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THE INFLUENCE OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE ISTAMBUL CONVENTION ON THE MECHANISM OF GENDER EQUALITY ENSURING UNDER MARITAL LAW IN UKRAINE

The Istanbul Convention, or the Convention of the Council of Europe on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, is one of the key international documents aimed at protecting women's rights and eliminating all forms of discrimination [2]. Ukraine's ratification of this document in June 2022 was an important step in strengthening legislation that meets international standards [1]. The relevance of this topic especially increases in the conditions of martial law, which increased the risks of gender-based violence and aggravated the social vulnerability of women. This work examines the consequences of the ratification of the Convention to ensure gender equality in the context of the war in Ukraine.

Ratification of the Convention required complex changes in the legislation of Ukraine, which included the following key aspects:

1. Tightening measures against gender-based violence. Amendments were made to the Criminal and Administrative Codes aimed at strengthening responsibility for domestic violence and sexual crimes. The Law of Ukraine "On Prevention and Protivodeystvii Domestic Violence" No. 2229-VIII introduced a mechanism of protective orders and supportive measures for victims;
2. Development of a support network for victims. Specialized crisis centers, shelters for victims of violence and hotlines have been created and continue to be developed. The new norms contribute to the integration of interdepartmental cooperation between law enforcement agencies, medical institutions and social services;
3. Implementation of gender approach in security policy. The Convention promotes the inclusion of gender aspects in the national security strategy. The approved the State Strategy for Ensuring Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men until 2030 includes measures to protect women's rights in the context of armed conflicts [2].

The military conflict in Ukraine has significantly changed the socio-economic situation in the country, especially for women. The main challenges include:

- an increase in the number of cases of sexual violence in combat zones;
- limited access to justice and rehabilitation for victims;
- increasing economic inequality and reducing labor opportunities.

The Istanbul Convention aims to minimize these risks through the following mechanisms:

1. Countering violence in the conditions of war. Sexual violence in conflict zones is considered a war crime. Working groups were created to investigate such criminals, and legal support programs for victims were introduced;
2. Expansion of social assistance. New crisis centers and mobile teams provide operational assistance on the ground. In 2022, the National Action Plan for the Protection of Women in Conflict was adopted;
3. Educational initiatives. Training programs for military personnel and law enforcement agencies include training on gender-based violence prevention and human rights protection [2].

Implementation of the provisions of the Convention faces a number of difficulties, including:

1. Limited resources. Military spending reduces opportunities for financing social

programs, which slows down their implementation;

2. Cultural barriers. Stereotypes about the role of women in society and insufficient information of the population require additional efforts to educate and promote gender equality;

3. Difficulties in accessing services. Logistical problems in front-line and occupied areas limit the access of victims of violence to assistance [4].

The Istanbul Convention holds transformative potential for enhancing gender equality and addressing gender-based violence in Ukraine, especially during challenging times such as martial law. The main prospects for its effective implementation are:

1. Strengthening Institutional Frameworks. The convention encourages the establishment of specialized institutions and expanding interagency collaboration. Enhanced funding and capacity-building for crisis centers, legal aid offices, and shelters will ensure comprehensive support for survivors of gender-based violence. Developing digital platforms for victim support and reporting could significantly improve accessibility and efficiency;

2. Integration into National Strategies. Continued integration of the Convention's principles into national policies, such as the State Strategy for Ensuring Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men until 2030, can guide systemic change. Implementing measurable objectives in national and regional development plans will ensure long-term progress in combating violence and discrimination;

3. Enhanced Legal Reforms. Additional legislative updates are likely to arise from monitoring the effectiveness of current reforms. Introducing stricter penalties for perpetrators and creating a streamlined, victim-centered legal process could improve access to justice. Incorporating international best practices into Ukraine's legal framework will further align the country with global standards;

4. Promoting Gender Awareness and Education. Expanding educational initiatives to include gender sensitivity training for law enforcement, military personnel, and public servants can help reduce biases and stereotypes. Campaigns promoting awareness among the general population about rights and available resources will foster a supportive social environment;

5. International Collaboration and Assistance. Active cooperation with international organizations and agencies under the framework of the Convention can bring expertise, resources, and technical assistance to Ukraine. Partnering with the Council of Europe and UN bodies can accelerate the development of innovative solutions to address gender-based violence;

6. Technology Implementation. Introduction of technological solutions such as mobile apps for reporting violence, digital counseling services, and data-driven monitoring systems can facilitate the support for victims. Technology can also improve the collection and analysis of data related to gender-based violence, guiding better policy decisions;

7. Empowering Grassroots and Civil Society Organizations. Empowering local NGOs and community groups to implement ground-level programs aligned with the Convention will ensure broader reach and impact. Supporting grassroots initiatives will enhance resilience in remote or conflict-affected areas where state intervention is limited;

8. Economic Empowerment Initiatives. Addressing economic inequalities exacerbated by war is crucial for empowering women. Programs promoting employment opportunities, entrepreneurship, and financial independence for women, particularly for survivors of violence, will reduce vulnerabilities and build sustainable gender equality [5].

To sum it up, the ratification of the Istanbul Convention confirmed Ukraine's commitment to the protection of human rights and gender equality. In the conditions of war, this document plays a key role in the modernization of legislation and the adaptation of state mechanisms to new challenges. To achieve sustainable results, active cooperation of the state with international organizations, improvement of financing of social programs, and strengthening of information work with the population is necessary. The implementation of the principles of the Convention should continue, despite all the difficulties, to ensure protection and equal opportunities for all citizens.

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ГЕНДЕРНА СКЛАДОВА СОЦІАЛЬНОГО ЗАБЕЗПЕЧЕННЯ БАТЬКА-ВІЙСЬКОВОСЛУЖБОВЦЯ/ПРАВООХОРОНЦЯ ЯК ЗАХИСНИКА БАТЬКІВЩИНИ В УМОВАХ ВОЄННОГО СТАНУ: ПРОБЛЕМИ ТА ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ

У Законі України «Про забезпечення рівних прав та можливостей жінок і чоловіків» визначено основною його метою «досягти паритету між жінками та чоловіками у всіх сферах суспільного життя шляхом правового забезпечення рівних прав і можливостей для обох статей, усунення дискримінації за ознакою статі та впровадження тимчасових спеціальних заходів для подолання дисбалансу у можливостях реалізації рівних прав, гарантованих Конституцією та законами України» [1]. Після прийняття вищевказаного закону наша держава почала системно будувати національний механізм забезпечення гендерної рівності [2].

Початок повномасштабного військового вторгнення означало не лише необхідність захисту Батьківщини від загарбницьких дій країни-окупанта, але й проведення вимушеної евакуації своїх нащадків разом із дружинами та батьками. В такій вимушеній ситуації опинилась значна частка українських чоловіків (батьків). Окреслена ситуація створила багато прецедентів, через які сімейне щастя та затишок домашнього вогнища було зруйновано.

Основною метою кожного захисника своєї Батьківщини в такому аспекті є не тільки захист своєї держави, але й боротьба за можливість в подальшому жити зі своєю сім'єю на своїй рідній землі, створювати умови для нормального та гідного життя.

Конституція України в ст. ст. 51 та 52 встановлює рівність прав і обов'язків у шлюбі та сім'ї, а також рівність прав дітей [3]. Згідно з положеннями ст. 141 Сімейного кодексу України (далі – Кодексу) [4] мати та батько мають однакові права й обов'язки стосовно своєї дитини, навіть у разі розірвання шлюбу та проживання окремо від неї. Це не впливає на обсяг їхніх прав та не звільняє від відповідальності перед дитиною. Згідно зі ст. 157 Кодексу питання виховання дитини вирішується батьками разом. Якщо один із батьків проживає