

# The Istanbul Convention The Nordic Way

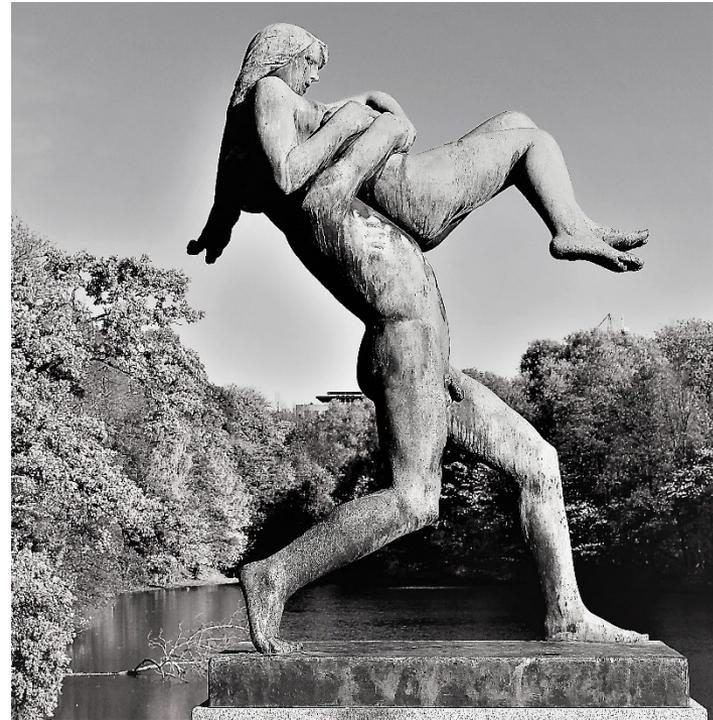
Dr. Elisabeth Stubberud

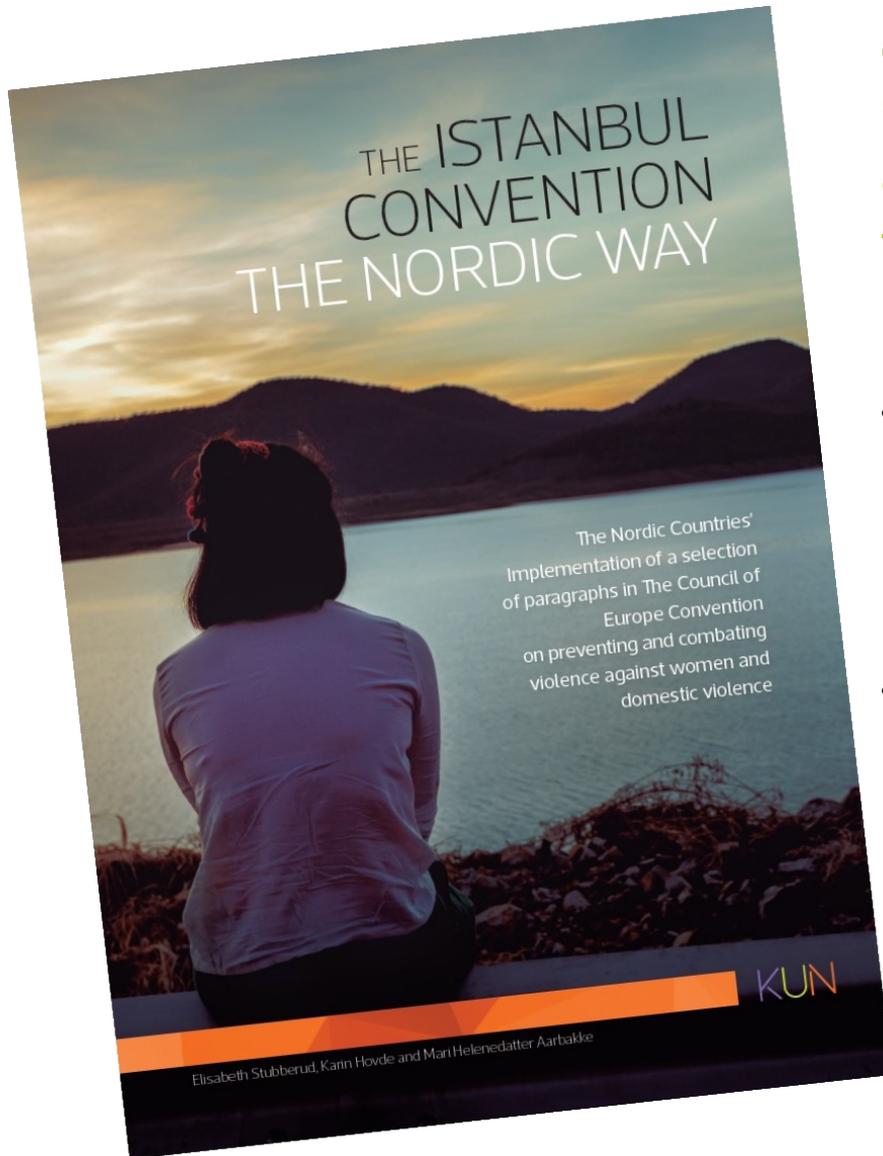
[elisabeth.stubberud@kun.no](mailto:elisabeth.stubberud@kun.no)

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# Thanks!

- The Nordic Council of Ministers
- The Norwegian Ministry of Children and Equality and the Ministry of Justice and Public Security
- Ministries and departments in the Nordic countries
- Civil society actors





**Goal for the project:**  
Share knowledge and experiences, and learn from and inspire each other

- **Integrated policies and data collection**
  - Article 10 – Co-ordinating body
  - Article 11 – Data collection and research
- **Prevention**
  - Article 12 – General obligations
  - Article 13 – Awareness-raising
  - Article 14 – Education
  - Article 15 – Training of professionals
  - Article 17 – Participation of the private sector and the media

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# What's being done in the Nordic countries?

Denmark

Finland

Iceland

Norway

Sweden

Autonomous territories of Åland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

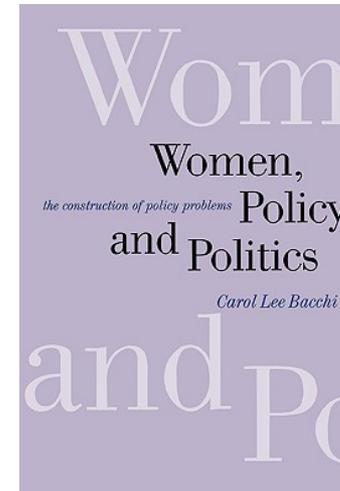


# Gender and domestic violence: Exploring the problem

- What is the problem represented to be?

*Policies are "constituting competing interpretations or representations of political problems"*

- Carol Bacchi 1999: 2



# Definitions of violence in the Istanbul Convention

In the Istanbul Convention:

- Violence against women
- Domestic violence
- Gender-based violence against women

The problem of violence against women and domestic violence is the lack of gender equality



# Prevention: Changing society

Gender inequality is both a “cause and consequence of violence against women”

There is a need to change “social and cultural patterns of behaviour”, and to “eradicate prejudice, customs, traditions and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority of women or on stereotyped roles for women and men”

The Istanbul Convention, Article 12

# Framing the problem:

## The gendered in domestic violence

- The Nordic paradox: high degree of gender equality, but *also* high prevalence of domestic violence
- Two possibilities:
  1. The Nordics are not as gender equal as they seem?
  2. The Convention overstates the significance of gender inequality, and lacks complexity?
- Gender neutral: “family violence”
- Gender explicit: structures, power (and sexuality?)

# Complicating the problem: Gender and beyond?

- Gender essentialism: the assumption that women have experiences in common independent of other identity markers
- Intersectionality: Inequalities are always a result of several factors



# Coordinating a complex field

- Coordination across sectors
- Fragmentation:
  - Sexual health in the health sector – but little knowledge on prevention?
  - Violence in the justice sector – but little knowledge of sexuality and prevention?
  - Prevention in the education sector – but little knowledge of sexuality and violence?



# Data collection and research

- More knowledge is needed on vulnerable groups
- Little knowledge on prevalence of honour based violence and female genital mutilation



# Concluding remarks

- Working against violence against women and domestic violence means working against women's subordinate position in society  
...but women have many different experiences.

*An inclusionary intersectional approach to policymaking should avoid stigmatization of specific groups (...). While a failure to acknowledge contextual differences among women can be detrimental to the fight for women's rights, so can overemphasizing it. Whereas an inclusionary model of intersectionality acknowledges different positionalities while aiming for equality in policymaking, exclusionary approaches emphasizes one inequality at the expense of or accentuation of other inequalities*

- Montoya and Augustín (2013)

Thank you for your attention

[www.kun.no](http://www.kun.no)  
[elisabeth.stubberud@kun.no](mailto:elisabeth.stubberud@kun.no)

The logo for KUN, consisting of the letters 'KUN' in a stylized, outlined font. The 'K' is purple, the 'U' is green, and the 'N' is orange.