

FRA's work on gender based violence



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Prague, 14 November 2017

Data needs – violence against women

- Calls for better data by the Council of the EU and the European Parliament
- Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention)
- United Nations 2013 Agenda – Sustainable Development Goals and indicators
- Reporting to the UN Commission on the Status of Women, Human Rights Council, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE), etc.

The FRA Violence against women survey

- 28 EU Member States
- In total, interviews with **42,000 women** 18-74 years
- 1,500 women at random per country
- Face to face interviews



What the survey asked

- Physical and sexual violence – by partners & other perpetrators (e.g. acquaintances, strangers or relatives)
- Psychological violence by partners
- Stalking and sexual harassment – incl. cyberharassment
- Experience of violence before age 15 – by an adult
- Fear of victimisation and its impact
- Awareness of law & support services

Survey asked the following with respect to most serious incident

- Which services were contacted – if any (police, women’s shelter, victim support, health care, etc.)?
- Satisfaction with the assistance received
- Reasons for not contacting the police
- Reasons for not contacting other services
- What kind of help would have been useful?
- Awareness of existence of support organisations

In the 28 European Union Member States:

- **1 in 3 women has experienced physical and/or sexual violence (at least once since she was 15)**
 - 8 % of women in the last 12 months
- **22 % of women have experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner**
- **11 % of women have experienced some form of sexual violence**
- **5 % of women have been raped**

Further results

- 43 % of women in the EU have experienced psychological violence by a current or previous partner during the relationship
- 55 % of women have been sexually harassed since 15 years of age
- 18 % of women have been stalked since they were 15 years old

Impact of the survey

- Over 1,500 articles published in the media in the days after the launch of the results
- Results used to inform awareness raising campaigns and to direct funding for victim support services in the EU
- Survey referenced in the decision by the EU to sign the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention
- The findings have been quoted in numerous reports and communications at the national level and by international organisations

Who was contacted after the most serious incident of sexual violence

SINCE AGE 15, %	By any partner (current and/or previous)	By someone else (not a partner)
Police	15	14
Hospital	12	12
Doctor, health centre or other health care institution	22	16
Social services	7	2
Women's shelter	6	1
Victim support organisation	4	4
Church/faith-based organisation	4	2
Legal service/ lawyer	15	6
Another service/ organisation	5	3
Any of the above	39	30

Reasons for not contacting any organisation (other than police) following the most serious incident of violence

REASONS GIVEN FOR NOT REPORTING, %	Any partner (current and/or previous)		By someone else (not a partner)	
	Physical violence	Sexual violence	Physical violence	Sexual violence
Dealt with it myself; involved a friend	55	47	49	37
Never occurred to me; too minor; not serious enough	34	21	40	20
Did not believe that anyone could help	8	15	7	15
Shame, embarrassment	9	22	4	23
Didn't want anyone to know; kept it private	9	21	4	20

FRA findings – contacting services (other than the police)

- Very few women contact specialist victim support services
- Requirements of EU Victims' Rights Directive difficult to meet
- Need for enhanced resources/tools for specialist services – particularly to reach out to significant numbers of women who don't report abuse

- Women report most to health care services
- 87% of women said it would be ok for doctors to ask about violence
- Need to equip doctors with knowledge/tools to effectively respond
- Medical confidentiality/data protection – clarification needed

➤ **EU & EU Member States...**

- New survey on gender based violence being developed by EUROSTAT
- Migration crisis - FRA's field presence in the hotspots – focus GBV
- On-going FRA research on criminal justice responses to victims of violent crime – half are victims of domestic violence
- Survey data published through UK data archive for further research
- Training and awareness raising (CEPOL webinars on GBV)
- EIGE – gender equality index
- Need to review different police intervention models to see if they serve victims in practice; particularly as victim support services are increasingly being placed in police stations

➤ **OSCE**

- Survey on the Well-being and Security of Women in the OSCE region in up to 10 OSCE countries –with particular attention to VAW in conflict and post conflict settings

➤ **UN**

- Sustainable Development Goals and Indicators
- UNFPA and UNWomen to support capacity building for collecting data on violence against women through kNOwVAWdata initiative

➤ **Council of Europe**

- FRA's survey results feed into monitoring of the Istanbul Convention
- GREVIO
- HELP programme - the European Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals
- Compendium of promising practices addressing FM and FGM

Results available



Main results report

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Summary report

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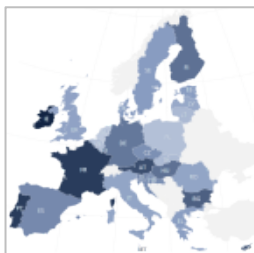
Technical report

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Online data explorer

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Survey questionnaire

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- Print copies of selected reports available at <http://bookshop.europa.eu>
- Survey data set (microdata) available through **UK Data Service**

Thank you for your
attention!



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