

PLANET 50-50 BY 2030 | STEP IT UP FOR GENDER EQUALITY

The [National Strategic Plan on Equality for 2014-2017](#), prepared in close collaboration with civil society, was approved by the Council of Ministers in December 2014. It will focus on six priority areas, in which more action was deemed important for promoting gender equality in Cyprus: (1) balancing participation of women and men in public and political life, (2) combating all forms of violence against women, (3) promoting the economic empowerment of women, (4) eliminating gender stereotypes, (5) institutional reform for the effective implementation of gender equality, (6) legal reform and improvement of the legislative framework.

The Government of Cyprus signed the [Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence \(Istanbul Convention\)](#) on 16 June 2015, which provides a legal framework for the protection of women against all forms of violence, and for the prevention, prosecution and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence. The Government will honour fully the obligations arising under the Convention.

In collaboration with The Ministry of Interior, Cyprus Radio-Television Authority, the body responsible for the regulation of the radio and television sector in Cyprus, will prepare a Green Book for Mass Media practitioners, with guiding principles on promoting gender equality through the media. Examples of the guidelines will include how to cover violence against women in the media, how to avoid presenting stereotypes about women in the media and the appropriate jargon for these purposes.