



Council of the  
European Union

**Brussels, 27 November 2019  
(OR. en)**

**14516/19**

**SOC 772  
EMPL 585  
GENDER 58  
ANTIDISCRIM 50**

**NOTE**

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From: General Secretariat of the Council  
To: Delegations

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Subject: Preventing domestic violence with men and boys, Mutual Learning  
Seminar (Stockholm, 16-17 September 2019)  
*Information from the Swedish delegation*

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Delegations will find attached the information note from the Swedish delegation on the above subject, with a view to the meeting of the EPSCO Council on 10 December 2019 (Any Other Business item).

**Preventing Domestic Violence with Men and Boys, Mutual Learning Seminar,  
Stockholm, Sweden, 16–17 September 2019**

The EU aims at eradicating violence against women and children, a goal that can only be achieved through the development of effective prevention, i.e. measures to stop violence before it occurs. Universal programmes challenging norms of dominant masculinities and encouraging bystander intervention among young men and boys are a case in point. Today, however, the rates of recidivism for domestic violence are relatively high. Therefore, preventive efforts need to include perpetrator treatment programmes to reduce the risk of relapse.

With the aim to encourage Member State collaboration in this area, Sweden hosted the seminar 'Domestic Violence Prevention with Men and Boys: Challenges and Opportunities' in Stockholm on the 16th and 17th of September 2019. The seminar was conducted within the Mutual Learning Programme in Gender Equality under the European Union Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020). Attended by representatives from 15 Member States, the European Commission and the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), the seminar demonstrated promising local practices across Europe, including models of cooperation between social services, schools and the police. The discussions pointed to a need for developing the evidence-base for violence prevention. This includes treatment for perpetrators and promotion of changing social norms among young people. A key conclusion from the seminar is that Member States may benefit significantly from further collaboration and actions at EU-level in their efforts to prevent domestic violence by targeting men and boys.