



Council of the
European Union

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GENDER 40
SAN 154
FREMP 143
ILO 9

'I/A' ITEM NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee (Part 1)/Council
Subject:	Proposal for a Council Decision inviting Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization - Adoption

I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 22 January 2020, the Commission presented to the Council a proposal for a "Council Decision authorising Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization".¹

¹ 5442/20

2. The Convention 190 concerning the Elimination of Violence and Harassment in the World of Work² ('ILO Convention 190'), was adopted on 21 June 2019, at the 108th (centenary) session of the International Labour Conference and it was accompanied by Recommendation 206³. It is the first international instrument setting out specific, globally applicable standards on tackling work-related violence and harassment.

II. WORK AT THE COUNCIL

3. The proposal was examined in the Social Questions Working Party (SQWP) on five occasions under the Croatian, German and Swedish Presidency.⁴
4. The Council Legal Service carried out an analysis of the competences of the EU in relation to the ILO Convention 190 with a view to identifying legally viable ways forward regarding its ratification.
5. The Committee of Permanent Representatives ('Coreper I') dealt with the matter on six occasions⁵, and under the Swedish Presidency, the Council (EPSCO) also held an exchange of views on this file.⁶
6. On 18 September 2023, the Council (AGRIFISH) reached a general approach⁷ under the Spanish Presidency. Following the general approach, the text has undergone a linguistic revision as set out in doc. 13106/23.

² Convention C190 - Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) (ilo.org)

³ Recommendation R206 - Violence and Harassment Recommendation, 2019 (No. 206) (ilo.org)

⁴ Social Questions Working Party meetings on 04/02/20, 18/02/20, 20/03/20, 01/02/22 and 31/1/23

⁵ Coreper I meetings on 11/03/20 (6771/20), 09/12/20 (13993/20), 18/12/20 (13995/20), 8/03/23 (doc. 6684/23), 19/04/23 (8079/1/23 REV 1) and 19/07/23 (11811/23)

⁶ 13/03/23 (doc. 6685/23)

⁷ 12080/23 + ADD1 + ADD2

7. On 23 October 2023, the Council (AGRIFISH) reached an agreement in principle on the draft Council Decision as set out in doc. 13106/23 and decided to seek consent of the European Parliament.⁸
8. On 12 March 2024, the European Parliament gave its consent to this draft Council Decision.

III. CONCLUSION

9. In light of the above, the Permanent Representatives Committee is invited to recommend that the Council adopts, as an "A" item at a forthcoming meeting, the draft Council Decision inviting Member States to ratify, in the interest of the European Union, the Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) of the International Labour Organization, as set out in document 13106/23.

⁸ 13190/23