



Recommendation 2247 (2023)¹

The Istanbul Convention: progress and challenges

Parliamentary Assembly

1. Referring to its [Resolution 2479 \(2023\)](#) “The Istanbul Convention: progress and challenges”, the Parliamentary Assembly congratulates the Committee of Ministers for its constant support for the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (CETS No. 210, “Istanbul Convention”), which has contributed to its ratification by 37 member States to date.

2. In the light of the absolute need to do more to eliminate violence against women and domestic violence by promoting the Istanbul Convention as a unique and essential tool in shaping preventive and protective legislation and policies and punishing perpetrators of gender-based violence, as well as of the need to dispel deliberate misrepresentations of the treaty, the Assembly calls on the Committee of Ministers to:

2.1. promote ratification of the Istanbul Convention in those countries that have not yet ratified it, and to encourage States that have ratified it to lift any reservations made on accession where this is possible;

2.2. promote feminist foreign policies as a means to attain more representative, inclusive policy making and multilateral action in combating gender-based violence on the basis of the normative international framework;

2.3. in line with the recommendations made in October 2022 by the High-level Reflection Group on the Council of Europe’s role in responding to new realities and challenges facing Europe and the world, ensure that priority is given in the Action Plan of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe in May 2023 to combating violence against women and domestic violence through the implementation of the Istanbul Convention;

2.4. take action to ensure implementation of the Dublin Declaration of Council of Europe Ministers of Justice on the prevention of domestic, sexual and gender-based violence adopted in September 2022;

2.5. ensure that the new Gender Equality Strategy (2024-2029) gives priority to combating and preventing violence against women, building on the successes of the current strategy (2018-2023);

2.6. give renewed support to the Council of Europe’s activities on gender equality and on combating violence against women, as well as the Assembly’s Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, including through financial contributions by member States.

3. Finally, the Assembly proposes a new Organisation-wide awareness-raising campaign on the aims and impact of the Istanbul Convention and its contribution to women’s rights and gender equality in Europe.

1. *Assembly debate* on 25 January 2023 (6th sitting) (see [Doc. 15673](#), report of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, rapporteur: Ms Zita Gurmai). *Text adopted by the Assembly* on 25 January 2023 (6th sitting).

