



# **Implementation of and Follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 on the Protection of Women against Violence**



# **Implementation of and Follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 on the Protection of Women against Violence**

**Final report of the Group of Specialists  
on the implementation of and follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5  
of the Committee of Ministers to member States  
on the protection of women against violence (EG-S-MV)**

Equality Division  
Directorate General of Human Rights  
Council of Europe  
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex

© Council of Europe, 2005

Printed at the Council of Europe

## The Council of Europe

The Council of Europe is a political organisation which was founded on 5 May 1949 by ten European countries in order to promote greater unity between its members. It now numbers 46 European states.<sup>1</sup>

The main aims of the Organisation are to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law, and to develop common responses to political, social, cultural and legal challenges in its member states. Since 1989 it has integrated most of the countries of central and eastern Europe and supported them in their efforts to implement and consolidate their political, legal and administrative reforms.

The Council of Europe has its permanent headquarters in Strasbourg (France). By Statute, it has two constituent organs: the Committee of Ministers, composed of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the 46 member states, and the Parliamentary Assembly, comprising delegations from the 46 national parliaments. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe represents the entities of local and regional self-government within the member states.

The European Court of Human Rights is the judicial body competent to adjudicate complaints brought against a state by individuals, associations or other contracting states on ground of violation of the European Convention on Human Rights.

### THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND EQUALITY BETWEEN WOMEN AND MEN

The Council of Europe's activities to promote equality between women and men form an integral part of its central mission which is the safeguard and promotion of pluralist democracy, the rule of law and fundamental human rights and freedoms.

The definition and implementation of these activities is entrusted to the Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG), in the framework of the Intergovernmental Programme of Activities. However, as equality between women and men encompasses, by nature, most of the aspects of the work of the Organisation, specific projects and/or multidisciplinary activities are also undertaken by other steering committees.

The CDEG carries out analyses, studies and evaluation, defines strategies and political measures and, when necessary, frames the appropriate legal instruments in areas such as:

- balanced representation women and men in all sectors of society
- promotion of the strategy of gender mainstreaming
- trafficking in human beings for the purpose of sexual exploitation
- combating violence against women.

In administrative terms the CDEG comes under the Directorate General of Human Rights and has a Secretariat which is also in charge of implementing the Council of Europe's co-operation activities in the field of equality between women and men.

For further information on activities concerning equality between women and men, contact:

Division Equality  
Directorate General of Human Rights  
Council of Europe  
67075 STRASBOURG CEDEX  
Tel: +33 3 88 41 20 00  
Fax: +33 3 88 41 27 05

Or consult the web-site of the Division: [www.coe.int/equality](http://www.coe.int/equality)

---

<sup>1</sup> Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom.



---

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction .....	7
Part I Analytical study on the protection of women against violence in the member States of the Council of Europe .....	9
Introduction .....	11
A. Analysis of information from member States to the Group of Specialists EG-S-MV .....	11
B. Synopsis of questionnaire results .....	25
Part II Monitoring framework based on indicators and Explanatory notes.....	47
Introduction .....	49
A. Monitoring framework based on indicators .....	50
B. Explanatory notes .....	53
Part III Selected examples of good practice .....	71
Introduction .....	73
Examples of good practice.....	73
Appendix I Terms of reference of the Group of Specialists on the implementation of and follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of women against violence .....	97
Appendix II List of the members of the Group of Specialists EG-S-MV .....	99
Appendix III Questionnaire sent to CDEG members.....	101





---

## INTRODUCTION

On 30 April 2002, the Committee of Ministers adopted Recommendation Rec(2002)5 to member states on the protection of women against violence, which is the first international comprehensive instrument aiming to remedy the major violation of human rights that violence against women constitutes.

Under paragraph IX of the recommendation, the Committee of Ministers recommends that the governments of member states “inform the Council of Europe on the follow-up given at national level to the provisions of this recommendation”.

In view of implementing this provision, the Group of Specialists on implementation of and follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the protection of women against violence (EG-S-MV) was set up in 2002 with instruction to prepare, under the authority of the Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG), guidelines for the concrete implementation of and follow-up to the recommendation. The terms of reference of the Group of Specialists appear in Appendix I.

The Group was composed of 8 specialists, including 2 CDEG members, with various competences, experiences and knowledge in combating violence against women. The Group’s members were appointed in such a way as to ensure a geographical balance between Council of Europe member states.

The Group held five two-day meetings between 25 November 2002 and 15 October 2004. At the first meeting, Ms Helweg-Larsen (Denmark) was elected Chair and Ms Hagemann-White (Germany) Vice-Chair. At the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting, in the absence of the Chair and on her request, the Vice-Chair replaced her, and at the end of the meeting it was agreed that Ms Hagemann-White would be the Chair and Ms Helweg-Larsen the Vice-Chair for the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> meetings. The list of the members of the Group appears in Appendix II.

The Group identified all forms of violence within the family and sexual violence wherever it occurs as priority areas. It felt necessary to receive information from the member states of the Council of Europe on the existing legislations, practices and mechanisms to protect women against violence, given the differences in the various countries, in order to be able to study the evolution of the situation in the member states and to propose a common follow-up. In this view, a questionnaire<sup>2</sup> (see Appendix III) was prepared and sent to CDEG members. 38 member states replied to the questionnaire<sup>3</sup> and some of them sent also their action plans to combat violence. An analytical study of the replies and action plans was prepared between September and December 2003 by Ms Hagemann-White as a consultant, and made available to the members of the Group as a basis for their work. This study forms **Part I** of the final report.

The Group also prepared a monitoring framework based on indicators in order to ensure a general follow-up to and maintain links with the structure of the recommendation, and elaborated explanatory notes to define some of the terms used, make clear references to the specific paragraphs of the Recommendation, its appendix and its explanatory memorandum, and explain the importance of the selected indicators, to make sure that the information provided by member states would be comparable. The monitoring framework based on indicators and explanatory notes form **Part II** of the final report.

---

<sup>2</sup> The questionnaire was sent on 15 January 2003.

<sup>3</sup> The replies were received between February and the end of March 2003.

Finally, to assist member states to elaborate and/or implement concrete policies and practical methods to combat violence against women, and in line with its terms of reference as explained by the CDEG<sup>4</sup>, the Group decided to propose some examples of good practice. Given the variety and the number of existing examples of good practice in this field, the Group agreed not to select “best practices”, but some innovative examples, linked to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 and to the chapters of the monitoring framework, and reflecting the diversity of the member states of the Council of Europe. This selection of examples of good practice forms **Part III** of the final report.

---

<sup>4</sup> Report of the 28th meeting of the CDEG (16-18 June 2003), paragraph 52.

## **PART I**

### **ANALYTICAL STUDY ON**

#### **THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE**

#### **IN THE MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE<sup>5</sup>**

---

<sup>5</sup> This study was prepared by Ms Hagemann-White between September and December 2003, on the basis of the replies to the questionnaire sent on 15 January 2003 (see Appendix III); the replies were received between February and the end of March 2003.



## INTRODUCTION

Questionnaire (see Appendix III) responses were received from 38 out of a possible 44<sup>6</sup> Council of Europe countries, between February and the end of March 2003. Some also sent Action Plans or other papers describing measures that have been taken. No information was received from Iceland, Malta, the Netherlands, Romania, Russian Federation, or San Marino. A synopsis of the information on the main questions is attached as Part B of this report. The following analytical report aims to discover patterns, common to different countries.

### A. ANALYSIS OF INFORMATION FROM MEMBER STATES TO THE GROUP OF SPECIALISTS EG-S-MV

#### 1. DISSEMINATION OF REC (2002) 5 AND (RELATED) AWARENESS RAISING

1.1 **Translation** into the language(s) of the country gives access to a wider audience in civil society even where English (or French) is widely used. Awareness is raised when an explicit government commitment can be read and cited in the usual language, for example in debating resource priorities in the municipality, in police training or school teaching. This seems to be widely recognized, there is translation into many languages.

The following 17 countries have already translated the Recommendation Rec (2002)5 into a national language or are currently doing so:

Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium (Flanders), Czech Republic, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Turkey, Ukraine.

Translation is considered unnecessary in 5 countries: Cyprus, France, Ireland, Luxembourg, and United Kingdom

No intent to translate is indicated in 16 countries:

Albania, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Norway, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland.

1.2 **Dissemination** of the document is vital to implementation. Governments have made quite different choices to whom they should distribute it. Clearly, the mere fact of having forwarded a copy to a department or agency says little about the level of attention given it there, but it does define a responsibility. To give an overall impression, the following table shows the type of addressee of dissemination and the number of different addresses of that type for each country.

---

<sup>6</sup> Adhesion of Serbia and Montenegro was very recent when the questionnaire was sent, on 15 January 2003; for that reason, this member state could not be involved in this activity.

**Table 1: Dissemination of Rec (2002)5 by country**

	<b>Govt</b>	<b>Equality</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>WomOrg</b>	<b>NGO</b>	<b>Media</b>	<b>Profess.</b>
Albania	0	0	0	3	4	no	no
Andorra	1	0	2	3	3	yes	yes
Armenia	4	1	1	4	5	yes	yes
Austria	4	0	3	all relevant	NGO	no	no
Azerbaijan	10	1	2	3	3	yes	yes
Belgium	4	1	0	0	0	yes	no
<i>Walloon Reg.</i>	1	1	0	0	0	no	no
<i>Flanders</i>	0	1	1	0	2	yes	no
B. & H.	2	0	1	0	3	no	yes
Bulgaria	5	0	0	0	1	no	yes
Croatia	4	1	1	0	0	no	no
Cyprus	3	0	3	0	5	no	no
Czech Rep.	5	1	1	2	2	no	no
Denmark	4	1	1	3	6	no	no
Estonia	1	1	1	3	7	no	yes
Finland	3	0	1	4	5	no	no
France	4	1	1	3	3	no	yes
Georgia	6	1	1	1	1	yes	no
Germany	1	1	2	3	3	yes	yes
Greece	3	2	1	6	8	no	no
Hungary	1	1	1	0	4	yes	yes
Ireland	5	1	2	5	6	no	no
Italy	1	1	0	3	11	yes	no
Latvia	1	1	0	1	2	no	no
Liechtenstein	2	1	2	2	2	no	no
Lithuania	8	1	0	3	4	yes	yes
Luxembourg	all	1	0	all	all	no	no
Moldova	1	1	0	all	all	no	no
Norway	3	0	2	several	several	no	no
Poland	5	1	1	3	3	yes	no
Portugal	5	1	1	2	2	yes	no
Slovakia	8	0	1	19	8	yes	no
Slovenia	1	1	0	1	2	yes	no
Spain	11	0	2	6	6	yes	yes
Sweden	0	1	0	0	0	no	no
Switzerland	1	1	0	1	1	no	no
TFYROM	2	1	0	2	2	yes	yes
Turkey	0	0	0	0	0	no	no
Ukraine	5	0	0	3	22	no	no
UK	all	1	1	2	2	yes	yes

**Abbreviations:**

<i>Govt.:</i>	Government departments or ministries
<i>Equality:</i>	Women's Equality offices or commissions
<i>State:</i>	state authorities (police, justice, etc.)
<i>Wom.Org.:</i>	Women's NGO
<i>NGO.:</i>	non-governmental organisations
<i>Profess.:</i>	Professional and general public

**Comments:**

The great majority of responding countries have sent the document to various ministries and state authorities, even when they report little or no further actions (as with Bulgaria); exceptions are Albania and Turkey. There is also frequent dissemination to women's and other NGO's. However, few countries report active efforts to profile or call attention to the recommendations. Such activities convey the expectation that implementation be a priority. Andorra, for example, presented the recommendations with a press conference and an exposition. Spain has produced 1500 paper copies in translation for wider distribution. Italy, Lithuania, Poland and Belgium are publishing the translated recommendations on the internet.

**2. ANALYSIS OF PLANS OF ACTION****2.1 Types and levels of planning action**

For the purpose of comparison, we use the following criteria for applying the concept "**Plan of Action**". The document should explicitly name both (measurable) goals and some steps or actions by which these goals can be achieved; it should determine agencies that have the responsibility and the competence to take these steps; it should be clear that the government actually has the means to initiate or require some actions, or, alternatively, name other social actors that will do so. Ideally, there should be a timetable and a monitoring mechanism, however, these are still rare.

Most member states seem to be moving towards a Plan of Action, but few have actually presented one that meets this standard. An exhortation to social actors does not yet constitute a plan of action, nor does the creation of an interministerial working group, although both may be important preliminary activities. Some descriptions are incomplete or lack accompanying documents to clarify the actual goals, measures and responsible actors.

The activity levels of Council of Europe countries fall into the following categories:

- a) They have no plan of action on a national level and express no intent to develop one (6 countries: Bulgaria, Italy, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Switzerland, Turkey)
- b) A plan of action is being developed but was not completed at the time of reporting, and thus could not be analysed ( 8 countries: Albania, Armenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Estonia, Finland, Hungary, Latvia, Slovenia)
- c) They have published a policy statement on the need to overcome violence against women, without specifying steps towards implementation or responsibilities to act (5 countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Croatia, Cyprus, "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia")
- d) They have a plan of action towards gender equality that includes some measures addressing elements of the Recommendation (3 countries: Czech Republic, Greece, Lithuania)

- e) They have a partial or emerging Plan of Action on violence against women that sets goals and allots responsibilities for acting, but often remains unspecific about actual activities. Some refer to internal documents not made available to the Group that are said to be specific about responsibilities (11 countries: Andorra, Austria, Belgium, France, Georgia, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Portugal<sup>7</sup>, Slovak Republic, Sweden)
- f) They have published a true plan of action, in some cases with follow-up and a second stage plan: (5 countries: Denmark, Germany, Ireland, Spain, United Kingdom)

In the following, we discuss only the countries in groups d, e and f. The groups d) and e) overlap, as some documents in group (e) also tend to set rather general goals with a low level of specified implementation. These countries may be said to have emerging plans of action. They have sent the Group documents that identify problems and indicate where action should be taken, but in many cases the concrete measures are few or remain unspecified. Such a plan might state “therapy places should be offered”, or “monitor and minimise traffic in women”, possibly citing the ministry responsible, but give no indication of what steps are planned. In other cases, the material only describes what has already been done, without making planning recognizable. It is not clear whether there is reluctance to publish an advance commitment on future actions, or merely a preference for highlighting progress and success. Some information may be incomplete, being summarized in English.

By contrast, a fully developed plan of action will spell out the measures. Examples are: “Ministry of Social Affairs will develop a hot-line model to be tested in pilot projects in selected counties”, or “Ministry of Justice will submit a bill of law on protection against violence”. Such plans also make clear what priorities have been set and offer a baseline for monitoring. It is also useful when the current situation is described towards which measures are directed. Examples are: giving the number of refugees existing before stating that their number will be increased; outlining the deficits in the current laws or their application as the point of departure for specific legal amendments or reforms. This will be helpful for monitoring whether the changes do remedy the deficits.

It should be noted that member states have undertaken significant activities without a Plan of Action. Italy has collected considerable data and built networks under the pilot project “urban city network against violence”; in Bulgaria, NGOs have carried out a number of activities funded by international foundations. The focus of the analysis on Plans of Action is not intended to disregard the value of such activities.

Furthermore, some states have taken an approach that begins with inter-sectoral cooperation to develop a “**Protocol of Action**” in cases of domestic violence (Andorra, Portugal). This involves detailed examination of existing regulations and procedures and possibilities for improvement, and may be a highly practical method to lay the foundations for a more comprehensive plan. If a Protocol of Action is well-monitored, the need for further activities in different areas should become evident. This might prove an effective equivalent strategy to a plan of action if expanded to cover a wider range of forms of violence against women.

---

<sup>7</sup> The documents from Portugal could not be translated for this analysis. The actual Plan of Action approved in 1999 covers only victim protection, awareness-raising and research and seems not very elaborated; an extensive Protocol for intervention in cases of domestic violence was also sent to the Group.



## 2.2 Partial or emerging Plans of Action: description by country

**Andorra** describes several significant activities. In cooperation with a broad basis of health care, justice and NGO bodies, a “Protocol of Action in Cases of Domestic Violence” has been developed and is now being implemented and monitored. Other activities address data collection, awareness raising and development of specialist resources and services, and some responsibilities for further steps forward are defined, co-ordination mechanisms have been developed. These activities have not, however, been drawn together in a systematic plan.

**Austria** published a Plan of Action by joint decision of 5 national ministries in 1997, referring to violence against women and children. It includes measures to improve protection of victims (especially children), and sexual penal law (again with regard to minors), as well as legal action against trafficking and arms dealing; further provisions relate to training and research, awareness raising and the media, and mention is made of the need to work with offenders. Most of the 25 provisions focus on child protection, but the implementation and evaluation of the 1997 Protection Against Violence Act (which addressed domestic violence) is also included. For many of its provisions the Plan does not specify the agency or authority responsible for further action, for example: “more attention should be paid...”

**Belgium** reports that the federal government initiated an Action Plan developed through an interministerial conference in 2001 that specifies resources and instruments, however, this plan is not available for the present analysis. The reports sent to the Group describe past activities: a national awareness-raising campaign in 2001 and agreements on co-ordinating agencies on different administrative levels. No information is given on actions planned for the future, but co-operation structures were under review.

The **Czech Republic** has a general plan of action for equality that is specific about responsibilities and timetables and is periodically updated. It comprises an extended policy statement, in which violence against women is named as one strong concern (among many others), and a concrete list of government priorities and procedures, in which violence against women plays a relatively small part, including an awareness-raising campaign, widening the network of shelters, and weighing reform of criminal law. However, a “model project” comprising 6 intersectoral working tables in major areas of intervention is currently developing more extensive measures and strategies.

**France** has published an action plan (not received by the Group), preceded by the national survey of violence against women (ENVEFF). The plan includes: information campaigns, reinforcement of networks on local and national level as well as preventive measures and victim support. In December 2001 a National Commission on Violence Against Women was established that embodies at national level the partnership already developed at local level between experts, institutions and elected representatives.

**Georgia** began its action plan to combat violence against women in 2003; it will be in progress until 2005. The plan names objectives, strategies, responsibilities and the time frame. Measures include statistics/ data collection, information campaigns, perpetrator programmes, prevention of sexual exploitation of girls and of trafficking, support for victims and combating ethnic violence. Some strategies refer to specific measures, such as establishing guidelines for the police, others express a general policy and implementation has yet to be defined.

**Greece** set up a national action plan for gender equality in 2001 for the period up to 2006. Responsible for measures concerning violence against women is the Secretariat for Equality. The Greece action plan includes new legislation (draft law on domestic violence), unspecified policy measures and cooperation between ministries. No more detailed information was available.

**Lithuania** is also currently drafting an action plan on gender equality. Specific aspects include: women's human rights, violence against women (covering ten action areas), combating trafficking against women. Measures are: improving legislation (separation orders), developing women's shelter system, support services for victims and training for police and for other professionals. No more detailed information was available.

**Moldova** has an action plan for promoting gender equality for the period from 2003 until 2005. Responsible for implementation is the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection co-operating with a national working group. Priority objectives are preventive measures and elimination of domestic and sexual violence. The relevant ministries are charged with measures such as providing victim services, awareness-raising in all levels of the educational system, information campaigns and professional training. No more detailed information was available.

**Norway** reports having launched a plan of action against domestic violence in 2000, but no information is given on the activities involved. The current plan is described by a table showing the objective, the responsible institution and the time frame, but not the measures.

**Poland** has already published its second plan of action for equality. The Secretariat of the Government Plenipotentiary for Equal Status of Women and Men will be responsible for the implementation of measures in the national action plan. Poland clearly names objectives (some general, some concrete), responsible institutions and time periods for monitoring. Relevant objectives can be found in the field of legislature, justice, education and resocialisation of perpetrators. Focal areas are sexual harassment and domestic violence.

**Portugal** issued a Plan of Action against domestic violence in 1999, in force until 2002, and was currently in the process of approving a second plan (not available for analysis), now to include training and legislation, as well as the previous areas of awareness-raising, victim protection and research; evaluation is also planned. The objectives in 1999 reflect policy goals often without specifying the actual steps to be taken. The current national plan for equality (2003-2006) also addresses psychological and sexual violence. Annual reports are obligatory and a committee of experts is charged with monitoring.

The **Slovak** Republic's National action plan for women is a policy statement, one goal being "to create conditions to eliminate violence against women" followed by a guidelines for implementation, with the responsible ministry for each of these. These include "develop a national strategy for the elimination of violence against women", support facilities for victims, provide training for professionals on gendered violence, specify gender in crime statistics, monitor trafficking, and include domestic violence and trafficking in school curricula. The activities are not specified in more detail.

The Parliament of **Sweden** approved a comprehensive government bill on violence against women, including changes in legislation, preventive measures and strengthening and expanding support services for victims. Main topics are sexual and domestic violence against women, especially immigrant and disabled women.

### 2.3 Fully developed Plans of Action: description by country

The “**Danish** government’s Action Plan to stop violence against women”, published in 2002, focuses from the outset exclusively on domestic violence. It has a very clear structure, defines goals, identifies problem areas, lists specific activities and the authority responsible for each. Since the plan includes both short- and long-term activities, there is no timetable, but instead, an annual report on implementation is promised. This could be a model for structuring an action plan. However, it is by no means comprehensive and does not indicate how other issues raised by the Recommendation might be addressed.

**Germany** published its Plan of Action to combat violence against women in 1999, covering social prevention, legislation, institutional cooperation on the local and national level, networking of support services, programmes for perpetrators and awareness-raising. The structure is more complex than in action plans of more centralized countries, and the process of implementation is described as a multistage cooperation between different government levels, independent experts and active NGO’s. Legislation is an important focus. There are measures to strengthen the cooperation networks of NGO’s as well as various levels of organized interface between state and NGO activities.. Particular attention is given to the difficulties of migrant women, trafficked women and refugees, as well as to other vulnerable groups such as women with disabilities. This Plan covers a large proportion of the area of the Recommendation and is relatively comprehensive in scope.

**Spain** published its first Plan of Action Against Domestic Violence in 1998 and is presently implementing the Plan for 2001-2004. It is a well-structured plan defining goals for each area of action, the actions to be taken and the bodies responsible. Of particular interest are the plan for internal and external evaluation, and the calculation of the budget commitment. As with Denmark, however, the Spanish plan addresses only one area of violence against women and cannot be called comprehensive.

The **United Kingdom** presented, in its 1999 program document “Living without fear”, a new approach towards violence against women. Domestic violence, rape and sexual assault are now being addressed within the government Crime Reduction Programme, which has one of the highest priorities in government policy and a correspondingly significant budget. (Notably, the Plan of Action is issued jointly by the minister for Women and the Home Secretary). The structure of the plan is very informative: each chapter describes what others, such as local authorities or NGO’s, are doing towards the objective, proceeds to give examples of good practice (“building on what we know works”), and then specifies “What the government is adding”, including funding for innovative projects to meet gaps in services, issuing guidelines, or creating a transparent system of funding for refuges, rape crisis and support centres in the programme “Supporting People”. This highly elaborated and very readable presentation is well suited to monitoring, since the measures in planning are accompanied by a clear picture of the current situation and the other actors. Overall, this plan reflects a “bottom-up” rather than a “top-down” approach, while at the same time strongly committing the government to specific responsibilities and budgets. It covers very many areas of the recommendation.

#### **2.4 An exceptional case:**

In response to the questionnaire, **Ireland** states that the Report of a Task Force, composed of government representatives and independent experts, published in 1997, is considered to be a Plan of Action. Although this report contains many and very specific recommendations, it does not commit the government to any specific steps. Following the report, the government established a National Steering Committee on Violence Against Women, of which the first report from 1999 is appended. The Committee sees its mandate with reference to the recommendations of the Task Force, and a number of these have, in fact, been acted upon.

It can, then, be said that Ireland has chosen a different approach from that of government-driven planning. Founded on an analysis of existing problems and a broad collection of potential actions, a mixed governmental and NGO coordinating body with advisory functions was given the task of selecting priorities and negotiating with the relevant actors for implementation. There was no explicit government commitment to any of the measures suggested by the 1997 Task Force Report, but the report seems, nonetheless, to have provided the framework for a considerable number of actual policy actions (perhaps a case of effective “soft law”). It must be noted, however, that there seems to be no report later than 1999.

#### **2.5 Cases not sufficiently clarified:**

France, Moldova, Norway, Poland and Sweden report that action plans exist, but the brief summaries included in the answers to the questionnaires are too superficial to analyse in detail. The documents from Portugal are in Portuguese only.

### 3. SYNOPSIS OF EMERGING OR DEVELOPED PLANS OF ACTION

The Plans of Action available for analysis address the following areas and fields of action by naming concrete steps either underway (or recently completed) or planned:

**Table 2: countries with a partial or emerging Plan of Action**

Country	Areas of violence addressed	Areas of Action
Andorra	Domestic violence	Specialised social care (assistance), intersectoral coordination and working groups, changes in legislature, monitoring and evaluation, anonymous data collection on domestic violence
Austria	Violence against women and children, elderly and handicapped persons	Protect victims, develop perpetrator programs, reform sexual penal law (minors, trafficking), training and research, sensitisation and networking, violence in the media
Belgium	violence against women: intra-family violence, sexual and partner violence, trafficking	Promoting co-ordination between key players, awareness-raising campaigns, lending support to local innovative schemes for dealing with sex-specific violence
Czech Republic	Strengthening gender equality and equal opportunities for women and men	Education to change stereotypes, public information campaign on domestic violence and other violence against women, widen network of shelters and support NGO work, amend criminal code to allow prosecution ex officio
France	All forms of violence against women	Awareness campaigns, reinforce networks on the local and national level, develop preventive strategies, support services for victims
Georgia	violence against women and girls	Obtain and disseminate information on different forms of violence, prevention action for potential perpetrators, legislation, police guidelines and training, victim support
Greece	Gender equality, domestic violence, and all other forms of violence against women	Draft law on domestic violence, measures to eliminate violence against women, coordination of responsible ministries, reports on implementation
Lithuania	Gender equality, violence against women, trafficking	improve legislation (separation orders), develop women's shelter system, train professionals, better support for victims
Moldova	Domestic violence	Prevention through educational programmes, training and information of government agencies, reconciliation services for couples in cases of domestic violence
Norway	Domestic violence	Interdepartmental group of responsible ministries, attention to perpetrators, to children who witness violence, and to migrant women
Poland	Equal status and women's rights, violence against women: domestic violence, sexual harassment, trafficking	Legislation on domestic violence, victims rights and sexual harassment, compensation fund for victims, educational programmes, professional training, create victim support system, resocialization of perpetrators, data collection

Portugal	Plan against domestic violence; next Plan for equality also to include psychological and sexual violence	Information, awareness-raising and prevention, training, legislation, victim protection and support, research and evaluation. Protocol of Action in case of domestic violence.
Slovak Republic	equal opportunities for women and men,	Develop strategy to eliminate violence against women and in families (action plan); support services for victims, train professionals, specify gender in crime statistics, reduce trafficking
Sweden	Domestic and sexual violence against women	Improvement of legislation, develop preventive strategies, better methods of supporting women victims of violence, attention to immigrant and disabled women, improve co-operation between organisations and institutions

**Table 3: Countries with a true plan of action, some with a second stage plan**

Country	Areas of violence addressed	Areas of Action
Denmark	Domestic violence against women and children	Expand and improve access to support for victims, especially ethnic minority women, treatment programs for perpetrators backed by legal measures, information campaign on domestic violence, "tool kits" and multi-agency teams of professionals, national survey and gender specific victim statistics, inter-ministerial working group.
Germany	All forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, rape and sexual abuse, harassment, trafficking, gender-specific persecution	Prevention (individual, social, educational), support for elder women, disabled and foreign girls and women; review and improve criminal, civil, family, alien, social and labour law, co-operation among institutions and projects, networking of assistance services, work with perpetrators, awareness-raising among professionals and in the public, research, international co-operation.
Ireland	Violence against women, mental, physical and sexual, with focus on domestic violence and rape	National and regional cooperation structures, preventive strategies in education system and social services, awareness campaigns that also inform victims about help, all police trained to interview victims and investigate, better court procedures, standards for refuges and accommodations and funding, response of health system, monitoring.
Spain	Domestic violence against women	Prevention and awareness-raising: media, education, professional training; legislation and legal practices (penal and procedural), create social resources for victims needs: health, financial, labour and psychological assistance; data collection, research and evaluation.

United Kingdom	All forms of violence against women: sexual assault and offences, domestic violence, sexual harassment, elder abuse	support and protection with integrated local approaches, meeting specific needs, e.g. black and minority women, disabled women, refugees; funding for refuges, rape crisis and support centres; monitoring and evaluation; review legislation and legal practice to bring perpetrators to justice, reduce attrition for rape, improve rights of victims; prevention by education and awareness-raising, community safety and workplace safety programs, guidelines and training for professionals.
----------------	---	--

It is notable that few Plans of Action can be said to be comprehensive, and there is a tendency to restrict their scope to domestic violence only. Thus, there are grounds for concern as to whether the instrument “Plan of Action” is being used as it could be to implement the Recommendation.

We have little information on the financial support of NGO’s for their work addressing violence in the questionnaire results and this is often not specified in the Action Plans. In the existing Plans of Action, only Spain presents a budgetary framework, which includes granting resources for an independent national NGO network or coordination centre as a partner in implementation and monitoring. All of the fully developed action plans available have given attention to securing and increasing the funding of services (most NGO-driven), and the UK has established a secure legal basis guaranteeing funding to shelters and rape crisis centres.

**4. CO-ORDINATING BODIES**

A specific and national level **coordinating body for implementation** is reported to exist both in countries that are still in the process of drafting a plan of action as well as in those that have some level of a Plan in place. However, the material collected in response to our questionnaire is often not clear about the status, the composition or the mandate of these bodies; many respondents do not distinguish between the responsibility of a ministry or government office or commission, and the existence of a specific body to implement actions in this area. The composition of these bodies frequently includes both government agencies or ministries and non-governmental actors – lobbying groups for women’s rights and/or service providers or their umbrella organisations. However, there seem also to be a number of coordinating bodies whose members are all delegated from government offices. The following table shows the choices in selected cases with the year in which it was established.

**Table 4: Coordinating bodies for Plans of Action**

	<b>drafting stage</b>	<b>implementation stage</b>
<b>Governmental offices with NGO's/ voluntary sector</b>	Cyprus(1996) Czech Rep. (2003) Greece (2001)	Austria (1997) France (2001) Germany (1999) Ireland (1997) UK (1999)
<b>Governmental agencies only</b>	Croatia (2002) Lithuania (2003) Moldova (2003)	Andorra (ministry) Denmark (2002) Norway (ministry) Poland (2002) Portugal (2002) Spain (2000) Sweden (2002)

It can be seen that some countries prefer to locate responsibility for coordination and perhaps also for implementation clearly with state agencies and departments, while recognizing and supporting the work of NGO's in the field. Other countries value official participation of NGO's as representatives of civil society and practical experience; they may speak for the needs of victimized women with specific expertise and provide a critical perspective on government policies. There are potential strengths and weaknesses to each model.

## 5. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

The questionnaire sent out by EG-S-MV did not specify a time period for "recent" developments, and the replies do not reflect the full scope of activities in each country, but only those considered to be new or recent. Thus, the task here is not to compare the state of progress, but to highlight which areas of action are currently receiving most attention. The most frequent responses report public awareness-raising campaigns (in: Andorra, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Moldova, Switzerland, United Kingdom), training of police and other professionals (Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, United Kingdom), and drafting or passing legislation.

New legislation (note that legal reforms that have been in place for several years were not cited as recent developments) is reported as follows:

- specific law on domestic violence (being drafting or recently passed):  
Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Ireland, Latvia,  
Luxembourg, Poland, Slovakia, Spain, TFYROM, Ukraine, United Kingdom.
- civil law to evict perpetrators from the home, civil protection orders:  
Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Liechtenstein, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden,  
Switzerland, Turkey.
- penalisation and prosecution of sexual violence:  
Germany, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Sweden.



- other legislation:
  - Austria (sexual offences against minors, female genital mutilation), Czech Republic (criminal code on abuse of persons, prosecution ex officio), Germany (stalking, immigration law), Spain (separation and divorce, custody violations and kidnapping, trafficking), Turkey (family courts, trafficking), UK (immigration law).

Overall, little is said about new efforts to improve intervention models and procedures, support or services, although many states are actively pursuing training professionals in many or all relevant sectors to understand and better respond to situations of violence against women. Several countries mention improving the funding of shelters and services, starting from widely differing levels of present infrastructure (for example, Austria, Czech Republic, Denmark, Spain, UK), Cyprus is equipping and training police to videotape victim's statements; Estonia has established its first shelter for battered women, Hungary has improved police protocols, Lithuania has established a Men's Crisis Centre, Ukraine has established crisis centres and shelters for women in five cities. On the whole, however, reference to innovation is brief or rare, and only the Action Plan of the UK describes innovative models of good practice.

Informal sources suggest that in some countries there have been new developments in types and numbers of services, in securing these financially, or in outreach to vulnerable groups or services for children. There are also, however, retrenchments and services or intervention models closed down. The questionnaire sent out by EG-S-MV seems not to have elicited this information, perhaps because much of this is often not an area of direct national government action. This suggests that the monitoring concept for the CDEG might include elements that ensure information on progress (or the reverse) with respect to actual interventions, services and outcomes.

## 6. SUMMARY AND POSSIBLE CONCLUSIONS:

1. There is widespread agreement on **translation** and **dissemination** of the Recommendation, but much more could be done to draw attention to it and make it a useful tool.
  - a. The CDEG could encourage all member states to make the Recommendation available in translation on a website, and to permit the Council of Europe as well as national and transnational NGO's to install links to these translations.
2. Most member states have adopted the general notion of a **Plan of Action**, that is, they recognize the need for a coherent intersectoral policy to address violence against women broadly and with a specific focus. In the majority of countries, something of this kind is either under preparation or exists at least partially. Depending, it appears, on national conditions, most Plans and drafts are internally quite uneven as to the degree of specification and explicit action planning included; often, there is a mix of explicit measures and vague general statements of intent. Only a few countries have a fully developed Plan of Action that follows a well-defined format throughout, thus creating the necessary pre-conditions for monitoring. Even among these, some choose to address only one part of the problem.
  - a. The Group might provide the CDEG with one or more templates for a Plan of Action, or guidelines and minimal standards; these would have to be formal in nature, avoiding judgement on what is "best" practice.

- 
- b. The CDEG might make examples of fully developed Plans of Action available on the internet (perhaps via links to the websites of the countries that have them) for government agencies or NGO's in the process of developing such a plan for their own situation (perhaps in French as well?). Although such documents often actually exist on the web already, the path to locate them often requires knowledge of the national language (once you arrive, you can then find the English translation).
  3. It is very difficult to get a clear picture from the outside of whether **coordinating bodies for implementation** exist, how they work, what resources and what mandate they have, what access to decision-making, and when and how they are effective. The information received ranges from naming the ministry or equality commission primarily responsible (as the official contact point) to long lists of organisations and agencies. Statements about inclusion of NGO's are also frequently vague. Without familiarity with the internal conditions and realities of the country, it is hard to imagine an effective way to use this kind of information for monitoring.
    - a. The CDEG might put the governmental and non-governmental contacts that we received in response to the questionnaire on the website and request that they be updated regularly. Then anyone who wishes to know what has been done or what is happening would have several options to contact and ask.
  4. It was not possible for this consultation to analyse the state of **legislation**. Evidently, many countries are giving priority to changing legislation, but we have very little evaluation to tell us under what conditions such changes are effective and in what way. We need to consider how monitoring the development and the impact of national legislation might be practicable.
  5. The answers to our questionnaires and the documents sent to the Group do not give information on most questions in the draft **monitoring framework** of EG-S-MV. For example, they describe plans for legal amendments, but do not tell us what range of acts are penalised overall; many cite police training and guidelines, but do not specify what these require police to do. Extending the network of shelters is often addressed, but there is rarely specific mention of their availability (either in hours open or in geographical spread). Thus, a set of questions requiring precise answers about the actual state of affairs at present should be an important monitoring tool.
  6. **Services** and support for victims, as well as programs for perpetrators, are clearly a necessity alongside of legislation, and member states that have extensive services are moving from providing generalised crisis resources to **different resources for different vulnerable groups**. Largely invisible in the material received, perpetrator programs are also being differentiated to address different groups in different circumstances. Introducing laws to evict a violent person from the residence increases the safety of the victims short term, but does nothing to reduce the need for services; on the contrary, such laws stimulate demand, in that women or children feel encouraged to seek help. Given the difficult economic situation even in the more wealthy countries, there needs to be a debate on how such services can best be secured. The material we have gives us very little to go on for such a debate. The Group could consider how a monitoring framework might "reward" information on improvement of both the quality and the quantity of services available.

## B. SYNOPSIS OF QUESTIONNAIRE RESULTS<sup>8</sup>

Members of the Council of Europe	Dissemination; Steps to raise awareness	Action plan or any other plans involving action against violence	Co-ordinating body involved in the implementation of the Recommendation	Most recent developments regarding violence within the family and sexual violence
<b>Albania</b>	Recommendation not sent to governmental bodies, public authorities or to the media, not available in native language, sent to NGOs: Legal Studio for Women; Women's Lawyer's Association	yet no plan of action, they are in process of setting up a plan of action against violence in co-operation with networks of NGOs dealing with violence, Recommendation taken into consideration in the structure of action plan, will be finished in October 2003	Co-ordinating body will be set up at the end of 2003, following NGOs will be included: Advocacy Centre for Abused Women, Counselling Line for Women and Girls, Shelter for Abused Women, Reflexions	Committee of Equal Opportunities working on a law against domestic violence on women, working group with governmental and not-governmental representatives set up
<b>Andorra</b>	25.11. International day where elimination of violence against women is celebrated, Recommendation discussed on press conference, Department of Family Affairs organised an exposition about the Recommendation against domestic violence, 14000 guidelines published for the whole population and professionals dealing with the topic, Recommendations will be translated into Catalan	Department of Health works together with Department of Justice in order to analyse the action protocol (PAVD: Protocol of action against domestic violence) which is an instrument of co-ordination between various service providers, organ which evaluates the recommendations of the task group, intention: raise public awareness in cases of domestic violence, co-operation between health care providers, police, justice, psychosocial professionals	Department of Health, Department of Social Affairs  Unit of Specialised Social Assistance Ministry of Health and Welfare AV. Príncipe Benlloch, 30, 4 pis Edifici Clara Pabassa Andorra la Vella Principality of Andorra	Public campaign to raise awareness on this topic, intention: sensitise citizens and professionals concerning violence, interagency data base on all cases of domestic violence; training of professionals in health, social work, police, 24 hour phone hotline, leaflets and guides disseminated, psychologists and legal experts organizing immediate assistance for victims, government cooperating with women's organisations
<b>Armenia</b>	Recommendation sent to: Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, Ministry of Education, Police, members of "Women Board" created under Prime Minister Decree. NGOs have been informed: Maternity Fund of Armenia, Women's Rights Centre, Psychological Centres, Helsinki Association etc., media through "Noyan Tapan" Information Agency, document available in Armenian	National Program and Plan of Action for the Improvement of Women's Status and the enhancement of their Role in Society being drafted for 2003-2010, violence against women to be addressed, representatives from Ministries in working groups for action plan and to develop measures against trafficking, Recommendation taken into consideration, plan will be finished in April 2003	Co-ordinating body is the Department of Family, Women and Children Issues, Ministry regularly organising meeting with NGOs and representatives of mass media and other Ministries involved  Ministry of Social Security; department of Family, Women and Children issues, 69 Teryan Street, Yerevan, 375009, Armenia	Ministry of Social Security together with UN: organisation of theme group on gender development, domestic violence activities in Armenia were presented. Following organisations and NGOs took part: Armenian Caritas NGO, Ajakits NGO, Women's Rights Center, Maternity Fund of Armenia, etc.

<sup>8</sup> Questionnaire sent on 15 January 2005; replies and plans of action received between February and the end of March 2003.

<b>Austria</b>	Recommendation sent to all relevant Ministries (Justice, Interior, Social Security and Generations, Education and Science, also sent to all relevant NGOs	National plan of action developed in 1997 with a 25-point catalogue of consolidation and further development of previous measures and programs against violence, national plan drawn up by the government mostly based on the inputs of NGOs, all Ministries mentioned were involved in the work, Advisory Council of Fundamental Issues of Violence Prevention compiled reports about the action plan each year	<p>No special co-ordination body established for the action plan, co-ordination body on governmental level: Advisory Council of Fundamental Issues of Violence Prevention, founded in 1997, it consists of public institutions, ministries and NGOs</p> <p>Präventionsbeirat Bundesministerium für Inneres DSA Helga Blöchl Leiterin der Geschäftsstelle Tel:0043/1/24836/85461 Mail: <a href="mailto:helga.bloechl@bmi.gv.at">helga.bloechl@bmi.gv.at</a></p> <p>AÖF: Verein Autonome Österreichische Frauenhäuser Informationsstelle gegen Gewalt Tel: 0043-1-5440820 Mail: <a href="mailto:informationsstelle@aoef.at">informationsstelle@aoef.at</a></p> <p>Plattform gegen Gewalt in der Familie Dr. Heidemarie Haydari BMSG Tel: 0043/1/71100/3285 Mail: <a href="mailto:heidemarie.haydari@bmsg.gv.at">heidemarie.haydari@bmsg.gv.at</a></p>	Changes in Criminal Code regarding sexual abuse of minors and female genital mutilation; brochure published listing support and counselling services, special training courses for employee's of women's institutions; Intervention Centers for victims have stable and increasing funding; physicians now obliged to report to justice system if an act punishable by law has lead to death or serious bodily harm
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Recommendation sent to Human Rights Division, Ministries of : Foreign Affairs, Interior, Justice, Education, Labour and Social Protection Of Population, Youth, Sport and Tourism, Health; Head Prosecution Office; Constitutional Court, State Committee on Work with Diaspora NGOs: Gender Association "Symmetry", Gender and Human Rights Research Centre, Women in Oil Industry; Also sent to TV channels and leading newspapers, Recommendation translated in Azeri	Action plan drawn up by the State Committee for Women's Issues and sent to all governmental bodies and NGOs involved, the State Committee is responsible for the implementation, each year a report on the implementation is published	State Committee for Women's Issues has established working groups with representatives of Ministries, NGOs and media to develop a plan of action on violence against women and trafficking	Round tables organised by IOM and OSCE concerning trafficking, steps have been taken to promote the ratification of the UN Convention on Trafficking

<b>Belgium</b>	<p>Recommendation was discussed by the Equal Opportunities in Flanders Unit at a network meeting with equal opportunities officers from Flemish towns and provinces and submitted to policy actors. There will be further exploration in co-operation with the Society and Criminality Policy Unit of the Ministry of Flemish Community. Recommendation will be translated in Dutch, put in the web and distributed among other governments, NGOs and other organisations.</p> <p>Recommendation sent to different sectors: Equal Opportunities, Education, Research, Preventive Health Services, Media education, etc. Available in French and can be downloaded from the website as from 5 May 2003</p>	<p>National Plan of Action against Violence against Women adopted in 2001. It includes: promoting co-ordination between interveners, raising awareness of the issue of gender specific violence, supporting innovative local actions.</p> <p>Federal government and regions together finance staff in each province to work on women and violence; activities are developed in cooperation with regional agencies but also coordinated at the national level.</p>	<p>Co-ordinators of two NGOs:  1. ZIJN  Lutgart Van Parys  Middaglijstraat 10  1210 Brussel  2. Steunpunt Algemeen Welzijnswerk  Annick Vander Steene  Diksmuidelaan 50  2600 Berchem  E-mail: <a href="mailto:annick.vandersteene@steunpunt.be">annick.vandersteene@steunpunt.be</a></p> <p>Provincial co-ordination meetings are held every two months.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Welfare, Health and Equal Opportunities launched the campaign “Do not become a victim of violence. Draw the line” to make young people aware of transgressive behaviour and to provide them with information. Discussions are being held between Ministries of Employment and of Justice to finance projects for supporting domestic violence offenders.</p>
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to Ministry of Human Rights and Refugees of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gender Centre of Federation B&amp;H and Gender Centre of Republika Srpska. Recommendation is not translated in native language.</p>	<p>The Gender Centre of Federation B&amp;H in the framework of GEEP Project (Gender Equality and Equity Project in B&amp;H – joint project of the Government of Finland and B&amp;H), together with the Gender Centre of FB&amp;H and RS and the relevant state institutions, will develop State Action Plan by the end of 2003; Recommendation taken into consideration. Research planned on violence against women, in cooperation with centres for social work, Courts, relevant Ministries, Statistics agencies and NGOs.</p>	<p>A new law foresees the establishment of the Agency for Gender Issues in B&amp;H within the Ministry of Human Rights. This Agency will be the coordination body. Cooperation with NGOs.</p>	<p>In the so-called Month fighting against violence, Gender Centre of FB&amp;H organized in cooperation with two NGOs: round tables, press conferences, promotion of the translated book “Violence, men and women” and participated in a TV show.</p>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Public Health, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Education and Science, Agency for Refugees</p> <p>NGOs: Animus Rehabilitation Centre for women, adolescents and children who have suffered violence</p>	<p>no answer</p>	<p>Bulgarian Research Centre founded including lawyers, psychologists, social workers, students in law and social work, teachers, university lecturers etc. in order to combat violence.</p> <p>Projects and programs funded by international foundations:</p>	<p>Establishment of inter-institutional working party (January 2003) with representatives from NGOS, Ministry of Education and Science, Ministry of Transport and Communications, Ministry of Public Health, State child protection agency etc., to formulate a draft law on protection against domestic</p>

			<p>1. Prevention of violence through a program of education in secondary schools and raising the awareness of boys, and through action and counselling directed at violent men. Campaign financed by UNIFEM.</p> <p>2. Project entitled "Protection against sexually-motivated violence, legal aid for victims, legal workshops and education. Financed by the Dutch foundation, NOVIB.</p> <p>Research Centre starts two project in 2002: Fostering sexual equality by study, lobbying and education. Model of Cooperation with the police when legal aid is given to female victims of violence</p> <p>Bulgarian's Research Centre for Women's Issues Sofia 1000, P.O.Box 938 Tel: +359 2 950 38 65 Fax: +359 2 950 38 67</p>	violence (June 2003)
<b>Croatia</b>	Recommendation introduced to members of the Government's Commission for Gender Equality, comprised representatives of all ministries, governmental agencies and NGOs.	Action Plan for Implementation of the National Policy for the Promotion of Gender Equality includes activities on violence against women. A Working group established in 2002 includes representatives from the Ministries (of Health, for Labour and Social Affairs, of Justice and of Interior), NGOs, as well as university graduates and judges. The group works on drafting a National Strategy for Combating Violence against Women.	Co-ordinating body : Government's Commission for Gender Equality.	A new Draft Law on the Protection against Domestic Violence is discussed in Parliament. Also, government and NGOs started activities aimed at raising public awareness, eliminating discriminatory behaviour generating violence against women, collecting and publishing data on cases in which women are victims. Educational seminars and workshops for social workers, policemen, nurses and doctors were held. Awareness raising campaigns in media, telephone help lines for distressed women.

<p><b>Cyprus</b></p>	<p>Recommendation sent to Police and to Advisory Committee for Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family in which government departments and NGOs are represented. Recommendation not translated, English language: broadly spoken in Cyprus.</p>	<p>Not yet Plan of Action, but there are relevant provisions in Action Plan for Children. Plan of Action Against Family Violence, including violence against women, in drafting process, will provide national guidelines and recommendations for policies. Action Plan to be finalized by end of 2003 by the Advisory Committee.</p>	<p>Co-ordinating body: the Advisory Committee (established in 1996): 5 members from different Ministries and 5 members from the voluntary sector: -Association for the Preventing and Handling of Domestic Violence -Family Planning Association -Psychologists' Association -Association for the Mental Health of Children and Young People -Welfare Cypriot Association</p> <p>Advisory Committee for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family P.O. Box 28962 2084 Nicosia, Cyprus Tel.: +35722775888 Fax: +357 22775999 <a href="mailto:familyviolence.a.c@cytanet.com.cy">familyviolence.a.c@cytanet.com.cy</a></p> <p><b>NGO's:</b> Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family 53, Aglantzia Avenue P.O. Box 28722 2082 Nicosia, Cyprus Tel.: +35722339001 Fax: +35722462930 <a href="mailto:contact@spidernet.com.cy">contact@spidernet.com.cy</a></p> <p>Cyprus Family Planning Association 25, Bouboulinas Nicosia 1061 Tel.: +35722751093 Fax: +357 2275495 <a href="mailto:Famplan@spidernet.com.cy">Famplan@spidernet.com.cy</a></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Social Services now have role as "Family Counsellors", provide counselling, financial and practical assistance.</li> <li>2. Advisory Committee produced manual as framework for how professionals and departments should cooperate.</li> <li>3. Police now has adequately trained staff including a lawyer and a psychologist; special rooms for hosting and handling victims of Domestic Violence. Additional specialized Domestic Violence Training programs are scheduled for Spring 2003.</li> </ol>
----------------------	---	---	---	--

<p><b>Czech Republic</b></p>	<p>Recommendation sent to Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Justice. Translated into Czech in February 2003.</p>	<p>Measures to counter violence against women are included in a package of government policies for the equality of men and women entitled "Priorities and Measures of the Czech Government in Promoting the Equality of Men and Women", in which women's organizations are represented. The document was drawn up by the government, with NGOs providing information. Implementation is in responsibility of the Ministers of Justice, Interior and Labour and Social Affairs.</p>	<p>Model Project implemented in 2003 involving the Ministries of the Interior (responsible authority); Justice; Labour and Social Affairs; Education, Youth and Sports; and Health. 2 NGOs also involved.</p> <p>Ministry of the Interior of the Czech Republic Personnel Department Geraldina Palovčíková Nad Stolou 3 170 34 Praha 7 Tel. +420974832018 Fax. +420974833523 E-mail: <a href="mailto:edita@mvcr.cz">edita@mvcr.cz</a></p> <p>NGO's: ROSA - information and guidance centre for women - victims of domestic violence Marie Vavronová Podolská 25 140 00 Praha 4 Tel/fax: +420241432466 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rosa@telecom.cz">rosa@telecom.cz</a> <a href="http://www.feminismus.cz/org/rosa">http://www.feminismus.cz/org/rosa</a></p> <p>ProFem - consultation centre for women's projects (operates a legal helpline for women – victims of violence) Marie-Sasa Lienau Gorazdova 20 120 00 Praha 2 Tel/fax: +42 022491 7224 E-mail: <a href="mailto:profem@ecn.cz">profem@ecn.cz</a> <a href="http://www.profem.cz">http://www.profem.cz</a></p>	<p>- Development of a scheme for protection of victims and witnesses of traffic in women. - Public information campaign against domestic violence. - Training of the police personnel concerning treatment of crime victims and victims of violence against women.</p> <p>- Implementation of the Model Project, working on following topics: domestic violence, police intervention, legislation in prosecuting domestic violence, cooperation in the treatment of victims, social and legal response, prevention of domestic violence.</p>
------------------------------	--	--	---	--



<b>Denmark</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to all relevant ministries. Document was published in English on Internet by Minister for Gender Equality.</p>	<p>The national action plan was launched on March the 8th 2002. It was prepared by a working group with representatives from the Ministries of Justice, Integration, Health, Interior, Gender Equality, NGO's and different authorities in the field of violence. All ministries are responsible for the implementation of the action plan in their area of responsibility. Danish action plan: <a href="http://www.lige.dk">www.lige.dk</a></p>	<p>Co-ordination body: interministerial working group on violence against women and trafficking in women:</p> <p>Department of Gender Equality Skindergade 38.2, DK-1159 Copenhagen K Tel: +45 3392 3311 Fax: +45 3391 3115 E-mail: <a href="mailto:lige@lige.dk">lige@lige.dk</a></p> <p>NGO's:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Kvinderadet (Danish Women's Council)</li> <li>-Nationalt Voldsobservatorium (National Observatory for Violence against Women)</li> <li>-LOKK (National Organisation of Shelters for Battered Women and Children)</li> <li>-Det Kriminalpraeventive Rad (the Danish Crime Prevention Council)</li> <li>-Formidlingscentret for Socialt Arbejde (the Research and Information Centre in Esbjerg)</li> <li>-Formidlingscenter Ost (Research and Information Centre East, Ringsted).</li> </ul>	<p>Danish EU-Presidency published list of 7 indicators on domestic violence</p> <p>Action plan on trafficking in women and children launched in December 2002, published on Internet: <a href="http://www.lige.dk">www.lige.dk</a></p>
<b>Estonia</b>	<p>The Ministry of Social Affairs has arranged meetings for Police, Ministry of Interior Affairs and specialists from social, medical and safety institutions, where issues of the Recommendation were discussed. The Estonian Government organized the third Baltic Sea Women's Conference in February 2003 "Women &amp; Democracy" where issues of violence against women were discussed.</p>	<p>Draft of a plan of action for mitigation and prevention of violence against women has been elaborated, waiting for new government after 2003 elections. Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- launch of a program: "No to domestic violence"</li> <li>- improve legislation</li> <li>- raise intervention capacity of the police</li> <li>- introduce the victim-centered approach</li> <li>- develop networks of all relevant</li> </ul>	<p>Bureau of Gender Equality in the Ministry of Social Affairs in close cooperation with Ministry of Interior, Police Board and NGOs. No central NGO's, but 7 named that partly deal with this issue, including:</p> <p>Women Shelter in Tartu Phone: +372 7 381 831, + 372 55 94 94 96</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Representative survey of violence against women carried out and data bank created. Violence-related police statistics have been revised.</li> <li>- Awareness of violence against women, its causes and consequences has increased.</li> <li>- Results of survey presented at 16 training sessions with police officers, social and medical workers, women's organisations</li> </ul>

		institutions. The Ministry of Social Affairs Bureau of Gender Equality is drawing up action plan in co-operation with NGO's and other ministries, taking the Recommendation into consideration.	<a href="mailto:varjupaik@fr.ee">varjupaik@fr.ee</a>  Legal Information Center for Human Rights Nunne str. 2 Tallinn 10133, <a href="mailto:Lilja@lichr.ee">Lilja@lichr.ee</a> <a href="http://www.lichr.ee/eng/">http://www.lichr.ee/eng/</a>	- Project to elaborate cooperation between police and social workers; manual for victims of rape and book of interviews disseminated. - Active participation of the media. - First Shelter for Women opened in Tartu in December 2002. - The Nordic Baltic Campaign against trafficking women was launched in Estonia in 2002.
<b>Finland</b>	Recommendation sent to civil servants attending to issues concerning violence against women, to several Ministries, to the National Research and Development Centre for Welfare and Health to prevent violence and to larger shelters for battered family members and agencies providing treatment programs for violent men. It has not been sent to the media, neither has it been translated into Finnish.	A draft plan of action is under preparation by the 5-year project on violence against women. NGO's have taken part in the 5-year project STAKES and will be consulted about the draft proposal.	There is no real coordination body for the moment. From 1998 till 2002 it was the project STAKES. Now the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health is responsible for prevention of violence against women, co-operating with all relevant authorities.  NGO's: -ENSI- JA TURVAKOTIEN LIITTO (Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters) Museokatu 24 A 00100 Helsinki Tel: +358 9 454 2440 Fax: +358 94542 4430 <a href="mailto:marita.ruohenen@etu.inet.fi">marita.ruohenen@etu.inet.fi</a>  -NAISTEN LINJA (National Women's Line in Finland) Mannerheimintie 40 A 15 00100 Helsinki Tel: +358 9 436 1008 Fax: +358 9 436 1088 <a href="mailto:projektsihteeeri@naistenlinja@kolumbus.fi">projektsihteeeri@naistenlinja@kolumbus.fi</a>	A proposal for a national action plan was submitted by the STAKES project. Department of Family and Social Affairs will appoint a senior officer charged with finalisation and implementation of the national action plan.
<b>France</b>	Recommendation sent to Ministries of Interior, Defence, Justice, Social Affairs and Health. It will be sent to NGOs.	Plan of action running over several years: -information campaigns -reinforcement of networks at national and local level -development of preventive action and	Co-ordinating body: National Commission against violence against Women, chaired by the Minister with responsibility for Parity and Equality in the Workplace	Some main governmental actions: -facilitate the eviction of the violent spouse from the marital home -develop collective awareness -prevent discriminations on the grounds of a person's sex or sexual

		support for women victims of violence	<p>Department of Rights of Women and Equality 10-16, rue Brancion – 75015 PARIS Tel: +33 (0)1 40 56 60 00 Fax: +33 (0)1 53 86 11 11 <a href="mailto:sdfe-dps@sante.gouv.fr">sdfe-dps@sante.gouv.fr</a></p> <p>NGOs: -Fédération nationale solidarité femmes (FNSF - National Federation Solidarity Women) National Delegate: Marie-Dominique de Suremain 32-34 rue des Envierges 75020 Paris Tel: +33 (0)1 40 33 80 90 Fax: +33 (0)1 40 33 12 14 <a href="mailto:fnsf@wanadoo.fr">fnsf@wanadoo.fr</a></p> <p>-Collectif féministe contre le viol (Feminist Regrouping against Rape) Chair: Emmanuelle Piet 9, Villa d'Este 75013 Paris Tel: +33 (0)1 45 82 73 00 Fax: +33 (0)1 53 79 04 41 <a href="mailto:collectiffeministe.contreleviol@wanadoo.fr">collectiffeministe.contreleviol@wanadoo.fr</a></p>	<p>behaviour</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-reinforce access to rights for immigrant women</li> <li>-interministerial programme to combat the exploitation of prostitution</li> <li>-prevent violence in the workplace</li> <li>-awareness-raising and information campaign</li> </ul>
<b>Georgia</b>	Recommendation published in mass media, considered on conferences, seminars and debates, recommendation is available in native language	Yes, they have plan of action: drawn up in co-operation with NGOs by the Department on Human Rights Protection, Intellectual and Humanitarian Security Issues of the National Security Council and by the State Commission on Elaboration the State Policy on Women's Advancement	<p>Co-ordination by the State Commission on Elaboration of State Policy for Women's Advancement. 25 members in the Commission, 9 are members of NGOs NGO: Association of Gender Development Tel: (995 32) 998 769 <a href="mailto:nani.chanishvili@access.sanet.ge">nani.chanishvili@access.sanet.ge</a></p>	Action Plan for 2003-2005 in order to combat trafficking, adequate sanctions for this crime were discussed on the Regional Seminar of the Council of Europe held in Tbilisi in 2002, third periodic report is prepared and will be submitted to the UN in November 2003

<p><b>Germany</b></p>	<p>Recommendation distributed in English to the nation wide working group to combat domestic abuse of the Federal Government and the Lander (relevant NGOs and public authorities)</p>	<p>Since 1 December 1999 the action plan of the Federal Government to combat violence against women has been in force, drawn up by the Federal Government in co-operation with the NGOs, many Lander have followed the example of the Federal Government and built up their own action plans, follow up of federal plan is under preparation, Federal Government issues plans which the Federal authorities are bound to, implementation of the action plan is reported regularly</p>	<p>Implementation by the Federal Government under the guidance of the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth in co-operation with the nation wide working group  Contact: Dr. Birgit Schweikert, Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend  11018 Berlin  tel: +49-1888-555-1211  fax: +49-30-20655-4120  <a href="mailto:birgit.schweikert@bmfsfj.bund.de">birgit.schweikert@bmfsfj.bund.de</a></p> <p>NGOs:  KOK Bundesweiter Koordinierungskreis gegen Frauenhandel und Gewalt an Frauen im Migrationsprozess e.V.  Behlertstr.35  14467 Potsdam  tel: +49-331-2803300  fax: +49-331-2803307  <a href="mailto:KOK.Potsdam@t-online.de">KOK.Potsdam@t-online.de</a></p> <p>Frauenhauskoordinierungsstelle  Heinrich-Hoffmann Str.3  60528 Frankfurt/Main  tel:+49-69-670252  fax: +49-331-6706208  <a href="mailto:frauenhaus@paritaet.org">frauenhaus@paritaet.org</a></p> <p>Bundesverband autonomer Frauennotrufe  Knooper weg 32  24103 Kiel  tel:+49-431-9877290  fax:+49-431-9877291  <a href="mailto:BaF@frauennotrufe.de">BaF@frauennotrufe.de</a></p>	<p>1 January.2002 law on protection against violence entered into force, police laws altered to make the civil law provisions in the law on protection against violence more effective  January 2003 government bill introduced into the Bundestag to change the section on sexual offences in the penal code, intention of this bill: enhance the position of women with limited means of resistance</p>
-----------------------	--	---	--	---

<b>Greece</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to governmental bodies: Ministry of Health, Public Order, Justice; press and Mass Media; Research Centre on Equality Matters, members of the Inter-ministerial Committee for the Elimination of Violence against Women; to NGOs: Greek Women's Union, Women's Union for the Elimination of Violence against Women, Association of Women's Rights, National Council of Greek Women, Centre for Research and Support of Vulnerable Groups, Victims of Violence and for the Protection of single-parent families, Greek branch of the European Women's Lobby, Feminists' Initiative for the Elimination of Sexual Exploitation and Forced Prostitution</p>	<p>National Action Plan for gender equality from 2001 to 2006 exists (not available in English or French), includes policy measures to achieve gender equality and to eliminate domestic violence and other forms of violence against women; drawn up by the General Secretary for Equality in co-operation with the Ministry of Interior Public Administration and Decentralisation</p> <p>Inter-ministerial committee composed of experts and officials of the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Justice, of Public Order, Interior, Public Administration and Decentralisation has focus on: changes in legislature, policy measures eliminating violence, reports on results or obstacles combined with measures implemented</p>	<p>General Secretary for Equality has responsibility for implementation of measures included in the National Plan of Action or the Recommendation; inter-ministerial Committee has also been a decisive factor for the implementation of measures against violence (also members of NGOs in the Committee) NGOs: Movement of Democratic Women 128 Solonos Str. 10681 Athens <a href="mailto:ccostavara@yahoo.com">ccostavara@yahoo.com</a></p> <p>Association for Women's Rights 41 Solonos Str. 10672 Athens <a href="mailto:L.Women_rights@egreta.gr">L.Women_rights@egreta.gr</a></p>	<p>Establishment of a National Observatory in 2003 in Eliminating Violence against Women, information campaigns, good practice guide published, leaflets published by NGOs in different languages especially for victims of trafficking, NGOs combating violence in the framework of the DAPHNE program, information seminars organised by the GSE (General Secretary of Equality) and the Institute for Training of the National Centre of Public Administration</p>
<b>Hungary</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to all relevant ministries, also sent to Victim's Protection Bureau of the Ministry of Interior, to the police, and to the following NGOs: NANE, Escape Association, ESZTER Foundation, White Ring Public Benefit Association etc.</p> <p>Conferences and trainings to which representatives of the written and electronic media were invited</p> <p>Recommendation not available in native language, is under translation</p>	<p>Plan of Action is under elaboration in co-operation with NGOs, Recommendation is taken into consideration in the drafting of the action plan, no information about the end of preparation</p>	<p>Expert group established by General directorate of Women's Issues of the Ministry of Employment and Labour, members are representatives of NGOs and governmental bodies</p> <p>NGOs: NANE (Women for Women Together Against Violence) <a href="mailto:nane@posta.net">nane@posta.net</a> tel: +(36-1)337-2865</p> <p>Research and Educational Centre of Rights of Women and Children Foundation women's rights <a href="mailto:center@axelero.hu">center@axelero.hu</a> tel: +(36-1)316-2986</p>	<p>2002 campaign to improve police activity and protect victims; petition signed by thousands of citizens on more effective help for family violence, organised by the Rights of Women and Children Foundation; instruction issued to police to use proactive procedure on family violence; Ministry of Justice and Crime Prevention Division plan to elaborate a concept on prevention and protection of family violence, General Directorate on Women's Issues has drafted a national strategy including law reform, development of institutions, research and education, training programs, crisis centres</p>

<p><b>Ireland</b></p>	<p>Recommendation sent to: Department of Health and Children, Environment and Local Government, Education and Science, Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs, Social and Family Affairs</p> <p>Probation and Welfare Service, Police, Women's Aid, Rape Crisis Network Ireland, Dublin Rape Crisis Network, National Network of Women's Refuges and Support Services, national Women's Council of Ireland</p> <p>Recommendation not sent to any media.</p>	<p>- Report of the Task Force on Violence against Women forms the Action Plan of Ireland (published in 1997)</p> <p>- Employment Equality Act 1998 prohibits discrimination in relation to employment, and also outlaws sexual harassment at the workplace.</p> <p>- Code of Practice on Sexual Harassment and Harassment at Work issued in 2002.</p> <p>- Members of Task Force on Violence Against Women (established 1996) included representatives of government departments, NGOs working with female victims of violence, medical profession, legal profession, clergy, Health boards. Task Force made recommendations on the topic of domestic violence against women.</p> <p>Responsibility for implementation:</p> <p>- Department of Health and Children: (health and social services for victims)</p> <p>- Department of Environment and Local Government (funding for emergency accommodations)</p> <p>- Department of Education and Science (education programs on violence)</p> <p>- Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs (funding for community development programs)</p> <p>- Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform (legislative provisions)</p>	<p>Implementation of the Action Plan overseen by National Steering Committee on Violence Against Women, Secretariat 72/76 Stephens Green Dublin 2 Tel: + 353 1 602 8217 Fax: + 353 1 602 8512 <a href="mailto:bgriffin@justice.ie">bgriffin@justice.ie</a> (Secretary Betty Griffin)</p> <p>Equality Authority 2 Clonmel Street Dublin 2 Tel: 4173333 Fax: 4173366 <a href="mailto:info@equality.ie">info@equality.ie</a></p> <p>NGOs: Women's Aid, Everton House 47 Old Cabra Road Dublin 7 Tel: +353 1 868 4721 Fax: +353 868 4722 <a href="mailto:info@womensaid.ie">info@womensaid.ie</a></p> <p>Rape Crisis Network Ireland, Kirwan House Flood Street Galway Tel: +353 91 563676 Fax: +353 91 563677 <a href="mailto:rcni@eircom.net">rcni@eircom.net</a></p>	<p>- 1996 Domestic Violence Act, civil law, made barring order available to victims of domestic violence; Act amended 2002</p> <p>- 1996 criminal law on rape reformed, penalizing rape in marriage</p> <p>- Campaign to raise awareness by the National Steering Committee in 1999; production of Information Leaflet which included information about services in different regions of Ireland.</p> <p>- Training in relation to domestic violence, rape and sexual assault provided to the police and other professionals from NGOs</p> <p>- Education: education program for use in post-primary schools</p> <p>- Perpetrator Programs: co-operation between civil and criminal justice system</p> <p>- Legislation: definition of violence against women, Criminal Law Amendment Act 1996 as legal protection to victims of sexual violence, Domestic Violence Act (1996), Sex Offenders Act (2001)</p>
<p><b>Italy</b></p>	<p>Recommendation sent to all regional representatives; the Department of Equality, important national and regional Departments, to projects combating violence against women, ONG (organisation combating violence against women), AIDOS; Association IRENE, Orlando (women's shelter),</p>	<p>No Action plan combating violence against women. Government tries to establish initiatives against violence.</p>	<p>Body of co-ordination is the Department of Equality. The Department works together with ONG (NGOs?).</p> <p>Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Department for Equal Opportunities (<i>Presidenza del</i></p>	<p>"Actions aiming at promoting women's empowerment at acknowledging and guaranteeing freedom of choice and social quality for men and women" in 1997, included opening and funding shelters by NGO's with local authority funding</p>

	<p>Caritas Turin, Committee against modern slavery, etc.</p> <p>Recommendation published on a web site by the Equality Department</p> <p>The Recommendation has been translated into Italian.</p>		<p><i>Consiglio dei Ministri, Dipartimento per le pari opportunità</i> Via Barberini 38 00178 Roma Tel: 00390642153485 <a href="mailto:c.collarile@palzochigi.it">c.collarile@palzochigi.it</a></p> <p>NGOs: Le Onde Centro accoglienza Casa delle Moire U.D.I. Onplus Via XX settembre 57 90141 Palermo Tel/Fax: 0039091327973 <a href="mailto:leonde@tin.it">leonde@tin.it</a></p> <p>Casa di accoglienza delle donne maltrattate Via Piacenza 14 20135 Milano Tel: 00300255015519 Fax: 00390255019609 <a href="mailto:cadm@galactica.it">cadm@galactica.it</a></p>	<p>Urban City Network Against Violence, established in 1998 and co- financed by the EU, has carried out local research and presented a code of best practices, results published in the National Report.</p> <p>National Statistical Institute ISTAT preparing a national survey on violence against women for 2004.</p> <p>In February 1996, law against sexual abuse was enacted as a result of the World Conference of Women held in Beijing.</p> <p>Training courses for social workers were established and an emergency service for victims was set up in the Mangiagalli Clinic in Milan.</p>
<b>Latvia</b>	<p>Recommendation was sent to the Commission for the Defence and Interior Affairs</p> <p>Recommendation not available in native language.</p>	<p>Action plan is in the drafting process, it is planned to include the topic of violence in the Gender Equality Implementation Program</p> <p>The Government will work together with NGOs.</p> <p>The Recommendation is taken as much as possible into the drafting process of the action plan that will be finalised at the end of 2003.</p>	<p>No co-ordinating body to implement the Recommendation.</p> <p>Relevant NGOs: NGO Crisis Centre " Skalbe" Kungu Street 34 LV-1050 Riga, Latvia Tel: +371-7222922 Fax:+371-7214720 <a href="mailto:skalbes@skalbes.lv">skalbes@skalbes.lv</a></p> <p>NGO Talsi Women and Children Crisis Centre Saules Street 7 LV-3201 Talsi, Latvia Tel:+371-3281050 <a href="mailto:tkc@apollo.lv">tkc@apollo.lv</a></p>	<p>NGOs organised a round table, afterwards an open letter was published to raise awareness about the scope of the problem</p> <p>NGOs submitted proposals to the Commissions of the Parliament for the amending the Criminal Law concerning domestic violence.</p>

<b>Liechtenstein</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to government and administration: department for equality, police, social services, district court, medical commission.</p> <p>NGOs: association for the protection of mistreated women and children, women's information and contact office.</p> <p>The recommendation is not available in German.</p>	<p>Government plans and measures against violence are published annually as called for by the Beijing Platform.</p> <p>Actions include: Information about the Protection against Violence Act, revision of the code of criminal procedure for sexual offences, Interreg. Project "Crossing boundaries - setting boundaries", expert group on sexual harassment and mobbing in the workplace</p>	<p>Co-ordinating body is the government's office for equality</p> <p>NGOs: Association for the protection of mistreated women and children Box 11 42 FL 9490 Vaduz Tel: +423 380 02 03 Fax: +423 380 02 04 <a href="mailto:frauenhaus@markt.li">frauenhaus@markt.li</a></p> <p>Women's information and contact office infra Landstraße 92 FL 9494 Schaan Tel: +423 232 08 80 Fax: +423 232 08 87 <a href="mailto:infra@schaan.lol.li">infra@schaan.lol.li</a></p>	<p>No further measures planned at the moment.</p>
<b>Lithuania</b>	<p>Recommendation has been published on the homepage of Lithuanian Women's Issues Information Centre: <a href="http://www.lygus.de">www.lygus.de</a></p> <p>Recommendation has been translated into the Lithuanian language.</p>	<p>Action Plan on gender equality organised by the Department of Equal Opportunities for women and men (2003-2004). Included: women's human rights, violence against women, trafficking in women.</p> <p>Interministerial Commission is the monitoring body, obliged to report on implementation of the plan, and of UN Conventions, Beijing Platform for Action, EU directives, recommendations of the Council of Europe.</p> <p>The Program will soon be translated in English.</p>	<p>Interministerial Commission on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men Vanda Jurseniene Tel: 370-5 2664227 <a href="mailto:vandaj@socmin.lt">vandaj@socmin.lt</a> Jolanta Sliuziene Tel: 370-5 2664227 <a href="mailto:jolantas@socmin.lt">jolantas@socmin.lt</a></p> <p>NGOs Women's Issues Information Center, Ms. Jurgita Peciuriene <a href="mailto:wic@undp.lt">wic@undp.lt</a> Vilnius Shelter for battered women and children, Ms. Nijole Dirsiene <a href="mailto:ndirsien@takas.lt">ndirsien@takas.lt</a> Women's Crisis Centre of Kaunas County, Ms. Marija Vysniauskiene <a href="mailto:marija@cis.lt">marija@cis.lt</a></p>	<p>Establishment of Men's Crisis Centre coping with men who experienced violent behaviour.</p>



<b>Luxembourg</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to members of the Interministerial Committee for Equality between Women and Men</p> <p>It was also sent to all shelter services for women and information offices.</p> <p>Recommendation is available in French, official language.</p>	<p>No plan of action yet. They are not in the process of setting up such a plan of action.</p>	<p>No address list</p>	<p>Preparation of a law against domestic violence. Priority is training of professionals in diagnosing domestic violence.</p>
<b>Moldova</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to Minister of Labour and Social Protection.</p>	<p>National Plan of Action to promote gender equality 2003-2005 approved by the government. Preventive measures against domestic violence: pre-university and university curricula, training Ministry of Interior personnel on primary prevention, conciliation services to couples in cases of domestic violence</p> <p>Responsible for implementation are all departments and ministries, NGOs and local public authorities.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Protection Moldova Republic, Chisinau 1, Vasile Alcsandri, Str Tel: 373.2/72 99 88 Fax: 373.2/73 87 13; 72 30 00</p> <p>Department for Equal Opportunities and Family policies <a href="mailto:minmunci@moldtelecom.md">minmunci@moldtelecom.md</a></p>	<p>UN Fund for Women organised information campaign "Life without Violence" in 2002, implementation of the program co-ordinated by a National Working Group comprising representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, Youth and Sports Department, Ministry of Education, Interior. Recent changes in the Penal Code concerning domestic violence, punishment for perpetrators has become harsher.</p>
<b>Norway</b>	<p>No organised distribution of the recommendation. Background document with proposal for a plan of action has been sent to relevant ministries</p>	<p>Action plan against domestic violence, launched 2000, is only available in Norwegian. It was drawn up by an interdepartmental group with representation from the Ministry of Children and Family Affairs, the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, Justice and Police. No final report on the implementation. Ministry of Justice has the co-ordinating responsibility.</p>	<p>Ministry of Justice: Line Nersnaes, Tel: 47 22 24 54 31 <a href="mailto:line.narsnes@jd.dep.no">line.narsnes@jd.dep.no</a></p> <p>Secretariat for the Shelter Movement Tove Smaadal Tel: 47 23 01 03 00 <a href="mailto:ks.sekretariatet@oslo.online.no">ks.sekretariatet@oslo.online.no</a></p> <p>FOKUS (Focus for Women and Development) Tel: 47 23 01 03 00 <a href="mailto:fokus@fokusvinner.no">fokus@fokusvinner.no</a></p> <p>Centre for Gender Equality Tel: 22 24 25 71 <a href="mailto:postmottak@likestilling.no">postmottak@likestilling.no</a> (Rachel Paul)</p>	<p>New action plan will be published in November 2003. Measures established to reduce domestic violence. Increased attention to perpetrators, to children who observe violence in the family, and to women of immigrant origin experiencing violence</p>

<p><b>Poland</b></p>	<p>The recommendation was sent to the following ministries: Justice, Interior, Labour and Social Policy, Education and Sport, Commission for Civil Rights and Protection.</p> <p>It has been translated into Polish. Recommendation will be published on the internet and so be available to all NGOs and the media.</p>	<p>Second Action Plan for Women has been elaborated by the government. Goals are: promote women's rights, ensure equal opportunities, equal treatment, prevent trafficking, HIV prevention campaigns, awareness-raising. National Program on Prevention and Combating Delinquency "Safe Poland" (2002) also addresses domestic violence.</p> <p>Recommendation will be used as guidelines for the implementation.</p>	<p>Department of Equality for men and women co-ordinates implementation of national Action Plan for Women. It works together with relevant NGOs.</p> <p>Plenipotentiary for the Equal Status for Women and Men Al. Ujazdowskie 1/3 00-853 Warszawa, Polska Tel: +4822 52 00 831 Fax: +4822 52 00 451 <a href="mailto:rownystatus@kprm.gov.pl">rownystatus@kprm.gov.pl</a></p> <p>NGOs</p> <p>1. Women's Rights Centre Tel/fax: +4822 652 01 17 <a href="mailto:temida@medianet.com.pl">temida@medianet.com.pl</a></p> <p>2. League of Polish Women Tel/fax: +4822 621 29 64</p> <p>3. La Strada- Foundation against Trafficking in Women Tel/fax: +4822 625 73 27 <a href="mailto:strada@pol.pl">strada@pol.pl</a></p>	<p>Victim's Rights Charter developed by the Ministry of Justice in 1999. "Blue Card" system for police aims to simplify intervention methods in cases of domestic violence. It provides guidelines, information about victim's rights, documentation of evidence, contacts to support services</p>
<p><b>Portugal</b></p>	<p>Recommendation sent to 51 NGOs and distributed by the State Secretariat for Equality to all institutions.</p> <p>An Article was published in the "Commission News".</p> <p>Recommendation is available in French and English. It will be translated in Portuguese.</p>	<p>First Action Plan Against Violence in force 1999 to 2002. Program included: awareness raising, prevention, intervention, research and studies.</p> <p>Second Plan of Action includes: information, awareness raising, prevention, training, legislation, victim protection and social integration, research and evaluation.</p> <p>Documents of the Council of Europe and other international bodies were taken into consideration in first plan.</p>	<p>Commission for Equality and Women's Rights Av. da República,32, 1° 1050-193 Lisbon Tel: +351 21 789 3054 Fax: +351 21 798 3099 <a href="mailto:madalena.barbosa@cidm.pt">madalena.barbosa@cidm.pt</a></p> <p>Manuel Albano Rua Ferreira Borges, 69, 2° 4050-253 Oporto Tel: +351 22 207 4370 Fax: +351 22 207 4398 <a href="mailto:mjalbano@mail.telepac.pt">mjalbano@mail.telepac.pt</a></p>	<p>Several measures developed to eliminate domestic violence, second plan includes definition of domestic violence in the Recommendation</p>

		<p>Second plan was drawn up by the Commission for Equality and Women's Rights and other ministries (Justice, Interior, Health, Social Security and Employment) together with representatives of the National Association of Municipalities. It will be presented to the women's NGOs. High Commissioner for the promotion of Equality and the Family was responsible for the implementation together with ministries. New expert team was built in 2001: Commission for Equality and Women's Rights, a representative of the Portuguese Association of Victim Support, a member of the Observatory of Justice, the co-ordinator of the INNOVER project, etc.</p>	<p>NGOs . Women against Violence Association (<i>Associação de Mulheres contra a Violência</i>)-AMCV Dr. Margarida Medina Martins or Dr. Raquel Vieitas Cardoso Alameda D. Afonso Henriques, 78, 1° Esq. 1000-125 Lisbon Tel/Fax:+351 21 812 4048</p> <p>Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vítima Dr. João Lázaro Rua do Comércio, 56-5° Esq. 1100-150 Lisbon Tel:+351 218 85 4090 Fax: +351 218 87 6351</p>	
<b>Slovakia</b>	<p>Recommendation was sent to several Ministries, to Office of Ombudsperson and The Bratislava International Centre for Family Studies (public authorities), to NGOs that are members of Co-ordinating Committee on Women's Issues (19 NGOs) and to members of Commission for prevention and elimination of violence against women and in family (8 NGOs); published on web site of the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family; available in official language</p>	<p>National strategy for prevention and the elimination of violence against women and in families is in the drafting process. National Action Plan for Women, approved in 1997 for the following 10 years (not available in English), includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create conditions to eliminate violence against women (legislative and educational provisions, centres for victims of violence, educational programs, SOS helpline for victims)</li> <li>2. Under the concept of equal opportunities: national strategy to eliminate violence against women, support establishments for victims, improve laws, implement training of professionals, gender-specific crime statistics, minimise trafficking, including domestic violence and trafficking in school curricula</li> </ol> <p>Responsible: Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Labour, Social</p>	<p>No special co-ordinating body; There is a commission for prevention and elimination of violence against women and in the family, reporting to Council of Government of the Slovak Republic for Crime Prevention.</p> <p>Fenestra - Interest Association of Women, chair: Monika Grochova P:O: Box F 12, Tomasikova 19, 04292 Kosice <a href="mailto:monika@fenestra.sk">monika@fenestra.sk</a> Tel : +42155/625 6237, +421905/204 414</p> <p>Pro Familia Civic Association Director: Eva Sopkova P:O: Box 59, 066 01 Hummené <a href="mailto:profamiliahe@nextra.sk">profamiliahe@nextra.sk</a> Tel : +42157/63 046</p>	<p>Some amendments to the Penal Code, Civil Code and Court Order in the area of domestic violence have been made. English translation not available.</p>

		Affairs and Family	Civic Association Eset - for Violence free Family Monika Bosà Osuského36, 851 03 Bratislava Tel: +4212/6252 5054 <a href="mailto:esetsk@hotmail.com">esetsk@hotmail.com</a>	
<b>Slovenia</b>	Link to the recommendation published on the home page, not available in official language	No existing plan of action; periodical plan for violence against women will be part of National Program for Equal Opportunities, being prepared by Association against Violent Communication (NGO) in co-operation with other relevant NGOs and Office for Equal Opportunities of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia; recommendation are taken into consideration, especially the definition of violence against women; program will be prepared in this year	Government of the Republic of Slovenia, Office for Equal Opportunities co-ordinates implementation of program for Equal Opportunities; cooperation with NGOs: Women's Counselling Service, Miklosiceva 14, SI-1000 Ljubljana, Tel. and Fax:: ++386 1 434 72 61; <a href="mailto:zenska.svetovalnica@guest.arnes.si">zenska.svetovalnica@guest.arnes.si</a> Association against Violent Communication, Milana Majcna 12, SI-1000 Ljubljana, tel. : ++386 1 434 48 22 Fax : same number, <a href="mailto:drustvo.dnk@drustvo-dnk.si">drustvo.dnk@drustvo-dnk.si</a>  Association SOS Help-Line, p.p. 2726, SI – 1001, Ljubljana Tel.: +386 1 544 3513 Fax.: +386 1 524 1993 <a href="mailto:drustvo-sos@drustvo-sos.si">drustvo-sos@drustvo-sos.si</a>	Slovenia is undergoing the process of changing legislation in this area; new statutory power for the police when intervening in case of domestic violence: expulsion of person who endangers safety of family member for 10 days. Expert Council for Questions of Violence against Women is established with representatives of all relevant NGOs, Ministry for Labour, Family and Social Affairs, Office for Equal Opportunities and others. Council is preparing analyses on situation in the area of violence against women in Slovenia (finished May 2003) which will be basis for suitable legislation on domestic violence
<b>Spain</b>	Recommendation has been translated by the Women's Institute into official language and published 1500 copies which will be distributed to: Members of the Board of Governors of the Women's Institute, upper level representatives of different ministries; different NGOs, equality organizations in autonomous communities, Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces, University Women's Studies Seminars and others.	First Action Plan against domestic violence completed in 2000, Second Integral Plan Against Domestic Violence (2001/2004) underway, prepared by the Women's Institute in collaboration with the Ministries of Justice, Education, Culture an Sports, Health and Consumer Affairs and the Interior, as well as Autonomous Communities through Equality Organizations, the Federation of Municipalities and Provinces and NGOs. It was approved in spring 2001 with 73% more budget than first plan.	Interministerial Commission was formed through the Women's Institute; a permanent Commission with the Autonomous Communities was also created to share information relative to combating domestic violence.	Causes of separation established in Civil Code; a new procedure established for the rapid trial of certain crimes; reform in relation to the fight against the trafficking in human beings

		<p>Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- promote education based on the value of dialogue, respect and tolerance;</li> <li>- improve legislation and legal procedures; speedy trials etc.;</li> <li>- complete the map of social resources nation-wide;</li> <li>- improve the co-ordination between the actions of different official entities and social organisations</li> </ul> <p>The plan is accompanied by an economic report and there are plans to evaluate and track it.</p>		
<b>Sweden</b>	<p>Recommendation is at present available in English and sent to different governmental bodies</p>	<p>In 1998 the Swedish Parliament approved the Bill "Violence against Women", a comprehensive program of measures to combat men's violence against women. Several public authorities were charged to undertake common tasks up to and including 2002, and instructed to increase efforts to prevent violence against women and to draw up actions plans for their own work. Strong emphasis placed on co-operation between authorities and organisations. National Centre for battered and raped women was set up in 1994 on the government's initiative. As a result of the Bill, government has allocated financial support to organisations to develop further ways and means, including centres run by men for men and organisations on behalf of immigrant and disabled women. Certain administrations charged to undertake common tasks concerning violence against women, now reporting to the government on the steps taken.</p>	<p>Minister of Gender Equality and the Division for Gender Equality are responsible for co-ordinating the measures taken during the action plan; government is now planning to set up an investigation to see how the action plan has worked out and what kind of further measures is needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Proposed legislation: restraining order and prohibition of visiting to be possible when abuser lives in the same home; prosecutor enabled to ban a person from returning to his home for a maximum of 30 days</li> <li>- Committee reviewing all law on sexual offences proposes that all legislation consistently distinguish between sexual crimes against a child under the age of 15 years and sexual crimes committed against an adult; furthermore, a lesser degree of force would lead to criminal liability for rape. Report sent to relevant authorities and NGOs and being considered by the Ministry of Justice</li> <li>- Official investigator instructed in 2001 to work out a program for witness/victim protection</li> <li>- Government has set up a plan of action in order to protect girls and young women in strongly patriarchal families who live under threat or with the risk of coercion</li> </ul>

<b>Switzerland</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to offices in the federal administration.</p> <p>Also sent to several members of the parliament, and to the Post-Beijing NGO Coordination Unit</p> <p>Not sent to media</p> <p>Only available in French.</p>	<p>Switzerland does not yet have a plan of action. Unit which is attached to the Federal Office of Equality will start its work in 2003 (May). Principal task is the formation of a network, raise public awareness and develop training programs for professionals. The Unit defines priorities.</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>Conference of Directors of Cantonal Departments of Justice and Police organised a national campaign on domestic violence, consisting of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. continuous training for the police (being carried out in all cantons)</li> <li>2. raising public awareness</li> </ol> <p>several cantons established intervention projects for co-ordinated action of professionals against domestic violence</p> <p>St Gallen and Appenzell have given police the right to expel perpetrators from home if further offences against their partners cannot be excluded</p>
<b>TFYRO Macedonia</b>	<p>Recommendation was sent to: the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and to the Ministry of Justice – Unit for human rights; Ministry of Self-Local Government (public authority); Union of Women’s Organisations and to the Macedonian Women’s Lobby (NGOs); to the Macedonian National Radio Station.</p> <p>Recommendation is not now available in the official language, but they are trying to translate it.</p>	<p>National Action Plan (NAP) for Gender Equality contains section about violence against women.</p> <p>Government, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Unit for Promoting the Gender Equality prepared the NAP in co-operation with NGOs.</p> <p>The Government and relevant Ministries (Labour and Social Policy, Justice, Internal Affairs, Education), and centres for social work are responsible for implementation, no report yet.</p>	<p>No co-ordinating body for implementation of the recommendation. Co-ordinating body for NAP is the Unit for Promotion of Gender Equality within the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy with support by the Macedonian Women’s Lobby.</p> <p>NGOs:</p> <p>Humanitarian Organization for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality – ESE  Contact: Jasmina Frishkic  Tel.: ++389 2 211-453  <a href="mailto:Ese@unet.com.mk">Ese@unet.com.mk</a></p> <p>Women’s Organization of Macedonia – UWOM  Contact: Savka Todorovska  Tel.: ++389 2 220-570  Fax: 00389 2 134-390  <a href="mailto:Sozm@mt.net.mk">Sozm@mt.net.mk</a></p>	<p>Reforms of the Criminal law are in process and in accordance with these reforms a Draft Paper to the Law for Criminal Procedures is prepared – containing new criminal act on domestic violence</p>

<b>Turkey</b>	After the translation of the Recommendation it will be sent to the relevant public institutions and NGO's	There is no specific action plan. The Directorate General on the Status and Problems of Women is responsible for the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action. Within this framework, all relevant public institutions and NGOs have been executing their own activities on violence against women. The training programs to raise public awareness and efforts for the establishment of women shelters have been continuing	There is no co-ordination body to implement the recommendation yet. Efforts have been continuing to establish a co-ordination body with the full participation of public agencies, universities and relevant NGOs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- law on Protection of the Family approved in Parliament 1998</li> <li>- the New Civil Code entered into force in January 2002</li> <li>- law for the Establishment of Family Courts entered into force 2003 including the Article on the Protection of the Family against Violence</li> <li>- proposed amendments on Turkish Criminal Code are still under discussion in the relevant Ministry</li> <li>- training programs on human rights (violence against women as an important issue) have been implemented by the relevant ministries and public agencies</li> <li>- an article of Turkish Criminal Code that stipulates heavy punishment for the trafficking entered into force 2002</li> </ul>
<b>Ukraine</b>	<p>Recommendation sent to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- State Committee of Family and Youth Affairs,</li> <li>- International Women's Rights Center "La Strada", La Strada Network in Ukraine,</li> <li>- Resource Center of the Academy of Labour and Social Relations,</li> <li>- Christian Children Found,</li> <li>- Center "Volunteer"</li> </ul> <p>Available in official language since 02-2003</p>	<p>Issue of violence against women is included in national plan of actions on improving status of women and reaching gender equality, drawn up in government structures in close co-operation with NGO's;</p> <p>In November 2001 law "prevention of domestic violence" was adopted by Ukrainian Parliament;</p> <p>State Committee is responsible for carrying out the National Action Plan and the law – official report about implementation sent annually to the President and the Cabinet of Ministers</p>	<p>State Committee on Family and Youth Affairs is co-ordinating body. Other State bodies, NGO's and public, scientific and research organizations are involved in activity through the Council on Gender Issues and Family Police (14 Desjatynna vul, Kyiv, 01025</p> <p>Activity on preventing all forms of violence conducted by different Ukrainian NGO's; there are also men's NGOs against violence</p> <p>Two central NGOs: Ukrainian Women's Consortium (50 Khmel'nitskogo, 5, Kyiv, 01030), Rozrada – Consultation Centre</p>	<p>Since 1999 the shelter for women-victims of domestic violence has been working in Kiyv with support of City State Administration as a structure of Kiyv City Women Centre;</p> <p>approved new law "prevention of domestic violence", created 7 crisis centres for women (NGO) and shelters in 5 cities; state crisis centres and centres of medico- and social rehabilitation will be created</p>

<p><b>United Kingdom</b></p>	<p>Recommendation has been circulated across relevant Government Departments. UK has adopted a wide range of measures that are in line with the Recommendation</p>	<p>In 1999 a document was published by the UK Government setting out a unified and multi-faceted national strategy, promoting an integrated and multi-agency approach with the aim to provide timely support and protection to women and children, bring perpetrators to justice and prevent violence against women. The government has also developed a multi-agency guidance for Government Department and agencies on addressing domestic violence more effectively. A Ministerial Working group was set up to ensure concerted and co-ordinated action. A strategy is being developed with two overarching aims to reach more women and children and raise awareness of options for safety and protection; and to reduce social tolerance of the crime. MWG is developing a joined up policy on 5 key areas of action. Action plan has been developed to improve the conviction rates for rape</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministerial Working Group on domestic violence</li> <li>- Inter-Departmental Group on Domestic Violence and Violence against Women to follow through agenda in "Living without fear"</li> <li>- The Women and Equality Unit (WEU), Dept. of Trade and Industry, works in partnership with Home Office and with NGOs to co-ordinate work on domestic violence: Women and Equality Unit 35 Great Smith Street London, SW1P 3BQ Tel.: 0845 001 0029 Fax: 020 7276882 <a href="mailto:info-womenandequalityunit@dti.gsi.gov.uk">info-womenandequalityunit@dti.gsi.gov.uk</a></li> <li>- Women's National Commission (non-departmental public body), with membership of over 230 organisations, its Violence against Women Working Group has representatives from many NGOs:  Women's National Commission 35 Great Smith Street London, SW 1 P 3BQ Tel.: 020 7276 2555 Fax:020 7276 2563 <a href="mailto:wnc@dti.gsi.gov.uk">wnc@dti.gsi.gov.uk</a></li> <li>Women's Aid Federation of England (national charity working to end domestic violence): Women's Aid PO Box 391/Bristol, BS99 7WS Tel.: 0117 944 4411 Fax: 0117 924 1703 <a href="mailto:info@womensaid.org.uk">info@womensaid.org.uk</a></li> </ul>	<p>Since 2002 many significant measures are adopted by the UK Government to tackle violence against women See p. 130 to 135</p>
------------------------------	--	--	---	---



## **PART II**

### **MONITORING FRAMEWORK BASED ON INDICATORS**

**AND**

**EXPLANATORY NOTES**



## INTRODUCTION

The Group of Specialists on the Implementation of and Follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the Protection of Women against Violence (EG-S-MV) took as its main task to draft a monitoring framework that would be simple, clear and practicable, and that could produce regular data informative of progress towards the protection of women against violence. To this end, a selection of items had to be made. All components of the Recommendation were considered to be very important; it was difficult to choose which should be taken as indicators. The Group drew on its expertise in different fields to identify information that is, or could be, readily available to the responsible administrators in each member state, and that can be considered indicative of an overall policy addressing violence against women, and in particular, indicative of the implementation of Rec(2002)5.

Taking a thematic approach as foreseen in its terms of reference, the Group decided to focus on violence within the family and on sexual violence as forms of violence potentially affecting women of all social backgrounds in all member states. The Group excluded the area of trafficking from its considerations, being aware that the Council of Europe has recently adopted a Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings that include a monitoring mechanism.

The Group is fully aware that much more needs to be done, and is being done, to combat violence against women in all its forms. The present monitoring framework does not substitute for member states' reporting on a comprehensive plan of action, nor does it aim to collect all information on all kinds of activities to this end. On the contrary, it is assumed that member states reporting a positive balance on the indicators listed in this framework will also carry out many other activities in this area. It is for this reason that the questions were considered good indicators, that is, they typically point to the existence of other activities as well that go beyond the immediate measures reported.

It is further recognised that some member states may need to start with measures presupposed by, or outside the scope of this monitoring framework, such as establishing basic social and economic rights for all women equal to those of men. The absence of actions to which the framework directs specific questions should by not be taken to mean that nothing is being done. The diversity within the Council of Europe calls for a variety of different approaches, some of which may not be fully reflected here.

The Group recommends that the CDEG establish a procedure for regular use of the monitoring framework to follow progress on Implementation of the Recommendation. This should include asking all member states to reply to the questions every two years. It will further be necessary to entrust a consultant with analysis of the responses and preparation of a synopsis for review of the CDEG.

The Group further suggests that there should be a summary evaluation of the data after completion of the fourth circulation of the indicators. At this time, the progress of knowledge and experience will probably suggest further development of the monitoring framework and, indeed, of Rec(2002)5 itself.

Although indicators, by their nature, are selective, the Group would like to underscore its view that member states should follow through with their commitment to the Recommendation as a whole and make every effort to implement all of its provisions.

## A. MONITORING FRAMEWORK BASED ON INDICATORS

### I. General indicators

1. Have you established a national action plan for combating violence against women? yes  no   
 If so, has it been publicised? yes  no   
 What is the time frame? \_\_\_\_\_
- Does your action plan address all the areas of violence against women as defined in the Recommendation Rec(2002)5?
- rape and sexual violence; yes  no
  - violence within the family; yes  no
  - sexual harassment; yes  no
  - genital mutilation; yes  no
  - violence in conflict and post-conflict situation; yes  no
  - violence in institutional environment; yes  no
  - failure to respect freedom of choice with regard to reproduction; yes  no
  - killings in the name of honour; yes  no
  - forced marriages yes  no
2. Do you have a governmental co-ordinating body for implementation and evaluation, as specified in paragraph I (3) of the Recommendation Rec(2002)5 and paragraph 4 of its appendix? yes  no
3. Are specific funds allocated at
- national, yes  no
  - and/or regional, yes  no
  - and/or local level yes  no
- of government for activities to combat violence against women?  
 If so, how much? \_\_\_\_\_ Euros
- Do NGOs receive financial support from public authorities for their activities in addressing violence against women? yes  no

### II. Legislation and judicial procedures

4. Is every act of violence against women penalised, in particular:
- a. all forms of physical violence to spouses, regular or occasional partners and cohabitants? yes  no
  - b. all forms of sexual violence to spouses, regular or occasional partners and cohabitants? yes  no
  - c. psychological violence within the family? yes  no
  - d. sexual harassment at work? yes  no
5. Is the police required to record all cases of violence within the family by law, by regulation or by written instruction? yes  no   
 Is the police required to investigate all cases reported? yes  no

6. Has the state made provisions to ensure that the public prosecutor can initiate criminal proceedings in cases of
- violence within the family
  - and sexual violence
- yes                       no   
yes                                       no

7. Are judicial protection orders for the victims of violence within the family available under your legal system?                      yes                       no

### III.                      **Support and protection for victims**

8. How many shelters exist where women who are victims of any form of violence can find safe temporary accommodation with their children and receive counselling and support by specifically trained staff?                      \_\_\_\_\_  
How many places are available?                      \_\_\_\_\_
- Are they accessible around the clock (24 /7) for all women, in sufficiently wide geographical distribution and free of charge?                      yes                       no   
yes     no   
yes     no   
Are minimum standards established?                      yes                       no

9. Are there services with specifically trained staff for women who are victims of sexual assault, including 24-hour rape crisis centres that ensure
- immediate medical care
  - and documentation?
- yes                       no   
yes                                       no
- Are they accessible to all women,
- in sufficiently wide geographical distribution
  - and free of charge?
- yes                       no   
yes                                       no   
yes                                       no

10. Are children who witness violence against their mothers given protection and assistance by specifically trained staff to meet their needs?                      yes                       no   
Is it free of charge?                      yes                       no

11. Is information about women rights and the measures to protect them against violence, about police and legal intervention, and about services for victims disseminated
- in all relevant languages
  - on a regular basis
  - and using media and methods suited to reach all women throughout the country?
- yes                       no   
yes                                       no   
yes                                       no

### IV.                      **Perpetrators**

12. Are there specifically designed intervention programmes, conducted by professionals, offered to men perpetrators of violence against women?                      yes                       no   
How many programmes exist?                      \_\_\_\_\_

**V. Public awareness and the media**

13. Has a code of conduct concerning violence against women been drawn up for media professionals? yes  no
14. Is there a body serving as a media watch dealing with issues concerning violence against women and sexism as well as with stereotyped portrayal of women? yes  no

**VI. Education and training**

15. Have there been any programmes or activities to educate children in the public schools about violence against women within the past two years? yes  no
16. Which of the following groups of professionals receive appropriate specific training on violence against women, prevention and intervention?
- |                                | Initial vocational training | Further education        |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| - Police                       | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Lawyers                      | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Judges                       | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Social workers               | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Physicians                   | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Psychologists and therapists | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Nurses and midwives          | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - School teachers              | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Pre-school teachers          | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - Media professionals          | <input type="checkbox"/>    | <input type="checkbox"/> |

**VII. Data collection and research**

17. Do police statistics systematically record in standardised categories according to criminal offences:
- |   |                              |                             |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - sex of victim                         | yes <input type="checkbox"/> | no <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - sex of perpetrator                    | yes <input type="checkbox"/> | no <input type="checkbox"/> |
| - relationship of perpetrator to victim | yes <input type="checkbox"/> | no <input type="checkbox"/> |
- If so, are they available in a national report? yes  no
18. Is there any systematic medical data collection on contacts made with health care services identified as due to violence inflicted to women? yes  no
19. Are questions on violence against women integrated in a regular representative national survey? yes  no
20. Has there been a representative national survey focussing on the prevalence and effects of all forms of violence against women?  
When? \_\_\_\_\_

## **B. EXPLANATORY NOTES**

### **I. General indicators**

#### **Indicator 1**

1. Have you established a national action plan for combating violence against women? If so, has it been publicised? What is the time frame? Does your action plan address all areas of violence against women as defined in the Recommendation Rec(2002)5?

- rape and sexual violence;
- violence within the family;
- sexual harassment;
- genital mutilation;
- violence in conflict and post-conflict situation;
- violence in institutional environment;
- failure to respect freedom of choice with regard to reproduction ;
- killings in the name of honour;
- forced marriages.

#### ***Definitions***

An **action plan** is a policy document on combating violence against women that specifies both concrete goals and the steps or actions by which they will be achieved. It names agencies that have the responsibility and the competence to take these steps and indicates the respective roles of state and non-government organisations and their cooperation. It includes a timetable and monitoring mechanisms.

**Violence against women** is defined in paragraph 1 of the appendix to Rec(2002)5.

#### ***References to the Recommendation***

The “particular importance” of national action plans and of the strategy for putting these into practice is underscored in paragraph 55 of the explanatory memorandum.

In paragraph VIII of the Recommendation, the Committee of Ministers recommends that the governments of the member states consider establishing a national plan of action for combating violence against women, for the purpose to adopt and implement the measures described in the appendix.

The relevant paragraphs of the appendix and the explanatory memorandum addressing the areas of violence against women are:

- rape and sexual violence: paragraph 54 of the appendix and paragraphs 77-81 and 87-88 of the explanatory memorandum;
- violence within the family: paragraphs 55-59 of the appendix, and paragraphs 89-93 of the explanatory memorandum;
- sexual harassment: paragraphs 60-61 of the appendix, and paragraphs 94-95 of the explanatory memorandum;
- genital mutilation: paragraphs 62-67 of the appendix and paragraphs 96-99 of the explanatory memorandum;
- violence in conflict and post-conflict situations: paragraphs 68-76 of the appendix, and paragraphs 100-101 of the explanatory memorandum;
- violence in institutional environments: paragraphs 77-78 of the appendix, and paragraph 102 of the explanatory memorandum;

- failure to respect freedom of choice with regard to reproduction: paragraph 79 of the appendix, and paragraph 103 of the of the explanatory memorandum;
- killings in the name of honour: paragraphs 80-83 of the appendix, and paragraph 104 of the explanatory memorandum;
- forced marriages: paragraphs 84-85 of the appendix, and paragraph 105 of the explanatory memorandum.

### ***Importance***

The Group concluded after a survey of the member states that developing and publishing a national action plan are not only useful in their own right, but also serve as reliable indicators for the existence of a national policy and the will to implement it. The existence of a plan of action also provides a starting point for democratic debate on the adequacy and appropriateness of policies.

### **Indicator 2**

2. Do you have a governmental co-ordinating body for implementation and evaluation, as specified in paragraph I (3) of the Recommendation Rec(2002)5 and paragraph 4 of its appendix?

### ***Definition***

A **co-ordinating body** has a mandate from the government putting it in charge of implementation of a national policy against violence and enabling it to ensure co-ordination of measures; it is further responsible for ensuring regular monitoring and evaluation. Its working structures ensure regular consultation among the relevant state institutions and NGOs as well as experts as needed.

### ***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph I (3) of the Recommendation asks member states to ensure that all measures are co-ordinated nation wide and focused on the needs of the victims and that relevant state institutions as well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs) be associated with the elaboration and implementation of the necessary measures.

Paragraph 3 of the appendix provides that member states should introduce, develop and/or improve where necessary national policies against violence.

Paragraph 4 of the appendix states that it will be necessary to set up, wherever possible, at national level, and in co-operation with, where necessary, regional and/or local authorities, a governmental coordination institution or body in charge of the implementation of measures to combat violence against women as well as of regular monitoring and evaluation of any legal reform or new form of intervention in the field of action against violence, in consultation with NGOs and academic and other institutions..

### ***Importance***

The Group concluded after a survey of the member countries that instituting a co-ordinating body is not only useful in its own right, but also serves as reliable indicator for the existence of a national policy and the will to implement it.



**Indicator 3**

3. Are specific funds allocated at national, regional and/or local level of government for activities against violence against women?

If so, how much?

Do NGOs receive financial support from public authorities for their activities in addressing violence against women?

***Definition***

**Specific funds** means both budgets allotments to specialised organisations and activities and regular parts of the budget of state-funded relevant institutions earmarked for ensuring qualified work against violence.

***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph I (4) of the Recommendation specifies that the work of NGOs should be encouraged at all levels including appropriate logistic and financial support. The numerous specific provisions referring to improving the quality of activities addressing violence, in particular ensuring a focus on the needs of victims, presuppose that the relevant institutions devote the necessary funds to achieving these goals.

***Importance***

A national policy can only be monitored as provided by paragraph 4 of the appendix, and developed according to needs if the budget for activities against violence is documented and visible for the work of the co-ordinating body as well as to the public.

**II. Legislation and judicial procedure****Indicator 4**

4. Is every act of violence against women penalised, in particular:

- a. all forms of physical violence to spouses, regular or occasional partners and cohabitants?
- b. all forms of sexual violence to spouses, regular or occasional partners and cohabitants?
- c. psychological violence within the family?
- d. sexual harassment at work?

***Definition***

**Penalised** means that it constitutes a criminal offence

***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraphs I (1) and VIII of the Recommendation provide in that the governments of the member states should review their legislation and policies with a view to guaranteeing women the recognition, enjoyment exercise and protection of their human rights by adopting and implementing the measures described in the appendix.

Paragraph 1 of the appendix sets out the definition of the term violence against women. This is any act of gender based violence which results in, or is likely to result in physical, sexual or

psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life. This includes in particular:

- a. violence occurring in the family or domestic unit, including, *inter alia*, physical and mental aggression, emotional and psychological abuse, rape and sexual abuse, incest, rape between spouses, regular or occasional partners and cohabitants, [...], female genital and sexual mutilation [...];
- b. violence occurring within the general community, including, *inter alia*, rape, sexual abuse, sexual harassment and intimidation at work.

Paragraph 2 of the appendix provides that it is the responsibility of the state to safeguard the right of women not to be subjected to violence of any kind or by any person.

Paragraph 34 of the appendix provides that member states should ensure that criminal law provides that any act of violence against a person, in particular physical or sexual violence, constitutes a violation of that person's physical, psychological and/or sexual freedom and integrity.

Paragraph 35 of the appendix provides that member states should, in particular:

- penalise sexual violence and rape between spouses, regular or occasional partners and cohabitants;
- penalise any sexual act committed against non-consenting persons, even if they do not show signs of resistance.

Paragraph 55 of the appendix provides that member states should classify all forms of violence within the family as a criminal offence.

### ***Importance***

All acts of violence against women should be penalised so as to protect their fundamental human rights and promote zero tolerance.

### **Indicator 5**

5. Is the police required to record all cases of violence within the family by law or by regulation or by written instruction? Is the police required to investigate all cases reported?

### ***Definitions***

**Regulation** means a legal provision.

**Instructions** means directions *or* guidelines in writing which may not be based on legal provisions.

**Record** means officially make a note of complaints or accusations relating to domestic violence.

**Investigate** includes taking statements from the complainant, the suspect and all available witnesses as well as collecting any other relevant evidentiary material on the basis of which to submit a report to the prosecution authorities for the purpose of prosecution of the suspect and protection of the victim.

---

**References to the Recommendation**

Paragraph II of the Recommendation provides that governments of member states should recognise that states have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence.

Paragraph 5 of the appendix provides, *inter alia*, that data collection should be developed for the preparation of statistics in order to better evaluate the scale of violence against women.

**Importance**

Recording of all cases by the police is important to ensure that prosecution will follow in all proper cases and will not be discontinued by decision of a police officer. It also raises awareness on the extent of the problem.

As violence within the family is a recurrent offence recording is important for the competent authorities to be able to follow up cases and decide what measures would be the most effective for the protection of the victim.

Investigation of all cases and enhanced evidence gathering at the scene is important to ensure effective prosecution and protection of the victim even if subsequently the victim refuses to testify in Court.

**Indicator 6**

6. Has the state made provisions to ensure that the public prosecutor can initiate criminal proceedings in cases of violence within the family and sexual violence?

**References to the Recommendation**

Paragraph 35 of the appendix provides that it is the responsibility of the state to ensure that appropriate measures in national legislation should make it possible to take swift and effective action against perpetrators of violence.

Paragraph 39 of the appendix provides that member states should make provisions to ensure that criminal proceedings can be initiated by the public prosecutor.

Paragraph 40 of the appendix provides that member states should encourage prosecutors to regard violence against women as an aggravating or decisive factor in deciding whether or not to prosecute.

**Importance**

Prosecution of all acts of violence against women should not be left to the victim who is often, because of the abuse, defenceless, vulnerable, intimidated and without economic means to pursue a criminal prosecution.

## **Indicator 7**

7. Are judicial protection orders for the victims of violence within the family available under your legal system?

### ***Definition***

**Judicial protection order** is every order issued by a court for the protection of a victim from further violence. The term includes, but is not limited to, a **restraining order** by which the suspect or accused is ordered not to contact or meet the victim and or not to enter or go in the vicinity of the family home or workplace of the victim. The term also includes **non-molestation** orders by which the suspect or accused is ordered not to molest the complainant even when they are cohabiting. A protection order also includes ordering the **removal of the victim**, especially if it is a child, from the family home, in appropriate cases, when its protection cannot be otherwise secured.

### ***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph II of the Recommendation provides that states have an obligation to provide protection to victims of violence.

Paragraph 3 of the appendix provides that member states should introduce, develop and/or improve where necessary, national policies against violence based on a) maximum safety and protection of victim; b) empowerment of victimised women by optimal support and assistance structures which avoid secondary victimisation.

Paragraph 23 of the appendix provides that member states should ensure that victims, without any discrimination, receive immediate and comprehensive assistance, including legal assistance.

Paragraph 38 of the appendix provides that member states should ensure that all victims of violence are able to institute proceedings as well as, where appropriate, public or private organisations with legal personality acting in their defence, either together with the victims or on their behalf.

Paragraph 44 of the appendix provides that member states should, where necessary, ensure that measures are taken to protect victims effectively against threats and possible acts of revenge;

Paragraph 58 of the appendix provides that member states should envisage the possibility of taking measures in order to:

- ...
- b. enable the judiciary to adopt, as interim measures aimed at protecting the victims, the banning of a perpetrator from contacting, communicating with or approaching the victim, residing in or entering certain defined areas;
- ...
- e. ensure smooth co-operation of all relevant institutions, such as police authorities, courts and victim protection services, in order to enable the victim to take all relevant legal and practical measures for receiving assistance and taking actions against the perpetrator within due time limits and without unwanted contact with the perpetrator;
- f. penalise all breaches of the measures imposed on the perpetrators by the authorities.

---

## **Importance**

The main aim of the legislation and prosecution should be to protect the victims of violence.

## **III. Support and protection for victims**

### **Indicator 8**

8. How many shelters exist where women who are victims of any form of violence can find safe temporary accommodation with their children and receive counselling and support by specifically trained staff? How many places are available? Are they accessible around the clock (24 /7) for all women, in sufficiently wide geographical distribution and free of charge? Are minimum standards established?

### **Definitions**

**Shelter** (or **refuge**) means a temporary accommodation for both women with their children and women without children where they are safe from direct threat by the abuser and are offered qualified counselling and practical support, either in-house or by arrangement. To provide safety, a shelter either includes or is linked to crisis services responding to the immediate danger of a violent situation, accessible within a realistic travel time frame and around the clock.

**Minimum standards** are requirements to be met as a condition of operating services. They are based on current state of knowledge about the situation and specific needs of victimised women and take account of evaluated good practices in Europe. Standards refer to accessibility to all women in need, confidentiality and safety, qualifications and numbers of staff / consultants, including training of volunteers, quality of services for children and accountability to the community.

### **References to the Recommendation**

According to paragraph I (3) of the Recommendation, all measures should be focused on the needs of the victims.

Paragraph 3 of the appendix states that policies against violence should be based *inter alia* on:

- a. maximum safety and protection of victims;
- b. empowerment of victimised women by optimal support and assistance structures which avoid secondary victimisation.

Paragraph 23 of the appendix provides that member states should ensure that victims, without any discrimination, receive immediate and comprehensive assistance that is confidential and free of charge.

Paragraph 24 of the appendix provides that member states should in particular ensure that all services and legal remedies available for victims of domestic violence are provided to immigrant women upon request.

### **Importance**

Shelters or safe houses enable women to leave a dangerous situation in the home and have been fundamental to confronting violence within the family; victims of sexual violence may

also need safety from further threats. As violence often occurs during nights and weekends, access to safe accommodation must be available on short notice day and night. It is well documented that measures expelling the perpetrator from the residence do not reduce the need for refuges. The existence of shelters, the number of places, their accessibility and establishing standards are clear indicators of a member state's will to protect women against violence on an immediate practical level. To ensure that services are available to all women without discrimination and in particular to immigrant women, the services should be cultural sensitive and translator services should be available on call.

### **Indicator 9**

9. Are there services with specifically trained staff for women who are victim of sexual assault, including 24-hour rape crisis centres that ensure immediate medical care and documentation? Are they accessible to all women, in sufficiently wide geographical distribution and free of charge?

#### ***Definition***

A **rape crisis centre** means a specialised safe environment with specifically trained psychological and medical services accessible in a crisis following sexual assault; services include legal and psychological information, medical examination and forensic documentation, psychological response to the trauma of assault, all necessary medical treatment, counselling and follow-up.

#### ***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph 23 of the appendix provides that member states should ensure that victims, without any discrimination, receive immediate and comprehensive assistance that is confidential and free of charge.

Paragraph 24 of the appendix provides that member states should in particular ensure that all services and legal remedies available for victims of domestic violence are provided to immigrant women upon request.

Paragraph 25 of the appendix provides that member states should take all necessary measures in order to ensure that collection of forensic evidence and information is carried out according to standardised protocol and forms.

#### ***Importance***

In accordance with paragraph 23 of the appendix as cited above, specific services to meet the needs of victims of rape and sexual assault are needed. Both the traumatic nature of rape and the need for immediate forensic examination to collect the evidence necessary for prosecution require a rape crisis centre with specifically trained staff on call open on a 24-hour, 7-day basis. To ensure that services are available to all women without discrimination and in particular to immigrant women, translator services should be available on call.

---

**Indicator 10**

10. Are children who witness violence against their mothers given protection and assistance by specifically trained staff to meet their needs? Is it free of charge?

***Definition***

**Children witnesses to violence** means children who are aware of abuse of their mothers, whether or not they are present in the room at the time of the attack, and whether or not they are assaulted or threatened directly.

***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph 31 of the appendix provides that member states should ensure that children are suitably cared for in a comprehensive manner by specialised staff at all the relevant stages (initial reception, police, public prosecutor's department and courts) and that the assistance provided is adapted to the needs of the child.

Paragraph 32 of the appendix provides that member states should take steps to ensure the necessary psychological and moral support for children who are victims of violence by setting up appropriate facilities and providing trained staff to treat the child from initial contact to recovery; these services should be provided free of charge.

***Importance***

It is recognised that children often suffer trauma or other emotional harm from seeing, hearing or knowing about the abuse of their mothers. They may need trained pedagogical or therapeutic intervention to understand, cope with, and overcome the effects of the experience of violence within the family. Paragraphs 31 and 32 of the appendix, specifying that children be suitably cared for and receive the necessary psychological and moral support, should thus be applied to all children who have been living in a situation characterised by violence. Children also need to be protected, as they may themselves be specifically threatened, hurt or killed by a man trying to exert pressure on, or revenge against a woman who has left him.

**Indicator 11**

11. Is information about women rights and the measures to protect them against violence, about police and legal intervention, and about services for victims disseminated in all relevant languages on a regular basis and using media and methods suited to reach all women throughout the country?

***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph I of the Recommendation provides that the governments of member states should review their legislation and policies with a view to:

1. guaranteeing women the recognition, enjoyment, exercise and protection of their human rights and fundamental freedoms;
2. taking necessary measures, where appropriate, to ensure that women are able to exercise freely and effectively their economic and social rights.

Paragraph 26 of the appendix states that member states should provide documentation particularly geared to victims, informing them in a clear and comprehensible manner of their rights, the service they have received and the actions they could envisage or take, regardless of whether they are lodging a complaint or not, as well as of their possibilities to continue to receive psychological, medical and social support and legal assistance.

### ***Importance***

The first overall aim of Rec(2002)5 is to ensure that women are able to exercise freely and effectively their rights (paragraphs I and II), and the appendix points to the need to inform the general public (see: media and awareness raising) and victims about their rights and the services and legal measures available to them. Furthermore, it is only possible to ensure that all victims receive assistance if such information on services is widely disseminated in all relevant languages throughout the country, so that any woman who is victimised is aware of them. Since victims both of domestic and of sexual violence are often isolated by fear and shame, systematic active information and outreach are necessary to ensure their protection.

## **IV. Perpetrator**

### **Indicator 12**

12. Are there specifically designed intervention programmes, conducted by professionals, offered to men perpetrators of violence against women? How many programmes exist?

### ***Definitions***

**Specifically designed intervention programmes** means that an intervention program or treatment program should be directed directly toward men who use violence against women. Further that the content or methods of this program should be specifically constructed to change the behaviour, attitudes and beliefs of men who use violence against women. The method should be based on solid knowledge of violence against women, its effects on women and children and its social, gender-based and individual causes.

Ideally, these programmes should be offered both on a voluntary basis and after referrals from the justice system.

**Professionally trained staff** means a staff with a professional education in social or health work (for example: nurse, social worker, psychologist, psychiatrist) with a specific training in the field of violence against women and interventions directed toward men who use violence against women.

### ***References to the Recommendation***

This indicator refers to paragraphs 50 to 53 of the appendix, under the heading: "intervention programmes for the perpetrator of violence", which provide that member states should:

50. organise intervention programmes designed to encourage perpetrators of violence to adopt a violence-free pattern of behaviour by helping them to become aware of their acts and recognise their responsibility.
51. provide the perpetrator with the possibility to follow intervention programmes, not as an alternative to sentence, but as an additional measure aiming at preventing violence; participation in such programmes should be offered on voluntary basis;



52. consider establishing specialised state-approved intervention centres for violent men and support centres initiated by NGOs and associations within the resources available;
53. ensure co-operation between intervention programmes directed towards men and those dealing with the protection of women

### ***Importance***

This indicator is recognised as important because it constitutes a preventive strategy against violence against women. It is widely recognised that in order to combat violence against women it is necessary also to address men in general and specifically all the violent men, both those who are identified by the criminal justice system at whatever level, and those who are not.

## **V. Public awareness and the media**

### **Indicator 13**

13. Has a code of conduct concerning violence against women been drawn up for media professionals?

### ***Definition***

A **Code of conduct** is a set of principles, related to procedures ensuring transparency and inclusiveness and to style of behaviour, which are grounded in respect for differences, gender equality, openness for dialogue, and commitment to values of truthfulness, participation and justice. Such a code indicates the standards of expected behaviour of professionals.

### ***Reference to the Recommendation***

Paragraph 20 of the appendix provides that member states should encourage the elaboration of codes of conduct for media professionals, which would take into account the issue of violence against women and, in the terms of reference of media watch organisations, existing or to be established, encourage the inclusion of tasks dealing with issues concerning violence against women and sexism.

### ***Importance***

Elaboration of codes of conduct for media professionals and in the terms of reference of media watch organisations is very important because of the considerable influence of the media on public awareness and on attitudes towards violence against women. The information collected by the Group suggests that existing codes of conduct in the media only very rarely address this issue at all. No examples were identified in any of the member states of the Council of Europe. Thus, it would be an important indicator of progress towards media awareness if there were a specific code of conduct with reference to violence against women and more generally to sexism, or if these issues are explicitly included in a code of conduct for media professionals.

---

## **Indicator 14**

14. Is there a body serving as a media watch dealing with issues concerning violence against women and sexism as well as with stereotyped portrayal of women?

### ***Definitions***

**Sexism** is negative discrimination against people based on their assumed or presumed sexual identity. It represents a set of attitudes and behaviour that judge or belittle people on the basis of their gender, or that perpetuate stereotypical assumptions about gender roles. It includes discrimination based on gender, especially discrimination against women, as well as attitudes, conditions or behaviour that promote stereotyping of social roles based on gender.

**Media watch** is an organisation or body working to eliminate discriminatory barriers (freedom of expression, sexism, gender stereotypes, etc.) in the media. A specific body that watches over the situation in the media can be developed on different levels (national, regional, communal) and stages (state or communal governance, NGOs).

**Stereotyped portrayal of women** means the representation of women in highly restricted roles and behaviour patterns associated with a low social value; such portrayals suggest that women deserve less respect than men and that they provoke whatever punishment they receive. In a fully democratic Europe, women should be realistically portrayed and equitably represented in all their physical, economic, racial and cultural diversity, with all their abilities, self-confidence and career aspirations.

### ***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraphs 17 to 19 of the appendix provides that member states should: (17) encourage the media to promote a non-stereotyped image of women and men on respect for human person and human dignity and to avoid programmes associating violence and sex, including, as far as possible, in the field of the new information technologies; (18) encourage the media to participate in information campaigns to alert the general public to violence against women; (19) encourage the organisation of training to inform media professionals and alert them to the possible consequences of programmes that associate violence and sex.

### ***Importance***

Media reporting can be very influential in the society, positively and/or negatively. The media very often perpetuate myths about violence against women and promote gender stereotypes. In European broadcasting and printed media, various mechanisms have been developed to monitor, review and regulate the operation of media. These mechanisms can be used to counter myths and stereotypes as well as the depiction of violence against women as a stimulus to attract attention.

Responses to this indicator should specify whether existing media watch give attention only to one of the above issues, or whether a body with broader catchment exists.

## VI. Education and training

### **Indicator 15**

15. Have there been any programmes or activities to educate children in the public schools about violence against women within the past two years?

#### ***Definition***

**Programmes or activities to educate children** means special courses or lessons on issues related to violence and to gender equality aiming to raise awareness at an early stage on various forms of violence against women and their consequences. These programmes should also teach children how to react and how and where to find assistance.

#### ***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph 3 *d* of the appendix provides that member states should introduce, develop and/or improve where necessary, national policies against violence based on:

...

*d.* raising of public awareness and education of children and young persons.

Paragraphs 14 to 16 of the appendix provide that member states should: (14) introduce or reinforce a gender perspective in human rights education programmes, and reinforce sex education programmes that give special importance to gender equality and mutual respect; (15) ensure that both boys and girls receive a basic education that avoids social and cultural patterns, prejudices and stereotyped roles for the sexes and includes training in assertiveness skills, with special attention to young people in difficulty at school; train all members of the teaching profession to integrate the concept of gender equality in their teaching; and (16) include specific information in school curricula on the rights of children, help-lines, institutions where they can seek help and persons they can turn to in confidence.

Paragraph 64 of the appendix, which concerns additional measures with regard to genital mutilation, provides that member states should organise information and prevention campaigns aimed at the population groups concerned, in particular immigrants and refugees, on the health risks to victims and the criminal penalties for perpetrators.

#### ***Importance***

Overall the Recommendation emphasises that boys and girls must receive a basic education on gender equality, and that specific information on the rights of children should be included in school curricula. This is essential for prevention and long-term change.

Education on violence against women at an early stage is important to prepare young people for the possibility of encountering violence and make them aware that “no man has the right” to use violence. Early education may possibly prevent violent behaviour in the future. It is also an important aspect of prevention if pupils are aware of the forms of violence and are empowered to denounce it and/or find assistance.

**Indicator 16**

16. Which of the following groups of professionals receive appropriate specific training on violence against women, prevention and intervention?

	Initial vocational training	Further education
Police	_____	_____
Lawyers	_____	_____
Judges	_____	_____
Social workers	_____	_____
Physicians	_____	_____
Psychologists and therapists	_____	_____
Nurses and midwives	_____	_____
School teachers	_____	_____
Pre-school teachers	_____	_____
Media professionals	_____	_____

**Definitions**

**Specific training on violence** means training that includes concept of gender, all forms of violence, the situation of victims, their coping and their support needs, influence of violence on health, appropriate tools for identification of victims of violence, and means for securing evidence of violence. It includes, for some groups of professionals, methods of consultation, rehabilitation, and/or reintegration into society.

**Initial vocational training** means the academic course of education normally required to enter a profession and which should include specific training on violence offered to all students of the mentioned professional groups, including basic elements to make them aware of the different topics.

**Further education** means specific training received after initial vocational training and/or at different stages of the professional life, including more in depth education, specifically on methods of prevention and intervention.

**References to the Recommendation**

Paragraph 3 e of the appendix provides that member states should introduce, develop and/or improve where necessary, national policies against violence based on:

...

e. ensuring special training for professionals confronted with violence against women.

Paragraphs 8 to 11 of the appendix provide that member states should: (8) include in the basic training programmes of members of the police force, judicial personnel and the medical and social fields, elements concerning the treatment of domestic violence, as well as all other forms of violence affecting women; (9) include information and training in the vocational training programmes of these personnel so as to give them the means to detect and manage crisis situations and improve the manner in which victims are received, listened to and counselled; (10) encourage the participation of these personnel in specialised training programmes, by integrating the latter in a merit-awarding scheme; and (11) encourage the inclusion of questions concerning violence against women in the training of judges.

---

### ***Importance***

The Recommendation considered it essential to increase the level of knowledge among all relevant professional groups. Training is also important to raise awareness and change attitudes regarding violence against women. Indicator 16 is a tool to measure improvements of the implementation of the recommendation in this field.

It might be advisable that at least initial training be organised on a compulsory basis, and for the effectiveness of initial training and of further education, both should have a sufficient duration, adapted to each professional group.

## **VII. Data collection and research**

### **Indicator 17**

17 Do police statistics systematically record in standardised categories according to criminal offences?

- sex of victim,
- sex of perpetrator,
- relationship of perpetrator to victim

If so, are they available in a national report?

### ***Definition***

**Police statistics** means systematic collection of data on all criminal offences that are reported to the police.

### ***References to Recommendation***

Paragraph V of the Recommendation provides that the governments of member states should promote research, data collection and networking at national and international level.

Paragraph 5 of the appendix states that research, data collection and networking at national and international level should be developed, in particular in the following fields:

a. the preparation of statistics sorted by gender, integrated statistics and common indicators in order to better evaluate the scale of violence against women;

...

g. the elaboration of criteria for benchmarking in the field of violence.

Paragraph 6 of the appendix provides that member states should compile and make available to the general public appropriate information concerning the different types of violence and their consequences for victims, including integrated statistical data, using all the available media (press, radio and television, etc.).

### ***Importance***

Police statistics are collected in most member states and are primarily based upon information about the criminal offence at the first reporting of the case to the police. The statistics vary very much between the different countries. Most criminal statistics routinely include data about offence by penal code and may include data about the legal decisions of the recorded cases.

Some countries have established statistics both on offender and victims and report data by age groups, relationship between victim and offender and place of occurrence of violence. All of this information is necessary to evaluate the scale of violence against women in its various forms.

Police statistics/criminal statistics that include such data make it possible to describe the trend in reported violence against women, and the current profile of victims and offenders. Statistical reporting also contributes to raising awareness within the police and in the public.

### **Indicator 18**

18. Is there systematic medical data collection on contacts made with health care services identified as due to violence inflicted to women?

#### ***Definition***

**Systematic medical data collection** means registration of contacts to hospitals, emergency departments, general practitioners or other physicians in private practice, using international classifications to identify the reason for contact to health care services (illness, accident, violence or self-inflicted harm) and the specific diagnosis (type and location of lesions). Registration may include data about place of occurrence and mechanism of injury.

#### ***References to the Recommendation***

Paragraph V of the Recommendation provides that the governments of member states should promote research, data collection and networking at national and international level.

Paragraph 5 of the appendix states that research, data collection and networking at national and international level should be developed, in particular in the following fields:

- ...
- b.* the medium- and long-term consequences of assaults on victims;
- ...
- d.* the health, social and economic costs of violence against women;
- ...
- g.* the elaboration of criteria for benchmarking in the field of violence.

Paragraph 6 of the appendix provides that member states should compile and make available to the general public appropriate information concerning the different types of violence and their consequences for victims, including integrated statistical data, using all the available media (press, radio and television, etc.).

#### ***Importance***

Some member states collect systematically data about health care contacts to national or regional hospitals by sex and age. WHO's International Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems and the Classification of External Causes of Injuries make it possible to register the specific injuries, whether they are caused by violence and the place of occurrence of the injuries (for example, in the home).

Systematic medical data collection facilitates evaluation of the medium- and long-term consequences of violence, and of the health and economic costs of violence against women.

Systematic collection of medical data is well fitted to establishing criteria for bench marking – and to monitoring trends in violence against women.

### **Indicator 19**

19. Are questions on violence against women integrated in a regular national representative survey?

#### ***Definition***

**Survey**, in the context of indicator 19, means a nationally representative study on issues such as health, well-being or quality of life, either based upon face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews or self-administered questionnaires, and which includes questions on violence among other topics.

#### ***References to Recommendation***

Paragraph V of the Recommendation provides that the governments of member states should promote research, data collection and networking at national and international level.

Paragraph 5 of the appendix states that research, data collection and networking at national and international level should be developed, in particular in the following fields:

- ...
- b. the medium- and long-term consequences of assaults on victims;
- ...
- e. the assessment of the efficiency of the judiciary and legal systems in combating violence against women;
- ...
- g. the elaboration of criteria for benchmarking in the field of violence.

Paragraph 6 of the appendix provides that member states should compile and make available to the general public appropriate information concerning the different types of violence and their consequences for victims, including integrated statistical data, using all the available media (press, radio and television, etc.).

#### ***Importance***

Most member states conduct regularly (either annually or at wider time intervals) surveys to describe the living conditions and/or the health status of the population. An example is the European Survey on Living Conditions. General victimisation surveys can also provide a framework for data collection on violence against women.

In some countries a limited number of standardised questions on violence experienced during the last 12 months by type of assault and relationship between victim and offender are included in such surveys. However, sexual assaults are seldom included.

Some national health interview surveys have also included information about different types of violence. These data can be linked to other information in the surveys, e.g. socio-economic status, living conditions, health, health behaviour and use of the health care system, which make it possible to analyse the medium- and long-term consequences of violence and causes of this violence.

---

**Indicator 20**

20. Has there been a national representative survey focussing on the prevalence and effects of all forms of violence against women? When?

**Definition**

**Survey**, in the context of indicator 20, means a nationally representative study either based upon face-to-face interviews, telephone interviews or self-administered questionnaires that focus upon violence against women or on women's safety.

**References to the Recommendation**

Paragraph V of the Recommendation provides that the governments of member states should promote research, data collection and networking at national and international level.

Paragraph 5 of the appendix states that research, data collection and networking at national and international level should be developed, in particular in the following fields:

- b. the medium- and long-term consequences of assaults on victims;
- c. the consequence of violence on those who are witness to it, *inter alia*, within the family;
- d. the health, social and economic costs of violence against women;
- ...
- g. the elaboration of criteria for benchmarking in the field of violence.

Paragraph 6 of the appendix provides that member states should compile and make available to the general public appropriate information concerning the different types of violence and their consequences for victims, including integrated statistical data, using all the available media (press, radio and television, etc.).

**Importance**

A number of member states have conducted surveys on violence against women. The explicit focus can be violence, safety or women's well-being. Such surveys illuminate current and former prevalence of any gender based violence (physical violence by type of violence, threats of physical violence, sexual assault/sexual abuse, restriction of freedom and other psychological violence).

These population based surveys are conducted either as face-to-face interviews, by telephone interviews or by self-administered questionnaires, and may illuminate the self-reported aspects of violence against women and the self-reported consequences, as well as help-seeking and victim's experience with the responses of agencies and institutions to violence.



**PART III**

**SELECTED EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE**



## INTRODUCTION

The Group of Specialists EG-S-MV had among its tasks to assist member states to elaborate and/or implement concrete policies and practical methods to combat violence against women, and to this end, on the request of the CDEG, it decided to propose examples of good practice<sup>9</sup>.

The Group would like to underscore that the proposed examples are not exhaustive, but based on information given by the CDEG members and the knowledge of the experts of the Group. Their aim is to illustrate what has been done in some countries, and not to describe “best” practices.

Within these limits, as far as possible the examples reflect the diversity of the member states of the Council of Europe, which implies that each example is not convenient for all member states.

The examples below are organised according to the seven sub-headings of the monitoring framework, but there is not a one-to-one correspondence between indicators and examples, as some good practices address more than one indicator, and the Group did not locate examples of all the indicators.

## EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

### I. General indicators

#### I.1 Action Plans

Based on the results of a questionnaire sent to all member states, it could be seen<sup>10</sup> that in 2003 few countries had a comprehensive “**Plan of Action**” addressing protection of women against all forms of violence. Such a plan should explicitly name both (measurable) goals and some steps or actions by which these goals can be achieved; it should determine agencies that have the responsibility and the competence to take these steps; it should be clear that the government actually has the means to initiate or require some actions, or, alternatively, name other social actors that will do so. Ideally, there should be a timetable and a monitoring mechanism, and information about the budget resources being provided. Since the time of the questionnaire further Action Plans have been published; here only earlier examples have been taken.

#### *Examples*

**Germany** published its Plan of Action to combat violence against women in 1999, covering social prevention, legislation, institutional co-operation on the local and national level, networking of support services, programmes for perpetrators and awareness-raising. The structure is more complex than in more centralized countries, and the process of implementation is described as a multistage cooperation between different government levels, independent experts and active NGO’s. Legislation is an important focus. There are measures to strengthen the cooperation networks of NGO’s as well as various levels of organized interface between state and NGO activities. Particular attention is given to the difficulties of migrant women, trafficked women and refugees, as well as to other vulnerable

<sup>9</sup> See Introduction to this report, last paragraph.

<sup>10</sup> See Part I of this report « Analytical study of the protection of women in the member states of the Council of Europe, Part A, 2 and 3, and Part B.

groups such as women with disabilities. This Plan covers a large proportion of the area of the Recommendation and is relatively comprehensive in scope.

The **United Kingdom** presented, in its 1999 program document “Living without fear”, a new approach towards violence against women. Domestic violence, rape and sexual assault are now being addressed within the government Crime Reduction Programme, which has one of the highest priorities in government policy and a correspondingly significant budget. (Notably, the Plan of Action is issued jointly by the minister for Women and the Home Secretary). The structure of the plan is very informative: Each chapter describes what others, such as local authorities or NGO’s, are doing towards the objective, proceeds to give examples of good practice (“building on what we know works”), and then specifies “What the government is adding”, including funding for innovative projects to meet gaps in services, issuing guidelines, or creating a transparent system of funding for refuges, rape crisis and support centres in the programme “Supporting People”. This highly elaborated and very readable presentation is well suited to monitoring, since the measures in planning are accompanied by a clear picture of the current situation and the other actors. Overall, this plan reflects a “bottom-up” rather than a “top-down” approach, while at the same time strongly committing the government to specific responsibilities and budgets. It covers very many areas of the recommendation.

## **1.2 Monitoring**

Documenting and monitoring the implementation of the various elements of an action plan is vital to success in the protection of women from violence. Changing routine practice in public authorities and agencies and implementing innovations is usually a long-term process. This should be backed by on-going monitoring, because both individuals and organisations have the tendency to revert to habitual behaviour patterns. Ideally, key elements of implementation should be scientifically evaluated. Careful documentation over time is valuable in identifying weaknesses and structural problems. It is advisable to have an independent agency or mediator outside each organization to secure monitoring and feedback, identify obstacles to implementation and encourage participation in change.

### ***Examples***

The **German** Government included in its first five-year action plan a program of evaluation research over a six-year period. It was directed at evaluating “intervention projects” addressing domestic violence, and thus did not cover all of the activities under the action plan, but a central focal element thereof. The “intervention projects”, first tested as a model project in Berlin and then extended to cities and states throughout Germany, are institutionalised cooperative alliances that work on an interdisciplinary and inter-institutional basis, bringing together representatives of all agencies, institutions, projects and professions that encounter domestic violence. The goal is to ensure an interlinked and unbroken “intervention chain” so that every woman who is identified as a victim has access to the protection and support as needed, and perpetrators are called to account.

The six-year evaluation research monitored the co-operation process itself and gave feedback to the coordinating bodies. It evaluated in-service police training programs by surveying participants as well as questioning women on their experience with police attendance, and analysed nearly a thousand case records in two specialized prosecution units. New, pro-active and mobile support services for women were set up, and the evaluation research, analysing case documents and surveying women, could monitor acceptance and identify new target groups being reached, as well as describing obstacles requiring further development. Eight perpetrator programs could be evaluated via client and group reporting forms and some interviews with the partners; access to the programs included both voluntary and court-mandated clients, and these could be compared. Finally,

the on-going evaluation process with annual workshops and numerous dissemination activities was a dynamic element in expanding the involvement of agencies and professions in the effort to protect women against all forms of violence, since the links between domestic violence and other forms were increasingly brought out in the coordination of activities. The results of the evaluation have been made available on the internet in full (in German) with an English language summary ([www.bmfsfj.de](http://www.bmfsfj.de), full reports under →Forschungsnetz →Forschungsberichte)

## **II. Legislation and judicial procedure**

Numerous actions have been taken in the member states to penalize all forms of violence against women and to ensure police recording and investigation, prosecution and court protective orders. Depending on previous legal traditions and institutions, the innovative steps forward have taken different forms, and in many cases, several aspects of the indicators were regulated in one law. Therefore, the following examples of recent improvements in judicial and police practice are presented by country. They illustrate different options.

### **II.1 Austria**

#### ***Protection from violence act:***

With the enactment of the Federal Act on Protection against Violence in the Family ("Protection from Violence Act") on May 1, 1997, a set of legal provisions for quick and effective protective measures for victims of domestic violence was introduced. The law provides for three measures:

1. police expulsion of the person posing a threat from the residence and its vicinity, combined with a ban against returning for ten days (barring order);
2. on application by the victim, a civil court injunction extending the ban;
3. rapid and proactive social intervention to inform and support the victim and counsel her in securing her future safety.

All three elements were introduced together, and are obligated to work together.

#### **Barring Order by the Police Authorities:**

Police officers are authorized to expel a (potential) perpetrator from the home and to issue a barring order (paragraph 38a Security Police Act/*Sicherheitspolizeigesetz*). Barring orders are issued if "a dangerous assault on a person's life, health or freedom appears imminent". These security police provisions apply to all persons living in a home, regardless of ownership or whether they are related to one another. The decision on imposing eviction and barring orders lies exclusively with the police, showing that domestic violence is no longer perceived as a private "conflict".

Each barring order is to be reviewed by security police organs within 48 hours. Compliance with barring orders has to be checked by the police at least once within the first three days. The order is valid for a maximum of 10 days.

The number of bans per year has risen steadily since introduction of the model, as police training to use the tool has spread and intervention centres became established. In 2001 3283 barring orders were issued. In about 75% of cases the police also record a criminal

complaint, since in Austrian law all levels of assault are a matter for the public prosecutor. Less than 3% of bans are contested in court and lifted; in less than 15% of cases are violations of the ban recorded. About one third of the victims apply for a court injunction to extend the police ban.

### Proactive support and counselling

When intervening, the police officers are required to inform the victim about protection facilities. The police must contact the Intervention Centre with full information on the intervention within 24 hours. Intervention centres advise the victim on how to obtain a court option, application for a court order extends the police ban to 20 days, allowing the victim time for further steps to secure her safety.

These measures are based on civil law and independent of criminal prosecution. The police ban is founded on the police mandate to protect the life and safety of citizens; it is a preventive measure that the police are required to take when there is reasonable ground to suppose a threat of violence in the home. A previous assault creates a high probability of such a threat, but neither the police ban nor the court injunction requires evidence for criminal prosecution.

The decision to issue a ban is made by the police on site, without regard to the wishes of the victim, and for the fixed period of ten days. Violation of the ban is punishable. Thus, a woman threatened with (further) abuse has no choice about whether or how long the man is expelled. If the ban is respected (as it is in the great majority of cases) she has a ten-day period during which the abuser cannot easily pressure and intimidate her. Beyond this, it is her decision whether to allow the perpetrator back into the home.

Data from Vienna indicate that expulsion from the residence is a measure applied by the police in one quarter of the calls to situations of domestic violence. Thus, the ban is used extensively, but selectively, and is an effective intervention; the same can be said of the option to apply for a court injunction. However, a police ban cannot protect a woman against severe threats. The demand for shelter in a refuge has not decreased, but increased, as many women cannot be sure they are safe even with a ban in place, and others are encouraged to seek help without calling the police.

### Interim Injunction by Family Courts:

If the victim applies to a local Family Court for an interim injunction within the set term, the order is prolonged for a maximum of 20 days. Only close relatives may apply for an interim injunction and only if they live in the same household with the perpetrator or have done so during the last 3 months before filing the petition.

The family court has to issue an interim injunction, banning the perpetrator from the home of the person at risk (even if it is their common home) and from the immediate vicinity, if the situation makes life or the encounter with the perpetrator intolerable for the victim and the victim urgently needs somewhere to live. Moreover, the court may, upon request, forbid the presence of the perpetrator at certain locations (workplace of the woman, kindergarten/school) and further forbid him to establish any form of contact with the victim, as long as this is not prejudicial to the perpetrators gravest interests.

An interim injunction is valid for a maximum period of 3 months. If a family-law action is brought against the perpetrator within this period, e.g. a divorce suit, the interim injunction may remain effective until the suit is closed.

---

### Legal provisions for the protection of victims in cases of sexual violence

By Austrian law, during all official proceedings or the supply of information to third parties the victim's identity and her or his individual rights are to be safeguarded. In this context the media law holds protective provisions including claims for damages if these rights are violated.

During police investigation female victims of violence have the right to be interviewed by a female officer.

In the course of criminal proceedings against domestic or sexual violence offences, the victim is entitled to ask for a considerate interrogation before the examining magistrate to spare her the need to testify again during trial. In the course of this interrogation, the accused, his defending counsel and the public prosecutor need to be given the opportunity to ask questions. Upon request of the victim, the interrogation may be videotaped in such a way that the witness does not have to be questioned in the same room as the accused. Victims of sexual violence under the age of 14 shall be interrogated in such a way even without having to file a petition. Moreover, each victim may refuse to give evidence, if the accused is a relative.

## **II.2 Cyprus**

Due to the increase in recent years in public sensitivity to the phenomena of domestic violence, the Cyprus House of Representatives enacted in 1994 specific legislation to deal with this problem. This was the Violence in the Family (Prevention and Protection of Victims) Law which was replaced in July 2002 by a new law incorporating important new provisions.

The aim of this law is to remedy the weaknesses of available judicial and administrative procedures in the handling of cases of domestic violence and also to provide for the necessary support and assistance to the victims.

This law provides for the specific offence of violence in the family. "Violence" means any unlawful act or behaviour or omission by a member of the family which results in direct physical, sexual or mental injury to another member of the family. The law explicitly states that violence within the family is an aggravating factor leading to a severer penalty than for other forms of violent crime punishable under the common Criminal Code. The punishment for indecent assault on females was increased from two to five years, for the offence of causing grievous bodily harm from seven to ten years, for wounding and similar acts from three to four years and for common assault from one to two years. The law clarifies that rape within marriage carries the same penalty as rape committed outside marriage i.e. up to life imprisonment.

For the purposes of this law the term "family" is interpreted widely to include legally married persons irrespective of whether the marriage still exists, those cohabiting or who have cohabited as husband and wife, as well as all the children of the household.

The law recognises the impact of domestic violence on children in a provision which states that any act of violence committed in the presence of a child of the family is considered as violence against that child, likely to cause psychological injury, and that this is also an offence punishable with up to 5 years imprisonment.

In Cyprus the primary responsibility for initiating criminal prosecutions lies with the Attorney-General. A specialized team of prosecutors at the office of the Attorney General have been assigned to deal with these cases. All officers of government departments like the police, the

social workers, teachers, even doctors, psychologists and psychiatrists to whose attention comes a case of domestic violence have an obligation, as this is a criminal offence, to submit a report within 7 days to the Attorney General. The team then examines the reports and gives directions for their appropriate handling. Since June 1998 almost all cases for which there was sufficient evidence, even the less serious ones, were taken to court.

Domestic violence is considered to be an offence against the state. The spouse is a competent and also a compellable witness if the offence is committed against other members of the family. In particular, when physical or psychological violence is exercised against a wife in the presence of the children, the wife is required to give evidence under the threat of being prosecuted herself, if she refuses, for contempt of court or for giving a contradictory statement. Provisions have been included to guarantee confidentiality in the investigation and trial. This is important especially in a small country like Cyprus where everybody knows everybody else. The law now provides that the delivery, receipt or publication of any statement of a victim or witness in a case of domestic violence by any unauthorised person is punishable with up to five years imprisonment. Disclosure of the name or address, or any other information that may give away the identity of the victim or perpetrator, is punishable with two years imprisonment or a fine or both.

According to the law the complaint of a victim is taken by a police officer of the same sex. This aims to make female victims and children more comfortable giving an account of, especially, sexual violence. Children are not asked to give a statement to the police or evidence in court if this can be avoided. Under certain conditions evidence may be given by video recording.

Even before the filing of a criminal case against the perpetrator the Court may, upon application by a member of the family, the police, the prosecutor, or a Family Counsellor issue an interim restraining order, prohibiting the aggressor from entering the marital home, or a removal/care order of the minor victim.

Under the law Family Counsellors, who are welfare officers appointed by the Minister of Labour and Social Insurance, are involved in the investigation and prosecution of a case. They are also granted powers necessary for the more effective protection of the victim such as counselling the family, receiving complaints, filing a complaint before the Police, making arrangements for the immediate medical examination of the complainant with or even without the consent of the parents under certain conditions, carrying out investigations as to the financial state of the family and the making of arrangements for the accommodation of the perpetrator in cases a restraining order against him is contemplated.

### **II.3 Ireland**

***The Criminal Law (Rape) (Amendment Act) of 1990*** represents a significant improvement in the legal protection afforded to victims of sexual assault. It signifies that it is viewed by government as serious crime. It abolishes certain rules which were regarded as offensive to women:

- Removes the marital exemption i.e. abolishes the rule that a husband cannot be found guilty of raping his wife;
- Creates two new offences: aggravated sexual assault and rape under section 4 of the Act which includes penetration of the anus or mouth by the penis or penetration of the vagina by any object held or manipulated by another person (offences of penetration which were not included within the traditional definition of rape). Each of these carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment;



- Abolishes the common law rule by which a boy under 14 years was presumed to be incapable of sexual intercourse;
- Abolishes the rule which made it mandatory for the judge in trials for sexual offences to warn the jury of convicting on the uncorroborated evidence of the complainant;
- Provides for all serious sexual assaults to be tried in the Central Criminal Court (the highest criminal court);
- Provides for the exclusion of the public but not the press for trials in cases of rape and sexual assault – with certain exceptions;
- Extends the restrictions on cross examination about previous sexual history to other sexual offences defined within the Act;
- Extends evidential and anonymity provisions to all victims of sexual assault – previously limited to rape.

**Criminal Evidence Act 1992** provides for the giving of evidence through a television link in cases involving a sexual offence or violence and for the introduction in court of video recordings of statements made by persons under 14 years in cases involving a sexual offence or in cases involving violence. It also sets out the circumstances in which a spouse/former spouse is competent and compellable to give evidence.

**Criminal Justice Act 1993** enables appeal against unduly lenient punishments and places an obligation on the court when determining sentences for sexual and violent crimes to take into account the effect on the victim. It also empowers the court to order the convicted person to pay compensation.

## II.4 Sweden

### ***“Women’s Peace” Legislation***

A new offence, gross violation of a woman's integrity, was introduced into the Penal Code in 1997. It deals with repeated punishable acts directed by men against women who have or have had a close relationship with the perpetrator. “Gross violation of a woman's integrity” means that if a man commits certain criminal acts (assault, unlawful threat or coercion, sexual or other molestation, sexual exploitation, et cetera) against a woman to whom he is or has been married or with whom he is or has been cohabiting, he shall be sentenced for gross violation of the woman's integrity, instead of for each single offence he has committed. A necessary condition for sentencing for the new offence is that the acts were part of a repeated violation of the woman's integrity and were intended to damage seriously her self-confidence. The new crime makes it possible for the courts to increase the penal value of these offences in situations where they are part of a process that constitutes a violation of integrity, which is often the case in domestic violence. It will thus also be possible to take the entire situation of the abused woman into account. The penalty is imprisonment for a minimum of six months and a maximum of six years. The new crime does not exclude the possibility of the perpetrator simultaneously being indicted for, for instance, aggravated assault or rape.

## II.5 Switzerland

### ***The law on assistance for victims***

In 1984, a new Article 64b (now Article 124) was added to the Constitution of Switzerland requiring the Confederation and cantons to provide assistance to persons who have suffered physical, psychological or sexual harm. The Assistance to Victims of Offences Act (LAVI),

which came into force in 1993, provides for assistance in the form of advice, protection and the defence of the victim's rights in criminal proceedings, as well as compensation and non-pecuniary damages. Such assistance is available to anyone who has suffered direct physical, sexual or psychological harm as the result of an offence, whether or not the perpetrator has been identified and whether or not that person's behaviour was blameworthy. Victim assistance was not specifically designed for women, the aim of the Act being to improve the position of victims, particularly of victims of sexual violence, in criminal proceedings. It is intended to ensure that victims are more willing to report offences.

Under the title "Protection of the rights of victims in criminal proceedings", the Act requires the authorities to protect a victim's privacy and reputation at all stages of the proceedings. Victims, who have a limited right to remain silent so as to protect their privacy, may refuse to testify on matters concerning their private life. Victims have a right for their identity not to be made public. If the offence is a sexual one, the victim has the right for the case to be heard in camera. Cases are heard in camera wherever the overriding interests of the victim so require. Furthermore, the authorities avoid placing the accused in the presence of the victim if the latter so requests.

A confrontation may only be ordered where the accused's right to be heard or the overriding interests of the criminal proceedings make this absolutely necessary. Victims of sexual offences may ask to be questioned by someone of the same sex (LAVI, Article 6, paragraph 3) and request that the court which hears the case should include at least one person of their own sex (LAVI, Article 10).

Under certain conditions, all victims of offences committed in Switzerland may request compensation and non-pecuniary damages from the relevant cantonal department.

Compensation (between 500 and 100,000 Swiss francs) is calculated according to the harm suffered and the victim's income. Non-pecuniary damages, on the other hand, are not dependent on income and are paid if the victim has been the subject of a serious offence and special circumstances so warrant (cf LAVI, Article 12, paragraph 2).

The Assistance to Victims of Offences Act requires the cantons to make at least one advice centre available to victims of offences. Some refuges for battered women have been entrusted with this task, thus combining the provision of safe accommodation with compensation and counselling. Advice centres provide victims with immediate medical, psychological, social, material and legal assistance and, where necessary, continue to do so for a relatively prolonged period. The services provided directly by advice centres and the immediate assistance provided by third parties are free of charge. Where the personal situation of victims so warrants, the centres also pay other expenses (lawyers' fees, for example). In 1997 and 1998, 76% of those who received assistance from the cantonal advice centres were women. In most cases (around three-quarters) they were victims of sex offences or bodily injury. Thirteen advice centres in nine cantons are specifically aimed for women and children who have been the victims of sexual assault.

### **III. Support and protection for victims**

The need for supporting services differs according to types of violence. While the women escaping domestic violence typically require a high degree of protection and a safe temporary residence (refuge), sexual assault and rape require immediate medical attention to secure the necessary evidence for prosecution, as well as psychological support; only a minority of rape victims is unable to return home safely. Thus refuges and rape crisis centers have developed differently. However, there are also models, such as the Swedish National

Center for Battered and Raped Women, where the two functions are combined. In the new democracies that have only recently begun to address these issues, protection of women from domestic violence is sometimes linked with protection of victims of trafficking or with child protection. Thus, there are different pathways towards providing women with optimal support and assistance. Recognition that children need special services when they have witnessed violence against their mothers is very recent and few examples were located.

### **III.1 Ukraine: Shelters**

The development of women's organisations as subject of societal activities and support of needs of women emerged in 1990 after democratic elections and the independence of Ukraine in 1991. Ukraine has a population of 48 mln. of whom 22 mln. are women aged over 15. The first Women's Centre began operation as a consultative centre for victims of domestic violence in March 1998 in Kyiv. This Kyiv City Women Centre is an example of efforts aimed at co-operation and coordination of women's communities and the City Administration. In 2000 there were only 2 shelters in Ukraine in the biggest cities Kyiv and Kharkiv with a total number of 25 beds. By the end of 2004 the Ukrainian governmental and non-governmental organizations operated and supported **shelters** in 11 cities (143 beds). These shelters work 24 hours a day with free services which include accommodation (from 2 beds in small town to 26 in industrial Kharkiv), medical help, legal consultation, psychological consultation and sometimes social support. The purpose of these shelters is helping women who suffer from domestic violence. Since IOM in Ukraine established in 2002 a special shelter for victims of trafficking all other shelters except one in the city of Dubno admit only victims of domestic violence. In these shelters not only women but their children can stay if they also need a safe temporary place.

Women can get legal or psychological consultations by **hotline**, which operates in several places 24 hours a day. At the present time 9 officially registered hotlines work in Ukrainian cities.

On bases of hospital, NGO and Social service premises women's organizations have established 21 **Crisis Women Centres** or **Centres of Rehabilitation of domestic violence victims**. 11 such Centres support women by psychological, legal and medical consultations. 10 others don't give medical support but they provide additionally to legal and psychological the vocational education and training. Almost all of these centres carried out trainings for women "Violence Prevention", "Women's Leadership", "Trafficking Prevention" and "Self-help groups".

### **III.2 Germany: Intervention projects**

The "joint overall strategy" approach in Germany was first tested in a model project for the city of Berlin beginning in 1996, in which the municipal and state levels of government coincide. It has now been extended to numerous cities throughout Germany, and in a number of states these strategies are linked on a state-wide co-ordination level. These "intervention projects" are institutionalized cooperative alliances that work on an inter-institutional and interdisciplinary basis. They try to bring together representatives of all agencies, institutions, projects and professions in a given region that work specifically with domestic violence or carry social responsibility for it. Participants do not take part as individuals but as delegates sent and mandated by their institutions. They aim not only to improve practice by incorporating interdisciplinary knowledge, but to develop a common understanding of domestic violence between and within institutions that coordinate procedures on this basis.

Intervention projects constitute a very flexible approach to mobilizing all resources and good will that can be mobilized in a specific community. They strengthen the position of NGO's by creating a forum where agreements with statutory agencies on measures are reached by consensus. While they can, on the one hand, improve the safety and services for women and their children on a very practical level, they are also able to produce qualified initiatives for legal and administrative measures. For example, the Berlin Intervention Project was able to reach agreement with immigration authorities that domestic violence be recognized as a "case of hardship" so that an immigrant woman who leaves a violent man must not be extradited. It was also initiative in drafting a legal strategy adapting the Austrian model to German conditions.

Due to the federal structure of Germany, police law is regulated on the state level, and social services on the level of local authorities, so that a transfer of the Austrian model required changes on all three levels and cooperation structures to ensure the interaction of the three essential elements. In 2002, the federal law on protection against violence was passed, which improved the option for civil injunctions; by prior agreement, the various states have re-examined and in many cases changed police laws to include a specific power to ban a person who poses a threat of violence from the home. Locally, intervention projects have worked to ensure close cooperation between police and social support services, and some states have specifically authorized intervention centres to be informed directly by the police of any expulsion or ban, so that they can offer outreach and proactive counselling to women who would not otherwise have sought support.

### **III.3 Denmark: "One Stop Rape Crisis Centres"**

In 1999, by a Parliamentary resolution the first centres for victims of rape and other sexual assaults were established in the national health care system in Denmark. By 2004, 8 centres are established, covering all regions of Denmark. The centre at the University Hospital in Copenhagen is the national research and information centre, which implement models of good practices for the care of rape victims in the other centres, in the health care system in general and among the relevant professionals, including the police and the social services. The centre regularly conducts teaching multidisciplinary teaching seminars and workshops.

The Centres for Rape Victims provide care, medical treatment, medico-legal and psychosocial examinations and treatment, as well as guidance as to the legal consequences of police reporting.

It can be extremely difficult to maintain the balance between on the one hand, conducting a thorough examination of the victim, administering treatment and securing optimal evidence, and on the other hand, ensuring that the woman does not perceive the emergency examination as yet another assault, thus causing her greater anxiety and distress. Much of the centre's research therefore aims to find ways in which examination, treatment and securing of evidence can be coordinated as individually as possible, while simultaneously thoroughly describing and implementing routines, such that the staff have the extra capacity needed to conduct individual examinations, counselling and treatment.

Training aims to ensure that any medical doctor is able to examine victims of sexual assault, secure adequate biological evidence of assault, and write documentation that can be used in current or future police investigation, based on a description of the sequence of events and a full-body examination of the victim.

---

### ***The practices at the rape centre at the University Hospital***

The centre is open for all adult victims of sexual assaults, 15 years+. Children are examined in a centre for child sexual abuse victims in the Paediatric Department. Any woman (or man) can contact the centre at any hour, independently of police reporting or no reporting. In cases of police reporting, the police see to that the victim is transported to the centre for medical examination and care.

The centre has a multi-disciplinary team of professionals, including gynaecologists, nurses, psychologists and social workers. The examination and treatment of victims who contact the Centre involves on the one hand, minimizing the physical and psychological discomfort of the examination for the patient, and on the other, using the opportunity to collect physical evidence from the victim's clothes and body, in order to assist the police investigation.

The staff is trained to recognise reactions subsequent to sexual assault, and through conversation with, and assessment of the victim, to plan further steps with her. Particular care is taken to ensure before discharge that the victim has a safe and secure place to go to and if necessary, give the victim the opportunity to stay at the Centre until an appropriate friend or family member has been contacted.

The doctor team consists of a fulltime consultant doctor and a doctor in training. The latter participates in the daily work at the Centre, as well carrying out research as a PhD student, a clinical assistant or a similar position. Additionally, a team of 14 female doctors, who are either fully trained gynaecologists or are undergoing training, are on watch from 16.00hrs to 08.00hrs, as well as on 24-hour call during the weekends.

All victims are initially offered psychological and legal counselling. Most accept the offer of follow-ups at which the possible psychological consequences of the assault are treated and guidance offered concerning legal procedures and judicial support, including free access to legal counsel.

The medical treatment comprises treatment of acute lesions and is particularly targeted at treatment of potential sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy. Severe physical injuries are relatively rare, but incidents involving stabs, burn injuries or attempted strangulation often require emergency treatment. While the actual risk of infection through rape is relatively small in Denmark, the fear of being infected is great. Prophylactic treatment for Chlamydia, a vaccination (hepatitis B) or post-exposure prophylaxis for potential HIV are given when indicated.

When there is the smallest possibility of pregnancy, emergency contraception (Levonorgestrel) can be prescribed within 72 hours of the rape, but a coil (IUD) may be considered as a form of emergency contraception for up to 7 days after the rape.

### ***The medico-legal examination***

For legal action against the perpetrator, the victim's explanation and credibility, as well as medical documentation of force (lesions) will be of great importance for the outcome. DNA evidence of sperm, saliva and other biological material can be conclusive evidence when the perpetrator denies having any sexual contact with the woman, and this evidence is collected as soon as possible after the assault.

The victim's informed consent is a prerequisite to the medico-legal examination itself and to passing on the results to the police for use in the subsequent investigation, as the patient-doctor confidentiality contract normally prohibits this. If the victim chooses not to report, the

medico-legal examination is still offered and any samples taken kept in case the victim decides to report the crime later.

### ***Follow-up treatment and examination***

The initial emergency examination and treatment are often conducted in a situation where the woman is in shock, and a subsequent examination and talk with the patient are therefore conducted at the Centre a few days following the initial examination. The talk will usually focus on the course of events during the days immediately after the assault, and thereafter on the patient's immediate needs, including the need for psychological counselling and/or social counselling either at the Centre or in the victim's local area. A social worker will often participate in the session and future appointments are made. Additionally, the patient's legal rights are reiterated during the session and she is assigned a lawyer.

The patient and the staff review and revise the victim's treatment programme according to her needs, and she is further informed about results of swab tests, HIV tests and hepatitis tests conducted at the initial examination. Her physical, emotional and social situation and her security needs are addressed.

### **III.4 England: Services for children**

The first European refuge for women seeking protection from domestic violence was established in England in 1972. As the great majority of women seek shelter with a child or children, it was soon recognized that many of the children have been directly abused by the mother's violent husband or partner, and that all children suffer when they witness their mother exposed to psychological or physical violence.

In the early years, the main task of the refuge was seen as supporting women. In 1986, Women's Aid, the umbrella organisation of refuges, adopted a statement that children are independently affected by domestic violence, and in 1992 a Children's Rights policy was developed which set minimum standards for services for children in refuges. Specialized in-service training offered by Women's Aid federations includes such issues as non-violence policies and alternatives to physical punishment, working methods, child abuse and protection, anti-racism and health issues.

Today, most refuges in the UK employ a specialist children's worker and provide specific services for the children, typically of pre-school or primary school age, who live there temporarily (for periods ranging from overnight to over a year) with their mothers. Alongside skilled adult attention it has been found very important that children have the opportunity to talk to others with similar experiences. Childworkers have been developing methods that can enable children to talk about (or express indirectly) their feelings and experiences. Guided play, art and creative play are used to help children understand what has happened to them and why, to develop self-confidence and hope, and to come to terms both with the violence that they have experienced and with the upheavals in their lives that have followed from that.

To meet the emotional and practical needs of children, both individual and group work are offered. Children's meetings give children the opportunity to listen to each other, set their own ground rules, solve problems and voice issues and concerns. Many refuges also run structured workshops that have an educational function on specific topics such as bullying, anger, sexism, racism, keeping safe (from sexual abuse). Such workshops can be proactive, working on issues that the childworkers think important for all of children, or reactive, responding to things that are happening in the children's lives. Increasingly, positive play and

learning materials are available to help children understand problems of exclusion and domination in accessible language.

Childworkers also work with and sometimes through the mothers, involving them in play and planning activities. They recognize that there can be a conflict between the woman's interests and those of the child, and support the woman to meet the child's needs whenever possible, including encouragement to call on social work intervention if it is needed. In their advocacy for children they further cooperate with a wider network of agencies and institutions such as schools, health care, child protection agencies.

#### **IV. Perpetrator programs**

Programs aiming to change the behavior of the perpetrators of domestic violence are still relatively rare and not well documented in Europe.

##### **IV.1 Norway: Alternative to Violence**

Alternative to Violence (ATV) was started in 1987 as the first treatment-centre for men who use violence against their wives/partners in Northern Europe with funding from the state and from the city of Oslo. ATV now has three centres in Norway (Oslo, Drammen and Telemark) and employs 18 full-time psychologists/therapists. Each year about 300 men are treated. Since 1999 services are also offered for violent youths, for women who live with the men who seek treatment, for violent women and for children who have witnessed violence. Funding is predominantly from the central or local government with some support from private organizations and from a limited payment from the clients.

Co-operation with the shelter-movements and women organizations has existed from the outset; they are always represented in the board of ATV.

The methods of ATV combine:

1. psychotherapeutic (eclectic) principles
2. Specific knowledge of violence and safety planning
3. feminist perspective

Both individual and group therapy are available. The mean duration of individual therapy is 1 year, and mean duration for participation in group treatment is 2 years. The treatment is individually designed, which means that every man can attend as long as he needs in order to change.

98 % of clients are self referred and about 2% is referred either by criminal courts or by the criminal "omsorg".

ATV has been evaluated on three occasions.

- a) 1991: Self-evaluation of ATV based on a combination of self-report, and therapist judgement. The results indicated that more than 90% of our clients stopped using violence after treatment.
- b) 1996: External evaluation done by Nerdrum and Hoglend based on pre- and post-treatment scores on psychological tests.
- c) 1997: Qualitative follow-up study on 8 of former clients two years after they completed therapy, which showed that all of them still was violence-free, but they showed several symptoms of depression.

An advanced evaluation project is projected at a national research centre. Furthermore, the Norwegian government wishes to explore the possibility of sentencing men to treatment and is funding a specific project on this.

#### **IV.2 Austria, Germany, Switzerland: Joint handbook for perpetrators programs in co-operation with the justice system**

In the three German-speaking countries, NGO's with public sector support have instituted programs called "social training courses" for men who use violence against their partners, in close cooperation with the multi-agency "intervention projects" that have been established over the past ten years. In this context, there is agreement that domestic violence should be prosecuted more vigorously, for example including cases of simple assault, but that the prosecutors or the courts should offer or mandate participation in a course where the man can learn to change his behaviour.

There are differences between and within countries in the extent to which prosecutors and judges are willing to make use of this option. In the city of Hanover, in Germany, the public prosecutor routinely writes to all men charged with domestic assault with a strong recommendation that they contact the program. Depending on the level of violence in the individual case, the prosecutor's investigation can be suspended and the case possibly dropped if the course is completed; when the violence is more serious, the fact that he attended the course may be considered in his favour when sentencing.

Experts from NGO's in the three countries have joined together and written a handbook for such training programs published in 2002. Along with information on the background, the legal frameworks and the cooperation networks there is an overall report on the state of knowledge from evaluation studies. In its main section the book offers detailed information on how to structure and carry out such a program with concrete examples, for example checklists, sample contract, questionnaires and didactic aids; videos for use in the coursework are also available.

The programs draw on elements of therapeutic methods for their work, but consciously do not define the program as "treatment" or "therapy" to avoid the implication that these men are deviant or sick. Evaluation has found that men who are sent to such programs under threat of prosecution are much more likely to complete the course than those who contact the program voluntarily, and that positive effects of the courses can be documented. This corresponds to the results found in the evaluation of two large programs in Scotland by Dobash et al. in the 1990's.

#### **V. Public awareness and the media**

Campaigns to raise public awareness serve numerous functions. They can help make women aware of their right to freedom from all forms of violence (see chapter III), and they may have a positive influence on how the media portray violence against women, as well as educating both professionals and the general public. However, the Group was not successful in finding examples of a code of conduct for the media or a media watch giving specific attention to violence against women.



## V.1 **Slovakia: Campaign FIFTH WOMEN – Project Zero Tolerance of Violence against women, 2001**

The campaign **Fifth woman** was the first media campaign against violence against women carried out in Slovakia at the national level. The main goals were:

1. To carry out nationwide campaign against gender violence in order to inform the public about the phenomenon of violence against women as of a gender problem caused by the imbalance of power in the society.
2. To inform the wider (non-professional, but also professional) public on the causes and extent of violence against women in the Slovak Republic, as well as on the possible solutions.
3. To enforce the negotiatory position of women NGOs in the relation to governmental institutions which would consequently lead to assertion of the precautions and activities beneficial for the victims of violence against women.

The campaign **fifth woman** was realized in two periods:

- The first period: (the end of 2001) – under-the-line communication (PR and presentation of issue in media).
- The second period (the beginning of 2002) – above-the-line communication (advertising campaign in media).

**During the first period** activities were organized such as meeting with cooperating journalists to inform them about aims of the campaign, training about working on infoline, press conferences, presentation of book *Trauma and Recovery*, the launch of support infoline, seminar on trauma, re-launch of new version of website [www.stopnasiliu.sk](http://www.stopnasiliu.sk), presentation of the results of public opinions research, discussion on the school books (readers and primers), TV discussion – Open Society Club on Slovak Television, the march for human rights and discussion of Amnesty International about violence against women.

**During the second period** the main activities were TV and radio clips (prepared advertising campaign with slogan „Every fifth woman is battered. Do we care?“). Campaign was run on 3 national TVs with a total number of about 300 broadcasts, on 6 national radios and 10 local radios with a total amount of about 1000 broadcasts.

Further activities were prepared and carried out such as billboards, internet banner, publication *Fifth Woman: Aspects of Violence Against Women*, a presentation of publications *Fifth Woman* and *I Will Make You Hell*, public lecture by Renate Egger: *Establishment and development of movement against gender violence in Austria* and theatre performance *Don't cry, Anna*.

Activities lasting the whole campaign were media outputs, info line fifth woman and reactions on running website [www.stopnasiliu.sk](http://www.stopnasiliu.sk). Very important have been the ongoing political negotiations, which resulted in preparation of drafts of legislation changes of civil and criminal codes.

The campaign **Fifth woman** influenced the development of the violence against women agenda in Slovakia very intensively.

## **V.2 Portugal**

### ***V.2.i Television advertising campaign: Let's Eliminate Domestic Violence***

A television advertising campaign entitled Let's Eliminate Domestic Violence was run during the week of 25 November 2003 to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. Its aim was to raise public awareness of the problem and present solutions. The adverts were broadcast four times a day on the two state channels (RTP and Channel 2) and twice a day on two channels of one of the leading private television companies (SIC and SIC Women's Channel). The campaign continued throughout the month of December on the latter two channels.

After an introduction giving statistics on domestic violence, a public figure presented the various aspects of the problem. The adverts ended with a call either to women, men or neighbours, in an attempt to raise viewers' awareness and involve them in fighting domestic violence.

A seminar on Female Genital Mutilation – Human Rights and Health was also held on 25 November 2003.

### ***V.2.ii Round table for journalists: Domestic Violence and the Media***

The Committee for Women's Rights and Equality organised a round table for journalists on Domestic Violence and the Media. The aim was to discuss the way the issue should be covered in the media. The round table was opened by a well-known presenter from the private television station SIC whose broadcasts deal with issues such as justice, violence against women and trafficking, etc.

Participants were given files containing a study on violence against women in the media, a text on raising awareness of domestic violence as a public issue and copies of the legislation on the protection of women against domestic violence. The files were also sent to all journalists who had requested more information but had been unable to attend the event.

### ***V.2.iii Campaign on Helping to Eliminate Domestic Violence in co-operation with the Body Shop***

Under the second national plan against domestic violence, the Committee for Women's Rights and Equality conducted a campaign on helping to eliminate domestic violence in co-operation with outlets of the Body Shop. The campaign ran from 21 March to 12 April 2004.

As part of the campaign, a small brochure (Survival guide for victims of domestic violence) was published, setting out the public nature of the crime, the need to report it and the importance of witnesses, as well as the psychological and social consequences of domestic violence, the difficulties faced by victims, some strategies for protecting victims and their children and other useful information, including the telephone number of the information service for victims of domestic violence (free phone).

The brochure was widely distributed in Body Shop outlets throughout the country and in health centres, hospitals, chemist's shops and other places that provide support for the victims of domestic violence. T-shirts and badges with the logo used in the brochure were also produced. The proceeds from the sale of these items and one of the shops' products went to a shelter for victims of domestic violence.

In this connection, the Committee for Women's Rights and Equality's co-ordinator for all activities involving domestic violence took part in several television interviews on the subject,

as well as discussion forums open to viewers and debates with other guests. Representatives of NGOs working in this area and various professionals such as doctors and prosecutors, etc, also took part in the programmes.

#### ***V.2.iv Re-publication in several languages of an information leaflet on Violence against Women in the Family***

An information leaflet on Violence against Women in the Family is being republished in Portuguese and also in **English and Russian** so as to make it more accessible to immigrants.

## **VI. Education and training**

### **VI.1 Spain: Education for Gender Harmony awareness-raising programme in secondary schools**

The Education for Gender Harmony awareness-raising programme on gender violence was launched during the 1999-2000 school year for the pupils in 19 (state and private) secondary schools in the Province of Valencia.

The programme mainly consisted of pupil workshops headed by experts and training courses for teachers. The aims were:

- to develop conflict-solving abilities and skills;
- to teach communication principles that facilitate harmonious relations;
- to enhance pupils' knowledge of gender violence-related concepts and terms;
- to teach young people how to ask for help from qualified people in the event of violence.

In order to assess the impact, a questionnaire was distributed to each participant at the start of the programme and the end of the third and final workshop. The questionnaire covered any situations of violence the pupils had experienced and their opinions on issues related to violence.

The replies to the questions about the pupils' experience of violence did not change much between the beginning and the end of the programme (although it should be noted that some did come to realise that they had been confronted with situations of gender-related violence) and it has to be said that the workshops did not really change their perception of violence experienced in the family. The only significant change concerned what they would do if confronted with situations of gender-related violence: 80% *would seek help* (as against 71% beforehand).

The pupils' opinions had changed more by the end of the awareness-raising programme. Analysis of the replies to the questionnaire showed that the programme had a beneficial effect in terms of knowledge of gender-related violence, both as regards the characteristics of the perpetrators and the victims and as regards the various forms the violence may take. In particular, the pupils seemed to be much more aware of the types of psychological violence and the fact that otherwise "respectable" figures can be perpetrators of domestic violence. Lastly, the workshops seem to have changed some pupils' perceptions of relations and inequalities between men and women, which can have a positive impact that extends beyond the issue of gender-related violence itself. Following the workshops, the pupils drew up a code of ethics for gender harmony, which also goes beyond the aspect of violence:

- teach non-violence from childhood;
- alter mistaken cultural perceptions;

- report cases of violence and abuse;
- share domestic chores and child-raising;
- occupational non-discrimination, equal opportunities;
- women's domestic chores should not be underrated;
- form mixed groups to learn to be together and relate to and respect one another;
- men and women should make joint decisions, respecting different opinions;
- women should not be regarded as men's slaves or sexual objects;
- world-wide laws prohibiting female genital mutilation.

## **VI.2 Denmark: Training of professionals**

It is a part of the Danish government plan of action to combat violence against women to train professionals in counselling and treating victims of violence and preventing consequences of violence against women.

During recent years, a number of campaigns and courses have been effectuated in Denmark with a view to strengthening the knowledge of various professions regarding the issues involved in violence, to help ensure that victims of violence can obtain the necessary advisory services within the health and welfare system and from other public authorities.

In 2002 and 2004 the following training has been initiated and conducted among a broad target group of professionals:

1. Workshop-days with a focus on communication, opinions and beliefs. The target group is professionals in social authorities and decision-makers. The focus is on the family of the victim and perpetrator.
2. Training of shelter personnel, including problems related to ethnicity and to disability.

Violence against women is also included as an integrated subject in education, for example it is a compulsory subject in the curriculum for medical doctors, public health authorities, decision makers, psychologists and nurses – and in the post graduate training for MDs **specialising in gynaecology and general medicine – and at the police academy.**

In close co-operation, the Research and Information Centre for Socially Vulnerable, the Danish Crime Prevention Council, the National Shelter Movement and the Department for Gender Equality a national information campaign was carried out from November 2002 to June 2003, which targeted local politicians and professionals (police, caseworkers, crisis centre employees, emergency ward personnel, etc.). The campaign consisted of 27 theme days with presentations, followed by workshops on various aspects of the problem of violence against women. In addition to instructing professionals in the problem of violence against women, the aim was also to create debate and focus on domestic violence in local media.

The current cross-profession collaboration is being evaluated by a project "Violence in the Family" organized by the Ministry of Social Affairs. Attention is being drawn to ways in which the authorities can improve their collaboration. The project has shown that, within the various public sector organizations – from shelters/crisis centres to counties and bailiff's courts – there is a broad spectrum in the perception of the problem of domestic violence, resulting in differences in the way violence is handled. Nonetheless it is possible to establish cooperation, provided that specific efforts are made to help the players share their knowledge with each other, for example by establishing cross-profession teams.

Furthermore, a "tool kit" is being compiled for professionals who, through their work, must help battered women and children who have been subjected to violence. Five "tool kits" are being compiled for five groups of professionals: the police, municipal caseworkers, doctors and nurses, professionals who deal with young children and professionals who deal with older children.

In order to strengthening the collaboration of public authorities with crisis centres, "Collaboration forums" have been established for professionals from public authorities and crisis centre personnel. In addition, the crisis centres and welfare authorities are cooperating in developing projects with a view to helping families that are severely affected by domestic violence. Enabling professionals to improve help to battered families is an important part of these enhanced efforts.

There is a continuing need for training of professionals, including personnel in the school and health sectors. Other future target groups include the judicial system and county authorities, which play significant roles in the complicated divorce and child custody cases, which often occur in the wake of a family collapse caused by violence.

## **VII. Data collection and research**

### **VII.1 Denmark: Criminal Statistics**

Statistical information about criminal acts originates from the files of the police. This information is transferred to the police records register, administered by Statistics Denmark and the police collaboratively (POL-SAS), in function since 2001. Any changes in a police case e.g. change of charge during the investigation, is subsequently changed in the register via the regular update. In relation to violence against women, the relevant sections of the penal code are: less severe violence; more severe violence; severe violence; generally with permanent injury to the victim; homicide; rape and attempted rape.

The administrative system POL-SAS combines information about the crime by sections of the penal code, the perpetrator, (age and gender), and the victim (age and gender). The register contains the personal ID-number of victim and perpetrator. POL-SAS only concerns crimes of an interpersonal character, such as violence, rape and robbery. Crimes such as theft are thus not included.

In the Central Crime Register, police reports are registered according to the violation of the Penal Code. The registration includes information about the alleged perpetrator, and in the case of interpersonal crime, such as violence and rape, data regarding the victim is recorded as well. The crime register further contains data on legal outcomes. The information includes the violated section, the perpetrator and the verdict. By linking register data using the personal ID-number, it is possible to reveal the relationship between victim and perpetrator, for example whether they have lived at the same address at some stage. Similarly, the victim statistics (of POL-SAS) can be combined with other registers in order to assess the social profile of victim and perpetrator. Finally, crime statistics can be combined with data in the National Patient Register in order to analyse the number of victims having been in contact with both police and hospital due to violence.

National register data are organized according to the personal identification number, which has made it possible to combine information from different registers, e.g. the Crime Register and the National Patient Register. In addition, data from Statistics Denmark concerning employment were added to the profiles of victims and perpetrators.

Each of the national registers describes different aspects of violence against women. In combination, register and survey data render it possible to estimate how many women are exposed to violence, the profile of victims, and the type of violence they are exposed to and the consequences of the violence. Information from shelters and centres for rape victims put another dimension to these data. The data used for the perpetrator profile are fewer and stem from a smaller amount of data sources. In general, crime records provide the most valuable information about perpetrators, whereas, survey data provide very little information.

## **VII.2 Denmark: Systematic collection of medical data**

In Denmark, medical care for victims of intentional injuries is offered primarily by the emergency departments in the national health care system. Minor injuries are also treated either by the patient's general practitioner or an emergency service doctor. The treatment is free of charge. All victims of injuries that require medical treatment are thus in contact with the national health care system, and most will be treated in a hospital emergency department. The registration of hospital contacts in the Danish National Patient Register will therefore comprise the majority of victims.

Since 1977, the Danish National Hospital Register has collected nationwide data on all somatic hospital admissions, as well as data on all outpatients and emergency patients since 1995. The primary purposes of the Register are to provide information for production of statistical data, to monitor utilisation of health care services and to support the process of health care planning. The availability of the unique person identification number as a means of data linkage at the individual level renders the Register a powerful source of data for monitoring long term outcomes in cohorts of individuals under study. It is thus possible to analyse the occurrence of specific hospital related outcomes and to estimate their possible association with the exposure at hand.

In the Danish National Patient register a modification of the WHO's Classification of External Causes of Injuries is used in the registration of health care contacts due to injuries. In the routine registration of hospital contacts due to injuries, data on place of occurrence and mechanism of injury is included. This information makes it possible to identify violence occurring in the home.

The mechanism of injury is specified in 9 groups, including struck by fall, hit by other object and suffocation. Routine registration is done using single-integer codes; higher level of specification of mechanism is possible with two-integer codes. Partner violence is characteristically committed in the residential area and by blunt force (hit) and hospital contacts due to domestic or partner violence are identifiable and can be retrieved from the national patient register by these codes.

## **VII.3 England and Wales: Integrated questions on domestic violence in the yearly British Crime Survey**

The British Crime Survey is a national representative victimization survey of women and men in England and Wales carried out annually by the Home Office; the most recent survey included over 35.000 interviews. A question on domestic violence is regularly included in the main survey. In 1994 an additional module with Computer-Assisted Self-Interviewing (CASI) was introduced, which encouraged reporting of incidents victims did not define as 'crimes'. In 1996, the CASI part of the survey was designed to measure the extent of domestic violence. Later modules have addressed other forms of intimate violence; the 2001 module included domestic violence, sexual violence and stalking. It has been found that the level of reporting for intimate violence is five times higher with the computer-assisted self-reporting module as

compared with the answers when a question is read aloud within the same interview. The BSC procedure ensures, on the one hand, continued monitoring with a minimum of regularly collected data, and on the other, recurring in-depth study of sensitive issues that are typically under-reported.

#### **VII.4 France: National representative focussed survey - Enveff**

The *Enveff* survey (*Enquête nationale sur les violences envers les femmes en France – National survey on violence against women in France*) was commissioned by the State Secretariat for Women's Rights. It is in line with the undertakings accepted by France, in unison with the other participating countries, at the World Conference on Women in Beijing in 1995, and especially with the recommendations made to governments to provide accurate statistics on the violence inflicted on women. Its prime objective is the production of reliable statistics relating to the population as a whole, and the supply of useful information to the various institutional partners (political, social, media, etc.) and to society at large.

The data gathering for the survey was conducted in 2000 by telephone using the "Cati" method (*Collecte assistée par téléphone et informatique – computer and telephone assisted collection*) on a sample of 6 970 women representative of all women aged 20 to 59 residing in France.

Apart from the innovative scientific aspects of this study, there are specific points which can serve as examples of good practice.

- The close collaboration between the commissioning authorities, the multidisciplinary research team, the voluntary-sector partners (NGOs committed to preventing violence) and the institutional partners (police, justice, health, national education and others). The entire operation was conceived to meet specific demands from the various agencies concerned, while respecting the researchers' scientific independence.
- The quick method of disseminating the results in successive phases, under a partnership arrangement between the women actually conducting the research and the Ministerial authorities which had commissioned it, allowed effective and sustained public awareness-raising (from 2000 to 2003). The early results were released two months after delivery of the data file, at a press conference held by the (female) Minister responsible, which had a considerable impact thanks to relaying by the main media. The publishing campaign concluded with the publication of a book in 2003. The various publications provided backing for numerous addresses to wide audiences at national or regional level, by the Minister, the research officers or other members of civil society.
- The findings were directly applied in planning the information and awareness campaign targeting the general public and in designing the specialised brochures on training. At the local level, it was possible to make estimates of the number of victim and to assess with comparative precision the real needs of the services.
- The marshalling of multiple players in association with this survey allowed the perception of the phenomenon to evolve tangibly with its recognition as a societal problem, the medical sector's acknowledgement of the specificity of violence against women, and at local level co-ordination of the sectors concerned, for example in setting up observatories to monitor trends in violence.

- On the prevention side, linkages have been established between the results of the survey and certain drama groups, giving rise to actions in a cultural and also a scientific register directed especially at young people, in which professionals from the entertainment world and the scientific sector work with members of NGOs to make the public better acquainted with the issues.

### **VII.5 Germany: Linked gender-based surveys on women and on men**

In 2002 the German government commissioned a national representative study of violence against women, and a pilot study on violence against men. The studies were innovative in several ways. The survey on all forms of violence against women, based on a national representative sample of 20,000 women, was designed from the outset to provide data that would be accessible for European comparative analysis, and it had a transnational European advisory committee to support this effort. Thus, it represents an important step towards collecting data that can be studied on a European level. It also went beyond the design of other European studies by interviewing women in the two major immigrant / minority languages (Turkish and Russian), as well as contacting samples of vulnerable groups (women in prostitution, women in prisons, and refugee women). By employing face-to-face interviews and extensive specific interviewer training, the survey was able to achieve a high level of disclosure (for example, 40% of all women reported having experienced some act of physical or sexual aggression since the age of 16). This will be very valuable for further analysis of relationship context, health and other consequences and help-seeking. It was found that women most frequently experience both physical violence and sexual violence within their relationships to partners and former partners.

The pilot study on violence against men was developed in close cooperation with the national survey of women, but was also designed to explore what specific experiences and understandings of violence men may have and how they may be best encouraged to disclose victimization. The two studies confirmed that there were both similarities and differences in the experiences that women and men have with regard to various forms and contexts of violence. For both studies, the data are being made available in public access archives for comparative analysis. The survey results are available on the internet in full (in German) with an English language summary ([www.bmfsfj.de](http://www.bmfsfj.de), the full report to be found under Forschungsnetz→Forschungsberichte)

### **VII.6 Italy: Anti-violence network across Italy's URBAN towns**

With reference to the latest developments in the national scenario of violence against women, the Italian Government has started a system-level action, to date involving 26 Municipalities across the national territory. This pilot project, "**Anti-violence network across Italy's URBAN towns**", is part of Italy's Community Initiative Programme Urban 1994-1999, aimed at improving deprived urban areas across Europe. The project was launched in 1998 and financed by EC funds; in its first stage, it teamed up the efforts of the Ministry for Equal Opportunities, the Ministry of Infrastructures and Transportations, the European Commission and eight Italian municipal administrations: Venice, Rome, Naples, Foggia, Lecce, Reggio Calabria, Palermo and Catania.

The project's goal is acquiring knowledge on violence against women, in terms of perception and scope, and investigating on the degree of security perceived by local populations of areas labelled as "critical". In particular, the aim was tracing back the roots of violence within the household and outside.



A survey-action has been launched in particularly deprived areas to investigate the perceptions of violence among men, women, social and health care providers, that can best testify the social conditions in critical urban settings, generally lacking specially targeted services.

The original project involved more than 15,000 people, in taking interviews alone: women, men, social and health care providers, teachers, law enforcers, selected witnesses. The results collected provide a wealth of knowledge worth treasuring, with an outline of the community's mentality, the changes, the new demand for training and the services that need be established or strengthened to meet the needs of abused or raped women.

The results of the surveys taken in the above eight towns are listed in relevant "Local Survey Reports"; in 1999, a best practices handbook, "Female Liberty and Violence on Women", was published and translated into English and French.

The combination of local surveys and national-level data make up the final "National Report", closing a long and complex process teaming up private and public subjects in an unprecedented experience. The continuous effort in processing and comparing each town's data allowed detecting violence perception in men, women and service providers, the biases and stereotypes still underlying it, the innovative analysis methods and theories necessary to build up a common, effective strategy in fighting violence against women. All this was made possible by sharing knowledge, methodologies, and tools and by analysing the effectiveness of the various support approaches.

The collected wealth of data and personal histories is very complex to interpret, with all the similarities and differences it contains; yet, it represents an invaluable tool available to the whole community. There is hope that the towns that have already taken local surveys can work toward creating or improving services to offer immediate solidarity to women who have suffered from sexual, physical, psychological and economic violence, along with blackmails and harassment, in the view of curbing male violence in all forms outside and especially within households.

The "National Report" further corroborates the view that the practice and the culture of violence pervasively hides in social hardship settings, as is the case of URBAN neighbourhoods, as well as in well established communities with high degrees of schooling. Women showed a better understanding of the scope of this phenomenon and more radically changed their perception of violence and the damage it brings about at both the individual and the community level. This strong conviction emerged in the sampling phase, and was confirmed by in-depth interviews taken with women that had suffered violence and chose to share their experiences.

The achievements of the first project and the awareness that further deepening the knowledge of this phenomenon cannot but help defining new best practices, has prompted the Ministry for Equal Opportunities to enlarging the "Anti-Violence Network", starting from URBAN cities left out of the EC Programming 1994 to 1999 (Genua, Trieste, Salerno, Bari, Catanzaro, Cosenza, Syracuse and Cagliari), by means of funds allocated for this purpose within the Programming 2000-2006.

Thereafter, the "Network" was further enlarged to include Brindisi, Carrara, Caserta, Crotona, Misterbianco, Mola di Bari, Milan, Pescara and Taranto. The above towns have already started running the programme along the steps listed below.

The Pilot Project "Anti-Violence Network Linking Italy's URBAN Cities" articulates over field surveys, studies, analyses and workshops, as follows:

1) *field surveys on violence against women, and of relevant services and institutions active at various levels.*

The first stage of the survey provides detecting violence cases collected by public and private services active in the field of violence within and outside family settings and by law enforcers in relevant areas. In the second stage, a survey form on knowledge and perception of violence will be handed out to a sample made up of social services care providers and selected witnesses. The survey is completed by interviews taken by specialised staff among women resident in URBAN areas. The analyses performed by local survey units are collected in a Survey Report containing all information and achievements in terms of methods as well as of contents.

2) *Network sharing of analysis methods and of collected data and information.*

A National Report drafted by the Scientific Committee will be published by the Ministry.

3) *Publication of results and exchange of experiences and information* among anti-violence care providers from member cities during a workshop called to present the initiative and seminars at the local and national level, including a closing seminar to present a common document to be signed by member cities on the future methodology of the network and outlooks on strengthening local policies on violence against women.

4) *Joint Programming and future implementations of a database* also through the publication of the national website of the anti-violence network to make the achievements available to the public. Moreover, based on a Convention stipulated between the Ministry for Equal Opportunities and ISTAT, an in-depth analysis programme of violence against women was established in 2001.

The programme provides for two main stages: the first is part of a broader analysis on victims' profiles, aimed at estimating the dimension of sexual harassment, sexual blackmail in the workplace, and sexual violence in the women's experience. Most important will be the sampling of victims and the behavioural profiles of perpetrators.

The second stage of the programme will encompass all aspects of violence and household abuse. A special form was compiled for the sampling of household violence and abuse in compliance with international recommendations all over the national territory. Taking such a complex survey for the first time in Italy's history will undoubtedly require very accurate preliminary planning of sampling tools and survey methods. Roughly 1,000 women will be interviewed in the pilot survey, whereas the final stage, from 2004 to 2005, will cover 30,000 women. In-depth analyses of survey results will take up 2005 through 2006.

ISTAT has started working on this project in January 2002, and is currently defining the methodology and the survey form.

## APPENDIX I

### TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE GROUP OF SPECIALISTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF AND FOLLOW-UP TO RECOMMENDATION REC(2002)5 OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS TO MEMBER STATES ON THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE

**1. Name of the committee:**

Group of Specialists on the implementation of and follow-up to Recommendation Rec (2002) 5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the protection of women against violence (EG-S-MV)

**2. Type of committee:**

Committee of experts

**3. Source of terms of reference:**

Steering Committee for equality between women and men (CDEG)

**4. Terms of reference:**

For the purpose of implementing and ensuring follow-up to Recommendation Rec (2002) 5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the protection of women against violence in accordance with item IX of the recommendation concerning the obligation to inform the Council of Europe on the follow-up given at national level to its provisions, the group shall prepare, under the authority of the CDEG, guidelines for the concrete implementation of and follow-up to the recommendation. Taking into account the work already undertaken by the CDEG, in particular the work of the Group of specialists for the protection of women and young girls against violence (EG-S-FV) as well as that carried out by other national and international bodies, and bearing in mind that the objective is effective implementation and that serious and efficient follow-up is one way to achieve this aim, the group is instructed in particular to:

- i. study the evolution of the situation in member States by taking a thematic approach, in order to put forward different possibilities for implementing and following-up the provisions of the recommendation and, on the basis of this, define the most appropriate concrete and practical methods;
- ii. promote the elaboration and/or implementation of concrete policies and practical methods to combat violence against women, as well as follow-up mechanisms, by making the necessary contacts at national and international level with government bodies and actors of civil society involved in the implementation of and follow-up to the recommendation.

## **5. Membership:**

The group will be composed of eight specialists from various Council of Europe member states having the following qualifications:

- two members of the CDEG (Slovakia, Italy);
- six experts with specific competence, legal or practical, in the areas covered by the recommendation, including data collection.

The experts shall be appointed by the Secretariat in consultation with the CDEG.

The composition of the group should, as far as possible, be geographically and gender balanced and present a complementary range of competence.

One representative of the European Commission will be invited to attend the Group's meeting, without the right to vote or to have his/her expenses reimbursed by the Council of Europe.

## **6. Working methods:**

To carry out its terms of reference, the group may organise such contacts and consultations as it deems necessary with interested experts and specialists in member states, in particular through hearings or written consultations. It may also have recourse to consultants.

## **7. Duration of the terms of reference:**

These terms of reference will take effect as soon as they have been approved by the Committee of Ministers and will expire on 31 December 2004. They may be extended if necessary.

---

## APPENDIX II

### LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP OF SPECIALISTS EG-S-MV

Ms Clara COLLARILE, CDEG member, Head of International Affairs, Department for Equal Opportunities, Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italy

Ms Carol HAGEMANN-WHITE, Vice-Chair, and then Chair, University of Osnabrück, Germany

Ms Karin HELWEG-LARSEN, Chair, and then Vice-Chair, National Institute of Public Health, Denmark

Mr Per ISDAL, Alternative to Violence, Norway

Mme Maryse JASPARD, University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, National Institute of Demographic Studies, France

Ms Eleni LOIZIDOU, Senior Counsel of the Republic, Office of the Attorney General, Cyprus

Ms Olha SHVED, ECPAT, Officer for CIS countries, Ukraine

Ms Zuzana VRANOVÁ, CDEG member, Senior Official, Department on Equal Opportunities and Antidiscrimination, Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic.



## APPENDIX III

### QUESTIONNAIRE SENT TO CDEG MEMBERS

on 15 January 2003

#### 1<sup>st</sup> question:

- What steps have been taken, either by you or by an official body, to *raise awareness about the Recommendation* since April 2002? In particular:
  - To what governmental bodies did you send the Recommendation?
  - To what other public authorities did you send it?
  - To what relevant NGOs did you send it?
  - To what media did you send it?
  - Is the Recommendation available in the official language(s) of your country?

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> question

- Have you *any plan(s) of action against violence against women* as such or included in other plan(s) of action?

##### 2a: If the reply is **yes**:

- **2ai**: Please provide us with the action plan(s), if possible in English or French;
- **2aii**: How was it/were they drawn up: only by government? In co-operation with NGOs? By NGOs, more or less supported by government?
- **2aiii**: Please indicate what authority is responsible for carrying out the action plan(s) and whether you have a report on its/their implementation.

##### 2b: If the reply is **no**:

- **2bi**: Are you in the process of setting up such a plan of action?
- **2bii**: How is it drawn up: only by government? In co-operation with NGOs? By NGOs, more or less supported by government?
- **2biii**: Is the Recommendation taken into consideration in the drafting of the action plan?
- **2biv**: When will it be finalised?
- **2bv**: If the reply to question 2bi was no, do you intend to prepare a plan of action against violence against women?

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> question

- Is there a *co-ordinating body* to implement the Recommendation and/or the plan of action? If it is so, what is its composition and what is the role of NGOs regarding this body? Please give its name, address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address. Please give the same details for at least two central NGOs dealing with violence against women.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> question

- What are the *most recent developments* in your national situation addressed by the Recommendation on the protection of women against violence, in particular regarding domestic violence and sexual violence, giving particular attention to changes not yet recorded in the Plan(s) of action or national reports that you have sent us?