

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

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**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**

Secretariat of the monitoring mechanism of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

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 Sweden do not need to be reported on. As a result, the Swedish authorities are not required to answer the following questions in the reporting form: 2, 4 to 7; 12; 13; 16; 26.

The reporting deadline given to Sweden is set at **30 January 2022**. Information related to the monitoring of Sweden is available on the dedicated [country monitoring webpage](#).

<b>I. Fundamental rights, equality, and non-discrimination (Article 4)</b>			
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:            Combatting discrimination, gender stereotypical norms and all forms of gender-related violence and harmful customs is a priority for the Swedish Government. According to the Discrimination Act, discrimination on the grounds of sex, transgender identity or expression, ethnicity, religion or other belief, disability, sexual orientation, or age is prohibited.</p> <p>The Government has presented an action programme for the period 2021-2023, which is included in the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women. It is emphasized in the action programme that it is necessary to make sure that those who have specific vulnerabilities are included in the work to combat men's violence against women. To name an example of an assignment, the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society has carried out information initiatives regarding health and gender equality for newly arrived and asylum-seeking children and young people. The information covers issues such as honour-related violence and oppression, including female genital mutilation, sexual violence, sexual harassment and legislation within the field, including legislation on the purchase of sexual services. The work has resulted in the website youmo.se. Information is provided in simple Swedish and English, and in the most common languages among the target group: Dari, Tigrinya, Arabic and Somali.</p>		

By adopting decision on the appropriation directions for 2021, the Government allocated 240 million SEK to efforts combating violence and given several government agencies assignments in this area. Several assignments focus on stopping honour-related violence and oppression. The National Board of Health and Welfare was allocated 20 million SEK to continue to support development of work within health care and social services concerning men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression.

The municipal social services are responsible for providing crime victim support under the Social Services Act. The National Board of Health and Welfare has issued legally binding regulations and strong recommendations concerning interventions against domestic violence (SOSFS 2014:4). In the general planning of activities as well as in dealing with individual cases, the local Social Welfare Committee ought to consider the special needs that victims of violence may have due to – for instance - age, disabilities, sexual identity, expression or orientation, national minority status, migrant background, drug use and addiction or the risk of honour-based violence. The Government has commissioned the Social and Health Care Inspectorate to reinforce the supervision of local social and health care services for adults and children exposed to domestic violence etc. including the performance of social welfare committees with regard to these regulations and recommendations (for further details, see answer to question 32).

In 2018, the National Board of Health and Welfare were given the assignment of coordinating a special initiative to offer staff at social services training on violence in close relationships and men's violence against women. The training was based on the needs identified in #metoo calls from vulnerable groups and the needs linked to violence and sexual abuse directed at groups with specific vulnerabilities, for instance older women and women with disabilities. Knowledge and experience from the assignment are now used by the National Board of Health and Welfare in their regular work and other assignments related to men's violence against women.

The Government is offering the municipalities permanent grants aimed at developing the social services for children and adults affected by domestic violence including honour-based violence and oppression in line with these regulations and recommendations. Since 2016 the grants are equally accessible for the regions in their efforts to improve health services for the target groups concerned and they may also be used for work related to non-domestic sexual violence, prostitution, and trafficking. This funding is combined with guidance and training provided by the National Board of Health and Welfare (NBHW), the County Administrative Boards, The National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women (NCK) at Uppsala University, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency and the Swedish National Centre for Research and Knowledge on Child Abuse at the University of Linköping 2020-2022. In the past 3 years - 2019, 2020 and 2021 - the Government has increased the grants and the funding of the agencies involved in providing guidance and training (127,5 million SEK in 2020 and roughly the same in 2021). This means that a total of 75 million SEK per year are reserved for the municipalities and another 31,5 million SEK per year are reserved for the regions. Approximately 70 percent of the municipalities receiving grants in 2019, used them for interventions with women in particularly vulnerable situations such as women and girls exposed to honour-based violence and oppression (71% of the municipalities addressing vulnerable groups of women reported that they used the grants for interventions with this group). According to the NBHW (2020), many municipalities report that the grants have indeed enabled them to carry out important activities that would not occur without government funding.

Mandatory training on violence against women and domestic violence has been introduced for the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy, the Degree of Master of Law, the Degree of Master of Science in Medicine, the Degree of Master of Science in Psychology, the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Nursing, the Degree of Master of Science in Dental Surgery, the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene and the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Social Work. As a consequence, during 2018-2023 the Government has commissioned the Swedish Gender Equality Agency

to offer education and support to teachers and other education officers at higher education institutions on issues related to violence against women and domestic violence.

On the occasion of the covid-19 pandemic, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency was in April 2020 commissioned by the Government to identify and develop effective working methods for how municipalities can disseminate information about domestic violence and honor-related violence and oppression, and how contact can be established with victims of violence. The working methods was to be used in the municipalities' activities. The agency has disseminated examples of successful working methods and useful and important information initiatives and also arranged webinars to spread knowledge about working methods and information to municipalities from various societal actors. The agency was tasked in May 2021 to continue to develop and disseminate working methods to municipalities on domestic violence and men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression due to the pandemic.

The Swedish Gender Equality Agency has also been assigned by the Government to disseminate knowledge about the Istanbul Convention among relevant actors. The Agency reported on its assignment in September 2021. In its report the Agency recommends further measures to make the Convention and the recommendations to Sweden more known among key actors, e.g. they call for more joint government assignments. To disseminate knowledge, the Agency has produced a short movie about the Istanbul Convention which is available on their website.

The Swedish Gender Equality Agency was in December 2021 commissioned by the Government to identify possible knowledge gaps on violence against women in various professions. The agency shall focus on knowledge gaps among professionals who meet people who due to various reasons are in a vulnerable situation.

In October 2021, the Swedish Agency for Participation was tasked with compiling knowledge about the exposure to violence among persons with disabilities and identifying knowledge gaps. In particular, the Agency shall take into account knowledge of exposure to honour-related violence and oppression. The assignment includes carrying out a survey of the measures taken to prevent and detect violence in the target group and what actions are given to persons with disabilities. It also includes proposing measures that can be taken at national, regional or local level.

The Government has recently commissioned Statistics Sweden to develop and publish statistics on living conditions for people with disabilities, including experiences of violence and abuse. On previous commission of the Government this agency has proposed a definition of disability that is being tested for the first time in the National Living Conditions Survey in 2021. As part of the new commission, Statistics Sweden is expected to evaluate the functionality of the definition with the aim to develop a national standard definition that can be used in other studies/surveys allowing for better data on violence against women with disabilities. Statistics Sweden shall submit a final report on this work no later than the 31st of January 2024.

In 2019, the Sámi Parliament was assigned by the Government to map out and analyse Sámi society from a gender equality perspective. In their report presented in 2021, the Sámi Parliament suggest new measures to increase gender equality in the Sámi community, preventive work and increased research on gender equality and to combat and prevent violence against Sámi women and girls. In October 2021, the Government financed the Sámi Parliament to continue their work with gender equality. During 2021-2024 the Government has commissioned the Sámi parliament to work with gender equality in the Sámi society and to prevent and combat men's violence against Sámi women and girls.

	<p>The Swedish Gender Equality Agency has the national assignment to coordinate the work to combat prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual and other purposes. The Swedish Gender Equality Agency has been tasked with strengthening the work to prevent and combat children and young people being used in prostitution and trafficking in human beings (thb). The Agency shall map occurrences of – and disseminate knowledge about the need for specific efforts to counter children being used in prostitution or exposed to thb.</p> <p>The Government has formed an inquiry that will propose a comprehensive national strategy to prevent and combat violence against children, including honour-related violence and oppression. The strategy should take an integrated and coherent approach to preventing and combating violence against children over the next ten years.</p> <p>The Government has declared its intention to improve the general access to high-quality sheltered accommodation for victims of violence as well as to strengthen the rights of children accompanying a parent (i.e. most often their mother) in such shelters (see also answer to question 33).</p> <p>The cooperation with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions has continued through agreements for 2021-2023. The focus has turned towards fighting men’s violence against women. The Government has also entered into an agreement with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions concerning maternity care and women’s health 2021-2022. Within the framework of this agreement the regions must ensure a well-developed chain of care for people who have been subjected to sexual violence or genital mutilation. Furthermore, the regions must work to increase the knowledge of healthcare employees in order to improve their ability to detect sexual violence and genital mutilation. The Government has also entered into an agreement with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions concerning efforts in the field of mental health and suicide prevention 2021-2022. The Government considers that efforts in the field of mental health are central to preventing violence.</p>
1.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:
2	<p>Have your authorities taken measures contributing to prevent and combat violence against women who are or might be exposed to intersectional discrimination? <span style="float: right;">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></span> <span style="float: right;">No <input type="checkbox"/></span></p>
2.1	If yes, please specify:
2.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:
3	<p>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]:</p> <p>In February 2012, a coordinated long-term strategy for Roma inclusion for the years 2012–2032 was adopted by the Government. The overall goal of the 20-year strategy is that a Roma who turns 20 years of age in 2032 is to have the same opportunities in life as a non-Roma. Women and children are prioritized in the strategy.</p>

	Threats, hate and harassment of women affect women's access to power and influence in society and equality between women and men. Threats and violations against women in digital environments are also part of men's violence against women. The Swedish Defence Research Agency (FOI) has been tasked to make an analysis of hate and threats against women in Swedish digital environments. FOI has studied 1) how users talk about women and to women, 2) what derogatory perceptions occur in relation to gender and sexuality in these talks, and 3) whether women are exposed to more hatred than men, and if so, how this hatred differs. The report is currently being considered by the Government.		
<b>II. Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies implemented under the responsibility of an adequately mandated and resourced co-ordinating body (Articles 7 and 10)</b>			
<b>4</b>	<b>Have your authorities developed a long-term plan/strategy to prevent and combat violence against women?</b>	<b>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></b>	<b>No <input type="checkbox"/></b>  N/A (a plan/strategy was already developed at the time of GREVIO's baseline evaluation) <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>4.1</b>	<b>[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:</b>		
<b>5</b>	<b>Which forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention are addressed by the plan/strategy? Please offer a brief description specifically indicating the forms of violence not previously addressed in plans or strategies at national level.</b>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Was specific attention given to place the rights of women victims at the centre of all measures planned?</b>	<b>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></b>	<b>No <input type="checkbox"/></b>
<b>6.1</b>	<b>If yes, please specify how:</b>		
<b>6.2</b>	<b>[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:</b>		
<b>7</b>	<b>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?</b>	<b>Yes <input type="checkbox"/></b>	<b>No <input type="checkbox"/></b>
<b>7.1</b>	<b>Please specify the actors involved:</b>		

7.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
8	Have the authorities assigned the role of co-ordinating body to one or more fully institutionalised entities?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>  N/A (a co-ordinating body was already established at the time of GREVIO's baseline evaluation) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
8.1	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
9	<p>Please specify the mandate, powers, and competences, as well as the composition, of the co-ordinating body/bodies:</p> <p>The Government Offices is responsible for assisting the Government to outline policies and measures. The Division for Gender Equality at the Government Offices is responsible for co-ordinating the Government's policies and measures to prevent and combat men's violence against women.</p> <p>The Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) has the national assignment to follow-up, analyse, co-ordinate, spread knowledge and offer support in order to reach the gender equality objectives, including the objective to stop men's violence against women. GEA is responsible for following up the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women and is also responsible for supporting the County Administrative Boards in the regional work. The GEA is currently working to develop and enhance the indicators to follow up the national strategy. As of 2022 the GEA is also assigned to every second year provide the Government with an in-depth analysis of the national and regional development in the area of men's violence against women.</p> <p>At a regional level, the County Administrative Board is responsible for co-ordinating the work to prevent and combat men's violence against women honour-based violence and oppression, prostitution, and trafficking in human beings. The Government has decided that the County Administrative Boards' regional work will be permanent as of 2021.</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"/> The co-ordination	No <input type="checkbox"/>

		body responsible is: The Division for Gender Equality at the Government Offices	
	- Implementation of policies and measures to prevent and combat violence against women	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The co-ordination body responsible is: GEA	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: GEA	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 responsible is: GEA	No <input type="checkbox"/>
10	<p>Please specify the human and financial resources allocated to the co-ordinating body/bodies:          In Sweden, all agencies are responsible for implementing policies and measures within their area of responsibility. Key agencies, apart from the Swedish Gender Equality Agency, to implement and contribute to national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women are, among others, the National Board of Health and Welfare, the County Administrative Boards and The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention.</p> <p>In June 2021, the Government presented a package of measures to stop men's violence against women in order to intensify this work. The package includes measures to prevent the use of violence, to support and protect those affected, as well as stricter legislation regarding prosecuting those</p>		



	<p>who subject their partner or former partner to violence. The package of measures to stop men's violence against women that the Government presented contains 40 points of action. It includes measures to help achieve all four of the objectives in the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased and effective preventive work to combat violence</li> <li>• Improved detection of violence and stronger protection for and support to women and children subjected to violence</li> <li>• More effective law enforcement</li> <li>• Better knowledge and methodological development.</li> </ul> <p>In the Budget Bill for 2022, the Government proposes extensive resources to help implement the package of measures. The Government has also in the Budget Bill for 2022, for the first time, proposed that the appropriation for the Government's gender equality policy targeting men's violence against women will have a permanent level of funds. The permanent level is 300 million SEK, but the level for a single year can even be higher. In addition to this, the state subsidies to Women's Shelters and Young Women's Empowerment Centres, their national organisations and other organisations that work with similar support for victims of violence will be increased and made permanent (see answer to question 14.1). In addition, the Government is proposing 345 million SEK for 2023 and a permanent allocation of 375 million SEK per year from 2024 onwards for improved standards of sheltered accommodation (see also answer to question 33).</p> <p>The Division for Gender Equality at the Government Offices consists of 14 employees, of which four people work mainly with policies regarding men's violence against women.</p> <p>The GEA has around 100 employees and a unit comprising around 25 people responsible for co-ordinating the work regarding the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women. The GEA has a permanent administrative appropriation of around 75 million SEK per year, and it is also given yearly assignments with funding up to around 50 million SEK.</p> <p>At every County Administrative Board there is a function responsible for co-ordinating the work to prevent and combat men's violence against women honour-based violence and oppression, prostitution, and trafficking in human beings. The Government allocates 100 million SEK per year for this function.</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> <p>In order to develop the governance in the area of men's violence against women, the Government tasked Statskontoret (The Swedish Agency for Public Management) in 2020 to assess the Government's national strategy to end men's violence against women. Statskontoret is the Government's organisation for analyses and evaluations of state and state-funded activities. In its assessment (2021), Statskontoret concludes that the authorities have succeeded in implementing many measures to prevent and combat men's violence against women. Furthermore, Statskontoret assesses that the national strategy and the government assignments given to the agencies in the area have contributed to the authorities being more active and cooperating to a greater extent. At the same time, however, Statskontoret points out areas where work needs to be improved. Firstly, Statskontoret draws the conclusion that the knowledge chain needs to be enhanced. Such a knowledge chain includes identifying needs as well as producing, disseminating, and applying knowledge in the field. Up until now, many authorities have produced and disseminated knowledge about men's violence against women. However, to ensure efficiency, the Government and the responsible authorities also need to focus on making the knowledge come into practical use at the local level. Secondly, Statskontoret underlines the current lack of evaluated and tested methods in, especially, the field of</p>

prevention of men's violence against women. In order to ensure such a development, Statskontoret calls for the development of preventive methods and higher collaboration between the responsible authorities, such as between The Swedish Gender Equality Agency, The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention and the Swedish Police. Statskontoret also states that the Government should use the Swedish Gender Equality Agency more in the implementation of the strategy to assist with data and analysis for the government to improve prioritising between measures and formulate government assignments that contribute to achieving the goals in the strategy.

The Government has decided on several joint government assignments to improve collaboration between agencies and increase the ability to detect violence and provide support to victims of violence (see also answer to question 32). The Government has, for example, commissioned several authorities to work together and take measures to enhance their knowledge and their routines in order to prevent Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and to give sufficient support to those affected. This includes the Swedish Police Authority, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency, and the National Board of Health and Welfare.

The Government has commissioned the County Administrative Board of Östergötland to prepare for the establishment of a permanent centre against honour-related violence, which, among other things, will be tasked to regularly investigate the occurrence of honour-related crimes in Sweden.

When an acute incident of violence happens in a family, it is important that efforts are directed at everyone, both children and adults subjected to violence, children who have witnessed or experienced violence and at the perpetrator. It is therefore important that relevant authorities cooperate as early as possible. A successful method for collaboration is the so-called Iceland model in Gothenburg with the aim of developing a concrete and effective cooperation on an operational level between the police, prosecutors, social services, social emergency service and the healthcare service in cases of acute acts of violence in families with children. With joint efforts the prosecutor gets better information for the investigation and more people can be prosecuted. Another important part is that the children are made visible which strengthens the child's legal position.

The National Board of Health and Welfare (NBHW) is commissioned to routinely carry out reviews of fatalities and injuries caused by gross domestic violence and abuse with the aim to provide the Government with a basis for decisions on further measures of preventing such violence and abuse. The legal framework regulating these reviews was revised in 2018. By including certain cases of nonmortal violence and abuse as well as access to data on the perpetrator, the framework now enables the NBHW to analyse and draw conclusions from a much broader material than was previously possible. Initially delayed due to Covid-19, the agency is expected to submit its first report on reviews in accordance with the new regulations no later than the 31st of January 2022.

To further strengthen the preventive efforts to combat men's violence against women, the Parliament has passed new legislation based on a Government inquiry. Firstly, the social services have been given the task to promote persons who have committed acts of domestic violence to cease being violent or abusive (Social Services Act (2001: 453). Secondly, new provisions were introduced in the Health and Medical Services Act (2017: 30) and in the Patient Safety Act (2010: 659), to ensure that the child's need for information, advice and support is given special consideration by the health care services if an adult the child is living with has exposed the child or someone close to the child to violence or other abuse. Thirdly, the social services and health care services have been given the possibility to breach the duty of confidentiality in certain circumstances in order to provide information to the Police Authority. The purpose of the new provision is to prevent serious cases of domestic violence. The provision was introduced in the Public Access to Information and Secrecy Act (2009: 400).

	In Sweden, the social services in the municipalities are responsible to assist victims of trafficking. There are additional government efforts to improve the municipal social services for victims of trafficking. In all regions across the country, there are regional coordinators against trafficking in human beings based at the social services. They act as support to the GEA and its national assignment concerning prostitution and human trafficking for all purposes. Tasks for a regional coordinator include assistance to regional authorities, such as the police and social services, support to trafficking victims and cutting-edge expertise in human trafficking at the regional level. The function is co-financed by the GEA.	
<b>III. Financial resources (Article 8)</b>		
<b>12</b>	Have your authorities allocated specific funds at the	
	- national	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- and/or regional	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
	- and/or local	Yes <input 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?	
<b>12.1</b>	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.	
<b>12.2</b>	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:	
<b>13</b>	Have these funds increased since the publication of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If yes, by what amount.
<b>14</b>	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"/>
<b>14.1</b>	If yes, please specify: The Government has in the Budget Bill for 2022 proposed that state subsidies to Women's Shelters and Young Women's Empowerment Centres, their national organisations and other organisations that work with similar support for victims of violence are to become permanent. The subsidies will be permanent at a level of 150 million SEK. The purpose of these grants is to subsidize the important work carried out by NGO's to help and support victims of violence, in addition to the support and assistance given to victims by the social services. The overall purpose is to create stable and long-term conditions for the organisations to combat men's violence against women and provide support to victims. Furthermore, the Government proposes temporary state subsidies to strengthen the quality of sheltered housing for victims of violence as well as for their accompanying children, run by civil society organisations.	

	<p>The national support program provided by the Swedish Platform Civil Society against Human Trafficking is a complement to the authorities' efforts to support victims of prostitution and trafficking. The Government granted the Platform 1.5 million SEK for its work in 2020. In June 2021, the Government assigned the Swedish Gender Equality Agency to provide funding to the Platform Civil Society against Human Trafficking.</p> <p>Despite the legal obligation of the local social services to provide support for victims of domestic violence, comparatively few municipalities run their own shelters for this target group. A more common solution for the municipalities is to purchase the service of sheltered accommodation from other agencies, private enterprises as well as non-profit civil society organizations, most typically women's shelters.</p> <p>From February 2022 the national threshold for direct awards on certain social services will be raised to the level of the EU-threshold. Among other things, this is expected to facilitate purchases of sheltered accommodation from non-profit civil society organizations.</p> <p>The National Agency for Public Procurement has developed specific guidance for the municipalities concerning the acquisition of sheltered accommodation for victims of domestic violence. Furthermore, the same agency has been commissioned by the Government to report back on measures taken in 2021 to make it easier for certain organisations, including values-based organisations, to participate in public procurement. In addition, the commission includes analysing and assessing the extent to which such measures are being effective as well as submitting proposals for further measures.</p>
14.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:
15	<p>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]:</p> <p>During the Covid-19 pandemic, Women's Shelters and Young Women's Empowerment Centres as well as other non-profit organisations were provided with extra government grants. The purpose of the grants was to give the organisations possibility to adjust their work to the extraordinary situation and to meet the increased demand to support vulnerable groups due to the covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>The Government grants funding for gender equality projects. The Swedish Gender Equality Agency is responsible for distributing these funds. The Agency is also responsible for distributing funds to the civil society for gender equality projects. In 2020, 10 million SEK was distributed. The funds were distributed to 10 projects. Examples of projects include projects focusing on preventing honour-related violence and oppression - including a project on attitudes to prevent female genital mutilation.</p> <p>The National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women (NCK) at Uppsala University operates the national helpline for victims of violence. To provide long-term conditions for the activities conducted at NCK, the Government has made the funding to the university permanent. The Government has also commissioned Uppsala University to start a pilot operation to provide access to a national helpline aimed at men who have been subjected to violence in close relationships. Uppsala University will also provide access to the corresponding helpline for non-binary people and people with trans experience.</p> <p>In the Budget Bill for 2022, the Government proposes that Preventell is to be permanent. Preventell is a national helpline, at Karolinska University Hospital, to prevent sexual violence. The target group is people with self-perceived risk behaviour, compulsive behaviour, sexual interest in children</p>

	<p>and impulsive sexual behaviour. As part of the strengthening of preventative measures, the government provides long-term conditions for increased knowledge in the area and for the national helpline for preventing sexual violence.</p> <p>A pilot hotline for adults at risk of using violence against intimate partners was established in 2019. It is operated by the County Administrative Boards and is financed by the Government. The hotline motivates actual perpetrators of gender-based violence to seek professional treatment, and it has already managed to reach a significant number of callers, almost 500 people during the start-up period, who had never previously contacted any service about their violent behaviour.</p> <p>As a part of the package of measures to stop men's violence against women presented in June (see answer to question 10) the Government has furthermore announced it will initiate a national violence prevention program.</p>		
<b>IV. Non-governmental organisations and civil society (Article 9)</b>			
<b>16</b>	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 type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>16.1</b>	If yes, please specify:		
<b>16.2</b>	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
<b>V. Data collection and research (Article 11)</b>			
<b>17</b>	In implementation of the recommendation addressed to your authorities, have new sectors of the administration started the collection of data in accordance with the requirements of Article 11, paragraph 1?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>17.1</b>	<p>If yes, please specify which sectors:</p> <p>The Swedish Gender Equality Agency is currently working to develop and enhance the indicators to follow up the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women. The National Board of Health and Welfare is developing performance indicators on violence in close relationships. Three indicators relate to the contribution of social services to adults who have been subjected to, or exercised, domestic violence. Three indicators concern the notification of concerns about children who have received social services from the notifier and the actions of social services. These indicators will be sent out in a pilot survey to a number of authorities and can be included in the regular survey in 2022 at the earliest.</p> <p>There is limited national statistics concerning honour-related violence and oppression in Sweden. The Swedish Government has, therefore, commissioned the County Administrative Board of Östergötland to prepare for the establishment of a permanent centre against honour-related violence, which, among other things, will be tasked to regularly investigate the occurrence of honour-related crimes in Sweden.</p>		

	<p>The National Patient Register contains data on conditions caused by assault (in accordance with WHO International Classification of Disease – ICD – codes) as well as on female genital mutilation but only from units of Inpatient Care and some specialised Outpatient Care. The Government has commissioned the National Board of Health and Welfare to propose legal changes necessary for making reporting data to the Patient Register mandatory for other forms of Outpatient Care as well. The Board is expected to submit a final report on the measures taken no later than 31 March, 2022.</p> <p>National statistics on the Swedish social services are limited and do not include, for instance, data on interventions for crime victims. A Government Committee of Inquiry reviewing the Social Services Act 2017–2020 has submitted a proposal for improving the national statistics in this area. The proposal is currently being considered by the Government Offices. In addition, there are proposals by the 2016–2018 inquiry into the rights of children accompanying adult caretakers in sheltered accommodation that would make it possible to design and collect national statistics on stays in shelters by adults and children. The Government has declared its intention to present a bill on legal reform of sheltered accommodation for victims of violence (see answer to question 33).</p>		
17.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
18	In implementation of the recommendation addressed to your authorities, have sectors of the administration improved their data collection?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
18.1	<p>If yes, please specify which sectors and how, in particular whether new data categories were added:</p> <p>In 2019, new crime codes indicating the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, were introduced for several crimes, including attempted murder or manslaughter, unlawful harassment, unlawful threat, unlawful violation of privacy, non-sexual molestation, rape including gross rape, negligent rape, sexual assault, negligent sexual assault, and sexual molestation. The new crime codes indicate for example if the victim and the perpetrator are or have been in a relationship, or if they are related. The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, Brå, is responsible for revising the crime codes, and in doing so, Brå collects requests from relevant agencies in the judiciary. The final decision for the approval of crime codes is made by Brå's director general.</p> <p>The crimes negligent rape and negligent sexual assault are new crimes that were introduced in the consent reform on sexual offences that entered into force in July 2018 (the reform did not only mean that the concept of consent was introduced, it also meant that negligence was criminalized).</p> <p>The classification of crimes according to crime codes includes data on reported offences, processed offences, persons suspected of offences, processed offences linked to a suspect and offences covered by indictment, waiver of prosecution, and summary imposition of a fine. However, and as noted in GREVIO's 2019 report, statistics on conviction decision is not yet structured according to crime codes, meaning that it does not indicate i.a. age and gender of the victim, and relationship between victim and perpetrator.</p> <p>Acting on government instructions, the authorities in the judicial chain – jointly and through the use of information technology – are continuously working to develop a better exchange of information in the criminal justice process. In 2020, the government enacted a regulation (2019:1283) on</p>		

	<p>the digitalisation of the judiciary. The regulation contains provisions on the coordination of work on digital information exchanges and other measures relating to digitization in criminal proceedings. A council consisting of the heads of eleven authorities [1] has been established, called the Council for the Digitization of the Judiciary. The Council serves as a decision-making forum where the authorities agree on relevant issues. Each authority then implements its part of the joint agreements that has been reached. The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention is responsible for coordinating and giving administrative support to the Council.</p> <p>Already today, the judicial authorities exchange a large amount of information digitally, such as criminal reports, preliminary investigation protocols and indictments. Through strengthened coordination, the authorities can take the initiative for more joint development efforts that can free time and resources, improve law enforcement and enhance service to citizens. The Council shall also cooperate on common strategic issues concerning the use of new technologies and innovations.</p> <p>The work has recently resulted in an increase in the quality of statistics on reported abuse of women following the introduction of so-called legal information in the Police Authority's system.</p> <p>In December 2021, Brå published new statistics on plaintiffs (for quality reasons, the target population has initially been limited to selected crimes directed against persons). The new plaintiff statistics include basic statistics on the number of physical plaintiffs divided by gender, age, and type of crime 2014 - 2020. The purpose of plaintiff statistics is, among other things, to supplement the picture of victims of crime reported in the Swedish Crime Survey.</p>															
18.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:															
19	<table border="1"> <tr> <td data-bbox="282 879 1688 943">Does statistical data collection by law-enforcement agencies and the judiciary enable cases of violence against women to be tracked in order to indicate:</td> <td data-bbox="1688 879 1868 943"></td> <td data-bbox="1868 879 2047 943"></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="282 943 1688 979">- Conviction rates</td> <td data-bbox="1688 943 1868 979">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1868 943 2047 979">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="282 979 1688 1016">- Types of sentences</td> <td data-bbox="1688 979 1868 1016">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1868 979 2047 1016">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="282 1016 1688 1053">- Attrition rates</td> <td data-bbox="1688 1016 1868 1053">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1868 1016 2047 1053">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="282 1053 1688 1123">- Time-barred proceedings</td> <td data-bbox="1688 1053 1868 1123">Yes <input type="checkbox"/></td> <td data-bbox="1868 1053 2047 1123">No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </table>	Does statistical data collection by law-enforcement agencies and the judiciary enable cases of violence against women to be tracked in order to indicate:			- 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"/>
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- Time-barred proceedings	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>														
20	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:															

<sup>[1]</sup> The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention, the Swedish Crime Victim Authority, the Swedish National Courts Administration, the Swedish Economic Crime Authority, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, the Swedish Coast Guard, the Swedish Police, the National Board of Forensic Medicine, the Swedish Tax Agency, the Swedish Customs and the Swedish Prosecution Authority.

	<p>The Swedish Crime Survey on i.a. victimization is published annually by The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå). Since the publication of GREVIO's baseline evaluation report in January 2019, three surveys have been published: 2019 (victimization in 2018), 2020 (victimisation in 2019), and 2021 (victimization in 2020).</p> <p>Brå has conducted a survey with questions related to the pandemic to gain a greater understanding of the pandemic's effects on crime. The study was conducted within the annual Swedish Crime Survey 2021, and covers victimization in 2020. Questions related to crimes in the homes have been included, which Brå considers to be the best way to measure crimes in a close relationship under the special circumstances present under the pandemic. The results will be published in 2022.</p> <p>The Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) has been assigned to map the extent of prostitution and trafficking in human beings in Sweden. The assignment was reported in October 2021, and it shows, among other things, that children are at greater risk than before of being exploited in prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual purposes when perpetrators find new ways and arenas to reach them online via various websites, dating sites, social media and even gaming apps.</p>
21	<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>On October 20, 2021, the Government assigned Brå to review the quality of the statistics on reported assault crimes since 2019, and to develop in-depth support in mapping violence in close relationships.</p> <p>The Government has set up a new research program against crime. Men's violence against women, violent and sexual crimes against children and other particularly vulnerable victims of crime, honour-related violence and oppression, intimate partner violence among young people, and sexual harassment are specifically mentioned. The program will run between 2021 and 2024. The Government has also tasked the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare to map research on men's violence against women and honour-related violence and oppression.</p> <p>The Government has assigned Brå to conduct an in-depth study of crimes in close relationships. The study will cover victimization in 2022 and will be published in the spring of 2024.</p> <p>The Government has commissioned Brå to review the judiciary's handling of rape cases. The results were published in 2019. Brå's general conclusion from the study is that the police and prosecutors generally put in extensive work to solve rape cases and that the work has improved in recent years. The report also shows that there are shortcomings in several of the criminal investigations, e.g. that investigations drag on and that there are possible investigative measures that have not been taken. However, Brå's assessment is that it is not possible to significantly increase the proportion of reported rapes that lead to prosecution and conviction regardless of how well the police and prosecutors' work. But there is room for improvement, for example shortened investigation time and improved quality of interrogations.</p> <p>Brå has also evaluated the Sexual Crimes Group in the North Stockholm Police District. The results indicate that the quality of the investigation work has increased and that the investigations are more thorough. The biggest improvement is that the proportion of investigations with serious shortcomings has decreased. This evaluation also supports the findings in the above-mentioned study that improved investigative work has limited</p>



potential to increase the number of cases that goes to court. This is due to, inter alia, evidentiary problems in many rape cases, and cases being reported after a long time. These are factors that the investigating unit has difficulty influencing.

In 2020, Brå presented a study on the number of reported rapes in Sweden and other European countries, showing that it is not possible to compare such statistics between different countries directly because both legislation and the way in which statistics are kept differ. Sweden should e.g. end up in the middle of the European statistics on reported rapes instead of at the top - if Sweden had had similar legislation and statistical arrangements as, for example, Germany. Similar adjustments to the statistics on detected offences (clear-up rate) in different countries also indicate that the national variations are considerably smaller than available statistics suggests.

The definition of rape in the Swedish legislation on sexual offences has been widened several times in recent years. In 2018, Sweden became one of only a few countries in Europe to adopt a law on consent. This is likely to also affect the number of incidents that are recorded as rape in Sweden.

In Sweden, the police records every report in which a person says that a rape took place, including repeated incidences of rape that take place within the confines of a close relationship. In many other countries, these rapes are counted as one offence.

Brå has been commissioned to follow up the application of the new legal rules that came into force on 1 July 2018. It is an early follow-up that cannot give a definitive picture. According to Brå, the most obvious result in the follow-up is that the number of charges and convictions for rape has increased significantly since the changes were made, from 190 in 2017 to 333 convictions in 2019 (including 12 convictions for the new crime negligent rape). New types of cases have also gone to court. The new convictions apply to a large extent precisely the type of situations that the change in the law intended to cover, i.e. cases where the plaintiffs reacted to the abuse with passivity. Three non-governmental organizations that work with rape issues have submitted written comments within the framework of the study. They are all very positive about the new law and emphasize that it sends an important normative signal and contributes to the victims to a lesser extent taking the blame for what happened.

An evaluation by the Swedish Crime Victim Authority of the information initiatives for young people, care givers/parents and professionals (including the judiciary) regarding the new legislation mentioned in Sweden's comments on the 2019 GREVIO report, shows that the campaigns have resulted in increased knowledge of the legislation among the target group. In September 2021, the Government commissioned the authority to continue these information initiatives against both children and professionals.

The Government has decided on curriculum changes regarding sexuality, consent, and relationships. The teaching in this area of knowledge will, according to the changes take place regularly and to a greater extent contribute to promoting students' health and well-being and strengthen their ability to make conscious and independent choices. New writings are also introduced on counteracting honour-related violence and oppression. In addition, there are now reinforced writings on gender equality for all forms of schooling, which, among other things, will help to counteract restrictive gender patterns and promote equal rights and opportunities for women and men. The decision applies to all forms of schooling at compulsory school level and upper secondary level. The schools will apply the changes from the autumn of 2022.

	The Swedish National Agency for Education will offer support to teachers and principals in implementing the changed curricula. The Agency will also update its information and support on the web, for instance it offers webinars on sexuality, consent, and relationships. Existing support for schools in the work against honour-related violence and oppression is also adapted in accordance with the changes in the curricula.		
<b>VI. Custody, visitation rights and safety (Article 31)</b>			
22	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 judicial authorities?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
22.1	<p>If yes, please specify how this has been done (by legislative amendments or other means)</p> <p>The Parliament has decided on new legislation that aims to strengthen the child rights perspective in custody processes. The amendments, which are based on the government inquiry "See the child" reported in 2017, strengthen the position of the child and the child's right to information and to be heard in cases concerning custody, residence, and contact. This means that information on exposure to violence more often can be revealed and taken into account. Also, several of the other amendments aim to strengthen the protection of children who are at risk of harm. For example, a possibility has been introduced for the court in certain cases, e.g. when a custodial parent has intentionally killed the other parent, to transfer the custody of a child to a temporary custodian. New forum rules have also been introduced for cases where the parties have protected personal data. The amendments entered into force on 1 July 2021.</p> <p>Also, the Government has appointed an inquiry to i.a. review the need for further legislative amendments to ensure increased protection when addressing the issue of contact with a parent who has used violence or committed other serious violations. The inquiry will specifically pay attention to the situation when a child is staying in sheltered housing, or when the child and/or a parent has protected personal data due to the risk of threat or persecution.</p> <p>In order to increase competence about the needs of children who have witnessed violence and who are staying in sheltered housing, the Swedish Crime Victim Authority is commissioned to develop knowledge support for relevant actors, such as the social services' family rights, representatives and courts. The assignment must be reported to the Government no later than 29 January 2022.</p> <p>Furthermore, the Government has commissioned the Swedish Gender Equality Agency to map out to what extent and in what way information about violence and other abuse is presented in court cases regarding custody, residence and contact, and to what extent they are taken into account in the courts' judgements. The Swedish Gender Equality Agency has also been commissioned to increase knowledge regarding people who live with protected personal data, with a special focus on women and children. The Agency will report back on this assignment in March 2023.</p>		

	As stated in previous comments, mandatory requirements from the Government obliging judges to participate in certain training could be considered at odds with the principle of judicial independence. However, the Courts of Sweden Judicial Training Academy, which is independent from the Government, is responsible for providing training for judges. The training programs offered by the Judicial Training Academy are very comprehensive and based on an inventory of the need among the courts and judges. As for family law specifically, the Judicial Training Academy offers training courses every year on issues related to inter alia custody, residence, and visitation rights. These courses are offered at different levels to satisfy the need of both experienced and new judges.		
22.2	<p>If yes, please specify how the above obligation is implemented in practice, including by providing data indicating to what extent judicial authorities consider all issues related to violence against women in their decisions on custody and visitation rights:</p> <p>The above-mentioned assignment to the Swedish Gender Equality Agency to map out to what extent and in what way information about violence and other abuse is presented in family cases is to be reported in late January 2022. The report is expected to provide data indicating to what extent courts consider information about violence and other abuse in their decisions on custody, residence and contact.</p> <p>The inquiry regarding contact with a parent who has used violence or committed other serious violations is to submit its report in December 2022.</p>		
22.3	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
23	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"/>
23.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>The new legislation which entered into force on 1 July 2021, mentioned above, strengthens the position of the child and the child's right to information and to be heard. This means that information on exposure to violence more often can be revealed and taken into account, for instance in cases concerning visitation rights.</p> <p>In order to further secure the conditions for children, the Government has, as also mentioned above, appointed an inquiry to review the need for further legislative amendments when addressing the issue of contact with a parent who has used violence or committed other serious violations.</p>		
23.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
24	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]:		
<b>VII. Immediate response, prevention, and protection (Article 50)</b>			

25	<p>Have your authorities taken measures contributing to improve the prompt and appropriate response of law enforcement agencies, in particular by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Enhancing training of law enforcement officials on the gendered nature of violence against women and its consequences</li> <li>- Ensuring a sufficient number of female police officers</li> <li>- Setting up premises designed to establish a relationship of trust between the victim and the law enforcement personnel</li> <li>- Ensuring the efficient collection of evidence so that the reliance on the victim's testimony is lessened</li> </ul>	<p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>No <input type="checkbox"/></p>
25.1	<p>If yes, please specify:</p> <p>In recent years, the Government and the Parliament have reinforced the resources to the Swedish Police Authority to significantly increase the number of employees. There is also an ambition to increase the number of female police officers. In the recruitment campaigns, the Police Authority has focused on getting more female applicants and applicants with a foreign background. The proportion of women among those admitted to police training was 33 percent in 2020 (which corresponds to the proportion of female police officers employed), compared with 32 percent in 2018. Of all employees of the Police Authority, 46 percent were women in 2020. The corresponding figure for 2018 was 44 percent.</p> <p>The Police Authority continues to enhance its capacity in the area of violence against women. In 2019, the Police Authority decided to implement an initiative regarding particularly vulnerable victims of crime – that is crimes against children, crimes in close relationships and sexual crimes – in order to improve the conditions for an increase in the number of prosecutions and convictions. The initiative includes several collaborating parts such as resource reinforcement, improved implementation of investigative methods and guidelines, and training.</p> <p>The Police Authority has raised the level of ambition and is conducting ongoing improvement work to, among other things, increase competence. Several training initiatives have been introduced in the Police Authority, such as training for persons in charge of an investigation in external service, in on-call investigative activities and in the ordinary investigative activities. Regional training initiatives have also been introduced and a web-based information film has been produced and published about the methods and guidelines.</p> <p>Early securing of evidence is judged to increase the chances of solving crimes and the police have therefore developed an application to enable video interrogation, damage documentation and recording of audio files already at the crime scene. The application was launched at the end of 2020. The Police Authority also works to improve the quality of interrogations by developing a national model for interrogations based on working methods with strong research evidence.</p> <p>In June 2021 the Government proposed that the minimum penalty for gross violation of a woman's integrity and gross violation of integrity should be increased from nine months to imprisonment for one year (and at most six years). On 17 November 2021 the Parliament approved the Government's proposal and the legislation entered into force on January 1, 2022. The amendments of the scale of penalty will give the police and prosecutors better tools to gather necessary supporting evidence in the form of medical records and forensic medical certificates in cases where the injured party does not consent, since information about an injured party that is classified as secret and held by health care services can be included in a forensic medical</p>		

	certificate and disclosed to an agency tasked with intervening against an offence, if the information concerns suspicions of a completed offence for which no less severe penalty than imprisonment for one year is prescribed.		
25.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
26	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"/>
26.1	If yes, please specify what kind of measures, and if further preventive measures were adopted to remedy this situation:		
26.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
27	<p>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]:</p> <p>The Swedish Prosecution Authority has taken several initiatives to improve its work to counter men's violence against women, violence in close relationships, crimes against children, sex crimes and honour-related crimes. The Authority has for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Developed best practises concerning crimes in close relationships, crimes against children and sex crimes against adults. This has been developed, together with the police, into a specific method which is used in the whole country. The method is continuously being developed and evaluated.</li> <li>- Updated the Handbook on personal treatment in order to include the issue of equality in all aspects.</li> <li>- Arranged education for prosecutors that are specialised in crimes against children, crimes in close relationships and sex crimes on the latest jurisprudence and up to date investigative methods.</li> </ul> <p>Most Public Prosecution Offices are working closely together with the police in special projects or collaboration groups in order to increase competence for both and in order to improve quality of investigations. Prosecutors have educated police officers in these matters, to improve quality. Most Public Prosecution Offices have specialised teams that handle investigations and prosecution of sexual offences and domestic violence.</p> <p>The National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women cooperates with the Prosecution Authority in order to contribute to a professional, suitable and relevant support to the victims. The Authority is further developing the way in which prosecutors are giving motivations to different decisions, such as those on a restraining order. This will include best practises.</p> <p>Since 2015 The Swedish Prosecution Authority is one of the so called "JiM-Agencies" (a government policy program for gender mainstreaming in public agencies). The Prosecution Authority shall therefore develop a strategic programme on how the Authority will contribute to the Governments overall goals on equality. The Authority handed over such a programme with strategic goals to the Government in September 2021 and is to be implemented during 2022–2025. The Government monitors the work on a yearly basis.</p>		
<b>VIII. Emergency barring, restraining or protection orders (Articles 52 and 53)</b>			

28	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"/>
28.1	If yes, please indicate which authorities have the power to issue emergency barring orders: For more information, see the answer to question 31.		
28.2	If yes, please indicate the length of time for which emergency barring orders may remain in force: For more information, see the answer to question 31.		
28.3	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
29	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"/>
29.1	If yes, please specify: For more information, see the answer to question 31.		
29.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:		
30	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"/>
30.1	If yes, please specify: For more information, see the answer to question 31.		

30.2	[Optional question: if not, please specify the reasons]:
31	<p>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, in particular in relation to the collection of data on the number of orders issued and their violations, please report on these measures [word limit: 1000 words]:</p> <p>In June 2019, the Government appointed an inquiry tasked with, inter alia, analysing and, where necessary, proposing the additional amendments in the area of non-contact orders that were appropriate in view of the evaluation of Sweden conducted by GREVIO with respect to Articles 52 and 53 of the Istanbul Convention.</p> <p>The inquiry submitted its report in October 2020, and in June 2021 the Government proposed amendments in the area of non-contact orders, mainly based on the inquiry's results. The Government shared the inquiry's assessment that the existing legislation, viewed as a whole, is sufficient when it comes to the opportunities to expel a suspect offender from a joint residence since the current provision on deprivation of liberty in form of remand, detention and arrest supplement the provisions on non-contact orders in such a way that the legislation effectively enables the removal of a suspect offender from a joint residence.</p> <p>Regarding other considerations with respect to non-contact orders, the Government proposed that an extended non-contact order may, regardless of whether the intended subject of the order has breached a previous non-contact order, be combined with an electronic monitoring provision. At present a specially extended non-contact order and a non-contact order related to a joint residence may only be issued if the grounds for such an order <i>significantly outweigh</i> the intrusion or detriment for the intended subject of the order. The Government proposed that the intensifier "significantly" should be discarded, so that the assessment concerns whether the grounds for such an order <i>outweigh</i> the intrusion or detriment for the intended subject of the order.</p> <p>Moreover, the Government proposed that the scale of penalties for breaches of non-contact orders should be amended from a fine or imprisonment for most one year to imprisonment for (at least 14 days and) at most one year and that the current rule of freedom from responsibility should be replaced with a provision to the effect that in minor cases the penalty is a fine.</p> <p>The Government proposed that the legislation should enter into force on January 1, 2022.</p> <p>On 17 November 2021, the Parliament approved the Government's proposal.</p> <p>The County Administrative Boards have an ongoing assignment to map municipalities work to assist those subjected to violence, with or without accompanying children, to a permanent residence after living in a shelter or a temporary residence. Within the assignment the County Administrative Boards are to map measures taken to enable those subjected to violence to remain in their own residence. This can be achieved by making sure that the perpetrator moves out.</p> <p>In September 2021, the National Board of Health and Welfare submitted its report on how to prevent and combat homelessness. In the report, the agency states that some municipalities have an ongoing work to make sure that the perpetrator moves out from a shared resident with the victim. Furthermore, it is stated that this could be a successful way to work when there is a low risk for continued violence. It has however been a problematic</p>

	method in some cases, when the perpetrator does not follow the agreement to not contact the family. In line with the Convention (Art 16, para 3) the safety of, and support for, victims as well as respect for their human rights in general, is a primary concern in Government measures targeting perpetrators.
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### Specific recommendations

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| 32 | <p>Please report on measures taken by your authorities contributing to the implementation of the recommendation to step up efforts to enhance and formalise co-operation structures in relation to cases of all forms of violence against women within and across local authorities, government agencies and women's specialist support services (Recommendation A.9, IC-CP/Inf (2019)4).</p> <p>The Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) cooperates with many government agencies and actors at national, regional, and local levels. In the work to implement the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women and to reach out to the regions, the Agency cooperates on a regular basis with the County Administrative Boards. The GEA shall also promote collaboration between agencies. The Government commissioned in 2019 the GEA together with four other agencies to work together for increased detection of violence (violence in close relationships, honour-related violence and oppression and sexual violence regardless of the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim). In 2021, the GEA initiated a strategic council consisting of eight director generals of government authorities, in order to strengthen the preventive and law enforcement work against men's violence against women.</p> <p>Municipalities, regions, and civil society organisations can receive development funds from the National Board of Health and Welfare for initiatives regarding men's violence against women (see answer to question 1).</p> <p>The Government has decided that the County Administrative Boards' regional work to combat men's violence against women, honour-based violence and oppression, prostitution, and trafficking in human beings will continue on a permanent basis as from 2021. County Administrative Boards shall promote regional and local co-operation. One example of regional and local co-operation is the project Operation Kvinnofrid (Operation Women's Peace) where several national and regional agencies collaborate within the region of Stockholm in order to prevent and combat men's violence against women. Participating agencies are among others the Police, The Swedish Prison and Probation Service, County Administrative Boards of Stockholm and the City of Stockholm.</p> <p>The National Board of Health and Welfare (NBHW) has been mandated since 2017 to support the implementation of the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women. As mentioned in Comments submitted by Sweden on GREVIO's Baseline Report, NBHW has been assigned to, among other things, provide in-depth training on honour-related violence and oppression, including forced marriage and forced genital mutilation irrespective of the relationship between victim and perpetrator 2018–2021. The NBHW has reported on the assignment in November 2021. NBHW has developed assessment support for social services' work with victims of honour-related violence and oppression, as well as a guide to estimate the cost of the work against violence, which can form the basis for priorities regarding the prevention of work. The National Board of Health and Welfare has developed targeted educational materials on violence in close relationships and honour-related violence and oppression for social</p> |
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	<p>services and healthcare. Special support for managers is included in the training package. An in-depth education on honour-related violence and oppression has been developed. The development funds that municipalities and regions can apply for from the National Board of Health and Welfare can be used to carry out these trainings.</p> <p>In September 2021, the Government instructed the Health and Social Care Inspectorate to strengthen and develop the supervision of the work of social services and health services against men's violence against women, domestic violence and honour-related violence and oppression. The development will look at how supervision can be more preventive and risk-based and contribute to learning for stakeholders. The mission includes implementing supervisory measures.</p> <p>The Government has appointed an inquiry with the aim of regulating the conditions for social services and health care to share electronic information on patients. The Government considers that such legislation will facilitate the conditions for social services and health care to co-operate on matters concerning exposure to violence.</p>
33	<p>Please report on measures taken by your authorities contributing to the implementation of the recommendation to swiftly implement the proposals made by the Committee of Inquiry on a strengthened "child rights perspective" in sheltered accommodation to ensure the necessary support and counselling for children who accompany their mothers to domestic violence shelters, including for post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), as well as their continued access to education (Recommendation A.10, IC-CP/Inf(2019)4).</p> <p>On behalf of the Government the National Board of Health and Welfare (NBHW)) conducted a survey of sheltered housing in Sweden. The results of this survey suggest that there has been a positive development in terms of the number of shelters, staff training, security measures and accessibility for vulnerable groups including women with physical disabilities. However, there are still concerns regarding the quality of accommodation and related services for certain female victims of violence such as women with problems of substance use and addiction as well as neuropsychiatric disorders. In the budget bill for 2022, the Government is declaring its intention to present a legal reform concerning shelters and sheltered accommodation for victims of domestic violence on the basis of proposals by the 2016-2017 Committee of Inquiry reviewing the conditions for children accompanying adults in such shelters. These proposals include the introduction of sheltered accommodation as a special form of institution according to the Social Services Act, a licensing system with quality criteria for operating shelters, the right of children to have their own needs of support and protection assessed and catered for by the municipal social services, strengthened rights of children to access health care and education. Although the principal aim of this reform is to strengthen the rights of children in sheltered accommodation, it will also improve access to high-quality shelters for adults and enable municipalities to find appropriate shelters for groups with special needs such as women with disabilities, drug-related problems or women exposed to honour-based violence and oppression.</p> <p>On 1 July 2021 a new crime, violation of a child's integrity (barnfridsbrott), entered into force. It is now a crime against the child to expose him or her to witness certain criminal acts, such as assault, in a domestic relation (prop. 2020/21:170). The penalty is imprisonment for a maximum of two years.</p>