



PREVENT AND COMBAT GENDER STEREOTYPES AND SEXISM

16th meeting of the Gender Equality Commission

Strasbourg, 13-15 November 2019

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Translations of the Recommendation on preventing and combating sexism

47 member states, **39** languages

✓ **12 translations** have been provided

Albanian (Albania), Catalan (Andorra), Azerbaijani (Azerbaijan), Bulgarian (Bulgaria), Croatian (Croatia), Czech (Czech Republic), Latvian (Latvia), Montenegrin (Montenegro), Macedonian (North Macedonia), Serbian (Serbia), Spanish (Spain) and Ukrainian (Ukraine).

✓ **5 translations** foreseen before the end of the year

Greek (Cyprus), Finnish (Finland), Norwegian (Norway), Italian (San Marino and Italy), Slovenian (Slovenia)

All translations are available on [our website](#)



Translations of promotional tools

7 member states have expressed interest

Video

3 versions available (EN, FR, Russian), 2 versions in progress (Greek and Swedish)

4 other versions foreseen (Croatian, Georgian, Spanish, Ukrainian)

Action page

2 translations being edited (Greek, Swedish), 5 translations in progress (Croatian, Georgian, Russian, Spanish, Ukrainian)

Hope that there are more versions to come !

Sexism is any expression (act, word, image, gesture) based on the idea that some persons, most often **WOMEN**, are inferior because of their sex.

Sexism is harmful. It produces feelings of worthlessness, self-censorship, changes in behaviour, and a deterioration in health. **Sexism lies at the root of gender inequality.** It affects women and girls disproportionately.

Sexism is present in all areas of life.

- 63% of women journalists have been confronted with verbal abuse
- Women spend almost **twice as much** time as men on unpaid housework (OECD countries)
- 80% of women stated that they have been confronted with the phenomenon of "manspaining" and "manorasing" at work
- Men represent **75%** of news sources and subjects in Europe
- In the UK, **66%** of 16-18-year-old girls surveyed experienced or witnessed the use of sexist language at school
- 59%** of women in Amsterdam reported some form of street harassment
- In France, **50%** of young women surveyed recently experienced injustice or humiliation because they are women
- In Serbia, research indicates that **75%** of women in business are not taken as seriously as men

Violence sometimes starts with a joke

Individual acts of sexism may seem benign, but they create a **climate of intimidation, fear and insecurity.** This leads to the **acceptance of violence**, mostly against women and girls.

Violence includes: murder, rape & sexual violence, physical & psychological violence, stalking, (sexual) harassment, insults, (sexual) harassment, control, threats, shaming, sexualisation of women, excluding & making invisible, deprecation, rigid roles for women and men, condoning violence against women, common sense experience, sexist language and jokes.

Presentation of visibility tools

Video



Dissemination and further promotional work

✓ **Video shown** at various meetings:

- Beijing +25 Forum Geneva (Geneva, 30 October)
- Equinet annual conference (Brussels, 24 October)
- Gender Summit on gender equality & science (Amsterdam, 3 October)
- Conference of high-ranking representatives of Ministers of Internal Affairs dealing with domestic violence (Strasbourg, 24 September)
- Conference on 2 years after #MeToo (Reykjavik, 17 September)

✓ **Quiz on sexism** 25 November 2019

✓ **Some media impact**

✓ **Call for proposals** for promotional work by NGOs

Report on gender equality & media

- ✓ **Follow up of implementation** of CM Recommendation (2013)¹ on gender equality in media by GEC & CDMSI
- ✓ **Responses** were received from:
 - 34 member states
 - 17 media regulators
 - 3 media organisations
 - 4 self-regulatory bodies
- ✓ **Challenges:** self-assessment, not all questions answered, few answers from media organisations and self-regulatory bodies



Report on gender equality & media

- ✓ **Legislation:** 4 countries have included gender equality in their media legislation, 9 in their legislation on broadcasting, 17 have included provisions on media in their gender equality legislation
- ✓ **Policies:** 25 countries have adopted policy documents that include a section on media
- ✓ **Diverse and interesting initiatives:** guidelines, training for journalists, activities on VAW & media
- ✓ Few activities specifically targeting **gender equality in media as a profession**

Report on gender equality & media

- ✓ **Advertising:** some initiative on sexism reported on (France, Germany, Spain)
- ✓ **Indicators:** developed by 10 member states (Ireland = indicator for funding and granting licenses)
- ✓ **Self-regulatory bodies:**
 - Only 4 answers (but 30 press councils in Europe)
 - Few codes of ethics have included gender equality principles, 7 refer to non-discrimination
 - Very few gender equality-related complaints received

Report on gender equality & media

Media regulators:

- ✓ 14 member states answered about this issue
- ✓ Most legislations grant **monitoring capacity** to regulators
- ✓ Some have more **specific provisions** on gender equality/violence against women (France, Spain)
- ✓ 11 reported that they **oversee gender equality-related regulations**
- ✓ Few regulators and broadcasters **report annually** on gender equality issues
- ✓ Half of respondents **received gender equality-related complaints**
- ✓ Targets for gender equality in internal structures of regulators in 5 countries (ex. target for 40% women in staff in Swiss regulatory body + measures in Sweden)

Report on gender equality & media Conclusions

- ✓ **Greater awareness** and progress on the legislative and policy side
- ✓ Tension **media freedom/gender equality principles** explain some limitations
- ✓ Still **few complaints**
- ✓ Little information provided by media organisations & self-regulatory bodies but more happening
- ✓ Important to **involve the media sector & to funding activities**
- ✓ Looking ahead: GMMP and Beijing+25

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<https://www.coe.int/stopsexism>

