

Title	Questionnaire on Protection Orders and their Recognition and Enforcement (REPO)
Document	N/A
Author	PB
Agenda Item	N/A
Mandate(s)	C&D Nos 22-25 of CGAP 2026
Objective	To gather information from HCCH Members on the cross-border recognition and enforcement of protection orders to assist the WG on REPO. Members are invited to respond to the Questionnaire by 11 September 2026 .
Action to be Taken	For Decision ☐ For Approval ☐ For Discussion ☐ For Action / Completion ☒ For Information ☐
Annexes	N/A
Related Documents	A summary of the work carried out between 2011 - 2018, along with several key documents pertaining to the project, can be found on the HCCH website, under " Publications & Studies ".

Questionnaire on Protection Orders and their Recognition and Enforcement (REPO)

I. Background

- 1 At its 2026 meeting, the Council on General Affairs and Policy (CGAP) resumed discussions on a possible new instrument on the cross-border recognition and enforcement of protection orders (REPO), and adopted the following Conclusions and Decisions (C&D):
 22. Welcoming the proposal from the United Kingdom, CGAP mandated the establishment of a Working Group on a potential future convention on cross-border recognition and enforcement of protection orders (REPO).
 23. This Working Group will build on previous work by the PB in 2011-2018 and the Experts' Group in 2014 and further explore the feasibility of, and initially develop policy aims for, a potential future convention on REPO. The Working Group will report to CGAP 2027.
 24. To facilitate the work of the Working Group, CGAP mandated the PB to:
 - a. update its 2012 Questionnaire with a view to collecting information from Member States on civil protection orders available in their States and laws applicable available in their States for cross-border recognition and enforcement of protection orders;
 - b. circulate this Questionnaire in June 2026 and request responses by the end of September 2026.
 25. CGAP further mandated the PB to make arrangements for an in-person Working Group meeting with the possibility for online participation, ahead of CGAP 2027. CGAP thanked the United Kingdom for its offer to host this Working Group meeting including to cover travel costs for HCCH staff, and supports this proposal.¹

II. Introductory Note to the Questionnaire

- 2 The present document comprises the updated Questionnaire requested by CGAP.
- 3 The sole purpose of this Questionnaire is to gather factual and comparative information on the existence, scope, and operation of protection orders, including their recognition and enforcement in cross-border situations. The questions are designed to support informed discussions by providing a clearer picture of national, regional and international frameworks and practices. The Questionnaire deliberately takes a broad approach (e.g., in terms of the kinds of orders that could be in scope), in order to maximise information-gathering for that purpose. This is not intended to pre-empt or prejudice any policy decisions that may be taken regarding a potential future instrument in this area, including its scope and content.
- 4 Therefore, for the purposes of this Questionnaire, the term “protection order” may refer to any measure taken by a competent authority requiring a person to refrain from doing, or to carry out, specified acts to protect one or more identified persons. The term is used in a broad sense and may include orders issued in civil, administrative, or other proceedings, irrespective of the authority by which they are issued, provided that their primary purpose is protective and not punitive.

¹ These C&Ds are available on the HCCH website (www.hcch.net) under “Governance” => “Council on General Affairs and Policy”). A project on the recognition and enforcement of foreign protection orders was carried out by the PB between 2011 and 2018. A summary of the work, along with several key documents pertaining to the project, can be found [here](#).

- 5 Given that States may have different classifications for protection orders (civil, criminal, administrative, other), respondents are invited to adopt a **functional approach** when answering this Questionnaire. Respondents are encouraged to provide hyperlinks to useful online resources pertaining to their national systems.
- 6 This Questionnaire focuses primarily on orders issued for the **protection of adults**. Where relevant, respondents may also include orders issued to protect children and indicate this clearly in their responses.

III. Instructions to Complete the Questionnaire

- 7 To allow the PB to extract parts of the Questionnaire for compilation of the responses, you are kindly requested to use **this Word Version** of the document, and **not to return a PDF version** of the completed Questionnaire.
- 8 You are kindly requested to send your completed Questionnaire to the PB by e-mail to < secretariat@hcch.net > **no later than 11 September 2026, 5.00 p.m. CEST** with the following indication in the subject line of the e-mail:
“REPO - Questionnaire Response [name of State]”.
- 9 Please address any questions you may have on this Questionnaire to < secretariat@hcch.net >.
- 10 The PB intends, except where indicated otherwise or where expressly asked not to do so, to place all responses to the questionnaire on the HCCH website (www.hcch.net). Please, therefore, clearly identify any responses which should not be placed on the website.

REPO Questionnaire

Respondent Identification

Name of State: Belgium

Information for follow-up purposes

Name and title of contact person:

Name of Authority / Office

E-mail address:

I. Protection orders under domestic law: scope and main features

A. Types of behaviours required / prohibited by protection orders

1.	What types of protection orders are available in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Prohibiting communication with or contacting the protected person(s): CIVIL MATTERS Yes. A temporary prohibition of residence imposed by the public prosecutor with a view to preventing domestic violence entails a prohibition on contacting the persons designated in the order who share the residence with the removed person (Article 3(2) and (4) of the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence). In practice, the prohibition on contact is intended to protect the co-residents whose safety is threatened and applies to the persons identified by the public prosecutor in the order (Circular COL 18/2012, point 2.8(D)). Where the person subject to the measure is a parent, the prohibition on contact may affect arrangements concerning parental responsibility, the child's accommodation or the right to maintain personal relations with the child. During the period of the prohibition, the parties may apply to the Family Court for urgent and provisional measures pursuant to Article 5(6) of the Act of 15 May 2012. Following the expiry of the temporary prohibition of residence, the circumstances that gave rise to the measure may constitute a new circumstance within the meaning of Article 1253ter/7 of the Judicial Code, allowing the Family Court to review previously ordered arrangements concerning parental responsibility, accommodation or personal relations with the child. Pursuant to Article 374(1) of the old Civil Code, the Family Court may modify the arrangements governing the exercise of parental responsibility, determine the child's accommodation arrangements and regulate personal relations between the child and a parent. Where required by the best interests of the child, the Family Court may restrict or exclude a parent's accommodation rights. The Family Court may also order that personal relations take place under supervision, for example in a contact centre. For very serious reasons, personal relations may be refused altogether. CRIMINAL MATTERS - Outside legal proceedings (COL 03/2023 on the Mobile Stalking Alarm)
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In cases of stalking within a family context, where there is a high risk of serious harm to the integrity of the victim, his or her children or relatives, a Mobile Stalking Alarm may be implemented. This mechanism is accompanied by a contact prohibition, established through case law, with regard to the person or persons to be protected.

- Pre-trial detention (Act of 20 July 1990 on Pre-trial Detention)

The execution of pre-trial detention under electronic monitoring or the conditional release of the accused may be made subject to this condition (Arts. 35-38).

- Sentence and sentencing measures (Criminal Code)

Article 50 of the Criminal Code introduces the residence prohibition, prohibition from entering specified places and contact prohibition as additional sentences which may be imposed for any offence. They may be imposed in addition to a custodial sentence, a liberty-restricting sentence or a financial penalty, or, in certain cases, instead of a principal sentence.

Probation sentences (Art. 44 CC), electronic monitoring sentences (Art. 43 CC) and suspension of the execution of sentences (Art. 65 CC) may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Execution of the sentence (Act of 17 May 2006 concerning the External Legal Status of Sentenced Persons)

The Sentence Application Judge or, where appropriate, the Sentence Application Court, may attach this specific condition to the granting of a sentence implementation modality (leave permit, penitentiary leave, limited detention, conditional release or electronic monitoring).

- Additional sentence of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court (Art. 95/2 et seq. of the Act concerning the Legal Status of Prisoners)

Following the expiry of the principal sentence, and within the framework of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court, release under supervision may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Security measure for the protection of society (Arts. 20-27 of the Act of 5 May 2014 on Internment and the Act of 29 February 2024 introducing a Security Measure for the Protection of Society)

Where a convicted person suffers from a serious psychiatric disorder which does not abolish his or her free will or capacity for discernment, but gives rise to a serious and continuing risk of reoffending, the court may, subject to certain conditions (imposition of a sentence of imprisonment of at least five years together with, on a mandatory or optional basis, an additional sentence of placement at the disposal of the sentence Application Court), impose a security measure for the protection of society.

The Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and leaves, limited detention, electronic monitoring or conditional release on a trial basis).

- Internment measure (Act of 5 May 2014 on Internment)

Where an individual is subject to an internment measure, the Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and leaves, limited detention, electronic monitoring or conditional release on a trial basis).

☒ Prohibiting approaching or being in physical proximity to the protected person(s):

CIVIL MATTERS

Yes. Under the aforementioned Act of 15 May 2012, the measure does not establish a distance-based exclusion zone around the protected person. Instead, it requires the removed person to leave the shared residence and prohibits that person from entering, stopping at or being present in that residence. The order must precisely identify the residence covered by the temporary prohibition of residence (Article 3(4) of the Act). It also entails a prohibition on contacting the

persons designated in the order. Although the measure is not based on a specified geographical perimeter, these restrictions ensure a separation between the parties and protect the designated co-residents from the serious and immediate threat that justified the measure.

CRIMINAL MATTERS

- Outside legal proceedings (aforementioned COL 03/2023)

In cases of stalking within a family context, where there is a high risk of serious harm to the integrity of the victim, their children or relatives, a Mobile Stalking Alarm may be implemented. It is accompanied by a praetorian contact prohibition in respect of the person or persons to be protected.

- Pre-trial detention (Aforementioned Act of 20 July 1990)

The execution of pre-trial detention under electronic monitoring or the conditional release of the accused may be made subject to this condition (Arts. 35-38).

- Sentence and sentencing measures (Aforementioned CC)

Article 50 of the Criminal Code introduces the residence prohibition, prohibition from entering specified places and contact prohibition as additional sentences that may be imposed for any offence. They may be imposed together with a custodial sentence, a liberty-restricting sentence or a financial penalty, or, in certain cases, in place of a principal sentence.

Probation sentences (Art. 44 CC), electronic monitoring sentences (Art. 43 CC) and suspension of the execution of sentences (Art. 65 CC) may be subject to this specific condition.

- Execution of the sentence (Aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006)

The Sentence Application Judge or, where appropriate, the Sentence Application Court, may attach this specific condition to the granting of a sentence implementation modality (leave permit, penitentiary leave, limited detention, conditional release or electronic monitoring).

- Additional sentence of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court (Art. 95/2 of the aforementioned act of 17 May 2006)

Following the expiry of the principal sentence, within the framework of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court, release under supervision may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Security measure for the protection of society (Arts. 20-27 of the aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014 and the aforementioned Act of 29 February 2024)

Where a convicted person suffers from a serious psychiatric disorder which does not abolish their free will or capacity for discernment, but gives rise to a serious and continuing risk of reoffending, the court may, subject to certain conditions, impose a security measure for the protection of society.

The Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and leaves, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

- Internment measure (Aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014)

Where an individual is subject to an internment measure, the Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and leaves, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

☒ Prohibiting harassment (incl. any kind of non-physical forms of abuse):

Stalking constitutes a criminal offence in its own right in Belgium and is governed by Articles 237 to 239 of the Criminal Code. Depending on the circumstances of the case and the protection needs identified in respect of the victim, any of the measures referred to in this document may therefore be imposed on the perpetrator of the stalking.

Article 237. Stalking

Stalking consists of deliberately disturbing a person's peace, even if this occurs only once or results from a single act, where the offender knew or ought to have known that such conduct would seriously affect the peace of mind of the person concerned.

This offence is punishable by a level 2 penalty.

Article 238. Aggravated stalking

Stalking is punishable by a level 3 penalty where:

1. the victim is a minor or a person in a vulnerable situation;
2. the offence was committed by a person who is in a position of authority or trust in relation to the victim;
3. the offence was committed by two or more persons.

Article 239. Aggravating factors

When determining the penalty or measure and its severity for an offence referred to in this Section, the court shall take into consideration:

1. the fact that the offence was committed with the aim of causing the victim to engage in, or submit to, a non-consensual sexual act;
2. the fact that the offence was committed in the presence of a minor;
3. the fact that the offence was committed in the name of culture, custom, tradition, religion or so-called "honour".

☒ Prohibiting stalking:

see above

☒ Prohibiting or restricting certain social media / online activity:

CIVIL MATTERS

Yes. Under the aforementioned Act of 15 May 2012, a temporary prohibition of residence entails a prohibition on contacting the persons designated in the order. As the legislation does not restrict the prohibition to particular means of communication, it encompasses contact through social media, online messaging services, e-mail and any other form of electronic communication.

☒ Prohibiting taking someone abroad:

CIVIL MATTERS

Belgian law does not provide for a specific protection order prohibiting a person from taking a child abroad. However, comparable effects may be achieved through measures relating to parental responsibility.

Under Article 374(1) of the old Civil Code, important decisions concerning a child, including those relating to the child's health, education, training, leisure activities and religious or philosophical orientation, are in principle taken jointly by the parents. Although the provisions governing parental responsibility were not specifically designed to regulate international travel, a proposed trip abroad may fall within their scope where it is liable to affect one or more of those aspects of the child's life, particularly where concerns arise regarding the child's health, physical integrity or welfare.

Pursuant to Article 387bis of the old Civil Code, the Family Court may order measures relating to the exercise of parental responsibility. Where the parents disagree about a proposed trip abroad, either parent may apply to the Family Court. The public prosecutor may also bring the matter before the Family Court where this is required in the child's best interests.

On that basis, the Family Court may prohibit travel to certain countries, make travel abroad subject to prior authorisation, order the surrender of the child's passport or identity documents, or adopt other measures designed to prevent the child from leaving Belgian territory. Although these measures are based on the rules governing parental responsibility rather than on a specific protection regime, they may be used to prevent a child from being taken abroad where this is necessary to protect the child's best interests, including in situations involving risks such as female genital mutilation, forced marriage or the unlawful removal of the child abroad.

- ☐ Prohibiting taking someone abroad and abandoning them there:

Please insert text here

- ☒ Prohibiting certain physical or medical interventions affecting the bodily integrity of a person:

See the comments above regarding the possibility for the family court to take any order related to the parental responsibility, also in the medical field, as e.g. female genital mutilation.

- ☒ Requiring a person to stay away from a specified place (e.g. home, workplace, school):

CIVIL MATTERS

Yes. The aforementioned Act of 15 May 2012 allows the public prosecutor to order a person to leave the shared residence immediately and to refrain from entering, stopping at or being present in that residence for the duration of the measure.

As explained in Circular COL 18/2012, the prohibition is limited to the shared residence, namely the place where the person concerned and the protected person or persons have established a durable community life, without that relationship necessarily being of an emotional or sexual nature. Accordingly, the measure may apply, depending on the circumstances, to residents of a reception centre or other institution, students sharing accommodation, flatmates, or residents of a nursing home, provided that they have developed such a durable community life.

The order must describe the residence concerned with sufficient precision. The Circular further states that the temporary prohibition of residence may concern only one residence and that every effort should be made to avoid preventing the removed person from pursuing his or her professional activities, insofar as this is compatible with the need to protect the other residents.

In addition, within 24 hours following the verbal communication of the decision, the removed person must inform the public prosecutor of the address at which he or she can be contacted during the period of the temporary prohibition of residence, as well as the means by which he or she may be reached (Article 3(6) of the Act).

CRIMINAL MATTERS

- Outside legal proceedings (Aforementioned act of COL 03/2023)

In cases of stalking within a family context, where there is a high risk of serious harm to the integrity of the victim, their children or relatives, a Mobile Stalking Alarm may be implemented. It is accompanied by a praetorian contact prohibition in respect of the person or persons to be protected.

- Pre-trial detention (Aforementioned act of 20 July 1990)

The execution of pre-trial detention under electronic monitoring or the conditional release of the accused may be made subject to this condition (Art. 35-38).

- Sentence and sentencing measures (Aforementioned CC)

Article 50 of the Criminal Code introduces the residence prohibition, prohibition from entering specified places and contact prohibition as additional sentences that may be imposed for any

offence. They may be imposed in addition to a custodial sentence, a liberty-restricting sentence or a financial penalty, or, in certain circumstances, instead of a principal sentence.

Probation sentences (Art. 44 CC), electronic monitoring sentences (Art. 43 CC) and suspension of the execution of sentences (Art. 65 CC) may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Execution of the sentence (Aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006)

The Sentence Application Judge or, where appropriate, the Sentence Application Court, may attach this specific condition to the granting of a sentence enforcement modality (leave permit, prison leave, limited detention, conditional release or electronic monitoring).

- Additional sentence of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court (Art. 95/2 et seq. of the aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006)

Following the expiry of the principal sentence, within the framework of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court, release under supervision may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Security measure for the protection of society (Arts. 20-27 of the aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014 and 29 February 2024)

Where a convicted person suffers from a serious psychiatric disorder which does not abolish their free will or capacity for discernment, but gives rise to a serious and continuing risk of reoffending, the court may, subject to certain conditions, impose a security measure for the protection of society.

The Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and leave periods, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

- Internment measure (Aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014)

Where an individual is subject to an internment measure, the Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and leave periods, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

☒ Requiring a person to participate in counselling:

CIVIL MATTERS

The aforementioned Act of 15 May 2012 aims at introducing a cooling-off period creating the space for support services and measures for the protection of the (potential) victim but also for the treatment of the (potential) offender. When the public prosecutor orders the temporary prohibition of residence, they shall inform the competent "family Justice centre" for this institution to be able to assist and follow up the removed person.

Belgian law does not provide for a protection order requiring a person to undergo psychological or psychiatric treatment for the purpose of protecting a specific victim of violence. Nevertheless, point 2.5 of Circular COL 18/2012 indicates that, where the immediate danger primarily results from the person's mental condition, recourse may be had to the protective measures provided for by the Act of 26 June 1990 on the protection of persons with a psychiatric disorder.

Under Article 2 of the Act of 26 June 1990, protective measures may be ordered only where no other appropriate treatment is available and where the person's condition requires such measures, either because it seriously endangers his or her own health or safety or because the person poses a serious threat to the life or physical integrity of others.

The Act provides for both an urgent procedure and an ordinary procedure.

1) Urgent procedure

In cases of proven urgency, the public prosecutor may order a voluntary treatment subject to conditions (traitement volontaire sous condition) or protective observation measure (mesure d'observation protectrice). These measures are described under point 2) below.

In order to determine which measure is most appropriate, the public prosecutor may order a clinical assessment for a maximum period of 48 hours in a residential psychiatric facility or another institution offering sufficient guarantees for the safety of the person concerned. The clinical assessment results in a detailed medical report (Article 9 of the Act).

Where such a measure has been ordered, the public prosecutor must bring the matter before the justice of the peace by filing an application accompanied by a detailed medical report. The justice of the peace then decides whether the measure should be maintained, modified or terminated (Articles 5 and 9 of the Act).

2) Ordinary procedure

In the absence of urgency, an application may be lodged with the justice of the peace by any interested person (Article 5 of the Act).

Depending on the circumstances, the justice of the peace may order voluntary treatment subject to conditions, a protective observation measure, or care in a family setting or in an institution.

- Voluntary treatment subject to conditions is a protective measure that places particular emphasis on voluntary care pathways. Rather than requiring placement in an institution, it seeks to provide treatment on the basis of the person's voluntary cooperation while maintaining judicial supervision. Such a measure may be ordered only if the person concerned accepts all the conditions attached to the treatment and if it may reasonably be expected that those conditions will be complied with (Article 4/2 of the Act).

- A protective observation measure takes place in an institution where the person concerned is monitored and undergoes a comprehensive assessment of his or her condition (Articles 4/1 and 11 of the Act).

- Where the person's condition and the circumstances permit, care may also be provided in a family setting or in an institution. In such cases, the justice of the peace entrusts a person or an institution with supervising the person concerned and appoints a physician responsible for the treatment (Articles 23 and 24 of the Act).

As a general rule, these measures may not exceed 40 days. Subject to the conditions laid down by law, they may be extended for a period of up to one year (Articles 12/1, 13, 24 and 25 of the Act).

CRIMINAL MATTERS

- Sentence and sentencing measures (aforementioned CC)

Probation sentences (Art. 44 CC), electronic monitoring sentences (Art. 43 CC) and suspension of the execution of sentences (Art. 65 CC) may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Execution of the sentence (Aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006)

The Sentence Application Judge or, where appropriate, the Sentence Application Court, may attach this specific condition to the granting of a sentence implementation modality (leave permit, penitentiary leave, limited detention, conditional release or electronic monitoring).

- Additional sentence of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court (Art. 95/2 and seq. of the aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006)

Following the expiry of the principal sentence, within the framework of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court, release under supervision may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Security measure for the protection of society (Arts. 20-27 of the aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014 and 29 February 2024)

Where a convicted person suffers from a serious psychiatric disorder which does not abolish his or her free will or capacity for discernment, but gives rise to a serious and continuing risk of reoffending, the court may, subject to certain conditions, impose a security measure for the protection of society.

The Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and periods of leave, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

- Internment measure (Aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014)

Where an individual is subject to an internment measure, the Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits and periods of leave, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

☒ Restricting possession or use of weapons:

CRIMINAL MATTERS

- Sentence and sentencing measures (Aforementioned CC)

Disqualification from the right to possess firearms or to engage in any activity involving firearms (Art. 47(6) CC).

Probation sentences (Art. 44 CC), electronic monitoring sentences (Art. 43 CC) and suspension of the execution of sentences (Art. 65 CC) may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Execution of the sentence (Aforementioned act of 17 May 2006)

The Sentence Application Judge or, where appropriate, the Sentence Application Court, may attach this specific condition to the granting of a sentence implementation modality (leave permit, penitentiary leave, limited detention, conditional release or electronic monitoring).

- Additional sentence of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court (Art. 95/2 et seq. of the aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006)

Following the expiry of the principal sentence, within the framework of placement at the disposal of the Sentence Application Court, release under supervision may be made subject to this specific condition.

- Security measure for the protection of society (Arts. 20-27 of the aforementioned Acts of 5 May 2014 and 29 February 2024)

Where a convicted person suffers from a serious psychiatric disorder which does not abolish his or her free will or capacity for discernment, but gives rise to a serious and continuing risk of reoffending, the court may, subject to certain conditions, impose a security measure for the protection of society.

The Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits, penitentiary leave, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

- Internment measure (Aforementioned act of 5 May 2014)

Where an individual is subject to an internment measure, the Social Protection Chamber may attach this specific condition to the granting of a modality for the execution of the measure (leave permits, penitentiary leave, limited detention, electronic monitoring or trial release).

☒ Imposing other prohibitions (please specify):

- Sentence and sentencing measures:

The specific conditions that may be imposed in the context of a probation sentence, a suspension of the execution of a sentence, and sentence implementation modalities are determined in light of the particular needs identified in the case file. They may therefore also include, for example, a prohibition on the consumption of alcohol and/or drugs (Art. 44 and 65 of the aforementioned CC; Aforementioned Act of 17 May 2006).

- Internment measure (Aforementioned act of 5 May 2014)

Art. 17. § 1. Any person who has been subjected to an internment measure for sexual offences committed against or with the participation of a minor may, for the duration of the internment, be subject to a security measure whereby the investigating court or trial court prohibits him or her from:

1° participating, in any capacity whatsoever, in education provided in a public or private establishment that accommodates minors;

2° being involved, as a volunteer member, a statutory or contractual staff member, or a member of the administrative or management bodies, in any legal person or de facto association whose principal activity concerns minors;

3° carrying out an activity that places the person concerned, as a volunteer member, a statutory or contractual staff member, or a member of the administrative or management bodies of any legal person or de facto association, in a position of trust or authority vis-à-vis minors;

4° living, residing or remaining within a designated area determined by the competent judge. The imposition of this measure must be specifically reasoned and must take into account the seriousness of the offences and the reintegration prospects of the person subject to the internment measure.

☐ Imposing positive obligations of a protective nature (please specify):

Please insert text here

☒ Other (please specify):

CIVIL MATTERS

Under Article 1253ter/5 of the Judicial Code, the Family Court may, in cases of serious disagreement between spouses or legal cohabitants, order urgent and provisional measures. These measures may include granting one spouse or legal cohabitant exclusive occupation of the family home. In situations involving domestic violence (physical or sexual), the victim has a preferential right to be granted the family home, unless exceptional circumstances (art.1253ter/5 (3) Judicial Code). Such a measure may protect the victim and, where applicable, the children by allowing them to remain in the family home while excluding the perpetrator from occupying it.

While this measure is not formally classified under Belgian law as a protection order, it may pursue a protective purpose and produce effects comparable to those of a protection order. In particular, the Family Court may order the exclusive occupation of the family home as an urgent and provisional measure.

Although the measure does not definitively determine the parties' rights with regard to ownership of, or tenancy of, the dwelling, it is binding on the parties. The measure may result in the temporary exclusion of one party from the family home, notwithstanding the fact that his or her underlying proprietary or tenancy rights remain unaffected. It remains in force unless and until it is amended, revoked or replaced by a subsequent judicial decision. Pursuant to Articles 1253ter/4(2) and 1253ter/7 of the Judicial Code, the Family Court may modify the measure where new circumstances justify revisiting the arrangements previously ordered.

Accordingly, the measure may have significant consequences for the housing situation of the excluded person while serving to ensure the immediate protection of the victim and, where applicable, the children.

Also in the context of divorce and the definitive attribution of the family home, the spouse/legal cohabitant who has been victim of physical or sexual violence has the right, if the author has

been convicted, to claim to be granted the house, subject to the property issues (art. 2.3.14 § 2 (2) Civil Code).

B. Contexts / situations or wider risks / behaviours that can be addressed by a protection order

2. What types of contexts / situations or wider risks / behaviours can be addressed by a protection order issued in your jurisdiction?

Tick all boxes that apply.

Provide additional details where appropriate.

☒ Domestic or family violence / abuse:²

CIVIL MATTERS

Yes. The temporary prohibition of residence may be imposed in situations of domestic or intra-family violence. It is a preventive and protective measure. It forms part of a civil-law, rather than a criminal-law, mechanism and is intended to prevent an escalation of violence without having to wait for serious acts of violence to occur. According to Circular COL 18/2012, the measure may be ordered even where the circumstances do not disclose a criminal offence, either because the constituent elements of an offence are not met or because the situation remains at a stage of tension preceding the commission of violent acts.

From a functional perspective, however, the measure may be regarded as sharing characteristics of both a civil protection order and a criminal protection order within the meaning of the 2018 CGAP documents. Although it is not a criminal sanction, the temporary prohibition of residence is initially imposed by the public prosecutor, but subsequently reviewed by the Family Court, a civil court. Furthermore, while the measure itself is preventive and protective in nature, non-compliance with the temporary prohibition of residence may give rise to criminal liability (see the reply to Question 19).

The Belgian system may therefore be viewed as a hybrid mechanism: the temporary prohibition of residence is preventive and civil in nature, while non-compliance with the measure may trigger criminal liability. The review exercised by the Family Court constitutes an important safeguard and further confirms that the primary purpose of the mechanism remains preventive and protective rather than punitive.

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Sexual violence / abuse:

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Harassment (incl. any kind of non-physical forms of abuse):

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

² "A pattern of behaviour in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control, including physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological abuse." Source: [What Is Domestic Abuse? | United Nations](#) (definition provided for guidance purposes only). It is understood that this definition would be inclusive of terms such as "intimate partner violence" and "coercive control".

☒ Stalking:

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Forced marriage:

CIVIL MATTERS

Belgian law does not provide for a specific protection order regime aimed at preventing or addressing forced marriages.

Nevertheless, where there is a risk that a child may be taken abroad for the purpose of a forced marriage, measures relating to parental responsibility may be available. In this respect, reference is made to the explanations provided in response to Question 1.

More generally, Belgian law seeks to prevent forced marriages from being celebrated and, where they have been concluded abroad, from being recognised in Belgium.

Under Article 146ter of the old Civil Code, a marriage may not be celebrated without the free consent of both spouses or where the consent of at least one spouse was obtained through violence or threats. Where this requirement is not met, the civil registrar must refuse to celebrate the marriage. If the civil registrar has serious doubts as to whether this requirement has been fulfilled, he or she may seek the opinion of the public prosecutor pursuant to Article 167 of the old Civil Code.

If a forced marriage has nevertheless been celebrated, the public prosecutor may bring proceedings before the Family Court seeking the annulment of the marriage pursuant to Article 184 of the old Civil Code.

A forced marriage celebrated abroad may also be refused recognition in Belgium. Recognition may be denied because the substantive validity requirements applicable under Belgian law, including the requirement of free consent laid down in Article 146ter of the old Civil Code, were not satisfied. Recognition may also be refused on public policy grounds in accordance with Articles 21, 27 and 46 of the Code of Private International Law.

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Honour-related violence:

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Human trafficking / modern slavery:

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Female genital mutilation (FGM):

CIVIL MATTERS

Belgian law does not provide for a specific protection order regime aimed at preventing or addressing female genital mutilation.

Nevertheless, where there is a risk that a child may be taken abroad for the purpose of female genital mutilation, measures relating to parental responsibility may be available. Reference is made in this regard to the developments on this issue in the reply to Question 1.

CRIMINAL MATTERS

This situation/behaviour/offence can be addressed by a protection order in criminal matters as referred to above.

☒ Other contexts / situations or wider risks / behaviours (please specify):

CRIMINAL MATTERS

All the measures referred to above may be imposed irrespective of the nature of the offence.

C. Legal basis for protection orders

3. What is the legal basis enabling authorities in your jurisdiction to issue the protection orders listed in Question 1 above?

Tick all boxes that apply.

Provide additional details where appropriate, as well as references and links where available.

☒ Legislation:

CIVIL MATTERS

Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence:

Art. 1253ter/5 of the judicial code

Art. 2.3.14 § 2(2) paragraph Civil Code

Act of 26 June 1990 on the protection of the persons with a psychiatric disorder

CRIMINAL MATTERS

Act on Pre-trial Detention of 20 July 1990

Articles 43, 44, 47, 50, 65 and 686 of the Criminal Code

Act of 30 March 2026 establishing a temporary legal framework for the enforcement of the electronic monitoring sentence, the probation sentence, the work sentence, suspension and probationary suspension, reprieve and probationary reprieve, the additional sentence referred to in Article 50 of the Criminal Code [...]

Act of 17 May 2006 concerning the External Legal Status of Persons Sentenced to a Custodial Sentence and the Rights Recognised for Victims in the Context of Sentence Implementation Modalities

Act of 29 February 2024 introducing a Security Measure for the Protection of Society

Act of 5 May 2014 on Internment

Act of 29 February 2024 introducing Book I of the Criminal Code (Articles 36 and 37) concerning Placement at the Disposal of the Sentence Application Court

☒ Administrative regulations / instruments:

CIVIL MATTERS

Circular COL 18/2012 of the Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior, the Community Ministers responsible for the justice houses and the College of Public Prosecutors concerning temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence

	CRIMINAL MATTERS Joint Circular COL 03/2023 of the Minister of Justice, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister for Equal Opportunities and the College of Prosecutors General on the Mobile Stalking Alarm (Stalking Alarm) Joint circular COL 4/2006 (revised on 12 October 2015) of the Minister of Justice and the Board of Prosecutors General on criminal policy regarding intimate partner violence. ☒ Other sources (e.g., case law; please specify): CIVIL MATTERS Mons Family Court (vacation judge), 5 August 2024, No. 24/1376/A, Act. dr. fam., 2025/6, pp. 265-267: A temporary prohibition of residence may be imposed where facts or circumstances indicate that an adult poses a serious and immediate threat to the safety of one or more persons residing in the same residence. It is not necessary for an act of violence to have already occurred; the existence of an objective threat is sufficient. The measure must be proportionate to the identified threat and may be imposed only where no other means are available to secure the departure of the person posing the threat.
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D. Type(s) of authorities that may issue protection orders

4.	Which authorities are competent to issue protection orders in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Judicial authorities (please specify): ☒ Civil court / tribunal: CIVIL MATTERS 1) The Family Court systematically intervenes in proceedings relating to temporary prohibitions of residence under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence. Under Article 5 of the Act, every temporary prohibition of residence ordered by the public prosecutor is subject to review by the Family Court. The court thus exercises judicial oversight of the measure and constitutes an important safeguard within the protection mechanism established by the Act. In particular, it pays close attention to the reasoning underlying the public prosecutor's order and to the facts and circumstances relied upon to establish the existence of a serious and immediate threat. Following its review, the court may revoke the temporary prohibition of residence where the statutory conditions are not met, specify the arrangements for its implementation, or extend the measure in accordance with the conditions laid down by the Act. 2) Judgments rendered by the Family Court in proceedings relating to temporary prohibitions of residence under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence may be appealed to the Family Chambers of the Court of Appeal (Articles 101(1) and 602 of the Judicial Code). Pursuant to Article 1042 of the Judicial Code, the procedural rules applicable at first instance generally also apply on appeal, unless specific provisions governing remedies provide otherwise. ☒ Criminal court / tribunal: CRIMINAL MATTERS including the Sentence Application Judge, the Sentence Application Court and the Social Protection Chamber of the Sentence Application Court. ☒ Administrative authorities (please specify): ☒ Administrative tribunal:
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	CRIMINAL MATTERS Probation commission ☐ Police / law enforcement officer: Please insert text here ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here ☒ Other authorities (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS The public prosecutor may order a temporary prohibition of residence under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence. This measure may be imposed where the statutory conditions laid down by the Act are met and constitutes an emergency protective measure aimed at preventing further domestic or intra-family violence. In deciding whether to impose the measure, the public prosecutor assesses whether the facts and circumstances disclose a serious and immediate threat to the safety of one or more persons sharing the same residence. In particular, the public prosecutor must verify the existence of facts that affect, or are liable to affect, the physical or psychological safety of one or more co-residents. Threats affecting only the material or financial interests of the co-residents are not sufficient. Personal characteristics of the person concerned, including addictions or other relevant behavioural factors, may also be taken into consideration when assessing whether a serious and immediate threat exists. Evidence of such a threat will often derive from police reports recording one or more complaints made by the victim to the police. In order to enable the public prosecutor to assess both the statutory conditions and the appropriateness of the measure, the police collect and communicate all information relevant to the facts of the case, the circumstances in which they occurred and any antecedents of the person concerned, including information obtained during the intervention itself and from police information systems (such as the General National Database (BNG), ISLP or FEEDIS). The public prosecutor may also have access, through MaCH, the electronic case management system used within the Belgian judiciary and the Public Prosecution Service, to information concerning previous temporary prohibition of residence proceedings, as persons subject to such measures are registered therein as suspects in non-criminal cases. Given the potential impact of the measure on the housing situation and rights of the person concerned, Circular COL 18/2012 provides that the person who may be removed from the residence should be heard on both the facts and circumstances relied upon to justify the measure and the proposed temporary prohibition of residence itself. The Circular also provides detailed guidance on the types of facts and circumstances that should be taken into account. CRIMINAL MATTERS investigating judge, investigating courts Mobile Stalking Alarm (Stalking Alarm): Public Prosecutor.
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E. Protected person(s)

5.	Who can be protected by a protection order issued in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Intended protected person(s) only: ☒ Adults (please indicate minimum age requirement if applicable): CIVIL MATTERS
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	Under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence, a temporary prohibition of residence may be ordered only where there is a serious and immediate threat to the safety of one or more persons sharing the residence with the person concerned. The measure has two principal effects. First, the person concerned must leave the residence and is prohibited from entering, residing in or being present in the residence designated in the order. This aspect of the measure protects all occupants of the residence identified in the order (Article 3(4) of the Act), irrespective of whether they are themselves the direct target of threats or violence. Secondly, the measure includes a prohibition on contacting the protected persons. As a rule, this prohibition applies to all occupants of the residence identified in the order. It has nevertheless been argued that the public prosecutor may, when determining the modalities of the measure, authorise contact with occupants who are not themselves threatened, while maintaining the prohibition on contact with the person or persons whose safety is seriously and immediately at risk. Belgian law does not distinguish between adults and children in this regard. Any occupant of the residence may be protected by the measure. Conversely, persons who do not reside in the residence cannot be designated as protected persons under this regime. ☒ Children (please indicate age limit if applicable): CIVIL MATTERS See above. ☒ Other individuals close to the intended protected person(s) (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS See above. CRIMINAL MATTERS No distinction is made between direct victims, indirect victims or any other category of victims; the measures may be imposed in respect of any person for whom protection is necessary.
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F. Applicant(s)

6.	Who can apply for a protection order in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> ☒ The intended protected person(s) ☐ Family member(s) of the intended protected person(s) ☐ Police / law enforcement officers ☒ Courts <i>ex officio</i> ☒ Other person, public authority or official (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS Under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence, a temporary prohibition of residence may only be ordered by the public prosecutor, where there is a serious and immediate threat to the safety of one or more persons sharing the same residence. In practice, this assessment is based on the information available to the public prosecutor, including information gathered by the police authorities. Circular COL 18/2012 (point 2.6) emphasises the importance of the prompt transmission of that information to enable the public prosecutor to take a timely decision.
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	Although victims and other private persons cannot apply directly for a temporary prohibition of residence, the persons concerned by the measure may subsequently apply to the family court for the conditions of the prohibition to be modified or for the prohibition to be lifted before its expiry where the circumstances of the case so require (Article 5(4) of the Act of 15 May 2012). CRIMINAL MATTERS The intended protected person(s), the courts ex officio, the Public Prosecutor, the Investigating Judge, the Sentence Application Court and the Social Protection Chamber can apply for a protection order in BE.
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G. Person(s) against whom protective orders can be issued

7.	Against whom can a protection order be issued in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply</i> ☒ Perpetrator(s) / alleged perpetrator(s) / putative perpetrator(s) / person(s) causing the risk ☐ Family members of the perpetrator(s) / alleged perpetrator(s) / putative perpetrator(s) / person(s) causing the risk ☐ Others (please specify): Please insert text here
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H. Supplementary matters

8.	Can supplementary matters, which may or may not be directly related to the immediate safety of the protected person(s), be addressed in protection orders? ☐ Yes (please specify): ☐ Child custody ☐ Maintenance ☐ Property protection ☐ Mandatory counselling (to the extent not covered by Question 1) ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here ☐ No ☒ In some cases (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS Under Article 3(1) of the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence, the public prosecutor may order a temporary prohibition of residence where there is a serious and immediate threat to the safety of one or more persons sharing the same residence. The measure is intended to ensure the immediate protection of those persons. Pursuant to Articles 4 and 5 of the Act, every temporary prohibition of residence ordered by the public prosecutor is brought before the Family Court for judicial review. For as long as the prohibition remains in force, the case remains pending before the Family Court pursuant to Article 5(5) of the Act. During those proceedings, the parties may apply for urgent and provisional measures pursuant to Article 5(6) of the Act. Where the temporary prohibition of residence affects family-related issues, including parental responsibility, a child's accommodation arrangements or personal relations with a child, reference is made to the explanations provided in response to Question 1.
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I. Duration of protection orders

9. Please provide details regarding the possible duration of protection orders issued in your jurisdiction.
- Shortest duration for fixed term orders (incl. interim / emergency orders):**
- Please indicate the shortest time frame for such orders:
- CIVIL MATTERS
- No minimum duration is prescribed.
- CRIMINAL MATTERS
- 1 year (art. 50 CC)
- Please provide examples of such orders:
- CIVIL MATTERS
- Temporary prohibition of residence under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence.
- CRIMINAL MATTERS
- The court may impose on the convicted person, for a period of not less than one year and not exceeding twenty years, a prohibition on living, residing or remaining within an area designated by the court, or on contacting persons individually designated by the court. (Art. 50 CC)
- Longest duration for fixed term orders:**
- Please indicate the longest time frame for such orders:
- CIVIL MATTERS
- The measure may remain in force for a maximum of fourteen days from its verbal communication to the person concerned (Article 3(3) of the Act of 15 May 2012; Circular COL 18/2012, point 2.4).
- The measure can be prolonged by the family court for maximum 3 more months.
- CRIMINAL MATTERS
- 20 years
- Please provide examples of such orders:
- CIVIL MATTERS
- Temporary prohibition of residence under the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence.
- CRIMINAL MATTERS
- The court may impose on the convicted person, for a period of not less than one year and not exceeding twenty years, a prohibition on living, residing or remaining within an area designated by the court, or on contacting persons individually designated by the court. (Art. 50 CC)
- Where the prohibition is imposed in the context of an electronic monitoring sentence or a probation sentence, it shall apply for the duration of the sentence.
- Where it is imposed in the context of probationary suspension, it shall apply for the duration of the suspension period.
- Where it is attached to a sentence implementation modality, it shall apply for the duration of the probation period

Indefinite duration:

☒ Yes

CRIMINAL MATTERS

The lifting of the security measure for the protection of society is based on the evolution of the mental health of the person subject to the measure. The Social Protection Chamber may therefore order the definitive lifting of the measure where the convicted person no longer suffers from a serious psychiatric disorder, such that there are no longer reasonable grounds to fear that he or she will commit a further crime or offence that seriously infringes, or seriously threatens, the physical or psychological integrity of third parties. (Art. 26 of the aforementioned Act of 29 February 2024)

The lifting of an internment measure is likewise subject to the condition that the mental disorder has stabilised sufficiently for there no longer to be reasonable grounds to fear that, as a result of that mental disorder, whether or not in conjunction with other risk factors, the person subject to the internment measure will commit further offences falling within the scope of the internment measure. (Arts. 9 and 66 of the aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014)

☒ No

CRIMINAL MATTERS

All other measures are imposed for a determined period

Renewal of protection orders:

☐ All protection orders are potentially renewable (please specify any conditions or limitations, if applicable):

☒ Some protection orders are potentially renewable (please specify):

CRIMINAL MATTERS

During the judicial investigation, the Investigating Judge may, of his or her own motion or at the request of the Public Prosecutor, extend the conditions already imposed for a period determined by the judge and not exceeding three months. (Art. 36 of the forementioned Act of 20/07/1990)

In the context of the Mobile Stalking Alarm (Stalking Alarm), where an alert is triggered or where new facts are reported or established, the measure shall be extended for a further period of nine months.

☒ Protection orders are not renewable:

CIVIL MATTERS

After having been prolonged by the family court for maximum 3 months, the order cannot be renewed as such. It can be replaced by urgent provisional measures in the frame of a separation/divorce, concerning the custody, the attribution of the family house, etc..

CRIMINAL MATTERS

The prohibition sentence provided for in Article 50 of the Criminal Code, the specific conditions relating to the protection of the victim imposed by the court in the context of liberty-restricting sentences, and the specific conditions relating to the protection of the victim imposed in the context of sentence implementation modalities are not renewable.

J. Transportability of the domestic protection order

Please complete this section if your jurisdiction has a framework for the cross-border recognition and enforcement of protection orders issued in your jurisdiction.

10.	What steps, if any, need to be taken in your jurisdiction to ensure that the protection order issued in your jurisdiction can be relied upon across borders? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ A certificate / abstract / other document to accompany the order is issued automatically Please insert text here ☒ A certificate / abstract / other document to accompany the order is issued upon request CIVIL MATTERS See the certificate provided under the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU Commission) CRIMINAL MATTERS The person benefiting from the protection measure, his or her guardian or legal representative may request the issuance of a European Protection Order either from the competent authority of the issuing State or from the competent authority of the executing State. (Act of 9 April 2017 on the European Protection Order, Art. 6) ☐ A signature / stamp by a competent authority on the order itself Please insert text here ☐ There is no procedure to ensure that the protection order can be relied upon abroad Please insert text here ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here
11.	At the time of receiving the protection order, is / are the protected person(s) informed that it may be enforceable abroad? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes – please explain how and at what stage the protected person(s) are made aware of this (e.g., upon issuance of the order, via written materials, or through follow-up contact with authorities)? CRIMINAL MATTERS The Preliminary Title of the Code of Criminal Procedure (Art. 3bis of the Preliminary Title of the Code of Criminal Procedure) establishes an obligation to provide information for all actors involved in criminal proceedings. Information shall be provided on a case-by-case basis, where appropriate by the Public Prosecutor's Office, the victim reception services or the victim support services. Furthermore, the forementioned Act of 17 April 2017 imposes an obligation on the Public Prosecutor's Office to inform the victim of any follow-up action: Art. 26. § 1. The Public Prosecutor's Office shall inform the person benefiting from a protection measure of the decision to issue a European Protection Order or to reject the request for the issuance of a European Protection Order. § 2. The Public Prosecutor's Office shall, without delay, inform the competent authority of the executing State of the decisions referred to in Article 25, §§ 1 and 3. ☐ No

12.	Is / are the protected person(s) informed about any potential limitations of the protection orders in other jurisdictions (e.g., possible lack of electronic monitoring)? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes – please specify how they are informed: CRIMINAL MATTERS In the context of the obligation to provide information laid down in Article 3bis of the Preliminary Title of the Code of Criminal Procedure, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the victim reception services or the victim support services may, where appropriate, inform the protected person of any limitations of the measure. ☐ No
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13.	Is / are the (alleged / putative) perpetrator(s) / person(s) causing the risk informed of the protection order's potential enforceability abroad when the order is issued? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Yes Please insert text here ☒ No
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14.	Has your jurisdiction issued any guidance to raise awareness about the availability of protection orders and their potential cross-border reach? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Yes – please describe the guidance (i.e., if they are in form of instructions, non-binding documents, etc.) Please insert text here ☒ No
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II. Ensuring / monitoring compliance with domestic protection orders

A. Registers

15.	Are there any registers in your jurisdiction to monitor protection orders? ☐ Yes (please specify): ☒ National database: ☒ Accessible to police ☒ Accessible to courts ☒ Accessible to others (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS The public prosecutor may also have access, through MaCH, the electronic case management system used within the Belgian judiciary and the Public Prosecution Service, to information concerning previous temporary prohibition of residence proceedings. CRIMINAL MATTERS
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	Public Prosecutor's Office, Investigating Judge National General Database referred to in Article 44/2 of the Police Functions Act of 5 August 1992. This information forms part of the procedural file, namely the criminal case file, and may be consulted by members of the judiciary as well as by external stakeholders through the shared national digital case file. For members of the judiciary, the JustView application has been developed for this purpose. For external stakeholders, the JustConsult and JustView applications have been developed. These two applications provide access to the shared digital case file of the Justice Department. With regard to the execution of sentences and measures, information sharing takes place through the JustCase portal. The Community services have access to it through the interface dedicated to them for the information required to carry out their tasks relating to the monitoring of measures and sentences and their victim reception duties. For the police services, all measures and sentences, together with the conditions attached thereto, are communicated through the JustSignal portal. ☐ Regional database(s): ☐ Accessible to police ☐ Accessible to courts ☐ Accessible to others (please specify): Please insert text here ☐ Local / municipal database(s): ☐ Accessible to police ☐ Accessible to courts ☐ Accessible to others (please specify): Please insert text here ☐ No ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here
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B. Preventing a potential breach or monitoring compliance

16.	By what technological means can compliance with a protection order be monitored or a breach of a protection order be prevented in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> ☐ GPS monitoring ☒ Electronic bracelets ☐ Digital alerts ☐ Databases ☒ None ☒ Other (please specify):
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	CIVIL MATTERS There is currently no technological means of monitoring compliance with the temporary residence prohibition. CRIMINAL MATTERS The Mobile Stalking Alarm has been rolled out throughout the territory of Belgium. It may be granted to victims of stalking within a family context where there is a high risk of serious harm to the integrity of the victim, their children or relatives. It should be regarded as an exceptional means of protection, granted by decision of the Public Prosecutor following a joint assessment with the police officer handling the case, at the request of the victim, the police service of the victim's place of residence, the Public Prosecutor's Office, the Investigating Judge or a third party. The protection measure is imposed for a period of nine months and is extended in the event of an alert being triggered or where new facts are reported or established.
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C. Addressing a breach

17.	Which authorities are responsible for the enforcement of protection orders in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> ☒ Police / law enforcement ☐ Bailiff / Sheriff ☐ Court ☒ Other (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS Pursuant to point 2.11 of Circular COL 18/2012 concerning temporary prohibition of residence in cases of domestic violence, the public prosecutor may instruct the competent justice house (Maison de justice) to provide supervision and support to the excluded person. A justice assistant monitors the person's situation and reports to the public prosecutor on the progress of the supervision, developments in the situation, the excluded person's resources and difficulties, the steps taken to obtain assistance, and any issues requiring attention. Where the prohibition order is extended by the Family Court, the justice house conducts at least one additional interview with the excluded person and submits a final report to the Family Court, with a copy to the public prosecutor, no later than ten calendar days before the expiry of the prohibition order. CRIMINAL MATTERS Justice Houses, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the Electronic Monitoring Centres.
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D. Enforcement upon simple presentation of protection order

18.	Can a protection order be enforced on the simple presentation of the order to the enforcement officer? ☒ Yes ☒ No - if so, is enforcement subject to one or more of the following: ☐ Verification ☒ Registration ☒ Any other additional steps – describe what needs to happen for enforcement to take place: CIVIL MATTERS No additional enforcement formalities are required for the measure to become effective. According to point 2.4 of Circular COL 18/2012, a temporary prohibition of residence order
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	becomes effective upon verbal communication of the public prosecutor's decision to the person concerned, and the fourteen-day period runs from that moment. The subsequent notifications provided for in Article 3(4) and (5) of the Act of 15 May 2012 do not constitute additional conditions for the measure to take effect. Their purpose is, inter alia, to formally inform the persons concerned, to notify the police authorities, and to initiate the review proceedings before the Family Court, as well as the support and follow-up mechanisms available to both the protected persons and the excluded person. In addition, every temporary prohibition of residence order is recorded in MaCH, the electronic case management system used within the Belgian judiciary and the Public Prosecution Service. The order is registered in application 331, and the excluded person is recorded as a suspect in a non-criminal case. Public prosecutors have access to MaCH and may consult information relating to previous temporary prohibition of residence proceedings. This registration facilitates the monitoring and follow-up of the measure by the competent authorities. It is not, however, a prerequisite for the order to take effect or to be enforced. CRIMINAL MATTERS Through the digital portals described above, all relevant stakeholders are informed of the measures, sentences and the conditions attached thereto, and monitoring and follow-up are therefore carried out automatically
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E. Sanctions following breach

19.	What are the consequences following a breach of a protection order in your jurisdiction? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Civil sanctions (e.g., injunction, contempt of court) Please insert text here ☐ Fines Please insert text here ☐ Arrest / confinement CRIMINAL MATTERS - In the context of pre-trial detention Where the conditions imposed are not complied with, the Investigating Judge, the court or the Court of Appeal, as the case may be, may issue an arrest warrant. (Art. 38 of the aforementioned Act of 20 July 1990) - In the context of sentence and sentencing measures (Forementioned Act of 30 March 2026) Electronic monitoring sentence: serious non-compliance with the specific conditions (such as a residence prohibition, a place prohibition or a contact prohibition) may lead the competent Public Prosecutor's Office to decide to enforce the term of imprisonment determined in the judicial decision, taking into account the part of the electronic monitoring sentence already served. Probation sentence: non-compliance with the specific conditions (such as a residence prohibition, a place prohibition or a contact prohibition) may lead the competent Public Prosecutor's Office to decide to enforce the term of imprisonment or the fine determined in the judicial decision, taking into account the part of the probation sentence already served, following a reasoned report of the Probation Commission recommending the application of the subsidiary sentence. Probationary suspension: serious non-compliance with the specific conditions (such as a residence prohibition, a place prohibition or a contact prohibition) may lead the Public Prosecutor's Office, on the basis of a report of the Probation Commission seeking revocation,
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to summon the person concerned before the competent trial court for the purposes of revocation.

In the event of serious non-compliance with the conditions, the Public Prosecutor's Office may order the convicted person to be taken into custody, provided that it immediately informs the Probation Commission and refers the matter to the competent court.

- In the context of a sentence implementation modality

The Public Prosecutor's Office may refer the matter to the Sentence Application Judge or the Sentence Application Court with a view to the revocation or suspension of the sentence implementation modality where the specific conditions (such as a residence prohibition, a place prohibition or a contact prohibition) are not complied with. In the event of revocation of the sentence implementation modality, the convicted person shall be immediately returned to prison. (forementioned act of 17/05/2006)

The Public Prosecutor's Office may refer the matter to the Social Protection Chamber with a view to the revocation or suspension of the modality for the execution of the internment measure or of the security measure for the protection of society where the specific conditions (such as a residence prohibition, a place prohibition or a contact prohibition) are not complied with.

Where the execution modality is revoked, the person concerned shall be placed in a social protection institution, a forensic psychiatric centre, or another institution recognised by the competent authority and capable of providing the care required by the person subject to the internment measure. Where the execution modality is suspended, the person concerned shall be immediately admitted to the psychiatric wing of a prison, a social protection institution, a forensic psychiatric centre, or another institution recognised by the competent authority and capable of providing the care required by the person subject to the internment measure.

If the Social Protection Chamber considers that revocation is not necessary in the interests of the person subject to the internment measure, society, or the victim, it may review the modality. In such a case, the Social Protection Chamber may strengthen the conditions imposed, impose additional conditions, or grant another modality better suited to the circumstances. The modality shall nevertheless be revoked if the person subject to the internment measure does not agree to the new conditions or to the alternative modality that is better suited to the circumstances. (Aforementioned Act of 5 May 2014, Arts. 59-61)

Where the person subject to the internment measure seriously endangers the physical or psychological integrity of third parties, the Public Prosecutor of the judicial district in which that person is located, or the Public Prosecutor's Office attached to the competent Sentence Application Court, may order his or her provisional arrest, provided that the competent Social Protection Chamber and, where appropriate, the Public Prosecutor's Office are informed immediately.

The provisional arrest shall be carried out in the psychiatric wing of a prison, a social protection institution or section, or a forensic psychiatric centre. The suspension decision shall remain valid for a period of one month.

In cases that may give rise to revocation, the Public Prosecutor attached to the court within whose territorial jurisdiction the convicted person is located may order the provisional arrest of that person, provided that the competent Sentence Application Judge or Sentence Application Court is informed immediately. The suspension decision shall remain valid for a period of one month. (Art 65 Of aforementioned act of 5/5/2014)

This measure is also available where the additional sentence of residence prohibition, place prohibition or contact prohibition (Art. 50 CC) has been imposed together with a sentence of imprisonment.

☒ Criminal sanctions

CIVIL MATTERS

	A breach of a temporary prohibition of residence order, or of an extension thereof ordered by the Family Court, constitutes a criminal offence. Pursuant to Articles 5/1 and 5/2 of the Act of 15 May 2012 on temporary prohibition of residence in case of domestic violence, Article 36 of the Criminal Code of 29 February 2024, and Articles 150 and 151 of the Act of 30 March 2026 aligning existing justice legislation with the Criminal Code of 29 February 2024 (II), the offence is punishable by a level 2 penalty. Depending on the circumstances of the case, the court may impose: 1. imprisonment from six months to three years; 2. deprivation-of-liberty treatment from six months to two years; 3. electronic monitoring from one month to one year; 4. a community service order of more than 120 hours and up to 300 hours; 5. a probation sentence of more than twelve months and up to two years; or 6. a conviction by declaration of guilt. CRIMINAL MATTERS Failure to comply with the residence prohibition, place prohibition or contact prohibition referred to in Article 50 of the Criminal Code, or with any other residence prohibition, place prohibition or contact prohibition that may be imposed pursuant to the Criminal Code, shall be punishable by a level 2 penalty. (Art. 686 of the aforementioned CC) ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here
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III. Current national, regional, and international rules for the recognition and enforcement of foreign protection orders

Part III aims to identify all applicable rules in your jurisdiction pertaining to the recognition and enforcement of foreign protection orders, including those rules deriving from regional or international instruments.

In this regard, jurisdictions may have adopted a specific legal regime for foreign protection orders, which may cover all or only certain aspects of their recognition and enforcement. In the absence of, or alongside, such a specific regime, general rules on recognition and enforcement may apply. In some jurisdictions, foreign protection orders may not be recognised or enforced at all. Where a specific regime does not address all relevant issues, any remaining matters may or may not fall within the scope of a general regime. Sections F, G, and H below are designed to accommodate these different approaches.

F. Specific vs general rules of recognition and enforcement

20.	Please indicate the types of rules available in your jurisdiction for the recognition and enforcement of foreign protection orders. <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> <i>Provide additional details where appropriate, as well as references and links where available</i> ☒ My jurisdiction applies specific rules³ of recognition and enforcement to foreign protection orders coming from:
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³ Please complete section G below.

	☐ Any jurisdiction ☒ Specified jurisdictions (please specify) ⁴ : CIVIL MATTERS Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member States and accompanied by a certificate can be recognised and enforced. CRIMINAL MATTERS Article 27. This Act shall not apply in relations with Member States that have not transposed Directive 2011/99/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the European Protection Order. ☒ My jurisdiction applies general rules ⁵ of recognition and enforcement to foreign protection orders If you ticked both boxes on specific and general rules of recognition and enforcement, please explain: CIVIL MATTERS The protection orders that fall within the scope of application of the EU regulation 606/2013 will fall under this specific rules, while other protection orders (e.g. when issued in a non-EU state) will fall under the general rules of domestic private international law. ☐ My jurisdiction is currently not capable of recognising and enforcing foreign protection orders
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G. Specific rules of recognition and enforcement for protection orders

Please complete this section if foreign protection orders can be recognised and enforced (in full or in part) under a specific set of rules in your jurisdiction.

21.	If your jurisdiction has a specific set of rules for the recognition and enforcement of foreign protection orders, how is it determined whether a foreign protection order falls within the scope of your jurisdiction's specialised recognition and enforcement regime/rules? <i>Tick all boxes that apply.</i> <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Based on which authority issued the order Please insert text here ☒ Based on the content of the order CRIMINAL MATTERS Act of 9 April 2017 on the European Protection Order (Art. 5) A European Protection Order may be issued only where a protection measure has previously been adopted in the issuing State and that measure imposes on the person causing the danger one or more of the following prohibitions or restrictions: 1° a prohibition from entering certain localities, places or defined areas where the person benefiting from a protection measure resides or visits; 2° a prohibition or regulation of contact, in whatever form, with the person benefiting from a protection measure, including by telephone, electronic mail, ordinary mail, fax or any other means;
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⁴ Please complete section H below, if applicable.

⁵ Please complete section H below.

3° a prohibition from approaching the person benefiting from a protection measure closer than a specified distance, or rules governing such approach.

(Art. 10) Recognition of a European Protection Order and enforcement of the protection measure shall be refused in the following cases:

1° recognition of the European Protection Order would be contrary to the principle of ne bis in idem;

2° Belgian law provides for an immunity which renders enforcement of the European Protection Order impossible;

3° under Belgian law, the person causing the danger could not, by reason of his or her age, be held criminally liable for the act or conduct giving rise to the protection measure;

4° criminal proceedings are statute-barred under Belgian law and the Belgian courts have jurisdiction in respect of the acts for which the protection measure was adopted;

5° there are serious grounds for believing that enforcement of the protection measure would result in an infringement of the fundamental rights of the person causing the danger, as enshrined in Article 6 of the Treaty on European Union.

(Art. 11) Enforcement of a European Protection Order may be refused in the following cases:

1° the conditions set out in Article 5 are not fulfilled;

2° the European Protection Order relates to conduct that does not constitute a criminal offence under Belgian law;

3° the offence forming the basis of the European Protection Order is covered by an amnesty law in Belgium, provided that prosecution of the acts was possible in Belgium under Belgian law;

4° the European Protection Order concerns criminal offences which, under Belgian law, are regarded as having been committed wholly, for the most part, or essentially within Belgian territory.

☒ Based on a certificate / abstract / other document accompanying the order (please specify):

CIVIL MATTERS

Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member states and accompanied by a certificate can be recognised and enforced.

CRIMINAL MATTERS

Act of 9 April 2017 on the European Protection Order

(Art. 6) The person benefiting from a protection measure, his or her guardian or representative may request the issuance of a European Protection Order either from the competent authority of the issuing State or from the competent authority of the executing State.

(Arts. 8 and 11(2)) The European Protection Order shall be issued in accordance with the duly completed ad hoc certificate prepared by the issuing authority and shall be transmitted by any means capable of producing a written record.

☐ Based on certification on the order itself (e.g., by way of a stamp or seal)

Please insert text here

☒ Based on which jurisdiction issued the order (i.e., State or territorial unit of a State)

CIVIL MATTERS

	Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member states and accompanied by a certificate can be recognised and enforced. CRIMINAL MATTERS Art. 27. A European Protection Order shall not apply in relations with Member States that have not transposed Directive 2011/99/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the European Protection Order. ☐ Based on an authority's full assessment of all relevant information (please specify): Please insert text here ☐ No determination is necessary for foreign protection orders to be recognised and enforced Please insert text here ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here
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22.	Are foreign protection orders recognised and enforced automatically (by operation of law) in your jurisdiction? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes, it is recognised and enforced on simple presentation of the relevant documents (please specify): ☐ The order in and of itself ☐ The order with the stamp / seal of the issuing authority ☒ Certificate ☐ Abstract ☐ Other accompanying document (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member states which is accompanied by a certificate can be recognised in Belgium by operation of law. ☒ No, recognition and enforcement takes place once the following step(s) has / have been taken: ☐ Registration ☐ Certification in the jurisdiction where the order is to be recognised and / or enforced ☐ Authentication / verification in the jurisdiction where the order is to be recognised and / or enforced ☒ Other judicial procedure (please specify): CRIMINAL MATTERS Recognition (Art. 12) The authority competent to recognise a European Protection Order is the Public Prosecutor's Office attached to the court of the district in which the place where the person benefiting from the protection measure has decided principally to reside or stay is situated or, as the case may be, in which that person is already principally residing or staying. (Art. 15. § 1) For the purpose of deciding on the recognition of the European Protection Order, the Public Prosecutor's Office shall, upon receipt of the European Protection Order, verify whether any of the grounds for refusal provided for in Articles 10 and 11 apply.
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§ 2. Where the Public Prosecutor's Office decides to recognise the European Protection Order, it shall, without delay, adopt or request the adoption of any measure provided for under Belgian law in a similar case in order to ensure the protection of the person concerned. Those measures shall correspond, as closely as possible, to the protection measure imposed in the issuing State.

§ 3. Where the Public Prosecutor's Office decides not to recognise the European Protection Order, it shall notify the person benefiting from the protection measure of that decision by judicial letter.

The person benefiting from the protection measure may challenge the decision of the Public Prosecutor's Office and refer the matter to the Indictments Chamber, by means of an application lodged with the court registry within fifteen days of notification by judicial letter. The Indictments Chamber shall rule solely on the basis of Articles 10 and 11.

The decision of the Indictments Chamber may be the subject of an appeal on points of law before the Court of Cassation.

Enforcement

Art. 16. § 1. The implementation of the protection measure shall be governed by Belgian law, including the measures that may be taken in the context of the enforcement of the European Protection Order.

§ 2. In accordance with paragraph 1, the following measures may be taken in the event of non-compliance with the measures adopted in enforcement of the European Protection Order:

1° to initiate proceedings following the non-compliance, where such non-compliance constitutes a criminal offence under Belgian law;

2° to adopt any non-criminal decision concerning the non-compliance;

3° to take any urgent and provisional measure to put an end to the non-compliance, pending, where appropriate, a subsequent decision by the issuing State.

§ 3. The measures referred to in paragraph 2 shall correspond, as closely as possible, to the protection measure imposed in the issuing State.

Information

Art. 21. § 1. The Public Prosecutor's Office shall, without delay, inform the person benefiting from the protection measure and the competent authority of the issuing State, as appropriate, of:

1° the reasoned decision not to recognise the European Protection Order;

2° the measures adopted pursuant to Article 15, § 2, as well as the measures that may be taken pursuant to Article 16, § 2, in the event of non-compliance with the protection measures;

3° the decision to terminate the measures adopted in enforcement of the European Protection Order in accordance with Article 18, § 1.

§ 2. The Public Prosecutor's Office shall also, without delay, communicate the information referred to in § 1, 2°, to the person causing the danger. Neither the address nor any other contact details of the person benefiting from the protection measure shall be disclosed to the person causing the danger, unless such information is necessary for the enforcement of the measure adopted pursuant to Article 15, § 2.

§ 3. Where the Public Prosecutor's Office refuses to recognise a European Protection Order, it shall also inform the person benefiting from the protection measure of the possibility, where appropriate, of requesting the adoption of a protection measure in accordance with Belgian law.

§ 4. The Public Prosecutor's Office shall inform the competent authority of the issuing State or of the supervising State of any non-compliance with the measure or measures adopted pursuant to Article 15.

	☐ Other administrative procedure (please specify): Please insert text here Please indicate the language(s) in which the accompanying documents must be submitted in your jurisdiction: French, dutch, German or English
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23.	Is there a time limit for the recognition and enforcement of a foreign protection order in your jurisdiction? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes (please specify): CIVIL MATTERS Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member states which is accompanied by a certificate can be recognised in Belgium within a limited period of 1 year (art. 4.4) CRIMINAL MATTERS (Art. 14 of the Act of 9 April 2017 on the European Protection Order) The Public Prosecutor's Office shall handle the European Protection Order with the necessary expedition and with the same degree of priority as would be accorded to a similar Belgian case, taking into account the specific circumstances of the case, including the urgency of the matter, the expected date of arrival of the person benefiting from the protection measure on Belgian territory and, where possible, the seriousness of the risk faced by the person benefiting from the protection measure. ☐ No
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24.	If registration is not required in your jurisdiction, can foreign protection orders nevertheless be registered? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Yes - please explain how this registration is done: Please insert text here ☐ No Please insert text here
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25.	Are there any restrictions to the effect of the recognition of a foreign protection order in your jurisdiction (e.g., if the foreign protection order does not correspond to the types of protection orders available in your jurisdiction or if the specified sanctions for a breach of the order cannot be applied in your jurisdiction)? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes CRIMINAL MATTERS Art. 5
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A European Protection Order may be issued only where a protection measure has previously been adopted in the issuing State and that measure imposes on the person causing the danger one or more of the following prohibitions or restrictions:

1° a prohibition from entering certain localities, places or defined areas where the person benefiting from a protection measure resides or visits;

2° a prohibition or regulation of contact, in whatever form, with the person benefiting from a protection measure, including by telephone, electronic mail, ordinary mail, fax or any other means; or

3° a prohibition from approaching the person benefiting from a protection measure closer than a specified distance, or rules governing such approach.

Art. 10

Recognition of a European Protection Order and enforcement of the protection measure shall be refused in the following cases:

1° recognition of the European Protection Order would be contrary to the principle of ne bis in idem;

2° Belgian law provides for an immunity which renders enforcement of the European Protection Order impossible;

3° under Belgian law, the person causing the danger could not, by reason of his or her age, be held criminally liable for the act or conduct giving rise to the protection measure;

4° criminal proceedings are statute-barred under Belgian law and the Belgian courts have jurisdiction in respect of the acts for which the protection measure was adopted;

5° there are serious grounds for believing that enforcement of the protection measure would result in an infringement of the fundamental rights of the person causing the danger, as enshrined in Article 6 of the Treaty on European Union.

Art. 11

§ 1. Enforcement of a European Protection Order may be refused in the following cases:

1° the conditions set out in Article 5 are not fulfilled;

2° the European Protection Order relates to conduct that does not constitute a criminal offence under Belgian law;

3° the offence forming the basis of the European Protection Order is covered by an amnesty law in Belgium, provided that prosecution of the acts was possible in Belgium under Belgian law;

4° the European Protection Order concerns criminal offences which, under Belgian law, are regarded as having been committed wholly, for the most part, or essentially within Belgian territory.

Art. 27

This Act shall not apply in relations with Member States that have not transposed Directive 2011/99/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the European Protection Order.

☒ No

CIVIL MATTERS

Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member states which is accompanied by a certificate are recognised without restrictions, except the duration of maximum 1 year.

26.	Can foreign protection orders be adjusted / modified in your jurisdiction? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Yes, without any limitations ☒ Yes, with certain limitations (please specify): ☒ Factual elements of the order (e.g., address) CIVIL MATTERS Under the specific rules of the EU regulation 606/2013 (reference to the answers of the EU), the protection orders issued by EU member states which is accompanied by a certificate can be adjusted to factual elements. ☐ Geographic scope of the order (e.g., distances, locations) Please insert text here ☐ Duration of the order Please insert text here ☐ The person(s) allowed to seek the adjustment / modification (e.g., only the intended protected person) Please insert text here ☒ Other (please specify): CRIMINAL MATTERS Art. 17 2° Where the competent authority of the issuing State has modified the European Protection Order, the Public Prosecutor's Office may refuse to enforce the modified prohibition or restriction where it does not fall within the categories of prohibitions or restrictions referred to in Article 5 (place prohibition, contact prohibition or approach prohibition), or where the information accompanying the European Protection Order is incomplete or has not been completed within the time limit set by the Public Prosecutor's Office pursuant to Article 11(2). Art. 11 §2 Where the Belgian executing authority considers that it does not have sufficient information to enable recognition of the European Protection Order and enforcement of the protection measure, it shall grant the issuing authority a reasonable period within which to complete the certificate. If the information is not provided within the prescribed time limit, recognition and enforcement shall be refused. ☐ No
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27.	How do you deal with foreign protection orders that do not have a direct equivalent in your jurisdictions' legal system? Please provide information on whether such orders can / need to be adapted in order to be recognised and enforced in your jurisdiction and if the modalities of enforcement also can / must be adapted (e.g., enforcement by courts in your jurisdiction as opposed to police in the jurisdiction where the order was issued). CRIMINAL MATTERS Art. 15 §2 Where the Public Prosecutor's Office decides to recognise the European Protection Order, it shall, without delay, adopt or request the adoption of any measure provided for under Belgian law in a similar case in order to ensure the protection of the person concerned. Such measures shall correspond, as closely as possible, to the protection measure imposed in the issuing State.
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	That being said, Article 5 provides that European Protection Orders may relate only to a place prohibition, a contact prohibition or an approach prohibition, all of which are measures provided for under Belgian law.
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28.	Is it possible to object to the recognition and enforcement of a foreign protection order? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes Please specify who can object: ☒ A competent authority <i>ex officio</i> Public prosecutor's office ☒ The person against whom the protection order is issued Regulation No 606/2013 on protection measures in civil matters According to Article 13(1), the recognition and, where applicable, the enforcement of the protection measure shall be refused, upon application by the person causing the risk as defined in art. 3(3) of Regulation 606/2013. ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here Please list all available grounds on which the recognition and enforcement of the foreign protection order can be refused: Civil matters : cfr the answers of the EU on regulation 606/2013 criminal matters: Cfr art. 5, 10, 11 et 27 ☐ No
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29.	Is the recognition and / or enforcement of a foreign protection order subject to appeal in your jurisdiction? ☐ Yes ☒ No
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H. General rules of recognition and enforcement in civil and commercial matters

Please complete this section if foreign protection orders can be recognised and enforced (in full or in part) under your jurisdiction's general rules of recognition and enforcement in civil and commercial matters.

30.	What are the general rules for the recognition and enforcement of civil and commercial judgments, including foreign protection orders, in your jurisdiction? ☒ Foreign protection orders are recognised automatically (by operation of law) ☐ Foreign protection orders are subject to a formal recognition and enforcement procedure filed with a competent authority ☐ Foreign protection orders and relevant / accompanying documents need to be accompanied by a certified translation in the language(s) of the requested State ☐ Foreign protection orders need to be certified by a competent authority from the State of origin ☒ Foreign protection orders are subject to legalisation or a similar formality
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	☒ Foreign protection orders are subject to an <i>exequatur</i> procedure ☐ Foreign protection orders need to be registered with a competent authority ☐ There are no general rules for the recognition and enforcement of foreign protection orders ☐ Other rule(s) (please specify): Please insert text here
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31.	Can foreign protection orders be adjusted / modified in your jurisdiction? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Yes, without any limitations ☐ Yes, with certain limitations (please specify): ☐ Factual elements of the order (e.g., address) Please insert text here ☐ Geographic scope of the order (e.g., distances, locations) Please insert text here ☐ Duration of the order Please insert text here ☐ The person(s) allowed to seek the adjustment / modification (e.g., only the intended protected person) Please insert text here ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here ☒ No
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32.	How do you deal with foreign protection orders that do not have a direct equivalent in your jurisdictions' legal system? Please provide information on whether such orders can / need to be adapted in order to be recognised and enforced in your jurisdiction and if the modalities of enforcement also can / must be adapted (e.g., enforcement by courts in your jurisdiction as opposed to police in the jurisdiction where the order was issued). Please insert text here
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33.	Is it possible to object to the recognition and enforcement of a foreign protection order? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☒ Yes Please specify who can object: ☒ A competent authority <i>ex officio</i> Please insert text here ☒ The person against whom the protection order is issued
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	Please insert text here ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here Please list all available grounds on which the recognition and enforcement of the foreign protection order can be refused: Code of Private international law. article 25 for a judicial order https://www.ejustice.just.fgov.be/img_l/pdf/2004/07/16/2004009511_F.pdf 1. public order 2. violation of rights of the defendant 3. decision which avoid the applicable law 4. subject to appeal 5. irreconcilable with a decision taken in another jurisdiction that is recognised in Belgium 6. proceedings started pending a priorly started proceeding in Belgium 7. exclusive jurisdiction of Belgian courts 8. jurisdiction based on the sole presence of the person or the goods without direct link with the state of the decision ☐ No
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34.	Is the recognition and / or enforcement of a foreign protection order subject to appeal in your jurisdiction? ☒ Yes ☐ No
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IV. Future developments in the area

35.	Are there any legislative developments planned or contemplated in your jurisdiction pertaining to (foreign) protection orders? <i>Provide additional details where appropriate.</i> ☐ Legislative changes in progress Please insert text here ☐ Legislative changes under consideration Please insert text here ☐ No legislative changes planned at the moment Please insert text here ☐ Other (please specify): Please insert text here
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V. Electronic resources

Please use the space below to provide any links to useful and relevant online resources.

36.	
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VI. Other comments

Please use the space below to provide any additional information pertaining to the recognition and enforcement of (foreign) protection orders in your jurisdiction. You may also wish to make any suggestions pertaining to the work of the WG on REPO (general comments or specific comments in advance of the first WG meeting in November 2026).

37.	Please insert text here
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