Parliamentary Assembly
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Preventing and combating violence against women with disabilities

Motion for a resolution
tabled by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

This motion has not been discussed in the Assembly and commits only those who have signed it

One person in five has or will have a permanent or temporary disability. Progress has been made, notably with the entry into force of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities, but the inclusion of persons with disabilities has not yet been made a priority in global policy-making. The situation of women with disabilities is of great concern since they are made invisible in our societies and are at a heightened risk of gender-based violence. The Covid-19 pandemic has shed light on their vulnerabilities.

Gender-based violence against women with disabilities occurs in their families, in care institutions and in public space. When they try to report it to the police, they can face numerous barriers related to the lack of accessibility and lack of knowledge of their concerns. Access to support services and to justice can be challenging.

The concerns and needs of women and girls with disabilities should be addressed. It is crucial to end their invisibility, take action against violence and ensure their full inclusion in society. The Parliamentary Assembly should examine means to step up efforts to prevent and combat against women with disabilities, collect good practices and make concrete recommendations to member States to this end.