

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Country | Albania |
| SIGI 2019 Category | Low |
| SIGI Value 2019 | 23% |

| | | |
|---|--|------------|
| Discrimination in the family | | 33% |
|  | Legal framework on child marriage | 50% |
| | Percentage of girls under 18 married | 7% |
| | Legal framework on household responsibilities | 50% |
| | Proportion of the population declaring that children will suffer if mothers are working outside home for a pay | - |
| | Female to male ratio of time spent on unpaid care work | 6.3 |
| | Legal framework on inheritance | 25% |
| | Legal framework on divorce | 25% |

| | | |
|---|--|------------|
| Restricted physical integrity | | 16% |
|  | Legal framework on violence against women | 50% |
| | Proportion of the female population justifying domestic violence | 30% |
| | Prevalence of domestic violence against women (lifetime) | 25% |
| | Sex ratio at birth (natural =105) | 107.2 |
| | Legal framework on reproductive rights | 0% |
| | Female population with unmet needs for family planning | 13% |

| | | |
|---|--|------------|
| Restricted access to productive and financial resources | | 26% |
|  | Legal framework on working rights | 100% |
| | Proportion of the population declaring this is not acceptable for a woman in their family to work outside home for a pay | 4% |
| | Share of managers (male) | 68% |
| | Legal framework on access to non-land assets | 0% |
| | Share of house owners (male) | - |
| | Legal framework on access to land assets | 25% |
| | Share of agricultural land holders (male) | - |
| | Legal framework on access to financial services | 25% |
| Share of account holders (male) | 53% | |

| | | |
|---|--|------------|
| Restricted civil liberties | | 13% |
|  | Legal framework on civil rights | 0% |
| | Legal framework on freedom of movement | 0% |
| | Percentage of women in the total number of persons not feeling safe walking alone at night | 70% |
| | Legal framework on political participation | 0% |
| | Share of the population that believes men are better political leaders than women | 47% |
| | Percentage of male MP's | 72% |
| | Legal framework on access to justice | 0% |
| | Share of women declaring lack of confidence in the justice system | 55% |

Note: Higher values indicate higher inequality. Percentages range from 0 to 100, while legal variables are categorised as 0%, 25%, 50%, 75% or 100%. See data source [here](#).

Source: OECD (2019), Gender, Institutions and Development Database, <https://oe.cd/ds/GIDDB2019>.

Albania

1. Discrimination in the family

a) Overarching legal framework for marriage

The law provides women with the same rights as men to enter into marriage and the law is based on consent of both spouses (Family Code, art. 8). Forced marriage is prohibited under the Criminal Code and is punishable by imprisonment of up to three months and/or a fine (art. 130). Leaving the territory with the intention to force someone into marriage is punishable of the same sentence (Criminal Code, art. 130). A marriage concluded without the full and free consent of both spouses is considered void (Family Code, art. 33). The law does not provide for official registration of all marriages and partnerships including customary and religious marriages or informal unions (Family Code, art. 28 & 42). Informal or de-facto unions are regulated by law, under article 163 of the Family Code which establishes cohabitation as a factual union between a man and a woman living as a couple.

b) Child marriage

The legal age of marriage for women and men is 18 years old (Family Code, art. 7). The court can allow a marriage below the legal age of marriage when there are sufficient reasons (Family Code, art. 7). Child marriage is void (Family Code, art. 39). There are no public measures to generate social support for the enforcement of laws on the minimum age of marriage.

The CEDAW Committee (2016) stresses the persistence of child marriage in Roma and Egyptian communities and in remote rural communities (CEDAW, 2016). Those marriages are often allowed by courts as an exception (CEDAW, 2016). The UNFPA (2012) reveals that several factors drive child marriages in Albania, such as poverty, lack a value placed on girls' education, geographical isolation, social exclusion, trafficking and emigration. Correlated issues such as ethnicity-based social exclusion, discrimination, child labour and exploitation also foster the persistence of child marriage in certain communities (UNFPA, 2012). Child marriage in remote rural communities where family life is dominated by a strong patriarchal culture affects exclusively girls who marry before 18 years old while boys enter usually around their 20s-30s into marriage (UNFPA, 2012). Child marriage amongst Roma communities affects both girls and boys (UNFPA, 2012).

c) Household responsibilities

The law provides women with the same rights as men to be recognised as the head of household (Family Code, art. 50). Additionally, the law provides women with the same rights as men to be the legal guardians of their children during marriage and in informal unions (Family Code, art. 215, 220 & 227). The law provides women with the same rights and responsibilities as men with regards to their children during marriage (Family Code, art. 53). Furthermore, the law provides married/unmarried women with the same rights as married/unmarried men to choose where to live (Family Code, art. 55 & Constitution, art. 38).

In rural areas, strong gender stereotypes and expectations over women's and men's roles, in the household and in the family, prevail. Women are usually responsible for taking care of the household, children and dependents. Men are considered de-facto heads of household, have control over the family's earnings and choose where to live. Additionally, married women may be expected to seek permission from their husband for leaving the house or traveling (FAO, 2016). In urban areas, reports show that employed women are most likely to be involved in household decision-making (FAO, 2016).

d) Divorce

The law provides women with the same rights as men to initiate divorce, by mutual consent or by request of one of the spouse, and they have the same requirements as men to finalise a divorce or annulment (Family Code, art. 125, 129 & 132). Women and men are provided with the same rights to be the legal guardians of their children after divorce and they have the same rights and responsibilities with regards to their children after divorce (Family Code, art. 154). Custody and visitation rights are decided by the court (Family Code, art. 155).

Studies show that the most common cause for divorce is domestic violence, either against a spouse or against the children. Moreover, divorced women suffer disproportionately from stigma and remarriage of divorced women is rare (Emery, 2013). It is reported that divorced women may be vulnerable to trafficking and forced prostitution (Emery, 2013).

e) Inheritance

The law provides daughters with the same rights as sons to inherit land and non-land assets (Civil Code, art. 360). Female surviving spouses are granted the same rights as male surviving spouses to inherit land and non-land assets (Civil Code, art. 360). The law provides women with the same rights as men to make a will (Civil Code, art. 373).

Discriminatory customary practices persist in rural areas with regards to women's inheritance (FAO, 2016). Patrilocal marriages, which prevail in rural areas and whereby a woman moves in with her husband, often lead women to being neglected in their family's inheritance (FAO, 2016). Additionally, the *Kanun* code (a set of oral traditional norms which were written and published in the 20th century and which is applied in some regions) establishes that a widow may manage land if her sons are minors (FAO, 2016). If she has no children, her in-laws will take the land and she will return to her family (FAO, 2016).

2. Restricted Physical integrity

a) Violence against women

Albania ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) in 2013 (Council of Europe, 2017). The Convention takes precedence over domestic legislation (Constitution, art. 122).

There is no law addressing violence against women, with specific provisions regarding investigation, prosecution and punishment of the perpetrator and protection and support services for victims.

The National Strategy and Action Plan on Gender Equality (2016-2020) includes as a strategic goal the reduction of gender-based and domestic violence (MSWY, 2016). It includes specific targets and benchmarks to be achieved by 2020 (MSWY, 2016). The three objectives concerning gender-based violence are to conduct awareness-raising activities; to enhance the referral mechanisms and the specialised support services for protection and treatment of cases of gender-based and domestic violence; and the punishment of perpetrators as well as establishing rehabilitation possibilities (MSWY, 2016). The Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth is the lead coordinator to implement the National Strategy and Action Plan (MSWY, 2016). The National Strategy and Action Plan is funded principally by state budget, including funding from the Ministries responsible for implementation (MSWY, 2016). The National Strategy and Action Plan additionally sets to draft guidelines for Ministries (MSWY, 2016).

The CEDAW Committee (2016) emphasises the low rate of reporting of cases of gender-based violence, due notably to a limited access to legal aid and absence of a hotline in rural areas.

f) Domestic violence

Albania possesses a comprehensive legislation addressing domestic violence. The Criminal Code, under article 130/a, includes domestic violence as a criminal offense punishable of up to two years of imprisonment in case of battering and any other act of violence against a person; of up to three years in case of a serious death threat or serious injury; and of up to five years in case of intentional injury. If committed repeatedly or in the presence of a minor, the punishment is one to five years of imprisonment (Criminal Code, art. 130/a). The relations covered under this provision include: a spouse, former spouse, cohabitant or former cohabitant, close relative or close relative in-law to the perpetrator of the criminal offense (Criminal Code, art. 130/a). Additionally, the domestic violence legislation covers the following abuse: physical, sexual, psychological, and economic (Criminal Code, art. 130/a & Law on Measures against Violence in Family Relations, art. 3).

The Law on Measures against Violence in Family Relations provides for specific provisions for the prevention of domestic violence, and for integrated services for victims of domestic violence, such as comprehensive and accessible health services, 24-hour, free of charge hotline, social and rehabilitation centres and free legal assistance (art. 6 & 7). Additionally, the Law provides for the development of guidelines for professionals who may deal with domestic violence and for awareness-raising and education campaigns and includes budgetary commitments (art. 6 & 7). A report by a coalition of NGOs show that a shortcoming of the law is that it does not protect informal intimate relationships (GADC, AWEN & NAGBVT, 2010). The Family Code additionally stipulates that a spouse who is the victim of violence can request that the court orders the removal the spouse that perpetrated violence from the marital home (art. 62).

The Government has also established a National Referral Mechanism for Cases of Domestic Violence at the local level, which provides assistance to victims and ensures coordination of all sectors involved in a case of domestic violence (CEDAW, 2016).

Despite efforts by the Government and the legal amendments, the CEDAW Committee (2016: 6) highlights the lack of coordination at the local level to ensure the well-functioning of the National

Referral Mechanism, the lack of shelters for victims and restrictive criteria to enter the existing shelters and the “frequent failure to enforce protection orders and emergency protection orders”.

Domestic violence is believed to be widespread in Albania (UNDP, 2013). It is reportedly considered as a private, family matter in society and victims often keep silent (UNDP, 2013). “Domestic violence (...) has deep roots in the patriarchal traditions and customs (e.g., strict gender identities and roles, patriarchal authority, adherence to an honour-and-shame system, and customs of hierarchal ordering with the family and intergenerational family control) that have long-shaped Albanian society” (UNDP, 2013: 9). Additionally, the *Kanun* (a set of customary rules and norms applied in some parts of Albania) is sometimes referenced to justify the right of the husband to punish his wife (UNDP, 2013). Women who are victims of domestic violence usually seek help to their families (UNDP, 2013).

g) Rape

The Criminal Code addresses sexual violence under article 107/a. Sexual violence is punishable of three to seven years of imprisonment (Criminal Code, art. 107/a). Rape is a criminal offense under article 102 of the Criminal Code and is punishable of three to ten years of imprisonment. The law is based on lack of consent and does not require proof of physical force, resistance or penetration (Criminal Code, art. 102). The legal definition of rape includes marital rape (Criminal Code, art. 102). Increased penalties for aggravated forms of rape and sexual violence are included in the legal framework (Criminal Code, art. 107/a & 102). There is no national action plan to support the legislation on sexual violence and the law does not specifically address integrated services for victims of rape and sexual violence.

There is limited information on the incidence of sexual violence and rape in Albania.

h) Sexual harassment

The legislative framework addresses sexual harassment under three sources: the Criminal Code, the Law on Protection from Discrimination and the Law on Gender Equality. The Criminal Code includes criminal penalties, as such sexual harassment is punishable of imprisonment of one to five years, and three to seven years in case of aggravated circumstances (Criminal Code, art. 108/a). The Law on Protection from Discrimination includes civil remedies and covers sexual harassment in the workplace and in educational establishments (art. 12 & 17). The Law on Gender Equality additionally addresses sexual harassment in the workplace (art. 18). Sporting establishments, public places and cyber harassment are not specifically covered by the legal framework. Sexual harassment is believed to be widespread but victims seldom report it (US Department of State, 2014).

i) Female genital mutilation

There is no legal provision addressing specifically female genital mutilation and there are no public measures targeting the practice of female genital mutilation. It appears that female genital mutilation is not a practice of concern in Albania.

j) Abortion

Abortion on request is legal within the first 12 weeks of the pregnancy, if the woman considers that the pregnancy creates psycho-social problems (Law on the Interruption of Pregnancy, art. 3 & 10).

Abortion in case of rape or incest or for medical reasons can be performed up until the 22-week of pregnancy (Law on the Interruption of Pregnancy, art. 9 & 11). Until 16 years old, women need the permission of a parent or a guardian to seek a legal abortion (Law on the Interruption of Pregnancy, art. 8).

The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2013) notes the incidence of sex-selective abortions due to son preference in the social value system and the possible consequence on the distorted sex ratio at birth.

More

The CEDAW Committee (2016: 5) stresses “the re-emergence of concepts of justice (*kanun*) and codes of conduct that condone killings of women and girls in the name of so-called ‘honour’”. Furthermore, the CEDAW Committee (2016) notes the persistence of blood feuds in some parts of Albania, and the seclusion and isolation of women and girls as a result.

Human trafficking of women and the exploitation of prostitution remain prevalent, despite efforts by the Government, especially in the coastal areas (CEDAW, 2016). Trafficking and sexual exploitation of Albanian women abroad is also a prominent concern (GADC, AWEN & NAGBVT, 2010).

3. Restricted Access to productive and financial resources

a) Secure access to land and assets

Regarding land, property and other non-land assets, married women are provided with the same rights as married men to own, use, make decisions and use as collateral (Family Code, art. 64). Regarding land, property and other non-land assets, unmarried women are provided with the same rights as unmarried men to own, use, make decisions and use as collateral (Constitution, art. 41). Additionally, regarding land, property and other non-land assets, the law provides women with the same rights after divorce or separation to own, use, make decisions and use as collateral (Family Code, art. 147). Regarding marital property, married women have the same rights as married men to administer (Family Code, art. 57). The law provides for joint land titling for land used or acquired by married couples or informal unions (Family Code, art. 111 & Civil Code, art. 199).

The National Strategy and Action Plan on Gender Equality (2016-2020) includes as an objective the economic empowerment of women in rural areas, including to ensure the enjoyment of property rights on agricultural land (MSWY, 2016).

Women are largely involved in the agriculture sector as informal contributing family workers (87%) which hinders their access to social protection and insurance schemes (FAO, 2016). Traditional gender roles and distribution of tasks are prevalent in family farming, men being identified as managers and decision-makers and women being identified as helpers (FAO, 2016). It appears that women are only considered managers in case of widowhood or the husband’s absence (FAO, 2016).

The CEDAW Committee (2016) stresses the small percentage of women who own land and the discrimination they often face in matters of inheritance. The FAO (2016: 10) stresses that “women form the majority in work-intensive activities, while men form the majority in capital-intensive

activities; and only male gender roles are associated with tasks that involve control over agricultural assets, mobility and decision-making. This distribution of tasks results in women's reduced access to, and control over, agricultural assets and decision-making". Additionally, the registration of land is usually under men's name as they are considered the managers and heads of household (FAO, 2016).

The CEDAW Committee (2016) further notes the marginalisation of rural women, especially living in remote or mountainous areas. Additionally, the CEDAW Committee (2016: 10) emphasises "the revival of patriarchal attitudes in rural areas, often resulting in gender-based violence".

b) Secure access to formal financial resources

The law provides married women with the same rights as married men to open a bank account at a formal financial institution (Law on Protection from Discrimination, art. 20). Married/unmarried women are provided with the same rights as married/unmarried men to obtain credit (Law on Protection from Discrimination, art. 20).

Women face barriers in accessing land ownership and credit, notably because of their inability to use land as collateral (FAO, 2016). They may face difficulty additionally in accessing grant programmes as women tend not be registered as land owners (FAO, 2016). Reports suggest that limited actions have been taken to improve women's access to credit at the Government level (UN Women, n. d.). As a result, UN Women, in cooperation with Albania's Government, the private sector and civil society, develops programmes and policies around four areas, notably to provide women with better access to credit (UN Women, n. d.).

c) Workplace rights

Albania has ratified several of the International Labour Organisation Conventions, notably the Equal Remuneration Convention (No. 100), the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention (No. 111), the Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention (No. 156) and the Convention concerning the Revision of the Maternity Protection Convention (No. 183).

The law mandates non-discrimination on the basis of sex in employment and covers job advertisements, selection criteria, recruitment, hiring, terms and conditions, promotions, training, assignments and termination (Law on Protection from Discrimination, art. 12 & Labour Code, art. 9). Additionally, the law mandates equal remuneration for work of equal value (Labour Code, art. 104).

Paid maternity leave is available for 52 weeks, with 65% wages paid by the social security system (Labour Code, art. 105 & Law on Social Security, art. 27). The law does not mandate paternity leave. Parental leave of 12 days, with full wages paid by the employer, is available to parents to care for children (Labour Code, art. 132). Women's employment security is protected when they are on maternity leave (Labour Code, art. 107). The law additionally prohibits employers for demanding pregnancy tests before starting employment (Labour Code, art. 105/a). The law does not require women to have permission from their husband or legal guardian to choose a profession or to register a business (Family Code, art. 63). The Commissioner for Protection from Discrimination has the power to receive and investigate complaints based on sex discrimination in employment (Law on Protection from Discrimination, art. 32). Additionally, a National Strategy for Women Entrepreneurs was developed by the Government (CEDAW, 2016). In terms of actions, for instance, State funds, notably

the creative economy fund, the competitiveness fund and the start-up fund, have been awarded to 40 enterprises led by women (UN Women, 2015). Additionally, the Law on Crafts provides for professional training in craftsmanship for women (UN Women, 2015). Furthermore, employment promotion programmes, implemented by the Government, included 56% of women and girls as participants (UN Women, 2015).

However, the CEDAW Committee (2016) highlights the concentration of women in the informal sector, in particular for women belonging to ethnic and linguistic minorities. While some positive developments are noted, the gender wage gap remains persistent in Albania (CEDAW, 2016). Women are mostly employed in the service-based labour market or domestic services and tend to be engaged in part-time positions (GADC, AWEN & NAGBVT, 2010). Additionally, it is noted that women face barriers accessing decision-making positions (GADC, AWEN & NAGBVT, 2010). The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (2013: 5) further notes the “prevalence of gender segregation in the economy as well as the disproportionately high unemployment of women, resulting from the stereotypical perception of traditional roles of women”.

4. Restricted Civil liberties

a) Citizenship rights

The law provides married/unmarried women with the same rights as married/unmarried men to acquire, change and retain their nationality (Law on Albanian Citizenship, art. 9, 10 & 15). Married women have the same rights as married men to confer nationality to their spouse (Law on Albanian Citizenship, art. 10). Additionally, married/unmarried women are provided with the same rights as married/unmarried men to confer nationality to their children (Law on Albanian Citizenship, art. 7). Married/unmarried women have the same rights as married/unmarried men to register the birth of their children (European Network on Statelessness, n. d.).

The law provides married/unmarried women with the same rights as married/unmarried men to apply for identity cards (Law on Identity Cards, art. 3). Married/unmarried women are provided with the same rights as married/unmarried men to apply for passports (Law on Providing Passports for Albanian Citizens, art. 2). Additionally, the law provides women with the same rights as men to acquire passports and other travel documents for their minor children (Law on Providing Passports for Albanian Citizens, art. 2). Furthermore, married/unmarried women are granted the same rights as married/unmarried men to travel outside the country (Constitution, art. 38).

The FAO (2016) reports on de-facto restriction of married women’s mobility, mostly in rural areas. As such, a married woman is supposed to move in with her husband and to seek his permission before traveling within Albania or abroad (FAO, 2016). “These mobility restrictions have a severe impact on rural women’s economic opportunities, organisation with other women farmers and abilities to claim their rights. Furthermore, women from rural areas are more dependent on their male counterparts, in terms of transportation, than women from urban areas” (FAO, 2016: 14).

b) Voting

The legal framework provides married/unmarried women with the same rights as married/unmarried men to vote (Constitution, art. 45). The CEDAW Committee (2016) emphasises that marginalized

groups of women, in particular Roma and Egyptian women as well as women with disabilities, face barriers in exercising their right to vote.

c) Political voice

The law provides women with the same rights as men to hold public and political office, including within legislature, executive and judiciary (Constitution, art. 45, 86 & 136). The law mandates legislated candidate quotas of 30% at the national and local level (Electoral Code, art. 67). Failure to comply with the quota is punishable by a fine of ALL 1 000 000 and additional sanction consisting of the replacement of each vacancy in the list where the violation is identified with the next candidates in the list belonging to the least represented gender until the gender quota is reached (Electoral Code, art. 175). The Central Election Commission is in charge of enforcing gender quotas (Electoral Code, art. 175). Additionally, the Law on Gender Equality encourages the establishment of temporary special measures to increase the participation of the less represented gender in decision-making and public life (art. 8). Further, the Law on Gender Equality stipulates that political parties shall define methods and measures to comply with the gender quotas (art. 15).

The implementation of gender quotas and special temporary measures has led to a significant increase of women's participation in political and public life (CEDAW, 2016). However, the CEDAW Committee (2016) emphasises that disadvantaged or marginalized groups of women, such as Roma and Egyptian women and women with disabilities, face persistent barriers to participate in political and public life.

A study conducted on public perception on women's participation in politics and decision-making in Albania reveals that most respondents found that women were less represented in politics and decision-making because those fields are perceived as traditionally being dominated by men and as an aggressive milieu (UN Women, 2013). Another factor mentioned by the respondents is the lack of access to financial resources by women in comparison to men and the lack of time women can dedicate to a political career due to their responsibilities towards their families and in the home (UN Women, 2013). Another reason cited by the respondents was the fact that girls and women are not given proper chances (UN Women, 2013). The study concludes that "the Albanians as many other Europeans think that the main obstacles that limit women's involvement in decision-making positions are related to the fact that those positions are monopolized and male-dominated. Also, most of the Albanians as well as the Europeans do not link the limited representation of women in politics with their reluctance to become involved in politics, lack of qualifications and skills required, or their tendency to fight less to make a career" (UN Women, 2013: 22).

d) Access to justice

The law provides married/unmarried women with the same capacity as married/unmarried men to be sued and to sue (Constitution, art. 18 & 42). A married/unmarried woman's testimony carries the same evidentiary weight in court as a married/unmarried man's in all types of court cases such as civil, criminal, family court and tribunal (Constitution, art. 18, 42 & Civil Procedure Code, art. 231 & Criminal Procedure Code, art. 155).

The Ministry for Social Welfare and Youth is the specialized body tasked with monitoring gender equality (Law on Gender Equality, art. 13). The Ministry has the power to monitor compliance of national laws and policies with international standards on gender equality, to develop gender-

disaggregated statistics and to conduct education and public awareness on gender equality and women's human rights (Law on Gender Equality, art. 13). The People's Advocate has the power to receive and resolve complaints (Law on the People's Advocate, art. 12).

The CEDAW Committee (2016) stresses that despite positive legal amendments to enhance women's access to justice, women lack information and knowledge about their rights. Additionally, the CEDAW Committee (2016) points out that few complaints are filed by women and court orders may not be executed. Furthermore, it is reported that patriarchal attitudes by the judicial staff may be detrimental to women in cases of domestic violence and further stigmatize women who report a crime (GADC, AWEN & NAGBVT, 2010).

Sources

Legal Sources (as amended):

Civil Code of 29 July 1994, www.cclaw.al/wp-content/uploads/law/The-Albanian-Civil-Code.pdf.

Civil Procedure Code of 29 March 1996, www.eurallius.eu/index.php/en/albanian-legislation/send/51-civil-procedure/101-civil-procedure-code-en.

Constitution of 22 November 1998, www.osce.org/albania/41888?download=true.

Criminal Code of 27 January 1995, www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/47.

Criminal Procedure Code of 21 March 1995, www.legislationline.org/documents/section/criminal-codes/country/47.

Electoral Code of 29 December 2008, <http://aceproject.org/ero-en/regions/europe/AL/albania-electoral-code-2015>.

Family Code of 8 May 2003, [www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/65148/89474/F1958881334/ALB65148%20\(English\).pdf](http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/ELECTRONIC/65148/89474/F1958881334/ALB65148%20(English).pdf).

Labour Code of 12 July 1995, www.wipo.int/edocs/lexdocs/laws/en/al/al066en.pdf.

Law No. 8045 of 7 December 1995 on the Interruption of Pregnancy, www.reproductiverights.org/world-abortion-laws/albanias-abortion-provisions#english.

Law No. 8389 of 5 August 1998 on Albanian Citizenship, www.legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/6645.

Law No. 8454 of 4 February 1999 on the People's Advocate, www.legislationline.org/topics/country/47/topic/82.

Law No. 8668 of 23 November 2000 on Providing Passports for Albanian Citizens, <http://80.78.70.231/pls/kuv/f?p=201:Ligi:8668:23.11.2000>.

Law No. 8952 of 10 October 2002 on Identity Cards,

www.qbz.gov.al/doc.jsp?doc=docs/Ligj%20Nr%208952%20Datë%2010-10-2002.htm.

Law No. 9669 of 18 December 2006 on Measures against Violence in Family Relations,

www.crca.al/sites/default/files/publications/Law%20on%20Measures%20Against%20Violence%20in%20Family%20Relations%20%282006%29.pdf.

Law No. 9970 of 24 July 2008 on Gender Equality in Society,

www.osce.org/albania/36682?download=true.

Law No. 10221 of 4 February 2010 on Protection from Discrimination,

www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_protect/---protrav/---ilo_aids/documents/legaldocument/wcms_178702.pdf.

Law No. 104 of 31 July 2014 on Social Security,

www.issh.gov.al/al/njoftime/LIGJ_104_2014_Sig_Shoq_RSH.pdf.

Other Sources:

Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights [CESCR] (2013), *Concluding Observations on the Combined Second and Third Periodic Reports of Albania*, E/C. 12/ALB/CO/2-3, United Nations.

Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women [CEDAW] (2016), *Concluding Observations on the Fourth Periodic Report of Albania*, CEDAW/C/ALB/CO/4, United Nations.

Council of Europe (2017), Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/210/signatures?desktop=true, (accessed 23 October 2017).

Emery, R. E. (ed.) (2013), *Cultural Sociology of Divorce: An Encyclopedia*, Sage Reference: Los Angeles, London, New Delhi, Singapore, Washington D.C.

European Network on Statelessness (n. d.), *Ending Childhood Statelessness: A Study on Albania*, www.statelessness.eu/sites/www.statelessness.eu/files/Albania.pdf, (accessed 23 October 2017).

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations [FAO] (2016), *Gender, Agriculture and Rural Development in Albania*, www.fao.org/3/a-i5413e.pdf, (accessed 23 October 2017).

Gender Alliance for Development Centre [GADC], Albanian Women Empowering Network [AWEN] & Network Against Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking [NAGBVT] (2010), *Shadow Report on the Implementation of the CEDAW Convention in Albania*, http://tbinternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CEDAW/Shared%20Documents/ALB/INT_CEDAW_NGO_ALB_46_7926_E.pdf, (accessed 23 October 2017).

Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth [MSWY] (2016), *National Strategy and Action Plan on Gender Equality 2016-2020*, www.legislationline.org/topics/country/47/topic/7, (accessed 23 October 2017).

United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] (2013), *Domestic Violence in Albania – National Population-Based Survey*,

www.in.undp.org/content/dam/albania/docs/Second%20Domestic%20Violence%20Survey%202013%20english.pdf, (accessed 23 October 2017).

United Nations Population Fund [UNFPA] (2012), *Child marriage in Albania*, <http://eeca.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/unfpa%20albania%20overview.pdf>, (accessed 23 October 2017).

UN Women (n. d.), Europe and Central Asia – Economic Empowerment, <http://eca.unwomen.org/en/where-we-are/albania/economic-empowerment>, (accessed 23 October 2017).

UN Women (2013), *Women's Participation in Politics and Decision Making in Albania*, www2.unwomen.org/-/media/field%20office%20eca/attachments/publications/country/albania/womensparticipationinpoliticsanddecisionmakinginalbania.pdf?la=en&vs=1212, (accessed 23 October 2017).

UN Women (2015), *The Commitments of the Republic of Albania*, www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/initiatives/stepitup/commitments-speeches/albania-stepitup-commitment-followup-20170214-en.pdf?la=en&vs=3407, (accessed 23 October 2017).

United States [US] Department of State (2014), *Albania Human Rights Report*, www.state.gov/documents/organization/236704.pdf, (accessed 23 October 2017).