**Questionnaire of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons on best practices in the implementation of existing law related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons**

The Human Rights Council, in its resolution 24/20, requested the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons, Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte, to assess the implementation of existing international instruments with regard to older persons while identifying best practices and gaps in the implementation of existing law related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons and gaps in the implementation of existing law.

Pursuant to this request, the Independent Expert has prepared this questionnaire to identify best/good practices. The responses to the questionnaire, as well as the country visits undertaken will contribute to the comprehensive report of the Independent Expert that will be presented to the Human Rights Council in September 2016.

In order to enable the Independent Expert to consider the submissions in good time for the report, all stakeholders are encouraged to submit the responses to the questionnaire at their earliest convenience and no later than 18 December 2015.

Kindly indicate whether you have any objection for the responses provided to be made available on the OHCHR webpage of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons.

**Definition of good/best practices**

The term “best practices” is defined broadly in order to include different situations that could be considered positive and successful in a country and could inspire others. Therefore, practice is understood in a comprehensive way, including legislations, policies, strategies, statute, national plans, regulatory and institutional frameworks, data collection, indicators, case law, administrative practices, and projects among others. The practice could be implemented by different actors, State, regional and local authorities, public and private providers, civil society organisations, private sector, academia, national human rights institutions, or international organisations.

To be a good/best practice, the practice should integrate a human rights based approach when implementing existing international instruments related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons.

The questionnaire should preferably be completed in English, French or Spanish. The responses to the questionnaire can be transmitted electronically to the Independent Expert, Ms. Rosa Kornfeld-Matte and to be sent to olderpersons@ohchr.org, with copy to Mr. Khaled Hassine, khassine@ohchr.org by 18 December 2015.

Please include in your submissions the name of the State/organization submitting the practice, as well as contact details. Feel free to attach additional pages if you have several good/best practices to share.

**Your contact details**

**Name: National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE)**

**State/ Organisation: Equality Body**

**Email: equality@gov.mt**

**Telephone: 00356 25903850**

**Webpage: www.equality.gov.mt**

The Independent Expert would like to thank you for your support!

For more information on the mandate of the Independent Expert, please visit: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/OlderPersons/IE/Pages/IEOlderPersons.aspx

**Questionnaire**

of the Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons on best practices in the implementation of existing law related to the promotion and protection of the rights of older persons

**1. Name of the practice:**

Research study on violence on older women and men

**2. Area concerned:**

Discrimination (e.g. legal/institutional framework, access to facilities and services, etc.)

Violence and abuse

Adequate standard of living (e.g. resource availability, housing, etc.)

Independence and autonomy (e.g. legal guardianship, accessibility, etc.)

Participation

Social protection (e.g. social security, incl. pension)

Education, training and lifelong learning

Care (home, family or institutional care, long-term care, palliative care, geriatric services, quality of care and availability of services, care workers, etc.)

**3. Type of practice:**

Legal (Constitution, law, etc.)

Policy/Programme/Strategy/Action Plan on Ageing

Institution

Regulation

Administrative practice

Case law/jurisprudence

Disaggregated statistical data by age/gender

Training programme

Other (please specify): Qualitative Research Study

**4. Level of implementation:**

National

Local (Sub-national, community, urban/rural area)

Other (please specify):....................................

**5. Please describe the practice, including a) its purpose; b) when and how it was adopted; c) how long it has been used/implemented; and d) its geographic scope.**

The National Commission for the Promotion of Equality (NCPE) is carrying out a set of initiatives[[1]](#footnote-1) to raise further awareness on violence against women and girls by addressing distinct forms of violence and by shedding light on the circumstances and needs of victims of violence as well as of professional people who work with these victims.

As part of this project, a qualitative research study is examining the different forms of violence and abuse that older women and men go through in various settings in Malta and Gozo, taking into account a gendered perspective. Moreover, this study aims to tackle the factors and consequences of such violence.

As an outcome of this research a guide for healthcare professionals, a poster on violence on older women and men and a research report will be published. This research study will be finalised by end of 2015.

**6. Which actors are involved in the development and implementation of such practice?** For instance, national and local authorities; private and public sector; academia; civil society organizations; international or regional organizations; older persons themselves, among others.

This research study involves older women and men since it addresses a phenomenon that affects their lives directly. Professional persons working with older women and men will also benefit from this study through the publication of a guide for healthcare professionals with valuable information emanating from this study.

The results of this study can also be utilised by policy makers and other researchers to be able to develop policies and actions based on factual data; and to refer to the findings for further research.

**7. Which rights of older persons does the practice promote and protect?**

This research study seeks to provide findings on violence on older women and men, thus promoting and protecting their dignity and integrity. This study also promotes gender equality by taking into account the gender perspective and how gender affects the prevalence and types of violence that older persons go through.

**8. How does the practice promote or protect such rights?**

This research study will shed further light on the circumstances and needs of older women and men in relation to different forms of violence and will thus enhance the promotion and protection of their rights.

**9. What groups of older persons** (for instance, older women, persons with disabilities, persons of African descent, individuals belonging to indigenous peoples, persons belonging to national or ethnic, religious and linguistic minorities, rural persons, persons living on the streets, and refugees, among other groups), **if any, particularly benefit from the practice?**

Older women and men in Malta and Gozo will benefit from this research study.

**10. How has the practice been assessed and monitored? Please provide specific information on the impact of the practice, with data, indicators, among others, if any.**

This research is currently underway and will be finalised by end of 2015.

**11. What lessons do you believe could be learnt from this practice? How could it be improved?**

* The gender perspective is taken into account to address the circumstances and needs of older women and men.
* Research on violence on older women and men sheds further light on a phenomenon which tends to be hidden.
* Research on this subject matter can challenge perceptions on old age and combat ageism.

**12. How could this practice be a model for other countries?**

This study can be a model since the findings will be utilised to develop further action related to this subject matter. In particular, a guide for healthcare professionals will be developed to assist them when caring for older persons.

1. These initiatives are carried out as part of the EU co-funded *project Forms of Violence in Malta - a gender perspective  JUST/2012/PROG/AG/4733/VAW.* [↑](#footnote-ref-1)