



# MINISTÈRE DE LA JUSTICE

Liberté  
Égalité  
Fraternité

**First part : Valery Morron – Magistrate – Head of mission dedicated to good practices – Directorate of criminal affairs and Pardons**

Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, we would like to thank you for inviting us to this ceremony for the Council of Europe Crystal Balance Award and we are honoured to be among the three finalists.

Before giving the floor to the public prosecutor of Carcassonne so that she can present to you the concrete translation of the simplified complaint system in hospitals for victims of domestic violence, I would like to have a few introductory remarks on how we arrived at the Crystal Balance Award and the national priority of the fight against domestic violence.

## ❖ PRESENTATION OF THE GOOD PRACTICE MISSION

The Minister of Justice, Eric DUPOND-MORETTI, has wished since his arrival in July 2020 to highlight good practices in all departments of the Ministry, whether in prisons, institutions hosting minors, and of course, in jurisdictions.

I have the opportunity to take care of the mission dedicated to criminal law practices, the objective of which could be said to be the same as that pursued by the Crystal Balance Award: to identify innovative practices that improve the efficiency and quality of justice: Procedure management/ court organization/ functioning of the justice system in general. These practices must have been recently implemented, be easily applicable to other jurisdictions, and have measurable effectiveness.

Within the scope of the mission carried out by the Directorate; three actions are carried out:

- we collect the devices through exchanges with the courts and all the media at our disposal (from the press to the annual reports of the prosecutors)
- we carry out expert assessments, in order to propose only devices that provide sufficient guarantees to be carried at the national level;
- we value, through different digital media

We have naturally invested in the follow-up of the *spousal violence*.

### ❖ PRESENTATION OF THE SPOUSAL VIOLENCE SHOT

More than 100 women are killed each year and nearly 220,000 report being victims of violence.

The French government wanted to react in particular through a Grenelle of domestic violence, the grenelle being a French tradition to gather specialists of a subject and determine concrete measures to implement. It lasted until 25 November 2019, the closing date symbolically referring to the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. 30 measures were identified, including:

- Educating non-violence and equality between girls and boys
- Free the speech of victims and promote the revelation of violence, in particular via a 24/24 number -7/7, allow healthcare professionals to waive medical confidentiality in the event of immediate danger and the provision of tools for healthcare professionals;
- Protect victims from the filing of complaints, with for example an enhanced initial and ongoing training course for police and gendarmes in the reception of women victims of domestic violence
- A more protective justice, which takes into account the impact of violence on children and family ties, but also by monitoring and managing perpetrators to prevent the risk of recidivism

The French Ministry of Justice and in particular the Directorate that I represent have been involved in carrying out these actions, the one we are proposing today is one of them.

### ❖ PRESENTATION OF THE CRIMINAL POLICE AND HEALTH CONVENTION TO GATHER THE COMPLAINT OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS AT THE HOSPITAL

One of the flagship measures of the Grenelle of domestic violence was the collection of complaints of victims of domestic violence by the investigation services within the medical structures to ensure **better protection** and management of victims of domestic violence.

Thus, thanks to this device a victim of domestic violence will be able to file a **complaint directly to the hospital. When the person presents himself or herself in a hospital, he or she is taken in charge by a professional who can refer him or her to specialized investigators or alert them, who can then go to the site to collect their complaint and/or send to the hospital judicial requisitions for the forensic examination of the victim.**

This prevents the victim from being sent from one service to another (by the police to the hospital for a medical certificate; by the hospital to the police for requisition for medical examination).

The aim of this system is to:

- **Facilitate**, on the one hand, the reporting of acts of violence by the victim and the filing of complaints by the complainant
- Regroup in a unit of time and place, different administrative procedures known as anxiogenic;
- Ensure better management of the victim **by** avoiding wait times with the **investigation services**
- Offer the victim the opportunity to be confronted with only one **person to file his complaint, ultimately creating an atmosphere of trust around it so that he can easily denounce acts of violence;**
- Better cooperation between the parties

This practice became widespread during the year 2020, so that many jurisdictions signed protocols or conventions to define the modalities for the deployment of this device.