

HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT

UPDATES ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING AND ON MEN & BOYS

21st meeting of the Gender Equality Commission

11-13 May 2022

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Recent/upcoming Council of Europe gender mainstreaming activities

- ✓ **Better 1st monitoring of gender mainstreaming activities** within the Council of Europe: questionnaire by GED to all intergovernmental bodies to create a baseline of quantitative and qualitative information
- ✓ **Ad hoc European Committee for the World Anti-Doping Agency (CAHAMA):** starting to look at anti-doping from a gender equality perspective

Recent/upcoming Council of Europe gender mainstreaming activities

- ✓ **European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages and Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities:** developing interesting GM work in relation to monitoring and organising specific staff training to support these activities
- ✓ **Pompidou Group:** different ongoing activities
- ✓ **Gender sensitive language and communication:** supporting changes in internal practices
- ✓ **Continuous and co-operation with different sectors:** migration, Roma, sport

Men & boys: Mandate of the Working Group

- ✓ **GEC Study** on the places of men and boys in women's rights and gender equality policies (2021)
- ✓ Mandate given to the Gender Equality Commission to draft **guidelines on “*The place of men and boys in gender equality policies and in policies to combat violence against women*”** by end-2022
- ✓ Setting up of **Working Group** to draft the guidelines: WG-GEC-MB

Working Methods & Calendar

- ✓ **2 Meetings of WG-GEC-MB in 2022:** 31 March (online) and 28 June (Strasbourg/hybrid)
- ✓ **6 member states** represented: Armenia, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Iceland, Luxembourg
- ✓ **2 GEC observer NGOs:** EWL, WAVE
- ✓ **Support from an expert** (Susana Pavlou)
- ✓ **Hearings** of international organisations, relevant NGOs and Council of Europe sectors
- ✓ **Transmission of draft guidelines to the GEC and CoE sectors** for consultation/ comments: August 2022
- ✓ **Adoption by the GEC:** 16-18 November 2022

Result of first Working Group meeting (31 March 2022)

- ✓ **Presentations** by GREVIO secretariat and NGO MenEngage
- ✓ **Examination of working document** (draft Guidelines) prepared by expert with the support of Secretariat
- ✓ General discussion on **structure of the future Guidelines and of fundamental principles**
- ✓ Discussion of the **practical measures proposed for member States**



General agreement on structure, fundamental principles and practical measures of draft Guidelines, including comments made during the discussion

- ✓ Members of the Working Group to make more **detailed written comments focusing on practical measures**

Content of draft Guidelines (1)

Scope and fundamental principles

- ✓ Mandate given by the CM: **gender equality policies and policies to combat violence against women**
- ✓ Compliance with **existing legal and policy framework** on gender equality
- ✓ **Takes account** of work of other international organisations, relevant CoE sectors and NGOs
- ✓ Take account of **GEC explanatory study** (2021)
- ✓ Measures should be developed **in the framework of gender equality policies** -not as an alternative policy goal of strengthening men's rights- and should **challenge structural gender inequalities**

Content of draft Guidelines (2)

Scope and fundamental principles

- ✓ **Intersectional approach**: looking at combined effects of systems of exclusion other than sex & gender
- ✓ Look at men as **primary perpetrators of violence** against women and focus on **prevention**
- ✓ Measures should **not call into question the legitimacy, the visibility or use the funding** of measures/organisations targeting primarily women and girls
- ✓ Measures should be designed **in consultation with women's organisations**
- ✓ Measures should be **evidence-based and reflect accurate scientific data and research**

Content of draft Guidelines (3)

1. Measures focusing on countering resistance to gender equality and on men and boys becoming allies

- ✓ Care issues and conciliation measures (“care deal”)
- ✓ Measures related to equal parenthood
- ✓ Measures to address “men’s rights” / anti-feminist movements

2. Measures focusing on men and boys as agents of change towards women’s rights and gender equality

- ✓ Focus on men decision-makers
- ✓ Measures to foster accountability and transformative leadership
- ✓ Measures on training

Content of draft Guidelines (4)

3. Measures to reduce the negative impacts of gender inequalities on men and boys

- ✓ Measures related to education
- ✓ Measures related to sexuality education
- ✓ Measures related to health

4. Measures to strengthen the role of men and boys in combating violence against women

- ✓ Focus on prevention
- ✓ Measures on witnesses and bystanders of VAW
- ✓ Child custody issues & so-called “parental alienation syndrom
- ✓ Issue of impunity/perpetrators’ programmes

Content of draft Guidelines (5)

5. Development and dissemination of scientific research and data on gender inequality and women's rights

- ✓ All measures related to knowledge building, including sectoral measures addressed in other sections (care work, health, education)
- ✓ Collection of regular reliable sex-disaggregated data across policy sectors
- ✓ Promotion of gender equality in scientific research
- ✓ Inclusion of intersectional approach in research
- ✓ Promotion of gender-sensitive language and communication

Reporting and evaluation

Next steps

- ✓ Second **Working Group meeting 28 June 2022:**
discussion of revised document and further hearings
with relevant stakeholders
- ✓ **Finalisation of text** by Secretariat/expert
- ✓ **Transmission to the GEC** for comments + consultation
of relevant CoE sectors: August 2022
- ✓ **Adoption by the GEC** 16-18 November 2022

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