barriers—including high attrition rates—continue to impact women's experiences and outcomes in legal proceedings.

111. The report's findings would therefore appear to support the continued advancement by member States of efforts to implement evidence-based reforms, to improve access to justice, and to strengthen monitoring and evaluation of attrition rates throughout the justice chain, through investigation, prosecution, trial, sentencing and enforcement, recording reasons for case discontinuance at each stage. To support member States, the Council of Europe could provide targeted support focused on reducing attrition and promoting peer-to-peer mentoring, as well as the adoption of data-driven justice strategies across national systems. In addition to the existing *acquis* on gender equality and access to justice, standards and policy guidance produced by the Council of Europe European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ), including on the quality of justice, judicial time management and cyber-justice and AI could be beneficial for member States in tackling high rates of attrition. The GEC could consider ways to deepen cooperation with CEPEJ, including through the Network of CEPEJ national correspondents.

SO 4: Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political, public, social and economic life

112. Member States demonstrated notable progress in strengthening women's political representation and economic participation, with strong reliance on policy measures. During the reporting period, 29 responding member States implemented actions to promote equal representation, and measures supporting economic and labour market access were extensive.

113. Nevertheless, persistent underrepresentation of women in leadership positions remains a challenge. Legislative initiatives to address gender balance were less frequent, and the uptake of certain Council of Europe tools was comparatively low. As of 1 January 2026, women represented 32.3% of all parliamentarians in Europe, compared to 31.6% in January 2024, and 31.8% in January 2025, indicating a slight upward trend. Women accounted for 21.4% of presidents/speakers of parliament in Europe as of 1 January 2026, a decrease

from 27.1% the previous year. In terms of committee chairs, as of 1 January 2026 women held 33.2% of chair positions overall, or 26.2% when gender equality committees are excluded.¹⁴

114. Member States are therefore encouraged to consider implementing quotas, expanding awareness-raising and training initiatives, and prioritising improved data collection and research to identify obstacles to participation, in line with Recommendation CM/Rec(2003)3 on balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision making. The forthcoming study on equal participation of women in political and public decision-making, which will be considered for adoption by the GEC in November 2026 could also provide inspiration. The Council of Europe could continue to facilitate exchanges of good practices and targeted support to enhance women's leadership, particularly in the private sector and on corporate boards.

SO 5: Ensuring women's empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges

115. The report demonstrates that a gender perspective has been effectively integrated into member States' responses to crises—including conflict, migration, health emergencies, and climate change—with considerable attention to addressing anti-gender rhetoric through collaboration with civil society organisations and international organisations. During the reference period, 28 member States adopted gender-responsive approaches to crisis prevention and mitigation, and cooperation with civil society organisations was widespread. Lessons learned from the pandemic could be leveraged to inform future crisis planning, while efforts to enhance engagement with civil society organisations —particularly at the local level—could be further intensified.

116. The Council of Europe could further expand the dissemination of practical guides and resources to strengthen gender-responsive crisis management and resilience. This work may also benefit from an in-depth exchange with member States, participants and observers on their national practices for disseminating Council of Europe standards, to identify best practices and ensure an efficient approach to dissemination.

117. The report further suggests that there is promising work on implementation of the Recommendation on migrant, asylum-seeking and refugee women and girls at national level. This could be further improved by promoting use of the Practical guidance document adopted by the GEC in late 2025. The next implementation evaluation of the Strategy could include specific questions on this document, and this approach could be replicated for other visibility materials to explore whether there is a correlation between publication of such tools for member States and an uptake in work at national level.

SO 6: Achieving gender mainstreaming and including an intersectional approach in all policies and measures

118. All 37 member States reported active integration of gender mainstreaming across policy areas, with wide consideration of intersectionality in both policy development and implementation. 24 member States have adopted gender budgeting practices, and specific needs related to intersectionality are increasingly addressed in policy analysis.

119. However, certain tools—such as those relating to gender budgeting and monitoring mechanisms—remain underused. The extent of cooperation with civil society organisations and across sectors is also variable. The findings in the report would therefore suggest that member States could expand gender mainstreaming efforts to additional policy sectors and reinforce intersectionality awareness throughout policy cycles. The Council of Europe could support these efforts by investing in targeted training on intersectionality and gender mainstreaming, and by actively promoting the broader uptake of monitoring mechanisms and gender budgeting tools.

14. Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), *Women in Parliament in 2023: The Year in Review*.

IPU and UN Women, *Women in Politics 2025*, situation on 1 January 2025.

IPU and UN Women, *Women in Politics 2026*, situation on 1 January 2026.

IPU, *Women in Parliament in 2025: The Year in Review*.

Note: The IPU counts Belarus, Russia, and the Holy See in its "Europe" figures, but lists Council of Europe members Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia in the Central Asia region.

Overarching analysis & gaps

- ▶ **Overall Progress:** Violence against women and girls and gender mainstreaming are comparatively well covered at the member state level.
- ▶ **Areas to improve:** Access to justice for women. Obstacles to effective participation in legal processes persist and rates of attrition in the justice system remain rather high. Sexism and gender stereotypes, including those generated or amplified by AI systems, receive less systematic and focused attention.
- ▶ **Positive Trends:** Promising work is underway regarding migrant, asylum-seeking, and refugee women and girls, aided by practical guidance; the publication of practical guidance could be expanded to other domains.
- ▶ **Data Gaps:** Significant variability between member States in data collection and use of Council of Europe standards persists; attrition rates in the justice process vary greatly among countries.
- ▶ **Cooperation:** Partnerships with civil society and international bodies are strong but could be expanded, especially at local levels and for less “mainstreamed” objectives.

Recommendations

To the Council of Europe:

- ▶ **Enhance Dissemination:** Intensify awareness and promotion of underused and/or lesser known tools.
- ▶ **Monitor & Evaluate Impact:** Develop metrics to assess the correlation between new tools/publications and national policy uptake; gather feedback for continuous improvement.
- ▶ **Expand Support for Justice Access and Attrition Reduction:** Provide additional capacity building and peer-learning focused on reducing attrition rates in VAWG and removing access-to-justice barriers for women.
- ▶ **Coordinate Strategic Partnerships More Broadly:** Deepen engagement with CSOs and local organisations, investing in local actions as well as policy-level interventions.

To Member States:

- ▶ **Invest in Research & Data Collection:** Address data gaps for both gender stereotypes/sexism (especially AI/algorithmic bias) and justice process attrition.
- ▶ **Mainstream Gender in Emerging Crisis Areas:** Apply lessons from economic downturns, COVID-19, and environment-related challenges to integrate gender-responsive approaches across all crises.
- ▶ **Advance Representation & Leadership:** Take targeted legislative action (e.g., quotas), support women’s leadership, and address private sector gaps.
- ▶ **Expand Local Partnerships & CSO Involvement:** Engage civil society at administrative levels, particularly for effective crisis response and in combating anti-gender narratives.
- ▶ **Monitor & Report:** Regularise monitoring, including qualitative feedback, to ensure action plans reflect lived experiences and intersectional needs.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Activities and measures in member States in 2024-2025 towards the achievement of the objectives of the Council of Europe Strategy 2024-2029

Because of the length of the compiled contributions from member States, they cannot be appended to this report. The compilation can nevertheless be found via the following [link](#) to the Gender Equality website.

Appendix 2: List of standards, publications and other practical tools produced in 2024-2025

2024 - Recommendation CM/Rec(2024)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on equality of Roma and Traveller women and girls

2025 - Guidance for the development of positive narratives to deflect anti-gender rhetoric, Gender Equality Commission (2025)

2025 - Practical guide for public authorities to support the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls

Armenia

2024

- ▶ Study on digital dimensions of violence against women in Armenia
- ▶ Guidelines for gender sensitive journalism
- ▶ [Handbook: Police response to domestic violence](#), [Handbook for Armenian police officers](#).
- ▶ Study "The regional specialist domestic violence service network in Armenia: Building capacity, quality and continuous improvement".

2025

- ▶ Study: [Armenia's path to ratification of the Istanbul Convention: Progress and challenges](#)
- ▶ [Analysis of the legal and policy framework](#) for domestic violence perpetrator programmes in Armenia in light of the Istanbul Convention
- ▶ The Curriculum for training of professionals working on programmes for perpetrators of domestic violence in the Republic of Armenia
- ▶ The basic online training module on the digital dimension of violence against women and domestic violence

Azerbaijan

2024

- ▶ Online HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming in Azerbaijan
- ▶ Study "Barriers, remedies and good practices for women's access to justice in Azerbaijan"

2025

- ▶ 2025 - Online HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming launched for state institutions in Azerbaijan
- ▶ 2025 – Online HELP course on domestic violence for law enforcement in Azerbaijan

Belarus

2024

- ▶ Brochure "Istanbul Convention presentation"

2025

- ▶ Translation from English to Belarusian of the HELP course on Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming

Bosnia and Herzegovina

2024

- ▶ Guidelines on emerging practices in the investigation and prosecution of digital violence against women
- ▶ Good practice Guidelines for the investigation and prosecution of sexual violence offences based on the lack of consent of the victim
- ▶ GREVIO General Recommendation No.1 on the digital dimension of violence against women
- ▶ Focus section of the 4th General Report on GREVIO activities

2025

- ▶ Gap analysis of Bosnia and Herzegovina's legal, policy and institutional framework in regard to the definition of sexual violence and the digital dimension of violence against women
- ▶ Collecting data on technology-facilitated violence against women: Challenges and ways forward
- ▶ [Analysis of cases of technology-facilitated violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina](#)

Georgia

2024

- ▶ National Study "Barriers, remedies and good practices on women's access to justice in Georgia"

Greece

2024

- ▶ Report: "Supporting the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in the Hellenic Republic"

Kosovo¹⁵

2025

- ▶ "Manual for teachers and education staff on the role of schools in the prevention and identification of violence against women and domestic violence"
- ▶ "Unequal among unequals: Intersectional and multiple discrimination in the field of violence against women and domestic violence"
- ▶ "Guidelines and standards for social services for the protection of victims of domestic violence" (to be published and made available in 2026)

Republic of Moldova

2024

- ▶ Study on the legal and procedural framework of the Republic of Moldova regarding the international protection of migrant, refugee, and asylum-seeking women in light of the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence
- ▶ Study on coordination of multi-agency and inter-sector cooperation in the field of preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (VAW/DV)
- ▶ Study on the digital dimension of violence against women in the Republic of Moldova
- ▶ Guidelines for social assistants for the prevention, protection, and intervention in cases of violence against women/domestic violence based on the Istanbul Convention
- ▶ Study on evaluating the response of the criminal justice system to cases of domestic violence in Cahul, Falesti, Stefan Voda districts and Chisinau municipality
- ▶ Guidelines for police when dealing with violence against women and domestic violence cases

Slovenia

- ▶ Report "The digital dimension of violence against women and girls in Slovenia"

Türkiye

Publications of the grantees:

- ▶ Research report on "Experiences of Women Raised under State Protection in Accessing Legal Mechanisms and Civil Society Perspective: Systemic Problems and Empowerment Opportunities"
- ▶ Handbook for legal professionals in the field of violence against women and domestic violence.
- ▶ Brochures on gender-based violence and available support mechanisms for women ([English](#), [Turkish](#), [French](#), [Arabic](#), [Farsi](#))

15. All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this document shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Ukraine

2024

- ▶ Brief, “The significance of Terminology: Gender based violence against Women”
- ▶ Publication, Guidelines on Reporting for Baseline GREVIO Evaluations
- ▶ Publication, Guide to the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation on Protecting the rights of Migrant, Refugee and Asylum-Seeking Women and Girls
- ▶ Publication, “Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence: A Practical Guide for Police officers”.
- ▶ Brochure, “After ratification: Promising practices to advance implementation of the Istanbul Convention”.
- ▶ Publication, “Checklist for Preventing Violence against Women through Formal and Informal Education”.
- ▶ Publication Manual “Working with victims of sexual violence during armed conflict: A manual for Ukrainian prosecutors”.

Translation from English into Ukrainian:

- ▶ Report. The 4th General Report on activities of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) - a specific section on the topic: “Approaches taken in states parties to the Istanbul Convention on the criminalisation and prosecution of sexual violence, including rape”.
- ▶ Publication, “Setting up co-ordinating bodies responsible for policies on violence against women: Article 10 of the Istanbul Convention”.
- ▶ Publication “Ensuring the non-discriminatory implementation of measures against violence against women and domestic violence: Article 4, paragraph 3, of the Istanbul Convention” .
- ▶ Comprehensive WAVE methodology and checklist for civil society organisation (CSOs) to run communication/advocacy campaigns to promote the Istanbul Convention.

2025

- ▶ gender related coordinators
- ▶ Publication, “Safe and dignified: gender-sensitive voluntary return strategies for Ukraine, anchored in Council of Europe standards” (to be published and make available in 2026).
- ▶ Translation from English into Ukrainian:
- ▶ “European Standards for Perpetrator Programmes. Standards for Survivor-Safety-Oriented Intimate Partner Violence Perpetrator Programmes” developed by the European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence;
- ▶ Video “Why perpetrator work and do perpetrator programmes work?” on Perpetrators Programme and the video “European Standards by WWP EN”(with the Ukrainian voice-over and subtitles) developed by the European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence);

Appendix 3: Overview of activities carried out by different entities of the Council of Europe relating to the achievement of the strategy's objectives in 2024-2025

INDICATIVE TABLE OF ONGOING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
Strategic objective 1: Prevent and combat gender stereotypes and sexism			
Activity	Entity	Timeframe	Current Status
1. Continue to develop the sexism campaign "Sexism: See it. Name it. Stop it." to raise awareness of the sexism recommendation in the member states	GED + GEC	2021-2027	Ongoing
2. Contribute to the work of the Council of Europe in relation to internet governance and artificial intelligence from a gender equality perspective	GED + relevant sectors	2018-2027	Ongoing
3. Grants of the European Youth Foundation awarded to projects of youth civil society organisations. Examples of projects include the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls, Young People Enhancing Gender Equality, European Youth Foundation.	Youth (EYF)	2018-2027	Ongoing
4. Production of "Guidelines on combating sexist advertising" (follow up to the international seminar "Combating sexist advertising: learning from practice", 2017)	Inclusion & Anti-discrimination	2022-2023	Completed
5. Legal Training for Roma/Traveller NGOs and activists to build their capacities in making use of Council of Europe standards and mechanisms, including on intersectionality and gender equality, in collaboration with the European Roma Rights Centre	DGII	2025	Completed
6. Hearing PACE Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination joint session with No Hate Parliamentary Alliance on rights of minority women	PACE and DGII	2025	Completed
7. Cooperation with Lupovino association – consultative meeting on issues faced by Roma and Travellers women in France	DGII	2025	Completed
8. Translate the sexism campaign "Sexism: See it. Name it. Stop it." In regional or minority languages	ECRML + FCNM	2024-2029	Ongoing
9. Design and development of a project on information inclusivity for fighting intersectional discrimination	N/S Centre	2022-2024	Proposed

10. Draft Recommendation on the impact of artificial intelligence systems, their potential for promoting equality – including gender equality - and the risks they may cause in relation to non-discrimination (cf. terms of reference of GEC/ADI-AI jointly with GEC, and in close co-operation with CAI)	CDADI/GEC (in close cooperation with CAI)	2023-2025	Ongoing
11. Feasibility study and possible draft Recommendation on preventing and combating intersectional discrimination (in consultation with GEC)	CDADI/GEC	2024 – 2027	Completed Feasibility Study ; Draft Recommendation under preparation
12. Recommendation on equal of rights for intersex persons (Cf. terms of reference of ADI-SOGIESC)	ADI-SOGIESC/ CDADI	2023-2025	Finalised
13. Subject to the adoption of [a specific legal instrument on the impact of artificial intelligence systems on equality/non-discrimination], a compilation of promising practices and/or tool(s) for the implementation at national level of relevant aspects of this recommendation (in co-operation with GEC)	CDADI in cooperation with the GEC	2025-2027	Planning
14. To continue the Block the Hatred. Share the Love campaigns under PGG III and HF III EU-CoE Joint programmes	No Hate Speech and Co-operation Unit, Anti-discrimination Department	2024-2027	Planning
15. In line with the ‘GEC-CDADI study on the impact of artificial intelligence systems, their potential for promoting equality, including gender equality, and the risks they may cause in relation to non-discrimination’ and related future work led by the Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI), to further elaborate on the gender dimension as part of the online course on AI and discrimination and other related activities in this area.	No Hate Speech and Co-operation Unit, Anti-discrimination Department	2024-2027	Planning
16. Development of a national strategy and action plan to develop Barnahus services in Spain ¹⁶ and its regions (coordination with gender equality services is ensured).	CRD	March 2024	Ongoing

16. Spain does not (yet) have a single formal national “Barnahus Strategy” in the form of a law. Instead, it works with: a “National Roadmap” (2024), an Autonomous Communities Roadmap and an operational plan currently under development (2026–2028). In practice, this set of instruments functions as both a strategy and an action plan.

17. Development of a communication strategy and action plan to raise awareness among professionals working in direct contact with children about existing training and explanatory materials, as well as Barnahus services (Barnahus Finland).	CRD	January 2024	Ongoing
18. Draft non-binding instrument on comprehensive age-appropriate sexuality education to strengthen responses to, among other things, prevent and combat violence against children (see ENF-VAE Terms of Reference).	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2024-2026	Ongoing
19. Feasibility study on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education to strengthen responses for inter alia preventing and combatting violence against children, including sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2025	Adopted
20. Guidelines on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behaviour among children	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2024-2027	To be developed
21. Preparation of an updated study on Sexual violence and harmful sexual behaviour displayed by children: Nature, causes, consequences and responses	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2024	Adopted
22. Preparation of a Thematic guidance note - Safeguarding children from the risks of accessing online pornographic content	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2025	Adopted
23. Development of Practical Guides on Preventing and Combatting Sexism in Local Politics for the Republic of Moldova (upcoming), Bosnia and Herzegovina (upcoming).	Congress	2024	Ongoing
24. Dissemination of the Practical Guides on Preventing and Combatting Sexism in Local Politics for Ukraine , Kosovo* , Georgia , the Republic of Moldova (upcoming), and Bosnia and Herzegovina (upcoming).	Congress	2024-2027	Ongoing
25. Creation of a network of sports media professionals and organisation of 2 informative sessions in cooperation with the EBU and the IOC on the theme of gender equality in sport.	"All In Plus – promoting greater gender equality in sport" joint EU-CoE project	2023-2025	Completed
26. Launch of a data collection campaign on gender equality in sport in 20 countries via Ministries of Sport, NOCs, NPCs and national sports federations.	"All In Plus – promoting greater gender equality in sport" joint EU-CoE project	2023-2025	Completed

27. Updating the online library on gender equality in sport, presenting best practice in terms of developing policies and programmes integrating the gender dimension into sport.	"All In Plus – promoting greater gender equality in sport" joint EU-CoE project	2023-2025	Completed
28. Countries mapping and needs assessment reports on women's health in sport.	"Active and Equal: Women's health in sport across generations" joint EU-CoE project	2026-2027	Planned
29. Compendium of good practices and recommendations on women's health in sport.	"Active and Equal: Women's health in sport across generations" joint EU-CoE project	2026-2027	Planned
30. Raising awareness campaign on women's health in sport	"Active and Equal: Women's health in sport across generations" joint EU-CoE project	2026-2027	Planned
31. Training and educational materials on women's health in sport across life stages are available to grassroot organisations and to women engaged in sport and physical activity. Additionally, regional training seminars for coaches, PE teachers, health staff and other relevant stakeholders will be available as well as training modules and workshops for journalists.	"Active and Equal: Women's health in sport across generations" joint EU-CoE project	2026-2027	Planned
32. Raising awareness campaign on combating hate speech, including gender-based hate speech	DGII	2025	Planned
33. Report: Preventing and combating gender discrimination in health	PACE	2024-2025	Completed (Resolution 2631 adopted on 21 Nov. 2025)
34. Report: Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media	PACE	2024-2026	Ongoing
35. Report: Equal share of unpaid work between women and men: a pre-condition to achieving gender equality	PACE	2026-2027	Ongoing

36. Report: "Female Professionals in European Film and TV/SVOD Production". Analysis of gender disparities among European film and TV professionals in off-screen roles.	European Audiovisual Observatory	2015-ongoing	Concluded
37. Awareness: European Webinar on Gender Equality Statistics and Strategies in Audiovisual Production. Organised by European Film Agency Directors (EFAD), UNI Europa - Media, Entertainment & Arts (EURO-MEI), the European Women's Audiovisual Network (EWA Network), the International Federation of Actors (FIA), the Federation of European Screen Directors (FERA), the Lab Femmes de Cinéma, the European Audiovisual Observatory, and Cineuropa.	European Audiovisual Observatory	2020-ongoing	Concluded
38. Defining gender-balance as one of the Organisation's diversity focus areas in the current People Strategy 2024-2027	DHR	2024-2027	Completed
39. Implementation of the new Diversity, Equality and Inclusion policy that explicitly aims to ensuring gender equality	DHR	2024-2027	Ongoing
40. Awareness raising of the importance of gender equality for the Organisation with special events on the annual International Women's Day (e.g. 2025: Photo contest)	DHR	2024-2027	Ongoing
41. Ensuring a gender-diverse recruitment panel in internal and external competitions	DHR	2024-2027	Completed
42. Review and enhancement of vacancy notices to use gender-neutral job descriptions and clearly highlighting gender diversity goals	DHR	2024-2027	Ongoing
43. In accordance with the Article 430 of the Staff Rule on Entry into service (equality of opportunity) preference in hiring processes should be given to the under-represented gender. Underpinned by diversity-improvement objectives for all senior managers and by making entity-specific data available to hiring managers at all levels.	DHR	2024-2027	Ongoing
44. Review of the current training offer to ensure that it adequately covers gender equality, diversity and inclusion aspects	DHR	2024-2027	Ongoing

45. Policy paper “Caught in a double bind: The situation of Belarusian women journalists in exile - Why is women journalists’ safety not seen as a priority in Belarusian exiled media? And what can be done to change this?”, produced as a result of a roundtable “Safety is not a luxury, ignorance is not protection. Why is women journalists’ safety not seen as a priority in Belarusian exiled media?”, organised in Strasbourg on 19 September 2025.	“Strengthening the capacities and skills of Belarusian journalists and media actors in exile” project	2025	Completed
46. Study session - Reaching Further: Decentralising LGBTQI Youth Activism - in cooperation with the IGLYO - International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer & Intersex (LGBTQI) Youth & Student Organisation	Youth	2024	Completed
47. Study session - Human Rights-Based Advocacy Unleashed: Access to Rights and Services for Young Migrant & Refugee Women in Europe - in cooperation with the Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE)	Youth	2024	Completed
48. Study session - Study Session on Young Romani Women’s and LGBTQ+ Health - in cooperation with Phiren Amenca International Network AISBL	Youth	2024	Completed
49. Study session - WE too: Workcamp Equality too! Creating a safer and more encouraging international youth for LBGTQI+ youth. - in cooperation with the Alliance of European Voluntary Service Network	Youth	2025	Completed
50. Dissemination of “Gender Matters!”, manual on addressing gender-based violence affecting young people, at relevant activities and on the dedicated website (https://www.coe.int/en/web/gender-matters).	Youth	2024-2025	Completed, with an update to the manual envisaged for 2026-2027.
51. Georgia - Workshops for women football players addressing sexual harassment and assault in sports, including discussions on combating gender stereotypes	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	April and May, 2024	Completed
52. Georgia - Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities on artificial intelligence (AI) and gender equality	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2024-2025	Completed
53. Georgia - Capacity-building for civil society organisations from Tbilisi and the regions, including grassroots organisations on countering anti-gender narratives and the Istanbul Convention.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	June 2025	Completed

54. Georgia - Capacity-building for media representatives on gender-sensitive reporting and media accountability in the context of violence against women and domestic violence.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	June 2025	Completed
55. Georgia - Training for young ICT (information and communications technology) professionals on ethical risks, unconscious gender bias and the harms of technology-facilitated violence against women, with a focus on designing inclusive and gender-sensitive digital products.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	November 2025	Completed
56. Georgia - Intensive training programme ("Digital Safety and Ethics Lab") for ICT sector professionals on identifying, preventing and responding to technology-facilitated violence against women	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2026	Planned
57. Ukraine: Checklist on formal and informal education to prevent VAW and DV (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
58. Regional LGBTIQ Women Conference in Belgrade, Serbia (21-24 November 2024); The Lesbian Conference in Ukraine (15-18 October 2025); Lesbian Visibility Week and Conference in Serbia (4-7 December 2025). These Conferences provided space for sharing experiences, strengthening responses and shaping a common vision for LGBTIQ women in the face of anti-gender movement and increasing gender backlash in the regional and global context.	SOGIESC Unit (under VC project)	2024 and 2025	Closed
59. Training for Italian police officers and prosecutors on discrimination based on SOGIESC, including intersectional discrimination.	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/CoE joint project)	2025	Closed
60. Updated manual on "Policing Hate Crime against LGBTI persons: Training for a Professional Police Response" and relative training of trainers and national trainings for police officers	SOGIESC Unit (under VC and EU/CoE joint projects)	2023-2025	Manual update: closed National trainings: ongoing
61. Design of an LGBTIQ anti-rumours methodology, aiming at identifying and combating stereotypes and prejudices based on SOGIESC, including gender-based stereotypes, and promoting alternative and fact-based narratives)	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/CoE joint project)	2024-2026	Ongoing
62. Organisation of trainings and production of guidelines on ethical reporting on LGBTIQ persons and issues for media and journalists.	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/CoE joint project)	2024-2026	Ongoing

63. Study on the risks and impediments to the full access to rights resulting from discrimination and violence on grounds of gender expression (cf. terms of reference of ADI-SOGIESC, in close co-operation with GEC)	ADI-SOGIESC/ CDADI/GEC	2024-2027	Ongoing
64. Montenegro: Finalizing a report on hate speech mapping in Montenegro	"Combating hatred and intolerance in Montenegro" HF 26 project	2025	Ongoing (to be published in 2026)
65. Montenegro: Comparative legal analysis of experiences and models of measures that contribute to increasing the representation of women in leadership positions in the judiciary, with recommendations based on field research involving judges, state prosecutors, lawyers, mediators and court experts in Montenegro	DGI	2025	Implemented
66. During the 5 th plenary meeting of the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU), a spotlight presentation of a report by the NGO, Plan International Poland, raised awareness of the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on the mental health challenges faced by boys and young men.	CRD	April 2025	Completed

INDICATIVE TABLE OF ONGOING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
Strategic objective 2: Prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence			
Activity	Entity	Timeframe	Current Status
1. Events/activities to promote the signature, ratification and implementation of the Istanbul Convention, as well as awareness raising about the Convention in member and non-member states, regional and international partner organisations	GED + GEC + VaW + + Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2018-2029	Ongoing
2. Grants to support civil society organisations in running communication and advocacy campaigns on the Istanbul Convention	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2022-2025 New cycle 2026-2029	Completed / Ongoing
3. EEA and Norway Grants: Expert advice and active involvement in the development and implementation of EEA/NG programmes and projects in countries which have included: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia (2/year per country); and events of the SYNERGY Network against Gender Based and Domestic Violence (Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia + 3 donor countries Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2018-2029	Ongoing
4. EEA and Norway Grants: Pathways to end violence against women Mission driven initiative provides expert advising and support to prevent and protect victims of gender based and domestic violence in Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Greece, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2030	Ongoing
5. Confidence in tomorrow! Youth event on the occasion of the 75 th anniversary of the Council of Europe	Youth	2024	Completed
6. Participation of female delegates in the Youth event associated with the Council of Europe Youth Ministerial Conference, Malta	Youth	2025	Completed
7. Participation of female delegates in the Council of Europe Youth Ministerial Conference, Malta	Youth	2025	Completed
8. Revision of the text of the European Charter on the participation of young people in local and regional life	Youth	2024-2026	Adopted by the Congress; CM adoption in 2026

9. European Youth Conference "Young people in local and regional life: Democracy in action!"	Youth	2025	Completed, connected with the revision of the text of the European Charter on the participation of young people
10. Roma Youth Conference	Youth	Annual event	Completed in 2024 and 2025; planned for 2026
11. Let's get political! Seminar on youth, politics and elections	Youth	2024	Completed
12. Let's get political! Consultative meeting with political party youth organisations on the follow-up to the Resolution 2553 Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly and the seminars on political youth engagement	Youth	2025	Completed in 2025, planned for 2026
13. European Youth Foundation awards grants to projects of youth civil society organisations. Examples of projects include the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls, Young People Enhancing Gender Equality, European Youth Foundation.	Youth	2018-2027	Ongoing
14. CM Recommendation on strengthening reporting systems on violence against children, with special attention paid to the specific situation and needs of girls and boys	CRD/CDENF	2023	Adopted by the CM
15. Implementation report on legal frameworks to protect children against sexual abuse in the circle of trust (including questions on the protection of children in legal marriage against sexual abuse by their spouse and exemption of perpetrators from criminal sanction on account of marriage to the victim; sexual abuse of children in the family and authorities' response to it)	CRD (Lanzarote Committee)	2023-2025	Adopted by the Lanzarote Committee in July 2025
16. CM Recommendation on equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls which will also cover the area of violence against Roma and Traveller women and girls	CDADI/ADI-ROM	2022-2023	Adopted by the CM

17. Subject to the adoption of a new Recommendation on combating hate crime, compilation of promising practices and tools for the implementation at national level of relevant aspects of this recommendation (as appropriate in consultation with CDPC)	CDADI (and as appropriate, CDPC)	2027	Online database of resources on hate crime completed; other work ongoing
18. To extend the work on disaggregated data collection on hate crime already led in Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine to other countries in the Western Balkans, in line with the Committee of Ministers Recommendation on preventing and combating hate crime, pending its adoption in spring 2024.	No Hate Speech and Co-operation Unit, Anti-discrimination Department	2024-2027	Planning
19. The SOGIESC Unit is implementing a CoE/ EU Joint project on “Combating anti-LGBTIQ violence and hate speech and strengthening awareness-raising and fact-based narratives about LGBTIQ persons”. The project outcomes include the setting up of a multi-stakeholder community of practice to counter the anti-gender/anti-rights movement, involving also gender-equality and feminist networks/ movements. One of the pilots organised to set up this community was in collaboration with feminist organisations, ensuring a gendered perspective.	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/CoE joint project)	2024-2026	Ongoing
20. SOGIESC Unit contributed to the organisation of a Regional Conference on “Spaces and services to protect LGBTI communities against violence”, in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina in partnership with the Council of Europe Anti-discrimination Co-operation Unit (5-7 November 2024).	SOGIESC Unit (under VC project)	2024	Closed
21. Armenia – report on digital dimension of VAW in Armenia, research on international practices for electronic monitoring in cases of domestic violence, report on advances towards ratification of the Istanbul Convention	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2025	Completed
22. Armenia – support to development of treatment programmes for perpetrators - study visit to Germany, development of curriculum, training of trainers, etc.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2026	Ongoing
23. Armenia – project “Ending violence against women and promoting gender equality in Armenia”: supporting in drafting the national Gender Equality Strategy (GES), conducting trainings for police, including adaptation and launching the HELP course on VAW and DV for law enforcement, small grants for NGOs, promoting gender mainstreaming in education.	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2024	Ongoing

24. Armenia – a new component of the project “Ending violence against women and promoting gender equality in Armenia” on protecting rights of refugee women and girls.	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Ongoing
25. Bosnia and Herzegovina- development and implementation of a two phased project on Combatting digital and sexual violence against women in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2023-20224 and 2025)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2025	Completed
26. Bosnia and Herzegovina- development and implementation of a project Strengthening Bosnia and Herzegovina’s responses to digital and sexual violence against women	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026-2027	Upcoming
27. Republic of Moldova – Launching of the phase II project “Supporting the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in the Republic of Moldova	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2027	Launched
28. Republic of Moldova - Capacity building for Femicide Commission	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
29. Republic of Moldova - Capacity building for law enforcement officials	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
30. Republic of Moldova – capacity building for judiciary	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
31. Republic of Moldova – Study on the state’s response to cases of women victims of violence who committed offences against their aggressors	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Ongoing
32. Republic of Moldova – Assessment of the legal framework and protection mechanisms for women with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities who are victims of violence against women and domestic violence	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Ongoing
33. Republic of Moldova – Study visit to France. Peer-to peer exchange	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed

34. Republic of Moldova - Capacity-building activities for the staff of the specialized Agency on monitoring, evaluation, and data collection to enhance its effectiveness	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
35. Republic of Moldova - Support to the Agency in organising thematic group meetings in line with four pillars of the IC	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
36. Republic of Moldova – Support the national authorities in development of the national data collection system	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Ongoing
37. Republic of Moldova – Study visit to Spain. Best practice on VioGen system	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
38. Republic of Moldova – support to national authorities in introducing legislative amendments to the law package on VAW/DV	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
39. Republic of Moldova - Joint campaign on bodily rights with UNFPA (digital dimension of violence against women)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2024	Completed
40. Republic of Moldova - Training methodology/ guide for social workers working with victims of violence against women and domestic violence, including a leaflet	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2024	Completed
41. Republic of Moldova – Study on digital dimension of violence against women in the Republic of Moldova	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2024	Completed
42. Azerbaijan- Azerbaijani adaptation of the HELP course on VAW for law-enforcement and launching event	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Ongoing
43. Azerbaijan- Work on establishment of a platform on multi-agency cooperation with the SCFWCA	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2027	Ongoing

44. Azerbaijan - Workshops on case law of the ECtHR for Faculty of Law Students and Legal Professionals	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
45. Azerbaijan- Advocacy for the recommendation of PGGII Gap Analysis	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
46. Azerbaijan- HELP course for law enforcement	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
47. Azerbaijan - Awareness-raising workshops on international standards and national legislation in the regions for the general public	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Postponed
48. Azerbaijan - Workshops on international standards on VAW/DV for civil servants and legal professionals	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
49. Azerbaijan (PGG III) – launch of the project “Preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence in Azerbaijan	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2026	Ongoing
50. Azerbaijan (PGG III) - Advocacy for the recommendation of PGGII Gap Analysis	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2026	Ongoing
51. Azerbaijan (PGG III) - Azerbaijani adaptation of the HELP course on VAW for law-enforcement and launching event	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023 -2024	Completed
52. Azerbaijan (PGG III) - Awareness-raising actions during the 16 days of activism	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2026	Ongoing
53. Azerbaijan – Study visit to Sweden for peer-to peer exchange	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed

54. Azerbaijan – Workshop for police on women's emergency support application	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
55. GUIDANCE FOR SAFE AND EFFECTIVE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMMES - A comparative study and recommendations on programmes for perpetrators of domestic violence and sex offenders	VaW Division	2024	Completed (study published in 2024)
56. Explainer on Article 25 (specialist support services for victims of sexual violence and rape)	VaW Division	2026	Ongoing
57. Event to mark the 10 th anniversary of the entry into force of the Istanbul Convention	VaW Division	2024	Completed (event organised together with annual conference of the GEC in May 2024)
58. Second meeting of co-ordinating bodies established under the Istanbul Convention (Schaan, Liechtenstein)	VaW Division	2024	Completed
59. Third meeting of co-ordinating bodies established under the Istanbul Convention (Malta)	VaW Division	2025	Concluded
60. Publication of country impact sheets to highlight progress under baseline evaluation procedure (Istanbul Convention)	VaW Division	March 2026	Six concluded Six under preparation
61. Ukraine: Development of a guide to the Istanbul Convention evaluation procedure (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
62. Ukraine: Roundtable on Istanbul Convention evaluation procedure guide (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
63. Ukraine: Research on public misunderstanding of the Istanbul Convention in regions and territorial communities (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
64. Ukraine: Presentation of Public Misunderstanding research (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed

65. Ukraine: Development of a checklist for educators on article 14 of Istanbul Convention (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
66. Ukraine: Paper on terminology: violence against women and gender based violence (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
67. Ukraine: NGO Grants for awareness raising on VAW/DV (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
68. Ukraine: Seminar on Ukraine VAW cases in the ECtHR and women's human rights (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
69. Ukraine: Brochure on positive examples after Istanbul Convention ratification (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
70. Ukraine: Roundtable on positive examples after IC ratification (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
71. Ukraine: Study Visit for Legal Professionals (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
72. Ukraine: Twinning programme on IC implementation (with a Study visit) (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
73. Ukraine: Infographics on the Istanbul Convention (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
74. Ukraine: Adaptation of Council of Europe's Perpetrator Programme publications to a Ukrainian context (support the update of the National Typical Programme for Perpetrators + Strategic Session) (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2026	Ongoing

75. Ukraine: Training of Trainers on Perpetrator Programme implementation (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2026	Planned
76. Ukraine: Training for prosecutors on handling domestic violence cases (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
77. Ukraine: Grants to civil society organisations for awareness raising activities on the Istanbul Convention (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2026	Ongoing
78. Draft non-binding instrument on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education to strengthen responses for inter alia preventing and combatting violence against children (cf. terms of reference of ENF-VAE).	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2024-2026	ToR approved
79. Guidance on the prevention of sexual violence and harmful or risky behavior by children.	CDENF/ENF-VAE	2024-2027	ToR approved
80. Workshop for Enhancing media reporting on gender-based violence in North Macedonia (Workshop for professionals from regional media)	DPC – DG II	2024	Planned
81. Report: Preventing and combating violence and discrimination against lesbian, bisexual and queer women in Europe	PACE	2024	Completed (Resolution 2576 adopted on 3 October 2024)
82. Report: Sexual violence against men and boys	PACE	2024-2025	Completed (Resolution 2629 adopted on 3 October 2025)
83. Peer-to-peer parliamentary seminar in Latvia: “From policies to results: the role of parliamentarians in implementing and monitoring the Istanbul Convention”	PACE	2024	Completed (held in Riga on 11 June 2024)
84. Report: Promoting the Istanbul Convention and improving its implementation: building on lessons learnt	PACE	2024-2026	Ongoing
85. Report: Paving the way for a culture of consent	PACE	2025-2026	Ongoing
86. Report: Violent pornography	PACE	2025-2026	Ongoing
87. Grant to Feminist Collective of Romani Gender Experts “Roma Women in Action: Multi-Country Training to Strengthen National Capacities for Monitoring and Advocating on Gender-Based Violence”	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed

88. International SYNERGY Conference “Protection of people experiencing domestic violence” in Poland (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence, with Polish Ministry of Justice) + SYNERGY Network Meeting	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
89. International SYNERGY Network Conference in Brussels, Belgium (closing EEA/Norway Grants cycle, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence, involving Norway, Poland, and Lithuania)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
90. SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence international strategy meeting for 2021–2028 cycle in Valetta, Malta (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and Malta Commissioner for Gender Equality)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
91. SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence international network meeting (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and Cyprus Ministry of Justice)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Planned
92. SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence international Conference (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and Polish Department of Equal Treatment within the Chancellery of the Prime Minister.)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Planned
93. SYNERGY International thematic working groups—Coordinated Policies; Prevention; Protection; Prosecution (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence, coordinated by relevant countries and Council of Europe)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026 - 2030	Planned
94. SYNERGY Study Visit 2026 (country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Planned
95. Development of SYNERGY publication on coordinated policies (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence, led by Poland, Norway and Council of Europe)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Planned
96. SYNERGY Thematic international steering committees (multinational, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and actively funding beneficiary countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Planned

97. Annual SYNERGY Conference 2027 (host country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and rotating beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2027	Planned
98. SYNERGY Study Visit 2027 (country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2027	Planned
99. SYNERGY Thematic publication on Istanbul Convention Protection pillar (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence involving multiple network countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2027	Planned
100.SYNERGY Thematic publication on Istanbul Convention Prevention pillar (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence involving multiple network countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2028	Planned
101.SYNERGY Thematic publication on Istanbul Convention Prosecution pillar (in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence involving multiple network countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2029	Planned
102.Annual SYNERGY Conference 2028 (host country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and rotating beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2028	Planned
103.SYNERGY Study Visit 2028 (country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2028	Planned
104.Annual SYNERGY Conference 2029 (host country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and rotating beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2029	Planned
105.SYNERGY Study Visit 2029 (country TBC, in partnership with the EEANG SYNERGY Network against gender based and domestic violence and beneficiary/donor countries)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2029	Planned

106.Georgia - Capacity-building for judges and prosecutors on the rights of women with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	September 2024	Completed
107.Georgia - Study visit to Strasbourg for Georgian civil society representatives to strengthen advocacy for the effective implementation of European standards on preventing violence against women and domestic violence	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	March 2025	Completed
108.Georgia - Capacity-building for representatives of the Public Defender's Office of Georgia on gender-sensitive and victim-centred approaches in the handling of sexual violence cases.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	April 2025	Completed
109.Georgia - Summer school for law students on strengthening legal responses to violence against women and domestic violence, with a focus on the Istanbul Convention	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	July -August 2025	Completed
110.Georgia - Capacity-building for civil society organisations from Tbilisi and the regions, including grassroots organisations, to strengthen their role in preventing violence against women and domestic violence, with a focus on the Istanbul Convention	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	June 2025	Completed
111.Georgia - Workshop for Tbilisi-based and regional civil society organisations on the Istanbul Convention's monitoring mechanisms, including GREVIO and the Committee of the Parties.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	September 2025	Completed
112.Georgia - Workshop for representatives of university-based legal aid clinics on victim-centred and trauma-informed legal assistance in cases of violence against women and domestic violence	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	November 2025	Completed
113.Georgia - Capacity-building initiatives to promote women's economic empowerment as a preventive measure against violence against women and domestic violence, addressing economic dependence as a key risk factor and strengthening women's access to skills, resources and economic opportunities, including for women in rural and minority communities.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2026	Planned
114.Georgia - Development of a training module for legal clinics on communication with victims of violence against women, risk assessment and handling cases of violence against women and domestic violence.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2026	Planned

115.Georgia - Specialised summer school for law students on survivor-centred legal approaches and the digital dimension of violence against women.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2026	Planned
116.Georgia - Translation and adaptation of the Digital Violence module of the European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals (HELP) in Georgia, targeting relevant professionals.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2026	Planned
117.The SOGIESC Unit is working with IGLYO on developing an Inclusive Education toolkit, including: ► Policy guidelines to prevent and address anti-LGBTIQ bullying in schools; ► Teacher training framework for LGBTIQ-inclusive classrooms and curricula; ► Education responses to anti-gender discourse (critical thinking, media literacy, and human rights-based civic education).	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/CoE joint project)	2024-2026	Ongoing
118.Recommendation on equal rights for intersex persons (Cf. terms of reference of ADI-SOGIESC) – includes provisions on a prohibition of non-consensual medical interventions on intersex persons	ADI-SOGIESC/ CDADI	2023-2025	Finalised (7 Oct 25)
119.Montenegro: Revision of the Protocol on fights against domestic violence and violence against women	"Strengthening accountability of the judicial system and enhancing protection of victims' rights" HF7	2025-2026	Ongoing
120.Child-friendly Justice Assessment Tool	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children's Rights Division (DG II)	2024	Done
121.Project "End Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse @Europe Plus (EndOCSEA@Europe+)" in Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Montenegro: support in advancing legal frameworks, capacity-building of legal and frontline professionals and awareness raising.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children's Rights Division (DG II)	2023-2025	Done

122. Project “Strengthening child-friendly justice among Barnahus-type services in Spanish regions”, supporting Spain in ensuring that all children who are victims of violence, including sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, benefit from a child-friendly, multidisciplinary and interagency response.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children’s Rights Division (DG II)	Phase I 2022-2024 Phase II 2024-2027	Phase I completed Phase II ongoing
123. Project “Support the implementation of the Barnahus project in Ireland”, to strengthen Ireland’s response mechanism to child sexual abuse.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children’s Rights Division (DG II)	Phase I 2022-2025 Phase II 2025-2028	Phase I completed Phase II ongoing
124. Models of effective interagency cooperation in criminal proceedings involving children’ in Ukraine - Development and deployment of training for multiple target groups of professionals	CRD	September 2023 – December 2026	Ongoing
125. The project on “Combatting violence against Children in Georgia”, carried out a comprehensive analysis of Georgia’s legal and practical frameworks for protecting children from sexual abuse, inter alia, vis-à-vis the Istanbul Convention. Capacity-building and awareness raising activities were also carried out paying attention to gender balance.	CRD	2024-2025	Completed
126. Training of Trainers on Preventing and Recognizing the Signs of Sexual Abuse of Pre-School Children (Co-operation project in Republic of Moldova).	CRD	2025	Completed
127. Joint EU/CoE Project on “Implementing the Barnahus Model in Croatia” to support the Croatian authorities in ensuring equal access and enhanced quality justice to children and more particularly girls and young girls victims and witnesses of sexual violence through the preparation of a roadmap, guidelines on Barnahus spatial and organisational coordination, a Memorandum of Understanding on IA cooperation, a HELP course on CSEA, and a draft “Barnahus” law.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children’s Rights Division (DG II)	Sept 2023- June 2026	Ongoing
128. Kosovo* - Development and implementation of a programme for perpetrators of domestic violence, and further development of the programme to community setting	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	November 2022	Ongoing
129. Türkiye – A handbook and a training programme on strategic women’s rights litigation is developed and delivered to lawyers and CSOs	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2022-2025	Completed

INDICATIVE TABLE OF ONGOING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
Strategic objective 3: Ensure the equal access of women to justice			
Activity	Entity	Timeframe	Current Status
1. Undertake activities to address multiple and intersectional forms of discrimination affecting women as regards their access to justice	GED + other sectors	2024-2029	Ongoing
2. Develop and implement a Mentoring Programme for Legal Professionals on Women's Access to Justice – 2 nd and 3 rd cohort (PGG II and PGG III WAJ) https://go.coe.int/KH5PH	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	October 2019-October 2025	Completed
3. Facilitate the dialogue on introducing mandatory training of judges and prosecutors on gender equality in line with the Istanbul Convention (PGG III WAJ)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	October 2025-February 2027	Foreseen
4. Draft and present the Regional Eastern Partnership guidelines on data collection practices relevant for women's access to Justice (PGGIII WAJ)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	February 2025 – February 2027	Ongoing
5. Study on the risks and impediments to the full access to rights resulting from discrimination and violence on grounds of gender expression (cf. terms of reference of ADI-SOGIESC, in close co-operation with GEC)	ADI-SOGIESC/ CDADI/GEC	2025-2027	Under preparation
6. Ukraine: Adaptation of the manual "Working with victims of sexual violence during armed conflict" for prosecutors (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
7. Ukraine: Webinar for Prosecutors on Working with victims of sexual violence during armed conflict (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
8. Ukraine: HELP course VAW for Prosecutors (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
9. Ukraine: Update of Police Manual on combating VAW and DV (COVAW II)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
10. Training on gender-sensitive and victim-oriented communication and reporting THB cases. Training for communication officers in the courts and prosecution and the Council for media and judges, Judicial Council and Prosecutorial Council on gender-respectful and victim-oriented communication with the public on THB cases	DPC - DGII	03/02/2025 - 29/01/2026	Planned

11. Workshop on communicating THB cases to the public in victim oriented and gender-centered manner. The workshop will gather the courts' and prosecutorial offices' communication officers, as well as from the police, representatives of the media and the courts, the Judicial and Prosecutorial Council, the Council for the Media and Judiciary and relevant journalists to gain practical experience with communicating to the public THB cases based on gender perspective and victims' oriented approach.	DPC - DGII	20/02/2025 - 25/04/2025	Planned
12. Training of Trainers (ToT) and cascade trainings for lawyers on access to justice and free legal aid (separate sessions for dealing with cases on gender-based violence and children are included)	DGI + DPC	2024-2025	Planned
13. ToT for civil society organisations (CSO) and Legal Clinics on access to justice and free legal aid (separate sessions for dealing with cases on gender-based violence and children are included)	DGI + DPC	2024-2025	Planned
14. Report: Protecting the human rights and improving the lives of sex workers and victims of sexual exploitation	PACE	2024	Discontinued
15. Report: Protecting women human rights defenders in Europe	PACE	2024	Completed (Resolution 2554 adopted on 25 June 2024)
16. Develop and implement a Mentoring Programme for Legal Professionals on Women's Access to Justice - 2 generations - HFIII Women's Access to Justice in Western Balkans	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2023-2026	Ongoing
17. Joint Roundtable on Data gender gap - HFIII Women's Access to Justice in Western Balkans and PGG III Women's Access to Justice	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
18. Studies on challenges, barriers and promising practices on women's access to justice in the Western Balkans - HFIII Women's Access to Justice in Western Balkans	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Ongoing
19. Study visit to Sweden on exchange of practices within the Mentoring Programme for Legal Professionals on Women's Access to Justice - HFIII Women's Access to Justice in Western Balkans	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
20. Conference on Women's Access to Justice- HFIII Women's Access to Justice in Western Balkans	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Upcoming

21. Georgia - Capacity-building for judges and prosecutors on ensuring equal access to justice for women with psychosocial and intellectual disabilities	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2024	Completed
22. Georgia - Workshop for representatives of university-based legal aid clinics on strengthening women's access to justice through victim-centred and trauma-informed legal assistance in cases of violence against women and domestic violence.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2025	Completed
23. Training for Italian police officers and prosecutors on discrimination based on SOGIESC, including intersectional discrimination.	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/CoE joint project)	2025	Closed
24. Updated manual on "Policing Hate Crime against LGBTI persons: Training for a Professional Police Response" and relative train of trainers and national trainings for police officers. The updated manual underlines the importance of collaborating with CSO to enhance the trust of 'victims' in the law enforcement system.	SOGIESC Unit (under VC and EU/CoE joint project)	2023-2025	Manual update: closed National trainings: ongoing
25. Recommendation on equal rights for intersex persons (Cf. terms of reference of ADI-SOGIESC) – including provisions on access to justice for victims of non-consensual medical interventions on intersex persons.	ADI-SOGIESC/ CDADI	2023-2025	Adopted by the CM
26. Montenegro: Development of the First National Strategy on Victims' Rights and Action Plan for its implementation	"Strengthening accountability of the judicial system and enhancing protection of victims' rights" HF7	2024-2025	Ongoing
27. Montenegro: Development of guidelines for judges and prosecutors on victim's rights to compensation in criminal proceedings	"Strengthening accountability of the judicial system and enhancing protection of victims' rights" HF7	2025	Ongoing
28. Montenegro: Development of Guidelines for judges on harmonisation of penal policies in cases of domestic violence and sexual crimes.	"Strengthening accountability of the judicial system and enhancing protection of victims' rights" HF7	2025	Ongoing

29. Child-friendly Justice Assessment Tool	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children's Rights Division (DG II)	2024	Done
30. Project "End Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse @Europe Plus (EndOCSEA@Europe+)" in Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Montenegro: support in advancing legal frameworks, capacity-building of legal and frontline professionals and awareness raising.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children's Rights Division (DG II)	2023-2025	Done
31. Project "Strengthening child-friendly justice among Barnahus-type services in Spanish regions", supporting Spain in ensuring that all children who are victims of violence, including sexual exploitation and sexual abuse, benefit from a child-friendly, multidisciplinary and interagency response.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children's Rights Division (DG II)	Phase I 2022-2024 Phase II 2024-2027	Phase I completed Phase II ongoing
32. Project "Support the implementation of the Barnahus project in Ireland", to strengthen Ireland's response mechanism to child sexual abuse.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children's Rights Division (DG II)	Phase I 2022-2025 Phase II 2025-2028	Phase I completed Phase II ongoing
33. Models of effective interagency cooperation in criminal proceedings involving children' in Ukraine - Development and deployment of training for multiple target groups of professionals	CRD	September 2023 – December 2026	Ongoing
34. The project on "Combatting violence against Children in Georgia", carried out a comprehensive analysis of Georgia's legal and practical frameworks for protecting children from sexual abuse, inter alia, vis-à-vis the Istanbul Convention. Capacity-building and awareness raising activities were also carried out paying attention to gender balance.	CRD	2024-2025	Completed
35. Training of Trainers on Preventing and Recognizing the Signs of Sexual Abuse of Pre-School Children (Co-operation project in Republic of Moldova).	CRD	2025	Completed

36. Joint EU/CoE Project on “Implementing the Barnahus Model in Croatia” to support the Croatian authorities in ensuring equal access and enhanced quality justice to children and more particularly girls and young girls victims and witnesses of sexual violence through the preparation of a roadmap, guidelines on Barnahus spatial and organisational coordination, a Memorandum of Understanding on IA cooperation, a HELP course on CSEA, and a draft “Barnahus” law.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit Children’s Rights Division (DG II)	Sept 2023-June 2026	Ongoing
37. Türkiye- joint project on “Fostering Women’s Access to Justice in Türkiye” (Horizontal Facility III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	Jan 2023-October 2025	Completed
38. Türkiye- grant to Union of Turkish bar associations for provision of legal aid to women in vulnerable positions and grants to CSO for legal counselling, legal literacy and awareness	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	December 2023-August 2025	Completed

INDICATIVE TABLE OF ONGOING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
Strategic objective 4: Achieve balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making			
Activity	Entity	Timeframe	Current Status
1. Continue co-operation with relevant departments to integrate gender equality in electoral processes	GED + GEC + relevant sectors	2024-2029	Ongoing
2. Conduct a study on gender equality in constitutions	VC	2018-2025	Ongoing
3. Follow-up to the implementation of the 30% quota for the underrepresented gender by Congress delegations	Congress	2018-2025	Ongoing
4. European Youth Foundation grants to projects of youth non-governmental organisations. Examples of projects supported include: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls - Young people enhancing gender equality - European Youth Foundation .	Youth (EYF)	2018-2027	Ongoing
5. Research study on young people's participation in connection to social inclusion, gender and intersectionality	Youth (EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership)	2022-2025	Ongoing
6. Support to the cities of Banja Luka and Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina) for the implementation of deliberative processes – citizens' assemblies, on the basis of tailored methodology ensuring equal participation of women and encouraging their active involvement in deliberations	Congress	2023-2024	Completed
7. Report: Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary life: gender equality, accessibility and inclusive policies	PACE	2024-2025	Completed (Resolution 2615 adopted on 26 June 2025)
8. Academy for Women Candidates: sustainable training program for first-time women candidates and those who have run but not yet held office in Bosnia and Herzegovina	PACE	2025-2026	Ongoing
9. Round table on ensuring women's engagement in political processes in Ukraine co-organised with the Ukrainian Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Local Governance, Regional and Urban Development (Kyiv, Ukraine)	PACE (Project "Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine")	2024	Completed

10. Development and production of the online training course on gender-related issues for political parties and candidates “Balanced representation and participation of women and men in post-war political and electoral processes in Ukraine” (“On gender equality in politics”)	PACE (Project “Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine”)	2024-2025	Completed
11. Workshop on gender equality and intersectionality in electoral processes for women activists, civil society representatives, political groups, and young leaders.	PACE (Project “Supporting Transparency, Inclusiveness and Integrity of Electoral Practice and Processes in Georgia” Phase II)	2025	Completed
12. Update of Guide on monitoring sexism in traditional and online media in the Republic of Moldova, with focus in electoral periods.	PACE (“Improving electoral practices in the Republic of Moldova, 2025-2028”)	2025	Completed
13. Development of parameters for the implementation of the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy including the full, equal and meaningful participation and empowerment of women and girls	CDDEM	2025	Ongoing
14. Development of guidelines for enhancing participation in elections of women, girls and young persons, and vulnerable groups	CDDEM	2025-2026	Ongoing
15. High-level advocacy and awareness-raising activities to strengthen the participation, visibility and protection of women human rights defenders in public life and decision-making processes	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2024	Completed
16. Belarusian democratic forces: “Young women transforming Belarus Leadership for social and political change” seminar for young Belarusian women	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
17. Support to local authorities in South-East Europe to establish Community of Practice on deliberative democracy ensuring equal participation of women and men in deliberative processes.	Congress	2024-2025	Ongoing
18. Support to local authorities in South-East Europe for implementation of deliberative processes – citizens’ assemblies ensuring democracy ensuring equal participation of women and men in deliberative processes.	Congress	2024-2025	Ongoing

INDICATIVE TABLE OF ONGOING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
Strategic objective 5: Ensuring women's empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges			
Activity	Entity	Timeframe	Current Status
1. Promote the integration of a gender equality and women's rights perspective in relevant Council of Europe policies and activities related to migration, integration and asylum	GED + relevant sectors	2018-2027	Ongoing
2. European Youth Foundation grants to projects of youth non-governmental organisations. Examples of projects supported include: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls - Young people enhancing gender equality - European Youth Foundation .	Youth (EYF)	2018-2027	Ongoing
3. Training seminar: Young women transforming Belarus: Leadership for social and political change	Youth and Gender Equality Division.	2025	Completed
4. Study session - Empowering Change: Advancing Gender Equality and Peacebuilding in Europe - in cooperation with the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA)	Youth	2025	Completed
5. Study session - Faith in Action: Addressing Climate Change and Strengthening Democracy Through Christian Youth Movements - in cooperation with the Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe (EYCE) and Ecumenical Forum of European Christian Women (EFECW)	Youth	2025	Completed
6. Study session - Tackling discrimination, racism, oppression and exclusion of young Romani women – youth work for empowerment and active participation - in cooperation with the European Network "HUMAN RIGHTS IN ACTION"	Youth	2025	Completed
7. Ukraine: Development of practical tools for implementation of the CoE Recommendation on protecting the rights of migrant, refugee and asylum-seeking women and girls, and application of IC Articles 60+61 (COVAW II)	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
Ukraine: Publication "Safe and Dignified: Gender sensitive voluntary return strategies for Ukraine anchored in Council of Europe standards" (COVAW-II and III).	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
8. Study on the impact of the environmental crisis on persons exposed to discrimination and measures to prevent and alleviate such impact, to include a gender-perspective	CDADI	2026-2027	Under preparation

9. High-level advocacy and awareness-raising activities to strengthen the participation, visibility and protection of women human rights defenders in public life and decision-making processes	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2024	Completed
10. Resolution (urgent debate): Women's rights in Europe – Progress and challenges	PACE	2025	Resolution 2614 (2025) adopted on 26 June 2025
11. Armenia: Under co-operation project the <u>guidelines</u> on gender-sensitive journalism in Armenia –with a focus on reporting on women refugees, grants to CSOs on empowering refugee women and girls.	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2025	Completed

INDICATIVE TABLE OF ONGOING AND PROPOSED ACTIVITIES			
Strategic objective 6: Achieving gender mainstreaming and including an intersectional approach in all policies and measures			
Activity	Entity	Timeframe	Current Status
1. Organise and carry out regular exchanges of views between Gender Equality Rapporteurs and the Gender Equality Commission	GED + GEC	2024-2029	Ongoing
2. Continue regular exchanges of views between sectors of the Council of Europe carrying out gender mainstreaming and the Gender Equality Commission	GED + GEC and relevant sectors, including Youth	2024-2029	Ongoing
3. Regularly update the dedicated website on gender mainstreaming to give visibility to activities and work on gender mainstreaming carried out by members States and relevant sectors of the Council of Europe	GED	2024-2029	Ongoing
4. Produce and disseminate tools to facilitate gender mainstreaming within and beyond the Organisation, such as videos, toolkits and manuals	GED + relevant sectors, including Youth	2024-2029	Ongoing
5. Gender equality and gender sensitivity as transversal approaches in the implementation of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the child (2022-2027)	CRD/CDENF	2022-2027	Ongoing
6. Feasibility study finalised and inspiring the work on a draft recommendation on age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education for children, with particular attention to the specific situation and needs of boys and girls	CRD/ENF-VAE	2021-2026	Ongoing
7. Recommendations on the protection of the rights and best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings, with special attention to the specific situation and needs of boys and girls	CRD/CJ/ENF-ISE	2025	Adopted by the Committee of Ministers
8. Guide of good practice for the participation of children in decision making processes on matters relating to their health, with special attention to the specific situation and needs of boys and girls, and its child-friendly version	CRD/CDBIO	2022-2023	Finalised
9. Draft Recommendation(s) on the protection of the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings, with special attention to the specific situation and needs of boys and girls	CRD/CJ/ENF-ISE	2025	Adopted by the Committee of Ministers
10. Guide of good practice for the participation of children in decision making processes on matters relating to their health, with special attention to the specific situation and needs of boys and girls	CRD/CDBIO	2022-2023	Completed

11. Gender equality as a transversal theme in the new Strategic Action Plan on Human Rights and Technologies in Biomedicine 2020-2025	CDBIO Capacity building	2020-2025	Ongoing
12. GRECO's 5th round evaluations include a gender dimension and, as appropriate, gender-based recommendations to member states	GRECO	2018-2025	Ongoing
13. Update of a factsheet on the work of the Congress on women's rights and equality between men and women gender equality	Congress	2018-2025	Ongoing
14. ALL-IN project relaunched mid-2022-2024. Indicators reviewed and extended to an increasing number of EPAS member states. The next round of the ALL-I project will have a heightened focus on media representation of women and girls in sport.	EPAS	2022-2023	Completed
15. An unconscious bias training specific to the sports sector commissioned by EPAS will be rolled out to the European Broadcasting Union and to the EPAS Consultative Committee, amongst others.	EPAS	2022-2023	Completed
16. European Youth Foundation – support for activities – gender mainstreaming is a precondition for receiving grants. Examples of projects supported include: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls - Young people enhancing gender equality - European Youth Foundation	Youth (EYF)	2018-2027	Ongoing
17. Revision/assessment of the gender and diversity sensitive disaggregated data collection systems on discrimination, hate crime and hate speech existing in the Eastern Partnership countries (in particular Armenia, Moldova, Ukraine and Georgia)	Inclusion & Anti-discrimination	2019-2025	Ongoing
18. Ensure systematic consideration of the gender mainstreaming and intersectional discrimination in the work of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages and the activities of the Secretariat.	ECRML	2024-2029	Ongoing
19. Gender mainstreaming in country visits, opinions and events of the 5th monitoring cycle of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.	FCNM	2024-2029	Ongoing
20. Promotion and advocacy work by the members of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, including through cooperation with other international organisations.	FCNM	2024-2029	Ongoing
21. Publication of a Factsheet on challenges faced by women and girls belonging to national minorities	FCNM	2025	Published

22. Gender mainstreaming systematically included and to be considered in drafting guidelines and recommendations as well as in activities by the Centre of Expertise of Good Governance in member States	CDDG	2018-2029	Ongoing
23. Gender perspective systematically included and intersectional discrimination to be considered in drafting country monitoring reports and general policy recommendations	ECRI	2018-2029	Ongoing
24. A seconded Regional Gender Mainstreaming Adviser deployed to Kyiv Office covering the Eastern Partnership	DPC	2025-2027	Ongoing
25. A seconded Regional Gender Mainstreaming Adviser deployed to Tbilisi Office covering the Eastern Partnership	DPC	2025-2027	Ongoing
26. A seconded Regional Gender Mainstreaming Adviser deployed to Tirana Office covering South-East Europe and Türkiye	DPC	2024-2026	Ongoing
27. Regular meetings of the Gender Equality Focal Point network in the Council of Europe Offices, and sharing information	DPC	2025-2027	Ongoing
28. Implementation of a Gender Equality Marker System for Co-Operation Projects to monitor gender mainstreaming in projects	DPC	2025-2027	Ongoing
29. Trainings on gender mainstreaming for co-operation projects	DPC	2025-2027	Ongoing
30. Collection of additional sex-disaggregated activity data in the field of organ donation and transplantation	CD-P-TO (EDQM)	2022-2025	Ongoing
31. Landscape analysis of gamete donor protection practices in Europe and elaboration of guidance and recommendations for the establishment of harmonised measures for the protection of gamete donors (with especial emphasis on oocyte donors)	CD-P-TO (EDQM)	2022-2025	Ongoing
32. Elaboration of booklet for the general public on add-on treatments during medically assisted reproduction	CD-P-TO (EDQM)	2022-2025	Ongoing
33. Study on the impact of artificial intelligence systems	CDADI+ wCAI+GEC	2022-2023	Completed
34. CM/Rec on active political participation of national minority youth	CDADI/GT-ADI-MIN	2022-2023	Completed
35. Ensure a gender perspective in the Draft CM/Rec on combating hate crime	PC/ADI-CH	2022-2023	Completed
36. Ensure gender perspective in the ADI-ROM thematic reports	CDADI/ADI-ROM	2024-2029	Ongoing

37. Ensure gender perspective in the Annual thematic reports as part of the thematic review of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5: SOGIESC-Based Hate speech (2025-2026)	CDADI/ ADI-SOGIESC	2025-2026	Ongoing
38. Ensure gender perspective in the Capacity-building programme and tools supporting implementation of CM/Rec on multi-level policies and governance for intercultural integration (adopted on 6 April 2022)	CDADI/ ADI-INT	2022-2023	Completed
39. GRECO's 6 th round evaluations include a gender dimension and, as appropriate, gender-based recommendations to member states.	GRECO	2025-	Ongoing
40. The CDBIO will continue to include the gender equality perspective in the planning and development of its future activities through its gender equality rapporteur.	CDBIO	Ongoing	Ongoing from GES(2018-2023)
41. Draft Council of Europe strategy for Roma and Traveller inclusion 2026-2030 (cf. terms of reference of ADI-ROM)	ADI-ROM/ CDADI	2025	Completed (For CM adoption in January 2026)
42. Draft Council of Europe strategy for the equality of rights of LGBTI persons (2027-2032), based on the implementation review of Recommendations CM/Rec(2010)5 and CM/Rec(2025)7(cf. terms of reference of ADI-SOGIESC)	ADI-SOGIESC/ CDADI	2025-2026	Ongoing
43. Ensure gender perspective in the Capacity-building programme and tools supporting implementation of CM/Rec on multi-level policies and governance for intercultural integration (adopted on 6 April 2022)	CDADI/ ADI-INT	2024-2025	Ongoing
44. The CDCJ will continue promoting the practical guide on mainstreaming gender in public and private law reform processes. The CDCJ will regularly apply and use of the Checklist for assessment of gender equality aspects and impact , adopted and incorporated in the CDCJ's working methods in 2021, in order to ensure that the gender equality aspects are adequately assessed and taken into account in all the activities and legal tools developed by the Committee.	CDCJ	2024-2027	Ongoing
45. To continue to ensure a gender-mainstreaming approach in the cooperation programmes on anti-discrimination, hate speech and hate crime and the promotion of the rights on national minorities.	No Hate Speech and Co-operation Unit, Anti-discrimination Department	2024-2027	Planning
46. Moldova - Conduct training sessions on inclusiveness, gender equality and integration from a social rights perspective for teachers and students from vocational education and training institutions.	Department of Social Rights	2024	Planning

47. European Youth Foundation provides grants to projects of youth civil society organisations to combat all forms of discrimination, racism and exclusion, with a specific focus on multiple discrimination and intersectionality (including gender equality, sexual orientation, gender identity and disability). Examples of projects supported include: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls - Young people enhancing gender equality - European Youth Foundation	Youth (EYF)	2024-2027	Ongoing
48. Human Rights-Based Advocacy Unleashed: Access to Rights and Services for Young Migrant & Refugee Women in Europe - VOICES OF YOUNG REFUGEES IN EUROPE	Youth	2024	Completed
49. Improving the Sexual and Reproductive Health of Roma Women and Roma LGBTQ+ Communities - Phiren Amenca International Network AISBL	Youth	2024	Completed
50. Reaching Further: Decentralising LGBTQI Youth Activism - International Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer & Intersex (LGBTQI) Youth & Student Organisation (IGLYO)	Youth	2024	Completed
51. Reactivation of the translation of the Campaign against sexism into regional languages	ECRML / FCNM	2024-2027	Planned
52. Inclusive writing guaranteed in the drafting of reports, publications, news items etc.	ECRML / FCNM	2024-2027	Ongoing
53. Ukraine: Grant to civil society organisations to promote gender equality and raise awareness of gender equality standards in Ukraine (PRO-GE)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024 – 2025	Completed
54. Ukraine: Translations and presentation of key CoE publications on gender equality and gender mainstreaming (PRO-GE)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024 – 2025	Completed
55. Ukraine: Publication adapted from CoE Gender Rapporteur Manual for local and regional gender-related coordinators “Handbook on Gender Mainstreaming in Action in Ukraine” (PRO-GE and COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
56. Ukraine: Training for regional/local gender-related coordinators on gender equality and mainstreaming (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Planned
57. Ukraine: Translation and adaptation of the HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming into Ukrainian (PRO-GE)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2025	Completed

58. Ukraine: Development of a publication to supplement the HELP course on gender equality and gender mainstreaming (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Ongoing
59. Ukraine: HELP course on gender equality (2 runs) (COVAW III)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2026	Under preparation
60. European Heritage Day theme for the period of 2026-2028 is Matrimoine/(S)heritage	DG II – Culture and Cultural Heritage	2026-2028	To be confirmed
61. Review of the European Heritage Days (EHD) Handbook to include a gender equality component	DG II – Culture and Cultural Heritage	2024	Under preparation
62. Gender Equality Scoreboard in Education (jointly with GEC), in line with the implementation of CM/Rec (2007)13 on gender mainstreaming in education	Education Department	2026	To be developed
63. Implementing recommendations from gender analysis in ongoing and upcoming educational projects.	DGII – EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey II	2024-2027	Planned
64. Report: Women in the economy: employment, entrepreneurship and gender budgeting	PACE	2024	Completed (Resolution 2589 adopted on 30 January 2025)
65. Report: Artificial intelligence and gender equality: risks and challenges	PACE	2024-2026	Ongoing
66. The Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB): The CEB has introduced gender equality as a cross-cutting priority in its Strategic Framework 2023-2027. The Bank mainstreams gender consideration across all activities to protect the rights of women and girls. The CEB categorizes projects by gender and reports on the new Key Performance Indicator for gender-tagged projects across all projects it supports. The Bank aims to pursue opportunities to finance activities that enhance gender equality and empower women and girls, including by enhancing their access to finance	CEB		

67. Georgia - Completion of the HELP course on Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming by representatives of the Prosecutor's Office of Georgia.	GED Co-operation and Capacity Building Unit	2025	Completed
68. Advance gender mainstreaming in law schools' curricula in the Eastern Partnership region (EU/ CoE PGGIII WAJ project)	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2026	Ongoing
69. Belarusian democratic forces: Translation of a brochure on the GES and other CoE standards on GE into Belarusian	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2025	Completed
70. Belarusian democratic forces: Online peer-to-peer sessions on gender-responsive policy making for Belarusian members of the democratic forces and civil society	GED Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
71. A two-day legal capacity building seminar organised on "The Rights of LGBTI Persons in the International Protection Procedure" in Dublin, Ireland in partnership with the UNHCR (17-18 September 2024). The training strengthened understanding on inclusive international protection mechanisms and assessment of gender-based asylum claims.	SOGIESC Unit (under VC project)	2024	Closed
72. SOGIESC VC project translated and nationally adopted the HELP course on "LGBTI persons in asylum procedure" in 7 languages and legal frameworks. The course was launched and implemented in Serbia (November 2024), in Bosnia Herzegovina (September 2025) and in Moldova (November 2025). It aims at promoting understanding on serious human rights violations faced by LGBTI persons on account of their real or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC) and their barriers in accessing protection, support and services in asylum and reception contexts.	SOGIESC Unit (under VC project)	2024 and 2025	Closed
73. SOGIESC Unit is developing a Guide for the health sector in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Equal access to health care for LGBTIQ people. The guide aims to tackle discrimination in access to health care by transgender, intersex and gender diverse people.	SOGIESC Unit (under VC project)	2025	Ongoing

74. The SOGIESC Unit is implementing a CoE/EU Joint project on “Combating anti -LGBTIQ violence and hate speech and strengthening awareness-raising and fact-based narratives about LGBTIQ persons”. The project outcomes include the setting up of a multi-stakeholder community of practice to counter the anti-gender/anti-rights movement, involving also gender-equality and feminist networks/movements. One of the pilots organised to set up this community was in collaboration with feminist organisations, ensuring a gendered perspective.	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/ CoE joint project)	2024-2026	Ongoing
75. Two research studies have been commissioned under the EU/CoE joint project and VC managed by the SOGIESC Unit, one on the impact and early warning signs of anti-gender/anti-rights movements and the other on best practices from member States. Both studies have adopted an intersectional approach in their methodologies, making sure the “gender equality” aspect is covered.	SOGIESC Unit (under VC and EU/CoE joint projects)	2024-2026	Ongoing
76. The SOGIESC Unit is working with IGLYO on developing an Inclusive Education toolkit, including: ► Policy guidelines to prevent and address anti-LGBTIQ bullying in schools; ► Teacher training framework for LGBTIQ-inclusive classrooms and curricula; ► Education responses to anti-gender discourse (critical thinking, media literacy, and human rights-based civic education). IGLYO members with different backgrounds and expertise have participated in the design of the tool, ensuring an intersectional approach and making sure the “gender equality” aspect is covered.	SOGIESC Unit (under EU/ CoE joint project)	2024-2026	Ongoing
77. Belarusian democratic forces: Translation of a brochure on the GES and other CoE standards on GE into Belarusian	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2025	Completed
78. Belarusian democratic forces: Online peer-to-peer sessions on gender-responsive policy making for Belarusian members of the democratic forces and civil society	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025	Completed
79. Belarusian democratic forces: Study visit on the work of the Council of Europe in the field of gender equality policy-making for representatives of the Belarusian democratic forces and civil society	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2024	Completed
80. Belarusian democratic forces: Publication “Technical advice on internal policies for gender equality” for Belarusian democratic forces	Capacity-building and co-operation projects Unit	2025-2026	Ongoing

81. Follow-up to the Council of Europe plan of action for Strengthening Judicial Independence and Impartiality (Sofia Action Plan) - Thematic review focused on the career and training of judges	CDCJ	2025	Report to be adopted by the CDCJ at its 105 th plenary meeting (18-20 November 2025). The issue on the career of women judges is raised in the report. The report should be made available on the CDCJ website.
82. Statelessness and access to nationality: Draft revised recommendation on the nationality of children	CDCJ	2025-2026	Ongoing
83. Draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins	CDCJ	2025[-2026] [-2027]	Ongoing
84. Montenegro: development of Standard operating procedures for Police in cases of attacks against journalist, with specific guidelines in treading gender based violence against journalist	PROFEX-M	2025	Ongoing
85. Montenegro - Nationwide Research on bullying, cyberbullying and violence in schools in Montenegro (one of the aspects in the research is gender)	VC project "Prevent bullying and violence in schools in Montenegro" (Education Department)	2025	Ongoing
86. Gender analysis of education sector in Montenegro. This analysis provides the information to the CoE and EU about gender equality in regard to education in order to provide evidence for further interventions focused on the improvement of gender equality in education. The analysis also provides concrete recommendations to further strengthen gender mainstreaming during the implementation of the Action	DGII – EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey II Quality Education for all in Montenegro	2024	Implemented

87. Implementing recommendations from gender analysis in ongoing and upcoming educational projects	DGII – EU/CoE Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey II Quality Education for all in Montenegro	2024-2027	Ongoing
88. Advance gender mainstreaming in law schools' curricula in the Eastern Partnership region (EU/CoE PGGIII WAJ project)	Capacity- building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2026	Ongoing
89. Armenia : online course "Gender-responsive education in schools", adapted and translated in Armenian online HELP course on Gender Equality and Gender Mainstreaming.	Capacity- building and co-operation projects Unit	2024-2025	Completed

Abbreviations

CDADI	Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion
CDBIO	Steering Committee for Human Rights in the field of Biomedicine and Health
CDCJ	European Committee on Legal Co-operation
CDENF	Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child
CD-P-TO	European Committee on Organ Transplantation
CEB	Council of Europe Development Bank
CEPEJ	European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice
Court	European Court of Human Rights
C-PROC	Cybercrime Programme Office
CRD	Children's Rights Division
DGI	Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law
DGII	Directorate General of Democracy
DHR	Directorate of Human Resources
DPC	Directorate of Programme Co-ordination
ECRI	European Commission against Racism and Intolerance
ECRML	European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages
ECSR	European Committee of Social Rights
EDQM	European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines and Healthcare
EPAS	Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport
FCNM	Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities
GEC	Gender Equality Commission
GED	Unit for the Transversal Programme on Gender Equality
GER	Gender Equality Rapporteur
GMT	Gender Mainstreaming Team
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption
HELP	European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals
MedNET	Mediterranean network for co-operation on drugs and addictions of the Pompidou Group
N/S Centre	European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity of the Council of Europe
ODGP	Office of the Directorate General of Programming
PACE	Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Pompidou Group	Council of Europe International Co-operation Group on Drugs and Addictions
SRSg Migration And Refugees	Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees
UWE	University Women of Europe
VaWD	Violence against Women Division
VC	Venice Commission

* All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

Gender equality entails equal rights for women and men, girls and boys, as well as the same visibility, empowerment, responsibility and participation, in all spheres of public and private life.

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