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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Spain
Title:	The Government invests EUR 200 million in the first quarter of 2018 to combat gender-based violence with the implementation of the Agreement against gender violence of 2017
Date:	19 February 2018
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<u>Context</u>	
Issue at stake:	Gender-based violence
Ground of discrimination:	Sex
Source:	Political development
Field:	Other
Applicable law:	The general legislative framework for gender-based violence; Organic Law 1/2004, of 28 December 2004, of Integral Protection Measures against Gender Violence (<i>Ley Orgánica 1/2004, de 28 de diciembre, de Medidas de Protección Integral contra la Violencia de Género</i>).

Content

On 28 September 2017, the Spanish Parliament adopted a document which reflected the agreement of the majority of the political parties represented in parliament to work together in the fight against gender-based violence. The document contained 200 concrete measures, to be implemented mostly by the Government, the Autonomous Communities and local authorities over the next five years.

The document includes a set of measures to increase the capacity of the social and health services to detect situations of gender-based violence. The agreement also stipulated that over the coming years the following measures need to be developed: (i) The victim should have access to the resources of protection and care without the need to submit a complaint; (ii) The educational centers will promote measures against machismo, and a protocol for the detection of child abuse should be developed. The feminist movement will be included in school books. (iii) In accordance with the media, an image of women free of stereotypes and a code for non-sexist advertising will be developed; (iv) The children of female victims of gender-based violence will be also considered victims of gender violence; (v) The definition of the concept of male violence will be extended to include all types of aggression recognized in the Istanbul Convention, such as forced marriages, female genital mutilation, trafficking and sexual violence.

The agreement established a concrete plan of action for the next five years, for on which the Government should budget EUR one billion. According to the agreement, in 2018 the

Government should spend EUR 200 million to implement 26 specified measures that could be summarized as follows: (i) Awareness and prevention measures (6 measures): prevention of gender-based and sexual violence through education, reinforcement of educational inspection and training of teachers and health staff; (ii) Improvement of the performance protocols between the Courts of Justice and Public Administrations and the accreditation of situations of gender-based violence to access a comprehensive protection status (3 measures); (iii) Improvement of the assistance, support and protection of the victims covered by the protocols in the field of health care (iv) Assistance and protection of children (6 measures) through the suspension of visits, conducting studies on the situation of children, strengthening support and assistance, and the prohibition of those convicted of gender-based violence to access certain judicial material about their children. (v) Broadening of the training of professionals of Justice, State Security Forces and Bodies, lawyers and attorneys (4 measures). (vi) Statistical Monitoring; (vii) Recommendations to the public administrations and institutions (2 measures), through agreements with the National Commission on Judicial Statistics and with the Autonomous Communities for victims of trafficking. (viii) Awareness raising of other forms of violence against women through information campaigns, promotion of research and the development of a common protocol for female genital mutilation (3 measures).

On 26 December 2017, the Government has reported that the EUR 200 million foreseen in the Agreement for 2018 would be given during the first quarter of the year in order to implement the 26 measures planned for 2018. The Government has made this statement to ensure that the funds shall be provided regardless of the final content of the State budget law for 2018.

Internet link sources:

- Organic Law 1/2004, of 28 December 2004, of Integral Protection Measures against Gender Violence (*Ley Orgánica 1/2004, de 28 de diciembre, de Medidas de Protección Integral contra la Violencia de Género*), https://www.boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2004-21760 , accessed 18 February 2018

-Summary of the Parliamentary Agreement against gender-based violence of 2017: http://www.elderecho.com/actualidad/Congreso-aprueba-Pacto-Estado-Violencia-Genero_0_1140375145.html , accessed 18 February 2018

-Summary of the 26 measures of the Parliamentary Agreement against gender-based violence that have to be applied in 2018: <http://www.20minutos.es/noticia/3222480/0/26-medidas-pacto-estado-violencia-genero-2018/> accessed 18 February 2018