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UNiversità In REte contro la violenza di genere per l'applicazione della Convenzione di Istanbul

Universities Network against gender-based violence toward the implementation of the Istanbul Convention

To the Monitoring Mechanism of the Istanbul Convention GREVIO Council of Europe (CoE) Strasbourg

Questionnaire for the evaluation of the implementation by the States Parties of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

The contribution of the Academic Network UNIRE for the GREVIO's First Thematic Evaluation Round on Building confidence through support, protection and justice A Report

About UNIRE

UNIRE is an academic network, founded in 2018 with the aim at improving, strengthening and expanding the activities of universities to prevent and combat violence against women, developing teaching, training, research, third mission activities, advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns, starting with the university system in order to better implement the Istanbul Convention.

UNIRE intends to function as a tool for the collection of knowledge and experiences in both academia and civil society in order to prevent gender-based violence thanks to innovative and challenging forms of cross-border cooperation and transformative activities.

UNIRE has already contributed to the preliminary evaluation rounds concerning Italy 2019/2020 with the Report on "The role of the Italian university system in the

implementation of the Istanbul Convention" - https://rm.coe.int/unire-comments-and-recommendation-italy-2019/1680941fdd

UNIRE has also addressed a Report on "Comments and Recommendations on the responses provided by the Italian Authorities" to the Monitoring Mechanism of the Istanbul Convention in 2023 - https://rm.coe.int/unire-comments-on-italian-reporting-form-2023/1680aae92f

Both Reports have been published on the web page of the CoE dedicated to Italy - https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/italy

UNIRE is part of OCEAN (Open Council of Europe Academic Networks) with which it organized in Milan on 27 and 28 October 2023 a Conference on "Implementing the Istanbul Convention. The role of the educational and academic systems".

The aim of the Report

The following Report focuses in particular on Articles 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 51 of the Istanbul Convention and Part III of the Questionnaire with the aim to contribute to 1st Thematic Evaluation Round, presenting activities performed in universities and stressing the gaps still present in the State system for the prevention of gender-based violence.

Art. 7 - Comprehensive and coordinated policies

In 2020 the GREVIO Report encouraged strongly the Italian authorities to continue their efforts, extending comparative analyses about regional legislations and policies, with particular emphasis on: identifying best practices that could be extended to other Italian territorie; harmonizing and monitoring the implementation of policies and measures at regional/local levels; improving coordination and measures between national, regional and local policies; progressing the implementation of policies and measures at regional/local levels, strengthen cooperation with between regional/local authorities and governments within the administrative structure of the national coordinating body.

The National Strategic Plan to Combat Male Violence against Women (2021-2023) was aimed at strongly integrating policies against gender-based violence with national provisions related to social and health services, education, training, research, work, housing, protection, and security.

The governance of the anti-violence system refers to the Department of Equal Opportunity (Dipartimento per le Pari Opportunità - DPO) under the Council of Ministers in Rome, while the territorial governance has the role to guarantee the full integration and coordination of national policies at the regional level.

However, territorial anti-violence networks are not always able to integrate national policies on employment, social affairs and health at the local level. Anti-violence networks are in fact often restricted into compartmentalised and still marginalised structure of management, which hinders the implementation of the holistic and comprehensive approach required by the Istanbul Convention.

In addition, the lack of coordination between interested networks, services and agencies contributes to make weaker in the light of an intersectional perspective the protection of the rights of women's, especially those belonging to marginalised and deprived communities. In order to carry out research and training on this issue, the University of Milan-Bicocca, within the framework of the National Doctorate in Gender Studies based at the University of Bari, has funded a scholarship for the development of integrated projects, capable of strengthening networks and interactions between institutions, associations and citizens.

Within this framework, over the years the research centre ADV – belonging to UNIRE - has developed a pivotal and innovative multidisciplinary, intra- and inter-professional teaching and training method, targeting students and professionals as well as it has introduced transdisciplinary and inter-institutional courses addressed to public administration staff at national, regional and local levels.

⇒ UNIRE believes that more efforts are urgently needed for the integrated and comprehensive development of anti-violence networks at local and national levels.

Article 8 - Financing

In 2020 GREVIO strongly encouraged the Italian authorities to, inter alia, "ensure that the introduction of new policies and measures (such as national action plans, protocols and guidelines) to prevent and combat violence against women is accompanied from the onset by a thorough estimation of their financial implications and by the identification of available sources and amounts of financing".

One of the measures introduced in Italy has concerned the income of freedom with the scope to help women victims of violence to escape from economic dependence. The importance of this measure is limited by the small amount of money made available and by the fact that it is tailored to the needs of the beneficiaries.

Moreover, resources for socio-cultural prevention are still scarce. Funds from the 2022 call of the Department for Equal Opportunities for education, training and cultural projects have not yet been allocated and the lack of these resources is detrimental to the programming of initiatives that have no other source of funding.

⇒ UNIRE urges an increase in national and regional funding for socio-cultural activities, which should be implemented throughout the educational system, from schools to universities, and made available to NGOs and citizens as a whole.

Article 11 - Data collection

In 2020, GREVIO strongly encouraged Italian authorities to "collect gender-disaggregated data (namely law-enforcement agencies, judicial authorities, and health and social services) with regard to the gender of the victim and the perpetrator, their relationship and the different forms of violence and offences covered by the Istanbul Convention, and that information on the presence of child witnesses and victims is also included" (...), to "harmonise data collection and analysis regarding cases of violence against women" (...), to "introduce a data-collection system that allows the recording of the registration and

outcomes of asylum claims made on the basis of gender-related persecution, including female genital mutilation and forced marriage".

In this regard, the approval and entry into force of Law No. 53 of 5 May 2022 ("Provisions on Statistics on Gender-Based Violence") is significant. The law establishes the obligation of statutory bodies to collect and record gender-disaggregated data on the gender of the victim and perpetrator, their relationship, the different forms of violence and offences covered by the Istanbul Convention, and information on the presence of minors, both as witnesses and/or victims of violence. The process underlying the law facilitates the harmonisation of data collection between law enforcement agencies and the judiciary, in order to allow analysis of the path of cases brought before the criminal courts through the chain - law enforcement, prosecution and courts - and to identify gaps in the response of institutions that may contribute to low conviction rates and/or discrepancies between reporting rates and conviction rates.

⇒ UNIRE believes that the application of Law No. 53/2022 is crucial from various legal, social, economic, educational and cultural perspectives. However, it is essential not only for strengthening cooperation between ministries, but also for the political development of *ad hoc* surveys based on gathered information and social needs.

Yet there is still a lack of data on civil proceedings. Statistical data on femicide in Italy are still scarce, uneven and difficult to compare; there is no official data on harmful practices, in particular on forced marriages or on the addiction of transgender women. Different criteria have been used to select and classify gender crimes, making them difficult to compare, especially as different normative systems coexist. Even the definition of femicide has not been agreed upon and there is no definition of femicide in the Italian Penal Code. There is a lack of data on gender-based violence suffered by migrant women; the Department of Citizenship and Immigration (Ministry of Home Affairs) has little data on the gender of migrants. Data collected by regional observatories are not homogeneous and generally lack an intersectional reading of the phenomenon.

⇒ UNIRE emphasizes that all missing data should be included in the ISTAT periodic national surveys (the last one was in 2014), endorsing a coherent, comprehensive and intersectional methodology.

Article 12 - General Obligations

In 2020, "GREVIO voiced its concern about the emerging signs of a tendency to reinterpret and refocus gender-equality policies in terms of family and motherhood policies". Furthermore, GREVIO strongly encouraged the Italian authorities to pursue proactive and sustained measures to promote changes in sexist social and cultural patterns of behaviour, especially of men and young boys, that are based on the idea of inferiority of women.

The Italian government has declared the intention to tackle family relations in order to overcome the fertility crisis. Family support measures are thus being translated into economic measures for women with multiple children. The new provisions proposed in the so-called Family Law (Law No. 32 of 2022) are only addressed to working women with

open-ended contracts, without tackling similarly domestic work commitments. The law does not promote the sharing of care work between mothers and fathers, nor does it promote the stability of women's employment. It widely recognises that economic independence is one of the conditions for preventing violence against women.

⇒ UNIRE remains deeply concerned about family and education policies that continue to be based on stereotypical gender roles, thus relegating women to the role of mothers and reinforcing gender discrimination into the family, which is at the heart of intimate partner violence.

The recent amendment to the law "Further Urgent Provisions for the Implementation of the National Recovery and Resilience Plan (PNRR)" (Law No. 56 of 2024), which promotes the presence of pro-life associations in counselling centre that practically denies access to abortion facilities, not only put at risk the effective recognition and application of the constitutional principle of women's self-determination with regard to sexual and reproductive rights but also blames women who have undergone abortion procedures, reinforcing gender-based discrimination and prejudices.

⇒ UNIRE believes that the promotion of equal opportunities between men and women must go hand in hand with the strengthening of women's rights, including all those that affect women and their bodies.

Article 14 – Education

In 2020, GREVIO strongly encouraged the Italian authorities to: pursue their efforts to mainstream gender equality and information about gender-based violence in all its forms (...) in the education system, by ensuring the wide dissemination of the national guidelines on the education of respect in all schools and vocational establishments throughout the country and by promoting obligatory initial and in-service training of teachers and all education staff on these topics .finalise and implement the national guidelines for education on affectivity, sexuality and reproductive health in schools".

In 2015 the Ministry of Education, University and Research issued a National Guidelines (2015-2017) in order to implement Law No. 107, which concerns the strengthening of educational activities toward gender equality, the prevention of gender-based violence and the struggle against all forms of discrimination in schools of all levels.

According to the National Anti-Violence Plan 2021-2023, the implementation of the Guidelines has been sporadic and uneven throughout the country. In some cases, such as in the Province of Trento, well-established courses for high school students and teachers have been closed by the local government without justification. There is also a lack of coordination and monitoring of the actions supported.

The debate was revived in 2023 after an impressive number of femicides of young women. On 24 November 2023, the Ministry of Education and Merit issued a directive for the implementation of educational projects, pathways, multidisciplinary activities and workshop methodologies, addressed in particular to secondary school students. Schools, in accordance with their autonomy, may initiate and promote projects on gender equality and violence against women that involve the active participation of pupils.

In order to ensure the involvement of family associations in the project, the activity of the Fonags (National Forum of School Parents' Associations) will be strengthened at the Ministry of Education and Merit with the task of linking the implementation of the project paths on "Educating to relationships" (Educare alle relazioni) to the needs and observations of parents' representatives. For this project a sum of 15 million euros has been earmarked for secondary schools, which can have access to this fund through a national competition, within the limits of the resources available.

The Ministry, through INDIRE (National Institute for Documentation, Innovation and Innovative Research), guarantees the provision of specific training courses for the teachers involved in the activities, as well as the accompaniment and support of the interested schools in the implementation of the project activities, also through the collaboration with the Order of Psychologists and other qualified scientific and professional bodies.

⇒ UNIRE believes that: 1) the above-mentioned activities should be implemented in schools at all levels; 2) the training of teachers should be compulsory, as recommended by GREVIO; 3) teachers' training should be integrated into university curricula, benefiting from academic expertise together with the grass-roots experience of anti-violence centres. An additional objective could be the extension of university also to private institutions and associations, opened to employers and companies, reinforcing the third mission of universities (as the durable experience of the Corso Donne Politica e Istituzioni has shown).

In 2019, in collaboration with the Conference of Italian University Rectors, UNIRE carried out a questionnaire addressed to all Italian universities in order to survey the activities on violence against women in teaching, training, research and third mission. It turned out that all universities were involved in at least one third mission activity, but only a few were involved in teaching and training. (see M. Calloni (ed.), *Il ruolo dell'Università nella lotta contro la violenza di genere. Ricerca, didattica e sensibilizzazione pubblica per la prevenzione del fenomeno*, Pearson, Milano 2020).

In recent years much progress has been made if compared to the past.

Undergraduate and postgraduate courses are being implemented in many universities, but what is still lacking is a general and systematic investment in this direction, for example to ensure a homogeneous training offer throughout the country.

Below are some examples of education and training developed by the universities that join UNIRE network. Since 2017, the University of Milan-Bicocca has been offering an advanced training course for professionals, teachers and social and health workers. The Department of Public Law of the University of Milan has been organising an advanced course on the legal dimension of preventing and combating gender-based violence for five years. The Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Milan offers the course "Gender Violence" and lessons on gender-based violence in other several courses for the preparation of professionals; the affiliated hospital hosts a public anti-violence centre, SVSeD (Rescue Sexual and Domestic Violence). The Catholic University of the Sacred Heart of Milan has set up a course on the psychology of gender violence. The University of Calabria has set up a course on gender violence and sexism. The University of Foggia organises research seminars on gender-based violence for postgraduate students and researchers. The University of Padua organises an annual workshop that brings together

university students trained in violence against women with secondary school students. Training courses, webinars and lectures have been organised by the Universities of Trento, Trieste and the Gender Interuniversitary Observatory (GIO, constituted by 3 public universities of Rome).

⇒ UNIRE believes that in order to strengthen the activities carried out autonomously by universities, it is crucial the support of local and regional institutions.

For instance the Region Lombardy offers to universities grant for the promotion of courses, related actives and dissemination projects. Since four years the University of Milan-Bicocca has promoted an interdepartmental and multidisciplinary course aimed at training students as future professionals for the prevention of and response to gender-based violence; every year this course trains around sixty students from the departments of sociology and social research, psychology, education science, medicine and surgery, and economics.

The role of the university system in preventing and combating gender violence has been recognised in the *National Plan on Male Violence against Women* (2021-2023), but much more needs to be done. A very important statement in this direction was the Report on "Linguaggio, educazione scolastica, e formazione universitaria per prevenire la violenza di genere: una questione culturale", promoted and approved in 2022 by the "Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry on Femicide and all other forms of violence against women" at the Senate of the Italian Republic.

Regarding educational tools, the National Plan against Violence denounces the persistence of non-gender-sensitive textbooks and books.

⇒ UNIRE calls for the application in all schools of the POLITE protocol (https://www.aie.it/Portals/38/Allegati/CodicePolite.pdf), which promotes gender-neutral language in textbooks).

Finally, about digital violence, Italy has recognised the offence of revenge porn under Article 612 of the Criminal Code. Unfortunately, the recommendation to include digital literacy and online safety in formal curricula has not yet been implemented.

⇒ UNIRE suggests that the issue of cybernetic violence should be also included in nonformal courses, especially in lifelong learning protocols addressed to employers.

Article 15 - Training of professionals

In 2020, GREVIO strongly encouraged the Italian authorities to ensure compulsory initial training in all the forms of violence against women covered by the Istanbul Convention in the vocational and professional curricula for health professionals, law-enforcement agencies, judiciary and legal professionals, serving legal professionals, professionals involved in the assessment of situations of violence affecting migrant women.

Specific training has to be also mandatory for all professionals who may come into contact with gender-based violence, such as: police, judicial personnel, receptionists, social workers, teachers, educators. Unfortunately, the training of professionals is also not systematic and permanent.

In this regard, it is urgent to provide the university system with adequate resources to ensure the continuous development of training courses at all levels, from undergraduate to postgraduate and master programmes.

⇒ UNIRE believes that the activities carried out by the University of Milan-Bicocca (in particular the Departmental Research Centre ADV - Against Domestic Violence: https://adv.unimib.it/) can be considered as a best practice in this field.

In collaboration with the Lombardy Region, the University of Milan-Bicocca has organised intra- and inter-professional training programme addressed to law enforcement agencies, local police, anti-violence centres, social and health system workers, psychologists, social workers, court and party technical consultants, journalists, teachers and school, volunteers of anti-violence centres; a new training course has been developed for the Valle d'Aosta Region, together with other territorial activities. All these courses have been organised on the basis of a holistic approach and a transdisciplinary, multi-agency methodology.

Article 16 - Preventive intervention and treatment programmes

In 2020, GREVIO strongly encouraged the Italian authorities to, inter alia, expand the number of available programmes for domestic violence perpetrators and sex offenders and promote the attendance of perpetrator programmes both by mandatory and voluntary referral.

With regard to rehabilitation and prevention programmes for perpetrators, UNIRE reports on the crucial and fundamental activities of CIPM (Centro Italiano per la Promozione della Mediazione). CIPM provides clinical-criminological treatment that is multidisciplinary, integrated, systemic and networked. The aim is to promote the assumption of responsibility as a way for the perpetrator to take responsibility for what he has done, to stop violent behaviour and to prevent recidivism. Following the CIPM approach, treatment is conceived in a restorative justice perspective (Eu Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)8 -art.59), which is victim-centred and focuses on the experience of direct and indirect victimisation; it is also based on a gender-sensitive approach, recognising violence against women and children as unacceptable. A criminological perspective is thus focussed on criminogenesis and criminodynamics in an integrated way, combining the legal framework with psychological and educational aspects. CIPM pays particular attention to gender inequality, which encourages cognitive distortions such as minimisation and denial.

CIPM defines the treatment field as a physical and symbolic place between prison and community, where perpetrators are received at different times and places and managed with coordinated and continuous interventions. Perpetrator programmes must also be part of an integrated intervention system, coordinated with victim support services and other agencies and professionals such as police, courts, social, health and child protection services.

CIPM's treatment interventions are in line with the standards for perpetrator treatment and the guidelines of the European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (WWP EN), as mentioned in the Istanbul Convention (Article 16). The WWP guidelines report that the treatment of perpetrators must first ensure greater safety for

victims of GBV and emphasize the importance of cooperation between programmes and victim support services, also to ensure that different risk factors and potential stressors can be taken into account and contact with the victim only takes place with the victim's informed consent. It is also important to consider the safety and needs of children who may be victims of direct/supported violence and to refer to the organisation's child protection policy. The CIPM also carries out specific restorative justice interventions in cases of sexual and gender-based violence, in accordance with the Cartabia Law (d.lgs.150/2022), with specially trained facilitators, as provided for in the second edition of the *Handbook on Restorative Justice Programmes - Restorative justice responses to serious crimes -* United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

UNIRE collaborates with CIPM in various ways. The Research Centre ADV - Against Domestic Violence of the University of Milan-Bicocca has been involved in the U.O.MO. project - "Men, Orientation and Monitoring". The U.O.MO. project was carried out thanks to the Health Protection Agency of the City of Milan and was implemented over the two-year period 2021-2023. The aim was to structure an integrated operational system for the care of male perpetrators of violence. The main centres specializing in interventions for male perpetrators of violence operating in the metropolitan area of Milan were involved: CIPM (lead partner), Fondazione Somaschi Onlus, Cooperativa Sociale Onlus Dorian Gray, SAVID - University of Milan. Within the project, the ADV Centre carried out the evaluation of the project. ADV also carried out a participatory process for the definition of guidelines for the strengthening of the network of guidelines and the implementation of common treatment pathways, such as the prevention of violence against women and minors and, in particular, the prevention of recidivism.

The CIPM was also the lead partner in the ENABLE project (EU fund REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2020), in which the Catholic University was the scientific partner. The project aimed at activating a series of interventions for the prevention of gender-based violence (especially against women), with reference to the social perception of the phenomenon of domestic violence and stalking and taking into account the situations of admonition by the Chief Commissioner ("Questore"). This objective was achieved through the promotion of the "ZEUS protocol" (i.e. a treatment option for those warned, aimed at reducing the risk of escalation/recidivism) in many cities throughout the country: Milan, Rome, Genoa, Reggio Emilia, Cagliari, Vicenza, Verona, Bari, Piacenza, Savona and Prato. In addition to the treatment activities, a specific action of the project concerned the possibility of collecting research data useful for assessing both the impact of the treatment and the training of staff. The project had a significant impact and was the subject of a national conference (Rome, 16 June 2023) and a scientific paper in press.

⇒ UNIRE believes that it is important to strength centres for the treatment of men authors of violence (CUAV) in order to reinforce territorial anti-violence networks.

Article 51 - Risk assessment and management

In 2020, GREVIO urged the Italian authorities to, inter alia, develop further their risk-assessment and management procedures and ensure their wide dissemination within all statutory agencies involved in dealing with cases of gender-based violence and consider

introducing a system, such as a domestic homicide review mechanism, to analyse all cases of gender-based killings of women, with the aim of preventing them in the future, preserving the safety of women and holding to account both the perpetrator and the multiple agencies that come into contact with the parties.

The National Plan against Violence 2021-2023 foresees the strengthening of knowledge on risk assessment and support. Indeed, cases of domestic violence and femicide have to be considered on the basis of an adequate training for all those professionals involved in the system.

- ⇒ Because of the lack of a multi-agency system in Italy, UNIRE has proposed the adoption of the MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) and the IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) method in order to intensify the formation of professional, to strengthen the multi-agency and integrated approach and to give a voice to women victims of violence through their representatives.
- ⇒ Finally, UNIRE supports the introduction of the Domestic Homicide Review, which draws useful information from the analysis of femicide cases in order to prevent new ones.

Part III - Emerging trends in violence against women and domestic violence

UNIRE recalled that Italy introduced the crime of revenge porn in 2019. Unfortunately, forms of violence are multiplying and there is an increasing need to adapt analyses, assessments and measures for the prevention, protection and prosecution of violence, taking into account the specificities of each kind of violence.

For instance, the issue of cybernetic violence, which was indirectly mentioned in the Istanbul Convention, has been explicated in the recent EU Directive on violence against women, approved in April by the European Parliament. Italy has thus to provide measures also at this regard, also because hate speech and online misogyny are taking on worrying dimensions.

⇒ UNIRE believes that it has become urgent to invest in research projects, data collection, analysis and digital empowerment tools in order to face this new phenomenon.

Another issue that Italy needs to address urgently is the status of women migrants, refugees and asylum seekers.

⇒ UNIRE has already highlighted the lack of data collection on violence against migrant women at all stages of their journey from their home countries to Italy.

Decree No. 20 of 2023 ("Cutro Decree") has introduced the possibility for granting a residence permit to victims of domestic violence who are victims of the crime of "coercion or inducement to marry" (see Article 558 bis of the Penal Code).

The lack of a gender-sensitive reception system remains a major challenge.

With regard to both digital violence and violence against migrant women, UNIRE reports on two ongoing projects.

A research on digital gender Digital Violence within the framework of the Project of National Interest (PRIN 2022) on "DEmocracy, Sustainability and WEllbeing in Times of EmergencY" (D.E.W.E.Y.) is interested in developing a conceptual tool for recognising, analysing and contrasting the multiple forms of digital gender-based violence (from the symbolic violence perpetrated by algorithms to the new forms of persecution, intimidation and incitement to suicide perpetrated by users of AI and the web.

- ⇒ UNIRE believes that new tools are needed in order to decode digital violence and to autonomously defend themselves against it thanks to forms of self-assessment or by building spaces (online and offline) of "digital self-defence" thanks to new forms of on and offline non-violent relationships and solidarity.
- ⇒ The idea of "digital autonomy" is based on the assumption that subjects are no free from violence if cultural and material tools for its symbolic and political recognition and denounce are not universally accessible to everyone and the socio-political conditions in which such online and offline violence is actuated have been changed.
- ⇒ The ethereal and borderless space of the Web and the infinite creativity of AI, especially generative AI, require not only top-down regulation (in line with the work of GREVIO and thus the principles of the Istanbul Convention, the Budapest Convention and the new EU AI ACT), but also and above all an awareness and capacity for action from below: that of digital autonomy.

Violence against migrant women has been considered within the framework of MUSA (Multilayered Urban Sustainability Action) Project, led by the University of Milan-Bicocca and funded by the Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza (PNNR). The project "Women's political engagement and prevention of gender-based violence" aims to implement gender-sensitive policies for migrant women in the metropolitan City of Milan. Gender-based violence affects in different ways not only irregular migrant women, but also economic migrant women with a regular work permission.

The issue of the lack of political citizenship and the limitation of rights in the new country exposes women to different forms of violence (domestic violence, harassment and violence in the workplace, institutional violence). Foreign women suffer often of loneliness at home. The lack of adequate services aimed at informing them about their rights and providing them with tools for empowerment augments their sense of disorientation. The project intends thus to support an active citizenship and processes of empowerment for women migrants thanks to training activities in collaboration with territorial NGOs, social workers, educators, linguistic mediators and institutional actors.

⇒ UNIRE supports the necessity to develop further public policies for migrant women, addressing them to public administration and social actors involved in order to build a gender-sensitive, multicultural and non-violent society.

The authors of the Report

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The Report was validated by the UNIRE Scientific Committee.

We hope that the information and comments mentioned in this Report will be useful to GREVIO in order to have a better overview about the activities carried out in Italian universities, but also about the critical points that still exist at State level for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

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