



# Data Collection on Violence against Women: Implementing Article 11 of the Istanbul Convention

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## Overview:

- Preventing and combating VaW and DV is a priority for the Council of Europe:
  - Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017
  - Draft Strategy 2018-2023 (to be adopted in early 2018)
- Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention, 2011)
- First evaluation reports by the CoE Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO)

# Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2014-2017

## Five Strategic Objectives:

- **Combating gender stereotypes and sexism** (draft Rec. under preparation)
- **Preventing and combating violence against women** (4<sup>th</sup> round of monitoring Rec(2002)5, published in 2014 – with 2013 data). Istanbul Convention
- **Guaranteeing equal access of women to justice** (“Framework for measuring access to justice including the specific challenges faced by women”, published in 2016, in co-operation with UN Women)
- **Achieving balanced participation of women and men in political and public decision-making** (3<sup>rd</sup> round of monitoring Rec(2003)3, published in 2017 – with 2016 data)
- **Achieving gender mainstreaming in all policies and measures** (annual reports by the Gender Equality Commission)

## Istanbul Convention

- In force since August 2014
- 44 CoE member States have signed it and 27 have already ratified it
- The EU signed the Istanbul Convention in 2017 (prepares its ratification)
- The Convention includes a number of obligations for Parties to prevent VaW, assist and protect victims, prosecute the perpetrators and achieve integrated policies.
- Independent monitoring body set up by the Convention to monitor its implementation: GREVIO (10 independent experts)
- Series of CoE papers focusing on specific Articles of the Convention: including Article 11 (all available on [www.coe.int/equality](http://www.coe.int/equality) and [www.coe.int/violence](http://www.coe.int/violence)) – *(NB. they were not prepared by GREVIO)*

## Istanbul Convention

### Chapter II – Integrated policies and data collection

#### Article 11 – Data collection and research

1. For the purpose of the implementation of this Convention, Parties shall undertake to:

a) **collect disaggregated relevant statistical data at regular intervals on cases of all forms of violence** covered by the scope of this Convention.

b) **support research in the field of all forms of violence** covered by the scope of this Convention in order to study its root causes and effects, incidences and conviction rates, as well as the efficacy of measures taken to implement this Convention.

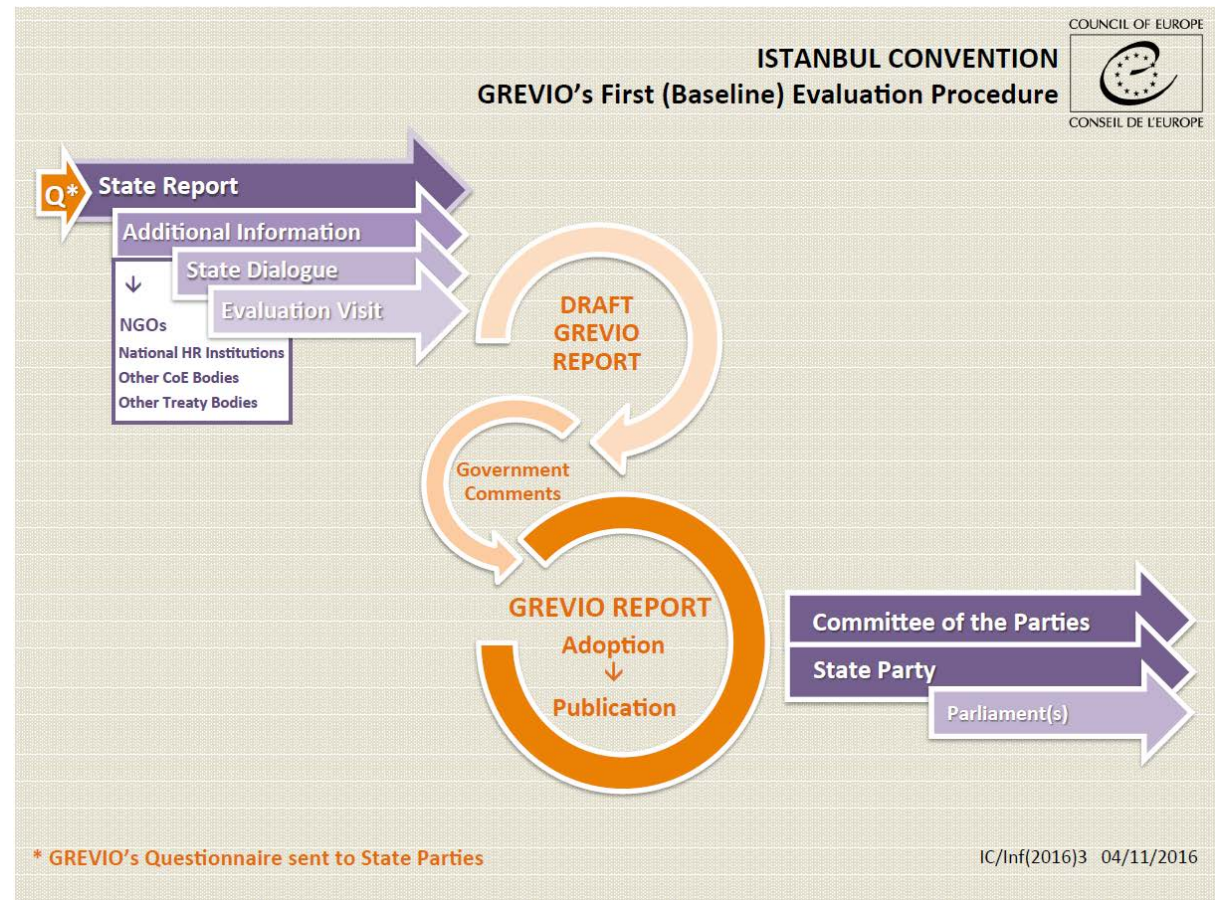
2. Parties shall endeavour to **conduct population-based surveys at regular intervals** to assess the prevalence of and trends in all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention.

3. Parties shall provide the group of experts, as referred to in Article 66 of this Convention, with the information collected pursuant to this article in order to stimulate international co-operation and enable international benchmarking.

4. Parties shall ensure that the information collected pursuant to this article is **available to the public**.

## Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence – GREVIO (Article 66)

- Members elected by the Committee of the Parties of the Parties
- Monitors the implementation of the Convention by its Parties
- Publishes evaluation reports
- Can adopt general recommendations
- May initiate special inquiry procedure



## Data collection - obligations for Parties:

- regular collection of data over time;
- collection of data on all forms of violence covered by the Convention;
- collection of other relevant data – which, depending on the State, may include data collected from statistics compiled by health care services, social welfare services, law enforcement agencies, NGOs and the judiciary;
- collection of data at the federal, regional and local levels;
- collection of data that is disaggregated by sex, age, type of violence, relationship between victim and perpetrator, geographical location and other factors that a State deems relevant, such as disability (*non-binding and non-exhaustive list*). [Residence status also relevant]

## Data collection obligations: all forms of VaW

Use the legally binding definitions of the forms of violence provided by the Convention:

- **Psychological violence** (Art.33)
  - **Stalking** (Art.34)
  - **Physical violence** (Art. 35)
  - **Sexual violence, including rape** (Art. 36)
  - **Forced marriage** (Art. 37)
  - **Female genital mutilation** (Art.38)
  - **Forced abortion and forced sterilisation** (Art.39)
  - **Sexual harassment** (Art.40)
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- Obligation to criminalise the forms of VaW in Articles 33 to 39
  - For sexual harassment: “criminal or other legal sanction” (Art.41)



## Co-ordination for data collection

- The Convention requires a **national co-ordinating body** (Art.10) for “the co-ordination, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and measures to prevent and combat all forms of VaW covered by the Convention”.
- Importance of developing an **overall strategy for data collection**, including close work between state authorities and relevant institutions, researchers and agencies active at the grassroots level.
- A 2008 CoE study **on *Administrative data collection on domestic violence in CoE Member States*** already recommended a comprehensive system for data collection, including the following:
  - a thorough inventory of existing data collection practices,
  - a uniform system of indicators,
  - a central co-ordinating body to steer the process,
  - clear definition of responsibilities at each level (operative, supervisory, etc.),
  - and regular training for those involved in collecting data

## GREVIO Questionnaire

### Chapter II – Integrated policies and data collection

- data of **2 complete calendar years** prior to receiving Q.
- details on the **body(ies) established/designated in application of Art. 10**
- the **entities collecting** relevant data and **the type of data collected** by each of them
- for each type of data, indicate if the data is **disaggregated** by sex, age, type of violence, relationship of the perpetrator to the victim, geographical location, and any other factors deemed relevant
- how is the data **collated+made public** at national level?
- information on **any research** supported by government in relation to Art.11, paragraph 1-b in the years 2011-2015

## GREVIO Questionnaire (cont.)

- Parties need to provide information on any **population-based survey(s)** conducted on violence against women (as required by Art.11, paragraph 2), indicating for each survey:
  - the form(s) of violence covered;
  - its geographic reach (state-wide, regional, local);
  - its main results; and
  - whether the results were made public (with an indication of the sources).

## First GREVIO Reports

- Published in **September 2017**
- On **Austria and Monaco**
- GREVIO proposes measures to strengthen the implementation of the Convention
- As regards data collection and research, GREVIO:
  - “*strongly encourages*” and “*encourages*” Austria to take certain measures (pp.19-23)
  - “*strongly encourages*” and “*urges*” Monaco to take certain action in this field (pp.17-18)
- Next two evaluation reports by GREVIO:
  - to be published **end November 2017**
  - on **Albania and Denmark**
- Following ones: Montenegro and Turkey (2018)

## GREVIO Report on Austria

- take measures to **monitor the prevalence of forms of VaW not previously assessed**: in particular forced marriage and FGM
- make domestic violence against women and the gendered nature of other forms of violence **more visible in the annual police crime statistics**; develop **more specific categories of relationships victim-perpetrator** by the criminal justice sector and law enforcement (harmonised); pursue plans to introduce a **'unique person number' to trace offenders**; document electronically interventions/measures by **law enforcement (EBOs)**
- ensure data collection on the **number of civil law protection orders**, the type of violence they cover, the sex, age and relationship of those involved;
- take measures to **improve the systematic and comparable collection of data by all hospitals** on the number of victims of the different forms of VAW, their sex, age and relationship with the alleged perpetrator;
- introduce a data collection system allowing **asylum claims on the basis of gender-related persecution and their outcomes** to be recorded.

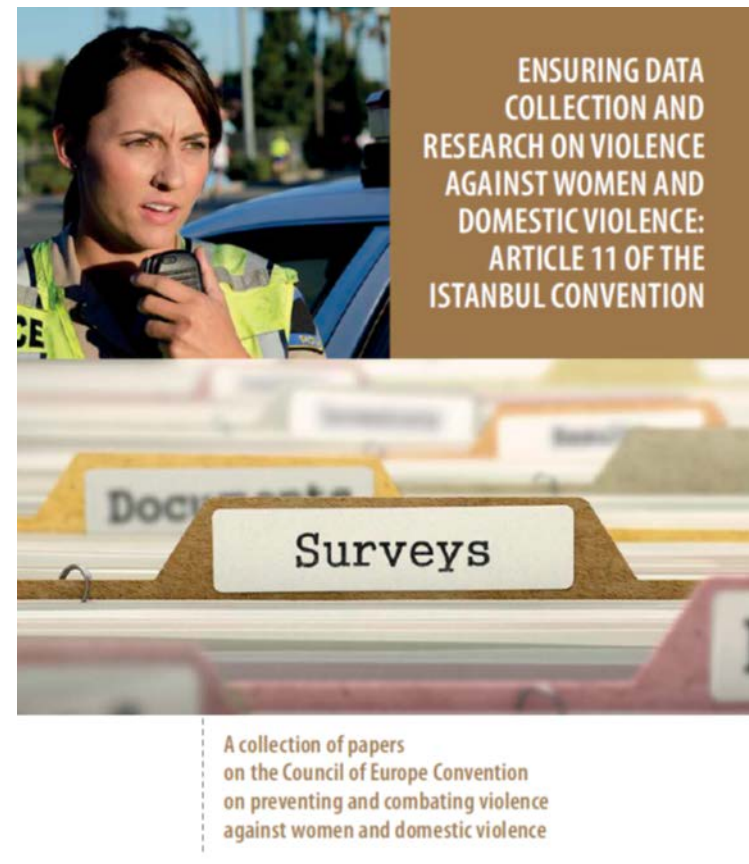
## GREVIO Report on Monaco

- GREVIO strongly encourages the authorities **to systematise and streamline** the collection of data relating to violence against women **at all levels and to publish** these data using terminology reflecting that of the Istanbul Convention.
- GREVIO considers that, **as a minimum requirement**, such data should be disaggregated by sex, age, type of violence, the relationship of the perpetrator to the victim, and geographical location, as well as other factors deemed relevant, such as disability.
- GREVIO urges the authorities **to conduct regular victim surveys** in Monaco, while bearing in mind the requirement of confidentiality. In particular, the authorities should examine the **feasibility of a survey to be conducted by all hospital health care services or other health-care** professionals.
- GREVIO notes the difficulty of reflecting in the official statistics available the cases of **violence suffered by women working in the private sector in Monaco, but not residing there.**

**Thank you!**

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[www.coe.int/equality](http://www.coe.int/equality)



**Gender Equality Strategy:** <https://rm.coe.int/1680590174>

**CM Recommendation Rec(2002)5 on the protection of women against violence:**

[https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result\\_details.aspx?ObjectID=09000016805e2612](https://search.coe.int/cm/Pages/result_details.aspx?ObjectID=09000016805e2612)

**Analytical study (2014) of the results of the 4th round of monitoring the implementation of Recommendation Rec(2002)5:** <https://rm.coe.int/16805915e9>

**Istanbul Convention:** <https://www.coe.int/fr/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/rms/090000168008482e> **and its Explanatory Report:** <https://rm.coe.int/16800d383a>

**Article 11 paper:** <https://rm.coe.int/1680640efc> *with country examples and a checklist.*

**Administrative data collection on domestic violence in Council of Europe member states:**

[https://www.coe.int/t/dg2/equality/domesticviolencecampaign/Source/EG-VAW-DC\(2008\)Study\\_en.pdf](https://www.coe.int/t/dg2/equality/domesticviolencecampaign/Source/EG-VAW-DC(2008)Study_en.pdf)

*p.51 interesting example of the need of clear definitions for reliable data: in Finland the care register is using a translation of “partner” in the DV category which is understood to include friends (e.g. drinking friends) and so it looks like more men than women being treated for injuries caused by DV (which is not the case in reality).*

**GREVIO questionnaire:** <https://rm.coe.int/16805c95b0>

**Austria:** <https://rm.coe.int/grevio-report-austria-1st-evaluation/1680759619>

**Monaco:** <https://rm.coe.int/grevio-report-monaco/168074fd6b>

**PACE Resolution 2101(2016) on Systematic collection of data on violence against women:**

<http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-en.asp?fileid=22555&lang=en>

**CEPEJ-STAT:** <https://www.coe.int/t/dghl/cooperation/cepej/evaluation/2016/STAT/default.asp>

**Framework for measuring access to justice including specific challenges facing women (2016):**

<https://rm.coe.int/168069cf4e>



**EIGE Index Gender Equality Index:** <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index>

**EIGE Gender Statistics Database:** <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-statistics/dgs>

**European Parliament resolution on combating sexual harassment and abuse in the EU (2017/2897(RSP))**

10. Calls on the Commission and the Member States to speed up the ratification of the Istanbul Convention; calls on the Member States to fully implement it, including by setting up a system of disaggregated data collection, which includes data broken down by the age and gender of the perpetrators and the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, and which includes sexual harassment;

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?type=MOTION&reference=P8-RC-2017-0576&language=EN>

**UN SDG Goal 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development**

Target 17.18: By 2020, enhance capacity-building support to developing countries, including for least developed countries and small island developing States, to increase significantly the availability of high-quality, timely and reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics relevant in national contexts. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg17>

**Beijing Platform for Action, VAW:** <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/violence.htm>

**UNECE Report of the Beijing+20 Regional Review Meeting:**

[http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/Gender/Beijing\\_20/ECE.AC.28.2014.2.E.pdf](http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/Gender/Beijing_20/ECE.AC.28.2014.2.E.pdf)

**CEDAW General recommendation No. 9: Statistical data concerning the situation of women:**

[http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/1\\_Global/A\\_44\\_38\\_3724\\_E.pdf](http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/1_Global/A_44_38_3724_E.pdf)

**CEDAW General recommendation No. 35 on gender-based violence against women, updating general recommendation No. 19:**

[http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/\\_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW/C/GC/35&Lang=en](http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW/C/GC/35&Lang=en)

**Women, Peace, and Security Index:** <https://giwps.georgetown.edu/the-index/>

**World Bank Gender Data Portal:** <http://datatopics.worldbank.org/gender/>