



Brussels, 9 April 2018
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7713/18

FREMP 42
JAI 284
DROIPEN 47
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OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Delegations
Subject:	Outcome of the meeting on 26 February 2018 of the Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons (FREMP)

1. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in doc. CM 1602/18.

2. Presidency non-paper containing the elements for a Code of Conduct laying down the arrangements regarding the exercise of rights and obligations of the European Union and Member States (WK 11626/2/17/ REV 4 and WK 804/18 - Presidency summary and explanatory note) - endorsement of the Presidency compromise proposal

FREMP continued the discussion on the Code of Conduct and worked on the basis of its fourth version submitted by the Presidency. Most Member States focused on points 3 and 4, related to issues of subsidiarity. Some Member States also added comments on other points of the Code of Conduct, particularly on point 8 concerning the GREVIO monitoring mechanism, on which the principal concern of Member States was to minimize the burden of reporting. Most Member States were generally ready to accept REV4 of the Code of Conduct, but further discussions are needed to reach a compromise among all parties of the Code. The item will be on the agenda of one of the upcoming FREMP meetings under the Bulgarian Presidency.

3. Latest surveys on violence against women and gender-based violence:

a) EU Fundamental Rights Agency's work on violence against women

The EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) presented to FREMP its studies on the access to protection, support and justice for women as victims of domestic partner violence, in particular the EU wide-survey on women's experiences of violence¹, and an (ongoing) in-depth research on the rights of victims of violent crime.

b) European Institute for Gender Equality survey on gender-based violence

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) presented supporting institutional responses to combatting violence against women.

Both agencies presented the methodologies and results of their researches, insisting on the importance of relevant data, and the need to take action against domestic violence.

4. Presentation by the Austrian delegation on their practical experience with the GREVIO reporting mechanism

The Austrian delegation (AT), one of the first Member State to undergo a GREVIO evaluation from March 2016 to January 2018, presented the process to the other delegations . The first step is the Baseline evaluation (questionnaire, State report, involvement of civil society institutions, monitoring visit, report), then the Committee of the Parties sends its recommendations to the evaluated MS. AT insisted on the importance of this evaluation mechanism, necessary to ensure the implementation of the Istanbul Convention.

5. AOB

The Presidency presented the results from the High Level Group on Gender mainstreaming, held in Sofia in January 2018 and from the Sofia Forum which discussed the equality between women and men in the IT sector.

¹ <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2014/violence-against-women-eu-wide-survey-main-results-report>