

Basic information

2023/0250(COD)

COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Directive

Rights, support and protection of victims of crime

Repealing JHA act 2001/220 2000/0813(CNS)

Amending Directive 2012/29 2011/0129(COD)

Subject

1.10 Fundamental rights in the EU, Charter

1.20 Citizen's rights

7.40.04 Judicial cooperation in criminal matters

Awaiting Council's 1st reading position

Key players

European
Parliament

Joint committee responsible

LIBE

Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs

FEMM

Women's Rights and Gender Equality

Rapporteur

ZARZALEJOS Javier (EPP)

YAR Lucia (Renew)

Shadow rapporteur

ESTARÀS FERRAGUT
Rosa (EPP)

NOICHL Maria (S&D)

ZAN Alessandro (S&D)

CISINT Anna Maria (P/E)

DE LA PISA CARRIÓN
Margarita (P/E)

KANKO Assita (ECR)

TROCHU Laurence (ECR)

YAR Lucia (Renew)

RIBA I GINER Diana
(Greens/EFA)

CAMARA MéliSSa (Greens
/EFA)

ARVANITIS Konstantinos
(The Left)

KOUNTOURA Elena (The
Left)

BOSSDORF Irmhild (ESN)

Appointed

04/09/2024

04/09/2024





Former joint committee responsible		Former rapporteur	Appointed
LIBE	Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs	ZARZALEJOS Javier (EPP)	20/09/2023
FEMM	Women's Rights and Gender Equality	RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS María Soraya (Renew)	20/09/2023
		Shadow rapporteur CARVALHO Maria da Graça (EPP) PISAPIA Giuliano (S&D) NOICHL Maria (S&D) ĎURIŠ NICHOLSONOVÁ Lucia (Renew) PETER-HANSEN Kira Marie (Greens/EFA) BRICMONT Saskia (Greens /EFA) KEMPA Beata (ECR) DE LA PISA CARRIÓN Margarita (ECR) BRUNA Annika (ID) RODRÍGUEZ PALOP Eugenia (The Left) ARVANITIS Konstantinos (The Left)	
Former committee for opinion		Former rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
JURI	Legal Affairs	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG		Commissioner
	Justice and Consumers		REYNDERS Didier

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
		COM(2023)0424	Summary

12/07/2023	Legislative proposal published		
11/09/2023	Committee referral announced in Parliament, 1st reading		
05/10/2023	Referral to joint committee announced in Parliament		
14/03/2024	Vote in committee, 1st reading		
14/03/2024	Committee decision to open interinstitutional negotiations with report adopted in committee		
25/03/2024	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading	A9-0157/2024	
10/04/2024	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations announced in plenary (Rule 71)		
11/04/2024	Committee decision to enter into interinstitutional negotiations confirmed by plenary (Rule 71)		
13/11/2024	Resumption of business from the previous parliamentary term		
25/02/2026	Approval in committee of the text agreed at 1st reading interinstitutional negotiations	PE784.514 GEDA/A/(2026)002228	
20/05/2026	Debate in Parliament		
21/05/2026	Decision by Parliament, 1st reading	T10-0188/2026	Summary
21/05/2026	Results of vote in Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2023/0250(COD)
Procedure type	COD - Ordinary legislative procedure (ex-codecision procedure)
Procedure subtype	Legislation
Legislative instrument	Directive
Amendments and repeals	Repealing JHA act 2001/220 2000/0813(CNS) Amending Directive 2012/29 2011/0129(COD)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 59 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 082-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Awaiting Council's 1st reading position
Committee dossier	CJ01/10/00253

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A9-0157/2024	25/03/2024	
Text agreed during interinstitutional negotiations		PE784.514	18/02/2026	
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T10-0188/2026	21/05/2026	Summary
Council of the EU				

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Coreper letter confirming interinstitutional agreement	GEDA/A/(2026)002228	18/02/2026		
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	COM(2023)0424 	12/07/2023	Summary	
Document attached to the procedure	SEC(2023)0270 	12/07/2023		
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2023)0246 	12/07/2023		
Document attached to the procedure	SWD(2023)0247 	12/07/2023		
National parliaments				
Document type	Parliament /Chamber	Reference	Date	Summary
Contribution	CZ_SENATE	COM(2023)0424	08/11/2023	
Contribution	CZ_CHAMBER	COM(2023)0424	14/11/2023	
Contribution	DE_BUNDES RAT	COM(2023)0424	04/12/2023	
Contribution	PT_PARLIAMENT	COM(2023)0424	20/12/2023	
Contribution	IT_SENATE	COM(2023)0424	05/01/2024	
Other institutions and bodies				
Institution/body	Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
EESC	Economic and Social Committee: opinion, report	CES3943/2023	13/12/2023	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
EP Research Service	Briefing	20/11/2023
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency

Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	27/02/2026	Progresfem, špecializované akreditované poradenské centrum pre ženy, ktoré zažívajú rodovo podmienené násilie
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	04/12/2025	Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc.
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	01/12/2025	Cabinet of Commissioner McGrath
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	28/11/2025	German permanent representation to the EU
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	21/11/2025	Center for Reproductive Rights, Inc.
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	14/11/2025	Kanisová & Kanis Law
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	07/11/2025	Cabinet of Commissioner McGrath
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	28/10/2025	Victim Support Europe
ZARZALEJOS Javier	Rapporteur	LIBE	22/10/2025	bavarian Minister of Justice
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	22/10/2025	Belgian permanent representation to the EU
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	14/10/2025	Swedish permanent representation to the EU
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	14/10/2025	German permanent representation to the EU
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	22/09/2025	Victim Support Europe
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	24/04/2025	Slovenské národné stredisko pre ľudské práva
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	24/04/2025	Centrum podpory VIDIA n.o. – Pomoc obetiam trestných činov
NOICHL Maria	Shadow rapporteur	FEMM	05/02/2025	International Federation for Human Rights
NOICHL Maria	Shadow rapporteur	FEMM	31/01/2025	European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	21/11/2024	OZ Hana
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	21/11/2024	Victim Support Europe
RIBA I GINER Diana	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	15/11/2024	PICUM
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	15/11/2024	La Strada International Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants
YAR Lucia	Rapporteur	FEMM	11/11/2024	Meeting with Bálint Ódor, Permanent Representative of Hungary, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
PISAPIA Giuliano	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	04/03/2024	Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants
CARVALHO Maria da Graça	Shadow rapporteur	FEMM	04/12/2023	Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vítima Victim Support Europe
PISAPIA Giuliano	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	27/11/2023	Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants
BRICMONT Saskia	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	16/11/2023	European Forum for Restorative Justice
				European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights Victim Support Europe Age platform

BRICMONT Saskia	Shadow rapporteur	LIBE	08/11/2023	End FGM European Network Intersex Europe La Strada international Redress - Holly Huxtable Picum Wave
CARVALHO Maria da Graça	Shadow rapporteur	FEMM	08/11/2023	European Women's Lobby Plataforma Portuguesa para os Direitos das Mulheres
RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS María Soraya	Rapporteur	FEMM	19/10/2023	European Disability Forum
RODRÍGUEZ RAMOS María Soraya	Rapporteur	FEMM	18/10/2023	Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants
ZARZALEJOS Javier	Rapporteur	LIBE	11/10/2023	Asociación Víctimas del Terrorismo

Other Members

Transparency		
Name	Date	Interest representatives
TOLLERET Irène	09/01/2024	Victim Support Europe France Victime
WALSH Maria	10/11/2023	Restorative Justice: Strategies for Change

Rights, support and protection of victims of crime

2023/0250(COD) - 12/07/2023 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to improve victims' ability to assert their rights under Directive 2012/29/EU (Victims' Rights Directive).

PROPOSED ACT: Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: the European Parliament decides in accordance with the ordinary legislative procedure and on an equal footing with the Council.

BACKGROUND: [Directive 2012/29/EU](#) of the European Parliament and of the Council on victims' rights is the main horizontal instrument for victims' rights. It lays down rights for all victims of all crimes, including the right to information, the right to support and protection based on victims' individual needs, procedural rights, and the right to receive a decision on compensation from the offender at the end of criminal proceedings.

The Commission has assessed how victims have exercised their rights under Directive 2012/29/EU and has published the results of this analysis in an evaluation report. According to this evaluation, the Victims' Rights Directive has, on the whole, brought the expected benefits and had a positive impact on victims' rights, but several shortcomings have been identified in its practical application.

In particular, it was observed that victims were not sufficiently able to assert their rights to access information, support and protection in accordance with their individual needs, to participate in criminal proceedings and to obtain a decision on compensation from the offender in the context of those proceedings.

This revision of Directive 2012/29/EU addresses the shortcomings identified during the evaluation and numerous consultations.

CONTENT: this proposal for a revision of the Victims' Rights Directive has the following specific objectives:

- a **significant improvement in victims' access to information**, particularly through to the obligation to set up victim helplines that provide all victims who contact them, including those who do not report a crime, with information about their rights;
- **better alignment of protection measures with victims' needs**, particularly due to the improved individual assessment of victims' protection needs and the enlarged list of protection measures that will be available for victims following the assessment, including protection orders;
- **better support**, particularly through the right to free psychological support for as long as necessary, the right to targeted, multi-agency support for **child victims and rights of persons with disabilities**;
- **more effective participation for victims in criminal proceedings** through the right to administrative assistance at court and the right to remedy;

- **better access to compensation** by (i) strengthening victims' rights to receive a decision on compensation from the offender during the criminal proceeding; and (ii) making it binding for the state to pay the offender's compensation to victims in due time following the judgment on offender's compensation, with a possibility for the state to recuperate it later from the offender;

- the obligation for Member States to provide for the possibility for victims to exercise their right to information and their right of access to justice by **electronic means**;

- the introduction of **specific obligations relating to victims of violence against women and domestic violence**. A provision would be introduced to clarify the link between the proposed revision of the directive on victims' rights and the legislative proposal on violence against women and domestic violence.

Rights, support and protection of victims of crime

2023/0250(COD) - 21/05/2026 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted by 440 votes to 49, with 84 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive

2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA.

The European Parliament adopted its position at first reading by amending the Commission's proposal as follows:

Reporting of criminal offences

Victims must be able to report criminal offences to the competent authorities through **free, accessible, user-friendly, secure, and readily available channels**. Reporting criminal offences using information and communication technologies must be without prejudice to national procedural rules concerning the formality of such reporting and the presentation of evidence.

When a person other than the victim reports a criminal offence, Member States should ensure that, where necessary, the competent authorities take measures to protect the victim before the offender is informed that an offence has been reported.

Any person **deprived of liberty or whose liberty is restricted** may indeed report a criminal offence which has been committed in detention or accommodation facilities which that person is not allowed to leave or is unable to leave at will or in places where their freedom of movement is restricted (e.g. prisons, detention and accommodation centres for third country nationals in irregular stay, specialised reception centres for disabled persons, children and the elderly).

When **children** contact the competent authorities to report criminal offences, reporting procedures must be safe, confidential, accessible, and child friendly. Where a criminal offence involves the holder of parental responsibility and there is a conflict of interest between the child victim and the holder of parental responsibility, Member States shall ensure that the ability of the child victim to report the criminal offence is not conditional upon the consent of the holder of parental responsibility. The competent authorities must take the necessary measures to protect the safety of the child before they inform the holder of parental responsibility that a criminal offence has been reported.

Victims who are **third-country nationals**, irrespective of their residence status, must not be discouraged from reporting a criminal offence and that they are treated in a non-discriminatory manner.

Victim helplines

Member States must establish **accessible, easy-to-use, secure, free, and confidential** helplines for victims. These helplines must be reachable by telephone via a number valid throughout the EU for national calls, namely 116 006, in addition to any existing national telephone number. These services may be provided through other secure and accessible information and communication technologies, including online applications and websites.

In addition to the national helpline number valid throughout the EU, helplines must be reachable via a **specific number for international calls** to victims who have suffered harm in a Member State other than their Member State of residence. Where services are provided using information and communication technologies, these services must be available in a language the victim can understand, for example, through translation and interpretation technologies.

Right to receive information relating to the case

The victim must be promptly informed upon release, particularly in the case of release under judicial supervision, or in the event of the escape of a person held in pretrial detention, prosecuted or convicted for criminal offences concerning the victim. Furthermore, the victim must be informed of any measures taken to protect them in the event of the offender's release or escape.

Victim support services

Member States must take measures to establish **free and confidential specialist support services** in addition to, or as part of, general victim support services, or to enable victim support organisations to access specialist entities providing such specialised support. These specialist support services must remain fully operational for victims during crises, such as health crises, humanitarian situations, or other states of emergency.

Support services must provide victims with information, advice, and support regarding victims' rights, psychological support, targeted and integrated support, as well as information and, where appropriate, referrals to services providing medical and forensic examinations. Member States must provide timely access to **healthcare services, including sexual and reproductive healthcare services**, for victims of sexual violence.

Victim support services must pay particular attention to the specific needs of victims who have suffered **considerable harm** due to the severity of the crime. Furthermore, Member States must take the necessary measures to ensure the availability of targeted and integrated support services tailored to **child victims**, including when they witness an offence.

Access to support and protection measures must also be available to victims who have suffered **additional harm**, such as deprivation of dignity, resulting from the glorification of serious criminal offences, including public incitement to commit a terrorist offence.

Right to legal aid

Victims who have the right to participate in criminal proceedings but lack sufficient financial resources to afford legal representation must have access to legal aid, including, where applicable, for the purpose of claiming compensation. They also have the right to assistance on court premises, the right to avoid contact with the offender, the right to be informed of decisions made during the legal proceedings, and the right to a review of their case.

Awareness and information

Officials likely to come into contact with victims must receive both **general and specialist training** to increase their awareness of victims' needs, taking into account, where relevant, the trauma, gender, disability and specific circumstances of children and to avoid secondary victimisation. Member States must take measures to **raise awareness** of the rights set out in this Directive, reduce the risk of victimisation and minimise the negative impact of crime and the risks of secondary and repeat victimisation, of intimidation and of retaliation, in particular by targeting groups at risk such as children and victims of gender-based violence.