

Istanbul Convention on violence against women

July 5, 2021

In news- Turkey has exit from Istanbul Convention on Violence Against Women.

About the convention-

- The **Council of Europe** established the Istanbul Convention.
- It is a **human rights treaty** that aims to prevent and prosecute all forms of violence against women, promote gender equality and ensure protection and rehabilitation of women who are victims of violence.
- It is the first legally-binding instrument which “creates a comprehensive legal framework and approach to combat violence against women”.
- It was opened for ratification in May 2011 and became effective from 1 August 2014.
- On November 24, 2011, **Turkey became the first country to ratify** the Istanbul convention and, on March 8, 2012, it incorporated the Istanbul Convention into domestic law.
- As of March 2019, it has been **signed by 45 countries and the European Union** and **ratified by 34 counties**.
- In July 2021, **Turkey became the first and only country to withdraw from the convention**, after denouncing it on 20 March 2021.
- The convention contains 81 articles separated into 12 chapters.
- States which ratify the Convention must criminalize several offences, including psychological violence, stalking, physical violence, sexual violence, forced marriage, female genital mutilation, forced abortion and forced sterilisation.
- The convention also includes an article targeting crimes

committed in the name of “honour”.

- **India is not a signatory** to the convention.