

**Stop domestic
violence
against women**



Strasbourg, 7 November 2006

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**Council of Europe Campaign to Combat
Violence against Women, including
Domestic Violence**

**Launching Conference
Madrid, 27 November 2006**

Practical organisation of the Conference

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The *Launching Conference of the Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence*, will take place on 27 November 2006 in the Spanish Senate in Madrid (Senado, Plaza de la Marina Española, nº 8, 28071 MADRID, Tel: + 34 91 538 18 52, E-mail: informacion@senado.es, www.senado.es).
2. During the Third Summit of the Council of Europe in May 2005, the Heads of State and Government of member states reaffirmed their commitment to eradicating violence against women, including domestic violence, and defined the future activities of the Council of Europe in this field in the Action Plan which they adopted.
3. As agreed upon in the Action Plan, a *Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including domestic violence* has been established and a *Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence* has been prepared. The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, at its 969th meeting, approved the Blueprint for this Campaign as prepared by the Task Force. This document envisages a high-level Launching Conference to launch the Campaign in Madrid on 27 November 2006.
4. This Conference aims at launching the *Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence*. The thematic focus will be on violence against women, including domestic violence. Panel discussions on the following topics will take place:
 - Support and protection of victims
 - Innovative legal and policy measures to combat violence against women – data collection as a prerequisite for effective policies
 - Changing attitudes to combat violence against women

II. PARTICIPATION IN THE CONFERENCE

5. In conformity with the Campaign Blueprint, and taking into account the three different dimensions of the Campaign, invitations will be issued to:
 - A. Intergovernmental dimension
 - a. the Governments of the 46 member States of the Council of Europe,
 - b. the following non-member states having observer status with the Council of Europe: Holy See, United States of America, Canada, Japan, Mexico,
 - c. the Chair of the Committee of Ministers, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly, the President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
 - d. the members of the Council of Europe Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence
 - e. the European Commission and the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union,
 - f. the following international governmental organisations in an observer capacity: Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE); United Nations: Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), United Nations Division for the

Advancement of Women (DAW), United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the advancement of Women (INSTRAW), United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE); World Health Organisation (WHO); Gender Task Force of the Stability Pact for South-Eastern Europe; Nordic Council of Ministers

B. Parliamentary dimension

- a. the members of the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- b. the regional co-ordinators representing the national parliamentarians involved in the parliamentary dimension of the Campaign
- c. the national parliaments enjoying observer status with the Parliamentary Assembly (Canada, Israel, Mexico)
- d. the European Parliament
- e. the Forum of Parliaments of small European States
- f. the Inter-parliamentary Union
- g. the Nordic Council
- h. the parliamentary network of the Gender Task Force of the Stability Pact for South-East Europe

C. Local and regional dimension

- a. mayors and representatives of regional authorities as members of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

D. Non-governmental organisations: Amnesty International, the Conference of INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe, WAVE – Women Against Violence Europe, European Women’s Lobby, European Youth Forum

III. DOCUMENTATION

6. Each participant will receive a Conference file containing the following documents in English or French:

a. Working documents

Programme	EG-VAW (2006) Prog prov
General Information	EG-VAW (2006) Info
Practical organisation of the Conference	EG-VAW (2006) 1
Campaign Blueprint	EG-TFV (2006)8 rev 3

Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the protection of women against violence	
Stocktaking study on the measures and actions taken in Council of Europe member states to combat violence against women	CDEG (2006) 3
Fact Sheet: The Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence	
Fact Sheet: Combating violence against women	
Fact Sheet: Action against Trafficking in Human Beings	
Fact Sheet: Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings	
Fact Sheet: Equality between women and men	
Fact Sheet: Gender mainstreaming	
Implementation of and Follow-up to Recommendation Rec(2002)5 on the Protection of Women against Violence	EG-S-MV (2004)RAP FIN rev
Declaration adopted during the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe	
Action Plan adopted during the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe	
Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 1512 (2006) on parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women	
Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1759 (2006) on parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women	
Handbook for parliamentarians – Parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women	
<i>b. Background documents [these documents are available on the following website: www.coe.int/equality and will be displayed outside the conference hall]</i>	
Forced Marriages in Council of Europe member States - A comparative study of legislation and political initiatives	CDEG (2005) 1
Violence within the family: the role of men – Seminar Proceedings, Strasbourg, 6-7 December 2005	EG-SEM-MV (2005) Proceedings
Therapeutic treatment of men perpetrators of violence within the family - Seminar proceedings, Strasbourg, 18-19 November 2004	EG- SEM-MV (2004) Proceedings
Measures dealing with men perpetrators of domestic violence - Seminar Proceedings, Strasbourg, 25 – 26 June 2003	EG-SEM-MV (2003) Proceedings
Seminar men and violence against women – Proceedings	EG-SEM-VIO (1999) 21
Ending domestic violence: action and measures – Proceedings of the Forum	EG-BUC (1999) 1
Summary of the Plan of Action to combat violence against women	EG-S-VL (1998) 1
Final report of activities of the Group of specialists for combating violence against women (EG-S-VL), including a Plan of Action for combating violence against women	EG-S-VL (97) 1

IV. ORGANISATION OF THE CONFERENCE

7. The Conference will proceed according to the draft programme as set out in document EG-VAW (2006) Prog prov.

a. Welcoming dinner

On Sunday, 26 November 2006, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe will host a dinner to welcome all participants of the Conference at the Circulo de Bellas Artes de Madrid (Alcalá 42, 28014 Madrid, <http://www.circulobellasartes.com>) at 8:00 p.m.

b. Opening of the Conference

8. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Terry DAVIS will open the Conference by welcoming the participants.

c. Thematic sessions

9. The general theme of the Conference, violence against women, will be introduced by Ms Carol HAGEMANN-WHITE, Professor of General Pedagogy and Gender Studies, University of Osnabrück, Germany. In her keynote speech, she will provide an overview of measures and actions taken to combat violence against women in Council of Europe member states. Her overview will be based on the results of a monitoring framework which was sent in 2005 to member states to evaluate progress in the implementation of the *Council of Europe Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the protection of women against violence*, which have, among others, been summed up in the *Stocktaking Study on the measures and actions taken in Council of Europe member states*, published in February 2006.

10. The panel session on *Support and protection of victims*, chaired by Ms Rosemarie ZAPFL-HELBLING, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, will open with pre-recorded testimonies of victims of domestic violence, which will highlight the importance of adequate support and protection for women victims of violence. Following a key note speech delivered by Mr Thomas HAMMARBERG, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, a panel discussion with contributions from ministerial, parliamentarian, local and regional representatives as well as representatives of NGOs will take place.

11. Each panellist will deliver a statement of seven minutes on the theme of *Support and protection of victims*. Interventions by the panellists during the discussion should be on specific issues related to the main subject and should be brief. This session is open to questions from the floor, which will be moderated by the Chair.

12. The panel session on *Innovative legal and policy measures to combat violence against women - data collection* as a prerequisite for effective policies, will be introduced by Ms Dubravka SIMONOVIC, Chairperson of the Council of Europe Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence. As Chair of this session, she will give a brief overview of the work of the Task Force, which has developed the Blueprint for the Campaign. She will also introduce the theme of this session. The keynote speech for this session will be delivered by Ms Tuula HAATAINEN, Minister for Social Affairs and Health, Finland, which will be followed by a panel discussion. The panellists include ministerial and parliamentarian representatives, a non-governmental representative as well as an expert on data collection in the field of violence against women. The aim of this session is to highlight innovative ways in which to combat violence against women, including domestic violence, in the fields of law and policy, taking into account the necessity of gathering information through

data collection before and after the introduction of new measures to guarantee their effectiveness.

13. Each panellist will deliver a statement of seven minutes on the theme of *Innovative legal and policy measures to combat violence against women - data collection* as a prerequisite for effective policies. Interventions by the panellists during the discussion should be on specific issues related to the main subject and should be brief. This session is open to questions from the floor, which will be moderated by the Chair.

14. The Campaign will be launched in a solemn launching ceremony, starting with an address by Mr Francisco Javier ROJO GARCÍA, President of the Senate, Spain, followed by short statements by Mr René VAN DER LINDEN president of the Parliamentary Assembly and Mr Ian MICALLEF, President of the Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. Mr Jesús CALDERA SÁNCHEZ-CAPITÁN, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs of Spain will then address the Conference, followed by Mr Firenzo STOLFI, Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. The solemn launching ceremony will end with an address of Mr Terry DAVIS, Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Prime Minister of Spain, Mr José Luis Rodriguez ZAPATERO.

15. A press conference will take place after the solemn launching ceremony, followed by lunch for all participants hosted by the Spanish authorities.

16. A third panel session on *Changing attitudes to combat violence against women*, will be chaired by Mr Peteris ELFERTS, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Latvia to the Council of Europe and Thematic Co-ordinator on Gender Equality of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. Following a keynote speech held by Ms Yakin ERTÜRK, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, ministerial, parliamentarian and non-governmental representatives will present their point of view on this topic during a panel discussion.

17. Each panellist will deliver a short statement of seven minutes on the theme of *Changing attitudes to combat violence against women*. Interventions by the panellists during the discussion should be on specific issues related to the main subject and should be brief. This session is open to questions from the floor, which will be moderated by the Chair.

18. The last panel session with the theme of *United in combating domestic violence against women*, will be chaired by Mr Valerio PRIGNACHI, member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. A keynote speech on this topic will be delivered by Ms Widney BROWN, Director of Amnesty International. The main focus of this session will be on ways in which governmental, parliamentarian and local and regional representatives, along with non-governmental representatives may, individually and/or jointly, take action to combat domestic violence.

19. Each panellist will deliver a statement of seven minutes on the theme of *United in combating domestic violence against women*. Interventions by the panellists during the discussion should be on specific issues related to the main subject and should be brief, not more than two minutes. This session is open to questions from the floor, which will be moderated by the Chair.

20. All Heads of Delegations of participating States, representatives of various sectors of the Council of Europe and of international and non-governmental organisations may take part in the debates. The different Chairs of the sessions may, in view of the time available, limit the interventions by observers. The Chair will facilitate the debate. He/she, in co-

operation with the Secretariat, will establish the order of speakers and, as appropriate, limit the time of interventions.

d. Closing Session

21. The Conference will close with statements by a representative of the Council of Europe, Ms Minodora CLIVETI, Chairperson of the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and Ms Maria Teresa FERNANDEZ DE LA VEGA, Vice Prime Minister of Spain.

V. PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE CONFERENCE

a. Interpretation

22. Interpretation will be provided in English, French, Italian, Russian, German and Spanish during the Conference.

b. Documents

23. The Conference documents will be provided in English and French by the Council of Europe.

c. Transport

24. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe and other high-level dignitaries will be welcomed at the airport by a representative of the Spanish authorities. Ministers and other high-level representatives are advised to make arrangements for their transport and contact their Embassies in Madrid. Other participants are recommended to make their own arrangements on the basis of the information on transport alternatives provided in document EG-VAW (2006) Info.

d. Formalities

25. Visas for members of the delegations and others will be provided as necessary. Participants requiring visas to enter Spain are advised to make the necessary arrangements well in advance. The Spanish authorities will be invited to inform Spanish Embassies in Council of Europe member states about the launching Conference in order to accelerate the application process. As far as possible, the granting of visas will be free of charge.

e. Press

26. Badges/accreditation for journalists/photographers will be provided by the host country.

f. Security

27. The necessary security measures will be taken by the host country. Medical facilities will be provided at the Conference centre.

g. Hotel Reservations

28. The Spanish authorities have negotiated preferential rates with a number of hotels. To arrange your accommodation, please consult the list of hotels available in General Information, EG-VAW (2006) Info or at www.coe.int/stopviolence.

VI. SERVICES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE CONFERENCE

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