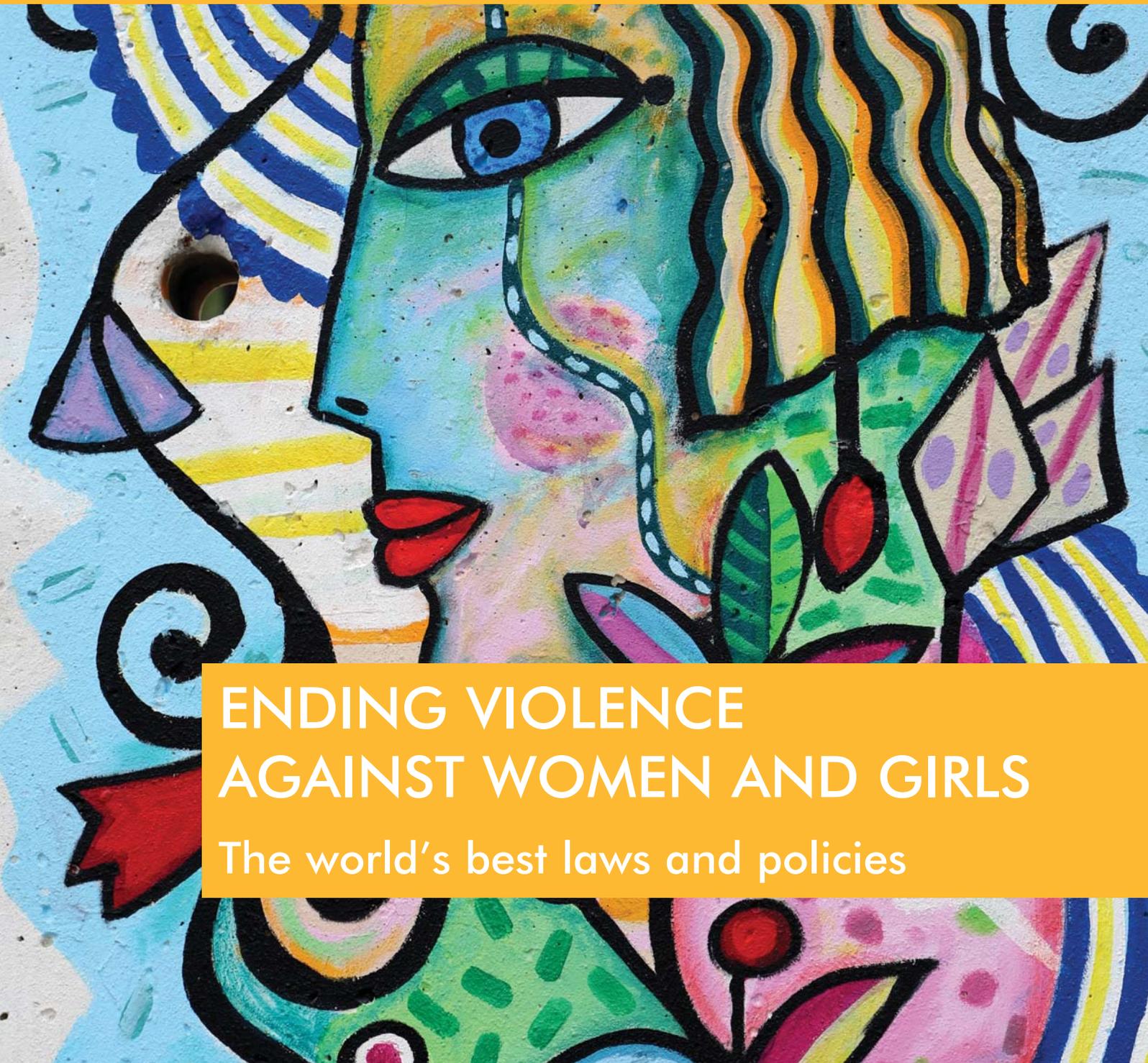




Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

A vibrant, abstract painting of a woman's face in profile, facing left. The face is composed of various colors like blue, green, pink, and red, with bold black outlines. The hair is depicted with wavy, colorful lines. The background is light blue with some black swirls.

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

The world's best laws and policies



FUTURE POLICY
AWARD 2014



The Future Policy Award identifies and celebrates exemplary laws and policies for the most pressing political challenges the global community is facing today. Ending violence against women and girls remains one of the most serious challenges, since it weakens all other efforts towards a future just society. The Award highlights achievements in policy-making and its implementation, as well as visionary new approaches. We commit to ensuring that these solutions are shared across the globe to inspire further progress towards a world free from violence against women and girls.

Alexandra Wandel, Director of the World Future Council



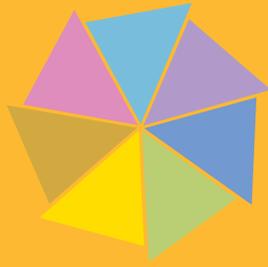
Violence against women is about gender inequality and power control. To come to grips with one of the most prevalent human rights violations in the world today, we must imagine relationships, families, communities where women's equality and the right to live their lives free from fear and violence is a given. Laws and policies must create an environment that delivers this vision by actively engaging the State, the community and all individuals. Countries everywhere can take inspiration from the winners of the 2014 Future Policy Award in taking bold steps to accelerate change and bring hope to women across the world.

Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union



Violence against women is one of the major challenges for countries around the world. It is a pandemic that affects one in three women globally, and has massive human, social, and economic costs for families and communities. The international community is currently developing a comprehensive blueprint for global progress through the post-2015 agenda. The empowerment of women and girls, including ending violence against women, must be at the centre of this agenda if it is to succeed. For countries to protect women from human rights violations, laws and policies are critical, including preventative measures to stop violence. However, these efforts must be backed by strong political will and sufficient resources to ensure full implementation.

Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Under-Secretary-General and UN Women Executive Director



FUTURE POLICY AWARD 2014

Dear Readers,

At the World Future Council, we strive to bring the interests of future generations to the centre of policy-making. With our annual Future Policy Award, we highlight the world's best solutions and we encourage policy-makers around the world to implement them.

In 2014, the Future Policy Award celebrated laws and policies that contribute to ending one of the most pervasive human rights violations: violence against women and girls. One in three women worldwide suffers some form of violence in her lifetime. By restricting women's choices and limiting their ability to act, the persistence of violence against women has serious consequences for peace and security, economic development and poverty reduction. Thus, it hampers all efforts towards a future just society. International experts from academia, civil society and international organisations have nominated twenty-five policies from around the world which were implemented

to improve the lives of women. Together, they reflect the broad scope of existing policy responses at local, national and transnational levels.

It is important to acknowledge that violence against women and girls is both a cause and a consequence of gender inequality and, in order to end it, a transformation of gender relations towards a more gender just society is necessary. This cannot be achieved through any single law or policy: the winners of the Future Policy Award provide inspiration for specific "parts of the puzzle" of a range of policy measures that can together lead to an end of violence against women and girls. Our analysis and the Jury's decision on the winners have provided important insights into the key elements of best laws and policies in this field. We have summarised them in the section "key recommendations".

Violence against women and girls has been on the political agenda for a relatively short time. Some of the most inspiring and exemplary policy approaches are still so new that assessing their effectiveness is not yet possible. However, not considering them would have excluded some of the most promising future just policy measures. Therefore, in 2014, the WFC also presented a "Vision Award" for the most promising policy approach, which can prove its effectiveness in the years to come.

We invite policy and law makers around the world to be inspired by the winners of the Future Policy Award. We would like to express our gratitude to the distinguished jury members and, in particular, to our institutional partners, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and UN Women.

Yours sincerely,
The 2014 Future Policy Award Team

WINNING LAWS AND POLICIES

VISION: The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), 2011

This legally binding human rights treaty commits States parties to adopt a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary response to violence through long-term preventive actions along with measures to ensure the prosecution of perpetrators and protection of survivors¹. In effect since August 2014, the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention is currently the most comprehensive international instrument on violence against women and is open for accession by any State in the world.

GOLD: The City of Duluth's Coordinated Community Response to Domestic Violence (The "Duluth Model"), 1981 (Minnesota, United States of America)

Coordinated Community Response (CCR) is a model for effective implementation of intimate partner violence legislation, involving all relevant stakeholders in a community. It rests upon a shared, gendered understanding of violence against women and prioritises the safety and autonomy of survivors along with ensuring perpetrator accountability. Regularly evaluated and adaptable, The Duluth Model has inspired policy making and implementation around the world.

SILVER: Burkina Faso's Law Prohibiting Female Genital Mutilation, 1996

This law translates the government's commitment to eradicate female genital mutilation/cutting by criminalising it. The effective implementation of the law in Burkina Faso is ensured through a range of accompanying measures, defined in a national action plan, and initiatives in the field of social policy, education and public health. The approach has proven successful in reducing FGM/C, holding perpetrators accountable and changing attitudes.

SILVER: Psychosocial and Legal Court Assistance for Victims of Violence during Criminal and Civil Procedure in Austria, 2006

In Austria, changes to the Criminal and Civil Procedure Act introduced the pioneering measure of a legally enshrined right to psychosocial and legal court assistance for all victims of violent crimes. Its aim is to safeguard the rights of victims and to empower them during legal proceedings. The Austrian government entrusts specialised victim support organisations with the implementation. Positive feedback and increasing uptake by victims of gender based violence and sexual abuse are testimony to the success and importance of this legal provision.

¹ See p. 19 for a definition of this term.

HONOURABLE MENTIONS

Honourable Mention: Spain's Organic Act on Integrated Protection Measures against Gender Violence, 2004

This law criminalises intimate partner violence against women and provides for a comprehensive set of measures aiming to empower and protect survivors and to change social attitudes. It addresses specific vulnerabilities and aims to ensure perpetrator accountability through provisions for effective prosecution, such as specialised courts.

Honourable Mention, Vision Category: Bolivia's Law against Political Harassment and Violence against Women, 2012

This law is a pioneering measure that acknowledges and criminalises the specific forms of violence that politically active women are facing. Though still in its early stages of implementation, it has the potential to effectively protect women particularly in the context of the comprehensive legislation on violence against women, which was adopted by the Bolivian government in 2013.

Students dancing for UN Secretary-General's UNiTE campaign in Maputo, Mozambique.





WINNER VISION AWARD

The Council of Europe
Convention on Preventing
and Combating Violence
against Women and
Domestic Violence
(Istanbul Convention), 2011

The Council of Europe Istanbul Convention is the most comprehensive international human rights treaty on violence against women and domestic violence. This legally binding instrument explicitly defines violence against women as a human rights violation and a form of gender-based discrimination and includes a strong emphasis on prevention and survivors' rights. In addition to Council of Europe Member States, it can be ratified by the European Union and is open for accession by any State in the world.

Following two decades of work on violence against women and informed by a body of evidence developed by academics and women's rights NGOs, Council of Europe Member States decided that a legally binding treaty on all forms of violence against women and domestic violence was needed. Two years of negotiations led to the adoption of the Convention in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2011.

The Convention recognises unequal power relations between men and women as the root cause of violence against women and advocates for a gender-sensitive perspective in tackling it. It calls

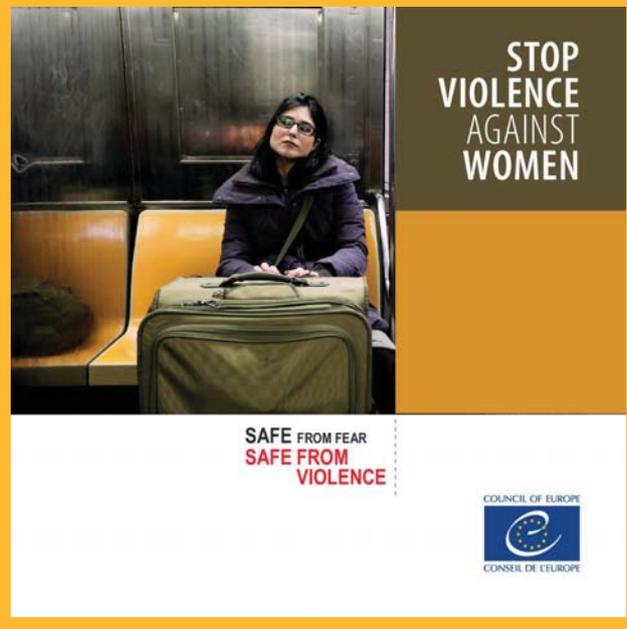
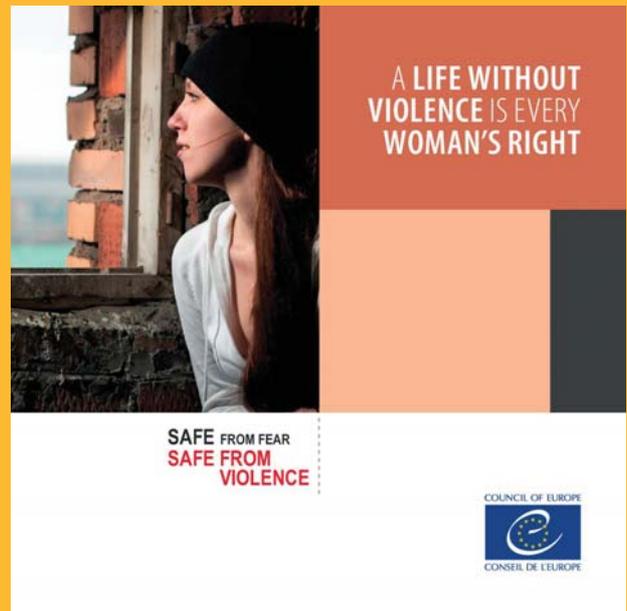
for the prosecution of an array of forms of violence against women and covers all forms of domestic violence, whilst clearly stressing that this disproportionately affects women. It places the due diligence principle as well as survivors' rights and needs at the core of all state response. Specifically, the needs of vulnerable groups such as asylum seekers and children affected by domestic violence are to be taken into consideration at all times.

In addition to appropriate responses for survivors of violence, the text focuses on prevention measures and requires States parties to develop comprehensive co-ordinated policies, to establish specialised institutions, partnerships with the non-governmental sector and the media, to ensure



substantial budget allocations, regular data collection and research for effective and sustainable implementation. It provides for a monitoring mechanism, which will include independent experts, to regularly assess States parties' progress in the implementation of the provisions of the Convention.

The Convention is detailed, and it can thus be used as a global standard for national law and policy making. Even before its entry into force, it has already inspired legislative reforms and policy improvements at national levels, including in countries which have not ratified it yet. Civil society organisations, which are invited to submit alternative reports to the monitoring body, will be key to ensuring States parties' accountability.



Adoption of the Convention at the 121st session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, May 10–11 2011, Istanbul, Turkey.



WINNER GOLD AWARD

The City of Duluth's
Coordinated Community
Response to Domestic Violence
(The "Duluth Model"), 1981
(Minnesota, United States of
America)

The Coordinated Community Response (CCR) is a strategy to effectively implement laws and policies that protect survivors from further acts of violence and hold offenders accountable for their criminal behaviour. It was first introduced in 1981 in the city of Duluth to ensure the implementation of the State of Minnesota's Domestic Abuse Act. With regular evaluation, adaptation to changing circumstances and new information gathered as laws and policies are implemented, the approach has gained international recognition and inspired law and policymaking, as well as implementation across the U.S.A. and beyond over the past decades.

At the heart of a Coordinated Community Response (CCR) is a shared understanding by all state and non-state actors involved that violence against women is a crime and a human rights violation, and that the response to it must prioritise the safety and autonomy of the survivor. A further key element of this approach is ensuring perpetrators' accountability and providing them an opportunity for rehabilitation through court-ordered classes. Research has found that 68% of offenders who pass through Duluth's criminal justice system and are consequently sent to men's nonviolence classes have not reappeared in the criminal justice system eight years on.²

The Duluth Model requires law enforcement and interveners in the criminal and civil justice systems to follow written policies and procedures. The Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP),

The core elements of the Duluth Model are:

1. Written policies that centralise victim safety and offender accountability
2. Practices that link intervening practitioners and agencies together
3. An entity that tracks and monitors cases and assesses data
4. An interagency process that brings practitioners together to dialogue and resolve problems
5. A central role in the process for victim advocates, shelters, and battered women
6. A shared philosophy about domestic violence
7. A system that shifts responsibility for victim safety from the victim to the system

Paymar, M. and Barnes, G., *Countering Confusion about the Duluth Model*, published by Battered Women's Justice Project.
http://www.bwjp.org/files/bwjp/articles/Countering_Confusion_Duluth_Model.pdf

² Source: Domestic Abuse Intervention Programs (DAIP).



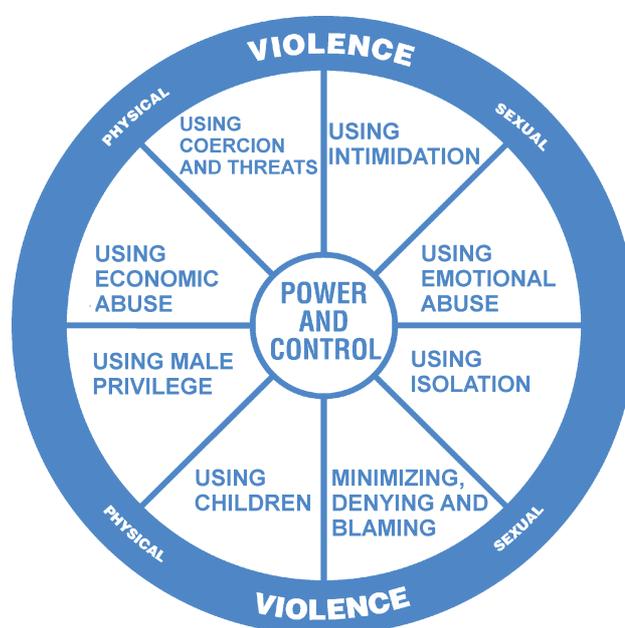
Dr. Ellen Pence (1948–2012), scholar, activist, co-founder of DAIP.

an NGO in Duluth, was and continues to be entrusted with overseeing, guiding, coordinating, monitoring and evaluating the CCR and hence ensuring that the criminal justice system is held accountable.

Actors involved in CCR include law enforcement officials, criminal and civil courts and human service providers. The Duluth Model not only introduced the practice of multi-agency partnerships in responding to intimate partner violence, it also theoretically and conceptually altered people's perception of it. The *Power and Control Wheel* was developed in Duluth and is internationally recognised as a key concept for understanding the power differential in intimate partner violence.

The principles of CCR are reflected in many laws, policies and strategies to end intimate partner

violence and other forms of violence against women around the world at national and local level. Staying true to the core principles that all interventions need to be designed to protect the survivor from further harm while also ensuring perpetrator accountability, the CCR approach provides the necessary flexibility to allow for adaptation to different community dynamics and infrastructures, rather than simply transplanting a model into a different context. It has played an outstanding part in ensuring effective implementation of laws and policies on violence against women and has thus made a major contribution to the efforts of States and communities to end violence against women.



The "Power and Control Wheel" developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project (DAIP) in 1984. It has been translated into 22 languages and adapted to more than 30 cultural contexts.



WINNER SILVER AWARD

Burkina Faso's Law Prohibiting
Female Genital Mutilation
(Law No. 43/96/ADP), 1996

In 1996, the Government of Burkina Faso amended its Penal Code to include the prohibition of female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C) and its punishment with sentences of imprisonment and fines. Whereas similar legal provisions exist in a number of countries, the implementation of the law in Burkina Faso is exemplary. As an outcome of long term advocacy by women's rights activists and backed by high level political support, the law in Burkina Faso is accompanied by National Action Plans and Strategies that lay out a range of measures to effectively fight FGM/C, including in the field of social policy, education and public health. A "National Committee to Fight the

Practice of Excision" (CNLPE), which was set up in 1990 and strengthened through a Permanent Secretariat in 1997, oversees their implementation. It brings together 13 ministries, women's rights and other nongovernmental organisations, religious and community leaders, law enforcement officials and the judiciary.

The law and the government's approach to its implementation have enabled significant progress in the fight against FGM/C in Burkina Faso. Surveys confirm a significant decrease in the proportion of younger women who have undergone FGM/C. Between 2006 and 2010, the percentage of girls aged 0 to 14 having undergone FGM/C has nearly halved. The number of arrests and sentences for practitioners of FGM/C and parents has increased.





National strategies aimed at changing attitudes and behaviour complement the law's implementation. Measures provided by the government include the setting up of an emergency hotline, training for all relevant professional groups, awareness-raising and advocacy (including among community leaders), information campaigns in local languages, the integration of information on FGM/C in school curricula, and comprehensive reproductive health care.

FGM/C is officially considered a public health and social policy issue, framed in a human rights, gender equality and reproductive health context. Burkina Faso does not rely entirely on donor funding for the implementation of the measures to end FGM/C: since 2000, the national budget provides funding for the work of the Permanent Secretariat of CNLPE.

Despite many advances over the past decades, some challenges remain on the journey towards a complete eradication of FGM/C in Burkina Faso. Parents who are still in favour of the practice use loopholes, for instance taking their daughters to neighbouring countries where FGM/C is not prosecuted. An effective protection from FGM/C will therefore depend on whether other countries in the region will follow the exemplary legal and policy approach that Burkina Faso has been



Peer educators run community discussions on female genital mutilation in Burkina Faso.

Above: Fatmata, 13, and her parents. After attending peer education discussions in their village, Fatmata's parents decided that their daughter would not be cut.

taking. The law would also have more powerful impact within a legal framework that does not only address FGM/C but all forms of violence against women and girls, including intimate partner violence.



WINNER SILVER AWARD

Austria's Psychosocial and
Legal Court Assistance for
Victims of Violence during
Criminal and Civil Procedure,
2006

§ 66(2) of the Criminal
Procedure Act and § 73b
of the Civil Procedure Act

Austria is a world pioneer in introducing a legally enshrined right to not only legal, but also psychosocial court assistance for victims of violent crimes. The key objective of this legislation is to safeguard the rights of victims and to empower them in the context of court proceedings. The Ministry of Justice entrusts specialised victim support organisations with a needs assessment, as well as the provision of court assistance. It provides the required funding to implement these measures and to ensure a high level of quality within the contracted organisations as well as the training of law enforcement and judicial staff to improve their responses to gender based violence cases.



In preparation of and during criminal proceedings, this law applies to all victims of violent crimes as well as their relatives, and also applies in cases of dangerous threats and encroachment of sexual integrity. Since 2009, victims who received assistance in this context are also entitled to psychosocial court assistance in related civil proceedings. Most beneficiaries of this provision are survivors of gender based violence and sexual abuse. The uptake of court assistance is steadily increasing, which indicates high demand and high acceptance among survivors who express particular appreciation for the chance to access psychosocial court assistance. Since 2008, the total number of beneficiaries has more than doubled, reaching around 6900 in 2013. Additionally, the law has created several positive “side effects“. Support organisations have noted a significant increase in survivors’ willingness to testify in court. In addition, improved dialogue, greater trust and better understanding between victim support organisations and the legal profession/judiciary has been expressed as a key benefit of the law beyond its original objective. Regular monitoring

The “mini trial” (*Minigericht*) developed by the *Gewaltschutzzentrum Steiermark* helps survivors of all ages understand and prepare for judicial proceedings.



Police officers receive training on intimate partner violence in Austria. From the documentary film *Showing the Red Card: Women on the Frontline (Austria)*, Patrick Burge, 2008.

and evaluation is ensured through regional round tables for law enforcement, judicial staff and victim support organisations.

The introduction of the right to court assistance in the criminal and civil procedure acts was the outcome of years of advocacy by organisations working with survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence, who were acutely aware of the need. Despite a progressive legal framework in Austria – particularly with regards to intimate partner violence – survivors are faced with important challenges in bringing perpetrators to justice through the legal system.

While this measure in itself is only one element of a legal framework and judicial system that can ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice, it is exemplary with regard to its focus on effectively empowering survivors. It is easily transferable to other countries, provided there is legislation on intimate partner violence and sexual violence and political will to allocate the necessary resources.



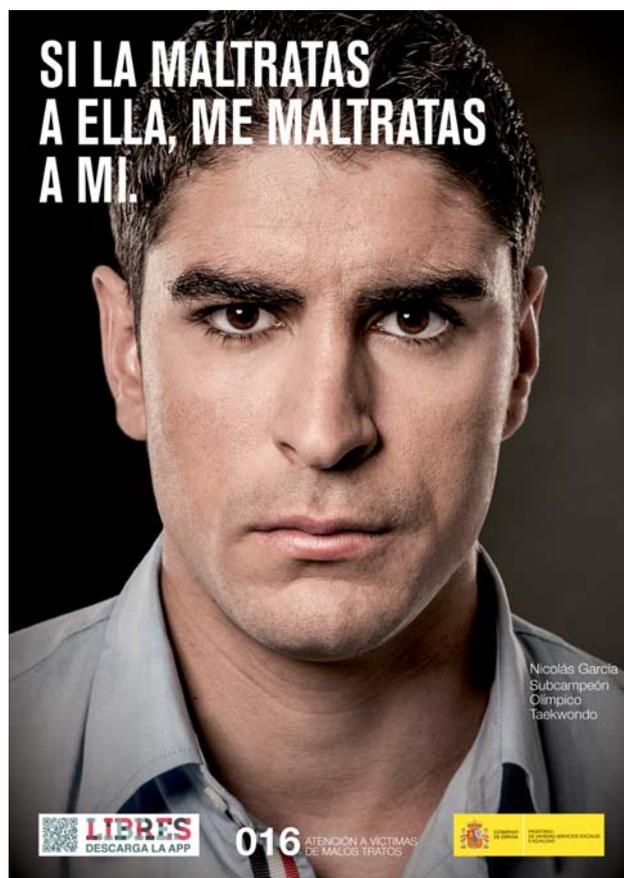
HONOURABLE MENTION

Spain's Organic Act 1/2004 on Integrated Protection Measures against Gender Violence, 2004

The Spanish Organic Act 1/2004 on Integrated Protection Measures against Gender Violence is one of the most advanced laws on intimate partner violence against women in Europe. Addressing the issue through an explicitly gendered analysis and survivors' rights perspective, it encompasses preventive and protective measures as well as criminal sanctions.

Following several years of feminist civil society mobilisation and parliamentary advocacy, it was unanimously approved by all political groups in the Spanish Parliament in December 2004. It has increased visibility and awareness on the issue of intimate partner violence within Spanish society in the last decade.

The law defines "gender violence" as an expression of unequal power relationships between men and women and reforms the Spanish Criminal Code so as to reflect those. However, it does not solely focus on sanctioning perpetrators but puts a strong emphasis on preventing violence and empowering survivors. Emergency and long-term protection orders are introduced, as well as prevention measures through interventions in schools, the media and throughout the health sector. Special courts on intimate partner violence against women are set up to ensure a speedy judicial procedure that is sensitive to the needs of survivors of gender violence. The law also creates new rights for survivors, including free legal aid,



Awareness campaign developed by Spain's Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality, featuring Taekwondo silver Olympic medallist Nicolás García. The poster reads: "If you are mistreating her, you are mistreating me."

unemployment or social re-integration benefits, work leaves or geographic mobility, as well as temporary residency and work permits for undocumented migrants. In addition, autonomous communities are obliged to fund specialised support services. Monitoring and evaluation mechanisms based on parliamentary oversight and on the work of the State Observatory against Domestic and Gender Violence were also established.

The Organic Act sets high standards with respect to protection and empowerment of survivors, and ensures that the Government upholds its commitments in a challenging economic context.



HONOURABLE MENTION, VISION CATEGORY

Bolivia's Law against Political Harassment and Violence against Women, 2012

The Bolivian “Law against political harassment and violence against women” is a pioneering legislation addressing violence against women in politics. In many countries women in the political arena, whether candidates to an election or elected to office, are confronted with acts of violence



Women's rights activist María Eugenia Rojas holding a poster against violence towards women in politics in La Paz, Bolivia. The poster reads: “Councilwoman: Reporting political harassment and violence is your duty”.

ranging from sexist portrayal in the media to threats and murder. In addition to being blatant human rights violations, these acts represent serious impediments to women's access to leadership positions and the capacity to carry out their mandate as representative of the people.

For over a decade, the Bolivian Association of Councilwomen (ACOBOL) documented an increasing number of cases of harassment and violence against women in politics, and advocated for a law which would address this situation. The tragic event that finally led to the adoption of the law was the assassination of Councilwoman Juana Quispe after she had reported being abused by Councillors and the Mayor of her town.

The law defines political harassment and political violence against women as criminal offences, respectively punishable by 2–5 years and 3–8 years of imprisonment. It requires the adoption of prevention and protection measures in cooperation with various public and private institutions, including the electoral management body.

Since its recent adoption, it has greatly encouraged women to report cases of violence. Its provisions were subsequently included in a more comprehensive law on violence against women in 2013, which, *inter alia*, sets up a specialised institution on violence against women and provides for protective measures. This could speed up implementation and significantly improve survivors' safety. Once fully implemented, this law will have strong potential to effectively protect women in politics from violence.

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

The analysis of nominations for the Future Policy Award has provided important insights into the key elements of best laws and policies on ending violence against women and girls. The following are some key findings and recommendations with regard to good law and policy making on ending violence against women and girls.

Laws and policies on ending violence against women and girls need to:

1. Follow a comprehensive approach based on international standards

Laws and policies should be based on human rights and the safety of survivors. At the international level, a number of tools and resources have been developed to support policy makers in their efforts to introduce legislation and national action plans on ending violence against women. They are based on internationally agreed norms and standards and acknowledge the link between violence against women and gender inequality and discrimination. Key resources, such as international standards, handbooks and research, are featured in the section “Key References”. Good laws and policies should provide for and constitute an integral part of a comprehensive strategy towards combating violence against women and girls, by drawing upon a range of methods to ensure perpetrator accountability, prevention, services for survivors, research and data collection and analysis.

2. Be transformative

For real progress towards a world free from violence against women and girls, a wide range of measures aimed at transforming gender relations

towards a more gender just society will be necessary at all levels and across all sectors of policy making.

Prevention of violence against women and girls is widely recognised as a key element of an effective, transformative policy approach. It is critical that laws and policies provide for a range of prevention approaches that include measures aimed at empowering women and girls, building respectful relationships and an environment conducive for gender equality. Prevention is a field where a strengthening of evidence-based policy-making is still needed across the world. Innovative and promising practices should be implemented to expand the knowledge base on effective prevention interventions.

3. Be sustainable and based on evidence

Our analysis shows that ensuring sufficient financial and human resources for the implementation of laws and policies, as well as monitoring and evaluation efforts to assess their impact, is a challenge shared by policy-makers around the world. However, it is imperative that:

- The resources that are required for effective implementation of all provisions of a law or policy are made available in a sustainable manner
- Regular research on the prevalence, causes and consequences of various forms of violence against women is conducted in order to further inform laws, policies and programmes
- Provisions for regular and consistent monitoring and evaluation are included in laws and policies, to ensure measuring of progress and to assess the need for change



Rally against street harassment and sexual violence on Trafalgar Square, London, UK.

4. Acknowledge and involve all stakeholders

Around the world, the driving force behind legal and policy advances related to ending violence against women and girls has been civil society mobilisation, in particular feminist movements. For decades, activists have been working hard to bring the issue to the political agenda and to hold governments accountable for implementing laws and policies. They are the bearers of decades of expertise on addressing the issue, supporting survivors, raising awareness and advocating for better laws and policies.

Exemplary policy-making needs to:

- Be the result of an inclusive process where all stakeholders take part
- Involve civil society organisations – including the perspectives of those directly affected by violence – in law and policy development, implementation and monitoring
- Ensure support for civil society organisations, including specialised support organisations and advocates

JURY MEMBERS 2014

- **Dr. Marie-Claire Cordonier Segger**, UK, Canada, Senior Director, Centre for International Sustainable Development Law (CISDL), Affiliated Fellow, LCIL, University of Cambridge and World Future Councillor
- **Brigitte Filion**, France, Switzerland, Programme Officer, Violence Against Women, Gender Partnership Programme, Inter-Parliamentary Union
- **Riet Groenen**, Netherlands, USA, Chief, Ending Violence against Women Section, UN Women, United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
- **Hibaaq Osman**, Somalia, Egypt, Founder and CEO, El Karama
- **Dean Peacock**, South Africa, Executive Director/Co-Founder, SONKE Gender Justice Network
- **Miriam Roache**, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Vice Chair, Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism to the Convention of Belém do Pará
- **Cheryl Thomas**, USA, International Violence Against Women Legal Expert, Advisor to International Organisations and Governments
- **Jakob von Uexküll**, Sweden, Germany, Founder, World Future Council and Right Livelihood Award
- **Evalyn Ursua**, Philippines, Human Rights Lawyer and former Senior Lecturer, University of the Philippines College of Law

KEY REFERENCES

International Norms and Instruments

Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), 2011.

Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Convention Belém do Pará), 1994.

Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa (Maputo Protocol), 2003.

United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979 and its Optional Protocol, 1999.

United Nations Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women Recommendation No. 19 on violence against women, 1992.

United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (DEVAW), UN General Assembly resolution 48/104 of 20 December 1993.

Recommended Reading

Htun, M. and Weldon, L. (2012) "The Civic Origins of Progressive Policy Change: Combating Violence against Women in Global Perspective, 1975–2005", in: *American Political Science Review* 106, pp. 548–569.

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), *Parliaments take action on violence against women: Priority actions for parliaments*, 2009.

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UN Human Rights Council seventh session, *Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Yakin Ertürk: Indicators on violence against women and State response*, January 2008.

UN Secretary General, *Ending violence against women: From words to action. Study of the Secretary-General*, 2006.

UN Women, *Handbook for Legislation on Violence Against Women*, 2012.

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UN Women, *Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls* (online tool): <http://www.endvawnow.org>.

PREVIOUS FUTURE POLICY AWARD WINNERS



2013: Disarmament

Gold Award

Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco), 1967, Latin America and the Caribbean

Silver Award

National Programme for the Voluntary Surrender of Firearms, Argentina, 2006
Nuclear Free Zone, 1987, New Zealand



2012: Protection of Oceans and Coasts

Gold Award

Shark Haven Act, 2009 and Protected Areas Network Act, 2003, Palau

Silver Award

Marine Resources Act, 2000, Namibia
Tubbataha Reefs Natural Park Act, 2010, Philippines



2011: Forests for People

Gold Award

National Forest Policy, initiated in 2004, Rwanda

Silver Award

Community Forest Policy, initiated in 1995, Gambia
Lacey Act, with its amendment of 2008, USA



2010: Biodiversity

Gold Award

Costa Rica Biodiversity Law, 1998, Costa Rica

Silver Award

Australia Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act, 1975, and Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999, Australia



2009: Food Security

Gold Award

Belo Horizonte Food Security Programme, 1993, Brazil

Silver Award

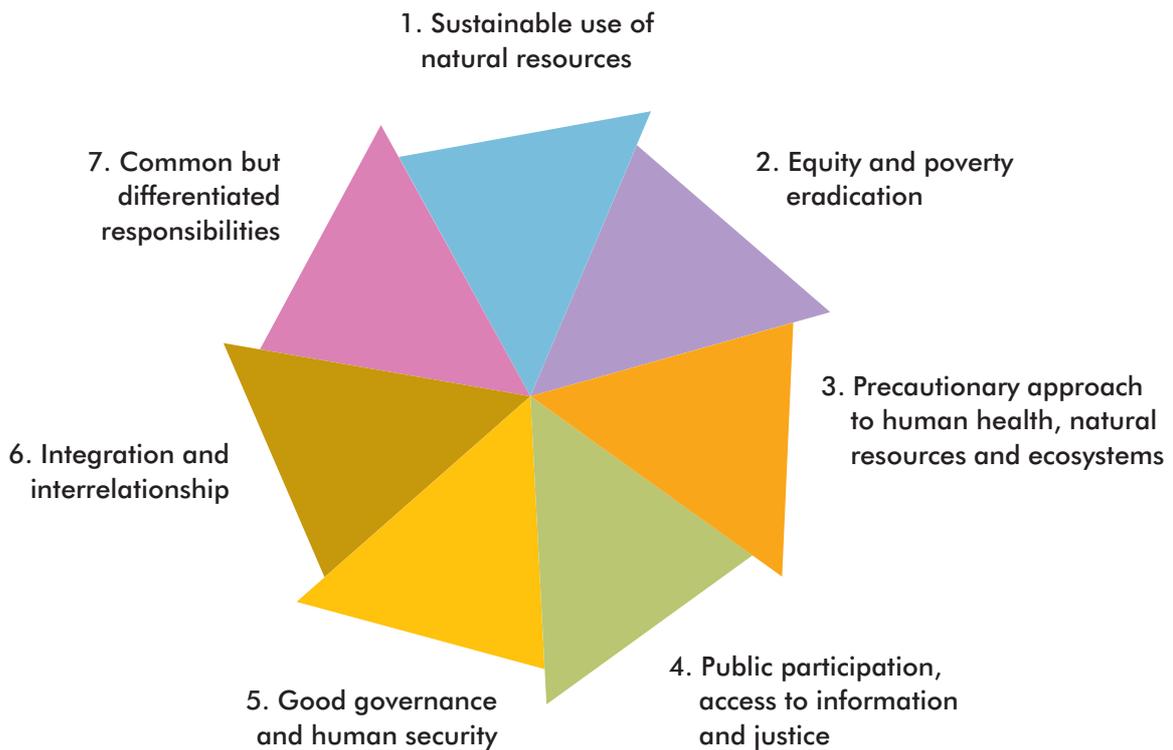
Tuscan Regional Law 2004 on the Protection and Promotion of Heritage of Local Breeds and Varieties of Interest to Farming, Animal Husbandry and Forestry, 2004, Italy
Urban Agriculture Policy, Cuba

FUTURE JUST LAW AND POLICY MAKING

Our “Best Policies” are those that meet the Future Just Law making Principles and significantly support fair conditions for future generations. The International Law Association has adopted Seven Principles for Sustainable Development Law. These principles were the result of 10 years of academic work and are regarded as the “first blueprint for the emerging field of sustainable

development law and policy” for professionals dealing with policy-making and evaluation. The Seven Principles methodology is applied as a framework for the evaluation of all policies that are nominated for the Future Policy Award.

For further information, see:
www.worldfuturecouncil.org/future_justice_principles.html



NOTE TO OUR READERS

Words are powerful. They can shape our conceptual thinking about an issue. The terminology surrounding violence against women and girls is constantly evolving to better reflect the living realities of those affected by it. Different terminologies may be used in different contexts. For example, we prefer the term **“survivor”** to refer to persons who have been subjected to violence, as the term “victim” can be perceived as stigmatising and disempowering. However, since “victim” is also a legal term, we kept it in certain contexts, such as the legal provision for court assistance in Austria. Similarly, the term “domestic violence” has in many contexts been replaced by **“intimate partner violence”** to accurately reflect the dynamics behind violence perpetrated by a current or former partner. Domestic violence generally refers to the phenomenon of violence within the family or domestic unit and can also include inter-generational violence. Nevertheless, sometimes, the terms used in legal texts diverge from these definitions. For instance, the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention rests upon a broader definition of domestic violence which encompasses intimate partner violence, “whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim” (Art. 3). The Spanish Organic Act uses the term “gender violence” to refer to male intimate partner violence against women. When paraphrasing provisions of those laws, we aimed to remain consistent with their own definitions.

In addition, you can find below the context for our use of some of the terminology, based on internationally recognised definitions.

On the principle of **“due diligence”**, former UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences Yakin Ertürk wrote: “Under the due diligence obligation, States have a duty to take positive action to prevent and protect women from violence, punish perpetrators of violent acts and compensate victims of violence.” (Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Yakin Ertürk, *Integration of the Human Rights of Women and the Gender Perspective: Violence against Women. The Due Diligence Standard as a Tool for the Elimination of Violence against Women*, 20 January 2006)

According to UN Women, **“empowerment”** means that people – both women and men – can take control over their lives: set their own agendas, gain skills (or have their own skills and knowledge recognized), increase self-confidence, solve problems, and develop self-reliance. It is both a process and an outcome.” (UN Women and the UN Global Compact Office, *Women’s Empowerment Principles. Equality Means Business*, Second edition 2011)

The Programme of Action agreed at the 1994 International Conference on Population and Development defines **“reproductive health”** as “a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being ... in all matters related to the reproductive system”, which “implies that people are able to have a satisfying and safe sex life and that they have the capability to reproduce and the freedom to decide if, when and how often to do so.” (Paragraph 7.2, ICPD Programme of Action, 1994)



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WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL

Head Office
Lilienstraße 5–9
20095 Hamburg
Germany
Phone: +49 (0) 40 3070914-0
Fax: +49 (0) 40 3070914-14
info@worldfuturecouncil.org

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