

CONVENTION ON 'PREVENTING AND COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE'

The Council of Europe is actually working on the draft of a new Convention on “preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence”. This could be a great step forward in eradicating violence against women within the Council of Europe Member States, but also outside Europe, since this Convention is meant to be an open one.

The Convention will become open for discussion after publication of the next (last?) version of the draft, which is expected to happen in early summer.

The European Women’s Lobby has welcomed this Council of Europe Initiative to develop a legally binding international human rights instrument intended against all forms of violence against women.

The EWL wants to insure through lobbying that women’s voices be heard, including those of migrant women, women with disabilities, older women, lesbian women etc., and that the future Convention be based on a strong feminist analysis of the structural (patriarchal) nature of male violence against women and that it legislates on all forms of violence against women.

Therefore the European Women’s Lobby is working on a special

Lobbying Tool Kit,

which all NGOs concerned could use in order to achieve the above mentioned goals and to further ensure that the Convention includes provisions for consultation with NGOs, and NGOs’ role in monitoring the implementation of this Convention.

As soon as the finalized Lobbying Kit will be available a respective link will be set on the UWE website.

