

Committee of the Parties



Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)

Recommendation on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence by Monaco

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The Committee of the Parties to the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”), acting under the terms of Article 68 (12) of the Convention;

Having regard to the purposes of the Convention to protect women against all forms of violence, and prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women and domestic violence; to contribute to the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women and promote substantive equality between women and men, including by empowering women; to design a comprehensive framework, policies and measures for the protection of and assistance to all victims of violence against women and domestic violence; to promote international co-operation with a view to eliminating violence against women and domestic violence; and to provide support and assistance to organisations and law enforcement agencies to effectively co-operate in order to adopt an integrated approach to eliminating violence against women and domestic violence;

Bearing in mind the provisions of Article 66 (1) of the Convention concerning the monitoring role of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to as “GREVIO”);

Having regard to the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of the Parties;

Having regard to the instrument of ratification deposited by Monaco on 7 October 2014;

Having examined the Baseline Evaluation Report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Monaco adopted by GREVIO at its 11th meeting (26 – 29 June 2017), as well as the comments of the Government received on 8 September 2017;

Considering the overarching priorities set out in Chapter I of the Convention (purposes and scope of the Convention, definitions, equality and non-discrimination, due diligence and gender-sensitive policies);

Bearing in mind the primordial importance of the provisions set out in Chapter II of the Convention, in particular the obligations to (1) ensure a holistic response to violence against women by devising a set of comprehensive and co-ordinated policies implemented by way of effective multi-agency co-operation; (2) institutionalise and fully mandate one or more co-ordinating bodies as required by Article 10 of the Convention; (3) adequately resource policies, measures and mandates introduced to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women, including government and non-governmental specialist support services; and (4) to collect relevant statistical data disaggregated, at a minimum, by sex, age, type of violence, relationship of the perpetrator to the victim and geographic location;

Welcoming the measures taken and progress achieved by the Monegasque authorities in implementing the Convention and noting in particular:

- the enactment of Law No. 1.382 of 20 July 2011 on the prevention and punishment of specific forms of violence;
- the decision to develop a network of dedicated trained officers within each of the services involved, as well as plan to extend the system of dedicated officers and to consolidate it within a permanent structure designed to allow for a steady flow of information between the different actors required to deal with cases of violence against women, namely social, judicial and health services and law enforcement agencies;
- the authorities’ recognition of the associations which are active in combatting violence against women;
- the efforts made by the authorities, and in particular the co-ordinating body, thanks to which their report to GREVIO includes a first cross-referenced compilation of the data recorded by the various services concerned;
- the interest shown by the authorities towards highlighting the question of gender equality during the celebration in schools of International Women’s Day on 8 March;

- the launching of a new round of training, tying in precisely with the recommendations contained in Law No. 1.382 on “specific” forms of violence;
- the setting-up of a new single, anonymous and free telephone helpline (116.919), intended to listen to and inform victims of domestic violence;
- the ongoing initiative to improve existing mechanisms to assist victims, which includes a risk assessment component as a key element;

A. Recommends, in light of the considerations indicated in the preamble above, that the Government of Monaco take the following measures identified in GREVIO’s report¹ for immediate action to:

1. integrate a gender perspective including the prevention of gender inequality and sexist stereotypes when implementing the provisions of the Istanbul Convention at national level with a view to addressing the structural nature of violence committed against women, including domestic violence (paragraph 5);
2. adopt a definition of domestic violence which complies with the definition given in Article 3.b of the Convention (paragraph 7);
3. pursue policies that foster genuine equality between women and men and give due regard to additional proposals made by GREVIO (paragraph 12);
4. appoint or set up a body tasked with driving policies for preventing and combating violence against women and drawing up a national action plan (paragraph 22);
5. ensure that this body involves the dedicated officers of the different services and institutions concerned, the standard-setting bodies of Monaco, the High Commissioner for the Protection of Rights and Liberties and for Mediation, and relevant associations (paragraph 24);
6. set up an independent body to monitor and evaluate the integrated policies for combating violence against women (paragraph 27);
7. step up authorities’ support of non-governmental organisations involved in combating violence against women and forge a partnership with civil society as required by paragraphs 2 and 3 of Article 7 of the Convention (paragraph 32);
8. systematise and streamline the collection of data relating to violence against women at all levels and publish these data using terminology reflecting that of the Istanbul Convention: as a minimum requirement, such data should be disaggregated by sex, age, type of violence, the relationship of the perpetrator to the victim, and geographical location, as well as other factors deemed relevant, such as disability (paragraph 36);
9. conduct regular victim surveys in Monaco, while bearing in mind the requirement of confidentiality and with this purpose, examine the feasibility of a survey to be conducted by all hospital health care services or other health-care professionals (paragraph 39);
10. ensure a helpline service fulfilling all the criteria of Article 24 of the Convention, including in terms of the hours covered (paragraph 85).

B. Requests the Government of Monaco to report to the Committee of the Parties on the measures taken to improve the implementation of the Convention in the above-mentioned areas by 30 January 2021.

¹ The number of the paragraph setting out GREVIO’s proposals and suggestions in the report is indicated in brackets.

- C. Recommends that the Government of Monaco take measures to implement the further conclusions of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report.