

Information provided by Albania
on
“Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its Causes and Consequences”

1. Please indicate the main challenges in the fight against violence against women in various forms, for example: institutional and substantive change between different international instruments; lack of understanding of the provisions of international law that link gender equality and violence against women; inadequate judicial protocols or registrations and / or legal framework; impunity of the perpetrators; stereotypes and social stigma:

Reporting on gender-based violence and domestic violence in our country is growing year after year as a result of raising the level of awareness and response of the society to this phenomenon, but also thanks to the ratified national and international legal framework, which is complete and includes a set of conventions of laws and sub legal acts, in order to prevent gender-based violence and domestic violence.

In August 2018, Law No.47 / 2018, dated 23.07.2018 entered into force. "On some additions and amendments to Law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006, "On Measures Against Violence in Family Relations" ", which provides for appropriate legal measures and other measures necessary for the prevention and reduction of domestic violence in all its forms, and guaranteeing the protection of family members who are victims of domestic violence, paying special attention to children, the elderly and people with disabilities and to every individual subject to this law, which presents special protection needs. Amendments to this Law have provided for special obligations for the State Police, which among the main ones include Article 13/1 "Order for Preliminary Protection Measures", which stipulates that, 1. "When conducting a risk assessment the resulting violence poses a risk to the life, health and freedom of the family members, the structures responsible for dealing with domestic violence cases, close to the State Police, immediately take precautionary measures to protect the victim and to stop the violence " .

2. In the order for preliminary protection measures as per point 1 of this article, one or more of the following measures shall be determined:

- a) ordering the perpetrator not to commit or threaten to commit further acts of domestic violence to the victim or other members of the victim's family;**
- b) ordering the perpetrator not to violate, harass, contact or communicate directly or indirectly with the victim or members of the victim's family;**
- c) Immediately forbidding the perpetrator to approach the shelter, work place, residence of the family of origin or residence of other persons and educational institutions, or places that are most frequented by the victim, except in cases when attendance is done for work reasons;**

- ç) Immediately placing the victim in a residential or emergency centre for victims of domestic violence until a court decision is reached;**
 - d) ordering a state police officer to accompany the victim to a residential or emergency centre, according to letter "ç" of this point;**
 - f) ordering an employee of the State Police to accompany the victim up to his / her domicile and supervise the taking of personal belongings;**
 - e) the blocking of any weapon with a permit belonging to the perpetrator during the control carried out or seizure of any unauthorized weapon belonging to him, up to a court decision**
- "...

Despite legal aggravation, there is a progressive increase in the number of reports of domestic violence. Stricter penalties, in fact, more than inhibitors for authors, have served as an incentive and support for victims who are encouraged to report.

Also, since 2007, the State Police, the Juvenile and Domestic Violence structures have been set up and operate which oversee, monitor and coordinate work with local crime investigation structures to prevent and identify cases of domestic violence.

For the prevention of domestic violence, the State Police continuously cooperates with other institutions responsible for preventing violence, as well as with civil society organizations operating in our country. This cooperation has aimed at effectively addressing domestic violence, as well as in its prevention, protection and support of persons affected by domestic violence.