The Istanbul Convention
Article 16

Marianne Hester

Centre for Gender & Violence Research
Istanbul Convention
Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

- Firmly grounded in the understanding that gender-based violence against women is rooted in gender inequality and unequal power relations… with multiple risk factors and influences.
Council of Europe
ISTANBUL CONVENTION

Four core pillars of comprehensive approach to violence against women

PREVENTION
PROVISION
PROTECTION
PROSECUTION
Theoretical model – holistic & ecological

Prevention strategy – *the disruption of means, pathways and mechanisms of gender inequality* (Hagemann-White 2010)

**DISRUPT PATHWAYS TO PERPETRATION**

at all levels:

- society [macro], institutions [meso],
- family/peers [micro] and individuals [ontological]
Factors contributing to violence against women and girls (adapted from ‘Factors at play in the perpetration of violence against women, violence against children and sexual orientation violence’, developed by Hagemann-White et al in 2010)
Involving men and boys

- Transforming unequal power relations between women and men
- Challenging resistance
  - WESTERN BALKANS The Young Men Initiative
  - TURKEY Integrating reproductive health and gender issues into the military curriculum
DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PERPETRATOR PROGRAMMES: ARTICLE 16 OF THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

A collection of papers on the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

Article 16, prepared by: Marianne Hester, and Sarah-Jane Lilley

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The purpose of Article 16

- Programmes for **domestic violence perpetrators** and for **sex offenders**

- **As part of a wider strategy** for tackling violence against women.

- Can help to **disrupt pathways to perpetration**

- Such programmes must ensure the **safety and support of victims**
And overlap…

- Domestic violence perpetrators and sexual offenders may be the same men
- More denial by sexual offenders (greater stigma?)
- Different countries, different approaches?
Domestic violence programmes

• Should encourage **perpetrators to take responsibility** for their actions and **examine their attitudes and beliefs** towards women.

• Requires **skilled and trained facilitators** - in psychology and the nature of domestic violence, cultural and linguistic skills to work with a wide diversity of men.

• Should **closely co-operate** with women’s support services, law enforcement agencies, the judiciary, probation services and child protection or child welfare services

Practice – mostly psycho-educational, involving cognitive behavioural and therapeutic approaches
sex offender programmes

• Specifically designed to treat convicted sex offenders in and outside prison, with a **view to minimising recidivism**.

• Ultimate aim must be **preventing re-offending** and **successfully reintegrating** perpetrators into the community.

**Practice** - generally based on cognitive-behavioural, psychosocial and/or pharmacological interventions
Individual/ ontological level

Individual:

perpetrator
programme/work
Micro

Peers/family

Individual:
perpetrator
programme/
work
Meso

- Institutions
- Peers/family
- Individual: perpetrator programme/work
Macro – and thinking holistically
Thank you