

The Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

Department for Human Rights and Minority
Protection



Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic and Gender-based Violence for 2015 - 2018

The Office of the Government of the Czech Republic

February 2015



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1. Introduction

1.1 General Information on the Action Plan

Domestic and gender-based violence represent one of the most common forms of violation of human rights and interference with human dignity and integrity (for more information see Chapter 2.1). The Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic and Gender-based Violence for 2015 - 2018 (hereinafter the "Action Plan") is the second separate strategic document prepared by the CR Government with regards to the prevention of domestic violence and gender-based violence. The Action Plan is a follow up of the National Action Plan for the Prevention of Domestic Violence for 2011 - 2014 (hereinafter the "Action Plan 2011 - 2014"). The task to prepare the Action Plan was assigned to the Minister of Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Legislation and the Ministry of the Interior in the resolution of the Czech Government dated 8 January 2014 no. 31 and the resolution of the Czech Government dated 12 November 2014 no. 930.

The Action Plan follows the area of Human Rights and Equality in the Programme Declaration of the CR Government dated February 2014 in which the Czech Government, inter alia, bound itself to eliminate gender-based violence. The Action Plan is also following the Government strategy for equality between women and men in the Czech Republic (hereinafter the "Strategy for Equality between Women and Men") approved by the resolution of the Czech Government dated 12 November 2014 no. 931. The Action Plan will enable implementation and further development of specific goals, stated in the section entitled "Dignity and Integrity of Women and Men" in the Strategy for Equality between Women and Men. In terms of implementation, the Action Plan is a document used for further development of the Strategy of Equality between Women and Men and it helps to fulfil this strategy.

Compared to the Action Plan 2011 - 2014, the focus of the Action Plan has widened to cover other forms of gender-based violence as defined by the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. According to available statistics data, within the context of the Czech Republic this mostly regards rape, sexual abuse and stalking, and therefore the plan focuses on these forms of violence. Professional studies have been indicating that persons most threatened by domestic and gender-based violence are women. The Action Plan is based on gender-based approach to these forms of violence and recognises gender specific needs of women and men both in the role of the endangered person, but also in the role of the violent person. The intention of the Action Plan is to cover all forms of domestic and gender-based violence regardless of gender of the persons endangered by these forms of violence.

Domestic and gender-based violence is remaining to be a serious social problem. International studies on prevalence of domestic violence show that different forms of domestic violence are experienced during their lifetime by approximately every third woman and every fifth man (for more information see Chapter 2.1). Domestic and gender-based violence brings along serious negative social and economic impacts (for more information see Chapter 2.2). Due to efficient prevention of these types of violence and assistance to the persons involved, it is necessary for the Czech Government to adopt comprehensive strategic documents to enable a coordinated approach in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of relevant measures. The duty to adopt measures leading to prevention and combating domestic and gender-based violence also results from many international treaties, declarations and recommendations (for more information see Chapter 1.5). When drafting the Action Plan inspiration was drawn from the UN Handbook for National Action Plans on Violence against Women¹, the Slovak National Action Plan

¹ Handbook for national action plans on violence against women. UN Women, 2012. Available at: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/handbook-for-nap-on-vaw1.pdf>.

for Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women for 2014 - 2019², the Norwegian Action Plan against Domestic Violence for 2012³ and the Norwegian Action plan to combat intimate partner violence for 2014 – 2017.⁴

The Action Plan was developed by the Gender Equality Unit in the Human Rights Section of the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic (hereinafter the "Unit") in cooperation with the Committee for Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women (hereinafter the "Committee") which is the working body of the Government Council for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men (hereinafter the "Council"). The Committee associates specialists on domestic and gender-based violence from the public administration sector, NGOs, social services providers, the academic sphere, the Police force and the justice system. The wide expertise of the members of the Committee and the experience from the field when helping persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence and working with violent persons played a key role when working on the Action Plan (for definitions see Chapter 1.4). A list of members of the Committee and other persons involved in the preparation of the Action Plan is included in Chapter 3.

The Ministry of the Interior (as co-presenter) was also actively involved in the preparation of the Action Plan, together with the Norwegian organisation Alternativ til Vold (Alternative to Violence) that has had many years of experience with formulating action plans for the prevention of domestic violence in the Kingdom of Norway.⁵ Cooperation with this organisation was enabled thanks to a project financed from the Norwegian funds, entitled "Gender-based Violence / Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Promoting Work-Life Balance" implemented by the Gender Equality Unit.

When drawing up the the Action Plan, the recommendations for the creation of strategic documents by the Czech Government were taken into account as stated in the Methodology for the Preparation of Public Strategies, adopted in the resolution of the Czech Government dated 2 May 2013 no. 318.

In total, the Action Plan includes 70 measures and it is divided into 7 strategic areas:

1. Assisting persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence;
2. Children affected domestic and gender-based violence;
3. Work with violent persons;
4. Education and interdisciplinary cooperation;
5. Society and domestic and gender-based violence;
6. Analysis, studies and data collection;
7. Legislation.

During the implementation of individual measures of the Action Plan, the following cross-sectional priorities will be taken into consideration:

- position of persons with disabilities;
- position of persons affected by social exclusion;
- position of seniors;

²Available

at:https://lt.justice.gov.sk/Attachment/Vlastnymat_doc.pdf?instEID=52&attEID=59764&docEID=331654&matEID=6656&langEID=1&tStamp=20131007181553383

³ Action Plan against Domestic Violence 2012. Available

at:http://www.regjeringen.no/pages/36783932/ActionPlan_DomesticViolence.pdf

⁴ Handlingsplan mot vold i nære relasjoner 2014-2017. Available at:

<https://www.regjeringen.no/nb/dokumenter/et-liv-uten-vold/id733697/>.

⁵ Alternativ til Vold is a non-governmental and non-profit organisation operating in the Kingdom of Norway, specialising in treatment of people endangered by domestic violence, offenders and working with families exposed to domestic violence. For more information on Alternativ til Vold in English, go to: <http://atv-stiftelsen.no/engelsk>.

- position of homeless people;
- position of the Romani people;
- position of migrants;
- position of other persons exposed to multiple discrimination.

1.2 Purpose of the Action Plan

The purpose of the Action Plan is to formulate, implement and coordinate a comprehensive system of measures by the Czech Government in the area of prevention and combating domestic and gender-based violence, and thus to decrease the occurrence of these forms of violence in the Czech society and to help people who are endangered by violence but also to help violent persons.

The implementation of measures stated in the Action Plan should lead to improvement of the current degree of protection of persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence (including children living in families affected by domestic and gender-based violence), and to efficient prevention of this type of violence, to development of education in relevant professions in the area of domestic and gender-based violence, and to support of systematic work with violent persons.

1.3 Action Plan Users

The nature of the Action Plan, which is a strategic document of the Czech Government, shows that it is primarily intended for the relevant central bodies of the state administration to which it stipulates individual tasks for the period of 2015 - 2018. Furthermore, the Action Plan is intended for all organisations and social services providers working in the field of prevention and combating domestic and gender-based violence. The Action Plan is not setting tasks for these organisations; however it provides information on the priorities and planned measures of the Czech Government in this area. Similarly, the Action Plan will serve to regions and municipalities when formulating their own strategic social policy documents, including the prevention and combating domestic and gender based violence.

1.4 Basic definitions

Basic definitions correspond to their standard use in relevant international and domestic documents (see Chapter 1.5).

Assisted contact between parents and children - when a child meets a parent with whom it does not share the same household and with whom the child lost, for some reasons (long-term separation, domestic violence, other violence, divorce or separation in the family), contact. Assisted contact takes place in a safe, and for that purpose adopted environment, by specialised staff from organisations that are authorised to provide social and legal protection of children. The aim of the assisted contact is to support relationships between parents and children so that children can easily enforce their rights to having both parents. During these interventions potential risks of the meetings for the child are named and monitored, and benefits of the meetings for a healthy development of children are clearly prioritised.

Domestic violence - all acts of physical, sexual, psychological, economic and other forms of violence occurring in families, or households, between former or existing spouses, partners or close persons regardless if the violent person shares, or has shared the same household with the person affected the violence.

Gender - definition referring to socially and culturally subjected and construed differences between women and men which are historically and locally changeable. It does not refer to innate and unchanging characteristics of women and men but it reflects the actual status of social relationships between women and men. As such, gender stands in contrast to biological differences between women and men.

Gender-based violence - all acts of physical, sexual, psychological, economic⁶ or other forms of violence targeted at women because they are women, or at men for reasons that they are men, or acts of violence which inadequately affects women or men.

Gender stereotypes - simplified and prejudiced ideas about traits, opinions and roles of women and men in the society, at work and family. Generalisation of male and female characteristics can often lead to disadvantaging those whose behaviour stands out from the given stereotype (e.g. pressure on boys and men who are interested in "female activities").

Violent person - a person who commits some types of domestic or gender-based violence.

Person affected by domestic or gender-based violence - a person who faces some type of violence, including children living in families facing domestic or gender-based violence.

Secondary victimisation - process during which the person endangered by domestic or gender-based violence is overly exposed to psychological stress in connection to investigation of such violence, in connection to providing information about the violence, or in connection to receiving help from different parties.

Sexual violence - any type of sexual behaviour including attempts to have a sexual relationship, undesirable sexual comments and propositions, acts leading to human trafficking or otherwise aimed against the sexuality of a human being, using pressure. In most cases, sexual violence uses sexuality as a power tool.

1.5 Related international and domestic documents

The Action Plan follows on many documents adopted at the European and international level. These are human rights conventions and strategic documents on equality between women and men, and also more specific documents including specific recommendations for the area of prevention and combating of domestic and gender-based violence.

In terms of formulation of measures stated in the Action Plan, the following documents were most relevant:

- UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the General Recommendations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women no. 19;
- the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted on the 5th World Conference on Women in 1995;
- Resolution of the UN General Assembly dated 31 January 2001 to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/RES/55/68);
- Resolution of the UN General Assembly dated 20 December 2004 to eliminate all forms of violence against women (A/RES/59/167);

⁶ Economic violence includes behaviour, aiming to control abilities of an affected person to acquire and use economic resources, which threatens the economic standing of the affected person and his/her potential for self-sufficiency.

- Resolution of the UN General Assembly dated 18 December 2007 to eliminate rape and all other forms of sexual violence and its demonstrations, including conflict and related situations (A/RES/62/134);
- Agreed conclusions of the UN Commission on the Status of Women dated 15 March 2013 to eliminate and prevent all forms of violence against women and girls;
- Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe Rec(2002)5 to protect women against violence;
- Conclusions of the EU Council to Combat Violence against Women and the Provision of Support Services for Victims of Domestic Violence;
- Conclusions of the EU Council to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, including female circumcision dated 5 and 6 June 2014.

The Action Plan also responds to concluding observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women from 2010 addressed to the Czech Republic. Another international document which the Action Plan draws inspiration from is the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (hereinafter the "Istanbul Convention") which was opened for signature in May 2011. The Istanbul Convention determines general standards for the prevention of violence and assistance to affected persons. The Czech Republic has not yet signed the Istanbul Convention. The Action Plan does not anticipate potential acceptance of the Action Plan by the Czech Republic.

The measures stated in the Action Plan follow up the following domestic documents:

- National Action Plan for Positive Aging for 2013 - 2017
- National Strategy for Combating Human Trafficking in the Czech Republic for 2012 - 2015
- Social Inclusion Strategy;
- Strategy for Combating Social Exclusion for 2011 - 2015;
- Roma Integration Concept 2010 – 2013;
- National Plan for the Promotion of Equal Opportunities for Persons with Disabilities for 2010 - 2014;
- Updated Concept for the Integration of Foreign Nationals;
- Concept for Preventing and Tackling Homelessness Issues in the Czech Republic until 2020;
- Action Plan for fulfilling the National Strategy for protection of children's rights 2012-2015.

2. Definition and analysis of the discussed issue

2.1 Occurrence of domestic and gender-based violence

In most cases, domestic violence is repeated, long-term and cyclical, alternatively it can escalate. Usually, the roles of the person endangered and the violent person are clearly divided. A specific feature of domestic violence is that it is not public. Domestic violence is targeted at close family members (the affected person can be a spouse, partner, child, parent, grandparent or sibling). Domestic violence takes many forms - it can be physical, psychological, sexual, economic or other, or their combination.⁷ Physical and psychological violence takes many different forms; studies show that the consequences of all forms can be severe.

⁷ See the National Action Plan for Prevention of Domestic Violence and Violence against Women for 2011 – 2014, approved by the resolution of the Czech Government dated 14 April 2011 no. 262.

In most cases, sexual violence uses sexuality as a power tool. The definition of sexual violence indicates that there are many forms of such violence, including rape, sexual harassment, sexual abuse, forced marriage and sexual exploitation.⁸ In specialist literature the reasons for sexual violence are usually divided into several levels: a) individual (e.g. biological factors and personal history), b) relationships (e.g. relationships with close ones), c) community (factors connected to the context of social relationships - e.g. schools, workplaces, neighbourhood etc.) and d) the whole society (e.g. cultural, religious, gender equality).⁹

International and Czech studies of prevalence of domestic and gender-based violence show that the occurrence of these types of violence is very high. With regards to these studies it is shown that these forms of violence which result in criminal or offence proceedings only represent the tip of the iceberg. For instance, it is estimated that only 5-10% of rapes are reported.¹⁰

According to the research of the World Health Organisation from 2013, 35% of women experienced some form of physical or sexual intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence.¹¹ According to this research, women who have been affected by some form of domestic and gender-based violence have significantly more health problems - e.g. they more than twice as likely to suffer from depression. A Swedish prevalence study from 2014 confirms the correlation between being exposed to sexual violence in adulthood and the risk of development of posttraumatic stress disorder, self-injury, alcohol abuse, worse health condition, psychosomatic difficulties and an increased risk of myocardial infarction.¹²

Fundamental Rights Agency (hereinafter "FRA") made the biggest comparative study so far on the prevalence of domestic and gender-based violence in EU countries. Study entitled Violence against Women: an EU-wide survey was conducted using a sample of 1,400 women in each EU country using standardised methodology. Among other, the study showed that 32% of women experienced physical or sexual violence in the Czech Republic (EU average is 33%). According to this research 9% of women in the Czech Republic experienced stalking (the EU average is 18%), 12% suffered sexual abuse (EU average is 12%) and 5% were raped (EU average is 5%).¹³

Czech research also indicates a similar degree of occurrence of these types of violence - according to the research of the Czech Academy of Sciences, approximately 38% of women experienced some form of violence inflicted on them by their partners.¹⁴ According to the research of non-profit organisation proFem, 40% of women experienced physical or sexual violence inflicted on them by their partner.¹⁵ A research on occurrence

⁸ See Kutálková, P., Kobová, L.: Sexual violence: Why is nobody asking?. 2014. Available at: <http://www.rozkosbezrizika.cz/ke-stazeni/soubory/publikace-sexualni-nasili-proc-se-nikdo-nepta/stahnout>.

⁹ See *ibid.*

¹⁰ See the Ministry of the Interior Research Study: A Gap or A Chasm? Attrition in Reported Rape Cases. 2005. Available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20110314171826/http://rds.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/hors293.pdf>.

¹¹ See WHO: Global and regional estimates of violence against women: prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence. 2014. Available at: http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/85239/1/9789241564625_eng.pdf

¹² See Lucas S., Andersson T., Heimer G.: Violence and Health in Sweden - A population-based study of women's and men's experiences of violence and correlations to health. Uppsala University. 2014.

¹³ See FRA: Violence Against Women: an EU-wide Survey. 2014. Available at: http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf.

¹⁴ Academy of Sciences CR International Research of Violence against Women, 2003. Available at: http://studie.soc.cas.cz/upl/texty/files/200_04-2%20opr%20zformatovany%20text%204%20pro%20tisk.pdf.

¹⁵ See K. Kunc, et al.: Economic impacts of domestic violence in the CR. 2012. Available at: http://www.profem.cz/shared/clanky/103/profem-studie2b-web_1.pdf.

of sexual violence at Czech universities brought interesting findings about different forms of gender-based violence, it showed that nearly 75% of female and male students experienced behavioural signs which correspond to the definition of sexual violence. However, when asked a direct question if they were sexually harassed, only 3% of students responded positively.¹⁶ This fact shows lower social awareness of what sexual violence is. Similar problems have been identified by many international studies.¹⁷ The research of the Sociological Institute of the Czech Academy of Sciences shows a high degree of occurrence of harassment at universities.¹⁸ In terms of occurrence of sexual violence at workplace, we can refer to a research of the Sociological Institute of the Academy of Sciences from 2005 which shows that 13% of women and 4% of men experience serious forms of sexual abuse at workplace.¹⁹

ProFem has recently brought some interesting findings of the occurrence of domestic and gender-based violence in relationships of adolescent persons according to which 59% of teenagers encountered violent behaviour, mostly at school (46%), in partnership (32%) and family (32%). The research showed that most of teenagers (77%) who have encountered violent behaviour have not notified anyone.²⁰

In terms of research of domestic violence on men, the specialist literature shows that men are also affected by domestic violence, both by other men or women.²¹ With regards to serious forms of domestic violence such as severe forms of physical and sexual violence or stalking, we can identify a clear gender asymmetry (women represent 97% of victims). Gender asymmetry can also be identified in cases of sexual violence and it is also valid that most persons killed by their partners are women.²² Although men are less affected by domestic violence, there are circumstances which make the prevention of domestic violence against men and assistance to endangered persons more complex. In particular the fact that domestic violence against men is less visible because the physical consequences are usually less severe. It is also significant that men more than women deny their role as a person endangered by domestic violence, and gender stereotypes play a major role here.²³

Although research has been done on the prevalence of domestic and gender-based violence in the Czech Republic, carried out by scientific institutions and NGOs, the more complex knowledge of these forms of violence and their development is still not sufficient

¹⁶ See Pavlík, P., Smetáčková, I.: Sexual harassment at universities: Theory definitions, methodology, research results. 2011.

Available at: http://sreview.soc.cas.cz/uploads/99c2c21a9ec6ae04d0e8b2e8a462d588fb3bcab3_SmetackovaPavliksoccas2011-2.pdf

¹⁷ See for example Kutálková, P., Kobová, L.: Sexual violence: Why is nobody asking?. 2014. Available at: <http://www.rozkosbezrizika.cz/ke-stazeni/soubory/publikace-sexualni-nasili-proc-se-nikdo-nepta/stahnout>.

¹⁸ See Vohlídalová, M.: Sexual harassment at universities. A non-existing problem in the CR?. Gender, equal opportunities, research. 10 (2):20-28. Available at:

http://www.genderonline.cz/uploads/b9b2849ecf3a1c5fea8c893521899f7eca485452_sexualni-obtezovani-na-vs.pdf.

¹⁹ See Sociology Institute of the Academy of Sciences: Harassment of women and men and sexual harassment in work relationships within the Czech system. 2005. Available at: <http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/1699/obtezovani.pdf>.

²⁰ See H. Maříková, M. Špačková: Violence in relationships as seen by teenagers/-ek. 2014.

²¹ See the Faculty of Social Studies: Men and domestic violence, conference anthology. 2011. Available at: <http://www.nasilinamuzich.cz/wp-content/uploads/muzi.pdf>

²² See Čírtková, L.: Men as victims of domestic violence. Family and Law, no. 7/2010 or Stockl H., Devrines K., Rotstein A., Abrahams N., Campbell J., Watts Ch., Moreno C.G. The global prevalence of intimate partner homicide: a systematic review. Lancet 20th of June 2013.

²³ See *ibid*.

at the national level.²⁴ In this context, the main problem is the fact that, compared to other countries, there is no systematic and regular collection of data in the Czech Republic on the prevalence of domestic and gender-based violence by the state administration. The current research, apart from several exceptions (such as the attitude of Romani women to domestic violence²⁵), does not usually focus on the occurrence of domestic and gender-based violence in marginalised groups of inhabitants or persons facing the risk of multiple discrimination. Limits of the research, due to insufficient knowledge base, is consequently reflected in the efficiency of relevant measures at national level. Due to this reason the Action Plan responds to the insufficient number of available studies and analysis (see Chapter 6 Area 6).

2.2 Consequences of domestic and gender-based violence for the entire society

As it has been already mentioned, domestic and gender based violence brings along severe negative consequences for individuals and the entire society. The research shows major negative economic consequences, including consequences for the labour market.

According to a study from 2006, Sweden loses 100 mio USD per annum (more than 2 billion CZK) as a result of lower work productivity caused by domestic violence.²⁶ Even more serious negative economic impacts are estimated by Spanish²⁷ and French²⁸ studies from 2010 which estimate that the loss, resulting from negative impacts of domestic violence on the labour market, comes close to 990 mio USD (nearly 20 billion CZK), or 1,500 mio USD (more than 30 billion CZK).

In the Czech Republic a probe research of economic impacts of domestic violence was made in 2012 by a NGO proFEM. This study showed that the cost of tackling domestic violence costs the Czech state budget more than 1.3 billion CZK per annum; this is a very conservative estimate since the calculation does not include indirect cost connected to domestic violence. Negative economic impacts were researched in the following areas: operations by the police, public prosecutor's offices, courts, offence proceedings, social services, unemployment benefits, health care, disability pension, health insurance.²⁹

The results of international research also show major health impacts of domestic and gender-based violence on all types of persons endangered by this type of violence (in particular children growing up in families with presence of the domestic and gender-based violence).³⁰ The research shows a connection between experiencing domestic

²⁴ For more information on the availability of data on occurrence of domestic violence, see Martinková, M., Slavětínská, V., Vlach, J.: Selected issues regarding domestic violence in the CR. Institute of Criminology and Social Prevention. 2014. Available at: <http://www.ok.cz/iksp/docs/414.pdf>.

²⁵ For more information see Slovo 21: Research on the position of Romani women in the Czech Republic. 2014. Available at: http://www.slovo21.cz/images/dokumenty/DEF_VZKUM_O_POSTAVEN_ROMSKCH_EN_V_R_pdf_publicace_9_2014.pdf.

²⁶ For more information see Envall, E., Eriksson, A.: Costs of violence against women. 2006. Available at: http://www.gender-budgets.org/index.php?option=com_joomdoc&task=document.download&path=resources/by-theme-issue/sectoral-application-of-grb/costs-of-violence-against-women&Itemid=822.

²⁷ For more information see Villagomé, E.: The Economic and Social Costs of Domestic Violence Against Women in Andalusia. 2010. Available at: <http://www.unece.org/fileadmin/DAM/stats/documents/ece/ces/ge.30/2010/8.e.pdf>.

²⁸ For more information see Nectoux, M.: An Economic Evaluation of Intimate Partner Violence in France. 2010.

²⁹ For more information see K. Kunc, et al.: Economic impacts of domestic violence in the CR. 2012. Available at: http://www.profem.cz/shared/clanky/103/profem-studie2b-web_1.pdf.

³⁰ For more information see for example Perry, B.D. The neurodevelopmental impact of violence in childhood. In Textbook of Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatry, (Eds., D. Schetky and E.P. Benedek) American Psychiatric Press, Inc., Washington, D.C. 2002.

Bogat, G. A., et al. (2006) Trauma symptoms among infants exposed to intimate partner Violence. Child Abuse & Neglect.

violence in childhood and the risk of developing psychological disorders and somatic illnesses in adulthood. An American study, using a sample of 17,000 persons, shows a connection between witnessing violence in childhood and a higher risk of developing cardiovascular diseases in adulthood. The same study shows that if a child grows up in a family where violence is present, this represents the biggest risk factor for early death.³¹ The aforementioned FRA study shows that 42% of women affected by domestic violence stated that they were exposed to intimate partner violence also during pregnancy. This study also confirms that if a woman was subjected to sexual violence in childhood, there is a risk that she will be affected by violence also in adulthood. Negative impacts of domestic and gender-based violence are significantly reflected in health care, both with regards to individuals (more health risks) but also the entire society (higher health care costs). Therefore, international recommendations are oriented, amongst others, at strengthening the role of health care personnel when preventing and combating cases of domestic and gender-based violence.³²

3. Procedure of creating the Action Plan

The preparation of the Action Plan started in December 2013 when a working group was established as part of the Committee for the preparation of the Action Plan (hereinafter the "Working Group"). The first meeting of the Working Group took place on 4 December 2013, and follow up meetings took place until September 2014. In total, the Working Group met 8 times and identified persisting problems in particular the strategic areas of the Action Plan and defined proposals for measures focusing on finding solutions to the problems. External specialists (mostly working in the field of interventions for violent persons) were invited to attend some of the meetings. The Working Group provided regular updates to the Committee on its progress.

A draft version of the Action Plan was presented to the Committee at its meeting on 25 September 2014. The Committee raised several specific comments with regards to the Action Plan which were incorporated into the Action Plan, or a reason was provided why they were not incorporated. A final version of the Action Plan was approved by the Committee at its meeting of 11 December 2014.

Relevant specialists on domestic and gender-based violence from NGOs, state administration, the judicial system and representatives of the intervention centres and other relevant providers of social services were included into the preparation of the Action Plan.

Evans, S. E., Davies, C. & DiLillo, D. (2008) Exposure to domestic Violence: A meta-analysis of child and adolescent outcomes, *Aggression and Violent Behavior*.

Gilbert, R. Widom, C. S., Browne, K., Fergusson, D., Webb, E. & Jansson, S. (2009) : Burden and Consequences of child maltreatment in high-income countries. *Lancet*.

Kirkengen, A.L. (2001). *Inscribed bodies. Health impact of childhood sexual abuse*. Kluwer Academic Publishers.

Shonkoff et al, (2012) – *The lifelong effects of Early Childhood Adversity and Toxic Stress*, *Pediatrics*, 129.

³¹ Felitti V.J., Anda R.F. (2010). The relationship of adverse childhood experiences to adult medical disease, psychiatric conditions, and sexual behavior: implications for healthcare. I: Lanius RA, Vermetten E, Pain C (eds.) *The impact of early life trauma on health and disease: the hidden epidemic*. Cambridge University Press..

³² See FRA: Violence Against Women: an EU-wide Survey. 2014. Available at: http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf.

Members of the Committee (as of 11 December 2014):

Bednářová Zdena Zuzana, Acorus	Laurenčíková Klára, Charles University
Čechová Jitka, Persefona	Marvanová Vargová Branislava, independent specialist
Čuhelová Kateřina, County Court in Brno	Millerová Eva, Ministry of Health
Gabrielová Adriena, proFem	Pečivová Barbora, Ministry of Justice
Gjuričová Jitka, Ministry of the Interior	Poláková Jitka, proFem
Heřmánková Radka, Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports	Potměšil Jan, independent specialist
Holušová Barbora, IC Prague	Prokopová Zdeňka, ROSA
Hovorka Daniel, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs	Spoustová Ivana, lawyer
Jonitová Bronislava, Ministry of Defence	Vítoušová Petra, Bílý kruh bezpečí
Kosařová Jana, Život 90	Vojtíšková Martina, Association of intervention centre workers
Krpálková Jindřiška, independent specialist	Vrbický Jan, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs

Other persons involved:

Bělohávková Kateřina, Ministry of the Interior	Mosleh Jolana, Police Presidium
Hurychová Eva, independent specialist	Skoumalová Alena, Regional Headquarters CR Police in Brno
Jakobsen Barbora, ATV	Studzinská Veronika, Ministry of the Interior

4. Review of the existing measures

The previous Action Plan 2011 - 2014 presented the first comprehensive strategic document presented by the Government of the Czech Republic specifically focusing on the area of prevention of domestic violence and helping its victims. The work on the 2011-2014 Action Plan commenced at the beginning of 2010 and its approval, by the resolution of the Czech Government on 14 April 2011 no 262, represented a turning point for the coordination of domestic policies for the prevention of domestic violence.

The implementation of the 2011-2014 Action Plan was evaluated by the Committee and an annual document entitled a Summary Report on Action Plan 2011 - 2014 (hereinafter "Summary Reports"). Summary Reports also include recommendations of the Committee for efficient performance of the Action Plan for 2011 - 2014 which served as a basis for formulating some of the tasks stated in the Action Plan.

Already in the beginnings of the implementation of the Action Plan for 2011 - 2014 it became apparent that a thorough/consistent fulfilment of some of the measures will be problematic for some of the departments. Either due to the general nature of the respective measures or due to insufficient will of the departments to fulfil the measures.

In general, the implementation of the Action Plan for 2011-2014 can be evaluated positively in the sense that some major tasks were completed (in particular, education of supporting professions, widening specialisation and including domestic violence and also supporting interdisciplinary cooperation), but it also transpired from the Summary Reports that several tasks were not met sufficiently, such as accessibility and quality of social services provided to persons endangered by domestic violence, organising primary prevention activities in the educational system, supporting work with violent persons, and supporting collation of data and research concerning domestic violence.

Based on the experience with implementation of the Action Plan for 2011 - 2014 the tasks included in the Action Plan were defined in as much detail as possible in order to provide the departments with a clear idea of what is expected. When proposing tasks, the SMART

method was applied in order to make the measures sufficiently specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time bound.³³

Pending issues, concerning measures stated in Action Plan for 2011 - 2014, are detailed in Chapter 6.

5. Implementation of the Action Plan

The Action Plan will be implemented through activities of individual departments in relation to the defined tasks. The implementation of the Action Plan will be coordinated by a member of the Czech Government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men (the Minister for Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Legislation) in cooperation with the Minister of the Interior.

Monitoring of the implementation and the evaluation of the Action Plan shall be carried out by the Committee and the Council. It is expected that individual departments will regularly inform the Committee, via its representatives, about the progress of the Action Plan implementation, and if necessary they will consult their steps in order to deliver the tasks at hand. In addition to its monitoring role, the Committee will also perform an assistance role.

The Action Plan will be evaluated every year in Summary Reports following the time schedule shown below. The responsibility for the preparation of Summary Reports lies with a member of the Czech Government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men (the Minister for Human Rights, Equal Opportunities and Legislation) in cooperation with the Minister of the Interior. An overview of the information required shall be prepared by the Committee for the departments, which will be linked to the indicators for relevant tasks in the Action Plan, so that the departments can start collecting background data for the preparation of the Summary Report. Summary Reports will also include proposals for update, or completion of tasks determined by the Action Plan so that it is possible to respond to problems, occurring in the area of prevention and combating of domestic and gender-based violence.

³³The SMART method is a tool used in project management and strategy creation to determine objectives which are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time bound.

Time schedule for the preparation of the Summary Reports:

Deadline	Activity	Gestor
continuously	informing the Committee about the performance of the Action Plan by representatives of particular departments	members of the Czech government
January year $n+1$	requesting background data from particular departments the Action Plan is being implementation in year n , gestor: member of the government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men	member of the government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men,
February/March year $n+1$	preparation of a Summary Report for year n	member of the government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men, Minister of the Interior
March year $n+1$	discussing the Summary Report for year n in the Committee	member of the government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men,
April/May year $n+1$	discussing the Summary Report for year n in the Committee	member of the government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men,
June year $n+1$	submitting the Summary Report for year n to the Czech Government	member of the government responsible for the agenda of equality between women and men, in cooperation with the Minister of Interior

Implementation of specific tasks of the Action Plan should be funded from the standard budgets of relevant departments, alternatively from the future funding period of EU cohesion policy.

6. Tasks

Area 1 Assisting persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence

Identified problems:

- A low accessibility of social services (including safe houses) for persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence and their unequal regional accessibility.³⁴
- The inability to establish the exact number of specialised services for persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence and the amount of funds which is provided to the providers of such services.
- Non-existence of generic standards for tackling domestic violence.
- Non-existence of a free nationwide specialised non-stop telephone line for persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.³⁵
- Specialised establishments cannot be used for immediate help to persons who are particularly endangered by violence.
- No adequate free legal aid is provided to persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.
- There are no social services establishments for victims of domestic and gender-based violence where the victims could stay for a longer period of time (circa 3 years) and there are no specialised therapeutic and social-legal services for persons who have been mistreated for a long period of time.³⁶
- Secondary victimisation by some of the professions is still taking place.
- No protection against cyber harassment from violent persons is provided to persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence and to the professionals helping them.
- There is no systematic help for persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence in health care facilities. No specialised therapeutic services are available for persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.

Tasks for the area of Assistance to Persons Endangered by Domestic and Gender-Based Violence

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
1.	To anchor generic standards for providers of social services in the area of domestic and gender-based violence who provide their services to relevant target groups.	Mandatory anchoring of generic standards for the area of domestic and gender-based violence (e.g. Decree 505/2006 Coll. implementing some of the provisions of the Act on Social Services).	MLSA 31/12/2016
2.	Transformation and integration of current phone lines operated by NGOs in order to launch	Phone line existence. Number of lines that were set up through the integration of the free phone	MLSA, Ministry of the Interior (MI)

³⁴ The minimum accessibility of these services as recommended by the Council of Europe standards is not met. In particular, standards included in the explanatory memorandum of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence: one family place in a specialised establishment for victims of domestic violence per 10,000 inhabitants, one centre for victims of sexual abuse per 200,000 inhabitants.

³⁵ Since 1 January 2015 a free phone line, named DONA, was provided by Bílý kruh bezpečí as part of a project funded from Norway Grants.

³⁶ According to information from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, persons endangered by domestic violence will represent a target group in the prepared bill on social (accessible) housing.

	an operation of a nationwide free phone line, which would provide non-stop service to persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.	line. Number of calls per years.	31/12/2016 and continuously in the following years
3.	To ensure regional accessibility of specialised safe houses for victims of domestic violence (inter alia, intervention centres and their activities) so that there was at least one safe house, which size corresponds to the number of inhabitants in the respective region, and is able to accommodate also bigger families.	Number of safe houses in individual regions. Number of places in safe houses.	MLSA in cooperation with regions 31/12/2018
4.	To ensure regional accessibility of crisis housing for persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence so that there is a sufficient number of crisis beds in all regions, reflecting the number of inhabitants in the region.	Number of crisis beds in individual regions. Number of earmarked crisis beds for seniors in individual regions	MLSA in cooperation with regions 31/12/2017 and continuously in the following years
5.	To ensure free legal aid by the state, through the Act on Provision of Legal Aid, to persons who cannot take advantage of legal services to enforce and protect their rights due to their material needs.	Submission of a legislative intention of the act to the Czech Government and subsequently presenting the bill to the Czech Government.	MJ 31.12.2015 (legislative intention) 31.12.2016 (Bill)
6.	To ensure that specific needs and situation of persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence are thoroughly reflected during the implementation of the Concept for Social Housing in the Czech Republic and the preparation of the Social Housing Act.	Classifying persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence as persons with housing needs that are entitled to receive help from the state in case of housing needs in accordance with the Concept of Social Housing in the Czech Republic and the Social Housing Act. Number of supported rental flats and houses.	MLSA in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development (MRD) and the Office of the Government of the CR 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
7.	To use a form for reporting defective content and activities on the Internet, for stalking, and for removal of content from websites created by violent persons in order to damage, or victimize the reputation of persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence and supporting professions.	Widening the current range of services offered on the website of the Ministry of the Interior. ³⁷	Ministry of the Interior 31/12/2015

³⁷ Form for reporting defective contents and activities on the Internet is available on: <http://aplikace.policie.cz/hotline/>.

8.	To ensure access to immediate help for persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence in risk cases using new technology, inter alia, cooperation with NGOs.	Launching new technologies to call for immediate help. Statistic information on the scope of their use shall be provided on an annual basis.	Ministry of the Interior 31.12.2016 and continuously in the following years
9.	To prepare a concept for assisting persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence in health care, including access to professional and specialised health care services for persons endangered by these forms of violence.	Prepared concept, number of specialised health care services for persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.	MH 31/12/2017
10.	To ensure access to specialised therapeutic services to persons affected by domestic and gender-endangered violence, including children, and to anchor the possibility that these services are paid for by health insurance companies.	Number of specialised therapeutic services in individual regions. Way of anchoring the possibility that these services are paid for by health insurance companies.	MH 31.12.2017 and continuously in the following years
11.	Using grants to ensure regular, timely and predictable funding of NGOs which provide assistance to persons affected by domestic and gender based violence.	Number and description of grants available for helping persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence. Number of supported organisations and scope of financial allocation.	MLSA, MI 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years

Area 2 Children endangered by domestic and gender-based violence

Identified problems:

- Low accessibility of specialised services offering qualified help to children traumatised by domestic and gender-based violence.
- Insufficient provision of assisted contact between violent parents and their children in case of domestic violence. No minimum standards for assisted contact.
- Development of parental competencies is not sufficiently supported in case of assisted contact with children who have been endangered by (witnessed) domestic and gender-based violence.
- Pursuant to Act 273/2008 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic, children living in families affected domestic violence are not considered persons endangered by domestic violence ex lege.
- Not enough attention is paid to the protection of children against domestic and gender-based violence during the implementation of measures concerning enforcement of children's rights.
- There is low awareness of the issue of gender-based violence against children in sports and physical education.
- Low capacity and insufficient methodology for teachers to help them recognise and tackle cases of domestic and gender-based violence against children.

Tasks for the area Children Endangered by Domestic and Gender-Based Violence

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
12.	To ensure sufficient funding and access to professional therapeutic help for children living in families affected by domestic violence and for children affected by other forms of gender-based violence (e.g. abuse) so that the help is available in every region.	Number of services providing professional therapeutic help to children affected by domestic violence in regions for respective years.	MLSA, MH 31.12.2016 and continuously in the following years
13.	To create standards for assisted contact between violent parents and children growing up in families affected by domestic violence so that the standards reflect, in particular, the interests of children and their safety. Anchor the duty of using the standards.	To create standards and describe the method of their use.	MLSA 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
14.	To ensure implementation of measures leading to protection of children against domestic and gender-based violence during the implementation of the Action Plan in order to fulfil the National Strategy for Protection of Children's Rights 2012 - 2015 and related concept documents.	Number and description of implemented measures in respective years.	MLSA 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
15.	To implement awareness campaigns focusing on the prevention of sexual abuse, harassment and other forms of gender-based violence in sports concerning teenagers as part of state support for sports	Number of supported projects.	MEYS 31.12.2015 and continuously in

			the following years
16.	To prepare a separate annex to the Methodology Recommendations of the MEYS for primary prevention of risk behaviour of children, pupils and students at schools and school facilities that will be specifically focused on the area of domestic and gender based violence.	Separate annex of methodology recommendations.	MEYS
			31/12/2015
17.	To financially support implementation of programmes for parents who commit domestic violence and who have been subjected to domestic and gender-based violence; focus on the development of parental competencies.	Number of supported programmes in respective years	MLSA
			31.12.2016 and continuously in the following years
18.	Preparation of methodology for the application of educational measures pursuant to Section 13 Act 359/1999 Coll., on Social and Legal Protection of Children.	Prepared methodology.	MLSA
			31/12/2016

Area 3: Work with violent persons

Identified problems:

- Low regional accessibility of services focusing on therapeutic intervention for violent persons.
- Non-existence of minimum standards setting forth basic requirements for therapeutic interventions for violent persons.
- Persisting low awareness of accessibility of therapeutic interventions for violent persons (both for violent persons and authorities authorised to recommend/order interventions).

Tasks for the area Work with violent persons:

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
19.	To ensure nationwide accessibility of therapeutic interventions for violent persons so that there is at least one specialised organisation in the region (e.g. founders/providers of intervention centre services) providing therapeutic intervention for violent persons offering enough programmes to reflect the number of inhabitants in the respective region.	Number of supported organisations providing therapeutic intervention for violent persons in individual regions.	MLSA in cooperation with MI 31.12.2017 and continuously in the following years
20.	To keep an updated list of organisations providing therapeutic interventions for violent persons and to publish the list on the website of relevant departments.	Link to the list of such organisations.	MLSA, MI, Ministry of Justice (MJ) 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
21.	To ensure that compliance with standards for work with violent persons is binding for organisations providing therapeutic intervention for violent persons.	Anchoring generic standards in relevant generally binding legal regulations.	MLSA 31.12.2017 and continuously in the following years

Area 4: Education and interdisciplinary cooperation

Identified problems:

- No systematic and intensive education in the area of domestic and gender-based violence for professions who are in contact with persons in danger.
- Low awareness of the staff working for authorities providing social and legal protection of children ("ASLPCH") about the possibility to order assisted contact in cases of domestic violence.
- Specialisation of judicial and police authorities in cases of domestic and gender-based violence is not sufficiently supported. When applying the institute of expulsion, the Police do not use efficient diagnostic methods.
- There is a lack of comprehensive information on the state of interdisciplinary cooperation in individual regions, including examples of good practice.
- Insufficient knowledge of domestic and gender-based violence at primary and secondary schools, including insufficient education of teachers.

Tasks for the area of Interdisciplinary Cooperation:

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
22.	To set up an interdepartmental working group for domestic and gender-based violence, comprising members of the Committee and organisations combating domestic and gender-based violence. Based on the activities of the working group, to include education concerning domestic and gender-based violence into valid concepts of the MEYS.	Setting up the working group. Number of meetings. Methods of including education concerning domestic and gender-based violence into valid concepts of the MEYS.	MEYS in cooperation with the MLSA, MH, MJ, MI 31/12/2015 and continuously in the following years
23.	To arrange for regular training of employees of ASLPCH, with regards to their duty to arrange for assisted contact between violent parents and their children in case of domestic violence with the help of specialised centres.	Number of trained staff.	MLSA 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
24.	In cooperation with organisations, working in the field of prevention of domestic violence, to review the methodology recommendations for primary prevention of risk behaviour in children, pupils and students at schools and school facilities in order to reflect situations when children live in families endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.	Review relevant methodology recommendations.	MEYS 31/12/2015
25.	To arrange for regular staff training at relevant institutions and organisations: Police, judicial system, education, social services (including ASLPCH, social service workers) with regards to domestic and gender-based violence.	Number of training sessions organised and the number of participants.	MI, MJ, MEYS, MLSA 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years

26.	In cooperation with the Committee, to prepare a methodology document for the development of training programmes for health care staff, which is specific for the area of domestic and gender-based violence and to arrange for regular training sessions in connection to the methodology document.	Methodology document, number of organised training sessions in respective years, number of trained staff.	MH
			31.12.2017 and continuously in the following years
27.	To prepare analysis of the current state of work of interdisciplinary teams and interdisciplinary cooperation in individual regions in order to identify existing problems and good practice, and to state potential recommendations.	Prepared analysis.	MEYD in cooperation with MI, MJ
			31/12/2016
28.	To widen interdisciplinary cooperation and to include the area of rape and sexual violence.	Number of existing interdisciplinary teams dealing also with rape and sexual violence in individual regions.	MLSA
			31/12/2016
29.	In accordance with recommendations of the "DnM Specialist" initiative, which is guaranteed by the Association of Intervention Centre Staff, to support specialisation of the Police in cases of domestic and gender-based violence.	The number of specialised policemen for cases of domestic and gender-based violence per individual organisational units of the Police.	Ministry of the Interior
			31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
30.	To prepare a comparative analysis judges specialising in cases of domestic and gender-based violence based on criminal proceedings abroad. To consider potential inclusion of this specialisation at regional criminal courts.	To prepare a comparative analysis. Information on the evaluation of the possibility to include the specialisation at regional criminal courts.	MJ
			31/12/2016
31.	To prepare analysis of the suitability of the SARA (Spousal Assault Risk Assessment) diagnostic method and to consider its review, amendment or replacement with another diagnostic method.	Outputs from the performed analysis and reflection into practice.	Ministry of the Interior
			31/12/2015
32.	To offer protection of persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence against secondary victimisation by professions who come in contact with these persons through intensive education and methodology leadership.	Number of training programmes for ASLPCH. Amendment of relevant methodology documents for ASLPCH.	MLSA
			31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
33.	In cooperation with the Czech School Inspection to investigate the method and scope of education regarding domestic and gender-based violence at primary and secondary schools, and to ensure professional support during the development of this type of education.	Outputs of the investigation. To provide information on the method and scope of professional help at primary and secondary schools every year.	MEYS
			31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years

Area 5: Society and domestic and gender-based violence

Identified problems:

- Not enough attention is paid by relevant state administration authorities to primary prevention and campaigns against domestic and gender-based violence.
- Low awareness of the society about which institutions to contact in case of domestic and gender-based violence and how to protect yourself against this type of violence.
- Persisting high degree of tolerance towards domestic and gender-based violence and a high degree of occurrence of gender stereotypes.
- The educational system does not support primary prevention of pupils and learning about equality between women and men.
- There is a low awareness of the issue and gender-based violence amongst regional educational coordinators and methodologists for prevention.

Tasks for the area Society and Domestic and Gender-based Violence

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
34.	To implement a government information campaign about the issue of domestic and gender-based violence and its consequences. The campaign should comprise TV spots, websites and additional promotional materials.	Number of broadcast TV spots, existence and visitor rates for the campaign website. Number of distributed promotional materials.	Office of the Government 31/12/2015
35.	On the occasion of 16 days of activism against violence against women, to organise media broadcasts, specialised conferences (in connection to the following tasks) and additional programme in order to increase awareness of domestic and gender-based violence.	Number of organised events and number of participants.	Office of the Government in cooperation with MLSA, MEYS, MI 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
36.	To organise a conference for ASLPCH staff on the issue of domestic and gender based violence.	Conference and the number of participants.	MLSA 31/12/2015
37.	To organise a conference on the issue of rape.	Conference and the number of participants.	Office of the Government 31/12/2015
38.	To organise a conference on the issue of cyber harassment in connection to protection of persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence and assisting professions and officials involved in tackling this forms of violence. To publish collection of presented papers.	Conference and the number of participants. Number of published and distributed anthologies.	MI in cooperation with the Office of the Government 31/12/2015

39.	To organise a conference on child custody and its various options, including shared custody, in connection to domestic and gender-based violence in the light of the Czech law, ESLP jurisdiction and comparisons made (e.g. Germany, Austria, France, Spain, Great Britain and the USA). To publish collection of presented papers.	Conference and the number of participants. Number of published and distributed anthologies.	MLSA in cooperation with the Office of the Government 31/12/2016
40.	To organise a conference on domestic and gender-based violence for regional school coordinators and prevention coordinators, school methodologists and prevention methodologists. To publish collection of presented papers.	Conference and the number of participants. Number of published and distributed anthologies.	MEYS in cooperation with the Office of the Government 31/12/2016
41.	To determine as one of the priorities elimination of gender stereotypes in society during the amendment of the State Cultural Policy for 2015-2020.	The method of reflecting priorities for the elimination of gender stereotypes in society as part of the State Cultural Policy for 2015 - 2020 and a description of measures implemented in respective years.	MC 31.12.2015 and continuously in the following years
42.	To reflect the issue of equality between women and men and elimination of gender stereotypes as a horizontal principle in the grants policy for culture.	The description of methods to enforce the issue of equality between women and men and to eliminate gender stereotypes as a horizontal principle in respective grants programme of the Ministry of Culture.	MC 31.12.2017 and continuously in the following years
43.	To organise a conference on therapeutic interventions for violent persons in case of domestic and gender-based violence and on different forms of domestic and gender-based violence in families and the ways of tackling the issue.	Conference and the number of participants.	MLSA in cooperation with the Office of the Government 31/12/2016
44.	In cooperation with the Committee, to arrange for the creation and publication of an appendix to the Methodology Recommendations for Prevention for Primary and Secondary School Teachers in order to recognise and tackle cases of domestic and spousal violence in the relationships experienced by pupils and students.	Methodology recommendations. Publication of recommendations.	MEYS 31/12/2015
45.	Organise conferences, seminars and training programmes	Number of conferences, seminars and training	MEYS

	to continuously support further education of educational advisors and school methodologists for prevention with regard to domestic and spousal violence.	programmes for the prevention of domestic and spousal violence for respective years.	2015 and continuously in the following years
46.	During a regular review of the Framework Educational Programme for "Civics" classes in primary education, to include a separate area of "Equality between Women and men" into primary education in the Framework Educational Programme which will also cover elimination of gender stereotypes and the issue of domestic and gender-based violence.	Amended framework educational programme for primary education.	MEYS 31/12/2015
47.	During a regular review of the Framework Educational Programmes for technical colleges and grammar schools, to include a separate topic of equality between women and men and prevention of domestic and gender-based violence.	Adjusted framework educational programmes for technical colleges and grammar schools.	MEYS 31/12/2015
48.	To consider presenting a project as part of the Operational Programme Employment (or another operational programme) that would lead to creation and distribution of leaflets for the public about their rights and duties during criminal proceedings connected to domestic and gender-based violence. To cooperate with the Committee during the preparation of leaflets.	Description of steps leading to the presentation and implementation of projects. Number and format of distributed leaflets.	MJ 31/12/2017
49.	Preparation, printing and distribution of information leaflets for the public on domestic and gender-based violence in surgeries. Preparation, printing and distribution of information leaflets for the public on domestic and gender-based violence in social services institutions according to the recommendations of the Committee.	Number of distributed leaflets in surgeries and institutions run by providers of social services.	MH, MLSA in cooperation with the MJ 31/12/2017

Area 6: Analysis, study and data collection

Identified problems:

- Analytical and research activities focusing on the area of domestic and gender-based violence by the state authorities are insufficient, and often substituted by the work of NGOs or international organisations.
- Relevant authorities do not have a comprehensive overview of many fundamental areas connected to the prevention of domestic and gender-based violence and helping the victims.
- No system for collection of data on domestic and gender-based violence in healthcare.
- No research on specific forms of gender-based violence (such as e.g. female circumcision).

Tasks for the area of Analysis, Studies and Data Collection:

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
50.	To coordinate analytical activities focusing on the area of domestic and gender-based violence. To carry out at least 4 analysis, including the analysis of economic impact of domestic violence; the brief shall be defined by the working group of the Committee.	Number of implemented analysis.	Office of the Government 31/12/2016
51.	To carry out analysis of the number of death related to domestic violence in the last 6 years using available police and judicial data.	Implemented research.	MJ 31/12/2017
52.	To carry out analysis of how the media depicted cases of domestic, spousal and sexual violence, including potential recommendations. The analysis should cover the last couple of years and it should focus on the most popular audiovisual media and the most widely read printed media.	Implemented analysis.	Office of the Government, MC in cooperation with MEYS 31/12/2017
53.	To carry out meta analysis of the research of domestic and gender-based violence in the CR and selected European countries. Based on the analysis to state recommendations for further research and collection of data on domestic and gender-based violence.	Implemented meta analysis.	Office of the Government 31/12/2015
54.	To process a study on accessibility of specialised social services for victims of domestic and other forms of gender-based violence with regard to recommendations of the Council of Europe on the minimum accessibility of these services.	Implemented study.	MLSA 31/12/2015

55.	To ensure regular and detailed collection of statistical data, divided by gender, in healthcare in connection to domestic and gender-based violence and regular evaluation of such data.	Existence of the system of collection of statistical data and its annual evaluation.	MH
			31.12.2016 and continuously in the following years
56.	To recommend to universities to reflect in their advisory services and internal regulations the issue of sexual harassment by university students, teachers and the management.	Implemented recommendations and distribution method	MEYS
			31/12/2016
57.	To prepare a sociological analysis of experiences of migrants in the Czech Republic with gender-based violence (including female circumcision) committed in the Czech Republic and the country of origin.	Prepared analysis, stating recommended measures.	Office of the Government in cooperation with MI
			31/12/2016
58.	To carry out a research of judicial decisions on education and alimony when both parents ask for child's custody.	Implemented research. Publication of recommendations.	Office of the Government
			31/12/2016

Area 7: Legislation

Persisting issues in legislation:

- The process of ratification of the Istanbul Convention has not yet started.
- Their inability to receive the stipulated alimony has serious negative impacts on persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence.
- The current organisation of benefits to provide extraordinary immediate help to persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence is not efficient.
- The experience of the Committee shows that the quality of expert opinions in case of domestic and gender-based violence is low in some cases.
- The duty of the ASLPCH to ensure access to professional therapeutic help to children living in families endangered by domestic and gender-based violence and the duty to arrange for assisted contact is not anchored in the legislation.
- Intervention centres cannot offer social services to violent persons.
- The alternative punishment, consisting of the duty to undergo therapeutic interventions, is not sufficiently imposed on perpetrators of domestic and gender-based violence. This option does not even exist for infringement proceedings.
- The possibility of imposing protective measures, consisting of an entrance ban to certain areas or coming close to certain persons, does not exist in infringement proceedings.
- The current legal definition of the criminal offence of rape does not provide sufficient protection against all forms of sexual attacks without the consent of the other person.

Tasks for the area of Legislation:

	Task	Indicator	Gestor, deadline
59.	To ensure preparation of background materials to sign and ratify the Istanbul Convention.	To present the background materials for interdepartmental discussion on the readiness of the CR to join the Istanbul Convention.	MJ in cooperation with MI and GO 30/06/2015
60.	To present to the Czech Government legislation that will set up standards for expert opinions and will make experts liable for poor quality expert opinions.	Presented bill to the Czech Government.	MJ 31/12/2015
61.	To adopt a law on substitute alimony.	Presented bill to the Czech Government.	MLSA 31/12/2016
62.	To anchor the provisions of benefits for extraordinary immediate aid to persons affected by domestic and gender-based violence in connection to their hard economic and social situation, for example by updating Act 111/2006 Coll., on assistance in material need, so that persons endangered by domestic and gender-based violence could be considered persons in material need.	Presenting the bill to the Czech Government, alternatively publishing relevant methodology instructions of the MLSA.	MLSA 31/12/2017

63.	The Act, setting forth the work of ASLPCH, will anchor its duty to make professional therapeutic care available for all children living in families affected by domestic violence and gender-based violence in cooperation with intervention centres and specialised centres.	Anchoring this duty in Act 359/1999 Coll., on social and legal protection of children (or in subsequent act).	MLSA
			31/12/2016
64.	To anchor the legislative duty of ASLPCH to arrange for assisted contact ³⁸of violent parents and children in case of domestic and gender-based violence (assuming the child has the need) using specialised, professional centres.	Widening this duty in Act 359/1999 Coll., on social and legal protection of children (or in subsequent act).	MLSA
			31/12/2015
65.	To update Act 273/2008 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic, so that children living in families affected domestic violence are considered persons affected by domestic violence ex lege.	Presented bill to the Czech Government.	Ministry of the Interior
			31/12/2015
66.	During the amendment of Act 108/2006 Coll., on social services, to define as a target group violent persons in cases of domestic and gender-based violence, and to define basic activities of therapeutic intervention for violent persons so that this type of social services can also be provided to the provider/founder of the intervention centres.	Definition of violent persons and relevant basic activities in Act 108/2006 Coll. on social services.	MLSA
			31/12/2016
67.	To anchor the duty of the police force to provide expelled persons with information on available therapeutic interventions for violent persons in Act 273/2008 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic.	To anchor this duty in Act 273/2008 Coll., on the Police of the Czech Republic.	Ministry of the Interior
			31/12/2017
68.	To anchor the duty of ASLPCH to participate in therapeutic interventions for violent persons in order to equip these persons with suitable parental competencies for parent-child relationships.	To anchor this duty in relevant legislation and methodology instructions.	MLSA
			31/12/2017
69.	To incorporate into the Act on Offences protective measures to enable imposing the duty to undergo therapeutic intervention for violent persons in case of domestic and gender-based violence.	Presented bill to the Czech Government.	Ministry of the Interior
			31/12/2015

³⁸ For definition of assisted contact see Chapter 1.4

70.	<p>After an overview of selected rulings in relevant court jurisdictions for the criminal offence of rape is prepared by the Office of Czech Government (including potential recommendations of the Committee), the overview shall be included onto the agenda of the Ministry of Justice and the chairs of regional and higher courts.</p>	<p>Information on the handover method of the analysis</p>	<p>MJ</p> <hr/> <p>30/06/2016 (providing that the analysis is delivered by the Office of the Government by 31.12.2015)</p>
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