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NEWS REPORT

Country:	Croatia
Title:	Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)
Date:	11 September 2018
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Update of news report:	Croatia - Ratification of the Istanbul Convention (PDF 103 kB)
Context	
Issue at stake:	Ratification of the Istanbul Convention
Ground of discrimination:	Sex
Source:	Legislation
Field:	Violence against women
Applicable law:	Act on Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, Official Gazette <i>Narodne Novine – Međunarodni ugovori</i> No. 3/18.

Content

Law development: The Act on Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence was passed in the Croatian Parliament on 13 April 2018 and entered into force on 24 May 2018. In accordance with Article 76(2) of the Convention, it enters into force, as regards Croatia, on 1 October 2018.

Key points of analysis: More than five years after the Convention was signed by the Croatian Government, the process of its ratification was finally completed on 13 April 2018, when the Convention was ratified in the Croatian Parliament. The Act on Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence has entered into force on 24 May 2018. Following the deposition of the instruments of ratification on 12 June 2018 in Strasbourg, the Convention enters into force, as regards Croatia, on 1 October 2018 (Article 76(2) of the Convention). Croatia was the 31st State to ratify the Convention. This ratification represents an important step forward in enforcing the legal framework for the protection of women against violence and domestic violence. However, it was fiercely opposed by clerical and conservative right-winged circles, formally representing themselves as the citizens' initiative, who have now turned their forces to organising an initiative for referendum against the Convention.

Source: Act on Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, Official Gazette *Narodne Novine – Međunarodni ugovori*, No. 3/18.