

Irregular women & domestic violence

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Numbers irregular migrants

Table 1: Dynamic aggregate estimate of the irregular foreign resident population in 2002, 2005 and 2008 (last update 30 Sept 2009)

Year	Absolute population numbers in Mio persons		As percentage of population		As percentage of foreign population	
	minimum	maximum	minimum	Maximum	minimum	maximum
<i>EU 15</i>						
2002	3.1	5.3	0.8%	1.4%	14%	25%
2005	2.2	4.8	0.58%	1.23%	8%	18%
2008	1.8	3.3	0.46%	0.83%	7%	12%
<i>EU27</i>						
2008	1.9	3.8	0.39%	0.77%	7%	13%

Source: Own compilation and adjustment of individual country estimates from different sources

Legal position irregular women

Basic rights

- Jobs/ financial support?
- Housing/ shelter?
- Health care?

Controls > constant fear!

- Police/ labour inspectorate
- Detention
- Forced return

How do irregular women survive?

Housing/ shelter

- Rented
- Live-in employer
- Shared with family/friends
- Homeless shelter

Jobs/ financial support

- Undeclared jobs
- Support from family/ friends
- Support organisations

Domestic violence

Risks in housing/ shelter

- Live-in with employer
- Shared with family/ friends

Risks in employment/ financial support

- Certain jobs (au pair)
- Support from family/ friends

28% of irregular women is victim of sexual violence,
10-20% of irregular women is victim of domestic
violence

Protection against domestic violence?

Report domestic violence > police accessible

Shelter > womens shelters accessible

Redress > courts accessible & compensation possible

Safe Future > residence permit for victims

General: firewalls, in law and in practice

How to achieve?

Legal tools:

- ICESCR
- Istanbul Convention (art 1: no discrimination on residence status)
- Victims Directive EU (art 1: idem)

Practical safety guarantees

- Police (accessible and firewall)
- Womens shelters (accessible and firewall)

Council of Europe

PACE resolution 1509 (2006), Ed van Thijn: Basic Rights for irregular migrants

ECSR 2014: Complaint PKN on right to food, shelter and clothing for irregular migrants

- Monitoring, reporting
- Enforcement tools