
Committee of the Parties

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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

Report of the 13th meeting

Strasbourg, 5-6 December 2022

IC-CP/Inf(2022)RAP13

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Table of contents

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda	3
Agenda item 2. Administrative and budgetary information	3
Agenda item 3. State of signatures and ratifications of the Istanbul Convention	3
Agenda item 4. Exchange of views with Iris Luarasi, President of GREVIO	4
Agenda item 5. Recommendations on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention by: ...	4
Agenda item 6. Exchange of views with Zita Gurmai, General Rapporteur on Violence against Women of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	4
Agenda item 7. Election of Bureau members	4
Agenda item 8. Date of next meeting	5
Agenda item 9. Other business	5
Agenda item 10. Adoption of the list of decisions taken	5
Appendix I: Agenda	6
Appendix II: List of participants	7

Agenda item 1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereinafter referred to respectively as “the Committee” and “the convention”) held its 13th meeting on 5 and 6 December 2022 in Strasbourg, in hybrid format. It adopted the draft agenda of the meeting as it appears in document IC-CP(2021)OJ13prov and which is set out in Appendix I.

Agenda item 2. Administrative and budgetary information

The Executive Secretary informed the Committee about the special funds for the monitoring mechanisms that have allowed the Committee of the Parties to adopt nine recommendations this year. These funds have also allowed to fund two additional members of staff in the violence against women division. The Executive Secretary also updated the Committee on the changes in the secretariat staff.

Furthermore, voluntary contributions have allowed the secretariat to carry out other activities in addition to GREVIO baseline evaluations, including, for example, round tables to follow up on findings issued by GREVIO to states that have already been evaluated. The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that such round-tables can be carried out in any state party that has undergone the evaluation procedure and made a call for interest to carry out similar initiatives.

Agenda item 3. State of signatures and ratifications of the Istanbul Convention

a) Action taken by member States of the Council of Europe towards ratification of the Istanbul Convention: tour de table

The Chair invited signatory states to share information on progress towards ratification. The representative of the Czech Republic informed the Committee about the unchanged situation since the last Committee meeting due to the lack of consensus at the political level. The representative of Latvia informed the Committee that there has been no progress towards ratification as a government has not yet been formed since the last elections.

b) Action taken by non-member States of the Council of Europe invited to accede to the Istanbul Convention: tour de table

Representatives of Kazakhstan and Israel took the floor to share information with the Committee regarding steps taken toward ratification. Israel informed the Committee that it hoped to be able to ratify the convention with the support of the new national government, while Kazakhstan informed the Committee about measures taken in the area of violence against women at the national level and asked the Committee to support their work aimed at countering disinformation on the Convention in the country.

c) Action taken by the European Union towards ratification of the Istanbul Convention: legislative developments

It was decided to address this item of the agenda at the next Committee meeting.

d) Declarations and reservations

The Executive Secretary informed the Committee that since its last meeting one state party, Germany, has withdrawn its reservations. Another state party, Switzerland, has decided to maintain them.

Agenda item 4. Exchange of views with Iris Luarasi, President of GREVIO

The President of GREVIO, Iris Luarasi, presented the work of GREVIO to the Committee, including the publication of GREVIO General Recommendation No. 1 on the digital dimension of violence against women. She informed the Committee about the elections of new GREVIO members to the Committee and the recent publication of nine baseline evaluation reports. She also explained that the evaluation procedures in respect of Ukraine and the United Kingdom have been launched and that the questionnaire for GREVIO's 1st thematic evaluation will be sent to the first group of state parties in early 2023.

Several delegations took the floor to thank Iris Luarasi and GREVIO for the invaluable work. In response to questions from delegations, Iris Luarasi provided further information about GREVIO's General Recommendation No. 1 on the digital dimension of violence against women and the selection process of GREVIO members.

Agenda item 5. Recommendations on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention

The Executive Secretary presented to the Committee statistics on the new recommendations on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention to be adopted by the Committee, and the existing trends.

The Chair introduced the draft recommendations of the Committee of the Parties on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention issued in respect of Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Iceland, Norway, Romania and Switzerland. Representatives of each of the nine states parties thanked GREVIO for the findings and the analysis contained in the respective baseline evaluation reports, expressed the intention of their countries to implement the recommendations and gave examples of current efforts to implement the Istanbul Convention in their national contexts. Further to a request from the representative of Georgia, one recommendation issued in respect of Georgia was slightly reworded. The recommendations to Germany, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Estonia, Georgia, Iceland, Norway, Romania, and Switzerland were adopted by the Committee.

Agenda item 6. Exchange of views with Zita Gurmai, General Rapporteur on Violence against Women of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Zita Gurmai shared the relevance of implementing the convention, as well as the use of technology to raise awareness. She also updated the Committee on the actions and initiatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the role of the parliamentarians to incentivise the signature and ratification of the Convention.

Several delegations took the floor to thank Zita Gurmai. In response to questions from the delegations, Zita Gurmai spoke about the general backlash on gender equality and misinformation around the convention. She stressed the relevance of the convention in saving women's lives. Furthermore, several members of the Committee shared examples of how their respective Parliaments have contributed to the implementation of the convention at the national level.

Finally, the representatives of the state parties discussed developments in criminal legislations on sexual violence and rape and their alignment with Article 36 of the convention.

Agenda item 7. Election of Bureau members

The President proposed that the mandate of the Bureau be extended for one more year. No objection was raised.

Agenda item 8. Date of next meeting

The Committee decided to hold its next meeting on 1 June 2023.

Agenda item 9. Other business

No other business was raised.

Agenda item 10. Adoption of the list of decisions taken

The Committee adopted the list of decisions as set out in document IC-CP/Inf(2022)LD13.

Appendix I: Agenda

- 1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda (14:30)**
- 2. Administrative and budgetary information**
- 3. State of signatures and ratifications of the Istanbul Convention**
 - a) Action taken by member States of the Council of Europe towards ratification of the Istanbul Convention: *tour de table*
 - b) Action taken by non-member States of the Council of Europe towards ratification of the Istanbul Convention: *tour de table*
 - c) Action taken by the European Union towards ratification of the Istanbul Convention: legislative developments
 - d) Declarations and reservations
- 4. Exchange of views with Iris Luarasi, President of GREVIO**
- 5. Recommendations on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention by:**
 - **Romania** [IC-CP(2022)6 prov]
 - **Bosnia and Herzegovina** [IC-CP(2022)7 prov]
 - **Germany** [IC-CP(2022)8 prov]
 - **Estonia** [IC-CP(2022)9 prov]
 - **Cyprus** [IC-CP(2022)10 prov]
 - **Switzerland** [IC-CP(2022)11 prov]
 - **Iceland** [IC-CP(2022)12 prov]
 - **Norway** [IC-CP(2022)13 prov]
 - **Georgia** [IC-CP(2022)14 prov]
- 6. Exchange of views with Zita Gurmai, General Rapporteur on Violence against Women of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**
- 7. Election of Bureau members [[Rules of procedure](#)]**
- 8. Date of next meeting**
- 9. Other business**
- 10. Adoption of the list of decisions taken**

Appendix II: List of Participants**13th meeting CoP****BUREAU**

Mme Marie FONTANEL
Présidente
Ambassadrice
Représentante Permanente de la France auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

Mr Domenik WANGER
First Vice-President
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Liechtenstein
to the Council of Europe

Mr Andrej SLAPNIČAR
Second Vice-President
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of Slovenia
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MEMBERS / MEMBRES**ALBANIA / ALBANIE**

Etleva SHESHI
Director general of Social inclusion and gender equality
Ministry of Health and Social Welfare

ANDORRA / ANDORRE

M. Joan FORNER ROVIRA
Ambassadeur Extraordinaire et Plénipotentiaire
Représentant Permanent de l'Andorre
auprès du Conseil de l'Europe

AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE

Ms Marie Theres PRANTNER
Austrian Federal Ministry of Education and Women's Affairs
IV/4 – Violence against Women and women-specific legislation

Ms Aloisia WÖRGETTER
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BELGIUM / BELGIQUE

Ms Marijke WEEWAUTERS
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BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE

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Director of the Agency for Gender Equality, Ministry for Human Rights and Refugees

CROATIA / CROATIE

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Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy

Ms Monika BEGOVIC

Senior Expert Adviser

Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy

Ms Narcisa BEĆIREVIĆ

Deputy to the Permanent Representative of Croatia

CYPRUS / CHYPRE

Ms Niki ANDREOU

Administrative Officer

Gender Equality Unit of the Ministry of Justice and Public Order.

DENMARK / DANEMARK

Rune KISTRUP

Head of Section

Ministry of Justice

ESTONIA / ESTONIE

Ms Anne KRUUSEMENT

Adviser

Ministry of Justice

FINLAND / FINLANDE

Ms. Nina NORDSTROM

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

Permanent Representative of Finland to the Council of Europe

FRANCE

Ms Stéfania CHIRU

Chargé de mission du bureau des affaires européennes et internationales

Direction générale de la cohésion sociale

Ministère des affaires sociales et de la santé

GEORGIA / GÉORGIE

Mr Niko TATULASHVILI -
Advisor to the Prime Minister of Georgia on Human Rights Issues

Ms Eliso SHANIA
Deputy Head of the Human Rights Secretariat
Administration of the Government of Georgia

GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE

Katharina WIATR
Unit 403 - Protection of Women from Violence German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior
Citizens, Women and Youth

GREECE / GRÈCE

Ms Angeliki PAPAZOGLU
Deputy Head of Directorate of social Protection and Counselling services
General secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

ICELAND / ISLANDE

Ms Hildur Sunna PÁLMAÐÓTTIR
Ministry of Justice

M. Thorvardur Atli THORSSON
Counsellor Permanent Representative of Iceland

IRELAND / IRLANDE

Mr Ross WYNNE
Department of Justice

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M. Stefano PIZZICANNELLA
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Department for equal opportunities
Presidency of the Council of Ministers

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Presidency of the Council of Ministers

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Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance

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Head of Division for policies to ensure equality between men and women
Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Protection

MONACO

Margaux GIRARDIN
Trainee, Permanent Representation of Monaco

MONTENEGRO

Ms Jovana RADIVIKOVIC -
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Directorate for Social Welfare and Children Protection
Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare.

NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS

Ms Jitske BOSCH
Senior policy advisor
Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sports

NORTH MACEDONIA / MACEDOINE DU NORD

Ms Svetlana CVETKOVSKA
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
Sector for Equal Opportunity

NORWAY / NORVEGE

Ms Hilde Marit KNOTTEN
Senior Advisor
Ministry of Justice and Public Security
Police Department

POLAND / POLOGNE

Mme Joanna MACIEJEWSKA
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Head of the Domestic Violence / Gender Violence Unit at the Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality

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National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men - NAEO

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Mr. Andrew LEWIS
Policy lead, Stalking and 'Honour'-Based Abuse
Interpersonal Abuse Unit
Home Office

Ms Nadia HASHMI
Deputy Permanent Representative

UKRAINE

Ms Angelina OLIINYCHENKO
Directorate of social services development and children rights protection
Ministry of Social Policy

PARTICIPANTS**STATES WHICH HAVE SIGNED BUT NOT YET RATIFIED THE CONVENTION****CZECH REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE**

Ms Barbora Šváchová
Senior Ministerial Counsellor
Criminal Law Unit - Legislative Department
Ministry of Justice

Ms Pavla Pešatová
Senior Ministerial Counsellor
Criminal Law Unit - Legislative Department
Ministry of Justice

LATVIA / LETTONIE

Mr Jānis KĀRKLIŅŠ
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

STATES INVITED TO ACCEDE TO THE CONVENTION**ISRAEL**

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Ministry of Welfare and Social Affairs

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Head of the Violence against Women Division / Cheffe de la Division Violence à l'égard des femmes

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Administratrice

Ms Francesca MONTAGNA
Administratrice

Ms Elif SARIAYDIN
Administratrice

Ms Sabrina WITTMANN
Administratrice

Ms Christine EBEL
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Ms Zsuzsanna MOLNAR
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Ms Louise MORLON
Administrative Assistant / Assistante administrative

Ms Irida VARFI-BOEHRER
Administrative Assistant / Assistante administrative

INTERPRETERS / INTERPRETES

Ms. Remy JAIN

Ms. Gillian BEETON-WAKENHUT

Ms. Maryline NEUSCHWANDER