

LINE OF ACTION



# PHYSICAL AUTONOMY

## Gender Equality Policies



Throughout Latin America, the gender gap is one of the main challenges to making progress in reducing inequalities and improving social cohesion. In the EUROsociAL+ Programme, we have focused the fight against this gap around the three autonomies—physical, economic and political—and the overarching nature of the gender perspective. The countries have clearly prioritised support for physical autonomy in their demands for technical advice, responding to the new social demands from citizens and the need to improve inter-institutional coordination, for which the exchange between Latin America and Europe is proving to be very rich and to have great potential. Gender violence is both a product of inequalities and a means to perpetuate them and keep women in an inferior position. In turn, a life free from violence, with greater autonomy in decisions about their personal and social life allows women and girls from an early age, and in their diversity, to choose their future, to develop their potential, acquire more knowledge, generate more income, enrich their human relationships and exercise full citizenship alongside men who accept the role changes and an equitable distribution of work at home and in social life.

Physical autonomy is structured in three areas that can be mutually coordinated and reinforced:

- ▶ Fight against gender violence (particularly femicide): In the programme, we promote the construction or strengthening of tools to apply the laws and implement effective, comprehensive and coordinated



AIAMP's Specialist Network on Gender Issues attended.

mechanisms for the care and protection of victims, the investigation and punishment of perpetrators, and prevention in the population.

- ▶ Sexual and reproductive health: to enable women to choose their future and know their bodies from adolescence onwards, protected by legal frameworks that can evolve. This line seeks to promote legislative changes in this field, to reduce cases of early pregnancies and prevent girls from leaving education early.
- ▶ Changes in masculinities: Violence and inequality cannot decrease without men changing their behaviour patterns, their values and without them taking responsibility for the violence they perpetrate.

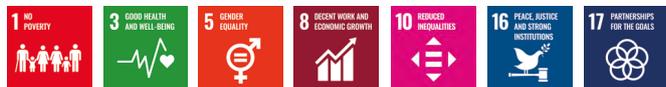
Institutions have made progress in including these challenges in gender equality policies in the last decade.

### EUROSOCIAL+ EXPERIENCES

The work undertaken on gender-based violence has a strong national and regional inter-institutional component, thus fulfilling multiple objectives from the coordinating players and strengthening the capacities of the institutions responsible for the prevention, care, measurement, punishment and eradication of gender-based violence. Among the results generated is the adoption of new investigation and litigation protocols, action protocols, intervention models, gender violence prevalence surveys, administrative data on



### WHICH SDG DOES IT INVOLVE?

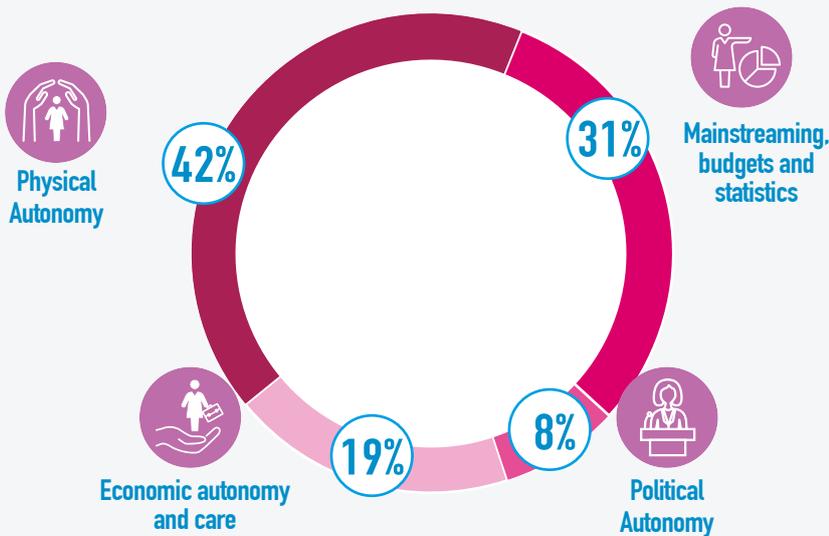


### EUROPEAN CONSENSUS

Initiative: Gender equality.

The EU and its Member States will ensure that the gender perspective is systematically incorporated into all policies as a key contribution to the successful achievement of the SDGs. They will accelerate their efforts to achieve gender equality and the empowerment of women.

## DISTRIBUTION OF ACTIONS BY LINES OF WORK IN THE GENDER EQUALITY POLICIES AREA



complaints and legal actions and the creation of observatories, among others. These tools make it possible to give greater coherence to public action throughout the institutional chain: Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women (MAM), the judicial system, and the prosecutors' offices.

Ministries of the Interior; Health and local authorities or networks in charge of shelters, social services and employment.

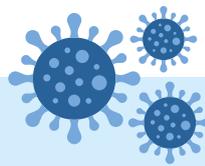
On the regional level, the biannual meeting held by the Gender Area in Paris on this subject took place in June 2018, with a special emphasis

on strengthening dialogue with Europe. More than 100 representatives of institutions from 12 Latin American countries and 10 European countries gathered together.

Since 2018, support has been provided to the AIAMP's Specialised Network on Gender - REGG, for the formulation of the regional protocol on the investigation of crimes against women with a gender perspective committed in the public and private spheres and the femicide investigation protocol. The report on good practices in investigation and criminal prosecution along with laws, public policies and judicial resolutions with a gender focus has also been disseminated. The Network's first meeting was supported in 2019, which allowed the update of the two protocols to be finalised and validated along with the signing of the five-year Strategic Plan 2019-2023, which positioned itself as the document for the institutional strengthening of gender units pertaining to all the Latin American prosecutors.

The alliance with the Monitoring Mechanism for the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) has been strengthened with various actions: initiating a bi-regional EU-LA diagnosis, aimed at defining quality standards for shelters, creating synergies with the Expert Group on Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence), twin instance of the Istanbul Convention and the Inter-American Network of Refugees and Women against Violence in Europe networks. An action was started in El Salvador and Honduras to raise awareness regarding the barriers to accessibility and women violence victims or survivors with some type of disability face, and joint Eurosocio/MESECVI workshops have

## WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COVID-19 CRISIS



Various Latin American institutions have expressed the need for accompaniment in the response to gender-based violence in the context of social isolation due to the Covid-19 crisis and in the subsequent stages.

At the national level, two actions are under way, one with the Council of the Judiciary in Ecuador to support the formulation of measures that could be adopted by the judicial powers to guarantee access to services for victims of gender violence upon the return of the pandemic. The other is with the Under-Secretariat of Prevention and Health Promotion -SPPS- in Mexico to train 911 operators and prevent gender violence with men in the context of Covid-19.

At the regional level, a cycle of 3 webinars was created between May and July 2020 on an "Inter-institutional response to gender-based violence in the context of the Covid-19 health crisis", on "Emergency care, sanction and prevention". The "Inter-institutional Response to Gender-based Violence in the Context of the Covid-19 Health Crisis" group has been created on the European Union CAPACITY4DEV platform to share documentation, videos and exchange ideas.

More focused on the problems of Central America, in June 2020 the webinar was held, entitled "Violence against Women in the Framework of Covid-19, Impact and Approach Measures in the SICA Region and Latin America, Dialogue with Europe". This webinar was co-organised with SISCA and the Technical Secretariat of the Council of Women's Ministers of Central America and the Dominican Republic (ST-COMMCA). The report ["Recommendations to guarantee the access of women survivors-victims of gender-based violence to justice during COVID-19"](#), was carried out together with UN Women and the Specialized Gender Network (REG) of the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP) The report compiles information on initiatives adopted, highlights some of the persistent challenges and integrates a series of recommendations.

## NETWORKS

- ▶ Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors' Offices (AIAMP) specialised Gender Network - REG.
- ▶ Permanent Commission on Gender and Access to Justice (CPGyAJ) of the Ibero-American Judicial Summit (CJI)
- ▶ Transparency and Access to Information Network (RTA)
- ▶ Observatory on Gender Violence, GREVIO
- ▶ Inter-American Shelter Network (RIRE)
- ▶ European Work With Perpetrators of Domestic Violence network

been continued to monitor the indicators on the implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.

**In its work focused on the right to sexual and reproductive health** from adolescence, EUROsociAL+ promotes dialogue between players in health, education, justice and culture, so that social and health policies can be extended to recognise young women's fundamental human rights.

Additionally, **in connection with the prevention of violence and new masculinities**, actions are being supported that

promote psychosocial intervention with male aggressors, to promote changes towards non-hegemonic masculinities. Following actions with Guatemala and Uruguay, collaboration with the European Work With Perpetrators of Domestic Violence network has been strengthened by proposing new common agendas. In the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Gender Equality Policies Area and the Ministry of Equality between Women and Men, Diversity and Equal Opportunities of France, created a space for Euro-Latin American dialogue between ministries, secretariats and institutes of promotion of women's rights in order to share their good practices around the next pending challenge: the economic autonomy of women. To this end, they organized the high-level meeting "Two continents united for equality" on March 3 and 4, 2022 in Paris. Twenty-five institutional delegations were brought together—thirteen from Latin America and twelve from the European Union—and six regional organizations. This event generated an exchange of good practices to advance public policies in the European Union and Latin America. This event was part of the commitments made at the Generation Equality Forum and continues through various regional meetings.

## OTHER ACTIONS BY COUNTRY

- ▶ ARGENTINA: We are supporting the design of a prevalence survey on gender violence and analysis of the cost for its execution, to strengthen the statistical system promoted by the National Council for Women. We are also supporting the preparation of the economic empowerment module for women in situations of violence in Buenos Aires Province. We are contributing by designing and implementing the investigation and litigation protocol in cases of femicide for the Public Prosecutor's Office.
- ▶ CHILE: Incorporation of an evaluation methodology to introduce the gender perspective into the prosecution of violent crimes for the Public Prosecutor's Office. Reinforcement of the training plan for public agents on forms of gender violence against women and support for updating the methodology and indicators in the National Survey on Gender Violence, accompanying the Ministry for Women and Gender Equity.
- ▶ COLOMBIA: the National Office of the Attorney General was supported in strengthening the investigation of gender-based violence and crimes perpetrated by women against their aggressors, and the International Congress of Good Practices was supported in 2018 and 2019 to confront violence against women and girls based on gender. On the other hand, the National Administrative Department for Statistics - DANE is being supported to strengthen and coordinate the SIVIGE and SINEVIG information systems related to gender violence. And work was done on strengthening the Family Police Stations to deal with violence in the COVID19 context.
- ▶ COSTA RICA: Technical assistance was provided to the National Women's Institute to develop the innovative instrument entitled the National Policy for the Care and Prevention of Violence against Women 2017-2032. This Policy is known as PLANONI, also with support for the Regional Plan to Combat Gender Violence SICA. On the other hand, the Judiciary was supported in addressing violence against women and building new masculinities in men in criminal proceedings.
- ▶ ECUADOR: Assistance was given to construct the methodology for indicators in the National Survey on Gender Violence by the National Secretariat of Planning and Development—SENPLADES—. Judicial Council was supported to design and implement a management model with standards of care for victims of violence against

## PARTNERSHIPS

- ▶ ECLAC
- ▶ UN Women
- ▶ UNFPA The United Nations Population Fund
- ▶ EU Directorate General for Justice and Consumers (DG Justice)
- ▶ OAS Mechanism to Monitor the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI)
- ▶ European Commission Spotlight
- ▶ IDB
- ▶ SICA SISCA, Council of Women's Ministers of Central America (COMMCA)



women and other members of the family core (contraventions and crimes) and femicides.

- ▶ EL SALVADOR: Support to the Salvadoran Institute for the Development of Women (ISDEMU) in evaluating systems to monitor the situation in terms of violence against women.
- ▶ GUATEMALA: The intervention model was designed for men who perpetrate violence against women in the Prison System and the Public Policy against Sexual Violence 2018-2028 from the Secretariat against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and People Trafficking. The Ministry of the Interior is being accompanied in the Intervention Model for Men who Perpetrate Violence against Women in the Prison System and the Public Ministry to promote the actions of the RED AIAMP - Iberoamerican Association of Public Ministries - in Guatemala.
- ▶ MEXICO: The evaluation and design to strengthen the Gender Violence Against Women Alert Mechanism (AVGM) was carried out for the National Women's Institute. The Federal Institute of Public Defenders was accompanied in designing a protocol for the defence of women deprived of liberty with a gender perspective,

and the National Institute for Transparency was supported in the fight against gender violence against girls, adolescents and women on the internet. Work was done to strengthen the first line of care for victims of gender violence of the National Public Security System. We contribute to the preparation and implementation of the National Strategy for the Prevention of Pregnancy in Adolescents of CONAPO and Inmujeres. Also in strengthening the management methodologies of the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women. And in the prevention of the Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents of the National System of Comprehensive Protection for Children and Adolescents. Work was done on the prevention of Gender Violence in homes in the COVID-19 context with the Undersecretary for Prevention and Health Promotion.

- ▶ PANAMA: The Action Protocol was drafted for the Judicial Body for cases when a woman victim of gender violence withdraws from prosecution, along with the regulation and implementation of Law 60, on pregnant minors for the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES). INAMU was supported in the construction of guidelines

for the protection of women in high-risk violence.

- ▶ PERU: We are providing technical assistance to create the National Observatory and pilots on Regional Observatories of Violence against Women and the Family, together with the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations. The Peruvian National Police was accompanied in the prevention, care and punishment of sexual harassment; Violence Against Women Prevention Plan.
- ▶ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC: The Ministry of Women was strengthened for the creation of the Single Registry of violence and the implementation of a system for planning, monitoring and evaluating policies for early unions and adolescent pregnancy.
- ▶ URUGUAY: We are supporting the implementation of the protocol for investigation and litigation in cases of femicide in Uruguay in the Office of the Attorney General. We are contributing to strengthening the National and Intersectoral Strategy for the Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy for the Ministry of Public Health. And we are promoting the intervention system in the struggle against gender violence focused on new concepts of masculinity in the Ministry of Social Development.

## Publications



- ▶ Two continents united by equality
- ▶ Shelters for Victims of Gender Violence in Europe: good practices and challenges
- ▶ Good practices to strengthen the incorporation of the gender perspective in judicial decisions
- ▶ Diagnosis of promising or innovative practices for the implementation of online trials in cases of gender violence
- ▶ Guide to guarantee access to justice for women with disabilities who are victims or survivors of violence
- ▶ Strategic Planning and Work Plan 2021-2025. Permanent Commission on Gender and Access to Justice, CJI
- ▶ The work of family police stations in cases of psychological, economic and patrimonial violence
- ▶ Regional protocol for the investigation with a gender perspective of crimes of gender violence of the AIAMP
- ▶ Mapping of good inter-institutional practices in care, punishment and prevention of gender-based violence
- ▶ Women charged in contexts of violence or vulnerability
- ▶ Theoretical-conceptual framework for the creation of the National Observatory of Gender Violence in Peru
- ▶ Manual for the investigation of cases of physical and psychological violence for reasons of gender Good practices in investigation and criminal prosecution with a gender perspective at the Latin American level
- ▶ Protocol for permanence in school for girls and adolescents who are pregnant or who are already mothers
- ▶ Latin America confronts violence against women
- ▶ Mapping of European institutions and good practices for gender equality and the fight against gender violence
- ▶ Five-year strategic work plan (2018-2022) by the Association's Specialised Network on Gender
- ▶ Strengthening strategy for instances of gender from the Public Prosecutors' Office of Ibero-America
- ▶ Evaluation of the Mexican Alert Mechanism for Gender Violence against Women (AVGM)
- ▶ Chile promotes justice with a gender approach
- ▶ Diagnosis regarding the problem of sexual violence in Guatemala
- ▶ Public policy proposal to combat sexual violence in Guatemala (2019-2028)
- ▶ Rapporteur's report on the II Meeting of the EUROsociAL+ Programme: Trust And Social Cohesion



## EUROSociAL CHANNEL ON YOUTUBE

- EUROsociAL+ at the Generation Equality Forum
- Addressing teenage pregnancy in Panama
- EUROsociAL+ results: School retention protocol for girls and young women who are pregnant or who are already mothers (El Salvador)
- EUROsociAL+ Results: Evaluation of the gender-based violence alert mechanism (Mexico)
- RECIPROCALLY dialogues: women, public policies and trust
- CELAC-EU Workshop for the prevention of gender violence (Buenos Aires, 28-29/10/17)
- Impact of public policies to combat violence against women in El Salvador
- Interview with Aurélie Latourès, Haubertine Auclert Centre, France (subtitles in Spanish)
- Interview with Ana Aminta Madrid, Minister for Women -INAM-, Honduras
- Interview with Helena Hansen, Danish Women Society (subtitled in Spanish)
- Euro-Latin American dialogue on the fight against gender violence.



Interactor dialogues and alliances for physical autonomy, within the framework of the II Meeting of the EUROsociAL+ Programme in Cartagena de Indias.

See conclusions at:



## Two continents united by equality

On March 3 and 4, the high-level Euro-Latin American meeting “Two Continents for Equality” took place in Paris. A few days from March 8, International Women’s Rights Day. The event was a space for dialogue between ministries and mechanisms for the advancement of women from both regions in order to exchange good practices around one of the pending challenges: achieving economic autonomy for women.