

Fragnet national contribution to the Fundamental Rights Report 2025

Part 1: Political participation and equality in elections

Part 2: Protecting women victims of violence

Greece

Disclaimer

This document was commissioned under contract as background material for a comparative analysis by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) for the project 'FRA Fundamental Rights Report 2025'. The information and views contained in the document do not necessarily reflect the views or the official position of FRA. The document is made publicly available for transparency and information purposes only and does not constitute legal advice or legal opinion.

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Political participation and equality in elections

Greece

Contractor: Centre for European Constitutional Law (in
collaboration with Hellenic League for Human Rights and
Antigone-Information and Documentation Centre on racism,
ecology, peace and non-violence)

Authors: Dr Maria Mousmouti, Christina Tsoulfidou

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1. Inclusiveness of the 2024 elections

Candidates for the EU Parliament elections 2024 in Greece.

There is no publicly available gender disaggregated data on the gender of candidates MEPs in the 2024 EU elections. Some data is reported on the features of candidates and elected MEPs for the EU Parliament elections. The average age of male candidates stood at 53 years, while female candidates had a slightly younger average age of 50. In terms of education, 36% of the candidates had completed university without postgraduate studies, 22% were holders of a master's degree, and 19% had a doctoral degree.¹ Regarding previous political experience, 18% of the candidates had been re-elected in prior elections (whether municipal, national, or European), and 13% had held an appointed political position. The most common professions among the candidates were lawyers and university professors, who made up for 8.4% of the candidate pool.²

Four disability rights activists participated in the 2024 EU elections.

Gender equality and media coverage

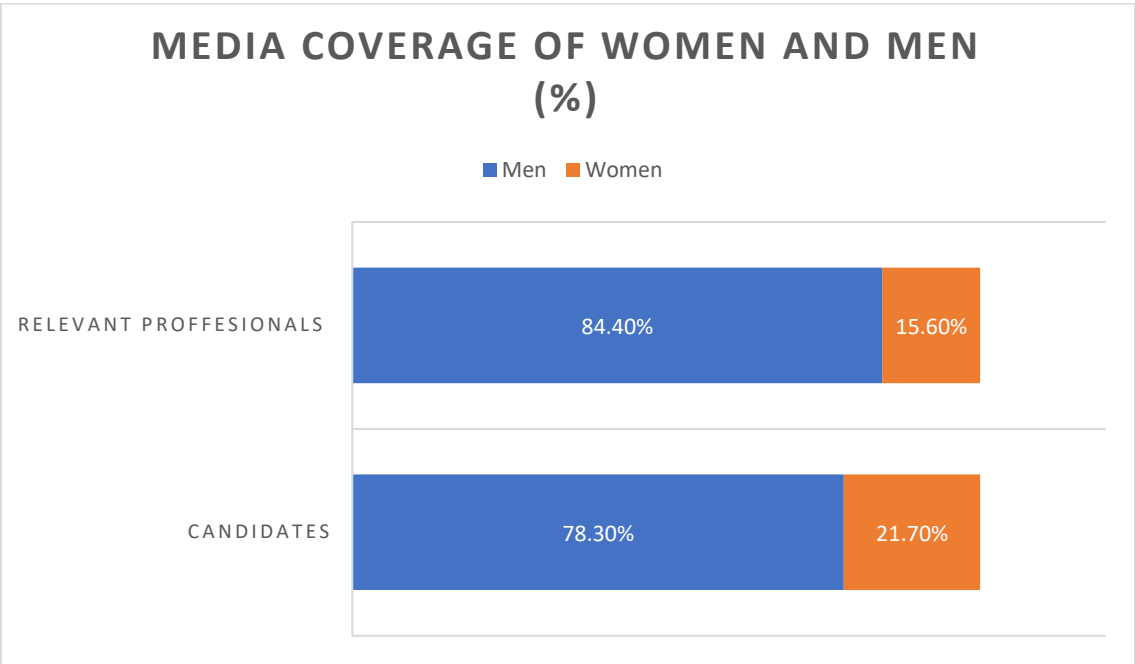
Key preliminary findings³ from National Center of Social Research (EKKE) research on representation of men and women in Greek Media during the first half of the European election campaign (from May 10 to 27, 2024), reveal a notable gender disparity in media coverage. The study, which focused on politicians, candidates for the European elections 2024, experts, academics, and journalists/commentators, shows that men were predominantly featured, accounting for 84.4% of the coverage, while women made up only 15.6%. However, when examining the representation of politicians and candidates

¹Iefimerida, 2024 'European elections 2024: The candidates of the parties of the Greek parliament -All the names' ([Ευρωεκλογές 2024: Οι υποψήφιοι ευρωβουλευτές των κομμάτων του ελληνικού κοινοβουλίου -Όλα τα ονόματα](#))

² Iefimerida, 2024 'European elections 2024: The candidates of the parties of the Greek parliament -All the names' ([Ευρωεκλογές 2024: Οι υποψήφιοι ευρωβουλευτές των κομμάτων του ελληνικού κοινοβουλίου -Όλα τα ονόματα](#))

³ Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, 2024 "Female representation in the Greek media in view of the 2024 European elections ([Γυναικεία εκπροσώπηση στα ελληνικά ΜΜΕ ενόψει των ευρωεκλογών του 2024](#))

specifically, the gender gap narrows with men comprising 78.3% of coverage and women at 21.7%.



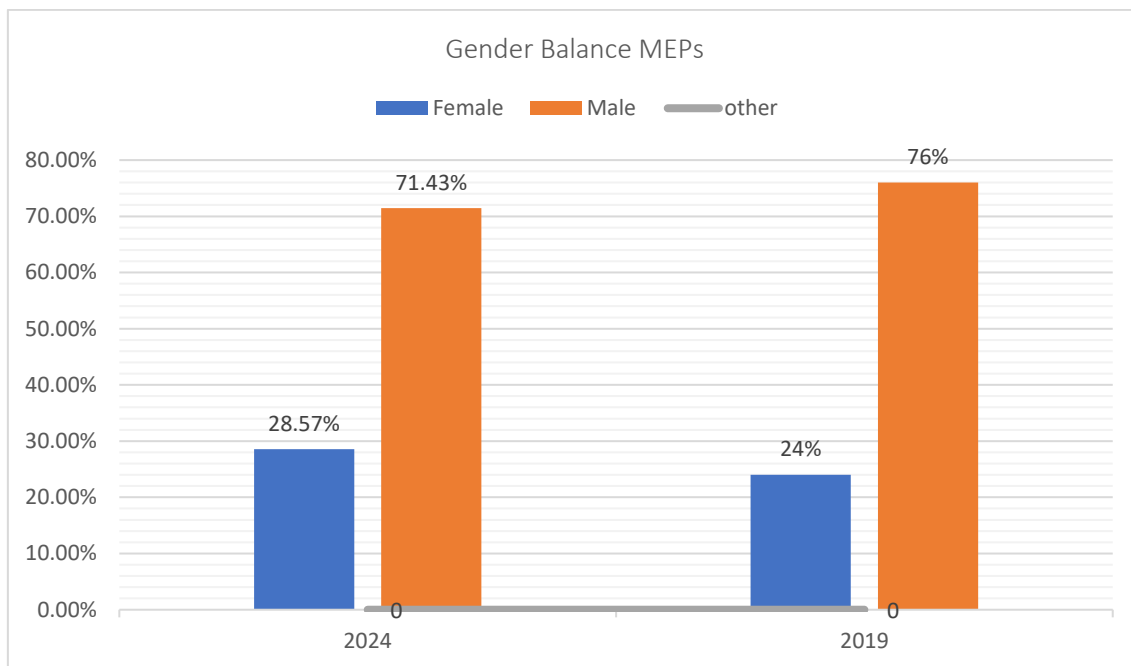
4

Elected MEPs for the EU Parliament elections 2024 in Greece.

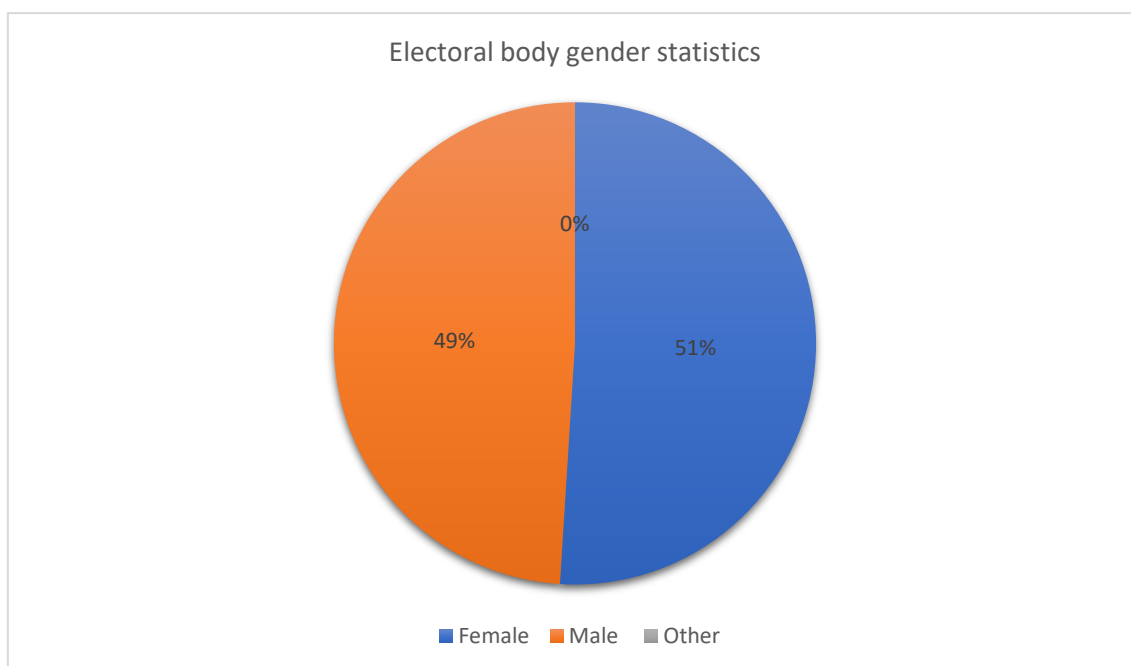
In the results of the 2024 European Parliament elections, the gender balance of Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) from Greece stands at 28.57% women and 71.43% men, with no MEPs identifying as other. This marks an increase from the 2019 elections, where women made up only 24% of the Greek MEPs, reflecting a shift of 4.57% towards greater female representation⁵.

⁴ Greece, National Center of Social Research (EKKE), 2024, *Gender (in)equality in Greek media & politics»* ([Φύλο και εκπροσώπηση στα ελληνικά ΜΜΕ](#))

⁵ European Parliament, (2024), [‘MEPs’ gender balance by country 2024’](#) June 9, 2024.



In the 2024 EU Parliament elections, a total of 9,796,330 Greek citizens participated, with 51% identified as women and 49% as men. Data collection did not make provision to capture information on other gender identities⁶.



⁶ Greece, Ministry of Internal Affairs (2024), Electoral Body Statistics European Elections 2024, ([Στατιστικά Εκλογικού Σώματος Ευρωεκλογών 2024](#))

Postal Voting

Postal voting was introduced for the first time in Greece for European Parliament elections in June 2024 and entered into force by means of law 5083/2024 (OG A 12/26.01.2024)⁷ as an alternative way of voting. According to the provisions of Article 6 of Law 5083/2024, all voters, whether they reside inside or outside of the country, can exercise their electoral right by postal voting in European Elections and National Referendums. This alternative way of voting benefits Greeks residing abroad or at a distance from their polling centre, elderly people or people with mobility problems and persons with disabilities.

Postal voting ballot papers are also available in accessible format⁸ and voters can fill the accessible ballot paper digitally, print it and include it in their postal vote⁹.

Provisions to facilitate participation in elections for persons with disabilities

Positive developments have been observed, along with improvements in addressing accessibility barriers. Law 5083/2024 (OG 12 A/26.01.2024)¹⁰, article 32 provides for the following:

- a) Messages of parties and coalitions of cooperating parties, as well as political events, press conferences and other related events broadcast on the basis of article 45 of presidential decree 26/2012(A' 57), are accompanied by sign language interpretation on one sixth (1/6) of the screen subtitling. Especially the

⁷ Greece (2024), *Election of Members of the European Parliament, facilitation of voters through absentee voting, cleaning of electoral rolls, and other provisions of the Ministry of the Interior*, ([Εκλογή ευρωβουλευτών, διευκόλυνση εκλογών μέσω επιστολικής ψήφου, εκκαθάριση εκλογικών καταλόγων και λοιπές διατάξεις του Υπουργείου Εσωτερικών](#)) Law No. 5083/2024, (OG 12 A/26.01.2024), 26 January 2024.

⁸ Greece, (2024) Postal Voting Ballots European elections 2024, ([Ψηφοδέλτιο Επιστολικής Ψήφου Ευρωεκλογές 2024](#)).

⁹ Greece, Ministry of Interior, [Accessible postal voting ballot paper for people with disabilities](#), 15 May 2024.

¹⁰ Greece (2024), *Election of Members of the European Parliament, facilitation of voters through absentee voting, cleaning of electoral rolls, and other provisions of the Ministry of the Interior*, ([Εκλογή ευρωβουλευτών, διευκόλυνση εκλογών μέσω επιστολικής ψήφου, εκκαθάριση εκλογικών καταλόγων και λοιπές διατάξεις του Υπουργείου Εσωτερικών](#)) Law No. 5083/2024, (OG 12 A/26.01.2024 Art. 32, 26 January 2024.

messages of the first paragraph must be accompanied by sign language interpretation on one sixth (1/6) of the screen and subtitling. In case of violation of the pre-mentioned, the messages and events are not transmitted.

- b) Interviews of leaders of political parties, transmitted by public television, as well as by private television stations of pan-Hellenic/nationwide reach, are simultaneously broadcast in sign language on one sixth (1/6) of the screen. In case of failure to comply with the above obligation, the National Council for Radio and Television may impose a fine of up to twenty thousand (20,000) euros on the television station.

Additionally, in May 2024, the General Secretariat for Communication and Information subsidized part of the cost for sign language interpretation to facilitate meaningful participation in elections¹¹. Political parties were strongly encouraged to coordinate with the Greek Sign Language Interpreters Association to schedule the interpretation services, including the timing and location for delivery.

In the context of the 2024 EU Parliament elections, additional provisions were made to support voters with disabilities. According to Article 36 of Law 5043/2023 (OG A91/13.04.2023)¹², voters with disabilities have the right to be accompanied by an escort at the polling station to assist them in exercising their electoral rights, provided they obtain permission from the court representative present at the station. The court representative, who is responsible for overseeing the electoral process, must ensure that the necessary assistance is given to individuals with disabilities or those facing mobility challenges. This support aims to ensure equal access and participation in the voting process for all citizens.

Moreover, the amendment of Article 83, paragraph 3A of Presidential Decree 26/2012, by Article 36 of Law 5043/2023 promoted inclusiveness in the elections by establishing

¹¹ Greece (2024), General Secretariat for Communication and Information, '[European elections 2024 – Coverage of part of the cost of sign interpretation of the ten-minute presentation of the parties](#)' (Ευρωεκλογές 2024 – Κάλυψη μέρους του κόστους νοηματικής διερμηνείας των δεκαλέπτων παρουσίασης των κομμάτων), 10 May 2024.

¹² Greece (2023), *Arrangements concerning the Local Authorities of the first and second degree - Provisions for the welfare of pets - Provisions for the human resources of the public sector - Other provisions of the Ministry of Interior and other urgent provisions* ([Ρυθμίσεις σχετικά με τους Οργανισμούς Τοπικής Αυτοδιοίκησης α' και β' βαθμού - Διατάξεις για την ευζωία των ζώων συντροφιάς - Διατάξεις για το ανθρώπινο δυναμικό του δημοσίου τομέα - Λοιπές ρυθμίσεις του Υπουργείου Εσωτερικών και άλλες επείγουσες διατάξεις](#).) Law 5043/2023 (OG A' 91/13.04.2023 Article 36), 23 April 2023

the preparation and operation of support spaces for voters with disabilities or reduced mobility at polling stations.¹³

Specifically, local municipalities are responsible for ensuring that such support spaces are available at each polling station, where accessibility may not be fully ensured, especially in cases where not all voting sections are located on the ground floor and do not meet accessibility criteria for persons with disabilities.

Assistance dogs (guide dogs) of persons with disabilities and reduced mobility shall be allowed in the polling place and in the area for receiving and assisting voters with disabilities and reduced mobility.

The National Confederation of Disabled People (NCDP) Greece on 9 June 2024 shared on its website the Instructions from the Ministry of Interior on the exercise of the right to vote for people with disabilities in the European Elections¹⁴. The announcement highlighted among others the following obligations about the reception of voters with disabilities and reduced mobility: (a) is located on the ground floor of the building housing the polling stations, (b) is accessible to persons with reduced mobility, (c) has a special ramp if necessary. A public announcement of the same instructions was issued by the Panhellenic Association of the Blind too¹⁵.

Although efforts have been made and legal provisions exist to promote inclusivity in elections, as the NCDP recently highlighted, challenges persist in ensuring full participation.

The report “Access Denied” was embraced by NCDP that issued an announcement on its website. The report reveals that European political parties’ websites are vastly inaccessible to users with disabilities, putting inclusiveness in election process and

¹³ Greece (2023) , *Arrangements concerning the Local Authorities of the first and second degree - Provisions for the welfare of pets - Provisions for the human resources of the public sector - Other provisions of the Ministry of Interior and other urgent provisions* ([Ρυθμίσεις σχετικά με τους Οργανισμούς Τοπικής Αυτοδιοίκησης α΄ και β΄ βαθμού - Διατάξεις για την ευζωία των ζώων συντροφιάς - Διατάξεις για το ανθρώπινο δυναμικό του δημοσίου τομέα - Λοιπές ρυθμίσεις του Υπουργείου Εσωτερικών και άλλες επείγουσες διατάξεις.](#)) Law 5043/2023 (OG A' 91/13.04.2023 Article 36), 23 April 2023.

¹⁴ Greece, (2024), [National Confederation of People with Disabilities](#), E.S.A.ME.A.

¹⁵ Greece, (2024), Panhellenic Association of the Blind, (ΠΑΝΕΛΛΗΝΙΟΣ ΣΥΝΔΕΣΜΟΣ ΤΥΦΛΩΝ), [‘Instructions from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Internal affairs for the exercise of the right to vote of persons with disabilities in the European elections 09.06.2024’](#), 7 June 2024.

democracy at risk. The same challenges are identified by NCDP¹⁶ in the announcement since Greek political parties' election manifestos and printed election material are not available in accessible formats (e.g. in Braille or large characters, in easy-to-read formats, etc.). Finally, there is no interpretation in sign language or subtitling for most of the political debates and interviews with representatives of political parties that take place on Greek media.

Barriers such as accessibility issues for disabled individuals¹⁷, and language barriers compromise meaningful participation. Moreover, the secrecy of the vote is not guaranteed; blind and visually impaired persons are not allowed to receive assistance from the persons they have chosen. Persons with disabilities who have been placed in full deprivation of legal aid, whether living in institutions, open care facilities or in the family, automatically lose the right to vote and to be elected. There is no provision for their transportation to accessible polling stations/precincts, and on the other hand, they cannot vote within the institution because the ballot box cannot be transported outside the polling station.

The lack of adequate training of the members of the electoral commissions, especially the court representatives who are also responsible for the conduct of the electoral process at the polling stations, is also a crucial obstacle to the smooth exercise of the right to vote by persons with disabilities.

¹⁶ Greece (2024), National Confederation of People with Disabilities, E.S.A.ME.A., '[Access Denied: European political parties' websites inaccessible to people with disabilities](#)', (Access Denied: Απροσπέλαστες για τα άτομα με αναπηρία οι ιστοσελίδες των ευρωπαϊκών πολιτικών κομμάτων), 23 April 2024.

¹⁷ Greece (2024), National Confederation of People with Disabilities, E.S.A.ME.A., '[Inclusion in democracy: The right of persons with disabilities to political participation](#)', (Συμπερίληψη στη δημοκρατία: Το δικαίωμα των ατόμων με αναπηρία στην πολιτική συμμετοχή), 11 October 2024.

2. Violence and intimidation during 2024 elections

No incidents of violence and intimidation have been identified in 2024 elections in Greece.

3. Attempts at online and offline disinformation and manipulation of voters during 2024 elections

The Hellenic Data Protection Authority (DPA) received multiple complaints regarding a significant data privacy breach involving the Ministry of Interior. The issue revolved around the alleged mishandling of expatriate voters' personal data, specifically their email addresses, which were reportedly leaked to a Member of the European Parliament (MEP). This MEP is accused of using the leaked personal information to conduct unsolicited political outreach, thereby violating several key principles of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), particularly those related to the lawful use and protection of personal data.

In response to this breach, the DPA took regulatory action (Decision 16/2024) against both the MEP and the Ministry of Interior. The MEP was fined €40,000 for using personal data inappropriately, while the Ministry of Interior, as the data controller, was levied a much larger fine of €400,000 for failing to safeguard the voters' data adequately.¹⁸

Beyond the financial penalties, both the Ministry and the MEP were issued with specific instructions aimed at improving data protection practices to prevent similar incidents from happening in the future. The DPA also ordered the Ministry of Interior to develop and implement more rigorous policies regarding personal data protection, including clearly documented procedures and measures for ensuring the proper handling of voters' personal information during processing. Additionally, the Ministry was required to establish a system of ongoing oversight to control and periodically review these policies to ensure compliance with GDPR and prevent further breaches of personal data protection. Furthermore, in Greece, misinformation tactics have been employed to manipulate the voting body during euro elections in 2024 particularly

¹⁸ Greece, (2024) Hellenic Data Protection Authority (Αρχή Προστασίας Προσωπικών Δεδομένων), *Fine and compliance order against a Member of the European Parliament and the Ministry of Interior for leaking personal data of expatriates*, ([Πρόστιμο και εντολή συμμόρφωσης σε Ευρωβουλευτή και στο Υπουργείο Εσωτερικών λόγω διαρροής προσωπικών δεδομένων αποδήμων](#)) Decision 16/2024, 29 May 2024.

surrounding the debate on same-sex marriage¹⁹. Same sex marriage was legalized in Greece in February 2024, and during the following months, disinformation has circulated, including false claims that the European Court of Human Rights ruled against same-sex marriage and misleading news suggesting that the Irish referendum rejected it and false news about the Greek Government mandated every hotel in the country to display a rainbow flag.²⁰

¹⁹ EDMO (2024) [*FINAL REPORT, Task Force On The 2024 European Parliament Elections, Outputs And Outcomes*](#)

²⁰ EDMO (2024), [*Taskforce on 2024 European Elections, Disinformation Narratives Weekly Insights and Early Warnings*](#), 3, 26 April 2024

Annex 1 – Promising practice

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Ενημερωτικό Φυλλάδιο για τις Ευρωεκλογές.
Title (EN)	Information Leaflet on EU elections.
Organisation (original language)	ΕΣΑµεΑ
Organisation (EN)	National Confederation of Disabled People (NCDP) Greece
Government / Civil society	National organisation
Funding body	European Union
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	For more information see ESAMEA website, available at https://www.esamea.gr/el/article/eyrwekloges-2024-axiopoihse-thn-pshfo-soy-gia-mia-eyrwph-dixws-diakriseis-apokleismoys
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	DREE project began in January 2023 and continued through June 2024.
Type of initiative	Raising awareness material.
Main target group	Persons with disabilities.
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	The information leaflet was developed by The Disability Rights in the European Elections (DREE) project, it was translated in Greek and disseminated by the National Confederation of Disabled People (NCDP) Greece. The main goal was to increase political participation of persons with disabilities, as voters, political activists and candidates in European elections. The leaflet provided also information about important legislative measures and initiatives that the European Union has so far adopted for the benefit of people with disabilities.

Promising practice	
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The leaflet includes information about a) legislative measures and initiatives that are adopted in EU, b) EU elections and c) the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. This kind of information is relevant to all EU citizens.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The leaflet is available online and it includes information that is relevant to all types of election. It could work as a basis for future actions, and it can be disseminated in various occasions.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	The primary goals of this initiative are to encourage participation in EU elections and to increase awareness of disability rights established at the EU level. Achieving both objectives takes time, and measuring their impact is challenging. They involve a longer-term strategy and often don't result in immediate, quantifiable outcomes.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	This activity was a collaboration among 7 national organisations of persons with disabilities in EU. The information collected and disseminated is relevant to all persons with disabilities in EU.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	N/A
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

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1. Legal and Policy measures to address violence against women including its criminalisation

If relevant, please describe what measures were taken to ratify or implement the Istanbul Convention or prepare for the transposition of the VAW Directive. If relevant, please describe particular aspects of these measures relating to:

- a. Technology-facilitated gender-based violence, specifically non-consensual sharing of intimate or manipulated material (Art. 5 VAW Directive), cyber stalking (Art. 6 VAW Directive), cyber harassment (Art. 7 VAW Directive) and cyber incitement to violence or hatred (Art. 8 VAW Directive).
- b. Reporting crimes of violence against women, including third party reporting and/or the use of technology to report (online or in-app reporting) (Art. 14(1) VAW Directive).
- c. Secondary victimization (e.g. negative treatment of victims by the police/criminal justice system) and repeat victimisation (e.g. common in intimate partner relationships), including adoption of immediate response measures such as barring orders (Art. 50 - 52 of the Istanbul Convention and Art. 16 (5) and 19 VAW Directive), restraining and protection orders (Art 53 Istanbul Convention and Art. and 19 VAW Directive), and other measures such as protecting victims against intimidation (Art. 56 Istanbul Convention and Art. 18, 20 and 21 VAW Directive).
- d. Women victims of violence who are public representatives, journalists or human rights defenders (for example allowing this to be regarded as an aggravating circumstance, Art. 11 (n) VAW Directive).

Table 1 – Legislative and policy measures

Legislative act / Policy measure (including web-link)	Specific provision / paragraph / page	Briefly describe the specific focus on women as victims of violence (including specific aspects asked about in a-d)
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Law 5090/2024¹ introduced several amendments to the pre-existing legislation on domestic violence². Chapter D of Law 5090/2024³ amends or complements pre-existing legislation on domestic violence. The new provisions are justified by the need to harmonise domestic violence provisions with criminal ones, to avoid overlaps and respond to current needs⁴, to address gaps and incompatibilities highlighted during the application of domestic violence provisions, to increase incentives for reporting incidents by victims and professionals and the need to enhance support measures. Last but not least, changes were required to address the ineffectiveness of existing procedural measures, for example restrictive orders after the initiation of criminal proceedings, to prevent	Article 119 Increase of the minimum amount of monetary compensation – amendment of article 5 Law 3500/2006	The provision amends article 5 Law 3500/2006 to increase the minimum amount of compensation for moral damages in cases of domestic violence to 2.000 Euros (1.000 Euros previously) unless the victim has requested a lower amount.
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¹ Greece (2024) Interventions in the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure to speed up and improve the quality of criminal trials - Modernisation of the legislative framework for prevention and combating of domestic violence ([Παρεμβάσεις στον Ποινικό Κώδικα και τον Κώδικα Ποινικής Δικονομίας για την επιτάχυνση και την ποιοτική αναβάθμιση της ποινικής δίκης - Εκσυγχρονισμός του νομοθετικού πλαισίου για την πρόληψη και την καταπολέμηση της ενδοοικογενειακής βίας](#)) (Law 5090/2024 OG Α' 30/23.02.24.) 23 February 2024

² Greece (2006) On combatting domestic violence and other provisions ([Για την αντιμετώπιση της ενδοοικογενειακής βίας και άλλες διατάξεις](#)), Law 3500/2006 OG A 232/24.10.2006.. 24 October 2006

³ Greece (2024), Chapter D, Modernisation of the legislative framework for prevention and combating of domestic violence – Amendments of Law 3500/2006 ([Κεφάλαιο Δ' Εκσυγχρονισμός του νομοθετικού πλαισίου για την πρόληψη και την καταπολέμηση της ενδοοικογενειακής βίας – Τροποποιήσεις Ν. 3500/2006](#)),

⁴ Greece (2024) Regulatory Impact Assessment to the draft law of the Ministry of Justice entitled 'Interventions in the Penal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure for the acceleration and qualitative upgrading of the criminal trial - Modernisation of the legislative framework for the prevention and combating of domestic violence ([Ανάλυση Συνεπειών Ρύθμισης στο Σχέδιο νόμου του Υπουργείου Δικαιοσύνης με τίτλο «Παρεμβάσεις στον Ποινικό Κώδικα και τον Κώδικα Ποινικής Δικονομίας για την επιτάχυνση και την ποιοτική αναβάθμιση της ποινικής δίκης - Εκσυγχρονισμός του νομοθετικού πλαισίου για την πρόληψη και την καταπολέμηση της ενδοοικογενειακής βίας](#)).

relapses from the part of the perpetrator and ensure the protection of the victim.		
	Article 120 Aggravated domestic bodily harm in the presence of a minor - Amendment of Article 6 of the Law 3500/200	An amendment of Article 6 of Law 3500/2006 that adds to aggravated domestic bodily harm acts committed in front of a minor.
	Article 121 Illegal domestic violence and threat in front of a minor – Amendment of article 7 Law 3500/2006	The scope of Article 7 is extended to punish all forms of domestic violence (rather than just violence as in the previous Act) and introduces a minimum of imprisonment of 6 months for acts of violence committed in front of a minor.
	Article 122 Increase of the penalty limit in the case of intra-family violation of sexual dignity and in front of a minor - Amendment of article 9 of the Law 3500/200	Article 9 of Law 3500/2006 is amended to punish family members who insult the dignity of other family members by particularly humiliating speech or acts related to their sexual life by imprisonment of up to two (2) years (new limit). The act is punished with imprisonment of at least 6 months if the victim is a minor or if the act is committed in from of them (new addition).
	Article 123 Conditions for penal mediation – Amendment of article 11 Law 3500/2006	Article 11 of Law 3500/2006 is amended to enhance penal mediation in the following ways: a) investigating officers are given the competence to investigate possibilities for mediation (before it was only the prosecutor) b) participation in a rehabilitation programme is added as a condition for penal mediation c) private bodies supervised by the Ministries of the Interior, Health and Social Cohesion and Family are added to the

		bodies that can provide counselling/therapy and rehabilitation programmes d) perpetrators and victims in financially dire conditions can claim a compensation to the victim by the Hellenic Compensation Authority.
	Article 124 Expanding the competence of the court to impose restrictive measures and penal mediation – Amendment of article 12 v. 3500/2006	Article 12 of Law 3500/2006 is amended to expand the court's competence to impose restrictive measures and penal mediation by providing for the possibility of mediation also in interim proceedings.
	Article 125 civil consequences – Replacement of article 14 Law 3500/2006	The new provision removes the time limit of 3 years from the right of the victim to reverse the mediation agreement in case of non-compliance with its terms. The new provision also removes the possibility to overturn the agreement in case of a divorce filed within 3 years. In its current form, the reversal of the mediation agreement following its completion is not possible for any reason.
	Article 127 Broadening of the restrictions imposed by judicial bodies and bodies that issue opinions - Amendment of Article 18 Law 3500/2006	Article 18 is amended to expand the restrictive measures that judicial organs can impose to include participation in treatment, counselling or rehabilitation programmes. There is also a new requirement, when imposing restrictive measures, to take account of the seriousness and frequency of the act, the dangerousness of the offender and recidivism. A new procedural requirement is that extract of the decisions imposing restrictive measures need to be notified to the public prosecutor and the prosecuting authorities.

		Anyone who violates restrictive conditions is punished by imprisonment. The amendment also broadens the range of experts who can give opinions on restrictive measures to include experts working in private law bodies supervised by the Ministries of Interior, Health or Social Cohesion and Family.
	Article 129 Broadening the range of public sector bodies that provide assistance and direct information to victims from the competent police authorities - Amendment of Article 21 Law 3500/2006	Article 21 of law 3500/2006 is amended to include a broader range of bodies that can provide support by including bodies supervised by the Ministry of Interior and Social Cohesion and Family. Further, policy authorities are obliged ex officio to inform support bodies, while previously this was done only upon request of the victim.
	Article 130 Obligations of professionals – Replacement of article 23 Law 3500/2006	Article 23 of law 3500/2006 (A' 232) is amended to broaden the scope of professionals who are under an obligation to report domestic violence incidents to authorities. While the previous obligation concerned only primary or secondary education teachers it is now addressed to educators, teachers, member of special educational staff or special auxiliary staff of primary or secondary education, social workers, psychologists, curators, coaches or doctors who provide services to a minor, who in the performance of their duties becomes aware that a crime of domestic violence has been committed against a minor.

		The new article explicitly protects persons who report a crime of domestic violence from impeachment, prosecution, disciplinary action, dismissal or any other form of sanction or adverse treatment. Professionals can be called as witnesses in proceedings only if the crime of domestic violence is not proved by any other means of evidence (pre-existing provision). The scope of this provision also covers staff of Educational and Counselling Support Centres.
	Article 131 Care for victims of domestic violence – addition of a new article 23A to Law 3500/2006	A new article 23A is added to Law 3500/2006 to provide for the individual assessment of victims and the management of the risk of recurrence of violence and secondary victimization. The new provision requires: 1. Reception services for victims of domestic violence, after prior information and consent of the victim, must carry out: a) an individual assessment of the victim to assess the risk of recurrence of violence or secondary victimisation; and b) risk management, by identifying appropriate immediate protection measures to prevent the recurrence of violence and secondary victimisation. 2. Individual assessment and risk management are carried out with the participation of the victim, taking into account: a) the personal characteristics of the victim, such as age, race, religion, nationality or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or characteristics or disability, residence or domicile status, kinship and degree of economic or other

		dependence on the perpetrator and history of previous victimisation. b) the degree of harm to the victim, the type, severity and frequency of the violence c) risk or recurrence factors of violence that are present in the perpetrator, such as threats to the victim's life or physical integrity, possession of a firearm, previous convictions for domestic violence, continued stalking, addictions to alcohol or other substances, the occurrence of violence or threats of violence in front of a minor. d) other special circumstances that are present either in the victim's person or in the perpetrator's person. 3. The law enforcement, prosecution and judicial authorities inform and refer the victims, at their request, to social or health services or specialised support structures for victims of domestic violence, in particular women, for an individual assessment. The individual assessment is updated throughout the criminal proceedings, if circumstances change. 4. In the context of risk management, the host authority cooperates with other competent services and authorities to determine the appropriate protection measures. They can transmit or receive information, with the consent of the victim. 5. The final determination and the adoption of appropriate protection measures are made with the victim's consent.
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2. Standing of victims of gender-based violence during criminal proceedings

Please briefly elaborate on the standing of victims of gender-based violence in 2024 during criminal proceedings (as witness, civil party, damaged party, auxiliary prosecutor or party to the proceedings).

The Greek Code of Criminal Procedure⁵ (GCCP) governs the procedure before Criminal Courts. Criminal proceedings are initiated by the Public Prosecutor of the First Instance Court either on the basis of a *notitia criminis* or *ex officio*. Domestic violence is prosecuted *ex officio*⁶.

Victims have a choice to join the criminal proceedings as a civil party, which makes them a party to the entire proceedings with substantial procedural rights, or simply to testify as a witness. The concept of a private prosecution does not exist in the Greek judicial system.

Under the Greek Code of Criminal Procedure, a victim can participate as a civil party (*politikós enágon*), if they have suffered material or moral damage resulting directly from the alleged criminal offence. The civil party asks the court to award damages for loss or for moral harm or pain and suffering⁷. The civil claimant is an important party to the proceedings enjoying the right to counsel, the right to receive copies of the case file, to present evidence, to request investigating acts, to appoint experts, to propose and examine witnesses at the trial etc⁸.

Victims can be summoned by the court as witnesses, in which case they have the opportunity to explain the facts pertaining to the offence.

There are no significant changes in the standing of victims of gender-based violence during criminal proceedings in 2024. Changes introduced in the law on domestic violence (explained above) introduce improvements in the following areas:

- Increase in the minimum amount of compensation for moral damages
- Expanding and finetuning the process of penal mediation

⁵ Greece (2019) Ratification of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Κύρωση του Κώδικα Ποινικής Δικονομίας) Law 4620/2019 OG A' 96/11.06.2019

⁶ Greece (2006) On combatting domestic violence and other provisions (Για την αντιμετώπιση της ενδοοικογενειακής βίας και άλλες διατάξεις), Law 3500/2006 OG A 232/24.10.2006), Article 17(1) and Greece (2019) Ratification of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Κύρωση του Κώδικα Ποινικής Δικονομίας) Law 4620/2019 OG A' 96/11.06.2019, Article 36

⁷ Greece (2019) Ratification of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Κύρωση του Κώδικα Ποινικής Δικονομίας) Law 4620/2019 OG A' 96/11.06.2019, Article 308 .

⁸ Greece (2019) Ratification of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Κύρωση του Κώδικα Ποινικής Δικονομίας) Law 4620/2019 OG A' 96/11.06.2019, articles 107.

- Expanding the conditions imposed in restrictive measures that judicial organs can impose
- Expanding the range of bodies that can provide support
 - Creating an ex officio obligation of police to inform support bodies
 - Broadening the scope of professionals who are under an obligation to report domestic violence incidents to authorities and ensuring their protection.
 - Introducing an obligation for the individual assessment of victims and management of the risk of recurrence of violence and secondary victimization.

3. Annex 1 – Promising practice

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Panic Button
Title (EN)	Panic Button
Organisation (original language)	Υπουργεία Προστασίας του Πολίτη, Εθνικής Οικονομίας και Οικονομικών, Ψηφιακής Διακυβέρνησης και Κοινωνικής Συνοχής και Οικογένειας
Organisation (EN)	Ministries of Civil Protection, Economy and Finance, Digital Governance, and Social Cohesion and Family
Government / Civil society	Government
Funding body	
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	Το «Panic Button» επεκτείνεται σε ολόκληρη τη χώρα – Χορηγείται πλέον σε κάθε ενήλικο θύμα ενδοοικογενειακής βίας - Γενική Γραμματεία Ισότητας και Ανθρωπίνων Δικαιωμάτων (isotita.gr) https://isotita.gr/dt-panic-button-epektasi-se-olokliri-ti-xora/
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	The implementation was initiated in 2022 for residents in Attica and Thessaloniki and since May 2024 the service is provided at national level.
Type of initiative	Response to Gender Based Violence
Main target group	Potential victims of intimate partner violence
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National

Promising practice	
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	The Panic Button is an app that can be installed in smartphones to enable victims (or potential victims) of domestic violence to seek protection and assistance. The app and its installation are provided for free to potential victims of domestic violence by police departments and women counselling centres. The purpose of the Panic Button is to enable victims to call the police without the perpetrator knowing. With this app the victim can inform the Police that they are in danger by pressing and holding the corresponding indicator on the mobile phone screen. The Police automatically receives the location through the app and intervenes.
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The Panic Button is an innovative way to use technology in the prevention and response to GBV in a safe way for victims.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The practice involves 2 key actors (police and women counselling centers) and allows immediate response in cases of violence.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	The practice is new, so there is no measurable data to justify its impact. So far more than 2000 women have installed the app using their personal credentials (Panic Button: Πώς λειτουργεί και πώς μπορείς να το εγκαταστήσεις στο κινητό σου in.gr)
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	Integrating technology in supporting GBV cases can benefit potential victims in other states and/or Member States.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	N/A

Promising practice	
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Ψηφιακή Καμπάνια Equal_Gen
Title (EN)	Social media campaign Equal_Gen
Organisation (original language)	Κέντρο Διοτίμα
Organisation (EN)	Diotima Center
Government / Civil society	Civil society
Funding body	Active Citizens Fund
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	EQUALGEN - Κέντρο Διοτίμα (diotima.org.gr)
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	Started in November 2023
Type of initiative	Campaign
Main target group	Young people and anyone who is working with young people
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	Equal_Gen provides information on gender identity, consent, GBV and healthy relationships. It aims to challenge dominant narratives on what is considered normal.

Promising practice	
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The campaign is available in multiple languages and the webpage is inclusive to people with disabilities
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The campaign is available online and to anyone interested
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	Campaigns can impact people's lives especially those in need of materials that explain in a comprehensive user-friendly manner such issues.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	The campaign is available online and to anyone interested.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	N/A
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	TRACeD
Title (EN)	TRACeD

Promising practice	
Organisation (original language)	Ίδρυμα Θεμιστοκλῆς και Δημήτρης Τσάτσος- Κέντρο Ευρωπαϊκού Συνταγματικού Δικαίου, Cyber Security International Institute, ActionAid Hellas, FONDAZIONE CAROLINA, CODECA – Center for Social Cohesion Development and Care, The University of Ljubljana.
Organisation (EN)	Themistokles & Dimitris Tsatsos Foundation - Centre for European Constitutional Law (CECL), Cyber Security International Institute, ActionAid Hellas, FONDAZIONE CAROLINA, CODECA – Center for Social Cohesion Development and Care, The University of Ljubljana
Government / Civil society	CSO
Funding body	CERV
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	https://www.tracedplatform.gr/
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	Started in March 2022 and the platform is still online
Type of initiative	Online educational tools and P.S.S. support via helpline via chat channel
Main target group	Children, Parents, Teachers and Students (Young Women).
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	TRACeD has a twofold scope: it focuses on prevention and protection (response) of gender based cyberviolence among children, adolescent girls and young women. Response is taking place through interdisciplinary trainings on safe Internet techniques, human rights and sex education to children with particular focus on children, parents, teachers and students (young women). The trainings are provided via the e-learning platform, and it includes audio and visuals that can overcome language barriers.

Promising practice	
	The protection component includes a helpline that operates daily from 8:00 to 16:00 in Greece (each partner adjusted the operation hours according to national needs. The helpline is operated by cyber violence experts called, Cyber-guardians. TRACeD innovation is the introduction of cyber-violence focal points in school units. This activity took place as a pilot in some schools during the implementation of the project.
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The consulting platform is easy to adapt in other contexts, there is also an accessibility bar for users. Cyber-guardian's audio materials and visuals that overcome language barriers
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The consulting platform is available online for anyone interested in learning about cyber violence. Public authorities, including the Greek Ombudsperson and the Ministry of Social Cohesion, provide crucial support for this initiative. The project has been discussed in various meetings, where stakeholders including the relevant Ministry evaluated the feasibility of implementing the cyber violence focal point plan on a national level.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	The project monitors user visits and communications through the helpline while ensuring anonymity.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	Cyber violence is a pressing concern for the EU. The project provides up-to-date materials available in English, which are easy to translate into other languages. It includes audio and visual resources designed to overcome language barriers.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	Consultation meetings with beneficiaries were held throughout the project's design phase, employing a bottom-up approach. The methodology incorporated needs assessment exercises involving diverse participants, including women, children, teenagers, parents, professionals, and teachers. This collaborative process ensures that the project effectively addresses the specific needs of the community.

Promising practice	
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Οδηγό τσέπης για την Έμφυλη Βία”, GBV Pocket Guide8
Title (EN)	Pocket Guide on Gender Based Violence, GBV Pocket Guide
Organisation (original language)	Γενική Γραμματεία Ισότητας και Ανθρωπίνων Δικαιωμάτων (Γ.Γ.Ι.Α.Δ.), UNICEF
Organisation (EN)	General Secretariat for Equality and Human Rights, UNICEF
Government / Civil society	Government / Civil society
Funding body	-
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	GBV guidelines - Γενική Γραμματεία Ισότητας και Ανθρωπίνων Δικαιωμάτων (isotita.gr)
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	Start date January 2023
Type of initiative	Awareness raising
Main target group	Anyone that is interested, it is translated in 12 languages.
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	In the context of the implementation of the National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2021-2025, the "Pocket Guide to Gender-Based Violence" was adapted to the Greek context by providing immediate information and guidance in dealing with incidents of gender-based violence.

Promising practice	
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The app is already translated in 12 languages
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The app is available for everyone to download. People being trained on such issues give long lasting results in working environments.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	N/A
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	The app is translated in 12 languages and needs only to adapt in specific contexts.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	N/A
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Έντυπο για την βία κατά των γυναικών
Title (EN)	Info leaflet on Gender Based Violence.
Organisation (original language)	ΚΕΘΙ

Promising practice	
Organisation (EN)	KETHI
Government / Civil society	Government: The Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI) is a Legal Entity under Private Law of the Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family (General Government Body),
Funding body	-
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	ENTYPO GIA TH BIA GYNAIKON 2024.pdf (kethi.gr)
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	2024
Type of initiative	Information leaflet that includes key information on PPS support and tips on developing a safety plan.
Main target group	Adult women at risk of GBV or GBV victims
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	This information leaflet offers essential support resources for survivors of GBV and guidance on creating a safety plan. It emphasizes the availability of confidential services like counselling and legal assistance through local counselling centres, shelters and helplines. Key tips for developing a safety plan include identifying safe spaces, maintaining a list of emergency contacts, preparing a go-bag with important items, using technology wisely, and prioritizing self-care. The leaflet reinforces that survivors are not alone and deserve safety and support
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The leaflet explains in a trauma informed way how and what the survivor could do in case of a violent incident focusing on intimate partner violence.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The leaflet is available online and printed.

Promising practice	
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	N/A
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	It a comprehensive way of providing accurate and safe information to potential victims and survivors on their options including phone numbers and service mapping
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	N/A
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

Promising practice	
Title (original language)	Επιμορφωτικό Πρόγραμμα Ασύγχρονης Μορφής, με τίτλο: «Βία και Παρενόχληση στον Κόσμο της Εργασίας»
Title (EN)	E-Learning seminar titled: « Violence and harassment in working environments»
Organisation (original language)	ΚΕΘΙ
Organisation (EN)	KETHI
Government / Civil society	Government: The Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI) is a Legal Entity under Private Law of the Ministry of Social Cohesion and Family (General Government Body),
Funding body	EU

Promising practice	
Reference (incl. URL, where available)	Elearning Kethi
Indicate the start date of the promising practice and the finishing date if it has ceased to exist	Created under the project "Interventions for the Elimination of Violence and Harassment in Private and Public Sector Organizations and Enterprises," funded by the Operational Program "Human Resource Development, Education, and Lifelong Learning 2014-2020. The e-learning platform is still available
Type of initiative	Raise awareness activity
Main target group	Adult women that speak Greek
Indicate level of implementation: Local/Regional/National	National
Brief description (max. 1000 chars)	The learning platform includes 4 Modules that are available for free to anyone that is interested, including private and public body and/or to individuals who wish to be trained on the subject of gender-based violence and harassment at work
Highlight any element of the actions that is transferable (max. 500 chars)	The learning platform is an open and accessible platform that is feasible to replicate and introduce in other contexts.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as sustainable (as opposed to 'one off activities')	The platform doesn't require maintenance People being trained on such issues give long lasting results in working environments.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as having concrete measurable impact	By keeping track of people enrolling on the platform, it is feasible to track the modules reach.
Give reasons why you consider the practice as transferable to other settings and/or Member States?	The learning platform is an open and accessible platform that is feasible to replicate and introduce in other contexts.
Explain, if applicable, how the practice involves beneficiaries and stakeholders in the	N/A

Promising practice	
design, planning, evaluation, review assessment and implementation of the practice	
Explain, if applicable, how the practice provides for review and assessment	N/A

4. Annex 2 - Case law

Case law	
Deciding body (in original language)	No relevant case law was identified
Deciding body (in English)	
Case number (also European Case Law Identifier ECLI , where applicable)	
Parties	
Decision date	
Web link to the decision (if available)	
Which fundamental right(s) were referred to in the case?	
Key facts of the case (max. 250 words)	
The key legal question raised by the Court	
Result of the case in terms of factual outcome, and in terms of assessment of the legal question raised	