

Committee of the Parties

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

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Reply by Germany to the reporting form on the implementation of the Recommendations of the Committee of the Parties adopted on 6 December 2022

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on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 3 June 2025

IC-CP(2025)15

**Committee of the Parties
Council of Europe Convention
on Preventing and Combating
Violence against Women
and Domestic Violence
(Istanbul Convention)**

Reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties

In accordance with Article 68, paragraph 12, of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, the Committee of the Parties adopts, on the basis of the report and conclusions of GREVIO, recommendations addressed to state parties concerning the measures to be taken to implement the conclusions of GREVIO.

The applicable procedure for issuing recommendations was settled by the Committee of the Parties at its 4th meeting and is described in document IC-CP(2018)6. In accordance with this procedure, the recommendations call upon state parties to implement all the proposals and suggestions set out in GREVIO's baseline evaluation report. However, the obligation to report on measures taken is limited to those specifically outlined in section A of the recommendation, namely: a) all the proposals and suggestions formulated by GREVIO throughout the report which require immediate action – these are qualified by the use of the verb “urge”, and b) the proposals and suggestions related to Chapters I and II of the convention which require taking remedial action in the near future and are qualified by the use of the expression “strongly encourage”. According to the agreed procedure, state parties are given a period of three years to implement the recommendations of the Committee of the Parties and report back to the Committee.

To facilitate this reporting, state parties are requested to use this questionnaire to report on the implementation of recommendations issued by the Committee of the Parties. Recommendations not issued in relation to Germany do not need to be reported on. **As a result, the German authorities are not required to answer questions 26-28 in the below form.**

The reporting deadline given to Germany expires on 4 December 2025. Information related to the monitoring of Germany is available on the dedicated country monitoring webpage.

INITIAL REMARK: *This report immediately follows the Report on the [First Thematic Evaluation Round](#), published in October 2025 by the German federal government. Given the proximity in time between the two reports, part of the information required on the implementation of the recommendations coincides with that developed in the report of the First Thematic Evaluation Round, which details the latest developments in the area of violence against women and domestic violence that have taken place in Germany.*

In order to provide accurate information and avoid redundancies, some sections will refer to the corresponding pages of the First Thematic Evaluation Round Report, which can be consulted for further information on the topic indicated.

I. Fundamental rights, equality, and non-discrimination (Article 4)			
1	Have your authorities taken measures to ensure that the provisions of the Istanbul Convention are implemented without discrimination on any grounds listed in Article 4, paragraph 3, of the convention, including in terms of the availability of services and the protection by law enforcement agencies?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
1.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>Preventing and combating discrimination and all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul Convention (IC) – including violence against women and domestic violence - has been and still is a priority of the Federal Government. Therefore, since GREVIO’s first baseline evaluation of Germany in 2020, various laws, regulations, policies have been adopted and resources allocated to implement the IC without discrimination, in line with Article 4 (3), at all levels.</p> <p>Key measures include the adoption of the first federal government strategy to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence based on the Istanbul Convention 2025 – 2030 (in line with Article 7 of the IC) in December 2024.¹ The strategy sets out clear objectives to combat violence against women and domestic violence. The objectives are underpinned by concrete measures, resources, timelines and responsibilities to meet current challenges and effectively combat and prevent gender-based violence. It contains over 120 measures adopted by different ministries/commissioners. The comprehensive strategy addresses all forms of violence contained in the IC, including violence against women, domestic violence with a special focus on its gender-based component, female genital mutilation and forced marriage and considers new forms such as digital violence/cyberviolence. Furthermore, the strategy addresses in particular the intersectional attributes of victims of violence. In addition, the majority of the <i>Länder</i> have issued federal state action plans (Landesaktionspläne– LAP)/strategies for the implementation of the IC since 2020. In addition, some of the <i>Länder</i> have established coordinating bodies in accordance with the IC.</p> <p>The Violence Support Services Act, which was in large parts passed in the beginning of 2025, will ensure a legal entitlement to protection and counselling, with special attention to the needs of women with disabilities, migrant backgrounds, and diverse gender or sexual identities as well as special needs of accompanying children.</p> <p>Two studies financed by Federal Ministry for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMBFSFJ) and Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS) and released in 2024 showed that most people with disabilities - especially women - have experienced violence, also in care or work facilities. In response, a Working Group was formed to discuss and to develop comprehensive protection measures, focusing on standards, awareness, staffing, legal frameworks and participation of persons with disabilities, using an intersectional approach. As a result of the</p>		

¹ Protection against Violence Strategy based on the Istanbul Convention,
<https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/257164/6c90795e9e59264b58bb6949099b560f/gewaltschutzstrategie-der-bundesregierung-englisch-data.pdf>.

	<p>working process, the BMAS is releasing a “Guideline for the protection from violence for persons with disabilities” which is addressing different measures in responsibility of the stakeholders.</p> <p>From 2020 to 2024, the investment part of the “Together against violence” funding programme funded structural measures to expand capacity and improve access to women’s shelters and specialist advice centres with around 30 million euros per year. The aim of the programme was to close known gaps in the support system for women and their children affected by violence and to further advance the needs-based expansion of the support system in Germany. In particular, the aim was to improve access for women with disabilities through the barrier-free expansion of women’s shelters, counselling centres, and safe spaces.</p> <p>Federal and state-level initiatives target particularly vulnerable groups and improve accessibility, including through intersectional training for law enforcement and inclusive service expansion. All sixteen <i>Länder</i> (federal states) pursue an intersectional and holistic approach to protecting particularly vulnerable groups, such as women with impairments and disabilities, refugee women, LGBTIQ* persons and older women, who are often affected by multiple forms of discrimination. These groups are increasingly being taken into account in the LAPs (state action plans) and strategies.</p> <p>The Federal Police and the Federal Criminal Police Office protect people in Germany within their respective areas of responsibility in accordance with Article 4(3) of the IC and Article 3 of the German Basic Law.</p> <p>For more information refer to the 1st thematic evaluation round submitted by Germany to GREVIO in October 2025 (Question 1 and 3).</p>		
1.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
2	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to prevent and combat violence against women who are or might be exposed to intersectional discrimination?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>Persons affected by intersectional discrimination face an elevated risk of experiencing gender-based violence. Therefore, at the federal level, Germany’s Protection against Violence Strategy, explicitly addresses intersectional discrimination - in particular the intersectional attributes of victims of violence. All policies in the strategy consider the diverse attributes of all women and provide tailored support based on individual needs. Furthermore, the Violence Support Services Act guarantees women affected by violence—including those with disabilities, migrant backgrounds, diverse gender identities, or sexual orientations—a legal right to protection and professional counselling.</p> <p>Additionally, awareness campaigns such as the 2025 “What is queer?” initiative, launched by the Federal Commissioner for the Acceptance of Sexual and Gender Diversity, raise visibility of violence against LGBTIQ+ persons, framing homophobic, biphobic, and transphobic violence as gender-based violence. As part of the participation process of the federal LGBTIQ* action plan, associations and the LGBTIQ* community formulated</p>		

	<p>recommendation papers for its implementation. The recommendation paper of the Working Group on the Protection of Violence emphasises the necessity of taking intersectional aspects in protection and prevention measures into account.</p> <p>The Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency (FADA) offers free counselling throughout Germany to women who experience sexual harassment in the workplace, including cases of intersectional discrimination. From 2022 to 2024, more than 900 people contacted the agency for support in connection with sexual harassment in the workplace.</p> <p>FADA also offers the public a variety of informational materials explaining how to combat sexual harassment in the workplace from an intersectional perspective. Guides, flyers, and posters are available, including in plain language. The collection “Examples of good practices for preventing sexual harassment in the workplace” also serves the purpose of prevention and shows how prevention and intervention measures can be implemented in different industries and companies of varying sizes.</p> <p>The General Equal Treatment Act (Allgemeines Gleichbehandlungsgesetz, AGG), whereas applicable as well in the workplace as in civil-law relations, only protects against sexual harassment in the workplace. As sexual harassment also occurs in other civil-law relations, FADA has suggested to extend the legal protection. Relevant cases include tenancy agreements or gym memberships.</p> <p><i>Länder</i> measures to address the heightened risk of gender-based violence faced by women and girls exposed to intersectional discrimination focus on inclusive and accessible counselling services, professional training (for employees of the support system, the police, the judiciary, the health and education sector), awareness-raising campaigns, and preventive initiatives/projects.</p> <p>In 2024, the Ministry of the Interior (BMI) and the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) published the first situation report on crime-related safety for LGBTIQ* people. The report provides information on the current state of research regarding hate crimes against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer people. It reports on the recording of offences and the development of case numbers, and discusses findings on unreported cases. It also addresses police crime prevention in relation to hate crimes against LGBTIQ* people.</p> <p>Further projects can also be found under Question 1.1. (see above).</p> <p>For more information refer to the 1st thematic evaluation round submitted by Germany to GREVIO in October 2025 (Question 3).</p>			
2.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:			
3	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Article 4, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:			
II. Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies implemented under the responsibility of an adequately mandated and resourced co-ordinating body (Articles 7 and 10)				
4	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 70%; padding: 2px;">Have your authorities developed a long-term plan/strategy to prevent and combat violence against women?</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center; padding: 2px;">No <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Have your authorities developed a long-term plan/strategy to prevent and combat violence against women?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Have your authorities developed a long-term plan/strategy to prevent and combat violence against women?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>		

	Strategy to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence based on the Istanbul Convention 2025 – 2030²		N/A (a plan/strategy was already developed at the time of GREVIO's baseline evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/>
5	Does the plan/strategy cover all forms of violence against women covered by the scope of the Istanbul Convention?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
5.1	If not, please specify which form of violence the plan/strategy addresses:		
	- Domestic violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Stalking	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sexual violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sexual harassment	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced marriage	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Female genital mutilation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced abortion	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced sterilisation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6	Was specific attention given to place the rights of women victims at the centre of all measures planned?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
6.1	If yes, please specify how: The aim of the Federal Government is to further develop the help system to cater for the needs of all victims of gender-based violence and domestic violence. The Federal Government is working to ensure that all persons affected and all forms of violence are given equal consideration in the help system. This also means that the needs of particularly vulnerable groups, such as women with disabilities, female refugees, women with temporary residence permits, women in precarious (residence permit) situations or in precarious employment situations in private households, as well as queer persons, are taken into account. The rights of those affected are paramount in all measures taken to protect and support victims of violence.		
6.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		

² <https://www.bmbfsfj.bund.de/resource/blob/257164/ccac6ba0042943f97efff07551cc3afc/gewaltschutzstrategie-der-bundesregierung-englisch-data.pdf>

7	Do the plan/strategy and the measures contained therein involve all relevant actors, such as government agencies, the national, regional and local parliaments and authorities, national human rights institutions and civil society organisations?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
7.1	<p>Please specify the actors involved:</p> <p>In the run-up to the drafting process, the BMBFSFJ held a consultation with relevant actors from civil society, the <i>Länder</i>, municipal authorities and academia. To this end, a consultation was held on 14 November 2023 to develop a strategy of the federal government to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence, with around 90 participants from civil society, academia, the <i>Länder</i>, municipal authorities, federal ministries and the secretariat of the Council of Europe.</p>		
8	Have the authorities assigned the role of co-ordinating body to one or more fully institutionalised entities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
9	<p>Please specify the mandate, powers, and competences, as well as the composition, of the co-ordinating body/bodies:</p> <p>The coordinating body according to the Istanbul Convention (in line with Article 10 of the IC) was established in the directorate general “Women and Gender Equality” in the BMBFSFJ in February 2025. It is responsible for the political and technical coordination within the federal government to combat gender-based violence and will promote their implementation. Moreover, bringing together different actors, levels, and interests and thereby ensuring that measures and processes to combat violence against women and domestic violence are integrated in a meaningful and purposeful manner.</p> <p>The coordinating body according to the IC is carrying out the following key tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The technical and political coordination of the implementation of the IC within the federal government • Coordination and further development of the violence protection strategy in accordance with the IC • Reporting obligations for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention (GREVIO) and representation of the federal government in the IC's Committee of the Parties at the Council of Europe • Cooperation at EU level on violence against women (including EU Directive on protection against violence and participation in the EU Prevention Network) • Cooperation with the coordination bodies of the States Parties to the IC • Cooperation with nationwide networks and non-governmental organizations (including promotion of suitable projects) • Interface with the National Rapporteur Mechanism on gender-based violence • Contribution to international processes to combat violence against women and domestic violence • Further development of national cooperation structures with regard to the IC <p>The Unit 303 is responsible for the Implementation of political measures taken by the BMBFSFJ. According to the internal distribution of tasks, the specific responsibilities of the unit are as follows:</p>		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General and specific issues relating to combating violence against women • Federal-state working group on domestic violence • Federal funding program “Together against violence against women” • Nationwide networking and networking structures in the field of violence against women • Nationwide helpline for violence against women (technical supervision and other tasks of the BMFSFJ in accordance with the Helpline Act) • Prevention of violence against women • Perpetrator work (in the field of domestic violence), by funding the Federal Association for Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Täterarbeit Häusliche Gewalt e.V., BAG TäHG) • Further development of national law for the protection of women affected by violence Violence Assistance Act, statutory order on federal statistics, and other legal issues relating to the support system for gender-based and domestic violence • Cooperation with the federal states on issues relating to the support system for gender-based and domestic violence; in particular, implementation of the Violence Assistance Act • Research, statistics, evaluation on violence against women <p>Since November 2022, the German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR) has been mandated by the federal government to monitor the implementation of the IC in Germany. For this purpose, it established the Berichterstattungsstelle geschlechtsspezifische Gewalt (National Rapporteur Mechanism on gender-based violence (NRM)).³ This independent body is funded by the BMBFSFJ.</p> <p>The National Rapporteur Mechanism on gender-based violence collects and analyses data to identify trends and developments in the field of gender-based violence. It supports policymakers and administrators at both federal and state level, maintaining close dialogue with associations and counselling centres, and issuing recommendations to both governmental and non-governmental actors with the aim of improving the protection of those affected. Up until 2026, two periodic reports will be published on the scope and extent of gender-based violence and the implementation of the IC in Germany.⁴ To this end, the National Rapporteur Mechanism on gender-based violence gathers data at federal and state level as well as from civil society, compiles it in the new indicator-based monitoring database, and analyses the findings. The next report is scheduled for release in 2027.</p> <p>In addition, publications on a predetermined annual theme appear each year (2023: custody and access rights; 2024: protection and support; 2025: femicide; and 2026: digital violence).</p>		
9.1	In particular, please indicate whether the co-ordinating body/bodies is/are responsible for:		
	- Co-ordination of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

³ <https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/en/das-institut/abteilungen/national-rapporteur-mechanism-on-gender-based-violence>.

⁴ Monitoring Report Violence Against Women, https://www.institut-fuer-menschenrechte.de/fileadmin/Redaktion/Publikationen/Weitere_Publikationen/Summary_Monitoring_Report_Violence_Against_Women.pdf.

		The co-ordination body responsible is: “Coordinating body according to the IC”	
	- Implementation of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The co-ordination body responsible is: Unit 303 “Protecting Women from Violence” at the BMBFSFJ (at the federal level)	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Monitoring and evaluation of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The co-ordination body responsible is: NRM	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Co-ordination of the collection of data, analysis and dissemination of its results	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The co-ordination body	No <input type="checkbox"/>

		responsible is: Unit IZ 33 at the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA)	
10	<p>Please specify the human and financial resources allocated to the co-ordinating body/bodies:</p> <p>Unit IK "Coordinating body according to the Istanbul Convention"</p> <p>The unit IK "Coordinating body according to the Istanbul Convention" has six full-time equivalent positions. In addition, €300,000 were allocated to the unit IK in 2025.</p> <p>Unit 303 "Protecting Women from Violence" (The unit is not a coordinating body in terms of Article 10 of the IC. It is the competent unit at the BMBFSFJ for the implementation of measures to protect women from violence.)</p> <p>The unit "Protecting Women from Violence" has 9,7 full-time equivalent positions. The following resources were allocated to the unit 303 since the adoption of the GREVIO recommendations: 2020: € 9.342.370; 2021: € 12.460.378, 2022: € 30.159.175, 2023: € 32.021.036, 2024: € 34.049.190, 2025: € 3.568.717.</p> <p>The National Rapporteur Mechanism</p> <p>The NRM received the following funding from the federal budget: 2020 €499,724; 2021 €569,457; 2022 €734,320; 2023 €820,600; 2024 €948,843; 2025 €966,615</p>		
11	<p>In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Articles 7 and 10, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:</p>		
III. Financial resources (Article 8)			
12	Have your authorities allocated specific funds at the		
	- national		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- and/or regional		Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

	- and/or local	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	levels of government for activities to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention?		
12.1	<p>If yes, what is the annual amount of these funds? If possible, please specify the percentage of the total national state budget that the amount represents.</p> <p>A consolidated overview is not feasible or meaningful due to the lack of a comparable system. The federal and <i>Länder</i> governments allocate the necessary funding for each individual measure and support programmes from their respective budgets (subject to available budgetary resources and planned measures).</p> <p>The federal government's Protection against Violence Strategy based on the Istanbul Convention includes a comprehensive catalogue of measures, each linked to responsible authorities and corresponding resources.⁵ Overall, the strategy includes measures to combat violence amounting to approximately €400 million per year.⁶</p> <p>The <i>Länder</i> in particular also provide substantial funding to implement the measures set out in their respective action plans and ensure the long-term financing of women's shelters and counselling centres. Almost in all <i>Länder</i>, funding for various protection and support services (women's shelters, counselling centres, and specialised support organisations) – has been significantly and continuously increased. For more information refer to the individual <i>Länder</i> contributions compiled for the 1st thematic evaluation round submitted by Germany to GREVIO in October 2025 (Appendix 2). The funding of programs for perpetrators of domestic violence is also the responsibility of the states and local authorities.</p> <p>The Violence Support Services Act (Gewalthilfegesetz) foresees national funds to support the <i>Länder</i> in establishing and maintaining a nationwide support system for gender-based and domestic violence that caters the needs of all affected women with their children. Funds are provided by the national government on a yearly basis from 2027 to 2036 and amount to a total sum of 2.6 billion Euro during this period. Furthermore, the Violence Support Services Act will grant shelters and advice services a legal entitlement to sufficient public funding by 2027.</p> <p>The local level (municipalities and local authorities) also finances to varying degrees the violence assistance and prevention systems. However, the annual data is not available to the federal government.</p>		
12.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
13	Have these funds increased since the publication of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

⁵ Protection against Violence Strategy based on the Istanbul Convention

<https://www.bmfsfj.de/resource/blob/257164/6c90795e9e59264b58bb6949099b560f/gewaltschutzstrategie-der-bundesregierung-englisch-data.pdf>.

⁶ The budget covers both national and international measures (e.g. development cooperation) as set out in the Protection against Violence Strategy based on the Istanbul Protocol. For details please refer to the Strategy.

	Since the adoption of the GREVIO recommendations in 2020, the budget at the BMBFSFJ for gender equality policy relating to protecting and prevention violence has amounted to approximately €5 million and is set to be increased to approximately €6,1 million as of 2025	If yes, by what amount:	
14	Have your authorities taken measures to foster long-term and sustainable financial support for non-governmental organisations working to support victims and prevent violence?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
14.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>Germany has implemented a series of targeted projects that aim to strengthen and sustainably support women's rights organisations, especially those providing specialist services to victims of gender-based violence, including migrant women and girls. For an overview please refer to the federal government's violence protection strategy under the Istanbul Convention.⁷</p> <p>Many <i>Länder</i> have increased their financial and human resources for women's rights organisations and specialised counselling centres, including for migrant women and girls (for further information refer to Appendix of the 1st thematic evaluation report submitted by Germany to GREVIO).</p> <p>By 2027 the Violence Support Services Act will grant shelters and advice services a legal entitlement to sufficient public funding.</p>		
14.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
15	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Article 8, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:		
IV. Non-governmental organisations and civil society (Article 9)			
16	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to further recognise, encourage and support the work of relevant non-governmental organisations and of civil society active in combating all forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention, including in terms of funding and co-operation?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
16.1	If yes, please specify:		

⁷ <https://www.bmbfsfj.bund.de/resource/blob/257164/ccac6ba0042943f97eff07551cc3afc/gewaltschutzstrategie-der-bundesregierung-englisch-data.pdf>

	<p>For information on co-operation and networking see Section II. C. “Integration of the work of NGOs and other civil society actors “in the “First State Report Germany“ (p. 5 et seq.). The measures described in the “First State Report Germany“ have been continued or further developed to encompass any of the forms of gender-based violence covered by the IC.</p> <p>The federal government and the <i>Länder</i> have increased their financial and human resources for women’s rights organisations and specialised counselling centres. Germany has implemented a series of targeted projects that aim to strengthen and sustainably support non-governmental organisations, especially women’s rights organisations providing specialist services to victims of gender-based violence, including migrant women and girls.</p> <p>Each project contributes to a broader framework that ensures sustainability, intersectionality, and accessibility in specialist support services across Germany. The combination of federal funding, long-term planning, and targeted thematic focus areas reflects an institutional commitment to upholding women’s rights and supporting organisations working on the ground.</p> <p>Specialised support services run by civil society organisations – in particular women’s shelters, women’s counselling centres, perpetrator programmes and child protection services – form an integral part of co-operation structures. Networking formats such as round tables and working groups generally include the expertise of civil society organisations, particularly women’s rights organisations, which are actively involved as members. The federal government’s Protection against Violence Strategy based on the Istanbul Convention and the LAPs have recognised the need for co-operation mechanisms. The Violence Support Services Act (GewHG) obliges the <i>Länder</i> to take measures in order to support co-operation and networking: 1) between the support services according to the Violence Support Services Act and 2) between the violence support services and other assistance services as well as authorities, health care institutions, child and youth welfare providers, police and regulatory authorities, the judiciary as well as with educational institutions, civil society structures and other relevant institutions or professions. Furthermore, the Violence Support Services Act will grant shelters and advice services a legal entitlement to sufficient public funding by 2027.</p>		
16.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
V. Data collection and research (Article 11)			
17	Does statistical data collection by all relevant sectors of the administration ⁸ clearly identify the following categories:		
	- Type of violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sex	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Age	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Type of relationship between the victim and the perpetrator	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Other factors deemed relevant	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

⁸ According to the Explanatory Report to the Convention, relevant statistical data may include administrative data collected from statistics compiled by health care services and social welfare services, law enforcement agencies, as well as judicial data recorded by judicial authorities, including public prosecutors.

	<p>VICTIM CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationality • Reason for residence of non-German victims • Degree of injury • Victim specifics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Victims due to personal impairment including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overall influence of alcohol/drugs/medication (including: influence of alcohol, influence of drugs, influence of medication) ▪ Disability (physical/mental) ▪ Frailty / age / illness / injury ▪ Homelessness ○ Occupation/ Activity including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Occupation / Activity excluding law enforcement officers (including: private security guards, teachers, students, taxi drivers, other occupations/activities (excluding law enforcement officers and emergency services)) ▪ Law enforcement officers and equivalent persons within the meaning of Sections 113, 114 of the German Criminal Code (including: police officers, customs officers (law enforcement officers), prison officers (law enforcement officers), other law enforcement officers and equivalent persons within the meaning of Sections 113, 114 StGB) ○ Emergency services (including: fire brigade, other emergency services) ○ Persons equivalent to law enforcement officers in accordance with Section 115 StGB, with the exception of emergency services ○ Carpooling ○ None of the above victim specifics <p>SUSPECT CHARACTERISTICS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationality • Reason for residence of non-German suspects • Place of residence • Other information about the suspect (including: suspects acting alone, already known to the police, users of hard drugs, suspects under the influence of alcohol, carrying a firearm) 	<p>If yes, please specify:</p>	
17.1	If not, please specify which sectors of the administration collects data on which categories:		
17.2	In implementation of the recommendation addressed to your authorities, please specify which sectors have started to collect data/improved their data collection and how:		

Since the adoption of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report, the way in which **police crime statistics (PCS)** are compiled by the police has been adjusted as follows:

- In each case, the location of the crime is recorded along a catalogue of sites. The field values include among others house, street, park, green space, retirement or care home, bus or tram stop, bus or train station.
- The event during which the crime was committed is recorded (e.g. demonstration, cultural event (concert, etc.).
- The degree of the victims' injuries is recorded.

Since 2022 **the nationwide situation report on intimate partner violence** is supplemented by intrafamilial violence to a **comprehensive report on domestic violence**. Last year, the Federal Criminal Police Office published the **nationwide situation report on gender-specific crimes against women in 2023** for the first time. This situation report provides detailed data on gender-specific crimes against women which is collected in a uniform manner across Germany. It covers misogyny crimes (prejudice against women and girls) and crimes which generally target women or primarily affect women.

With regard to family court statistics, the BMJV has urged the *Länder* to re-examine possibilities of collecting additional data on the relationship between the parties involved. A panel of representatives from the justice departments of the *Länder* responsible for the coordination of judicial statistics concluded that the collection of data on the relationship between the parties is not feasible within the framework of the family court statistics. Data collection for family court statistics is organisationally and technically designed to provide standardised and comparable information on the courts' workload rather than personal details of the parties involved. Moreover, relationships other than spouses or registered partnerships may be difficult to categorise and the parties' assessment of the relationship status may differ. Since data collection for judicial statistics is automated, information can only be gathered in predefined categories. Free text cannot be processed by the automated data collection systems.

The **German Institute for Human Rights (DIMR)** has been tasked with monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe's IC in Germany since November 2022. The Institute has set up NRM for this purpose (see above). The core task of the NRM is human rights-based monitoring of gender-based violence in Germany in order to assess the scope and extent of gender-based violence and the status of implementation of the IC. It also monitors legislation and case law and promotes public discourse on this topic. The NRM contributes to the creation of a broad and reliable data basis on gender-based violence in Germany. Firstly, the data is intended to visualise trends and developments, and secondly it serves to shape evidence-based policy. Two fundamental publications have been issued on the data situation:

- First report on the data situation on gender-based violence against women and domestic violence in Germany
- Monitor Violence against Women

The **Violence Support Services Act** provides for the introduction of federal statistics on facilities offering protection and counselling under the Act as well as the utilisation rate of protection and counselling services. The first survey year is 2028, prior to which a regulation on the statistical survey characteristics is to be issued.

Furthermore, as part of its process documentation, the helpline statistically evaluates annually the number and type of contacts based on the information provided by the persons concerned in anonymized form and submits an annual report on the use of the helpline and the services provided. The status report also serves to adapt the helpline's services to meet demand.

	<p>Against the backdrop of the lack of a uniform federal definition of 'femicide', the AG Kripo (Criminal Investigation Working Group) has advocated, in favour of developing a unified federal police definition of femicide at its autumn meeting in 2025. To this end, a federal-state working group was set up under the leadership of the Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) and in cooperation with the state criminal investigation offices. The sole aim is to develop an operational definition of femicide. The development of an operational definition will take place in two steps: In line with standard practice in empirical social research, the first step will be to specify the concept, drawing on the current state of research and existing definitions to define the term 'femicide'. The second step is operationalisation, which involves assigning observable characteristics or indicators to the term 'femicide' and making the concept measurable. Results are expected by the first half of 2026. The form of publication will be decided at a later date.</p>		
18	<p>Is statistical data collection by all relevant sectors of the administration conducted at regular intervals?</p>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>If yes, please specify at what interval:</p>	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
	<p>Three nationwide situation reports are published yearly: Since 2000 The National Situation Report on Human Trafficking and Exploitation, since 2022, the comprehensive report on domestic violence and since 2024, the report on gender-specific crimes against women⁹.</p> <p>On a federal level, there are no detailed statistics dedicated specifically to court decisions and procedures concerning violence against women and domestic violence.</p> <p>However, some relevant data is collected within the scope of the statistics of the family courts and the criminal prosecution statistics. Data for both statistics is collected by the <i>Länder</i> based on jointly drafted uniform instructions for data collection and subsequently compiled into an overview for the whole of Germany by the Federal Statistical Office once every year.</p> <p>The statistics of the family courts include basic data regarding procedures under the Act on Protection Against Violence (Gewaltschutzgesetz – GewSchG) that can be disaggregated according to gender of the parties involved. While the criminal prosecution statistics do provide information on whether the convicted offense theoretically constitutes a form of violence within the meaning of the IC, they do not provide information on whether it was directed against a woman. This is only possible for offenses that indicate that the person affected is a woman, such as Section 226a StGB (female genital mutilation) and Section 218(2) sentence 2 No. 1 StGB (forced abortion). The statistics and</p>		

⁹ https://www.bka.de/DE/AktuelleInformationen/StatistikenLagebilder/Lagebilder/HaeuslicheGewalt/haeuslicheGewalt_node.html,
https://www.bka.de/DE/AktuelleInformationen/StatistikenLagebilder/Lagebilder/StraftatengegenFrauen/StraftatengegenFrauen_node.html

	<p>IT programmes regarding Section 218 only cover Section 218(2) sentence 2 No. 1 StGB since this is the only relevant case of the provision.</p> <p>From 2028 onwards, in accordance with Section 10 of the Violence Support Services Act, nationwide statistics on the use of the services will also be collected annually. The Federal statistics may include the following information in particular: type and location of the facility and its sponsoring organization, persons working at the facility by gender, scope of employment, qualifications, number of places available, problem areas for which counseling is offered, number of persons admitted, number of persons counseled, information on the persons admitted and counseled, in particular on gender, age, type of violence experienced, place of residence, residence status, and number of own children and children brought to the facility.</p> <p>The national “Violence Against Women” helpline collects comprehensive usage figures every year and publishes an annual report presenting the number of consultations, the most common offenses, and other statistics. In 2024, the helpline recorded a new high of over 61,000 consultations.¹⁰</p> <p>Since 1999, the Association of Women’s Shelters (Frauenhauskoordinierung e.V.) has compiled statistical overviews of the situation in women’s shelters throughout Germany, including the number and age of residents and their children as well as their country of origin, nationality, education and income. Special analyses provide additional information on annually changing topics.¹¹Fehler! Linkreferenz ungültig.)</p>		
19	Does statistical data by all sectors of the administration cover the following forms of violence against women?		
	- Domestic violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Stalking	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sexual violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sexual harassment	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced marriage	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Female genital mutilation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced abortion	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced sterilisation	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
20	Does statistical data collection by law-enforcement agencies and the judiciary enable cases of violence against women to be tracked in order to indicate:		

¹⁰ <https://www.hilfetelefon.de/en/>

¹¹ <https://www.frauenhauskoordinierung.de/arbeitsfelder/fhk-bewohner-innenstatistik/>

	- Conviction rates	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	- Types of sentences	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	- Attrition rates	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	- Time-barred proceedings	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>
21	<p>As regards population-based surveys, please indicate any survey conducted since the publication of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report, while specifying the forms of violence covered:</p> <p>In addition to administrative data the authorities conduct two victimisation surveys Sicherheit und Kriminalität in Deutschland (SKiD) and Lebenssituation, Sicherheit und Belastung im Alltag (LeSuBiA) to detect unreported crime. SKiD is a longitudinal victimisation survey that examines the development of crime in Germany over time and thereby also asks questions about violence and sexual offenses. The title of the victimisation survey LeSuBiA can be translated as "Life Situation, Safety and Strain in Everyday Life". LeSuBiA is a victim survey carried out by the BMI, BMBFSFJ and the BKA which analyses the forms and extent of violence among all genders. The survey examines victimisation in various forms of violence (esp. psychological violence in (ex-) relationships, physical abuse in (ex-) relationships, sexual violence, sexual harassment, stalking, digital violence). A particular focus is on collecting information about their experiences of violence in (ex-) partner relationships, of sexualised violence and of violence in the digital space. Among other factors, it takes into account victims' gender and age, and the offender-victim relationship as well as data on socio-structural factors and the respondents' living environment. The study also takes into account persons' experiences with the police, judicial authorities and victim support services. The aim of the survey is to gain insights into gender-specific differences with regard to unreported violent crime. The results are scheduled to be published in 2026.</p>		
22	<p>In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Article 11, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:</p> <p>BMBFSFJ commissioned a "Study on the Costs of the Support System for Victims of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence" in 2023, the results of which were published in 2024. The reference year for the underlying data is 2022. For the first time, the study determined the annual costs and financing of the support system for gender-based and domestic violence in Germany on a scientifically sound basis. Furthermore, it forecasts what a support system that has been further developed according to the needs of all affected persons would cost annually. The study served as a scientific basis for political discussions in preparation for the Violence Support Services Act (GewHG), which was passed in February 2025.</p>		
VI. Custody, visitation rights and safety (Article 31)			
23	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure that incidents of violence covered by the scope of the Istanbul Convention are taken into account in the determination of custody and visitation rights of children, notably by courts?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
23.1	If yes, please specify how this has been done (by legislative amendments or other means)		

	<p>The training brochure “Child Matters and Domestic Violence”¹² (<i>Kindschaftssachen und häusliche Gewalt</i>) was created in connection with the BMBFSFJ-financed e-learning project “Protection and Assistance in Cases of Domestic Violence – An Interdisciplinary Online Course” (“Schutz und Hilfe bei häuslicher Gewalt – ein interdisziplinärer Online-Kurs”) and is aimed at family court judges and all other actors in family court proceedings who are involved in regulating access, parental custody, and determining the child’s welfare (following domestic violence). This online course-project was a joint initiative funded by BMBFSFJ under the Federal Innovation Programme from 1 May 2019, to 30 April 2022. Since June 2022, when the federal funding ended, the <i>Länder</i> have taken on the responsibility of financing the course jointly, ensuring its continued availability to professionals free of charge.¹³</p> <p>The coalition agreement between the parties CDU, CSU und SPD for the 21st legislative period (2025-2029) stipulates that domestic violence must be taken into account in proceedings on parental care, custody and contact to the detriment of the parent who exercised violence.</p> <p>In all custody and contact proceeding, the court must carry out an in-depth assessment of all aspects relating to the best interests of the child, taking into account in particular the extent to which, following incidents of domestic violence in which children are victims or witnesses of such incidents, the transfer of parental custody to one parent or the authorisation of contact between one parent and the children can be justified in terms of their best interests.</p> <p>In proceedings to regulate parental custody or contact, the child concerned is a participant to the proceedings and is to be heard by the court regardless of their age, Section 159 of the Act on Proceedings in Family Matters and in Matters of Non-contentious Jurisdiction (FamFG). Pursuant to Section 158 FamFG, the child is also provided with a professionally and personally suitable guardian ad litem to the extent necessary for representing their interests.</p> <p>There are provisions in order to make sure that professionals, most notably judges, are trained and knowledgeable concerning incidents of violence when determining custody and visitation rights of children. Judges in family cases must have proven knowledge in the fields of family law, and basic knowledge of psychology (Section 23b (3) of the Courts Constitution Act (GVG)). Appointed guardians ad litem must also possess knowledge in family law, law on child and youth welfare services, and child development psychology (Section 158a (1) FamFG). Experts commissioned in child custody cases shall have a relevant professional qualification (e.g. psychological, educational) (Section 163 (1) FamFG). The <i>Länder</i> are making efforts to improve the qualifications of legal professionals by establishing and further developing interdisciplinary standards to ensure child-sensitive proceedings in cases of domestic violence. In some places there are specific training programmes to sensitise professionals to the psychological impact of intimate partner violence on children.</p>
23.2	<p>If yes, please specify how the above obligation is implemented in practice, including by providing data indicating to what extent courts consider all issues related to violence against women in their decisions on custody and visitation rights:</p>

¹² <https://www.bmfsfj.de/bmfsfj/service/publikationen/kindschaftssachen-und-haeusliche-gewalt-185890> (German).

¹³ <https://haeuslichegewalt.elearning-gewaltschutz.de/> (German).

	<p>There is no data available on the number of decisions issued by family courts on custody and visitation rights that have considered issues related to violence against women. The family court statistics do not collect any information on the reasoning for court decisions.</p> <p>Collecting this information would require service staff at the family courts to analyse decisions, which is not feasible considering the quantity of custody/visitation/residence proceedings.</p> <p>A panel of experts from the justice departments of the <i>Länder</i> has examined possibilities of collecting additional data on the relationship of the parties involved in proceedings at the family courts. The panel concluded that data collection on the relationship between parties is also not feasible within the framework of the family court statistics (please refer to the answer to question 17.2 above).</p> <p>In many <i>Länder</i>, custody decisions made in the context of domestic violence are not separately recorded in statistical terms.</p>		
23.3	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
24	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure that visitation rights do not jeopardise the rights and safety of the victim or children?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
24.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>The family court has to take into account cases of domestic violence in decisions on parental care (the right to make decisions for the child), custody (the decision where the child mainly resides) and contact. It is, however, not yet listed as an explicit criterion to be taken into account, as the legal provision is very general. Several decisions by higher regional courts on parental care, custody and contact in case of domestic violence have been published during the last years.</p> <p>Section 156 (1) FamFG, which regulates the family court's involvement in reaching an agreement between the child's parents has contained the restriction that the court shall only facilitate an agreement if this is not contrary to the child's best interests – such is the case if there has been domestic violence between the parents (BT-Drs. 16/6308, p. 236). In such cases, the court must examine particularly carefully whether and to what extent an agreement between the parents would at all be sensible and likely to be successful in the long term.</p> <p>The family court may order that contact will be supervised by the Youth Welfare Office or an association or that it may only take place at designated safe places. Supervised contact is generally organised and implemented by suitable independent organisations, usually recommended by the youth welfare office. The court can also exclude the right of a parent to contact for a long period or permanently if the best interests of the child are endangered.</p> <p>The coalition agreement between the parties CDU, CSU und SPD for the 21st legislative period (2025-2029) stipulates that domestic violence must be taken into account in proceedings on parental care, custody and contact to the detriment of the parent who exercised violence.</p>		
24.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		

25	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Article 31, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:		
VII. — Immediate response, prevention, and protection (Article 50)			
26	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to improve the prompt and appropriate response of law enforcement agencies, in particular by:		
	— Enhancing training of law enforcement officials on the gendered nature of violence against women and its consequences	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	— Ensuring a sufficient number of female police officers	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	— Setting up premises designed to establish a relationship of trust between the victim and the law enforcement personnel	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	— Ensuring the efficient collection of evidence so that the reliance on the victim's testimony is lessened	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
26.1	If yes, please specify:		
26.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
27	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to enable the identification and careful analysis of any failure of protection?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
27.1	If yes, please specify what kind of measures, and if further preventive measures were adopted to remedy this situation:		
27.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
28	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Article 50, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:		
VIII. Emergency barring, restraining or protection orders (Articles 52 and 53)			
29	As regards emergency barring orders, have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure that the competent authorities are granted the power to order, in situations of immediate danger, a perpetrator of domestic violence to vacate the residence of the victim or person at risk, and to prohibit the perpetrator from entering the residence of or contacting the victim or person at risk.	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

29.1	<p>If yes, please indicate which authorities have the power to issue emergency barring orders:</p> <p>In cases of acute danger, the police can provide protection and assistance. In most <i>Länder</i>, when responding to domestic violence incidents, the police are authorised by law to remove the perpetrator from the home and issue a ban on returning. These so-called removal orders or exclusion orders are regulated by the respective state police laws.</p> <p>In some <i>Länder</i> the law provides the possibility of using electronic monitoring in domestic violence cases.</p> <p>A restraining order can be ordered by the court under the conditions of Section 1 (1) of the GewSchG. In urgent cases, the court can make decisions by means of an interim order upon application according to Sections 49 ff. FamFG. Pursuant to Section 56 (1) FamFG, unless the court has determined an earlier date, the temporary injunction shall cease to have effect when another regulation comes into force.</p>		
29.2	<p>If yes, please indicate the length of time for which emergency barring orders may remain in force:</p> <p>The length of time for which emergency barring orders may remain in force must be limited to at most six months. Under certain circumstances the time limit can be extended another six months at most.</p> <p>The time limits for removal orders by the police vary from state to state, but procedures are in place to ensure that no protection gap arises before a court-issued protection order under the GewSchG is in place.</p>		
29.3	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
30	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure the availability of restraining or protection orders to victims of the following forms of violence against women?		
	- Domestic violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Stalking	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sexual violence	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Sexual harassment	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced marriage	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Female genital mutilation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- Forced abortion	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
- Forced sterilisation	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	
30.1	If yes, please specify:		

	All forms of violence covered by the IC are punishable by law in Germany. Victims of violence have the opportunity to seek judicial protection, among others interim injunctions and protection orders. The legal framework governing restraining and protection orders in cases of violence against women oder any other person is laid down in GewSchG.		
30.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
31	<p>Is data collected on the percentage of orders issued and their violation?</p> <p>The statistics of the family courts include information on the number of restraining and protection orders under GewSchG that were concluded with violence protection measures. Data can be disaggregated according to gender of the parties involved. However, there is no data available on breaches of such orders and the number of sanctions imposed within the framework of the family court statistics.</p> <p>The criminal prosecution statistics collect data on the number of persons prosecuted and convicted for breaches of protection orders and obligations from settlement agreements under GewSchG as the most serious charge. However, this data can neither be disaggregated with regard to the sex of the victim nor with regard to emergency barring orders.</p> <p>With regard to protection orders, in many <i>Länder</i>, there are significant gaps in the statistical recording of measures under GewSchG as well as of violations of protection orders. Almost all <i>Länder</i> state that violations of protection orders or resulting sanctions are not systematically recorded.</p>	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
32	Have your authorities taken measures contributing to ensure the effective enforcement of barring, restraining or protection orders?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
32.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>This framework is supposed to become more efficient by establishing new enforcement measures and increasing the maximum penalties for violations. Therefore, the federal cabinet has decided on 19 November 2025 the draft law on the introduction of electronic monitoring of residence and offender work under GewSchG, which is also part of the Coalition Agreement between CDU, CSU und SPD for the 21th legislative term. The draft law aims to introduce two-component electronic monitoring (also known as the “Spanish-model”) at the federal level. If the restraining or protection order is breached, the system would automatically send an alarm to the monitoring unit which can prevent the person in need of protection when danger threatens. This would make immediate police intervention possible and would function as an individual warning system for the person in need of protection. Experience with such systems in other countries, especially in Spain, has shown that these monitoring schemes can decrease the number of breaches and other criminal acts due to the high risk of detection and their deterrent effect, thereby making the enforcement of restraining or protection orders more efficient.</p>		

	<p>Even today, electronic monitoring via GPS tracker can be ordered in several <i>Länder</i> in case of police emergency barring orders as referred to in Art. 52 of the IC, which function as short-term crisis intervention measures. In addition, the draft law provides that family courts are able to order this measure in restraining and protection orders passed on the basis of GewSchG. These restraining and protection orders passed on the basis of GewSchG complement Art. 52 measures, as they usually cover longer periods of time in order to stabilise the medium- and long-term situation between the person in need of protection and the perpetrator.</p> <p>Another measure of the draft law is that family courts are able to order the obligation for the perpetrator to take part in a mandatory anti-violence training when passing restraining and protection orders. Although ordering such trainings is already possible today in criminal proceedings (Sections 153a (1) sentence 2 no. 6 Code of Criminal Procedure (StPO), Sections 59a (2) sentence 1 no. 6, 56c Criminal Code (StGB)) and in cases where children are endangered (Section 1666 BGB), this would create an explicit legal basis for doing so in the context of restraining and protection orders.</p>
32.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:
33	In case your authorities have taken further measures contributing to the implementation of recommendations in relation to Articles 52 and 53, which were not covered by the questions above, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:

Specific recommendations

34	<p>Please report on measures taken by your authorities contributing to the implementation of the recommendation to increase the number of available shelter places, with the aim of obtaining an adequate geographical distribution throughout the country, and ensure that all women victims of violence, regardless of their status under the Social Code or other factors – in particular girls under 18 years of age, LGBTI women, women with sons above a certain age, women with many children, women with disabilities, women fleeing violence related to “honour”, asylum-seeking women and those with an insecure residence status – have free-of-charge access to dedicated domestic violence shelters; moreover, take account of the principle that only accommodation in dedicated, single-sex and specialist structures can meet the requirements of the Istanbul Convention, and that shelters for the homeless cannot serve as a replacement [Recommendation A.11, IC-CP/Inf(2022)8].</p> <p>At the beginning of 2025, the Violence Support Services Act (GewHG) was passed by the Bundestag and the Bundesrat. The Act is primarily intended to improve the situation of women (and their children) affected by gender-based or domestic violence by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The obligation of the <i>Länder</i> to provide a nationwide, needs-based network of protection and counselling services sufficient in capacities by 2027. • Setting binding standards for protection facilities and specialised counselling centres, e.g. concerning staff, facilities and professional work. • Regulating mandatory state recognition for providers of protection facilities and specialised counselling centres.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The introduction of a legal entitlement to protection and professional counselling for all women and their children affected by gender-based and domestic violence by 2032. Women affected are given access to services at low-threshold and support will be provided free of charge. • Reliable, public funding of the support services by the <i>Länder</i>. The federal government is contributing approx. EUR 2.6 billion to the funding for the period from 2027 to 2036. <p>The primary aim of the Violence Support Services Act is to ensure that women can live their lives without experiencing violence. The network of protection and counselling services provided by the <i>Länder</i> must be geared towards the needs of women affected by violence. In particular, the needs of women with disabilities or with migrant background, needs concerning gender and gender identity, sexual orientation and the special needs of accompanying children must be considered. The Act grants women affected by violence a legal entitlement to protection and professional counselling, which is enforceable as an individual right.</p> <p>The aim of the federal funding programme “Together Against Violence towards Women “(2020-2024) was to close known gaps in the support system for women and their children affected by violence and to further advance the needs-based expansion of the support system in Germany. In particular, the aim was to improve access for women with disabilities through the barrier-free expansion of women’s shelters, counselling centres, and safe spaces. The programme has been very well received: Projects from all <i>Länder</i> were submitted and a total of 68 projects were implemented in 56 women’s shelters, seven safe houses/second-stage apartments and five specialized counseling centers. The programme led to an expansion of capacities in the support system: 230 new women’s shelter spaces for women and their children were created. 354 existing women’s shelter spaces for women and their children were structurally improved. 70 new counseling rooms and 54 new common rooms were created.</p>
35	<p>Please report on measures taken by your authorities contributing to the implementation of recommendation to ensure that all women and girls seeking asylum are offered adequate and safe accommodation through, among other things, the screening for vulnerabilities and the implementation of standard protocols for the prevention of and protection from gender-based violence in reception facilities and that they are granted access to specialist support services and to counselling for experiences of gender-based violence [Recommendation A.15, IC-CP/Inf(2022)8].</p> <p>Within the German federal system, the responsibility for accommodating refugees lies with the <i>Länder</i> and the municipalities. Since 2019, the Asylum Act (Asylgesetz – AsylG) has obliged the <i>Länder</i> to ensure the protection of women and vulnerable groups in reception accommodation through “appropriate measures”. In 2016, the BMBFSFJ, together with UNICEF and national and international Civil Society Organisations, launched the “Joint Initiative for the Protection of Refugees in Refugee Accommodation Centres” to improve the protection, care and support of children, women and vulnerable persons living in refugee accommodation and to contribute to their well-being and integration. In 2021, the fourth edition of the “Minimum Standards for the Protection of Refugees in Refugee Accommodation Centres” was published with annexes on the implementation of the minimum standards for LGBTIQ+ refugees and migrants, implementation for refugees and migrants with disabilities and implementation for refugees and migrants suffering from traumatic disorder. The “Minimum Standards for the Protection of Refugees in Refugee Accommodation Centres” are non-binding, but serve as guidelines for the development, implementation and monitoring of individual protection plans.</p> <p>The Violence Support Services Act (GewHG) obliges the <i>Länder</i> to provide a nationwide, needs-based network of protection and counselling services sufficient in capacity for all women (with their children) affected by gender-based or domestic violence by 2027.</p> <p>According to Section 44 para. 1 of the Asylum Act, the <i>Länder</i> shall be required to set up and maintain reception centres necessary to accommodate persons requesting asylum. According to Section 44 para. 2a of the Asylum Act, the <i>Länder</i> shall be required to set up and maintain reception for</p>

women and vulnerable persons. The *Länder* have individual concepts and policies for accommodating women and girls. The Federal level does not monitor how and to what extent the individual Land implements the requirement of Section 44 para. 2a of the Asylum Act. As regards the asylum procedure, the respective local branch offices of the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees (BAMF) may provide information on specialised counselling centres, or name an adequate specialised counselling centre (e.g. gender-based violence, domestic violence, assistance, trafficking in human beings) women and girls may contact. The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees operates systematically in identifying vulnerabilities and adhering to prevent and protect from gender-based violence. Crucial is the Federal Office's concept "The identification of vulnerable persons in the asylum procedure" (2022). It stipulates the operational procedures differentiating between vulnerabilities that may occur during the asylum procedure. The concept was drafted in accordance with European law (a) Directive on Standards for the reception of applicants for international protection (recast), [2013/33/EU], b) Directive on common procedures for granting and withdrawing international protection (recast), [2013/32/EU]).

The Federal Office for Migration and Refugees takes into account indications of vulnerabilities throughout the asylum procedure. Based on their own findings or on external information, for example from the independent asylum procedure counselling ("behördenunabhängige Asylverfahrensberatung") or from reception authorities, individual measures are taken to ensure that gender based or domestic violence is given appropriate consideration in the asylum procedure (e. g. use of specially trained case officers for gender-based persecution).

In some *Länder* violence protection coordinators are currently being introduced in state reception centres for refugees. These coordinators serve as contact persons for residents on issues of violence prevention and response. They are tasked with building and maintaining networks with counselling and support services, specialist organisations and law enforcement agencies.