



OAS | MESECVI

**INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION ON THE
PREVENTION, PUNISHMENT, AND ERADICATION
OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

“CONVENTION OF BELÉM DO PARÁ”

Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence Against Women

Article 1

For the purposes of this Convention, violence against women shall be understood as any act or conduct, based on gender, which causes death, harm, or physical, sexual, or psychological suffering to women, both in the public and private spheres.

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Article 2

Violence against women shall be understood to include physical, sexual, and psychological violence:

- a. that occurs within the family or domestic unit or within any other interpersonal relationship, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the woman, and includes, among other things, rape, mistreatment, and sexual abuse;
- b. that occurs in the community and is perpetrated by any person, and includes, among other things, rape, sexual abuse, torture, trafficking in persons, forced prostitution, kidnapping, **and sexual harassment in the workplace, as well as in educational institutions, health care facilities, or any other place**; and
- c. that is perpetrated or tolerated by the State or its agents, wherever it occurs.

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Article 6

The right of every woman to a life free of violence includes, among others:

- a. the right of women to be free from all forms of discrimination; and
- b. the right of women to be valued and educated free of stereotyped patterns of behavior and social and cultural practices based on concepts of inferiority or subordination.

MESEVIC

- Defines violence against women as a violation of their human rights.
- Establishes for the first time the development of mechanisms for the protection and defense of women's rights.
- In 2004, the Mechanism to Follow Up on the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, "Belém do Pará Convention" (MESECVI), was created.

Who makes
up the
MESECVI
and their
roles??

MESECVI Secretariat

- CIM
- Link between States and Experts
- Link between MESECVI and civil society

Experts Committee

- Evaluates State reports and issues recommendations
- Prepares Hemispheric Reports
- Follows-up on recommendations

Conference of States Party

- Implement the Convention
- Prepare reports on policies implemented
- Implement the recommendations

Civil Society

- Participates in the processes implemented by the States Party
- Presents shadow reports to the Experts Committee

The purposes of the Mechanism shall be:

A. To monitor the commitments undertaken by the States Parties to the Convention and analyze how they are being implemented;

B. To promote the implementation of the Convention and contribute to achieving the purposes established therein; and

C. To establish a system of technical cooperation among the States Parties, which will be open to other Member States and Permanent Observers, for the exchange of information, experiences, and best practices as a means of updating and harmonizing their domestic legislations, where applicable, and achieving other common objectives related to the Convention.



SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE

MESECVI Work Instruments

- Indicators for Monitoring the Implementation of the Convention:
<https://belemdopara.org/monitoreo-por-pais/>
- Hemispheric Reports
- Thematic Reports
- Political Declarations
- Model Laws
- General Recommendations
<https://belemdopara.org/publicaciones/>
- Course on the Americas Portal: RIAL and CIM/MESECVI.

Indicators of Progress for Measuring the Belém do Pará Convention

In order to monitor the Convention, the CEVI selects indicators from the System of Indicators of Progress for Measuring the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention.

INDICATORS

Legislation

Access to
Justice**

Diversity

National Plans

Statistical
Information

Budget

Third Hemispheric Report

Indicators

c) Characteristics, coverage, and frequency of awareness campaigns against sexual harassment and violence against women.

d) Number of judicial rulings or decisions related to domestic violence or any other form of violence (psychological, physical, sexual, property, economic, institutional, political, workplace violence, sexual harassment, political harassment, obstetric violence, etc.) disaggregated by sex, age, race, ethnicity, and socioeconomic status.

The CEVI emphasized the importance of “States Parties continuing to support the implementation of awareness-raising and mass training activities on sexual harassment in public and private spaces, promoting their frequency and duration, and employing all types of multidisciplinary tools to be more effective in terms of target groups, accessibility, and content.”

Recommendations

LEGISLATION

Establish regulations and protocols to prevent abuse, sexual harassment, or other forms of violence within the educational sphere; disseminate the rights of children and adolescents, as well as the obligations of teachers, authorities, and administrative staff; and create effective mechanisms and procedures for reporting violations of their rights.

NATIONAL PLANS

Support the implementation of awareness-raising and mass training activities on sexual harassment in public and private spaces, as well as through social media, taking into account the diversity of target groups.

Fourth Round Evaluation



[National Plans](#) / [Structure](#) / [Incorporation into the law](#) / [Indicator](#)

Indicator [Register form](#)

Incorporation of the prevention, punishment and eradication of violence in the national plans of other sectors such as Security, Education, Health, Labor, Migration, and Refuge and Asylum Sectors

Suggested Sources

Ministry of Security, and other competent bodies

Explanatory note

Type, modality, scope, target population, coverage and budget for violence prevention actions against women disaggregated by the indicated categories. Executing agency. Interdependence with other organisms

Fourth Round Multilateral Evaluation

National Plans / Structure / Incorporation into the law / Indicator

Indicator [Register form](#)



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