



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL JUSTICE AND CONSUMERS

Directorate D: Equality and Non-Discrimination
Unit D.3: Gender equality

Brussels
JUST.D.3/

Ms Katherine Margaret Murphy
Carrer Furs 15
03700 Denia
Spain
katharinejchardwood@gmail.com

Dear Ms Murphy,

Thank you for your complaint of 8 July 2024, registered under CPLT(2024)66773.

I am very sorry to read of your experience. You report that you were cyber-stalked, cyber-bullied, physically stalked, and threatened by teachers and staff at the Conservatorio de Denia, forcing you to leave due to fear for your life. You report that your home network and phones were hacked, and your private health matters were known by the staff. You believe this was due to your complaints about a teacher's inappropriate behaviour towards young girls, rejecting his advances 10 years ago, and your political beliefs. Despite complaining to the Generalitat de Valenciana and the police, no action was taken. This situation has severely impacted your mental and physical health, and your fear for the safety of other students at the conservatory.

While the Commission is responsible for monitoring the correct implementation of EU legislation by the Member States, it has no competence to intervene in the day-to-day administration of the law enforcement or justice in the Member States, such as in Spain.

On the basis of the information provided in your complaint, there does not appear to be a violation of any act of EU law. Therefore, it is not possible for the European Commission to follow up on your complaint.

Unless we receive any further information from you within the next four weeks that may disclose a failure by Spain to implement any act of EU law, we will therefore close the file related to your complaint.

In the meantime, you may want to reach out to the Spanish Equality Body dealing with gender equality:

Instituto de las Mujeres
Calle Pechuán 1
28002 Madrid

website : <https://www.inmujeres.gob.es/>
email : institutodelasmujeres@inmujeres.es

I would also like to inform you that the European Union has recently adopted its first ever law to combat violence against women and domestic violence¹. The new Directive, which must be transposed by Member States, including Spain, by 14 June 2027, will significantly reinforce the rights of victims of such violence. To mention some relevant features of the Directive, Member States will be required to criminalise the most prevalent forms of cyber-violence, including cyber stalking and cyber harassment. Member States also have to ensure that specialist support is provided to victims, including information and support on any relevant practical matters arising as a result of a crime, information on access to legal advice and referral to women's support services. Moreover, victims will have the right to claim full compensation from offenders for the damages resulting from offences of violence against women and domestic violence and to obtain a decision on compensation, where appropriate, in the course of criminal proceedings.

Once the directive is transposed, the Commission will assess whether the national laws of the EU Member States – including Spain – meet the standards set at the EU level.

I am sorry that we cannot be of further assistance and hope that you find the above information useful.

Yours sincerely,

Karen VANDEKERCKHOVE
Head of Unit

¹ [Directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence.](#)