

Parliamentary resolution

**on preventive measures against sexual and gender-based
violence and harassment among children and young people,
along with an action plan for 2021–2025.**

Althingi resolves to entrust the Prime Minister, the Minister of Education, Science and Culture, the Minister of Social Affairs and Children, and the Minister of Health with implementing systematic preventive measures among children and young people against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. Preventive measures are to be integrated with teaching and school activities at all school levels and to take place in after school centres and youth centres, in sports and youth activities, and other recreational activities. Althingi resolves that work is to be carried out according to the following vision and strategic action plan for the years 2021–2025 and that note should be taken of its goals during the preparation of the budget and fiscal policy for 2021–2025, *cf.* Act No 123/2015 on Public Finances.

I. VISION AND MAIN OBJECTIVES

Sexual and gender-based violence and harassment should not occur anywhere in Icelandic society. This social problem is to be eradicated with a concerted effort predicated on a deep understanding of the nature and consequences of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. Preventive measures aim to prevent sexual and gender-based violence and harassment and reduce the damage that such conduct causes to victims and their relations. Future preventive measures shall also include a targeted response to sexual and gender-based violence and harassment and behaviour that encourages such conduct. Targeted response is also to include perpetrators of violence so that they take responsibility for their actions. This in itself has preventive value.

In addition to preventing children and young people from being subjected to sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, preventive measures shall be used to promote a culture of respect and peer relations where violence and harassment cannot thrive. Children and young people have the right to a safe environment at school and during leisure activities, as well as at home, and the government authorities must do everything in their power to guarantee this.

Actions in this resolution shall extend to all children and young people of the country, and therefore they are to be implemented in preschools, primary schools, and upper secondary schools. Implementation of the action plan is to respond, in every respect, to diverse gender needs and difference in situations, as well as the needs and situations specific to various individuals and groups, such as disabled children and young people, LGBTI+ children and young people, and children and young people whose mother tongue is not Icelandic.

Althingi resolves that preventive measures shall be based on systematic teaching at all school levels, in cooperation with healthcare, after school centres, and youth centres. Teaching is to be founded in evidence-based knowledge appropriate to students' age and development. Teaching content is mainly to consist of three parts:

1. General preventive measures that contribute to a strong sense of identity and awareness of boundaries and lack of boundaries, including in gender relations, relations between adults and children, and in other cases where power imbalances may exist.
2. Education about sexual health and sexual activity, especially in primary and upper secondary schools.
3. Open discussion of the nature and manifestations of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment.

Special consideration is to be given to digital communication and the changes that have taken place – and may take place – in the manifestations of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. Children and young people are also to be informed as to where to turn if they experience or learn of violence and harassment. At the same time, education is to be provided to staff at all school levels to make sure that knowledge of preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and response to behaviour and acts that encourage such conduct, is in place. Preventive measures and education are also to take place in the context of sports and youth activities and other leisure activities, including art education, and in leisure activities and training specifically aimed at disabled children and young people.

Looking to the future, education of professionals shall ensure that staff members working or interacting with children and young people in their work are properly prepared to meet increased demands for preventive measures, education, and response to sexual and gender-based violence and harassment.

II. ACTION PLAN FOR 2021–2025

Althingi resolves that in the action plan for 2021–2025, the focus will be on strengthening age-appropriate teaching and preventive measures in preschools, primary schools and upper secondary schools, in cooperation with healthcare, after school centres and youth centres. To reduce sexual and gender-based violence and harassment and to minimise the damage caused by such conduct, work should reflect the following six components, divided into subsequent actions:

- A. General measures.
- B. Preventive measures in preschools.
- C. Preventive measures in primary schools in collaboration with healthcare, after school centres and social centres.
- D. Preventive measures in upper secondary schools.

- E. Preventive measures in sports and youth activities and other leisure activities.
- F. Follow-up and evaluation of results.

A. General measures.

A.1. Prevention Officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities.

A prevention officer is to be engaged at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, tasked with following up on this action plan as detailed under specific individual actions. The prevention officer is to assist municipalities' central school administrations with disseminating knowledge and preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, both in preschools and primary schools, together with after school centres and youth centres. The prevention officer is also to disseminate knowledge and education material to primary schools and preschools which do not come under the authority of municipalities' central school administrations, including independent schools. Further, the prevention officer is to have the role of imparting knowledge to upper secondary schools and supporting upper secondary schools in their efforts to strengthen teaching and preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. Additionally, the prevention officer is to collect data on the success of individual measures.

- *Indicator:* The prevention officer is to have taken up duties in 2021.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 16 million annually with ISK 12–14 million on account of payroll costs and the rest due to travel expenses.
- *Responsible party:* The Icelandic Association of Local Authorities.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Prime Minister's Office, Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the Directorate of Equality, the Directorate of Health, the communication counsellor for sports and youth activities, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Directorate of Education, municipalities' central school administrations, the Ombudsman for Children, professional organisations for school administrators, teachers and Grunnur – the association of publicity officers.

A.2. Municipalities' central school administrations.

Municipalities' central school administrations, supported by the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, are to impart knowledge and support preschools and primary schools, along with after school centres and youth centres, to ensure that preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence are integrated into school activities, especially teaching, and that staff receives education. Municipalities' central school administrations are to ensure that preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence become a strategic part of municipalities' educational policy and prevention policy in each school. Municipalities' central school administrations are to maintain statistical data on education in their respective districts and disseminate information about any results to the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities.

- *Indicator:* All central school administrations are to have imparted education to preschools and primary schools in their districts at the end of 2024.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Central school administrations.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of

Local Authorities, preschools and primary schools, the National Agency for Children and Families, and social services in the municipalities.

A.3. Editor at the Directorate of Education

An editor/project manager is to be engaged at the Directorate of Education, working at least on a half-time equivalent, tasked with developing knowledge of the preparation of learning material which supports preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, including preparation of learning material for equality and gender studies. The project manager shall follow up on projects assigned to the Directorate of Education in accordance with this action plan. The project manager should guarantee that new learning material is developed in consultation with academics and non-governmental organisations to make sure that this effort is guided by professional knowledge and experience of directly imparting knowledge to children and young people. The project manager is to be engaged while the plan is in effect, but the post will be subject to review during the next action programme regarding the success of the effort.

- *Indicator:* The editor/project manager is to have taken up duties in 2021.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 6 million annually to meet payroll and employee costs.
- *Responsible party:* The Directorate of Education.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the National Agency for Children and Families (Barnahús), the Directorate of Equality, the Development Centre for Primary Healthcare in Iceland, universities, and non-governmental organisations.

A.4. On-line courses for people who work with children and young people.

An interactive on-line course should be prepared, providing basic education about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment for people who work with children and young people. The material should centre on content prepared in connection with the course ‘*Protect them*’ (Verndum þau), whose authors are specialists at Barnahús. The course should be in four parts and focus on the following targeted audiences: preschools, 2) junior grades of primary school and after school centres, 3) higher grades of primary school and youth centres, and 4) upper secondary schools. Special additional material should be prepared, specifically aimed at professionals who work with disabled children and young people. The course should be based on the content for a dedicated on-line course in child protection prepared for staff and voluntary workers in sports and youth activities. However, the main focus should be on the nature and consequences of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. The course should be designed in a way that enables managers to monitor whether staff members have completed the course and automatically provide the National Agency for Children and Families with information about the total number of participants.

- *Indicator:* On-line courses are to be ready in 2022.
- *Estimate of costs:* 4 million ISK in 2021, 4 million ISK in 2022 and 0.5 million ISK in the years 2023–2025 to ensure follow-up.
- *Responsible party:* The National Agency for Children and Families (Barnahús).
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Ombudsman for Children, the communication

counsellor for sports and youth activities, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Youth Forum, the Directorate of Education, the Directorate of Equality, Save the Children, Stígamót, centre for survivors of sexual violence, Iceland's National Association of People with Intellectual Disabilities Þroskahjálpi/Átak self-advocacy group, legal representative for the disabled, Tabú, feminist disability rights movement, the Multicultural Centre and Samtökin '78, the National Queer Association of Iceland.

A.5. Access to learning material and educational material.

Learning and educational material that supports preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment in preschools, primary schools and upper secondary schools is to be accessible in a single location and marked separately in the search database on the website of the Directorate of Education. The Directorate of Education is to set out the professional requirements to be fulfilled with respect to such material to be able to host it on its web site. Emphasis is to be put on the fact that the material is founded in evidence-based methods.

- *Indicator:* Learning and educational material that supports preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment is to be marked specifically in the search database on the website of the Directorate of Education in the year 2021.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 1.5 million on account of work on the web site.
- *Responsible party:* The Directorate of Education.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The National Agency for Children and Families, the Directorate of Equality, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Directorate of Health, and the Development Centre for Primary Healthcare.

A.6. Assessment of the impact of children's and young people's access to pornography.

An assessment of the impact of digital access to pornography on children's and young people's health and well-being is to be carried out. The results of the assessment are to be used to make recommendations for actions that promote sexual health in young people.

- *Indicator:* Assessment has been carried out and results made available by the end of 2021.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 3 million in 2021.
- *Responsible party:* The Ministry of Health.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Directorate of Equality, the Development Centre for Primary Healthcare, the Directorate of Health, SAFT, Samtökin '78 and Stígamót.

A.7. Educational campaign on sexual privacy.

An educational campaign on sexual privacy is to be launched, especially on the nature and consequences of digital sexual violence, along with increased education in primary schools and upper secondary schools. Changes that have taken place in the manifestations of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment with the introduction of digital technology shall be considered, as well as penalty clauses as regards such offences.

- *Indicator:* The educational campaign is to have taken place before the end of 2024.

- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 1 million in 2023 and 1 million in 2024.
- *Responsible party:* The Directorate of Equality
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, SAFT, the Icelandic Women's Rights Association and the National Agency for Children and Families.

B. Prevention in preschools.

B.1. Staff education.

Preschool staff is to receive education about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and preventive measures suitable for preschool children. Preschool heads, with support from the municipalities' central school administrations, as appropriate, are to be responsible for the education. Minimum training of all staff through an on-line course, *cf.* action A.4, is to be guaranteed. Central school administrations are to offer further education and discussion within their districts and preschool heads are to use other educational material to guarantee sufficient knowledge and staff training.

- *Indicator:* 90% of staff are to have completed an on-line course before the end of 2025.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Preschool heads.
- *Examples of partners associated:* Central school administrations, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Association of Preschool Managers, the National Agency for Children and Families, and non-governmental organisations.

B.2. Development of preschool learning material.

It is to be ensured that preschools have access to quality learning material that contributes to preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and is suitable for preschool children of all ages, *cf.* the basic elements of education pursuant to the national curriculum guide for preschools. Existing teaching and educational material is to be comprehensively reviewed and updated and republished as appropriate. New interactive material is also to be developed, appropriate to students' age and development, *cf.* parliamentary resolution No 35/149 on the plan for the years 2019–2022 on actions against violence and its consequences. The material is to be founded in evidence-based knowledge and knowledge of preschool activities, considering the singularity of the preschool level. Special consideration is to be given to diverse gender needs and difference in situations, as well as different individuals and groups, such as disabled children, LGBTI+ children, and children whose mother tongue is not Icelandic. Learning material is also to consider children's use of digital technology. The material is to be accompanied by detailed instructions on their use for preschool staff. The learning material is to be available on the website of the Directorate of Education and open to all and freely available for use.

- *Indicator:* New preschool learning material is to be ready before the end of 2022.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 2 million in 2021 and 3 million in 2022.
- *Responsible party:* The National Agency for Children and Families/Barnahús.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Directorate of Education, the Directorate of Equality, the project run by the City of Reykjavík under the title *Opinskátt um ofbeldi* (Open about violence),

- the project *Fræðsla, ekki hræðsla* (Education instead of fear), Þroskahjálp, Tabú and the Multicultural Centre.

B.3. The welfare and safety of children in preschools.

The manual on the welfare and safety of children in preschools is to be updated regarding preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. During the update, note is to be taken of precautionary measures which reduce the risk of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment taking place within the walls of preschools, or in connection with preschool activities, including during trips organised by preschools. Particular attention is to be paid to the needs and circumstances of marginalised groups, such as disabled children and children whose mother tongue is not Icelandic.

- *Indicator:* The manual is to have been updated in 2025.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Ministry of Education, Science and Culture.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Directorate of Education, the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Directorate of Health, the National Agency for Children and Families, Þroskahjálp and Tabú.

B.4. Prevention in healthcare.

Knowledge among staff in health care services for infants and toddlers about indications of violence is to be increased. To that end, an on-line course for preschool staff is to be utilised, cf. action A.4. A parallel follow-up as to whether educational material about violence is presented to parents during the 4-year check-up is to be conducted.

- *Indicator:* 90% of staff in health care services for infants and toddlers are to have completed the on-line course, and all parents are to be presented with educational material on violence during the 4-year check-up.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* The Development Centre for Primary Healthcare.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Ministry of Health, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Directorate of Health, and Save the Children.

C. Prevention in primary schools in collaboration with healthcare, after school centres and youth centres.

C.1. Primary school prevention team.

Each primary school is to engage a team whose mission is to ensure that all year groups receive teaching about gender-based and sexual violence and harassment suitable to students' age and development. The team is to provide support and advice to teachers and other staff regarding education and discussion about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment and be responsible for ensuring adequate staff knowledge and training. The team is also to strive to ensure a coordinated response by staff regarding different groups and different individuals in cases where children attempt to report violence and harassment. Special attention is to be paid to any such signs in connection with discussion of preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. Each team is to be composed in the following way, as appropriate for each school: administrator, teacher with knowledge in the

field, school nurse, school psychologist, developmental therapist/special teacher, or other person responsible for special education, study advisor, contact person for the after school centre and/or contact person at the youth centre, and contact person for social services. The team is also to liaise with central school administrations responsible for disseminating knowledge and education. Central school administrations are to pursue that such a team is managed within each school.

- *Indicator:* Teams are to be managed within each primary school by the end of 2021.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Heads of primary schools and municipalities' central school administrations.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities and healthcare.

C.2. Staff education.

Primary school staff and after school centre and youth centre staff are to receive education about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and preventive measures suitable for primary school children. Prevention teams with support from municipalities' central school administrations, as applicable, are to be responsible for this education. Minimum training for all staff through an on-line course, *cf.* action A.4, is to be guaranteed. Central school administrations are to offer further education and discussion within their districts and heads of primary schools, managers of after school centres and youth centres are to use other educational material to guarantee sufficient knowledge and training of staff.

- *Indicator:* 90% of primary school staff are to have completed an on-line course, *cf.* action A.4, at the end of 2025.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Primary school prevention team.
- *Examples of partners associated:* Central school administrations, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Association of Preschool Heads, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Directorate of Education, and non-governmental organisations.

C.3. Development and creation of learning material for primary schools.

Access of primary schools to quality learning material that contributes to preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and is suitable for primary school children of all ages, *cf.* the basic elements of education according to the national curriculum guide for primary schools, is to be ensured. Existing learning and educational material is to be comprehensively reviewed and updated and republished as appropriate. New interactive content is to be developed and founded in evidence-based knowledge and suitable to students' age and development, considering also children's use of digital technology. During the preparation of the learning material, special consideration is to be given to diverse gender needs and difference in situations, as well as different individuals and groups, such as disabled children, LGBTI+ children, and children whose mother tongue is not Icelandic. Emphasis is to be placed on learning material that deals directly and openly with the nature and consequences of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. At the same time,

high-quality learning material on sexual health and sexual behaviour, *cf.* parliamentary resolution No 35/149 on the plan for the years 2019–2022 on actions against violence and its consequences, is to be prepared. The material is to be accompanied by clear instructions about its use for teachers and other staff. Learning material is to be available on the website of the Directorate of Education and open to all and freely available for use.

- *Indicator:* Learning material for all primary school levels is to be ready by the end of 2023.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 3 million in 2021, 2 million in 2022 and 2 million in 2023. The funds are to be used for royalties, visuals, printing, teaching guides, web content and audio books.
- *Responsible party:* The Directorate of Education.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Ombudsman for Children, the Development Centre for Primary Healthcare, the project run by the City of Reykjavík under the title *Opinskátt um ofbeldi*, the Directorate of Health, Save the Children, Stígamót, Tabú, the Multicultural Centre, Samtökin '78 and Þroskahjálp.

C.4. Development of health care educational material.

In parallel with action C.3, a comprehensive review of educational material used by school nurses, and which contributes to preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, is to be conducted. The material is to be updated, as appropriate, and new educational material developed that mainly pertains to communication, sexual health, and sexual behaviour, considering use of digital technology by children and teenagers. Special consideration is to be given to diverse gender needs and difference in situations, as well as different individuals and groups, such as disabled children, LGBTI+ children, and children whose mother tongue is not Icelandic.

- *Indicator:* Educational material for school nurses is to be updated and new material developed before the end of 2021.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 2 million in 2021.
- *Responsible party:* The Development Centre for Primary Healthcare.
- *Examples of partners associated:* Directorate of Education, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Directorate of Equality, the project run by the City of Reykjavík under the title *Opinskátt um ofbeldi*, the Directorate of Health, Þroskahjálp, Tabú, and other non-governmental organisation.

C.5. Prevention in youth centres.

Education about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment is to be addressed to teenagers through youth centres. Stígamót is to be tasked with continuing the training for youth centre staff, which has been carried out as part of the annual *Sjúk ást* (Crazy Love) campaign, further establishing the arrangement that young people who attend Samfés' annual ball must first receive education at their youth centre. How to better to support prevention activities in youth centres is to be explored, in particular measures which focus on training youth centre staff to deal with sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, such as through the

Violence Prevention School.

- *Indicator:* All young people attending Samfés' annual ball are to receive education through *Crazy Love* at their youth centre.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 2 million annually in 2021–2025.
- *Responsible party:* Stígamót.
- *Examples of partners associated:* Samfés (Youth Work Iceland), the Violence Prevention School, the project run by the City of Reykjavík under the title *Opinskátt um ofbeldi*, the University of Iceland (recreation and social studies), Samtökin '78 (The National Queer Organisation of Iceland), the Multicultural Centre, Tabú and the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities.

D. Preventive measures in upper secondary schools.

D.1. Prevention in connection with the project Health-Promoting Upper Secondary School.

The network of contacts for the project Health-Promoting Upper Secondary School is to be activated, where focus areas for health-promoting criteria include equality, sexual health, and safety. Contact persons, together with study advisors, are to receive training and tools to promote effective preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, which is mainly aimed at students, in the context of the project Health-Promoting Upper Secondary School. Each school is also to be encouraged to devote a certain amount of time during the school year to discussion of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment.

- *Indicator:* All contacts for the project Health-Promoting Upper Secondary School and study advisors are to receive information that contributes to effective preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* The Directorate of Health.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Directorate of Equality, the Ombudsman for Children, and healthcare.

D.2. Staff education.

Upper secondary school staff is to receive education about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and prevention suitable for upper secondary school children. School administrators are to be responsible for the education with support from the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, and in cooperation with the contact person for the project Health-Promoting Upper Secondary School, and study advisors. Minimum training of all staff through an on-line course, *cf.* action A.4, is to be guaranteed. The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities is to offer further education and facilitate discussion, and upper secondary school managers are to use other educational material to guarantee appropriate knowledge and training for staff.

- *Indicator:* 90% of teachers and staff of upper secondary schools are to have completed an on-line course before the end of 2025.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Heads of upper secondary schools.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of

Local Authorities, the Association of Headmasters, the contact for the project Health-Promoting Upper Secondary School, the National Agency for Children and Families, and non-governmental organisations.

D.3. Development of upper secondary school learning material.

Access of upper secondary schools to quality learning material that contributes to preventive measures against sexual and gender-based violence and harassment and is suitable for upper secondary school children of all ages, *cf.* the basic elements of education pursuant to the national curriculum guide for upper secondary schools, is to be ensured. A comprehensive review of the available learning and educational material is to be conducted, and recommendations for updating and re-issuing to be made where appropriate. New interactive content is to be developed and founded in evidence-based knowledge and appropriate for students' age and development, taking into account upper secondary school students' use of digital technology. Special consideration is to be given to diverse gender needs and difference in situations, as well as different individuals and groups, such as the disabled, LGBTQ, and those whose mother tongue is not Icelandic. Emphasis is to be placed on learning material that deals directly and openly with the nature and consequences of sexual and gender-based violence and harassment. At the same time high-quality learning material on sexual health and sexual behaviour is to be prepared, *cf.* parliamentary resolution No 35/149 on the plan for the years 2019–2022 on actions against violence and its consequences. The material is to be accompanied by clear instructions about its use for teachers and other staff. The learning material is to be available on the website of the Directorate of Education and open to all and freely available for use.

- *Indicator:* New upper secondary school learning material is to be ready before the end of 2022.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 3 million annually during 2021 and 2022.
- *Responsible party:* Ministry of Education, Science and Culture.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Directorate of Education, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Association of Upper Secondary School Teachers, the Directorate of Equality, Stígamót, Þroskahjálp and Tabú.

D.4. Learning material for special education programmes.

Interactive learning material on sexual and gender-based violence and harassment is to be developed for students receiving special education programmes. The material is to consider learning material for upper secondary schools, *cf.* action D.3, but designed specifically with regard to the needs of students receiving special education programmes and should contain detailed teaching instructions. The material is to be presented to all upper secondary schools that run special education programmes and hosted on the website of the Directorate of Education.

- *Indicator:* New learning material for students receiving special education programmes is to be ready before the end of 2023.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 2 million in 2023.
- *Responsible party:* Ministry of Education, Science and Culture.

- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Counselling and Diagnostic Centre, the National Agency for Children and Families, the Association of Upper Secondary School Teachers, the Directorate of Equality, the Association of Special Education Teachers, legal counsel for the disabled, Átak self-advocacy group, Þroskahjálp and Tabú.

D.5. Strengthening teaching in gender studies.

A promotional campaign on the value of gender studies in upper secondary schools is to be set up, including on the value in making gender studies a compulsory subject, *cf.* Article 23 of Act No 10/2008 on Equal Status and Equal Rights of Women and Men. At the same time, learning material on sexual and gender-based violence and harassment, and on sexual health and sexual behaviour, is to be presented to upper secondary school teachers, *cf.* action D.3.

- *Indicator:* A promotional campaign on the value of gender studies in upper secondary schools is to have taken place in 2022.
- *Estimate of costs:* ISK 1 million in 2022.
- *Responsible party:* The Directorate of Equality.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Association of Headmasters, the Icelandic Upper Secondary Student Union, the universities' School of Education and the Directorate of Health.

E. Preventive measures in sports and youth activities and other leisure activities.

E.1. Staff education.

Staff and volunteers of sports and youth activities and other leisure activities are to receive training on sexual and gender-based violence and harassment and preventive measures, suitable for practitioners and other participants. Managers of sports and youth clubs and other leisure clubs and art education are to be responsible for the education. It should be ensured that all staff and volunteers receive minimal training through an on-line course on child protection designed for sports and youth activities. It is also to be encouraged that sports, youth, and leisure clubs, as well as art schools, make use of other professional and evidence-based educational material to ensure knowledge and training of staff.

- *Indicator:* 90% of staff and volunteers are to have completed an on-line course on child protection by the end of 2025.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Managers of sports and youth clubs and other leisure clubs and art education.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The communication counsellor for sports and youth activities, the National Agency for Children and Families, the National Olympic and Sports Association of Iceland, the Icelandic Youth Association (UMFÍ), the Youth Forum and the professional organisations of art teachers.

E.2. Education of professionals, volunteers and others who work with disabled children and young people.

Education about sexual and gender-based violence and harassment is to be aimed specifically at professionals, volunteers and others who work with disabled children and young

people, including within the health system, sports clubs, in tourism services for disabled people, and at homes and in short-term stays for disabled children and young people. Education is to be addressed to medical trainers and occupational therapists, sports trainers and volunteers, and to staff at short-term residential homes for disabled children. Managers of associations and institutions, with support from the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, are to be responsible for the education. Minimum training of all staff through an on-line course, *cf.* action A.4, with emphasis on the appropriate age group and additional education that addresses in more detail the nature and consequences of violence and harassment against children with disabilities, is to be guaranteed.

- *Indicator:* 90% of professionals, volunteers and others who work with disabled children and young people within organized associations or institutions are to have completed an on-line course by the end of 2025.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* Managers of associations and institutions.
- *Examples of partners associated:* The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, Þroskahjálp, The Icelandic Disability Alliance, The Benefit Society for Children with Disabilities, Tabú, The Training Centre, Sports Association for the Disabled, the State Diagnostic and Counselling Centre and the National Agency for Children and Families.

F. Follow-up and evaluation of results.

F.1. Information monitoring.

Results of surveys that measure the scale of sexual violence and harassment against children and young people are to be monitored, such as by the Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis. This information is to be used to highlight the results of this program. In addition, indicators of the number of children and young people who report such violence are to be considered, and special efforts shall be made to analyse the frequency and nature of violence and harassment directed at disabled children and young people. It is to be kept in mind that numbers may rise with increased awareness of violence.

- *Indicator:* Numbers reflecting the scope of violence and harassment and the number of children and young people reporting it are to be analysed yearly.
- *Estimate of costs:* Within the framework.
- *Responsible party:* The National Agency for Children and Families (Centre for Violence Against Children).
- *Examples of partners associated:* The Centre for Social Research and Analysis, social services, healthcare, the prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the communication counsellor for sports and youth activities, the Directorate of Health, and the Development Centre for Primary Healthcare.

F.2. Evaluation of the effectiveness of individual actions.

Annually, a summary of the status of all the measures detailed in this resolution is to be made and presented to the coordination group, *cf.* action F.3, together with an overview of the work of the prevention officer. The prevention officer is also to deliver a comprehensive summary to the Prime Minister's Office in association with the development of a new action

programme for 2026–2030. This programme is to be considered when creating a strategic national plan on the implementation of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention) from 2011.

- *Indicator*: An annual overview of all measures and the work of prevention officers is to be presented to the coordination group.
- *Estimate of costs*: Within the framework.
- *Responsible party*: The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities.
- *Examples of partners associated*: The Prime Minister’s Office, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, and all responsible parties for individual actions.

F.3. Follow-up and responsibility for implementation.

The Prime Minister’s Office is to be responsible for coordinating the implementation of this plan and its follow-up. The ministry and the prevention officer are to work together on a draft of a new action plan for the years 2026–2030. The Prime Minister’s Office is to convene all the parties who bear primary responsibility for actions pursuant to the plan, where possible, at least once a year and more often if necessary. This group is to support and advise the prevention officer and evaluate the success of the action plan. The group is also to receive a proposal for a new action plan for comment.

- *Indicator*: That the action plan has been fully implemented by the end of 2025.
- *Estimate of costs*: Within the framework.
- *Responsible party*: The Prime Minister’s Office.
- *Examples of partners associated*: The prevention officer at the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture, and responsible parties for individual actions.

III. REVIEW OF THE ACTION PLAN

The Prime Minister is to submit an action plan for the years 2026–2030 to Althingi no later than during the 2024–2025 legislative session. That plan is to be drawn up by the Prime Minister’s Office in collaboration with the prevention officer of the Icelandic Association of Local Authorities, and in consultation with the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Social Affairs and the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and, as applicable, others who are responsible for the implementation of individual actions. The plan is to be prepared in accordance with the objectives of this parliamentary resolution, and to be based on the follow-up of the action plan as provided here.

Adopted by Althingi on 3 June 2020.