

LAW

No. 47/2018

**ON SOME ADDENDA AND AMENDMENTS TO LAW NO. 9669, DATED 18/12/2006
“ON MEASURES AGAINST VIOLENCE IN FAMILY RELATIONS”,
AS AMENDED**

Pursuant to Articles 78 and 83(1) of the Constitution, upon the proposal of the Council of Ministers,

**THE PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

DECIDED:

To make the following addenda and amendments to Law No. 9669, dated 18/12/2006 “On measures against violence in family relations”, as amended:

Article 1

Article 1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Article 1

Purpose

The purpose of this law is:

1. To prevent and reduce all forms of domestic violence through the appropriate legal and other necessary measures.
2. To guarantee, through legal and other necessary measures, the protection of family members victims of domestic violence, by paying special attention to children, the elderly and persons with disabilities, and of any other individual, subject to this law, pursuant to Article 3 hereof, who presents special protection needs.”.

Article 2

In Article 2 (1) (c), the term “judicial” shall be substituted with the wording “judicial system”.

Article 3

Article 3 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Article 3

Definitions

For the purposes of this law, except where otherwise explicitly defined under special provisions hereof, the following terms shall mean the following:

1. “Violence” means any act or failure to act of a person against another person, resulting in a violation of physical, moral, psychological, sexual, social, economic integrity.
2. “Domestic Violence” means any act of violence defined under paragraph 1 hereof that occurs within a family or a household, exercised between family members as defined under paragraph 7 hereof, that are or have been in family relationships, regardless of whether the perpetrator shares or used to share the same dwelling with the victim.
3. “Perpetrator” means a person suspected and/or sued to the competent authorities for exercising domestic violence.
4. “Child” means any person under 18 years of age. The term “minor”, as used herein, shall bear the same meaning.
5. “The Coordinated Referral Mechanism of cases of domestic violence” (hereinafter CRM), means the organized network of responsible institutions at the local level for the prevention and protection, support and rehabilitation of victims of domestic violence.
6. “Household” means a dwelling or any environment used and adapted as such, regardless of whether it is owned or in use by the family.
7. “Family members” are:
 - a) spouse or cohabitant or former spouse or former cohabiting partner;
 - b) siblings, including, where appropriate, their spouse or cohabitant, as well as nieces and nephews, where the later are members of the household;
 - c) lineal ancestors and descendants, without limitation, including cases where this relationship is established through adoption;
 - c) the parents of the spouse or cohabitant, including the step-father/mother, even if this relationship originates from the adoption;
 - d) the lineal gender, including the parents and the adopted children of the spouse or cohabitant;
 - dh) siblings of the spouse or cohabitant;
 - e) children of the spouse or cohabitant;
 - ë) persons who are or have been in intimate relationships, not necessarily accompanied by cohabitation, enjoy the same protection;
 - f) the guardian and the person who is under his care while the guardianship continues, according to the provisions of custody of the minor and guardianship for persons with disabilities and the person who has been removed or restricted the ability to act according to the provisions of the Family Code”.
8. “Intimate Relationship” means the interpersonal relationship that involves physical or emotional intimacy.
9. “Victim” means the person subject to the violence referred to in paragraph 1 hereof.
10. “Protection Order” means an order issued through a court decision providing for protection measures for the victim, children and, as appropriate, measures for the rehabilitation of the perpetrator.

11. “Immediate Protection Order” means an order issued temporarily through a court decision, valid until the issuance of a protection order through a court decision.

12. “Order for Preliminary Protection Measures” means a reasoned order issued pursuant to the provisions of Article 13/1 hereof, which contains immediate measures to stop the violence, taken by the bodies of the State Police responsible for dealing with cases of domestic violence, until a court decision is issued”.

Article 4

After Article 3, Article 3/1 shall be added with the following content:

“Article 3/1

Applicable legislation

1. This law is based on the principles enshrined in the Constitution of the Republic of Albania, the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, and other international acts ratified by the Republic of Albania.

2. The implementation of the provisions of this law, in particular the measures for the protection of the rights of victims, are provided without discrimination, for any cause provided by the applicable legislation on the protection from discrimination.

3. The special protection measures, provided for in Article 10 and Article 13/1 hereof, which are necessary for the prevention and protection from violence in family relations, shall not be considered as discrimination where applied in accordance with the rules and criteria provided for in this Law.”.

Article 5

Article 4 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Article 4

Subjects

1. Subjects protected by this law shall be all subjects defined in Article 3 (7) hereof, who are Albanian citizens residing or staying in the territory of the Republic of Albania.

2. Subjects protected by this law shall be the foreign nationals or stateless persons who have applied for international protection under the applicable asylum legislation in the Republic of Albania, and foreigners with regular residence for various reasons, according to the applicable legislation on foreigners included in the category of subjects set out in Article 3 (7) hereof.”.

Article 6

Article 5 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Article 5

Responsible authorities

1. The main authority responsible for implementing this law is the ministry responsible for the issues of gender equality and the fight against domestic violence.

2. Other line responsible authorities are:

- a) the ministry responsible for social issues;
- b) the ministry responsible for issues of public order and security;
- c) the ministry responsible for health issues;
- ç) the ministry responsible for justice issues;
- d) the ministry responsible for education issues;
- dh) the ministry responsible for housing issues;
- e) the ministry responsible for employment and vocational training issues;
- ë) the local self-government units.

3. The list of other responsible line authorities, provided in paragraph 2 hereof, shall change where one of them undertakes the role of the main responsible authority. In that case, this authority shall have a main responsible role and shall cover the issues of the respective field”.

Article 7

To Article 6 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

1. Letters “c”, “ç” and “d” shall be amended to read as follows:

“c) supporting the establishment of assistance structures, in cooperation with the referral mechanism, to coordinate, implement, monitor and evaluate policies and measures to prevent and combat all forms of violence, as well as supplementing them with all necessary infrastructure in accordance with the principle of “reasonable accommodation”, which serves to support and fulfil all needs of victims of domestic violence, including financial assistance, as well as medical and social services, pursuant to the legislation in force;

ç) organizing trainings on the prevention and handling of domestic violence issues for social service employees who provide services in each local self-government unit, state police structures, medical staff and NGOs’ employees licensed for the provision of social services. Trainings may be organized in cooperation with the Albanian School of Public Administration, the School of Magistrates, the Order of Psychologists and the Order of Social Workers or with the organizations and agencies accredited to provide trainings on topics related to issues of violence in family relations to all responsible administrative, law enforcement and judicial authorities;

d) coordinating work on keeping and collecting statistical data on domestic violence cases, including annual analysis, publication and reporting to the responsible parliamentary committee/subcommittee on issues of gender equality and prevention of violence against women.

The retention and processing of data on cases of domestic violence shall be carried out pursuant to the applicable legislation on personal data protection. Their publication shall be made according to the rules provided for in the legislation in force on official statistics.

2. Letters “g” and “gj” shall be amended to read as follows:

“g) developing policies and overseeing measures taken to eliminate the consequences of child abuse by parents or legal guardians or, where children live in families where parents or guardians violate each other, by putting them on alternative care or providing emergency protection measures, according to the legal provisions in force on the children’s rights and protection;

gj) providing and overseeing the service at the National Centre for Social Care for victims of domestic violence.”.

3. After letter “gj”, letters “h” and “i” shall be added with the following content:

“h) developing, in cooperation with other line authorities, procedures, standards or protocols related to risk assessment and intervention plans in cases of domestic violence, and monitoring their implementation;

i) coordinating and monitoring the establishment and functioning of social care services for victims of domestic violence to be provided near the local self-government units.”.

Article 8

To Article 7 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

1. To paragraph 1 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

a) The introductory sentence of paragraph 1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“1. The ministry responsible for issues of public order and security shall have the following tasks:.”

b) Letter “b” shall be amended to read as follows:

“b) training the State Police officers to address cases of domestic violence in order to increase capacities in identifying domestic violence cases, assessing the risk and interviewing victims and perpetrators and in other aspects related to the fulfilment of the obligations provided for by this Law;”.

c) after letter “b”, letter “b/1” shall be added with the following content:

“b/1) adopting, through a joint instruction with the ministry responsible for gender equality issues and the fight against domestic violence, the model and procedures for risk assessment in cases of domestic violence;”.

2. To paragraph 2 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

a) the first paragraph shall be amended to read as follows:

“2. The ministry responsible for health provides the medical assistance in the family, emergency services, the services by the family doctor and health centres in the local self-government units:.”.

b) Letter “a” shall be amended to read as follows:

“a) to provide at any time health, social and psychological assistance to victims of domestic violence;”.

3. After paragraph 2, paragraph 2/1 shall be added with the following content:

“2/1. The ministry responsible for health shall also perform the following tasks:

a) organize trainings and specializations for the medical and psychological staff and social workers dealing in the field of domestic violence, and prepare a list of the trained and specialized professionals in these fields, in cooperation with the orders established pursuant to the legislation in force;

b) monitor the fulfilment of the obligations by the medical staff, as provided hereby;

c) provide for the establishment of crisis management centres for cases of sexual violence to ensure the availability of emergency rooms in the hospitals where the victim is treated. Standards for the establishment and functioning of crisis management centres for cases of sexual violence are defined by instruction of the minister responsible for health.”.

4. To paragraph 3 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

a) The introductory sentence of paragraph 3 shall be amended to read as follows:

“3. The ministry responsible for justice shall perform the following tasks:

b) Letter “b” shall be amended to read as follows:

“b) take measures for the vocational training and specialization of bailiffs on the execution of protection orders, and supervise their activity in the fulfilment of the obligations provided hereby;”.

c) after letter “b”, letter “b/1” shall be added with the following content:

“b/1) cooperate with the High Council of Justice, the High Prosecutorial Council, the School of Magistrates, the National Chamber of Advocacy, for the preparation of training programs on issues related to domestic violence, and make available to the responsible authorities the updated list of trained persons on these issues;”.

b) Letter “c” shall be amended to read as follows:

“c) supervise the functioning of the system of provision of legal aid to victims of domestic violence, in accordance with the rules established by the legislation in force for legal aid guaranteed by the state;”.

d) After letter “c”, letters “ç”, “d” and “dh” shall be added with the following content:

“d) cooperate with the High Council of Justice to set out the rules for the establishment, in the courts, of a special database on domestic violence issues and ensure the unification of registry of these issues;

d) develop special forms for processing and reporting the statistical data on domestic violence, and publish these data on the statistical yearbook;

dh) through the subordinate responsible structures, make sure the forensic staff fulfils the obligation to prepare the forensic and psychiatric report, upon the request of the competent institutions and/or the victim.”.

5. To paragraph 3/1 the following amendments shall be made:

a) The introductory sentence of paragraph 3/1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“3/1. The ministry responsible for education and the ministry responsible for employment and vocational training, according to the scope of the responsibilities they cover, shall:”.

b) After letter “b”, letter “c” shall be added with the following content:

“c) provide for the curricula of the pre-university and vocational education of minors and young people between the ages of 18 and 21 who are perpetrators and the minors who are victims, aiming their rehabilitation, reintegration and resocialization.”.

6. Paragraph 4 shall be amended to read as follows:

“4. Local self-government units, based on the applicable legal provisions on local self-government, in the framework of the implementation of this law, shall:

a) engage in the establishment of specialized social services for cases of domestic violence regarding the way cases of domestic violence are referred, and in monitoring the execution of protection orders and immediate protection orders;

b) establish social and rehabilitation centres for the victims and provide services to them; coordinate work with the existing centres, giving priority to the centres specialized in the relevant fields and to the emergency centres for the immediate treatment of victims of domestic violence;

c) establish public structures and centres for the treatment, training and rehabilitation of the perpetrators;

ç) take measures, in cooperation with the law enforcement authorities, to separate the perpetrator from the family, in order for the dwelling to be used by the victim and the children;

d) take measures so that the local authorities where the victim is residing and/or staying execute the court decision;

dh) cooperate with the probation service to monitor the execution of the protection orders, according to the rules provided by the applicable legislation on electronic surveillance of persons whose freedom of movement is constrained by a court decision.

To fulfil the obligations provided for in this Article, local self-government units may cooperate with one another through the conclusion of joint agreements, pursuant to the applicable legislation on local self-government.”.

7. After paragraph 4, paragraph 5 shall be added with the following content:

“5. The Ministry responsible for housing issues, shall provide financial support to the local self-government units for the provision of specialized housing, pursuant to the applicable legislation on social housing.”.

Article 9

After Article 7, Article 7/1 shall be added with the following content:

“Article 7/1

The guarantee for protection

1. Any body or authority, responsible to handle the cases of domestic violence, whom the victims address to, shall guarantee protection pursuant to this law, regardless of the victim’s place of residence.

2. This protection means temporary housing assistance, transportation to a safe shelter or to the required services, escort to emergency or necessary medical services or to the services for the protection of victims of domestic violence.”.

Article 10

In Article 8(3), after letter “d”, letter “dh” shall be added with the following content:

“dh) drafting, by the social worker responsible for issues of domestic violence in the local self-government unit, and the referral and needs assessment unit, in cooperation with the Coordinated Referral Mechanism for cases of domestic violence, an individual intervention plan containing the necessary measures and services to be provided in order to protect the victim from further violence, providing immediate services and minimizing the consequences of the violence, and preparing a report on the mental health and the psycho-social status of the victim.”.

Article 11

To Article 10 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

1. Letters “j”, “k” and “m” of paragraph 1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“j) depriving the perpetrator, temporarily, of parental responsibility or, if appropriate, custody of the minor, guardianship for the disabled person, or for the person who has been removed or restricted the capacity to act. Where the court decides to deprive both parents or the single parent of the parental responsibility, they shall decide on the temporary custody of the children, by applying the rules set out in the Family Code and the applicable procedural legislation;

k) ordering the competent bodies, social services of the relevant local self-government units and/or service-providing organizations to support, where appropriate, the victims of domestic violence with psycho-social, health and financial assistance, and monitoring the compliance of the parties with the protection orders, by submitting the relevant reports to the local coordinator for the referral of cases of violence in family relations;

m) ordering the perpetrator, if applicable, to participate in psycho-social rehabilitation programs and/or in parent training programs organized by public or private entities. The rehabilitation program leaders shall submit to the local coordinator on the referral of cases of violence in family relations, a report on the attendance of the program by the defendant and his/her progress, periodically and at the end of the program, including the results of the perpetrator's rehabilitation. Where the perpetrator does not participate in the program, upon the request resulting from the *ad-hoc* meeting of the coordinated referral mechanism of cases of domestic violence or of the bodies provided by Article 13 hereof, the provisions of the Criminal Code, for acts committed in violation of the court's decision on protection orders shall apply.”.

2. c) after letter “m”, letter “m/1” shall be added with the following content:

“m/1) ordering the respondent or the perpetrator, if applicable, to attend the rehabilitation programs in health care centres, ambulatory care centres or community centres providing mental health services, alcoholology services or toxicology services. The bodies responsible for the rehabilitation program shall inform the local coordinator of the Coordinated Referral Mechanism of domestic violence cases on the attendance of the program by the defendant and on his/her progress;”.

3. After paragraph 3, paragraphs 3/1 and 3/2 shall be added with the following content:

“3/1. The court, mainly through an immediate protection order or a protection order may provide for protection measures for children submitted to violence or who have been present when domestic violence has been committed. The Court may, where it deems appropriate, also apply protection measures and procedures provided for by the applicable legislation on the children's rights and protection, unless the timelines of the judicial proceeding provided hereby are violated.

3/2. The ruling on the dissolution of marriage, promulgated by the court during the implementation of the IPO/PO for the simultaneous consequences, shall enter into force on the day of termination of the IPO/PO. Where the court has established different child support obligations in these decisions, the most favourable decision for the child shall apply.”.

Article 12

In Article 11, paragraph 1, the wording “contains the above mentioned measures” shall be replaced by the wording “contains the measures provided for in Article 10 hereof”.

Article 13

In Article 12, paragraph 1, the wording “judicial district court, family section” shall be replaced by the wording “court of first instance of general jurisdiction”.

Article 14

After Article 13, Article 13/1 shall be added with the following content:

“Article 13/1

Order of preliminary immediate protection measures

1. Where the risk assessment shows that the executed violence represents a threat to the life, health and freedom of family members, the structures of the State Police responsible for handling cases of domestic violence shall immediately take preliminary measures to protect the victim/s and stop the violence.

2. The order for preliminary immediate protection measures, pursuant to paragraph 1 hereof, shall provide one or several of the following measures:

a) ordering the perpetrator not to commit or threaten to commit further acts of domestic violence against the victim or any other member of the victim's family;

b) ordering the perpetrator not to threaten, harass, contact, or directly or indirectly communicate with the victim or any member of the victim's family;

c) immediately preventing the perpetrator to get close to the dwelling place, working place or house of the family of origin or dwelling of any other person or to the education institutions or any place attended mostly by the victim, except where the attendance occurs strictly for working purposes;

ç) immediately putting the victim in a residence or emergency centre for victims of domestic violence, until the court comes up with a decision;

d) ordering a State Police officer to escort the victim to the residence or emergency centre, pursuant to letter "ç" of this paragraph;

dh) ordering a State Police officer to escort the victim to his/her place of residence and supervise him/her while he retreats all his/her personal belongings;

e) seizing any weapon held with a permission by to the perpetrator, found during the conducted control, or confiscating any weapon held without permission by the perpetrator, until the court comes up with a decision.

3. The order on the preliminary immediate protection order shall be issued by the head of the responsible structure of the State Police under whose jurisdiction the violence has been reported, according to the procedure and template defined by a joint instruction of the minister responsible for issues of public order and security and the minister responsible for issues of gender equality and the fight against domestic violence.

A copy of the order on the preliminary immediate protection measures shall be immediately sent to the local coordinator for the referral of the cases of violence in family relations.

4. In cases where the violence is exercised against or in the presence of children, the State Police shall immediately take the child under protection and simultaneously report the case to the Child Protection Unit in the local self-government unit, pursuant to the rules provided by the applicable legislation on children's rights and protection.

5. Within 48 hours after the measures are taken, as defined under paragraph 1 hereof, the structures of the State Police responsible for handling cases of domestic violence shall submit to the court a request to review the preliminary immediate protection measures and a lawsuit to issue the immediate protection order.

6. The right to submit a request to review the order on the preliminary immediate protection measures to the court is also enjoyed by the victim and the subjects provided under Article 13(3), within 48 hours after its issuance.

7. The court, 48 hours from the submission of the request, through a court session, shall decide:

a) to review the protection measures set out in the order on the preliminary immediate protection measures and to issue an immediate protection order;

b) to annul the order on the preliminary immediate protection measures and terminate its consequences, unless the facts and circumstances based on which it was issued are proven.

8. The court, for trial purposes, may convene the representative of the State Police and/or local coordinator for the referral of cases of violence in family relations to provide explanations during a court session.”.

Article 15

To Article 14 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

Paragraphs 3, 4 and 5 shall be amended to read as follows:

“3. In order to draft the lawsuit, prepare the acts and representation during the court proceedings, the plaintiff shall be assisted by a lawyer that provides secondary legal aid, in compliance with the conditions and rules provided by the applicable legislation on legal aid provided by the state.

4. The applicant for IPO/PO and the holder of OPIPM (order on preliminary immediate protection measures) shall be exempted from:

a) paying the court fees and expenses, in compliance with the applicable legislation on legal aid provided by the state;

b) the obligation to pay in advance the fee for the execution of the order by the state plaintiff's service, in compliance with the applicable legislation on legal aid provided by the state;

c) paying the fees for the psycho-social expertise, sign language interpretation services, forensic expertise, expertise to assess the risk of domestic violence or any other expertise act.

Upon the issuance of the IPO/PO, the court expenses shall be incurred by the party that exercised domestic violence.

5. The lawsuit shall be recorded in a special registry, it shall be given a number of protocol upon its delivery and a toss shall be called the next day. The court shall make its judgement within the timelines provided by the law and shall use those forms of notification provided by the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure for the parties or other entities. For the purposes of conducting the trial, where the circumstances of the case dictate, the court may, if necessary, hold a court hearing in the absence of the parties, irrespective of the confirmation of the receipt of notification.”.

b) after paragraph 5, paragraph 6 shall be added with the following content:

“6. The court shall, in the decision to issue the protection order, decide also for the cases provided under paragraph 4 hereof.”.

Article 16

To Article 15 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

a) The last sentence of paragraph 2 shall be amended to read as follows:

“Where the applicant declares the inability to provide the documentation provided for under this paragraph, and in any other case where the court finds that the fulfilment of the requirement may be the cause of delays that violate the essence of the victim's rights, the court may order that the necessary documentation be submitted by the public administration bodies that have access to it.”.

b) After paragraph 2, paragraph 2/1 shall be added with the following content:

“2/1. Failure to issue the documentation provided under paragraph 2 hereof, constitutes a cause to take disciplinary measures against the responsible person, pursuant to the provisions of the special legislation.”.

Article 17

In Article 16, paragraph 1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“1. The court shall decide to issue the protection order within 15 days from the registration of the request.”.

Article 18

To Article 19 the following addenda shall be made:

1. After paragraph 2, paragraph 2/1 shall be added with the following content:

“2/1. The court shall issue the protection order even where the parties claim that the conflict has been settled or shall be settled through reconciliation or mediation.”.

2. In paragraph 3, letter “ç” shall be repealed.

3. Paragraph 6 shall be amended to read as follows:

“6. The court decision on the issuance of the immediate protection order shall constitute an executive title and may not be appealed. The decision shall be immediately executed by the police structures, in cooperation with the plaintiff’s service and social services office of the local self-government units where the victim and other persons included in the decision have their permanent or temporary residence.”.

Article 19

In Article 20, the introductory sentence of paragraph 1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“1. The court shall organise the session, pursuant to Article 16 hereof, not later than 20 days from the issuance of the immediate protection order. At the conclusion of the judicial proceedings, the court:”.

Article 20

To Article 21 the following amendments shall be made:

1. Paragraph 1 shall be repealed.

2. Paragraph 2 shall be amended to read as follows:

“2. The court decision on the issuance of the protection order and the confirmation of the immediate protection order may be appealed. The appeal may be filed within 5 days following the publication or notice of the decision. The Court of Appeal shall come up with a decision 15 days following the registration of the appeal. The decision of the Court of Appeal may not be appealed to the Supreme Court.

The decision of the court that issued the protection order may not be appealed by the victim.”.

Article 21

To Article 23 the following amendments and addenda shall be made:

1. Paragraph 1 shall be amended to read as follows:

“1. The court decision on the issuance of the protection order shall be final and shall constitute an executive title from the day of its publication. In parallel to the immediate protection order the court shall also issue an order for its execution. The decision shall be immediately executed by the police structures, in cooperation with the plaintiff’s service and social services office of the local self-government units where the victim and other persons mentioned in the decision have their permanent or temporary residence.”.

2. After paragraph 3, paragraph 3/1 shall be added with the following content:

“3/1. During the duration of the court decision for the IPO/PO, the Social Services Office of the local self-government unit shall monitor the compliance of the parties with the protection order and shall, every 60 days, prepare a report, regarding which, in any case shall inform the State Police. The relevant parties to the court decision shall cooperate to ensure the visits to the dwelling by the representatives of the Social Services Office of the local self-government unit and the responsible institutions, according to the court decision on the immediate protection order and/or the protection order, also providing the necessary information.”.

3. Paragraph 6 shall be amended to read as follows:

“6. In case of voluntary non-execution by the parties or obstruction of execution of protection orders by enforcement bodies, as provided for in the provisions of this law and/or in the court decision, the provisions of the Criminal Code apply to persons responsible for acts committed in violation of court decision, as regards the duties assigned by the protection orders.”.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 5 shall be repealed.

Article 22

Whenever mentioned in the Law, the wording “Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities (MoLSAEO)” shall be replaced by the wording “Ministry responsible for issues of gender equality and the fight against domestic violence”.

Article 23

By-laws

1. The Minister responsible for health, within four months upon entry into force of the present Law, shall adopt the by-laws pursuant to Article 7 (2/1) (c) hereof.

2. The Minister responsible for issues of public order and security and the Minister responsible for issues of gender equality and the fight against domestic violence, within four months from entry into force of the present Law, shall adapt the by-laws pursuant to Article 7 (1) (b/1) and Article 13/1 (3) hereof.

3. The Minister responsible for justice and the High Council of Justice, within four months from the establishment of the later, shall adopt the by-law pursuant to Article 7 (3) (ç) hereof.

Article 24

This law shall enter into force on the 15th day following that of its publication in the Official Journal.

SPEAKER OF PARLIAMENT

Gramoz RUÇI

Approved on 23/07/2018