

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS IN IMPLEMENTING THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

Venue: Parliament of the Republic of Moldova

Date: Friday, 21 November 2025 from 15:30 - 17:00

Parliamentary Round Table organised by the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division in cooperation Women at PACE and the Moldovan Delegation to PACE

Background

Violence against women and domestic violence constitute grave violations of human rights and a major obstacle to gender equality in Europe and beyond. The **Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)** is the most comprehensive international legal instrument in this area. It sets legally binding standards to prevent violence, protect victims, and prosecute perpetrators.

Parliaments and parliamentarians play a central role in the effective implementation of the Convention. They are not only responsible for ensuring the ratification and harmonisation of national legislation with the Convention, but also for overseeing its enforcement, allocating appropriate resources, and raising public awareness. They are key actors in holding governments accountable and ensuring that the rights guaranteed under the Convention are upheld in practice.

This Round Table aims to provide a platform for dialogue and exchange between Moldovan and European parliamentarians, government representatives, civil society actors, and other relevant stakeholders on the role of parliaments and parliamentarians in ensuring effective implementation of the Convention. It will draw on PACE's *Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Istanbul Convention*, offering guidance on legislative and oversight tools to combat violence against women effectively as well as good practices identified in this regard.



Draft Programme

Welcome and Opening Remarks

- ▶ **Mr Igor Grosu**, Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova
- ▶ **Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos**, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Thematic Session

Speakers

- ▶ **Ms Daniella Misail-Nichitin**, Minister of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova
- ▶ **Mr Vladislav Cojuhari**, Minister of Justice of the Republic of Moldova
- ▶ **Ms Viorica Țîmbalari**, Director of the National Agency for the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (ANPCV)
- ▶ **Mr Viorel Cernăuțeanu**, Head of the General Police Inspectorate of the Ministry of the Interior
- ▶ **Ms Daniela Simboteanu**, President of the National Center for the Prevention of Child Abuse

Discussion

Conclusions

- ▶ **Ms Doina Gherman**, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Chair of the Parliamentary Group of the Party of Action and Solidarity, Member of the PACE Network “Women Free from Violence”
- ▶ **Ms Petra Bayr**, Member of PACE (Austria), member of the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, women@PACE bureau member

Moderator

- ▶ **Ms Doina Gherman**, Vice-President of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova, Chair of the Parliamentary Group of the Party of Action and Solidarity, Member of the PACE Network “Women Free from Violence”