

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CO-OPERATION ON
GENDER EQUALITY AND
VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN**



**MAKING EUROPEAN
STANDARDS ON GENDER
EQUALITY A REALITY
FOR ALL WOMEN**

Achieving gender equality

**Ending violence against
women and domestic
violence**



Council of Europe added value: the strategic triangle



Where do we work?

- **Eastern Partnership**
- **Western Balkans and Türkiye**
- **European Union: EEA Norway grants**
- **Targeted support upon demand: Latvia, Greece, etc**
- **Co-operation with WAVE-Network and UN Women**
- **Non-member states: Kazakhstan, Kyrgystan, etc**

Ongoing projects

PGGIII	HFIII	Multi-country	Armenia - VAW & DV
Kosovo* - Implementing the IC	Republic of Moldova - VAW & DV	Ukraine – VAW & DV and GE	Georgia – VAW & DV
Türkiye – Women's access to Justice	BiH –SV and digital VAW	Belarus –support to CSOs	Norway/EEA Grants SYNERGY network

Upcoming projects

**PROMOTING THE
RIGHTS OF MIGRANT,
REFUGEE AND
ASYLUM SEEKING
WOMEN AND GIRLS**

Focus on: migrant, refugee, asylum seeking women and girls

- Armenia:
 - ❑ Due to the refugee crisis and request for assistance from the Armenian authorities, a third component focusing on the protection of the rights of refugee women and girls has been incorporated into the ongoing project in 2024.
- Ukraine:
 - ❑ Following Russia's aggression in February 2022, activities have been adapted to protect and promote the rights of women and girls in the context of armed conflict and displacement.
 - ❑ Updated the online HELP course on Preventing Ill-treatment, to emphasise the role of CoE instruments in protecting the rights of women subject to violence during wartime
- Republic of Moldova
 - ❑ Study on the legal and procedural framework on international protection of migrant women, refugees, and asylum seekers.

Focus on:

perpetrators program

Aligning laws and policies with the Istanbul Convention in Kosovo*

Background:

- ❑ In 2020, the Kosovo* Assembly voted to include the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) within its Constitution.
- ❑ As of September 2020, the Istanbul Convention is directly applicable in Kosovo* and has priority over local laws and policies.
- ❑ The assessment report following GREVIO methodology revealed that there is a need to develop perpetrators programs in line with the IC

Status:

- ❑ Development of curriculum and increasing the skills of duty-bearers
- ❑ Currently piloting the first programme for perpetrators of domestic violence – in line with Article 16 of the Istanbul Convention.
- ❑ Focusing on victim-centred, gender-responsive and perpetrator-accountability in a prison setting
- ❑ Close cooperation with European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

Focus on: digital VAW

BiH

- **Gap analysis** of the policy, legal and institutional framework with recommendations for the alignment with the Istanbul Convention and GREVIO Recommendation No. 1 on the digital dimension of violence against women based on best practices in COE member states
- **Guidelines** for investigating and prosecuting digital violence against women
- **Awareness raising** and capacity development for authorities

Armenia

Research (desk review, and survey) of relevant CoE standards, national legislation and policies, practices, etc to identify prevalence, legislative gaps, perceptions among different target groups, and steps to be taken. Expected to be finalised in the following months.

Rep. of Moldova:

- **Study on the alignment** of the legal and institutional framework.
- **Awareness raising:** The CoE project joined a nationwide campaign aligned with the global UNFPA Campaign "[A new Copyright to the human body](#)" with focuses on raising awareness among the public.
- **High-level roundtable** discussing GREVIO recommendations, including on preventing and combating the digital dimension of VAW with the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
- **Public debate in February 2024** initiated by the Parliament and organised jointly by the CoE and UNFPA, with the participation of representatives from line ministries and NGOs, to discuss potential legislative amendments in the law 45/2007 on preventing and combating VAW/DV.
- **Training on GREVIO General Recommendation N. 1** for Moldovan judges, prosecutors, and police officers

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Focus on: digital VAW

Norway Grants - EU:

- SYNERGY Network International Conference on the Digital Dimension of Violence against Women in 2022
- SYNERGY Resource page

Kosovo*:

- Awareness raising for children between 13-15 years on different forms of violence perpetrated in the digital sphere and the importance of online safety.

Ukraine:

Translation and dissemination of the General Rec. n.1

Upcoming activities and reports

Ending violence against women: multi-country programme:

- ✓ Research paper aiming at assisting the Greek government in selecting a model for providing assistance to victims of sexual violence.
- ✓ Gap analysis of digital facilitated VAW in Slovenia.
- ✓ Support to CSOs in Serbia in implementing projects on raising awareness of IC, dispelling myths and misconception

Upcoming activities and reports

**“Synergy for change: Civil society raising awareness on violence against women in a context of global challenges”,
Budapest, European Youth Centre, 11-12 July 2024**

- Build the capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) in raising awareness and advocating to end violence against women and domestic violence and promote gender equality.
- With a particular focus on new and persisting challenges, such as digital violence, AI, the gender backlash and other global challenges.
- Share best practices of the use of the CoE, UN Women and WAVE campaigning methodology and how it can be applied to other emerging issues/challenges.
- Define the ways forward to join forces to advance gender equality in Europe and beyond: Call for action.

**“Synergy for change:
Civil society raising awareness on
violence against women in a
context of global challenges”**

Budapest,
11-12 July 2024

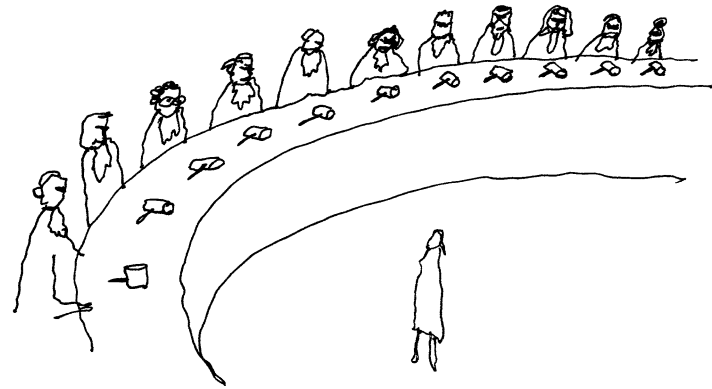
Key areas of discussion:

Role of CSOs in raising awareness and advocating in the following areas:

- Preventing and combating violence against women and girls and domestic violence including the digital dimension of such forms of violence
- Preventing and combating gender stereotypes and sexism
- Ensuring women’s equal access to justice
- Ensuring women’s empowerment and gender equality in relation to global and geopolitical challenges

Women's Access to Justice projects

- **Enhanced regional dialogue and exchange** among national authorities, national training institutions and legal professionals on improving women's access to justice and the ratification/full implementation of Istanbul Convention.
- **Sustainability:** engagement from beneficiaries in improving women's access to justice
- **Increase application of CoE standards among justice sector professionals**, especially the Istanbul Convention and the European Court of Human Rights: [increased link to digital VAW](#)



HIGHLIGHTS

- **MENTORING PROGRAMME FOR LEGAL PROFESSIONALS** on Women's Access to Justice- flagship capacity building methodology
- **TRAINING ON LEGAL LITERACY;** women in earthquake affected provinces in Türkiye
- **INCREASED ACCESS TO FREE LEGAL AID;** women are empowered to claim their rights and report violations.



HIGHLIGHTS

- **PARTNERING WITH CSOs** IN EMPOWERING WOMEN TO CLAIM THEIR RIGHTS
- **INVESTING** IN IMPROVING KNOWLEDGE OF NEXT GENERATION LEGAL PROFESSIONALS
- **DISAGGREGATED DATA COLLECTION EFFORTS** in all 12 countries (gender and sex)



Thank you for your attention!

VAW.gender.cooperation@coe.int

*Making gender equality a
reality in Europe!*