

Roundtable session: Combatting sexual and gender-based violence?



Government of Iceland
Ministry for Foreign Affairs

Iceland
Liechtenstein
Norway grants



Likestillings-
og diskrimineringsombudet



Panelist

- **Sigríður Björk Guðjónsdóttir**, District Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police
- **Tryggvi Hallgrímsson**, Directorate for Equality
- **Marta Silva**, CIG, Domestic and Gender Based Unit
- **Margrét Steinarsdóttir**, Director of the Icelandic Human Rights Centre



Freedom from gender-based violence, stereotypes and stigma: new forms of violence in digital age

Half

Women in the EU have experienced **sexual harassment**

Third

Women are affected by **physical and/or sexual violence**

80%

Women parliamentarians experienced **psychological violence world-wide**



Freedom from gender-based violence, stereotypes and stigma: new forms of violence in digital age

Exposure to online abuse disproportionately affects **young women**

Women journalists and those fighting for women's and minority rights often experience **sexist cyber harassment**

Women and girls seeking asylum **at particularly high risk of gender-based violence**

The Istanbul Convention (2011)

- **The aim of IC is to create a Europe free from violence against women and domestic violence.**
- **The obligation to protect any individual against gender-based violence results from the ratification of other human rights treaties.**
- **The added value of IC is that it is the first European instrument to deal with violence against women in a comprehensive manner.**
- **IC emphasises the interrelationship between the empowerment of women, i.e. gender equality, and the elimination of all forms of violence against women.**
- **IC translates political will into practical and appropriate action.**
- **IC requires a specific institutional set up – to adopt and implement integrated policies.**
- **IC foresees concrete measures to prevent the violence, protect victims and prosecute perpetrators.**



COUNCIL
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

1. Prevention

- **training of professionals**
- **awareness-raising campaigns**
- **include issues such as gender equality in teaching material**
- **treatment programs for perpetrators of domestic violence and for sex offenders**
- **cooperate with NGOs**
- **involve the media and the private sector in eradicating gender stereotypes and promoting mutual respect**



COUNCIL
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

2. Protection

- **police intervention and protection**
- **shelters in sufficient numbers and in an adequate geographical distribution**
- **telephone hotlines**
- **rape crisis or sexual violence referral centres**



COUNCIL
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

3. Prosecution

Under substantive law – civil, administrative and criminal law measures as well as procedural safeguards for victims

Criminalise and prosecute;

- **psychological and physical violence, sexual violence and rape, stalking, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, forced abortion and forced sterilisation.**
- **carry out judicial proceedings in a manner that respects the right of victims at all stages**



COUNCIL
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

4. Integrated Policies?

1. **Comprehensive measures needed for a holistic response?**
2. **Concerted multi-institutional actions?**
3. **Collection of data and research?**
4. **Centred around rights of the victim?**
5. **Civil Society & NGOs involvement?**
6. **Capital allocation?**
7. **Coordinating body/bodies?**

The 7Cs



COUNCIL
OF EUROPE

CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

For the introductions of the panellists

- **Sigríður Björk Guðjónsdóttir** Lawyer by education and further education in European law and Public administration. She has been a police chief since 2002 in various districts in Iceland. Service of the police and focus on gender-based violence have been the focal points in her work.
- **Tryggvi Hallgrímsson** As a sociologist and specialist advisor at The Directorate for Equality in Iceland in Iceland, Mr. Tryggvi Hallgrímsson is responsible for working with both private and public organizations responsible for working on gender equality and non-discrimination. Tryggvi has participated in the development of various projects and legislative reform in the fields of equal pay certification, joint parental participation, work-life balance as well as developing procedures for preventing workplace bullying and harassment.
- **Marta Silva is a** Psychologist, and has since 2009 been the head of domestic and gender based violence commission for citizenship and gender equality. She is a Coordinator of national action plans on domestic violence, gender based violence and violence against Women. She is a representative of Portugal in the committee of parties on Istanbul convention.
- **Margrét Steinarsdóttir:** is the director of the Icelandic human Rights Centre since 2010. Margrét graduated with a law degree from the University of Iceland in 1993.

Agenda

- Presentation of panellists
- A few facts
- Introduction of the Istanbul Convention to structure our dialogue
- Having in mind Hate speech and cyberbullying when discussing:
 1. Prevention of sexual and gender-based violence
 2. Protection of victims (including police intervention and protection)
 3. Prosecution of perpetrators (including support)
 4. Integrated policies (institutional set up that enables the above mentioned)