



**Ministry of Integration and Gender  
Equality**  
*Minister for Integration and Gender  
Equality*

**Reply to interpellation 2007/08:172 from Carina Hägg  
(Social Democratic Party)  
Men's violence against women**

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Madam/Mr Speaker,

Carina Hägg has addressed a number of questions to Minister for Finance Anders Borg, relating to how resources for measures to combat men's violence against women are made visible in the central government budget and how the issue of resources to combat men's violence against women is pursued internationally. The questions are asked, inter alia, in the light of the decision by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) to support the allocation by member states of a minimum of 1 euro per inhabitant for work to stop violence against women.

The interpellation has been forwarded to me.

Combating men's violence against women is a priority issue for the Government. Not least because we know, today, that the costs for such violence are extensive and affect large sections of our national economy. In the National Board of Health and Welfare's report *Kostnader för våld mot kvinnor* [The costs for violence against women] it is estimated that this form of violence costs some SEK 2.7 – 3.3 billion per year for Sweden.

The Government's action plan for combating men's violence against women is an unparalleled historic investment. The action plan takes a holistic approach to the issue. The Government has presented 56 concrete measures including both support and protection for women exposed to violence and preventive measures such as measures directed at perpetrators of violence. In total, the resources for the

implementation of the action plan are estimated to amount to over SEK 800 million for the current electoral period (2006-10). This is well above the Council of Europe's recommendation of 1 euro per inhabitant.

There will not be any specific presentation of the Government's collective work to combat men's violence against women in the Budget Bill. The implementation of the action plan will, however, be followed up. The Government intends to provide ongoing information to the Riksdag about the implementation of the action plan, and an account of the results of the follow-up will be presented to the Riksdag in 2010.

The question of gender mainstreaming in the budget process is a priority issue and the Government intends to emphasise its importance at the 2008 meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), where the main theme will be how gender equality work is funded in the member countries.

As regards cooperation in the Nordic and Baltic countries, the Government will – during Sweden's presidency of the Nordic Council – raise and discuss the issue of men's violence against women with both the Nordic and the Baltic Governments.

In the EU, work to combat gender-related violence is one of the priority issues in the Commission's road map for equality between women and men 2006-2010. The Commission supports the member states' work by contributing to funding of measures to combat men's violence against women and children and to protect and support victims. Since 1997, over 420 projects have been funded by the Daphne programme. During December 2007, the Commission intends to announce new project funds (Daphne III). Within the framework of the Swedish Presidency of the EU, I also intend to put the issue of men's violence against women on the agenda.

As part of the Council of Europe's campaign to combat men's violence against women, Sweden will participate in the closing conference in May 2008. The Government's action plan for combating men's violence against women is Sweden's contribution to the campaign.