



HOUSE OF LORDS

International Agreements Committee

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Ratification of the Istanbul Convention and protection of migrant victims of domestic violence and abuse (MIN/0160514/21)

Dear Susan,

Thank you for your letter of 24 September updating the Committee on the Government's progress towards ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (the Istanbul Convention).

As you know, the Committee believes it is essential that the Convention is ratified without delay. Recent violent incidents against women make this all the more important. We do understand that all the necessary domestic processes need to be in place. We were very sceptical that the Support for Migrant Victims pilot scheme needed to be done, but the reality is that this what the Government has chosen to do. Therefore, we would be grateful if you could keep us updated and, in particular, write to us once the Support for Migrant Victims pilot has ended in March 2022.

This letter is copied to Harriet Harman MP QC, the Chair of the Joint Committee on Human Rights.

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon the Lord Goldsmith QC
Chair of the House of Lords International Agreements Committee