21-22 September 2026

Implementing the Istanbul Convention

after the EU's Accession in the Academic System.

Backlash, Gaps and Institutional Responsibility

A Pan-European Conference

Working Group 1.5.

Building: Data, Monitoring and Accountability in Universities.

Measuring Gender-Based Violence and Evaluating Policy Effectiveness.

Final Report

1. Data governance, monitoring and accountability

The Anti-Violence Center and the University Adviser on violence collect data at different intervals and using different tools. Common guidelines should specify what to collect, how often, how, and what to report.

The university needs data-analysis expertise, stronger governance, and clear monitoring responsibilities. It should issue regular reports and track access, referrals, participation in prevention, perceived safety and trust, and the effectiveness of emergency procedures.

These elements should be included in the GEP, with follow-up to assess the impact of actions.

2. Awareness across the academic community

The university should raise awareness of the value of data, engage research and teaching leaders, and make clear that gender-based violence concerns the entire community, not only women.

Survey participation is low, especially among students and men. Findings must lead to visible action; otherwise, trust and resources will be lost.

3. Gender in strategic planning

The Gender Budget should not remain an isolated document. Its findings should inform strategic plans, program documents, departmental policies, and monitoring and evaluation tools.

4. University responsibility for gender-based violence

Universities may hesitate to address the issue due to reputational concerns or fear of instrumentalization. They should instead take responsibility for prevention policies and support services, grounded in their duty to protect staff well-being.

5. Support services and local networks

Anti-violence services should be institutionalized and accessible to external users. They should operate as a "warm" network: the first service to identify a case welcomes the person and facilitates the referral, avoiding repeated retellings.

Universities should strengthen cooperation with local services and institutions. Engagement with the surrounding community reduces isolation and strengthens the support network.

6. Surveys and data collection

Surveys should reach the entire academic community and, where possible, be integrated with organizational well-being surveys. The CRUI questionnaire could provide a common basis, subject to verification of data comparability.

7. Governance and institutional responsibility

A coordination group should clarify the action plan, responsibilities, resources, indicators, deadlines, and monitoring arrangements, and produce a report on the university's current situation.

Reputation must not take precedence over acknowledging the issue. Evidence should inform decisions, resource allocation, and organizational change.