Basic information

2016/0062B(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments	Procedure completed
Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence - EU accession: judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement Accompanying procedure 2016/0062A(NLE) Accompanying procedure 2016/0062R(NLE) **Subject** 4.10.09 Women condition and rights 7.10.06 Asylum, refugees, displaced persons; Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) 7.10.08 Migration policy 7.30.30.02 Action to combat violence, trafficking in human beings and migrant smuggling 7.40.04 Judicial cooperation in criminal matters	

Key players

European Parliament

Joint committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	KOHUT Łukasz (S&D)	12/04/2023
FEMM Women's Rights and Gender Equality	KOKALARI Arba (EPP)	12/04/2023

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
JURI Legal Affairs	LEITÃO-MARQUES Maria-Manuel (S&D)	05/04/2022

Council of the European Union

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
04/03/2016	Preparatory document	COM(2016)0109	
13/02/2023	Legislative proposal published	05523/1/2023	
13/03/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
25/04/2023	Vote in committee		
02/05/2023	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A9-0170/2023	
08/05/2023	Referral to joint committee announced in Parliament		

09/05/2023	Debate in Parliament		
10/05/2023	Decision by Parliament	T9-0197/2023	Summary
10/05/2023	Results of vote in Parliament		
01/06/2023	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
02/06/2023	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2016/0062B(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Amendments and repeals	Accompanying procedure 2016/0062A(NLE) Accompanying procedure 2016/0062R(NLE)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 59 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 084 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 082-p2 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 078-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	CJ01/9/11699

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee opinion	JURI	PE746.879	06/09/2022	
Committee draft report		PE746.703	12/04/2023	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE746.819	19/04/2023	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0170/2023	02/05/2023	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T9-0197/2023	10/05/2023	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	05523/1/2023	13/02/2023	

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2016)0109	04/03/2016	

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Decision 2023/1076 OJ L 143I 02.06.2023, p. 0004 Summary

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence - EU accession: judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement

2016/0062B(NLE) - 10/05/2023 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 464 votes to 81, with 45 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement.

The European Parliament **gave its consent** to the conclusion of the Convention.

The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women ('Istanbul Convention'), which came into force in 2014, is the first legally binding international instrument on preventing and combating violence against women and girls at international level. It is the first international text that is legally defining violence against women and establishes a comprehensive framework of legal and policy measures for preventing such violence, supporting victims and punishing perpetrators.

The Convention recognises violence against women as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women. It covers various forms of gender-based violence against women, which refers to violence directed against women because they are women or violence affecting them disproportionately.

The Convention defines and criminalises various forms of violence against women: psychological violence, stalking, physical violence, including rape, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, forced abortion, forced sterilisation as well as sexual harassment. It prevents violence by obliging parties to invest in education, training for experts, and treatment programmes for perpetrators. It protects victims by obliging states to establish appropriate support services.

The Istanbul Convention is at the centre of a monitoring system, based on a two pillar monitoring mechanism: (i) an independent expert body (GREVIO), which draws up reports on the themes of the Convention; (ii) a Committee of the Parties (which follows up on GREVIO reports and makes recommendations to the parties concerned).

The Council has now requested the European Parliament's consent to the conclusion of the Convention divided in two draft decisions one with regard to institutions and public administration of the Union, and the other with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement.

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence - EU accession: judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement

2016/0062B(NLE) - 02/06/2023 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude, on behalf of the European Union, of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement.

LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2023/1076 on the conclusion, on behalf of the European Union, of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters, asylum and non-refoulement.

CONTENT: under this Decision, **the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence is hereby approved on behalf of the Union with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters and to asylum and non-refoulement, insofar as they fall within the exclusive competence of the Union**. The Union's accession to the Convention shall be without prejudice to the Member States' competence as regards the ratification of the Convention on matters falling within their national competences.

The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence is the **first international instrument aiming to eliminate violence against women**, including girls under the age of 18, as a root cause of persisting inequality between men and women, by setting up a comprehensive framework of legal and policy measures to prevent violence against women and protect and assist victims of such violence. The Convention entered into force on 1 April 2014.

The Convention was signed on 13 June 2017 on behalf of the Union with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters and with regard to asylum and non-refoulement, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

The Convention creates a comprehensive and multifaceted legal framework to protect women against all forms of violence. It seeks to prevent, prosecute and eliminate violence against women and girls and domestic violence. It covers a broad range of measures, from data collection and awareness-raising to legal measures on criminalising different forms of violence against women. It includes measures for the protection of victims and the provision of support services, and addresses the gender based violence dimension in matters of asylum and migration. The Convention establishes a specific monitoring mechanism in order to ensure effective implementation of its provisions by the Parties.

Violence against women is not only a criminal offence but also a violation of their human rights and an extreme form of discrimination, entrenched in gender inequalities and contributing to maintaining and reinforcing them. By committing to the implementation of the Convention, **the Union confirms its engagement in combating violence against women within its territory and globally** and reinforces its current political action and existing substantial legal framework in the area of criminal procedural law, which is of particular relevance for women and girls. This Decision concerns only the provisions of the Convention on judicial cooperation in criminal matters and asylum and non-refoulement insofar as those provisions may affect common rules or alter their scope. It does not concern the institutions or public administration of the Union, which are addressed by a separate Council decision to be adopted in parallel with this Decision.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 22.6.2023.