



## **European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination**

### **NEWS REPORT**

<b>Country:</b>	Estonia
<b>Title:</b>	Transposing the Directive 2012/29/EU requirements
<b>Date:</b>	12 February 2016
<b>Expert:</b>	Anu Laas
<b><u>Context</u></b>	
<b>Issue at stake:</b>	Gender based violence
<b>Ground of discrimination:</b>	Sex
<b>Source:</b>	Legislation
<b>Field:</b>	Other
<b>Applicable law:</b>	Penal Code

### **Content**

**Legislative development:** On 17 December 2015, the Parliament of Estonia passed the third reading of the draft law on enlarged victim's rights in the course of criminal procedure. Seven laws were amended and some amendments enter into force in January 2016, and other amendments on 1 July 2016 and on 1 January 2017.

Unfortunately, the majority of amendments to the Code of Criminal Procedure enter into force on 1 January 2017. The Government started drafting law in May 2015 and was ready to pass the draft law to the Parliament in September 2015. From September to December the draft law was debated in standing committees of the Parliament. Unfortunately, the Parliament read this draft law in the Parliament sessions on 15-17 December, just after adoption of the 2016 State Budget on 9 December 2015. An implementation of the amendments to seven laws requires funding resources. Support from the EU structural Funds is also expected.

**Key points of analysis:** Amendments to following legal texts were made on 17 December 2015:

- Code of Criminal Procedure, RT I 2003, 27, 166; majority of amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2017;
- Penal Code, RT I 2001, 61, 364; amendments will enter into force on 1 July 2016;
- Victim Support Act, RT I 2004, 2, 3; majority of amendments will enter into force on 1 July 2016;
- State Legal Aid Act, RT I 2004, 56, 403;
- State Fees Act, RT I, 30.12.2014, 1; amendments will enter into force on 1 January 2017;
- Taxation Act, RT I 2002, 26, 150;
- Code of Criminal Procedure Implementation Act, RT I 2004, 46, 329.

**Internet link source:**

Implementation and documents of the Draft Law 80 SE,  
<http://www.riigikogu.ee/tegevus/eelnoud/eelnou/3fdc8de9-e0bc-4c52-87ac-b823f8369cfe/Kriminaalmenetluse%20seadustiku%20muutmise%20ja%20sellega%20seonduvalt%20teiste%20seaduste%20muutmise%20seadus,%20millega%20laiendatakse%20kannatanute%20õigusi%20kriminaalmenetluses/>, accessed 27 December 2015.