Preventing gender-based violence and challenging gender stereotypes\(^1\) is one of the pillars of the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025\(^2\). The EU accession to the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence is a key priority for the Commission. It includes specific provisions to prevent violence, focusing on men, boys and masculinities. In addition, the Commission’s Proposal for a directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence\(^3\) contains a chapter that is dedicated to prevention. Its Article 36 foresees education programmes and awareness-raising campaigns encouraging all, including men and boys, to act as positive role models to support behavioural changes across society. Furthermore, in the forthcoming Commission Recommendation on preventing and combating harmful practices against women and girls, awareness raising and education programmes will be a central pillar of the set of preventive measures.

Under the EUR 1.55 billion Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values funding programme, the Daphne strand is dedicated to preventing and combating all forms of gender-based violence and domestic violence and to supporting and protecting victims. In this context, the Commission launched a call for proposals in 2021 with the specific aim to prevent gender-based violence by addressing masculinities and the engagement of men and boys, providing funding support to several projects\(^4\). Finally, as foreseen in the Strategy, the Commission will launch an EU network on the prevention of gender-based violence, bringing together Member States and stakeholders to exchange good practice. The Commission is also providing funding for training, capacity-building and support services.

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1. Gender equality is also an important crosscutting objective of different European Education Area initiatives aimed at tackling gender stereotypes, fostering gender-sensitive education, and addressing gender-specific challenges, such as boys’ underachievement, bullying, sexual harassment, and online violence.
4. Call for proposals and list of funded projects: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/cerv-2021-daphne;callCode=null;freeTextSearchKeyword=;matchWholeText=true;typeCodes=1;statusCodes=31094501,31094502,31094503;programmePeriod=2021%20-%202027;programCcm2Id=43251589;programDivisionCode=null;focusAreaCode=null;destination=null;mission=null;geographicalZonesCode=null;programmeDivisionProspect=null;startDateLe=null;startDateGte=null;crossCuttingPriorityCode=null;cpvCode=null;performanceOfDelivery=null;sortQuery=sortStatus;orderBy=asc;onlyTenders=false;topicListKey=topicSearchTablePageState](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/cerv-2021-daphne;callCode=null;freeTextSearchKeyword=;matchWholeText=true;typeCodes=1;statusCodes=31094501,31094502,31094503;programmePeriod=2021%20-%202027;programCcm2Id=43251589;programDivisionCode=null;focusAreaCode=null;destination=null;mission=null;geographicalZonesCode=null;programmeDivisionProspect=null;startDateLe=null;startDateGte=null;crossCuttingPriorityCode=null;cpvCode=null;performanceOfDelivery=null;sortQuery=sortStatus;orderBy=asc;onlyTenders=false;topicListKey=topicSearchTablePageState)