

COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN UKRAINE – PHASE II (COVAW-II)



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WHAT IS THE PROJECT ABOUT?

The Combating violence against women in Ukraine – phase II (COVAW-II) project aims to support promotion and implementation of the standards of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention), ratified in Ukraine in 2022.



Based on the successes and lessons learned from COVAW-I, the project works in diverse regions of Ukraine, bringing to light the problem of violence against women and domestic violence in Ukraine in peace and during armed conflict, the role and benefits of the Istanbul Convention and other international standards in this area, and professional capacity development to enable implementation of the convention.

WHO ARE WE WORKING WITH?

Institutional partners:

Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine, the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, the Government Commissioner for Gender Equality Policy, and other government agencies.

Other stakeholders:

legal professionals, selected Ukrainian civil society organisations and media outlets.

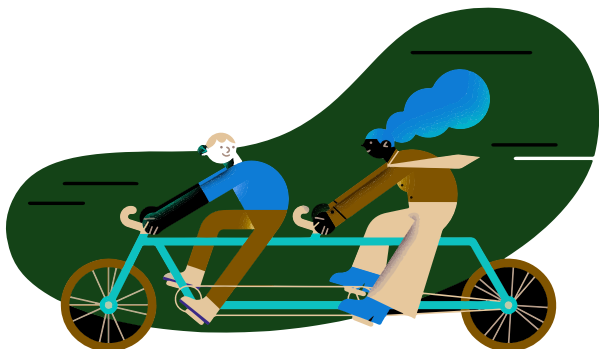


WHY ARE WE WORKING IN UKRAINE?

The project addresses the urgent need for the prevention of violence against women and domestic violence in Ukraine. It offers assistance to Ukraine, as a Council of Europe member state, which includes strengthening institutional capacities to more fully understand and apply the Istanbul Convention. Promotion of gender equality during and after the war, as well as the provision of support to victims of violence against women and girls, including displaced persons and returnees, is focus of the project. In Ukraine, women should be protected from violence both in war and peace!



The COVAW-II project is in line with the priorities of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” (2023-2026) as regards combating violence against women and domestic violence.



WHY FOCUS ON THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION?

On 1 November 2022, the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence came into force. It is important to fully implement its provisions, particularly in the wartime context which amplifies the structural gender inequalities that contribute to gender-based violence against women.

Through the COVAW-II project the Council of Europe is providing urgent support to Ukrainian authorities on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, including:

- supporting institutional capacities of Ukrainian civil servants, the prosecution service and law enforcement to promote gender equality and to combat violence against women, including domestic violence through thematic trainings, online HELP courses, study tours and twinning programmes with a special focus on vulnerable groups and people affected by the war;
- increasing understanding of European and international standards on combating violence against women among civil servants, law enforcement, media and the general public;
- supporting women's civil society organisations to combat violence against women, promote gender equality and raise awareness of gender equality standards and the Istanbul Convention at national and local levels.

PROJECT DURATION

24 months (1 January 2023 - 31 December 2024)

Website with contact information

www.coe.int/en/web/kyiv/combating-violence-against-women-in-ukraine-phase-ii-covaw-ii

www.coe.int

