

CSW65 NGO CSW Advocacy Research Group on **Violence against Women**

Consider:

What are the most significant forms of violence against women that keep them from exercising their political and civil rights?

A Key Critical Issue:

Violence (*including sexual abuse, harassment, cyber-bullying, exclusion and corruption*) Targeting Women in Leadership Roles (*including in politics, trade unions and the private sector*)

Advocate for Action:

Ensure Member States ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention and ILO 190 to eliminate violence targeting women in leadership roles.

Examples

Inter Parliamentary Union, October 2018, [Sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe](#) Some Findings:

* 85.2 per cent of female MPs who took part in the study said that they had suffered psychological violence in the course of their term of office. * 46.9 per cent had received death threats or threats of rape or beating. * 58.2 per cent had been the target of online sexist attacks on social networks. * 67.9 per cent had been the target of comments relating to their physical appearance or based on gender stereotypes. * 24.7 per cent had suffered sexual violence. * 14.8 per cent had suffered physical violence. * Female MPs under the age of 40 were more frequently subject to psychological and sexual harassment. * Female MPs active in the fight against gender inequality and violence against women were often singled out for attack.

CSW65, March 2021, E/CN.6/2021/4 Report of the Secretary-General, [Review of the implementation of the agreed conclusions of the sixtieth session of the Commission on the Status of Women](#) "Between 2015 and 2019, 225 women human rights defenders, journalists and trade unionists were reported killed, according to available data across 81 countries."(p14/17, section 45)

Supporting UN Documents

International Labour Organization (ILO), 2019, C190 - [Violence and Harassment Convention](#) – (ILO 190)

Preamble (p 1) ".....Recalling that Members have an important responsibility to promote a general environment of zero tolerance to violence and harassment in order to facilitate the prevention of such behaviours and practices, and that all actors in the world of work must refrain from, prevent and address violence and harassment, and...

Recognizing that violence and harassment also affects the quality of public and private services, and may prevent persons, particularly women, from accessing, and remaining and advancing in the labour market, and

Acknowledging that gender-based violence and harassment disproportionately affects women and girls, and recognizing that an inclusive, integrated and gender-responsive approach, which tackles underlying causes and risk factors, including gender stereotypes, multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, and unequal gender-based power relations, is essential to ending violence and harassment in the world of work."

III Core Principles, Article 4, 1. Each Member which ratifies this Convention shall respect, promote and realize the right of everyone to a world of work free from violence and harassment.

2. Each Member shall adopt, in accordance with national law and circumstances and in consultation with representative employers' and workers' organizations, an inclusive, integrated and gender-responsive approach for the prevention and elimination of violence and harassment in the world of work.

Council of Europe, 2011, [Istanbul, 11.V.2011 Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence \(Istanbul Convention\)](#) Chapter 1, Article 4

Good Practices

Inter Parliamentary Union, 2019, [Guidelines for the elimination of sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament](#)