**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**“NON - DISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY IN FAMILY AND CULTURAL LIFE”**

In accordance with its mandate, the UN Working Group on the issue of Discrimination against Women in Law and Practice (hereinafter “the Working Group”) developed this questionnaire to gather information on how laws and practices discriminate against women within the family and cultural life. Additionally, this questionnaire has the objective of highlighting good practices and lessons learned in advancing equality between women and men within the family and in cultural life.

Regarding family life, the questionnaire focuses on issues of equality in marriage and rights and responsibilities within the family. In relation to cultural life, the questionnaire addresses issues linked with the right to have access, participate in and contribute to all aspects of cultural life, including arts, sports and cultural activities.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) clearly establishes the State obligation to “take all appropriate measures to eliminate discrimination against women in all matters relating to marriage and family relations”[[1]](#footnote-1). It also establishes the obligation to modify the socio-cultural patterns and gender stereotypes to eradicate all practices based on the inferiority or superiority of either of the sexes as well as to ensure that family education recognizes the common responsibility in the upbringing and development of children.[[2]](#footnote-2) Moreover, the Convention reaffirms the State obligation to eliminate discrimination and guarantee equality in the cultural sphere.[[3]](#footnote-3)

In addition, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights recognizes the right of all people to enjoy their cultural rights in conditions of equality as well as the right to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress.[[4]](#footnote-4) Furthermore, the Human Rights Committee in its General Comment 28 on the *Equality of Rights Between Men and Women* also reaffirms that the right to equality before the law include equal status within the family and regardless of marital status.[[5]](#footnote-5)

The UN Working Group wishes to thank all stakeholders for responding to this questionnaire by **31 July 2014.**

**Questionnaire**

**General**

1. What status/hierarchy does your Constitution gives to international human rights treaties versus domestic law?

Norway is party to the vast majority of UN human rights conventions and considers ratifying new human rights instruments on an ongoing basis.

Norway has a dualistic system. Even so it is a general principle that Norwegian law is presumed to be in accordance with international obligations. Norwegian law is therefore to be interpreted in such a way that avoids conflict with the rules of international law that Norway is bound by.

A number of human rights conventions have been incorporated into Norwegian law, some by way of the Human Rights Act (ECHR, ICCPR, ICESCR, CEDAW, CRC). Treaties that are incorporated in the Human Rights Act are given precedence over ordinary domestic law.

Norway has not incorporated additional human rights conventions since 2009, but on a case-by-case basis it considers whether such conventions should be incorporated into Norwegian law, and if so, how.

1. Has your State ratified international human rights treaties with reservations to provisions dealing with equality in family life?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, are there plans to withdraw these reservations?

Yes ( ) No ( )

Please explain.

1. Are the principles of non-discrimination on the basis of sex/gender and equality between men and women established in the Constitution of your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide references, describe how they are defined (name the specific articles) and whether they cover family and cultural life.

In may 2014 the Norwegian Storting adopted several changes in the Norwegian Constitution to strengthen the human rights perspective. The Storting adopted a new section 98 in the Constitution that states that no person shall be subjected to unfair or disproportionate discrimination. This entails prohibition of discrimination on grounds of gender.

1. Are there any specific anti-discrimination or gender equality laws in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide references and briefly describe the content of this law(s), in particular whether it covers family and cultural life.

Norwegian legislation has four separate acts that prohibit discrimination: The gender Equality Act, the Ethnicity Anti-Discrimination Act, the Sexual Orientation Anti-Discrimination Act and the Anti-Discrimination and Accessibility Act.

The acts applies to all areas of society, except for family life and personal relationships. The gender equality act applies to all areas of society. The acts protects against both direct and indirect discrimination. They cover harassment on the same grounds as well as instructions to discriminate or harass. The acts have a ban on reprisals against a person who files or intends to file a complaint about violation of the act. This protection also covers witnesses. Furthermore, it is illegal to participate in discrimination.

According to the anti-discrimination acts both private and public employers have a duty imposed by law to make active, targeted and systematic efforts to promote the purpose of the equality legislation in their undertakings. The activity duty shall encompass matters such as recruitment, pay and working conditions, promotion, development opportunities and protection against harassment. Employers in must include an account of measures to promote equality in their annual report or in their annual budget.

Public authorities and social partners in working life have an obligation to promote equality and prevent discrimination. The obligations are aimed at creating awareness about equality and ultimately preventing discriminatory practices.

1. Have there been any recent legal reforms in your State to guarantee non-discrimination and equality between men and women in family and cultural life?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please explain and provide examples.

1. Are there any customary, religious law or common law principles/provisions that discriminate against women in family and cultural life?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please explain and provide examples.

1. Are there any good practices that you can share regarding the elimination of sex discrimination in family and cultural life in your State?

If yes, please explain and provide examples.

Gender equality has been a top priority in Norway for many years, and a wide range of initiatives have been implemented across different sectors of society.

Although Norway is regularly named one of the countries where the pursuit of equality has come furthest, there are still gender equality challenges that need to be addressed. The majority of students at colleges and universities are women (60 % in 2010), and many study programmes remain highly gender-divided. Far more women than men work part time. Women have lower wages than men and still assume greater responsibility than men for providing unpaid care. Women with immigrant backgrounds participate at a lower rate in the labour market than other women, or than men with immigrant backgrounds.

A number of measures have been implemented to reduce the pay gap between women and men, including the above mentioned measures to promote pay transparency in the workplace. Other measures have been implemented to help equalise the sharing of childcare and household chores. From 1 July 2014, 10 weeks of the leave period after the birth of a child will be reserved for mothers and 10 weeks for fathers. The remainder may be allocated between the parents according to their wishes. This arrangement presents a good combination of requirements and expectations to both mothers and fathers, while leaving a great deal of flexibility to the individual family. From 1 January 2014, all mothers who work at least a seven-hour day are entitled to a one-hour paid break from work to breastfeed during their child’s first year. It is hoped that paid breaks for breastfeeding will help reduce the pay gap between women and men by making it easier for parents to share the parental leave period between them. The Government also intends continue the work to improve the gender balance in education and the workplace, and to reduce the use of involuntary part-time employment. The Government is seeking to increase the proportion of minority women participating in the labour market.

1. What actions have been taken by your State to eradicate negative gender stereotypes, including in the media?

Please provide examples.

Norwegian media are independent and enjoy full editorial freedom. The authorities have a continuing dialogue with the media and their organisations regarding their role and regarding labelling and stigmatisation of certain Norwegian social groups. The media actors have themselves created a code of ethics with guidelines defining limits for what the media may write about (Vær Varsom Plakat). There is also a ban on gender discrimination in advertisements.

1. Are tribunals upholding the principles of equality and non-discrimination in matters relating to family and cultural life?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any relevant case-law/jurisprudence.

The Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud (LDO) was established in 2006 and has been given both proactive and supervisory functions with respect to the Anti-Discrimination Acts and other civil legislation in the fields of anti-discrimination, such as the anti-discrimination regulations in the Working Envi-ronment Act and in housing legislation. The LDO as well as an Equality and Anti-Discrimination Tribunal make decisions on individual complaints concerning discrimination.

1. Are there any other mechanisms to monitor draft legislation, specific provisions in draft legislation or reverse decisions discriminating against women in family or cultural life?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please provide any relevant examples.

**Family Life ­- Equality within marriage**

1. Is there a legal designation of head of household?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, is the head of household the male member of the family? What rights or obligations are attributed to the head of household?

1. Do women have the same rights as men in your State in relation to:

( x ) The minimum age for marriage – if the age of marriage is different for men and women, please provide information

( x ) The right to enter into marriage

( x ) The freedom to choose a spouse and to express consent

1. With permission or authorization from parents/guardians/courts, at what minimum age can men and women marry in your State? What enforcement measures are provided by law in this regard?

No person under 18 years of age may contract a marriage without the consent of the persons or person having parental responsibility, and the permission of the county governor. The county governor may not grant permission if the applicant is under 16 years of age.

1. Is there a reference to dowry in the legislation of your State, for example, in marriage contracts or in traditional practice?

Yes ( ) No ( x )

If yes, please explain.

1. Are forced marriages prohibited in your formal and customary laws?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any relevant references.

Norway’s Penal Code (2003) punishes forced marriage as a felony against personal liberty. Sec. 222(2) states that “Any person who by force, deprivation of liberty, improper pressure or any other unlawful conduct or by threats of such conduct forces anyone to enter into a marriage shall be guilty of causing a forced marriage. The penalty for causing a forced marriage is imprisonment for a term not exceeding six years. Any person who aids and abets such an offence shall be liable to the same penalty.” Section 220 of the Penal Code imposes a punishment of up to four years’ imprisonment for “any person who enters into marriage with a child under the age of 16, or who aids and abets such a marriage.” In 2006, the Norwegian Supreme Court considered the issue of sentencing and increased the prison sentence for a father and his son who threatened violence against his 17-year-old daughter. The district court had sentenced them to ten and eight months; upon appeal, the Court of Appeal increased the term to 21 and 6 months. The Supreme Court increased the terms to 30 and 24 months, respectively. See: *Action Plan against Forced Marriage 2008-2011*, Norwegian Ministry of Children and Equality, p. 11.

1. Are forced marriages or arranged marriages practiced in your State?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please explain.

1. Is polygamy illegal in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If no, is it legal for both men and women?

1. Is the registration of marriage compulsory in the following cases?

( x ) civil marriage

( x ) religious marriage

1. Are same sex-marriages allowed in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide references.

Gender-neutral marriage has been legally provided since 1 January 2009 in Norway, see the Marriage Act, section 1.

Prior to the gender neutral marriage law, a civil partnership act had been in effect since 1993. Some civil partnerships are still inn effect. These are treated equal to marriages.

1. Are same-sex relations criminalized in your State?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please provide references.

1. Is equality guaranteed between husband and wife in law and practice with respect to:

( x ) The right to choose a family name

( x ) The right to choose a profession and occupation

( x ) The right to choose the place of residence

( x ) The right to have and retain one’s nationality

( x ) The freedom of movement (including the right to travel abroad)

Please provide references.

There are no special regulations. Matters regarding gender equality is regulated in the Gender Equality Act.

1. Do both spouses have the same rights in law and practice with respect to:

( x ) ownership of property and land

( x ) management and administration of property and land

( x ) enjoyment and disposition of property and land

Please provide references.

Acconding to the Marriage Act section 31, marriage as a main rule entails no limitation of the right of a spouse to dispose of what he or she owns when the marriage is contracted or later acquire. Without consent of the other, no spouse may sell, rent out or otherwise dispose of their common residence, ordinary household goods in their common residence or objects specified for use by the children.

1. Are women who get married subjected to any form of male guardianship?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, what are the specific conditions of this guardianship and what kind of restrictions does it impose on women?

1. Do parents have same rights and responsibilities regarding to:

(see ref )Deciding the number and spacing of children

(see ref )Guardianship, wardship and trusteeship

( x ) Adoption of children-

( x ) Care of children

( x ) Education of children

( x ) Alimony

Please provide references

In Norwegian law, descisions regarding the number and spacing of children is not explicitly regulated. Women (and men) in Norway has full bodily autonomy. Marriage does not change this. A woman may according to the abortion law freely choose to terminate a pregnancy during the first 12 weeks. Pregnancy may also be terminated later on special grounds. The father of the feotus has no rights.

When parents are married or co-habiting the partents have equal parental responsibility. If the parents are not married or co-habiting the mother has parental responsibility alone. See the children act sections 34 and 35. The parents may make other agreements about parental responsibility. If parents have shared parental responsibility, they both need to agree on important descisions regarding the care and education of the child.

According to the Adoption Act section 5, spouses may only adopt children together. Both spouses need to consent to the adoption.

After divorce, if the ability and opportunity of a spouse to ensure adequate support have been reduced as a result of caring for children of the marriage or of the distribution of joint tasks during cohabitation, the other spouse may be ordered to pay alimony. In other cases alinomy may only be ordered if there are special reasons for doing so.

1. Are de facto unions recognized in law in your state?

Yes ( x ) No ( )

If yes, please explain in which law(s) and how this is defined.

Co-habitation does not give the same rights as marriage, but co-habition is recognized and gives certain rights in several laws, among these the childrens act and the Inheritance Act. The definition of co-habitation varies somewhat according to the legal area in question.

1. Do men and women have the same legal rights with respect to dissolution of marriage?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please explain in which law(s) and how this is defined.

Each of the spouses may freely demand legal separation and divorce according to the Marriage Act chapter 4.

1. Do men and women have the same rights in law and practice when a marriage or union ends in terms of:

( x ) Equal share of the marital property and land

( x ) Custody of children

( x ) Remarriage

Please provide any references.

Division of property is handled according to the rules of the Marriage Act chapter 12.

Custody of children is decided by the parents themselves. Should the partents not come to an agreement the courts decide according to the Children Act section 36. The decision is governed by the child’s best interest.

There are no special conditions for remarriage under norwegian law, other than the dissolution of any previous marriages (confer the Marriage Act section 4).

1. Is it contemplated in the legislation of your State that, in the event of a divorce, women should remain in the family or common household?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please explain in which law(s) and how this is defined.

1. Are legal provisions guaranteeing non-financial contributions, including care of children, the sick and elderly in the family, taken into account in the division of marital property upon divorce?

Yes ( x ) No ( )

If yes, please provide references.

The main rule is that the spouses net worth is divided equally in case of divorce, see the Marriage Act section 58. Each spouse may exempt from division any property clearly pre-dating the marriage, see section 59. The spouses may also agree that what they own or should later aquire should be excempt from division, see section 42.

In case law, non-financial contributions has been taken into account when the courts decide wheter a property is auires by one of the spouses or by the spouses in common. This even applies when the property in question has been excempt from division.

1. Are rights of widow(er)s the same for women and men in terms of:

( x ) Custody of children

( x ) Property and land distribution

( x ) Remarriage

( x ) Freedom to choose residence

Please provide references.

There are no special regulations. The equality between genders is regulated in the Act relating to Gender Equality.

1. Do women have access to legal aid in relation to family matters?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please explain.

Women have access to seek legal aid on the same conditions as men.

**Equality within the family**

1. What is the legal definition/concept of “family” in your State?

There is no legal definition of “family” in Norwegian law.

The concept of “family” in everyday speech is most often related to a couple with children, regardless of the parents’ marital status

1. In law (including customary law) are men and women equal in the family in your State?

Yes ( x ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any references.

There are no special regulations. The equality between genders is regulated in the Gender Equality Act.

1. Do men and women have the same social status within the family in your State?

Yes ( x ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any references.

There are no special regulations. The equality between genders is regulated in the Gender Equality Act.

1. Does your State have data on the number of hours spent by women and by men on functions in the home or in care for family members, including children and the elderly?

If yes, please explain.

Time-use statistics from 2013 (SSB) show that:

Looking at the population as a whole, we find no consistent change the last forty years in time spent on paid work on average per day. However, there has been a clear change when we look at men and women separately. The average time per day spent on paid work increased for women and decreased among men from 1971 to 2010. Men and women aged 50-59 years are those who on average spend the most time per day in 2010. Men's time spent on paid work has decreased in all age groups between 1971 and 2010. We also see an increase in women’s average time used per day on paid work, except among the very young, 16-24 years, and among the eldest, 67-74 years.

In 2010, women on average, regardless of age, spent more time on housework per day than men. The largest gender difference is found in the age group 25-29 while the age group 60-66 years has the smallest difference. Men's time used on house¬hold work has increased in all age groups from 1971 to 2010. Women on the other hand, are increasingly spending less time on household work, particularly those aged 25-29 years or 30-39 years.

Much has happened in the allocation of paid and unpaid work of mothers and fathers from the 1990s to the present day. It is especially for parents with younger children (0-2 years) we see changes in time use patterns. Fathers of children in this age group use an hour less per day on paid work than they did in 1990, while the time they spend on household work has increased accordingly, with an hour.

Mothers of younger children have changed their time use pattern in the opposite direction, and now use more time on paid work and less time on household work than before. The changes are however more moderate than for fathers. The redistribution of mothers and fathers allocation of paid and unpaid work is partly due to the expansion of kindergartens and the relatively large changes in parental leave schemes that have taken place since the 1990s.

The more equal division of house work we observe among couples with younger children appears to change towards a more traditional division of labour for couples with children aged 7-19 years. Still, we see more equal sharing between parents in 2010 than in 1990, regardless of child's age. This is largely due to fathers now spending more time on household work than 20 years ago.

Among women aged 67-74 years, time used on household work has declined significantly the last forty years, by more than one hour. This is the most important time use change that we observe for this age group. We find the largest increase in time used on household work among men 67-74 years.

1. Do men and women in the family have the same rights, in law and practice, with regards to inheritance (including equal rank in the succession)?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please explain. In addition, is there evidence of waiver of inheritance rights by women?

There are no special regulations, the inheritance act does not differentiate between genders. There are no indication of waivers of inheritance rights by women. The equality between genders is regulated in the Act relating to Gender Equality.

1. Does family education in your State include a proper understanding of maternity as a social function and the recognition of the common responsibility of men and women in the upbringing and development of the children?

Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any references.

1. If equality is guaranteed in law and practice, does this apply in all different types of families?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any references.

There are no special regulations. The equality between genders is regulated in the Act relating to Gender Equality.

**Violence within the family and marriage**

1. Are there any of the following traditional practices in your State ?

( ) Female Genital Mutilation

( ) Honour Killings

( ) Son Preference

( ) Dowry Deaths

( ) Polygamy

( ) Prohibition of work or travel without the permission of a guardian

( ) Other

We have a reason to believe that these practises also takes place in Norway but there was no reported cases concerning these tradtional practices in Norway in 2013.

If yes, is there legislation prohibiting such practices in your State?

Norway passed a law prohibiting female genital mutilation (FGM) in 1995, amended in 2004. This prohibition also applies when the procedure is carried out outside Norway. For certain groups of professional practitioners and employees, it is a punishable offence not to attempt to prevent FGM.

After amendments in 2003, penal provisions have been incorporated into Norwegian legislation for the purpose of preventing forced marriage. Section 222, second paragraph, of the Penal Code 1902 imposes a clear prohibition against forcing a person to enter into marriage. The penalty is imprisonment for a period of up to six years. Section 220 was amended in 2003 to safeguard children. The provision imposes a penalty (imprisonment for four years) on any person who enters into marriage with a child under the age of 16, or who aids and abets such a marriage.

Honour killings, son prefernces and dowry deaths are criminal offences, though not mentioned explicitly, and will be punished as homicide in the General Civil Penal Code.

“Section 233. Any person who causes another person's death, or who aids and abets thereto, is guilty of homicide and shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of not less than six years.

If the offender has acted with premeditation or has committed the homicide in order to facilitate or conceal another felony or to evade the penalty for such felony, imprisonment for a term not exceeding 21 years may be imposed. The same applies in cases of repeated offences and also when there are especially aggravating circumstances.

Section 233 a. Any person who conspires with another person to commit any act referred to in section 231 or 233 shall be liable to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 10 years.

Section 234. If a felony mentioned in section 233 is committed by a mother against her own child during the birth or within 24 hours thereof, she shall be liable to imprisonment for a term of from one to eight years.

Under especially aggravating circumstances, imprisonment for a term not exceeding 12 years may be imposed.

An attempt may go unpunished if the child has not sustained considerable injury to body or health”

Please provide any information on other actions taken to eradicate these practices.

Action Plan Action plan against forced marriage, female genital mutilation and severe restrictions on young people's freedom (2013–2016).

1. Is/are there any anti-domestic violence legislation/regulations in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please provide any references.

A special penal sanction for violence in intimate relationships entered into force on 1 January 2006. This also covers mental abuse. The relevant provisions in the Penal Code 2005 take, to a far greater degree than previously, the violence that goes on behind closed doors seriously. The punishment for abuse in intimate relationships is increased from three to four years, and for aggravated abuse the punishment is up to six years. A considerable increase in penalty levels within the sentencing frameworks has also been decided for all forms of domestic abuse. In the new Penal Code, that has not yet entered into force, the levels will be raised further to a maximum of six years for domestic abuse and 15 years for gross domestic abuse.

1. Does your State have a legal definition of discrimination which covers gender-based[violence or violence against women, which includes domestic violence?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

1. Does your State have a national policy to eliminate gender-based violence or violence against women, including domestic violence?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

The Government gives high priority to efforts to combat violence in close relationships. In 2013, a white paper on domestic violence was submitted to the Storting (Parliament); it describes measures that have already been implemented, identifies the challenges ahead, and outlines ways of tackling them. The white paper has been followed up with an action plan for 2014 - 2017.

1. Is marital rape considered a crime in the legislation of your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

It has been argued that Norway does not explicitily outlaw rape within marriage. This statement does not give and accurate description of the legal situation, since there is no doubt that this is a criminal offence, ever since 1974, when this was ruled by the Supreme court.

1. Is adultery considered a crime in the legislation of your State?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, is it equally punished for men and women?

Please provide any references and further explanation.

45. Are there any public campaigns in your State to raise awareness that violence against women and girls is a human rights violation?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, do they attempt to change the attitudes of men? Yes

46. What measures have been taken in your State to raise awareness among law enforcement officials regarding violence against women and girls, including domestic violence?

Please explain and provide examples.

The subject of domestic violence is part of police education for bachelor degree. The new curriculum that is under development will also include domestic violence as a theme in further eduaction.

47. Are there special law enforcement units to respond to complaints of violence against women and girls, including domestic violence?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, do these include female law enforcement officers?

The efforts of the police are crucial to success in the battle against domestic violence. Police efforts have been considerably strengthened in Norway the last few years. They have been given a number of new tools for the treatment and protection of victims, and are focusing more strongly on investigating cases and taking them to court.

A full-time family violence coordinator has been appointed in all police districts in Norway. The coordinator is to help ensure that the police meet the victim of violence and her family and friends with understanding, knowledge and insight – in both professional and human terms. In the largest police districts, separate teams are being established to work on violence and abuse in intimate relationships.

To further ensure that the police give sufficient priority to cases concerning domestic violence, instructions were issued to the police in 2002 and 2009 specifying how to handle cases of domestic violence. The instructions included an overview of practical measures to protect persons exposed to violence and threats.

After a successful trial project at Stovner police station in the Oslo and Vestfold police district, the Spousal Assault Risk Assessment Guide (SARA) is now being used at all police stations in Oslo and will be adopted by all police districts in the course of 2013/2014. The Norwegian version of SARA contains a checklist of more than 15 risk factors for intimate partner violence that can be used to assess the risk of further violence. SARA thus helps to prevent violence and makes it easier to target protection measures and implement them at an earlier stage. The SARA project has been used to further develop the methodology in this field. SARA also makes it easier to identify at-risk families and offer them closer follow-up, for example through home visits and victim–offender dialogues. Another result is the improvement in cooperation procedures, both internally and with external agencies.

A checklist has also been drawn up for police patrols to use at the scene. It is important that the first patrol to arrive at the scene obtains as much information as possible and shares it with other police personnel. The same applies when the victim reports an incident to a police officer on duty. A simple, practical, easily available electronic or paper-based checklist with guidelines and instructions on how to proceed will provide a good basis for the investigation and further processing of the case.

A number of police districts have developed plans and procedures for detection, investigation and clear-up of domestic violence cases. The Police Directorate holds regular national meetings for domestic violence coordinators.

48. Please provide information on the incidents/complaints of domestic violence, sexual assault including rape, and child abuse against women and girls in your State.

2829 complaints to the police concerning domestic violence in 2013. There has been a sharp rise in the number of reported cases of domestic violence the last years. Statistics from the police show an increase of 32 % from 2009 to 2013.

1246 complaints to the police concerning rape in 2013.

In February 2014 the results of a nationwide survey on domestic violence was presented. The Norwegian Center for Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies (NKVTS) conducted the survey. 8,2 % of the woman and 2 % of the men reported severe partner violence (life threatening violence; attempted strangulation, use of weapons, beating head against an object or wall).The prevalence of lifetime rape 9,4 % in women and 1,1 % in men.

49. Are there shelters or safe houses for women and girls who are victims of gender-based violence, including domestic violence in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, are these available to women and girls living in rural and remote areas? Yes

**Participation in cultural life**

50. Are men and women equally entitled in law and practice to interpret cultural traditions, values and practices in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

51. Are there restrictive dress codes for women which do not apply to men?

No

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

52. Are women in the country allowed to be a member and fully participate in cultural and scientific institutions in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

53. Are women entitled in law and practice, independently of their marital status, to decide freely whether or not to participate in certain cultural events, traditions and practices in your State?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

54. Are there any specific actions to recognize and value the contributions of women to culture in your State?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

55. Do you have data regarding the participation of women in arts, science, sports and in the proportion of public funding allocated to women in these activities?

If yes, please provide information.

Research (2009) shows that:

* Adult women are more physically active than men, but more men are members of organized sports and compete more often than women.
* Women and men prefer the same sports activities, and for the same reason.
* More men than women are engaged as managers / trainers. Only 8% of payed trainers are women (2006).

For more information see: <http://www.idrett.no/omnif/Documents/kj%C3%B8nniendring.pdf>

The artist grants and guaranteed income programme give creative and performing artists the opportunity to actively pursue their artistic careers, and enable individual artists to contribute to a diverse and creative artistic community. A larger proportion of women than men have received grants and guaranteed incomes during the years from 2006 to 2010. Provisional figures for 2010 show that approximately 52% of new grants and guaranteed incomes this year will be paid to women.

56. Has your State developed any temporary special measures to enhance the participation of women in arts, science, sports and any other cultural activity?

Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, please provide specific examples of these temporary special measures.

57. Are women allowed and encouraged by your State to participate in all sports?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

58. Is any special dress code provided in the legal regulations for all women exercising sports in your State?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please describe and provide examples.

59. Are there any differences in your State in conditions for women’s access, to museums, parks, theaters, sports stadiums and other facilities where culture, sports and science are disseminated in comparison with men?

Yes ( ) No ( X )

If yes, please explain and provide examples.

60. Is your State promoting the participation of women in the arts?

Yes ( X ) No ( )

If yes, please explain and provide examples.

61. Have there been any cases in your State in last decade of women artists prosecuted for the performance of art, allegedly violating public authority or morals?

Yes ( ) No ( )

If yes, please describe.

1. Article 16, UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December 1979 (AG Resolution 34/180) and entered into force on 3 September 1981. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *Ibid* art. 5. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Article 1, and 13(c), UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 18 December 1979 (AG Resolution 34/180) and entered into force on 3 September 1981. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights adopted by UN General Assembly resolution 2200A (XXI) of 16 December 1966 and entry into force on 3 January 1976. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. UN Human Rights Committee, General Comment No. 28 on article 3 “Equality of Rights between Men and Women”, adopted on 29 March 2000 (HRI/GEN/1/Rev.9 (Vol. I)). [↑](#footnote-ref-5)