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PREVENTING AND COMBATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The domestic violence is an international problem. Different countries have been working on ways to overcome it for a long time. Studies of the situation of domestic violence in different countries show that its consequences can be like that: a threat to the life and health of a person or a task of psychological trauma, which in the future may negatively affect both the victim's family life and social life in general.

All in all, violence is a type of social relations, in which some individuals (groups of people), through external forcing which threatens to life and submit other people, their facilities, productive forces, property and will. There are also four forms of violence: economic (deprivation of a person of housing, food, clothing, other property, money, or documents, use of financial advantage), psychological (insults or constant criticism of a partner in family relations), physical (damage to property during quarrels; pushing, striking, biting, strangulation) and sexual violence (forcing a partner to have sex and others).

Domestic violence prevention is provided by a range of social and special measures. Their purpose is to:

- eliminate the causes and conditions that lead to domestic violence, limit its prevalence;
- ending such violence, providing social support to victims of domestic violence and ensuring their safety;
- reduce the negative impact of domestic violence on the normal development of children;
- prosecute perpetrators of domestic violence, and make social, psychological and medical correction to preparation for return to the family;
- monitoring the behavior of those who can actually commit domestic violence and those found guilty of domestic violence.

Measures to prevent domestic violence have some aims. Especially the early identification of families where a threat of violence exist, averting the causes and conditions leading to its perpetration, or limiting their impact and, if possible, eliminating them and providing adequate protection against violent attacks for each family member.

Combating domestic violence is one of the important areas of social development today. It is seen not only as a social problem, but above all as a problem of protection of human rights which requires the development of adequate legal means to solve it. Domestic violence is a violation of the rights and freedoms of a particular person, which is caused by the various

capabilities of the aggressor and complicates self-defense of the victim and requires intervention by the state and society.

In my opinion, the state, in the form of executive bodies, should take appropriate measures to counter domestic violence and ensure peaceful coexistence in society.

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UDC 343.9:343.226

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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: PREVENTING AND COMBATING

Violence against women, in particular domestic violence, is a complex problem. There may be many different contributing factors, at the individual, relationship, social and cultural levels.

Article 4 of the United Nations Declaration sets that states should condemn violence against women and should not invoke any custom, tradition or religious consideration to avoid their obligation with respect to its elimination. States should pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating violence against women.

In Costa Rica, a special committee has been formed with high-level authorities to help prevent the murder of women in intimate relationships. The institutions directly involved with this goal have signed a protocol to be applied in cases of high risk to the lives or integrity of women. The Ministry of Security, the Ministry of Justice (responsible for jails), the Costa Rican public health system, the judicial system, the public services and the National Institute for Women all have agreed to follow this protocol. In all instances where a threat has been made or identified, a risk evaluation has to be made each time these agencies deal with a situation of violence against women in order to trigger special measures when they identify high risk. A common database is used to collect information from all agencies, such that protective measures are recorded, shared and tracked, as well as violations of the orders, or other acts and factors that may tend to increase the risk of homicide.

Several countries (including Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, India, Peru, the Philippines and Uruguay) have taken the approach of setting up women's units or police stations staffed by women to improve the ability of the police to respond to the unique needs of women victims. In most cases, much of the work undertaken by these special units relates to violence against women, specifically domestic violence. Anecdotal reports suggest that many of these