

**Group of Experts on Action against Violence  
against Women and Domestic Violence  
(GREVIO)**

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**Report submitted by Sweden  
pursuant to Article 68, paragraph 4  
of the Council of Europe Convention  
on preventing and combating violence  
against women and domestic violence  
(1<sup>st</sup> thematic evaluation round)**

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## Introduction

In Sweden, as outlined in the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO submitted on 4 September 2017, the subject matter of the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (hereafter the Convention) is addressed by the Government in various policy areas, most comprehensively in its policy for gender equality with the overarching goal, anchored with the Parliament, of equal power for women and men to shape society and their own lives.

Since 1994, an important sub-goal of the national gender equality policy has concerned violence against women in line with the 1992 General Recommendation No. 19 by the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women as well as the 1993 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women by the General Assembly.

That men's violence against women must end is the sixth sub-goal of the Swedish gender equality policy. The ten-year national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women as outlined in the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO, and covering the period 2017–2026, was developed with the Convention as a crucial reference point and it chiefly harmonises with the latter in terms of its scope and application and specific measures. The strategy has remained the guiding framework for subsequent governments and national work and coordination in this field.

Within the ten-year national strategy, national action plans are adopted for shorter time spans to implement the strategy with concrete actions and measures. Combined, the strategy and national action plans aim to enhance continuity, overview, coordination, and long-term planning while also incorporating continuous evaluation and lessons learned as well as allowing for further development and adaptation to emerging needs and priorities.

Since the Baseline Evaluation Report by GREVIO in 2019, the (former) Swedish Government presented an action plan for the period 2021–2023 consisting of 99 measures covering both prevention of violence and support and protection for victims (A2021/02397). One area of priority mentioned in the action plan is preventing and detecting violence among especially vulnerable groups.

The current Government entered office on 18 October 2022 and has made the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy its top priority within the gender equality policy.

The Prime Minister has addressed ending men's violence against women in his two subsequent Statements of Government Policy in front of the Parliament in 2022 and 2023. In the most recent Statement, he asserted that "Men's violence against women must be combated with the full force of society".

The Government is furthermore committed to stepping up efforts to combat honour-based violence and oppression, and the Prime Minister has also addressed this in both Statements of Government Policy 2022 and 2023.

In the spirit of the ten-year national-strategy and to ensure the continuity of the work in this field, the Government has continued the implementation of the 99-point action plan announced by the former Government. All but two points have been acted upon as of the date of submission of this report.

The Government has furthermore initiated the drafting of a new action plan for the period 2024–2026. The process was launched through five dedicated round tables with civil society organisations, academia and public authorities for feedback and inputs in spring of 2023.

On 3 August 2023, the Government decided to appoint an Inquiry on A Strengthened Long-term Governance of the Work against Gender-based Violence and Honour-based Violence and Oppression. The Inquiry is to report in February of 2025 (A 2023:04, ToR 2023:117).

In recent years, several budget allocations contributing to the implementation of the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy have been made permanent as outlined in Part I of this report. In the Budget Bill for 2024, the Government proposed a new three-year allocation of the budget to strengthen the work against honour-based violence and oppression, violence in intimate partner relations, gender-based violence and prostitution and trafficking of human beings. With this addition, the Government wants to earmark 603 million SEK within the budget for the gender equality policy for this area of work during 2024.

As one of its first undertakings in office, the Government held the Presidency of the Council of the European Union January – June 2023.

In the Trio Presidency Declaration on Gender Equality, France, the Czech Republic, and Sweden had firmly committed to promoting gender equality and to fighting against all forms of discrimination against women at all levels. “Preventing and combatting gender-based violence” was a key focus area selected and was at the centre of the majority of the Swedish Presidency conferences and events organised on Gender Equality. In a conference on economic perspectives on gender-based violence, the Istanbul Convention was specifically held up and used as the benchmark for discussions on economic violence. The Swedish Presidency selected “the Digital Dimension of Gender-Based Violence” as the theme of the traditional EU ministerial breakfast organised in the margins of the annual meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), United Nations, New York. The High-level Political Meeting on Gender Equality held in Stockholm focused on innovative and award-winning methods to prevent and combat gender-based violence as well as honour-based violence and oppression. Under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice, the Swedish Presidency organised conference on prevention models to address the demand that fosters trafficking for sexual purposes in March 2023.

The Swedish Presidency, furthermore, made the completion of the EU’s accession to the Istanbul Convention a priority which resulted in the deposition of the accession instrument with the Council of Europe on 26 June 2023. The Presidency also put significant efforts into and achieved great success on advancing the EU negotiations on a new directive on combating violence against women and domestic violence as well as a revised directive on preventing and combating trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims.

Sweden reserves the right not to apply Article 44.3 concerning exceptions from the requirement of double criminality and Article 58 on the statute of limitation.

The preparation of this report was coordinated within the Government Offices by the Division for Gender Equality at the Ministry of Employment based on reports or contributions from the Swedish Gender Equality Agency, the Swedish Higher Education Authority, the Swedish National

Council for Crime Prevention, the Swedish Police, the Swedish National Courts, the Swedish Prosecution Authority, the Swedish Migration Agency, the National Board of Health and Welfare, the County Administrative Boards, the Children's Welfare Foundation and the National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women at Uppsala University. The preparations included consultations with some of the aforementioned government agencies and a broad range of non-governmental organisations.

In addition to the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO submitted in September 2017, the Government would also refer readers of this report to the Reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties as of January 2022 which includes measures falling in the reporting period of the current questionnaire.

## **Part I: Changes in comprehensive and co-ordinated policies, funding and data collection in the area of violence against women and domestic violence**

### **Article 7: Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies**

Combating violence against women has remained a consistent priority since the Baseline Evaluation Report by GREVIO in 2019, just like it had in the ten years prior to the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO in September of 2017. Similarly, gender mainstreaming has continued to be mandatory in the preparation of all Government decisions including the national budget.

As outlined in the Introduction of this report, the main strategic framework for work in this field, the ten-year national strategy 2017–2026 which largely aligns with the scope and definitions of the Convention, has continued to be implemented but with time-limited action plans being developed within the framework (2017–2020 and 2021–2023) and a new plan being under development for 2024–2026.

In Sweden, all government agencies are responsible for implementing policies and measures within their area of responsibility. Key agencies, apart from the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA), to implement and contribute to the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women are, among others, the National Board of Health and

Welfare, the County Administrative Boards and The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention.

As also mentioned in the Introduction, the Government decided to appoint an Inquiry on A Strengthened Long-term Governance of the Work Against Gender-based Violence and Honour-based Violence and Oppression, due to submit its final report in February 2025 (A 2023:04, ToR 2023:117).

*Inter alia*, the Committee is tasked with: assessing whether a specific sub-goal to prevent and combat honour-based violence and oppression should be introduced as part of the gender equality policy; analysing and proposing a new, more inclusive wording of the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy that men's violence against women must end, taking into account that men's violence against women constitutes the majority of the gender-based violence, but also at least encompassing the areas of men's violence against women in intimate partner relationships; women's violence against men in intimate partner relationships, violence in same-sex relationships and other LGBTIQ-relationships, sexual violence and exploitation in prostitution and trafficking for sexual purposes; developing a proposal for one or two long-term strategies to achieve the sixth sub-goal and a possible new sub-goal on honour-based violence and oppression using the Council of Europe's Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence as well as Convention on action against trafficking in human beings as its point of reference. This is to contain proposal(s) for the wording of the goal to achieve the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy and a possible new sub-goal on gender-based violence and oppression; is to focus on physical, psychological, sexual, economic, and material violence as well as threats of violence; be based on knowledge and research; and particularly pay attention to the following areas: the norms and values of youth to prevent gender-based violence, how victims of violence are to more easily be able to leave destructive relationships, how the protection of victims of violence can be increased and how the perpetrators' violent behaviour can be changed by ceasing their use of violence and reducing the risk of reoffending (ToR 2023:117).

Prior to this, in order to develop the governance in the area of men's violence against women and as reported in Sweden's answer to the reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties in January of 2022, the Government in 2020 had tasked the Swedish



Agency for Public Management (Statskontoret) to assess the Government's national strategy to end men's violence against women. The Agency for Public Management is the Government's organisation for analyses and evaluations of state and state-funded activities. In its assessment (2021), the Agency concluded that the authorities have succeeded in implementing many measures to prevent and combat men's violence against women. Furthermore, the Agency assessed that the national strategy and the government assignments given to the agencies in this field of work have contributed to the authorities being more active and cooperating to a greater extent. At the same time, however, the Agency for Public Management pointed out areas where work needed to be improved. Firstly, the Agency concluded that the knowledge chain needs to be enhanced. Such a knowledge chain includes identifying needs as well as producing, disseminating, and applying knowledge in the field. Up until the date of the assessment, many authorities were deemed to have produced and disseminated knowledge about men's violence against women. However, to ensure efficiency, the Government and the responsible authorities also need to focus on making the knowledge come into practical use at the local level. Secondly, the Agency underlined the concurrent lack of evaluated and tested methods in, especially, the field of prevention of men's violence against women. In order to ensure such a development, the Agency called for the development of preventive methods and higher collaboration between the responsible authorities, such as between the GEA, the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention and the Swedish Police. The Agency also stated that the Government should use the GEA more efficiently in the implementation of the strategy to assist with data and analysis for the Government to improve prioritising between measures and formulate government assignments that contribute to achieving the goals in the strategy. The Government has decided on several joint government assignments to improve collaboration between agencies and increase the ability to detect violence and provide support to victims of violence (see additional information in subsequent sections of this report).

As a measure introduced in the current 99-point action-plan (2021–2023), reporting and monitoring of the implementation of the national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women was subsequently further strengthened by an undertaking to submit a biannual Government Communication to the Parliament on the work with the strategy's implementation. The GEA has been tasked with every second year providing

an in-depth follow-up of the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy containing an analysis of the development in the field based on a number of indicators and implemented measures. The follow-up of the GEA informs the finalisation of the Government's biannual Communication to Parliament. The first Government Communication to this effect was produced in June of 2022 (Govt. Communication 2021/22:267).

Also announced by the 99-point action plan, the Government in June of 2022 decided on a national violence prevention program. It contains measures to strengthen both the early violence prevention work and measures directed towards individuals who have an increased risk of violence.

In 2022, the National Centre against Honour-based violence and oppression was established with the mission to support and contribute to a strategic, preventive, and knowledge-based work against honour-based violence and oppression on a national, regional, and local level.

Since June of this year, Sweden has a new action plan for sexual and reproductive rights. The action plan will contribute to the strengthening and developing of the national work with sexual and reproductive health and rights. The action plan constitutes a joint platform for these efforts and will be in force for 10 years. The action plan is based on the national strategy presented in 2020 by the Swedish Public Health Agency and has six prioritised areas: To develop and further integrate SRHR in public health policy, to strengthen health promotion and preventative efforts, to increase the public knowledge about SRHR, to promote equal access to care, support, and treatment, increased coordination and cooperation, and lastly, to strengthen the production of knowledge as well as assessment and evaluation. The action plan contains actions on national, regional, and local level and includes a broad variety of actors such as civil society, academia, national authorities, decision-makers, and relevant professions.

As reported to the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) in April 2022, the Government in February 2018 decided on a national action plan to combat prostitution and trafficking in human beings for all forms of exploitation. The action plan is a part of the national strategy against men's violence against women and is currently being implemented by relevant actors.

Since June of 2021, the GEA has further been commissioned by the Government to strengthen its work to combat the sexual exploitation of children, prostitution, and human trafficking. The assignment includes measures to strengthen the Agency's preventive work and efforts to ensure that those who are exposed to sexual exploitation, prostitution and human trafficking have access to protection and support. This includes increased capacity building-support and further reinforcement of the regional coordinators against prostitution and human trafficking who as of 2023 are 16 in total. This work is being carried out within the framework of Sweden's National coordination against prostitution and human trafficking (NSPM), based in the GEA, which also leads the National Task Force in this field, consisting of a large number of relevant public authorities.

The Government has also appointed an Inquiry to investigate the possibility to incorporate an EXIT-programme for adults subjected to prostitution and victims of human trafficking for sexual purposes, and another programme for children subjected to sexual exploitation and human trafficking for sexual purposes (A 2022:04, ToR 2022:115). The Inquiry will present its report at the end of 2023.

At the end of 2023, another Government Inquiry on Protection, Support and Care for Victims of Abuses in the Production or Distribution of Pornography will also present its report (A 2022:02, ToR 2022:100, ToR 2023:37).

In line with GREVIO's 2019 recommendation (Baseline Evaluation Report by GREVIO, para 149, p. 40), the Government has declared its intention to submit a bill on shelters for victims of violence to the Parliament in 2023. A draft proposal of the bill had been subjected to public consultation in 2022. The proposal includes several measures aiming to improve the situation of children accompanying an adult guardian in shelters. Today, the needs for support and care of these children are usually not assessed and catered for by the public social services as the guardian is responsible for the child. Furthermore, many children accompanying a guardian in shelters have two guardians and interventions for the child by the authorities may require the consent of both. According to the proposal, sheltered accommodation is to be regulated as a specific measure of the social services. Furthermore, operating a shelter will require a license from the Health and Social Care Inspectorate. Children accompanying an adult guardian in shelters will have

their needs assessed and attended to by the social services. These children will also be offered a health check and their right to education is clarified. The Social Welfare Committee is to appoint a specific social worker to deal with matters concerning the child. Moreover, the Social Welfare Committee will have the powers to restrict contact of the child with a violent guardian and to keep the location of the child secret for such guardian during the stay in the shelter. The proposals allow for more detailed regulations of staff competence and specialisation of shelters and is therefore likely to imply better adaption to the needs of different target groups in general such as victims with disabilities. The new legal framework is expected to enter into force by 1 March 2024.

GREVIO's Baseline Evaluation Report (2019), para 189, p. 47, refers to proposals aimed at strengthening the protection of honour-based crimes, in particular in the form of child marriages. These proposals have now been implemented. Since January 2019, a new main rule applies that no foreign child marriages shall be recognised in Sweden (Chapter 1, Section 8 a of the Act [1904:26 s. 1] on certain international legal relations concerning marriage and guardianship). The prohibition applies regardless of the parties' connection to Sweden when the marriage was entered into or their age at the time of the recognition examination. Exceptions can never be made if one of the parties is still under 18 years of age. The purpose of the legislative amendments is to ensure that everyone in Sweden is protected against child marriages. They also aim to counteract the occurrence of child marriages in Sweden by clearly stating that such marriages are not accepted. (Prohibition of Recognition of Foreign Child Marriages, Govt. Bill 2017/18:288).

In July 2020, a new offence, child marriage offence (Chapter 4, Section 4 c of the Criminal Code), was introduced, which can carry a sentence of imprisonment for at most four years. According to Section 4c it is now a criminal offence to induce or allow a child to enter a marriage or a marriage-like relationship. In addition, an exit ban has been introduced through several amendments in the Care of Young Persons (Special Provisions) Act (1990:52), which is intended to protect children from being taken abroad for the purpose of child marriage or genital mutilation. The exit ban is partly an obstacle to issuing passports, and partly grounds for revoking passports. It is punishable to take a child out of Sweden in violation of an exit ban (Section 45 of the Care of Young Persons (Special Provisions) Act). (Increased Protection Against Honour-based Crimes, Govt. Bill. 2019/20:131).

In 2022, a review of this provision (Ds 2022:9) proposed that it should be expanded to cover the risk of being subjected to all the conditions under which a child could have been considered for care according to the same act in Sweden. In practice, this means that the proposal is better matching the scope of application of the Istanbul Convention than the current ban. The proposal has undergone public consultation and is currently being considered by the Government Offices.

As of 1 of August 2021, the Swedish municipalities must promote behavioural change among perpetrators of domestic violence under a special provision of the Social Services Act (2001:453). When performing this task, the Social Welfare Committee needs to give special consideration to the safety of the victim and of those related to the victim (Govt. Bill 2020/21:163).

As detailed in the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO in 2017, p. 70, the National Board of Health and Welfare is regularly performing death or fatality reviews under a special legal act (2007:606). As of 1 January 2019, the scope of these reviews has been expanded to include some forms of serious non-deadly violence as well as data on the alleged offender. A new provision enables inspections of the authorities concerned, for instance of the social services by the Health and Social Care Inspectorate, in case such inspections have not already been carried out.

In 2023, following an announcement from the Swedish Parliament requesting the Government to introduce a “Vision Zero” policy for violence in intimate partner relationships (Written Communication from the Riksdag (rskr.) 2022/23:166, Report (bet.) 2022/23:AU7), the Government commissioned the GEA to study the proposal. The study should analyse and assess lessons learned from the use of other “Vision Zero” policies, for example as a tool of governance, and should contain recommendations on how a “Vision Zero” can be designed. The result will be reported in February 2024.

As part of the national Strategy for equal rights and opportunities regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, the Government presented an Action Plan for LGBTIQ-persons’ equal rights and opportunities for 2020–2023. The plan includes work to prevent and combat violence in intimate-partner relationships and honour-based violence and

oppression and cross-references the national strategy against men's violence against women.

In January 2023, a Government Committee of Inquiry submitted a proposal for a ten-year National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Violence against Children, A childhood free from violence – A national strategy to prevent and combat violence against children (SOU 2022:70). Covering all forms of violence against children, the proposed strategy contains an overall goal and five long-term objectives as well as an organisation for implementation and an action plan of nearly 60 measures in this area. The proposal was undergoing public consultation until 7 August 2023 and the responses are now being reviewed within the Government Offices of Sweden. It can also be noted that on 1 July 2021 changes in the Health and Medical Services Act entered into force which, *inter alia*, introduced a new chapter outlining the fundamental mission of primary care (HSL 13 a kap). In this context it can especially be noted that this chapter spells out that preventive measures as well as a coordinating role is part of the fundamental mission of primary care.

As follows from the 2017 Government Baseline Report to GREVIO, p. 29, the provision on crime victim support of the Swedish Social Services Act, is supplemented by regulations and general advice (strong recommendations) on interventions against domestic violence by the National Board of Health and Welfare. In managing individual cases as well as in planning overall service provision, the Social Welfare Committees are recommended to consider the additional vulnerability of victims of domestic violence that may follow from, amongst other things, their economic situation, disabilities, gender, sexual orientation, national minority status and age.

On the commission of the Government, the National Board of Health and Welfare developed and disseminated awareness raising materials on violence against children to social and health care workers 2021–2022 (S2021/04597).

The cooperation with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) has continued through agreements for 2021–2023. The focus has turned towards fighting men's violence against women. The Government has also entered into an agreement with SALAR concerning maternity care and women's health 2021–2022 and a new agreement for 2023. Within the framework of these agreements, the regions must ensure a

well-developed chain of care for people who have been subjected to sexual violence or genital mutilation. Furthermore, the regions must work to increase the knowledge of healthcare employees in order to improve their ability to detect sexual violence and genital mutilation. The Government has also entered into agreements with SALAR concerning efforts in the field of mental health and suicide prevention 2021–2022, 2023 a field important to preventing violence. (See further information below under the section on Article 20). Additionally, the Government has entered an agreement with SALAR 2023–2025 regarding open day care in order to increase labour market participation of foreign-born women

As stated in Sweden's Reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties in January 2022 (1.1), the Government in 2019 commissioned the Sámi Parliament to map out and analyse Sámi society from a gender equality perspective (KU2019/00469/CSM, KU2019/01249/CSM). In its report presented in 2021 (Dnr. 1.3.8-2019-821, Ku2021/01191), the Sámi Parliament suggested new measures to increase gender equality in the Sámi community, preventive work, and increased research on gender equality and to combat and prevent violence against Sámi women and girls. One of the proposed measures in the study was to establish a support structure for Sami women and girls who are victims of violence and to identify gaps in the support and protection provided by authorities and women's shelters. During 2021–2024 the Government has commissioned the Sámi Parliament to promote gender equality in the Sámi society and to prevent and combat men's violence against Sámi women and girls (Ku2020/00767 Ku2021/01191 Ku2021/02210).

Commissioned by the Government, the Sámi Parliament and the Administrative Board of Stockholm County share the responsibility for coordinating and evaluating the municipal implementation of Sweden's minority policy including its gender mainstreaming. The Sami Parliament is responsible for Sámi, and the Administrative Board of Stockholm County is responsible for Jews, Roma, Swedish Finns and Tornedalers.

Furthermore, the GEA has a government commission in 2023 to map the knowledge among municipalities, regions, and authorities regarding violence against elderly persons, aged 65 and above, and to identify knowledge gaps. The agency is also to assess efforts to prevent and detect violence within this

target group, as well as the interventions provided to those who have been subjected to violence. The assignment includes proposing measures at the national, regional, or local level as needed, to enhance the ability to detect violence, and provide support and protection for those affected (A2022/01653).

In 2020, the Government commissioned the National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) to study what measures can be taken to prevent violence in intimate partner relationships amongst young persons. (Ju 2020/03036). Based on the recommendations of this study, the Government in 2023, commissioned the GEA to map how different public authorities raise awareness and disseminate knowledge on violence amongst young people in intimate partner relationships, develop guidance material for professional groups as well as further recommend preventive measures (A2023/01276).

In 2023, the Government commissioned the GEA in cooperation with the National Board of Health and Welfare, the National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence Against Women and the Public Health Agency of Sweden to map violence and the risk of violence in close relationships against LGBTIQ-persons. The commission includes to propose measures targeting relevant professionals (A2023/01065).

Information on how policies on violence against women and domestic violence put women's rights and their empowerment at the centre and on measure taken to enhance the intersectionality of such policies are also further developed in subsequent sections of this report.

In addition to what is stated above regarding comprehensive and co-ordinated policies and related legislative changes, Sweden has, since the 2017 Government Baseline report to GREVIO, implemented a number of legislative amendments in the area of criminal law, with the aim of strengthening the protection of violence and oppression committed in the name of so-called "honour", men's violence against women, violence against children, and sexual offences. Several of these are mentioned in the follow-up reporting and comments from 2019 and 2022, including the major reform of the sexual offences legislation that was made in 2018 and which is based on consent (Govt. Bill 2017/18:177).

In addition, the following measures in the field of criminal law can be mentioned.



## **Crimes committed in the name of so-called “honour”**

Sweden has carried out extensive work to combat honour-based violence and oppression, in addition to the work described above in relation to child marriages.

In July 2020, whether a motive for the offence was to preserve or restore the honour of a person or of an immediate or wider family or some other similar group was introduced as a new aggravating circumstance that shall be given consideration when assessing penalty value, in addition to what applies for each specific type of offence, (Chapter 29. Section 2 of the Criminal Code). (Increased Protection Against Honour-based Crimes, Govt. Bill 2019/20:131).

In May 2021, two new offences were introduced, the offences to encourage suicide and to negligently encourage suicide (Chapter 4, Section 7a of the Criminal Code). According to Section 7a, a person who encourages, or in some other similar way exercises psychological influence on, another person to commit suicide is, if the act is liable to result in a not insignificant danger of such an action, guilty of encouraging suicide and is sentenced to imprisonment for at most two years. A person who commits such an act and does not have intent but is negligent, is guilty of negligently encouraging suicide and is sentenced to a fine or imprisonment for at most six months. The preparatory work states, among other things, that one phenomenon that has attracted attention in recent years is young women jumping from balconies or windows to take their own lives. In many cases, they are suspected to have been driven by families and criminals and, according to the police, these are often in fact disguised criminal acts in the name of honour, where the families previously could escape punishment because the way to go about it was suicide (A Special Penal Provision for Incitement to Suicide, Govt. Bill 2020/21:74).

In June 2022, a new offence was introduced into the Criminal Code, honour-based oppression. Thereby, a special stricter penalty scale was introduced for those who repeatedly commit certain criminal acts against a person with a motive to preserve or restore the honour of a person or of an immediate or wider family or some other similar group, if each of the acts was part of a repeated violation of the person’s integrity and were liable to severely

damage the person's self-esteem. (A Special Crime for Honour Oppression, Govt. Bill 2021/22:138).

In June 2023, a government appointed Inquiry submitted a report regarding measures against control of girls' and women's sexuality (SOU 2023:37). The Inquiry proposes the introduction of a new penalty provision on virginity testing in the Swedish Criminal Code. The Inquiry also proposes criminalisation of virginity surgery through new provisions in the Swedish Act (1982:316) prohibiting female genital mutilation. Furthermore, the Inquiry proposes expanding the possibility of ordering a travel ban in cases in which there is a substantial risk that someone under 18 years of age will be taken abroad or leave Sweden in order to undergo virginity surgery or virginity testing. The Inquiry also proposes criminalisation of failure to disclose coercion to marry and child marriage offences.

### **Men's violence against women and violence against children, etc.**

In June 2019, the Government appointed an Inquiry tasked with, *inter alia*, analysing and, where necessary, proposing the additional amendments in the area of non-contact orders. The Inquiry submitted its report in October 2020, and in June 2021 the Government, among other things, proposed amendments in the area of non-contact orders, mainly based on the Inquiry's results. See more under article 52–53. The proposed amendments entered into force in January 2022. To better reflect the seriousness of the crime, the penalties for violations in a domestic context was also strengthened. For example, the minimum sentence for gross violation of integrity and gross violation of a woman's integrity was increased from imprisonment for at least nine months to imprisonment for at least one year. Additional measures to prevent and combat violence and other violations and protect victims have also been introduced. Defamation is now included as part of the crime's gross violation of integrity, gross violation of a woman's integrity, and unlawful harassment (Tougher Penalties for Violence and Other Violations in Close Relationships, Govt. Bill 2020/21:217).

In order to strengthen the protection of children who witness crimes within the family, a new graded offence, violation of a child's integrity and gross violation of a child's integrity, was introduced in July 2021. Violation of a child's integrity means that it is punishable to expose a child to witnessing certain criminal acts, such as violence and sexual offences in a domestic

context. Furthermore, the right to compensation for criminal damage for children who witness crimes has been strengthened. In order to strengthen the position of children in general, the mandate of the special representative of a child under the Act on Special Representatives for Children has also been expanded (Children Who Witness Crimes, Govt. Bill 2020/21:170).

In February 2022, the Government appointed an Inquiry to, among other things, consider whether gender as a hate crime motive should be added as a new aggravating circumstance. The report is to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice no later than 24 November 2023 (Children's Protection Against Sexual Violations and Certain Issues of Crimes Against Women and the Elderly, Ju2022:01, ToR 2022:7 and ToR 2023:17. See below.)

In order to ensure that the legal framework governing non-contact orders as far as possible meets the interest of providing protection, primarily to women and children who are exposed to domestic violence, the Government appointed a new Inquiry to review the legal framework (primarily the Non-Contact Order Act) and evaluate whether the possibilities for issuing non-contact orders should be extended. The Inquiry shall, *inter alia*, submit legislative proposals regarding the possibilities to greatly expand the geographical area for non-contact orders, in the event of a particularly serious threat. The Inquiry is also tasked with examining the scale of penalties for violation of a child's integrity, gross violation of integrity and gross violation of a woman's integrity. The report is to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice no later than 7 February 2024 (A Review of the No-contact Legislation, ToR 2022:114 and ToR 2023:36).

Furthermore, the Government appointed an Inquiry to consider changes within the framework of the penalty system, for example with regard to parole, which provide for increased or new possibilities to decide where a convicted person should or may not stay. Among other things, this is considered to be an effective means of counteracting continued criminal offences and providing increased protection for those who are subjected to violence in a domestic context or honour-based violence and oppression. The Inquiry is also tasked with proposing how a violation of a residence ban should be regulated. In order to ensure that a convicted person can be subject to effective control and recidivism prevention measures for a sufficiently long time, the investigator shall also review whether changes are needed regarding the probation period after parole. The investigator shall

also consider and, regardless of the position taken on the substance, propose amendments in order to restrict the right to and tighten the conditions for leave and other temporary stay outside of prison. The report is to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice no later than 1 July 2024 (The Inquiry on Enhanced Social Protection and a Reduced Risk of Recidivism, ToR 2022:95 and ToR 2023:74).

### **Sexual offences**

In order to strengthen the protection against serious sexual offences committed from a distance, for example over the Internet, the provisions on rape and sexual assault, including the corresponding offences against children, have been extended. Relevant provisions have also been made neutral with regards to gender and sexual orientation. Furthermore, the provision regarding exploitation of a child for sexual posing has been extended to include conduct in which the child has been completely passive.

New penal provisions regarding sexual molestation have also been introduced. To better reflect the seriousness of the crimes, the penalties for sexual offences against children have also been increased. The penalties for the purchase of sexual services and exploitation of a child through the purchase of a sexual act was also increased. The amendments entered into force on 1 August 2022 (Stricter View of Rape and Other Sexual Violations, Govt. Bill 2021/22:231.)

In February 2022, the Government appointed an Inquiry to review, *inter alia*, the criminal legislation regarding sexual abuse of children. The Inquiry shall, among other things, review the legal framework regarding exploitation of a child through the purchase of a sexual act, purchase of sexual services and procuring through the use of internet-based tools. The Inquiry shall also evaluate the criminal responsibility for negligence regarding the age of a child in relation to sexual violations. It shall also consider whether the use of the term “child pornography” should be amended in criminal law to clarify that certain offences are documented sexual abuse of children. The report shall be submitted to the Ministry of Justice no later than 24 November 2023. (Childrens Protection against Sexual Violations and Certain Issues of Crimes against Women and the Elderly, ToR 2022:7 and ToR 2023:17).

## **Article 8: Funding**

Expenditure area 13 in the Central government budget is dedicated to gender equality and the introduction of newly arrived immigrants. The annual budget allocation for special gender equality measures (Särskilda jämställdhetsåtgärder) has increased in general since 2018. Approximately 90 percent of the budgeted expenditures have been dedicated to the sixth sub-goal of the Swedish gender equality policy.

However, it is difficult to provide an absolute amount for the allocations towards preventing and combating men's violence against women since it would risk underestimating the total allocation of the government budget. Notably, the allocations to the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy do not include core funding to public authorities or for example the criminal justice system.

Nevertheless, some key new developments concerning the allocation of sustainable financial resources since the adoption of the Baseline Evaluation Report by GREVIO can be mentioned.

As of 2022, the level of funding for the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy within the national budget was made permanent at 300 million SEK a year. The same year, an additional 150 million SEK were permanently allocated for Women's Shelters and Young Women's Empowerment Centres, their national organisations and other organisations that work with similar support for victims of violence (see additional information further down in this section). It should here be noted that these latter funds are to support activities of the organisations running the shelters and centres but are not meant to fund the actual shelter running costs as this responsibility by law falls on the municipalities. See also further information pertaining to funding for shelter activities further down in this section. In 2022, a new ordinance on government grants for certain types of violence prevention measures (2022:722) was introduced, administered by the Gender Equality Agency and available to civil society organisations, municipalities, and regions. The aim of the ordinance is to strengthen, develop and evaluate violence prevention measures concerning men's violence against women, violence in intimate partner relationships, sexual violence, honour-based violence and oppression as well as prostitution and trafficking for sexual purposes. It also aims to further the development of evidence-based measures. While the ordinance is permanent, the allocated budget from the

budget on special gender equality measures is determined on a bi-annual basis. So far it has been close to 43 million SEK for 2023–2024.

Permanent earmarking of funds serves to enhance long-term stability and predictability.

In the current Government's first national budget (covering the year 2023), a further 50 million SEK a year was permanently allocated towards the preventive work against honour-related violence and oppression.

Additionally, non-permanent funds are allocated for time limited measures and reforms. As referenced in the introduction above, the Government in the budget bill for 2024 has proposed to earmark a total of 603 million SEK for the sixth sub-goal of the gender equality policy. This includes the above mentioned permanently earmarked funds as well as the three-year annual allocation of 50 million SEK mentioned in the introduction.

Outside of the budget for special gender equality measures, the Government is awarding the municipalities a permanent financial compensation of 60 million SEK per year for the 2021 reform concerning services for perpetrators of domestic violence and is proposing a compensation of 336 million SEK per year to the municipalities and regions for the reform on sheltered accommodation (see further information under the section on Article 7 above).

Notable budget allocations made permanent in previous years include a budget allocation towards the core funding of the County Administrative Boards of 100 million SEK annually earmarked towards the work to combat men's violence against women (at every County Administrative Board, there is a function responsible for co-ordinating the work to prevent and combat men's violence against women, honour-based violence and oppression, prostitution, and trafficking in human beings).

The financing of the Preventell national helpline to prevent sexual violence (see further information under the section on Article 16 of this report) from expenditure area 16 of the national budget, was made permanent, replacing a previous project funding modality.

The National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women (NCK) based at Uppsala University and Uppsala University Hospital,

received an 8 million SEK annual increase of its previous permanent budget allocation.

Since 2018, the Government has funded an agreement with the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) on gender equality and protection of women against violence (kvinnofrid). During 2018–2020, the Government funded the agreement with a minimum of 20 million SEK annually and 2021 – 2023 the Government’s contribution has been 20–25 million SEK annually with co-financing from SALAR of up to 7 million SEK a year. Within the agreement for 2021–2023 which also includes work to strengthen gender mainstreaming, a particular emphasis has been placed on strengthening work against honour-based violence and oppression as well as a special focus on social services.

Regarding development concerning the provision of appropriate and sustainable financial and human resources for women’s rights organisations that provide specialist support services to victims, the Government, as noted above, has permanently allocated 150 million SEK a year for Women’s Shelters and Young Women’s Empowerment Centres, their national organisations and other organisations that work with similar support for victims of violence. The Government has the possibility to increase this level of funding and occasionally does so. In 2023, an additional sum of 50 million was allocated to complement the funding available for women’s and girls’ shelters to apply for. As mentioned above, civil society organisations can also apply for funds under the ordinance on government grants for certain types of violence prevention measures (2022:722) mentioned above.

As a temporary measure to enable meeting the anticipated minimum standards on shelters which the Health and Social Care Inspectorate (IVO) will require to issue licenses in accordance with the proposed law on shelters for victims of violence, the Government has allocated additional funds for government grants which shelters can apply for. On an exceptional basis, these funds are allowed to be used for the direct running costs of the shelters to, for example, undertake security improvements. In 2022 and 2023, 50 million SEK a year was granted for this temporary measure and for in 2024, 20 million SEK has been proposed.

As of 2022, there is a new ordinance for government grants to municipalities, regions as well as civil society organisations for prevention of

certain forms of violence (Ordinance (2022:722)). The forms of violence include men's violence against women, intimate partner violence, sexual violence, honour-based violence and oppression, as well as prostitution and trafficking in humans for sexual purposes. The Gender Equality Agency administers these grants (approximately 40 million SEK a year), and civil society organisations could use the funding for the first time under this ordinance in 2023. The funding for this ordinance is provided to the GEA by the Government from the budget for the sixth sub-goal.

As part of the Government's commission to the Swedish Gender Equality Agency to strengthen its work to combat the sexual exploitation of children, prostitution and human trafficking, the Agency is furthermore assigned to distribute funds to the National Support Program (Nationella stödprogrammet, NSP) which is managed by the Swedish Platform Civil Society against Human Trafficking and offers support to persons subjected to prostitution and human trafficking in accordance with Sweden's international undertakings. The GEA is also assigned to distribute funds to the Assisted Voluntary Return and Reintegration Program for victims of human trafficking.

#### **Article 11: Data collection and research**

As described in Sweden's reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties in January 2022, new data categories on several crimes related to men's violence against women were introduced in the official crime statistics in 2019. The new categories specify the age and sex of the victim (under 18 years old/18 or older, man/woman) and for victims 18 or older, the relationship between victim and perpetrator (intimate partner, family member, other perpetrator known to the victim or perpetrator unknown to the victim). The crimes covered by the new data categories include:

- attempted murder or manslaughter
- assault
- unlawful deprivation of liberty
- unlawful coercion
- gross violation of integrity
- gross violation of a woman's integrity
- unlawful harassment
- unlawful threat



- unlawful violation of privacy
- non-sexual molestation
- rape including gross rape
- negligent rape
- sexual assault
- negligent sexual assault
- violation of restraining order without electronic monitoring.

Official crime statistics according to the above-mentioned categories is available for reported and processed offences as well as persons suspected of offences. The statistics on conviction decisions and sentencing is not.

As also mentioned in the reporting form in 2022, in December 2021, the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) published new statistics on plaintiffs (for quality reasons, the target population has initially been limited to selected crimes directed against persons). The new plaintiff statistics include basic statistics on the number of physical plaintiffs divided by gender, age, and type of crime 2014–2021. The purpose of plaintiff statistics is, among other things, to supplement the picture of victims of crime reported in the Swedish Crime Survey.

Please refer to Appendix B for data according to the above-mentioned categories.

The 2017–2020 Government Committee of Inquiry reviewing the Social Services Act (SOU 2020:47) has proposed a new legal framework for administrative data on the social services in order to develop national statistics in this area. The proposals of the committee have undergone public consultation and are currently being considered by the Government Offices.

In 2019, new data categories for official crime statistics were introduced for the crime “breaches of non-contact orders”, Section 24 of the Non-Contact Order Act (1988:688) (in official crime statistics, this crime is named “violation of restraining order without electronic monitoring”). The new categories include age and sex of the victim (under 18 years old/18 or older, man/woman) and for victims 18 or older, the relationship between victim and perpetrator (intimate partner, family member, other perpetrator known to the victim or perpetrator unknown to the victim).

Official Swedish crime statistics on convictions is structured according to the section of the law, not according to the data categories mentioned above.

As stated in Sweden's reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties in January 2022, acting on government instructions, the authorities in the judicial chain are continuously working to develop a better exchange of information in the criminal justice process. In 2020, the Government enacted a regulation (2019:1283) on the digitalisation of the judiciary. The regulation contains provisions on the coordination of work on digital information exchanges and other measures relating to digitization in criminal proceedings. A council consisting of the heads of eleven authorities has been established, called the Council for the Digitization of the Judiciary. The Council serves as a decision-making forum where the authorities agree on relevant issues. Each authority then implements its part of the joint agreements that have been reached.

The work has recently resulted in the introduction of so-called legal information in the Police Authority's system. In 2023, a joint project to develop and improve the data exchanges from the National Police Authority to the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention has started. The project aims, among other things, to expand the data exchange on reported offences with so-called legal information and will provide the possibility to increase in the quality of statistics on reported abuse of women in that regard.

In 2021, the Council for the Digitization of the Judiciary developed a strategic plan for 2023–2027 that outlines the vision and strategic goals for digitization. One of the goals is to have the right digital prerequisites for follow-up and analysis within the justice system.

In October 2022, a new operational support was implemented in the courts, which enables fully digital criminal case decisions (DiBa). The system means increased traceability through the legal chain, which in turn leads to both better abilities to keep records up-to-date and correct, and time and efficiency gains. It is also a vital prerequisite for the authorities' continued joint digitisation work, including tracking a crime from reporting to conviction.

In 2023, the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) initiated a feasibility study regarding the prerequisites for developing new statistics that will enable following a case from prosecution further in the legal chain (at present, reported crime, including cases of violence against women and domestic violence, can be tracked from reporting to prosecution). In this work, international conventions, such as the Istanbul Convention, are considered.

## **Part II: Information on the implementation of selected provisions in priority areas in the field of prevention, protection and prosecution**

### **Article 12: General obligations**

The below text complements information already reported under Part I on Article 7 of this report.

As stated in the above-mentioned section on Article 7, Sweden has established a National Centre against Honour-based Violence and Oppression, (NCH), and several government commissions have been made to raise awareness and increase knowledge about honour-based violence and oppression, including on female genital mutilation. Please also refer to the information pertaining to Articles 7 and 8 of the convention on permanent earmarking of funds towards this area of work in the budget for special gender equality measures as well as the terms of reference for the new Committee of Inquiry for A Strengthened Long-term Governance of the Work Against Gender-based Violence and Honour-based Violence and Oppression.

The Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) supports violence prevention work, primarily by providing training in process support to County Administrative Boards to promote a gender-transformative approach in local-level prevention work addressing the heightened exposure to gender-based violence by women and girls at risk of intersectional discrimination. The GEA also supports violence prevention efforts aimed at youth in intimate partner relationships (A2021/02397).

In 2022, the Government tasked the Swedish Crime Victim Authority to carry out targeted information efforts for people in particularly vulnerable situations, such as children and young people and people exposed to honour-based violence and oppression. The authority is tasked to collect

information and experience from the National Centre against Honour-based Violence and Oppression when planning the information efforts.

In October 2021, the Swedish Agency for Participation (MfD) was commissioned to compile knowledge about the exposure to violence among persons with disabilities and identifying knowledge gaps (A2021/02052). In particular, the Agency was to take into account knowledge of exposure to honour-based violence and oppression. The assignment included carrying out a survey of the measures taken to prevent and detect violence in the target group including on the knowledge about violence against persons with disabilities by employees who interact with persons with disabilities that have been or might have been subjected to violence, and how this knowledge is disseminated and utilised in relevant activities. It also included proposing measures that can be taken at national, regional, or local level. The results of the assignments were presented in 2023 and the Agency for Participation has carried out many different dissemination and communication efforts to change mentalities and attitudes as well as raise awareness of the heightened exposure to violence of the target group.

In June 2023, the Agency for Participation was commissioned by the Government to chart and develop support material on violence against children and young persons with disabilities. In addition, the Agency will do in-depth charting of honour-based violence and oppression against persons with disabilities. The Agency will identify the target group's particular vulnerability, conditions and needs (S2023/02178).

As previously referenced in the reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to state parties in January 2022, the Government in February 2012, adopted a coordinated long-term strategy for Roma inclusion for the years 2012–2032. The overall goal of the 20-year strategy is that a Roma who turns 20 years of age in 2032 is to have the same opportunities in life as a non-Roma. Women and children are prioritised in the strategy.

The GEA has been commissioned by the Government to identify knowledge gaps and map educational needs regarding men's violence against women. The Agency has been tasked with identifying potential knowledge gaps concerning men's violence against women and intimate partner violence among professional groups that interact with victims of violence.

The assignment encompassed all target groups and types of victimisations outlined in the National Strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women. The task particularly focused on shedding light on knowledge gaps among professions that encounter individuals in vulnerable situations for various reasons (A2022/00986)

In 2018, an Act came into effect in Sweden which *inter alia* means that all non-consensual sex is illegal (the Act of consent). In 2018, the Swedish Crime Victim Authority was tasked by the Government to produce a web-based training and an accompanying teacher's guide on the legislation. The assignment also included to produce and disseminate information about the legislation to other relevant target groups. Target groups were mainly young people aged 13–25 and adults who meet young people in their everyday lives within, *inter alia*, schools, civil society organisations, the judiciary, social services, and healthcare. Within the scope of the assignment, the authority has produced a web-based training and teacher's guide on the legislation for teachers. The material is primarily aimed at children aged 13–20. The authority has advertised on websites for teachers and other school staff and has sent e-mails, carried out webcasts for professionals within the school and participated in external events to spread information about the web-based training and the material. The authority has also developed the website [frivilligtsex.se](http://frivilligtsex.se) (free will only). The website is primarily aimed at young people but also at teachers and others who come into contact with young people and inform about the legislation. It contains information in Swedish as well as 15 other languages. In 2022, the website had approximately 91,000 visits. The authority has conducted a campaign that informed about the legislation and the website, which reached approximately seven out of ten young people aged 18–25. Parents have received a leaflet with information about the legislation and how to talk to their children about the issue.

In March 2022, the Government commissioned the GEA to increase the knowledge on how violence in close relationships and honour-based violence and oppression impact working life and what regulations that exist (A2022/00389). As part of the work undertaken by the GEA as part of this commission, the Agency has together with other relevant actors developed an online course for managers and colleagues with the purpose of increasing the knowledge of how one may participate in the prevention and detection of violence.

In February 2022, the Government commissioned The Swedish Research Council for Sport Science to carry out an in-depth analysis of the role of the sports movement in the preventive work against men's violence against women (Ju2022/00518). The report was presented in June 2023.

In 2020 the Government commissioned the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society to analyse obstacles and opportunities for young women born abroad to establish themselves in working life, including an analysis of possible consequences of honour-based violence and oppression that may constitute obstacles for establishment in working life (Ku2020/00914/CSM). The report was presented in March 2021.

#### **Article 14: Education**

The Swedish national curriculum defines goals and guidelines based on fundamental values, including gender equality and the prevention of degrading treatment and harassment, as per Section 5 of the Swedish Education Act. Schools have an important role to play in helping to create a culture of consent, where sex is based on mutual consent and sexual harassment is not normalised. Curricula therefore include reinforced wording on sexuality, consent and relationships and honour-based violence and oppression. The reinforced wording emphasises that teaching in this area of knowledge should be recurrent and contribute to promoting pupils' health and well-being, and also strengthen their ability to make informed and independent choices.

See also answer to Article 12, p. 9 c regarding a web-based training and an accompanying teacher's guide produced by the Swedish Crime Victim Authority about the Act of consent, which, *inter alia*, means that all non-consensual sex is illegal.

The National Agency for Education supports providers of compulsory and upper-secondary education by offering material and professional development in the area of equal treatment and non-discrimination. Starting at the level of pre-school, efforts are made to counteract gender stereotypes and gender roles that limit girls and boys in exploring their abilities.

Between 2021–2025, the National Agency for Education is commissioned by the Government to raise the awareness and capacity of school and pre-school personnel on detecting and preventing honour-based violence and

oppression (U2021/04517, U2021/04946). This includes child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation. In addition, as part of a broader commission, the Swedish Schools Inspectorate has been commissioned to review the schools' preventive work on honour-based violence and other forms of violence and oppression (U2023/02766).

It is stated in the Higher Education Act that all higher education institutions are obliged to promote gender equality in their work. There is also a governmental strategy for the higher education institutions, along many other state agencies and authorities, to work with gender mainstreaming. Furthermore, in 2023, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) conducted a follow-up on how higher education institutions work with gender equality (2023:09). In the report they conclude that large part of the higher education institutions state that they focus the gender mainstreaming work on the part of the core business that deals with education. It can, among other things include the development of the content and form of the education and gender equality perspective, for example, reviewing course content and course literature or working with subject development, student influence, and different forms of evaluation, teaching, and examination forms.

In recent years, in accordance with a Government Commission, the GEA has continued an existing collaboration with the Swedish civil society organisations MÄN and Unizon and together updated an existing handbook, *Inget att vänta på* ("Nothing to wait for"), in consultation with a range of relevant actors from public agencies, regional authorities, as well as civil society and academia. The updated handbook, which was published in 2019 in Swedish, brings together knowledge on violence, gender, and violence prevention. It provides concrete guidance regarding how to implement systematic and knowledge-based violence-prevention work in five steps.

*Jealousy is not romantic* (*Svartsjuka är inte romantiskt*) is an annual campaign as well as a website and targets young persons subjected to intimate partner violence or young persons who are worried about a friend or a kin. However, it is also a resource for persons who want to increase their knowledge of intimate partner violence amongst youth as well as boys' violence against girls.

The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society is commissioned to carry out information efforts regarding honour-based violence and oppression, including child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation, as well as health and equality, including prostitution and human trafficking, aimed at professionals and other adults who meet young new arrivals and young asylum seekers in their work or in non-profit engagements.

The Swedish Media Council is a government agency tasked with promoting the empowerment of minors as conscious media users and to protect them from harmful media influences. Since 2018, the agency coordinates the national effort for strengthened media and information literacy in the general population, leading a multistakeholder network of 22 public agencies and national organisations from cross-cutting areas of expertise. In 2022, linked to the general elections in Sweden, the network for example compiled educational materials on media and information literacy linked to the parliamentary elections targeting school librarians, educators, study associations and institutions in higher education. (With co-funding from the European Union, the Swedish Media Council also co-manages the Swedish Safer Internet-Center which cooperates with its European peers to create a safer and better internet for children and young people in Europe.)

In 2021, the Swedish Crime Victim Authority conducted an awareness-raising campaign on online hate speech and democratic participation which reached some three million people in accordance with an assignment from the Swedish government (Ju2021/03329). Informed by needs assessments, the campaign both aimed to raise awareness to counter online hate speech in the democratic debate, and to inform individuals exposed to hate speech where they can turn to for information and assistance.

### **Article 15: Training of professionals**

In addition to the information on this topic stated throughout the current report, please refer to information on initial and in-service training of professionals in the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO in 2017, Comments submitted by Sweden on GREVIO's final Baseline report in 2019 (comments 2, 3, 4, 12 and 14), and Sweden's answer to the Reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to the state parties from January 2022 (1.1, 22.1, 25.1, 32).



Education programmes have been assessed to be insufficient regarding the teaching of violence against women. In response to these findings, the Higher Education Ordinance was amended with effect from the academic year 2018–2019. Students in the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy, Master of Law, Master of Science in Medicine, Master of Science in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Dental Surgery and Bachelor of Science in Social Work will be required to demonstrate knowledge of men's violence against women.

By means of following up on these requirements, the Swedish Higher Education Authority was commissioned by the Government to chart how issues of men's violence against women and violence in intimate partner relationships is included in education for 13 selected degrees as well as other educations that include a qualitative target to show knowledge on men's violence against women and violence in intimate partner relationships, in total 15 degrees (U2019/01910, U2021/04851 (delvis), U2021/04889).

In its report on the commission from the end of 2022 (2022:19), the Swedish Higher Education Authority, *inter alia*, noted that three quarters of the programmes examined included teaching on men's violence against women or women in intimate partner relationships. The programmes that included teaching on the topic included all programmes that had a qualitative target in accordance with the Higher Education Ordinance, as well as some that did not include such targets. In comparison to a similar study conducted in 2015, the new report showed that teaching in this field was significantly more common in 2022. The greatest increase was noted amongst programmes for law degrees and dentists, followed by programmes for sociologists, doctors and nurses. Programmes for teachers stood out in that teaching on these topics had decreased since 2015. However, their programmes include teaching related to the topic in various ways, specifically as it relates to children and youth. Universities have been provided courses on a range of themes. In 2022, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA), in collaboration with the National Center for Knowledge on Men's Violence Against Women, launched web-based knowledge support, which is open to the public. However, the support is targeted towards universities.

As part of the work of the National coordination against prostitution and human trafficking (NSPM), the GEA develops and conducts trainings for

professionals regarding child sexual exploitation, prostitution and trafficking in human beings for all purposes.

In 2023, the Government has decided on a Commission of Inquiry on How to improve the Education of Early Childhood and Primary School Teaching in which a special focus is violence and sexual abuse against children (U 2023:03, ToR 2023:11).

The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) has developed a platform for introduction and capacity building for professionals within the social services. Five additional platforms will be developed within areas prioritised by the municipalities. Knowledge on intimate partner violence is included.

The Swedish Agency for Health and Care Services Analysis (Myndigheten för vård- och omsorgsanalys) is implementing a government assignment to study honour-based violence and oppression (A2023/00924).

In 2021, the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society was tasked to develop and distribute an online education for youth workers (Ku2020/02624).

In 2021, the Government furthermore commissioned the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society to produce and disseminate information material on honour-based violence and oppression and on violence prevention work, targeting youth workers and other professionals who work with young people's leisure time outside the school system. The purpose of the information material was to increase the knowledge among professionals working with young people outside of the school system of methods that can contribute to the work against honour-based violence and oppression and methods for effective violence prevention work (A2021/01300).

The Media Institute Fojo, through the Linnaeus University, has been commissioned by the Government to strengthen the preventive work against hatred and threats against journalists, with a particular focus on reaching smaller editorial offices and freelancers. They arrange workshops, lectures and training courses, both within the framework of journalistic education and also to educate special investigators of democracy and hate crimes at the Police Academy. Fojo also provides a digital knowledge bank with information and tools for journalists and editors and has organised

opportunities for experience and knowledge sharing and provided support and advice for exposed journalists and newsroom editors.

No data is available at national level on when expertise of women's rights organisations or specialist support services is integrated in the design and/or implementation of trainings in this area of work. However, many women's shelters and young women's empowerment centres as well as the national associations for these organisations offer advice and training on violence against women, domestic violence and honour-based violence and oppression to public authorities.

### **Article 16: Preventive intervention and treatment programmes**

As outlined under Part I, Article 7 of this report, since 2021, there is a legal requirement for the municipalities to promote behavioural change among perpetrators of domestic violence.

The Government has commissioned the County Administrative Boards to support the municipalities in carrying out this legal obligation during 2023–2028, e.g., with capacity building measures aimed at social service professionals.

According to the Swedish Social Services Act (Ch 3, para 3) the municipalities are furthermore obliged to ensure that their social services are of good quality and delivered by staff with appropriate training and experience. This requirement applies to all relevant provisions of the same act including the one on promoting behavioural change among perpetrators of domestic violence (Ch 5, para 11 a).

By means of supporting the municipalities with this responsibility, the Government in 2021 commissioned the National Board of Health and Welfare to develop a permanent task force for national coordination and knowledge development focusing on relapse prevention for perpetrators of violence in intimate partner relationships (A2021/02083).

The Government commissioned the County Administrative Boards with a long-term assignment 2023–2028 to support the municipalities with capacity building focused on relapse prevention for perpetrators of violence in close relationships, including honour-based violence and oppression (Fi2023/02050).

A pilot helpline for adults “Choose to stop” (Välja att sluta) at risk of using violence against intimate partners was established in 2019 through a cooperation between the County Administrative Board of Stockholm and Skåne and the Private Foundation Manscentrum which also operates the helpline. The project was financed by the Government. Following an assessment of the pilot phase of the helpline by the National Board of Health and Welfare, the project was scaled up and expanded to the national level as of January 2021. As of 2023, the helpline with number 020-555 666 continues to be operated by Manscentrum but under the auspices of the above-mentioned task force as part of the National Board of Health and Welfare. The help motivates perpetrators of gender-based violence to seek professional treatment. Between 4 February – 31 December 2021, Manscentrum reported 1588 incoming calls. 754 of those calls were from perpetrators of violence, and the rest came from professionals working with the issues, victims of violence and others. During 2022, an increase in calls compared to 2021 was observed, and during 2022, 81% of the persons seeking help for their violent behaviour were men and 19% women. This is a similar proportion to previous years.

In 2022, the Government proposed that Preventell is to be permanent. Preventell is a national helpline, at the Karolinska University Hospital, to prevent sexual violence. The target group is persons with self-perceived risk behaviour, compulsive behaviour, sexual interest in children and impulsive sexual behaviour. As part of the strengthening of preventative measures, the Government provides long-term conditions for increased knowledge in the area and for the national helpline for preventing sexual violence. Buyers of sexual services or people with other obsessive sexual behaviours, who wish to reduce or stop behaviours that risk impacting others and themselves negatively, are offered counselling at specialised centres called “KAST”. Relatives can also receive advice and support at the centres. Such centres today exist in Stockholm, Malmö (Evonhuset), Göteborg, Karlstad, Västerås, Umeå and Skellefteå.

Subject to budget availability, a five-year assessment study (2022–2025) is under way of the above-mentioned KAST-centres as part of a collaboration between the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) and several County Administrative Boards. The study which will both assess the self-perceived effects on the clients and to document the working methods of the centres, is conducted by researchers at the Gothenburg Region (GR) unit for

Research and Development. The aim of the undertaking is to increase knowledge of risk factors and actionable methods to achieve behavioural change amongst men who exploit women in prostitution.

Further to the information provided in the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO, the Swedish Prison and Probation Service (SPPS) is currently running three different treatment programmes for perpetrators of domestic and sexual violence.

The SPPS has two specially designed programs aimed at clients convicted of domestic violence, Predov (Preventing Domestic Violence) and Relationsvåldsprogrammet (RVP). Both are individual CBT-based program that addresses clients who have been convicted of having committed domestic violence. The SPPS also offers a programme aimed at clients convicted of sexual violence, Seif. All three programs have been accredited by scientific panels.

In 2022, SPSS was commissioned by the Government to develop a plan for the national implementation of Predov in municipalities and regions (A2022/00841). In October 2023, the Government commissioned SPSS and the National Board of Health and Welfare to implement and evaluate the impact of Predov at the municipal level. The commission will go on until 2028.

The SPPS also has a special preparatory motivational program that primarily aim to prepare and motivate clients to actively participate in treatment programs.

The SPPS is only implementing evidence-based rehabilitation programs. In order to secure effectiveness, the programs are regularly reviewed by a scientific panel and only programs fulfilling the requirements will be granted accreditation. To be approved, a program must among other things include a clear model of change based on scientific evidence, and must pass the accreditation, including monitoring of implementation and staff competence. Before applying for accreditation, the program is usually tried out in a limited extent during development. After accreditation the aim is to offer the program to all offenders, according to assessed risk and needs.

The responsibility of SPPS, when it comes to victims, is informing victims about which authorities/bodies can offer help + taking measures aiming at

avoiding that victims or other vulnerable people around the convicted person are exposed to threats, violence or other unauthorized or inappropriate influence during the time that the person is in custody or serving a sentence in prison or parole. Victims have the right to get certain information about the convicted person during time in prison (about which prison, if/when the convicted is on leave, etc).

The SPPS has a special unit for research and evaluation. There is an ongoing evaluation of two of SPPS treatment programmes

The Swedish Family Law and Parental Support Authority has carried out an assignment (A2021/02053) promoting the development of violence prevention work through support directed at parents, focused on families in an honour-based context.

In 2022, the GEA was commissioned by the Government to translate and adapt to the Swedish context, two evidence-based prevention programmes, Safe Dates and Dating Matters (A2022/01653). The assignment is to be finalised by 1 October 2025 and follows the priorities identified in Sweden's ten-year national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women.

### **Article 18: General obligations**

Please also refer to answers under Part 1, Article 7 in this report.

The current action plan (2021–2023) to implement Sweden's ten-year national strategy to prevent and combat men's violence against women stresses the need for cooperation and coordination on a national, regional, and local level.

The strategy has emphasised the role of the County Administrative Boards in coordinating the work at the regional and local levels. As mentioned above, the Swedish Agency for Public Management, upon commission by the Government, identified a need for further development when it comes to the County Administrative Boards's co-operation with schools and the health care sector, as well as involving leaders within municipalities and regions.

By law, the County Administrative Boards have been permanently commissioned (as of 1 January, 2022) to coordinate regional and local work to prevent and combat men's violence against women, domestic violence, sexual violence, honour-based violence and oppression and prostitution and trafficking in human beings. This includes supporting and contributing to cooperation at the local, regional, and national levels.

Since 2018 the County Administrative Boards have also been given a responsibility for the development of regional multi-agency resource centres for children and adults exposed to honour-based violence and oppression. As also mentioned above, during 2018–2023, the Government has funded the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) programme to strengthen the work for women's safety. An important part of the programme is to support regional structures for social services and health care services, in order to strengthen knowledge and multi-agency cooperation.

As previously communicated to GREVIO, it should also be noted that the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) is a government agency currently under the Ministry of Employment, created to contribute to effective implementation of the Swedish gender equality policy.

The GEA is also tasked with supporting the Higher Education Institutions with their gender mainstreaming work and to follow up on how the work progresses.

At the national level, the GEA has a central role in coordination of the implementation of the Swedish national strategy, including the work of different agencies.

Since 1 of January 2018, the GEA, by ordinance, has the national assignment to coordinate the work to combat prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual and other purposes. As a part of this work, the GEA updated the National Referral Mechanism manual (NRM), which clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the different actors involved in the NRM and is to be used as a support in the work to identify and assist possible victims of trafficking.

The GEA is also responsible for the coordination and follow-up of the joint work of the Swedish Public Employment Service, the Social Insurance

Agency, the Swedish Agency for Migration and the National Board of Health and Welfare to improve detection of violence (A2019/01517/, A2022/00842). The agencies have cooperated in developing methods and routines for asking questions about violence as well as for offering help, such as referring to the appropriate institution for support, protection and treatment, when needed. Work has also been undertaken to secure knowledge within each agency about domestic violence, honour-based violence and oppression (including child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation), sexual exploitation of children, prostitution and trafficking in human beings and sexual harassment and abuse. Furthermore, a pilot project on multi-agency cooperation at the local level (operated by local co-ordination associations and NNS) has showed positive results in detecting violence as well as in offering help to both victims of violence and perpetrators.

The number of regional coordinators working against prostitution and trafficking in human beings has increased. Currently there are 16 coordinators, present across all seven police regions. The regional coordinators offer practical consultation and guidance to individuals seeking help as well as to professionals.

There are currently about 33 Children's Houses ('Barnahus') in Sweden (see the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO, p. 78), connected to 247 out of 290 municipalities. The purpose of the Children's Houses (Barnahus) is to adjust investigations, support and measures to the needs of children who are victims of crimes as well as to ensure that all their needs may be responded to "under one roof".

In 2018–2019, the National Centre on Violence against Children at Linköping University (Barnafrid) reviewed the Children's Houses (see the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO, p. 78) on the commission of the Government. The Centre concludes that there are well-functioning Children's Houses in some places of the country. However, more general problems among the authorities involved tend to affect these multi-agency facilities as well, including a shortage of specially trained child abuse investigation police officers and services of paediatricians, child psychiatrists and forensic medical examiners. The target group of child crime victims may vary somewhat between different Children's Houses. The staff members report that sharing information between agencies is sometimes difficult due



to rules of confidentiality and secrecy. Furthermore, as the Children's Houses do not document their work in a coherent way the conditions for developing statistics and follow-up are poor. The National Centre on Violence against Children argues that the absence of coordination and management of the Children's Houses at the national level is a serious obstacle to their further advancement.

The proposal for a ten-year National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Violence against Children (SOU 2022:70) contains measures aimed at increasing children's access to Children's Houses as well as managing these multi-agency entities at national level including through the development of a common quality standard.

In recent years, the National Centre on Violence against Children has been commissioned by the Government to strengthen the capacities of Children's Houses when it comes to investigating cases of honour-based violence and oppression, child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation. Currently, the centre has a renewed assignment to provide capacity development on honour-based violence and oppression, including child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation for the Children's houses (A2023/00924). This is carried out in cooperation with the National Centre for Honour-based Violence and will liaise with relevant government agencies working on the prevention of female genital mutilation (A2021/01029).

Intimate Partner Violence Intervention (IPVI) is run as a project in the Malmö Police Area in collaboration with the City of Malmö and the Swedish Prison and Probation Service. The method is based on the Group Violence Intervention strategy developed in the United States. The purpose is to increase security for the victim through an increased focus on the suspect. The project is evaluated by Malmö University.

Unless specified otherwise, the forms of multi-agency cooperation described above are based on policy documents such as national guidelines, joint platforms, and letters of regulation.

In its outreach activities as well as in measures on behalf of the individual, the Social Welfare Committee of the Swedish municipalities is obliged to cooperate with other public bodies and with organizations and other associations (Social Services Act, Ch 3, Sections 4 & 5). According to the

National Board of Health and Welfare regulations of interventions against domestic violence the Committee must co-operate with relevant external bodies, authorities, and organizations with the aim of creating conditions for coordinating their actions. There is also a similar provision concerning providers of health care (HSLF-FS, Ch 2, para 10 and Ch 7, para 7). As follow from the information above, the Government Offices are currently considering a proposal for national management of the Children's Houses including through the development of a common quality standard.

### **Article 20: General support services**

Please also refer to information stated under Part I, Article 7

As referenced above, in order to strengthen the rights and access to support for underage witnesses of violence against a close relative, Sweden has, as of 1 July 2021, introduced a new law (Barnfridsbrott). In accordance with the law, children who witness domestic violence are to be considered crime victims and they can seek damages. A recent survey among the Children's Houses (Barnahus) in Sweden showed that the ones that offer crisis support to children also include children who have witnessed domestic violence.

For higher education, as stated under articles 14 and 15, there is legislation in place as well as governmental tasks on stopping men's violence against women. It is also worth noticing that the Swedish Higher Education Ordinance has been amended to improve the teaching and knowledge on men's violence against women.

The Government has commissioned the Public Employment Service, the Social Insurance Agency, the Gender Equality Agency (GEA), the Migration Agency and the National Board of Social Affairs and Health to work for improved detection of violence 2022–2024. The five authorities must develop cooperation on

- routines and methods for detection of exposure to violence and violence, as well as referral to the right authority,
- enhanced support for relevant personnel with client contacts and

- support management and governance of the work for increased detection of violence must be able to be made sustainable over time and implemented in the authorities' regular activities.

The authorities must also report on the measures implemented to increase employees' and managers' knowledge of men's violence against women and a common basic understanding of questions about violence, its causes, scope, and consequences. (A2022/00842/JÄM). The final report is due no later than the 31st of March 2025.

The need for assistance in finding employment has been addressed in the above-mentioned joint work. The Swedish Public Employment Service has developed methods and routines to make sure that victims of violence can get support and that the measures taken in finding employment are adjusted to their living situation.

The draft bill on sheltered accommodation (see further information under Part I, Article 7 above) includes a proposal for specifying that victims of domestic violence belong to the groups in need of special support from the community for which the Social Welfare Committee must seek to create a good social environment and good conditions according to the Social Services Act (Ch 3 Section 2). In this context, the Committee is expected to promote the right of the individual to employment, housing, and education.

The Government has commissioned the National Board of Health and Welfare to strengthen the municipalities' work to help victims of violence to access permanent housing 2022 – 2025 (A2022:00528, A2022/01029). To contribute to anchoring and implementing the knowledge developed as part of this commission, the National Board of Health and Welfare is furthermore tasked with regularly convening an expert group consisting of the Swedish National Board of Housing, Building and Planning, the GEA, the County Administrative Boards, SALAR as well as other relevant actors and civil society organisations. The National Board of Health and Welfare is furthermore to administer government grants to municipalities to strengthen their work to help victims of violence access permanent housing in accordance with Ordinance 2022:1416 which entered into force 3 October 2022 until the end of 2025. It should be noted that these grants cannot be awarded to carry out measures which municipalities have a legal obligation to ensure by either law or ordinance.

Prior to this, the County Administrative Boards, commissioned by the Government (A2021/01299), had charted and analysed the work of municipalities in this area. According to the report entitled “Towards permanent housing” (Till stadigvarande boende), published in 2022, many municipalities had described this area as challenging, for example due to lack of housing in general. They also noted extra challenges with regards to some groups. However, according to the report, different measures were being taken to provide housing to victims of violence when they were leaving a shelter. Examples included support to the individual in seeking housing, providing contracts in social housing and providing priority to victims of violence in housing queues.

In March 2022, a Government appointed Inquiry on Socially Sustainable Housing presented its report “Lower the threshold for good housing” (Sänk tröskeln till en god bostad) (SOU 2022:14). *Inter alia*, the Inquiry proposed to enable municipalities to apply priority criteria to a greater extent than what is possible to do today and to introduce requirements for municipal rent guarantees for families with children in need of permanent housing in combination with a new system for government support to such guarantees. The Inquiry’s proposals are currently under consideration in the Government Offices.

To ensure access to good quality health care and mental health care is a priority issue for the Government. In 2020, The Government commissioned the Swedish Public Health Agency and the National Board of Health and Welfare, in close collaboration with 25 other authorities, to submit a proposal for a new strategy in the area of mental health and suicide prevention. The aim of the strategy is to secure a good and equal mental health status in the whole population by increasing promoting and preventing measures in all sectors and in all levels of society and to improve mental health services. The report is currently being processed at the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

During 2023, 1,6 billion SEK was allocated to the municipalities and regions, who are responsible for health care and social care in Sweden, through an agreement between the Government and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) in the area of mental health and suicide prevention. The agreement is based on local and regional needs and priorities and aims to strengthen the work of municipalities and regions in

promoting mental health, preventing mental ill health and suicide and as well as to develop good and accessible mental healthcare. Within the framework of the agreement, targeted funds are allocated to develop psychiatric trauma care and strengthen the child and youth psychiatry, *inter alia*, for victims of violence. The agreement includes a gender perspective in the implementation and evaluation of the impact of the agreement

The Government has entered into several agreements with SALAR, with the aim of supporting the development of equal and accessible healthcare for people who have been exposed to sexual violence or genital mutilation.

Within SALAR's government-funded programmes, the work to identify and treat victims of violence has been studied pertaining to the health care sector. All 21 regions have established a function responsible for capacity building, updating routines and guidelines as well as follow-up work regarding men's violence against women, including domestic violence and honour-based violence and oppression. Some regions have specific centres. However, the task has been found to foremost being carried out by a coordinator or strategist.

Regions are responsible for providing adequate care to girls and women who have been exposed to sexual violence or gender stigmatization. According to Swedish legislation, care givers should have routines needed to develop and secure knowledge-based and patient-safe care for people who have been exposed to violence in close relationships. This includes routines for when and how healthcare staff must ask questions about violence in order to detect victims of violence who need care and to collect forensic evidence. The Government has commissioned the National Board of Health and Welfare to support the health care sector in its role in implementing the ten-year national strategy to prevent and combat violence against women. This aims to ensure that measures taken are designed on best practices and available research and knowledge (A2022/01028).

The Health and Social Care Inspectorate has been commissioned by the Government to perform a strengthened and developed special oversight of the social services and health care sectors' work to prevent and combat men's violence against women, domestic violence, honour-based violence and oppression (A2021/01714).

A child's need for information, advice and support must be taken into account in particular if the child's parent or any other adult with whom the child permanently lives, e.g. exposes or has exposed the child or someone close to the child to violence or other abuse.

Healthcare services must cooperate with social services if a person needs interventions from both care and social services. Healthcare services also have an obligation to report children who are at risk of harmful treatment to the social welfare board.

On behalf of the Government, the National Women's Centre at Uppsala University has drawn up a national action program for the healthcare system's treatment of victims of sexual abuse. There are specialised clinics for victims of rape and there are special detection kits available to assist the examining doctor. The medical staff takes various samples that can be important evidence in a subsequent criminal trial. Injuries are in general documented and photographed. Furthermore, the prosecutor or the police may obtain a written medical opinion to use in a criminal investigation or as evidence in a criminal trial (a forensic certificate). Such forensic certificate shall, as a main rule, be obtained from a doctor at the National Board of Forensic Medicine if the injuries, illness, or other conditions are deemed to be of importance in the investigation of a criminal offence that can lead to a penalty other than a fine. However, in exceptional circumstances, the certificate may also be obtained from another doctor with sufficient competence within the regular health care system, for instance in situations where medical care is required immediately. For example, there may be a knife wound that need to be examined in terms of direction and depth and then stitched up, or a person who has been the victim of a sexual offence and needs to be examined to secure traces.

A medical examination for the purpose of issuing a forensic certificate concerning an injured party may not be carried out without his or her consent. Neither may a forensic certificate, as a main rule, be issued without the consent of the injured party. In this regard, however, the regulation is supplemented with exceptions stipulating that a forensic certificate can be issued without the consent of the injured party, for instance as regards more serious criminal offences or victims under the age of 18. For example, a forensic certificate may be issued without consent in the case of domestic violence, more severe sexual offences such as rape or sexual abuse, and

female genital mutilation. A doctor or dentist who is active within the publicly run healthcare is obliged to, to the extent that other obligations in the professional practice do not prevent it or there are otherwise no special reasons against it, carry out examinations and give statements about them at the request of the County Administrative Board, court, prosecutor's office, the Police Authority, or supervisor. The Swedish health care system is based on universal health coverage for all inhabitants, without discrimination.

Universal health coverage is available for all those who have a long-term residence permit in Sweden. Adult asylum seekers and undocumented migrants have access to subsidised medical care and dental care that cannot be deferred, to maternity care, to counselling and care for abortion and sterilization, contraceptive advice, to protective care in case of infectious disease, to a health examination when obviously needed, and to medicines given on prescription from a doctor.

"Medical care and dental care that cannot be deferred" is a broader concept than emergency care, and thus includes emergency care as well as care that cannot wait without causing serious consequences for the patient, or that is needed to avoid more extensive care in the future. Both psychiatric care and aids for the disabled can be care that cannot be deferred.

Most of the Swedish authorities abroad provide different contact information, for example to healthcare services, Sweden's national women's helpline (Kvinnofridslinjen) as well as the Swedish Police Authority. Asylum seekers are informed of available healthcare in Sweden on several occasions during the asylum process. For example, the Swedish Migration Agency organises a mandatory social introduction for asylum seekers. It aims to inform about the asylum process as well as the rights and obligations of asylum seekers, including information about the healthcare system. It also includes information about gender-based violence and which authorities victims of violence can turn to. Written information (translated to 13 languages) is included in an arrival folder which is distributed to asylum seekers.

According to the regulations of interventions against domestic violence by the National Board of Health and Welfare, the Social Welfare Committee must establish routines for asking clients about experiences of violence.

As follows from the answer under Article 7 above, the Committee is recommended to consider the additional vulnerability of victims that may follow from, amongst other things, disabilities, and age.

All asylum-seekers and persons with irregular residence status in Sweden are to be offered a health examination. This includes persons residing in closed reception facilities. One of the aims of such health examinations is to have an opportunity to discover situations of violence against women.

Since 2019, the Swedish Migration Agency has been one of the recipients of a government commission to increase the detection of violence. Since 2021 the Agency has also been one of the recipients of a government commission to combat and prevent female genital mutilation.

As part of the assignments, action plans have been put in place which include large investments in training and support to employees. Various key groups have been trained, including employees in housing, reception, asylum case officers and different service personnel. Filmed lectures on honour-based violence and genital mutilation are available for all employees, as well as various online training courses for employees both in Sweden and abroad.

In addition to this, the Swedish Migration Agency has routines for how to respond when a person is suspected to be in a vulnerable situation. Women in facility accommodation, who are exposed to violence or other abuse, are offered another accommodation.

All women who seek healthcare for, for example, abortion or sterilisation, have the right to information about these procedures.

## **Article 22: Specialist support services**

In the most recent national survey, the National Board of Health and Welfare (2020) identified 282 shelters for victims of violence in Sweden of which 54 percent are operated by NGOs, 37 percent by private actors and 9 percent by the municipalities. The Board points to several improvements since the previous survey (2016). For instance, a growing number of shelters report that they conduct safety planning, have routines for handling protected personal information and that they document their interventions.



Other positive trends concern wheelchair accessibility and the use of sign language interpreters. However, it is often difficult for the social services to find appropriate shelters for victims of violence with disabilities and mental illness. Only 22 percent of the shelters reported that they can assist women with problems of drug abuse and addiction.

The report of the National Board and Welfare described the support given to those seeking shelter as exhaustive. Besides safe accommodation, the shelters provided individual and group counselling as well as support pertaining to criminal case action and support in relation to contacts with other relevant entities. Many shelters also offered civic information, legal support as well as support in relation to seeking employment and housing.

Commissioned by the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA), researchers at Stockholm University have studied non-governmental support offered to victims and perpetrators of violence in intimate partner violence among youth. The study highlighted that shelters for young women, transgender persons and youth play an important role in providing low-threshold activities and expert knowledge to these groups. The study also emphasised the value of online support, and the possibility to seek help anonymously.

As mentioned in Part 1 under Article 8, in recent years, state funding for women's and young women's shelters as well as similar non-governmental organisations have been strengthened and made permanent.

The National Board of Health and Welfare has investigated the care provided to girls and women subjected to female genital mutilation and found that the number of women within health care, who have been diagnosed as having been subjected to female genital mutilation has increased. Out of 21 regions, six have regional guidelines for this, nine have local policy documents and one region has both.

The National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women at Uppsala University continues to run Sweden's national women's helpline (Kvinnofridslinjen). The helpline is open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calling the helpline is free and callers may remain anonymous. In 2023, following a Government Commission in 2021, two new helplines have been established at the National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women. One is focused on adult transgender persons and the other on men. In October 2023, the Government commissioned the Centre to conduct a

preliminary study to introduce an EU-harmonised number for victims of gender-based violence (A2023:01355).

In 2021, the Government commissioned the County Administrative Board of Östergötland to prepare a structure for the provision of general counselling and guidance to children and adults who are victims of honour-based violence and oppression, or at risk of exposure.

The National Centre on Violence against Children (Barnafrid) together with the Swedish Prosecution Authority are conducting joint work to promote the implementation of provisions against honour-based crimes that came into effect on July 1, 2020 (A2020/02649).

The regions are responsible for planning, organizing, and financing healthcare. Care must be organized in such a way that everyone who needs care receives it.

In Sweden, the healthcare system is decentralised, which means that it is managed and run by the regions. Every county council is thus responsible for managing and prioritising its own healthcare resources. As a result, the type of healthcare services available and its organisation may vary. The basic health and medical care is generally referred to as primary care which is comprised of general medical practitioners offering medical examinations, care and treatment of most common conditions and illnesses, including medical examinations, care and treatment regarding children who are victims of domestic violence, including violence perpetrated by one parent against the other. In addition, the specialised care, for example, the child and youth psychiatry, offers support services which includes child psychologists or other professionals specialised in supporting children who have been exposed to domestic violence, including violence perpetrated by one parent against the other.

Many municipalities offer specialised social services for children who have witnessed domestic violence. Social workers as well as child psychologists assist children within the structure of Children's Houses (Barnahus) as well.

The regions are responsible for planning, organizing, and financing healthcare. Care must be organized in such a way that everyone who needs care receives it. There is no obligation for the regions to organize care based on different ethnic groups.

There are NGOs running shelters and providing other services for migrant women. These organisations can apply for government funding. According to the 2017–2018 Committee of Inquiry reviewing the situation of children in sheltered accommodation, some 70 percent of adults and children in Swedish shelters have a migrant background. Victims of honour-based violence and oppression were the most reported target group of interventions by municipalities that received government funding for developing their response to domestic violence in 2020.

### **Article 25: Support to victims of sexual violence**

Please refer to the above answer under Article 20 regarding the agreement between the Government and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) in the area of mental health and suicide prevention. Please also refer to the answer under Article 22, regarding the Swedish health care system.

According to Ch. 2 Section 2 of the Health and Medical Services Act, the responsibility for health and medical care rests on regions and municipalities. This means that the region or municipality ultimately has a responsibility to ensure that residents receive good care. If a region or municipality has agreed with someone else to carry out the care, the region or municipality thus still has a responsibility to ensure that the residents receive good care. Regions, and to a certain extent municipalities, have responsibility for health care planning, financing, and operation. The municipalities are responsible for offering certain health and medical services to people in certain forms of accommodation and in certain day activities, student health at schools where the municipality is the principal, and for care and support for persons with disabilities.

As past sexual violence can lead to many, and widely varying, health consequences, matters concerning exposure to violence can be brought up to date in various activities within health care. These patients can seek, for example, emergency departments, primary care, adult psychiatry, substance abuse and addiction care, women's health care, child and youth psychiatry, student health, youth clinics, geriatric care, and municipal health care. Patients who seek care at a later stage usually do so for reasons other than exposure to sexual violence. Knowledge of the health consequences of sexual violence varies in care. Therefore, care needs linked to this are

identified to varying degrees, and sometimes not noticed at all. In maternal health care, routines have been introduced to regularly ask all patients about past or current exposure to violence, while routines for this in other activities vary.

The patient is referred for support to everything from a somatic clinic counsellor, to psychosocial follow-up and treatment in primary care or treatment in specialist psychiatry. In one of the country's regions, specialist psychiatry has a clinic that specifically addresses patients in need of treatment and support for past sexual violence and offers various forms of treatment linked to the experience of violence.

Care centres are available for those who have been exposed to sexual violence, and in some regions there are also special care centres for those who have been exposed to sexual violence. There are no other requirements that prevent people from receiving care at these care centres.

Women who have been subjected to violence, threats or sexual assault can come to the “Kvinnofridsmottagning”, which is available in some regions, for help and support. Female nurses and doctors work here who can provide psychosocial support and make medical assessments.

On behalf of the Government, the National Centre for Knowledge on Men's Violence against Women (NCK) at Uppsala University, has drawn up a National Action Programme for the Health Care and Medical Services' Reception and Care of Victims of Sexual Assault, presented in the form of a handbook. The aim of this programme is to improve the treatment and care of patients within the Swedish healthcare system, providing better evidence to the judicial system in cases of sexual assault. Important areas for consideration were the patient's interaction with medical staff, documentation and contact with the judicial system. In February 2008, NCK presented this handbook to support healthcare professionals in their treatment of victims of sex crime.

Included in the handbook is a “Guide to Care Following Sexual Assault” which includes instructions on how to take samples and secure evidence. The Guide was last updated in December 2022 and is available in Swedish here. According to this guide, forensic evidence should be stored for at least two years. NCK is also commissioned to ensure that the programme is implemented throughout the whole of Sweden. This involves investment in

training and a comprehensive distribution of the handbook and guide produced for the same purpose.

The Government has commissioned the National Board of Health and Welfare to take measures to support equal and knowledge-based care for people who have been exposed to sexual violence (S2023/00970). The commission includes making an in-depth survey and analysis of the health care for people who have been exposed to sexual abuse and sexual violence and proposing appropriate and cost-effective measures to develop the care. This also includes analysing the need for a national support function as well as analysing the need for and developing knowledge support and training initiatives for the health and medical care. The result of the commission should contribute to strengthened and uniform work throughout the country. The National Board of Health and Welfare is to submit a final report to the Government Offices by 15 December 2024.

Under an agreement between the Government and the Swedish Associations of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR) in the field of maternity care and women's health, SALAR in June 2020 published a report charting the care offered to victims of sexual assault around the country (Vården vid sexuellt våld, NULÄGE OCH VÄGAR FRAMÅT). *Inter alia*, the report stated that patients seeking care immediately after a sexual assault were often taken care of in the context of the emergency services and that the visit includes examinations, the securing of traces and as a rule a conversation with a counsellor. In the close aftermath, there is normally both a medical and psycho-social follow-up. In some parts of the country, the emergency care is undertaken by dedicated receptions or teams specialised in care after sexual violence, while in most parts of the country it is within the regular health care system, often within gynaecology for women and surgery for men.

In the agreement that the Government has entered into with (SALAR) 2023, which includes over 1,6 billion SEK in the area of maternity care and women's health, funds may be used to stimulate strengthened and long-term sustainable competence and equivalent care across the country for people who have been exposed to sexual violence or genital mutilation. This includes ensuring that there are clear care chains for people who have been exposed to sexual violence or genital mutilation. Patients, including those with a complex problem, must be offered care based on the best possible knowledge. To increase employees' knowledge of sexual violence and genital

mutilation, its consequences and how it can be detected, especially in cases where the girl or woman seeks care for other symptoms and to improve healthcare's treatment of the target group.

Furthermore, the Government has appointed an Inquiry to, *inter alia*, look into the question of the health and medical care's responsibility for securing traces after sexual crimes. This aspect of the Inquiry's report (SOU 2021:43) is under consideration in the Government Offices.

### **Article 31: Custody, visitation rights and safety**

According to the Parental Code, a child has a right not to be subjected to violence, abuse, or other abusive treatment. The child's best interest is the decisive consideration for the court, when deciding on custody, residence, or contact. When determining what is in the child's best interest, particular attention shall be paid to the risk of harm to the child or another family member. Further, in certain cases, if it is determined that a parent, in the exercise of custody, has committed abuse or neglect or otherwise fails to take care of the child in a way that involves a permanent risk for the child's health or development, the court shall, decide on a transfer of custody. Incidents of violence under the scope of the convention must therefore be taken into account when deciding on custody, residence and contact.

The provisions do not explicitly list a certain type of incident that must be taken into account when assessing whether there is a risk that the child will be harmed. It is up to the court to consider all circumstances that are relevant, according to what is explained above.

When assessing whether there is a risk that the child will be harmed, physical and psychological harm are both relevant.

If it is in the child's best interest, custody with the child's other parent is preferred over other alternatives. For example, if it is determined that a parent, in the exercise of custody, has committed abuse or neglect or otherwise fails to take care of the child in a way that involves a permanent risk for the child's health or development, the court shall decide on a transfer of custody either to the other parent or, if both parents are guilty of neglect, to one or two specially appointed custodians.

The matter of custody of the child is separate from the matter of whether there is a need for the child to be provided care for, for example by living in a private home other than the parental home. In a situation where the child has been permanently cared for and raised in a private home other than the parental home, the custody of the child can be transferred from the parents if it is evident that the continuation of the existing relationship is in the child's best interest.

There are no provisions explicitly listing screening of previous civil proceedings in a proceeding concerning custody, residence, or contact. However, as also stated in answer to question 34, the court has a responsibility to make sure that the matters are adequately investigated and will most often instruct the social welfare committee to carry out an investigation and leave a report. If information about previous proceedings is relevant, that information can be included in the report.

The court must always consider if there is a risk that the child will be harmed and must in these cases make a risk assessment. If a parent exposes the child – or someone else in the family – to violence, harassment, or other violations it can be assessed that it is not in the best interest of the child to have contact with that parent. The Inquiry Regarding the Importance of Security and Continuity for Children in Vulnerable Situations recently presented its report, *More secure homes for children (Tryggare hem för barn, SOU 2022:71)*. The remit for the inquiry included how protection of children can be strengthened in issues of contact with a parent who has committed violent actions or other serious violations. The Inquiry proposed, *inter alia*, a new wording of the section on the best interests of the child in the Parental Code. The proposals presented in the report are currently being processed in the Government Offices.

In this context, it can furthermore be mentioned that in 2021, a new offence – violation of a child's integrity – was introduced in the Swedish Criminal Code as outlined in the section on Article 7 in this report. Violation of a child's integrity means that it is a punishable offence to expose a child to witnessing certain criminal acts, such as violence and sexual offences in a domestic context.

For further information on decisions of courts on custody/visitation/residence of children, please refer to the text under Part IV on Administrative data and statistics in this report.

Regarding information in response to question 3 of the questionnaire for GREVIO's thematic evaluation on the knowledge and understanding of judges, court-appointed experts and other legal professionals, please refer to previous Comments submitted by Sweden on GREVIO's final Baseline Report, comment 3 page 3 and comment 10 page 7 from 2019 and p. 22.1 in Sweden's answers to the Reporting form on the implementation of the recommendations addressed to the state parties from January 2022.

As regards the Swedish courts, it should be acknowledged that these bodies are independent and autonomous in relation to the Parliament, the Government and other government agencies. This principle is stated in the Swedish Constitution and means that no other agency, or the Government, can decide how a court shall adjudicate in a specific case. A requirement for a judge to participate in certain training could be considered at odds with this principle of independence. Therefore, training of permanent judges is not mandatory.

The Courts of Sweden Judicial Training Academy, which is independent from the Government and the Swedish National Courts Administration, is responsible for providing voluntary training for judges, including what courses are offered and their content. The training program offered is very comprehensive and is based on an inventory of the need among the courts and judges. There is an awareness in the courts of the need for special knowledge and training on certain types of cases. The Courts of Sweden Judicial Training Academy offers courses in family law where issues of violence and risk assessment are included ("Barnets bästa"). As for family law specifically, the Judicial Training Academy offers training courses every year on issues related to, *inter alia*, custody, residence, and visitation rights. These courses are offered at different levels to satisfy the need of both experienced and new judges.

In the course program on the role of a judge, general issues on fair trial, the treatment of victims etc., including behaviour of vulnerable persons, are covered. In addition, the Swedish Judicial Training Academy organizes annual criminal law seminars on relevant topics.

There are no special "family law judges" in the Swedish judicial system. The judges of general courts handle all sorts of cases.



It is the court's responsibility to make sure that questions regarding custody and visitation are adequately investigated. The court must always, before deciding on the matter, give the Social Welfare Committee (Socialnämnden) the opportunity to provide information. If the Social Welfare Committee has information that could be of significance, it is obligated to provide this information to the court. Further, the court can, and most often will, instruct the social welfare committee to carry out an investigation in the matter. The court can also instruct the social welfare committee to leave a rapid report before it makes an interim decision if matters are urgent. (Chapter 6 Sections 19 and 20 of the Parental Code).

In order for the responsible Social Welfare Committee to be able to obtain information from another social welfare committee, there are provisions in place to override secrecy. These provisions in the Parental Code (Chapter 6 Section 20 b) were amended on 1 July 2021 to cover more situations, for example when the social welfare committee is instructed to leave a rapid report.

According to the regulations issued by the National Board of Health and Welfare (cited above), on reviewing the needs for help and assistance of an adult victim of domestic violence, the Social Welfare Committee must assess the risk of repeated violence. When needed, the Committee must make a new assessment (Ch 4, para 1). On reviewing the corresponding needs of a child victim of domestic violence or a child who has witnessed such violence, the Committee must assess the risk of repeated violence against the child, or of the child witnessing domestic violence again. When needed, the Committee must make a new assessment (Ch 5, para 2).

According to the Parental Code (1949:381), all decisions concerning custody, residence and visitation must be based on the Best Interest of the Child (Ch 6, para 2 a). In assessing this interest, special consideration must be given to, amongst other things, the risk of abuse of the child or of someone else in the family, or of the child being illegally abducted, detained or being harmed in some other way. Furthermore, according to the Social Services Act, the Social Welfare Committee shall make provision, in its care of children and young persons, for the special needs of support and help which may exist following the conclusion of judicial or other proceedings concerning custody, residence, contact or, adoption (Ch 5, Section 1).

The Family Law and Parental Support Authority provides general guidance on risk assessments under the Parental Code. In a 2020 survey on the work of the social service Family Law-units, the authority concludes that it is uncommon for these units to use an evidence-based method of risk assessment in reviewing the conditions for co-operation between parents as well as appropriate interventions for children and parents. See also previous information in this section.

The municipalities are responsible for staff training in the social services. However, there is no national data available on trainings for the Family Law-units.

Matters regarding custody of a child or a child's residence or contact with a parent with whom the child does not live cannot be decided on in a criminal sentence. However, a separate proceeding regarding those matters can be initiated either by the other parent or, depending on the circumstances, the social welfare committee at any time. If the circumstances are urgent, the court can make an interim decision. Further, on 1 July 2021, in order to ensure a rapid transfer of custody in certain cases, for instance in the event that a custodial parent has intentionally killed or seriously harmed the other parent, a possibility was introduced in Chapter 6 Section 10 d of the Parental Code for the court to transfer the custody of a child to a temporary custodian.

#### **Article 48: Prohibition of mandatory alternative dispute resolution processes or sentencing**

##### **Criminal law:**

Mandatory alternative dispute resolution is not a part of Swedish law. There are no alternatives, in the sense that mediation is applied instead of or replaces the criminal procedure. A criminal investigation shall be initiated ex officio, regardless of the existence of a victim's complaint or if the victim is unknown. The victim's participation in the legal proceedings is no prerequisite for prosecution. (See the Baseline Evaluation Report by GREVIO in 2019, 6 F-G).

Mediation does not apply within the traditional criminal system. However, victim-offender mediation can be offered by the state or a municipality on a voluntary basis, according to the Mediation Act (lag [2002:445] om medling

med anledning av brott). According to the Mediation Act, mediation means that an offender and an injured party meet before a mediator to talk about the crime or its consequences. Mediation shall be voluntary for both the offender and the injured party. In order for mediation to take place, certain conditions must be fulfilled. The crime that the mediation relates to must be reported to the Police Authority, and the offender must have confessed to the criminal act. Furthermore, mediation can only be used when it is appropriate according to the circumstances. The aim shall be to reduce the negative consequences of the offence, to give the offender greater insight into the consequences of the crime and to give the injured party the opportunity to process their experiences.

When it comes to offenders under the age of 21 it is mandatory for the municipalities to offer mediation, according to Chapter 5. Section 1c of the Social Services Act (Socialtjänstlagen [2001:453]). Even then mediation is voluntary. However, if the offender is under twelve years of age, mediation may only take place if there are exceptional reasons.

Mediation is thus not part of the traditional criminal justice system and can never replace criminal proceedings. As it is voluntary, mediation cannot be mandated by the courts or the municipalities.

### **Civil law:**

In proceedings regarding custody, residence and contact, the court shall attempt to get the parents to reach an amicable solution, unless it is inappropriate considering the nature of the case and other circumstances. The court may, as a part of the proceeding, appoint a mediator to try to get the parents to reach an agreement that is compatible with the child's best interest. Mediators should have knowledge on how to talk to children as well as of how violence and abuse within the family affects the family members. In July 2021, a competency and suitability requirement for mediators was introduced in Chapter 6 Section 18 a of the Parental Code.

It is the court's responsibility to make sure that an amicable solution is in the child's best interest. If the court finds that an agreement is not in the child's best interest, it cannot base a decision on the agreement. The court should be particularly careful about accepting, or working for, an agreement in cases where one parent has committed violence or other abuse against the other parent, the child, or a sibling.

There are no alternative dispute resolution processes as a part of divorce proceedings.

### **Articles 49 and 50: General obligations and immediate response, prevention and protection**

For the Swedish Police Authority and Prosecution Authority it is not possible to account for the budget and resources at the disposal of investigating violence against women. It is included in the general budget, which has increased in recent years. Since 2019, some regions within the Police Authority have developed their organisation by setting up special sex crime teams that only investigate rapes in some regions (see additional information further down). In July 2022, the Police Authority was commissioned by the Government to strengthen the competence of police employees to respond to people with mental illness in cases of crimes in close relationships, which includes violence against women (Ju2022/02417).

In its Annual Report for 2022, the National Board of Forensic Medicine noted that the number of Forensic Reports issued following a physical forensic examination has decreased by more than half over the past ten years. The Authority noted that a clear cause of this trend has not been possible to identify through the dialogue undertaken with requesting authorities. To ensure that forensic reports are requested in relevant cases, national and local information and capacity building initiatives have been carried out within the Justice system. The Authority stated that it is too early to assess the full effect of these efforts but there are indications that targeted initiatives have had an effect at the local level and data for 2023 shows an increased demand for Forensic Reports which indicates a trend reversal after several years of decline.

Additionally, on 23 June 2023, the Government tasked the National Board of Forensic Medicine for the purpose of further developing their work with forensic reports (Ju2023/01163) and allocated 2 million SEK for use for this purpose in 2023. The assignment includes further development of alternative methods to document injuries for the purpose of forensic reports through for example use of digital tools, taking into account legal, economic considerations as well as the technological abilities to guarantee the integrity of the information. The assignment further aims to explore the possibility to increase the geographic accessibility for qualitative and fit-for-purpose injury documentation as well as to suggest alternatives to conduct documentation

remotely. The National Board of Forensic Medicine is further to enhance the possibilities for internal knowledge building on Forensic Reports as well as the dissemination of such knowledge. In the implementation of this assignment, the Authority is to consult the Police Authority and the Prosecution Authority and report back to the Government at the latest on 5 April 2024.

Interrogations with victims of violence are generally conducted in separate areas in police stations in the form of interrogation rooms and the like. In new construction, the premises are adapted to be accessible and suitable. There are local models developed for a s a model for a physical environment specially adapted to investigate violence against women (Koncept Karin in Malmö and Trygghetens hus in Bollnäs).

In addition to a police station and to a police officer, crimes can be reported by telephone. Some crimes can be reported digitally on the police's website, but not crimes of violence. It is also possible to contact the police by mail or email.

Crimes against women in close relationships are handled by special units for crimes in close relationships. These also often deal with honour-based crime. Rapes are usually investigated by the units for crimes in close relationships or by units for serious crime. Some regions have set up special sex crime teams that only investigate rapes. Thus, criminal investigation is not organised in the same way throughout the country. There may be regional and local variations.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority has continued the work against violence against women on a priority basis and has appointed public prosecutors as national appointed experts in the violence against women crime area.

The Government is closely following the results of the Swedish Police and the Swedish Prosecution Authority. The authorities have continued the work against violence against women on a priority basis. Increased funding of the authorities has allowed and will allow for a significantly growing number of employees in the years to come. The Police Authority is continuously developing its working methods and routines to make investigations more efficient. One successful working method has been to focus on the perpetrators in order to prevent violence against women. During 2022–2023, the Police Authority updated its guidelines in order to ensure that

investigations are made more efficient (see additional information further down).

As previously described, the Swedish Migration Agency provides information (both written and oral) to asylum seekers at multiple occasions during the asylum process. This includes information about gender equality, gender-based violence and honour-based violence and oppression. In connection to that, individuals who could be victims of violence are encouraged to contact the authorities (healthcare, the Swedish Migration Agency, the Swedish Police Authority) and are provided with contact information to different organisations that can provide help and support.

Commissioned by the Government to develop information and guidance for the work against honour-based crime (2021:09), the (previous) National Task Force against Honour-based Crime and Oppression at the County Administrative Board of Östergötland worked during 2021–2022 together with the Swedish Crime Victims Authority, the National Centre on Violence against Children at Linköping University (Barnafrid), the Swedish National Agency for Education, the National Board of Health and Welfare, the Police Authority and the Prosecution Authority to raise awareness amongst victims and professionals as well as develop a joint guidance for professionals in social services, healthcare, schools and police to prevent and stop children from leaving the country to be married, subjected to genital mutilation or various forms of honour-based violence or oppression. The guidance is set to be further updated in 2023. In July 2022, the Police Authority received a Government commission to strengthen the competence of police employees to respond to people with mental illness in cases of crimes in close relationships (Ju2022/02417). The authority has made an analysis and inventory of needs and is working on measures based on the findings. The Government commission will continue until September 2025.

The Police Authority has guidelines, which has recently been revised, with checklists used in investigations of sexual offences, crimes in close relationships, honour-based crime and crimes involving children (*Checklists for initial investigative measures in cases of crimes against particularly vulnerable victims*). As a complement, there is an in-depth guideline for investigations of crimes in close relationships with adult injured parties. Several times a year, the Police Authority conducts self-monitoring of compliance with the guideline. The results are analysed to see where the investigative work needs to be

improved. The Prosecution Authority also has a recently revised guideline for the investigation of crimes in close relationships, crimes against children and sexual offences (*Investigation method for crimes against particularly vulnerable victims*).

### **Follow-up of the crime gross violation of a woman's integrity**

In 2017, the Government assigned Brå to study the development of the crime gross violation of a woman's integrity (grov kvinnofridskränkning) and to analyse what might have caused a clear decrease in the numbers of reported, cleared, and convicted offences. The offence gross violation of a woman's integrity (and gross violation of integrity) was introduced on 1 July 1998 as part of the work to combat men's violence against women in intimate relationships. The aim was to increase the extent to which the criminal law protects women who are exposed to systematic assault, abuse, and violations of integrity by a partner, and to emphasise the seriousness of this type of repeated criminality in intimate relationships. When it was introduced, the structure of the offence was unique in that it involves a number of separate criminalised acts being assessed together as a single entity and provides the basis for a more severe sanction than would be imposed if the various criminal acts were assessed individually. During the first years following the introduction of the offence, the numbers of reported, cleared, and convicted offences increased. However, since 2009 there has been a decline in both the number of reported offences and the number of convictions. The clearance rate for gross violation of a woman's integrity peaked in 2003 and 2004 and has since declined by half.

According to Brå, the decline in reported crimes is unlikely to be due to an actual decline in victimisation levels and reporting rate. Rather, Brå's assessment is that changes in initial registration routines at the Police authority have contributed to the decline. There appears to have been a trend towards relevant offences more frequently being registered as the individual underlying offences, e.g. assault or molestation, at the time the offence is registered, rather than as a gross violation of a woman's integrity. When it comes to the declining clearance rate, Brå's assessment is that it is part of a more general trend of declining clearance rate regarding "crimes against the person" (brott mot person). However, the results of the study also indicate that a high workload, insufficient staffing levels and increasingly lengthy investigation times have made it more difficult for those working

with intimate partner violence to work on the basis of these factors. This is indicated by both the interviews conducted in the project and data collected from other sources.

The study also shows that the most common reasons for closing an investigation relating to gross violation of women's integrity is that the crime cannot be proven or that there are evidentiary problems. 70–77 percent of suspected crimes with a closure decision as gross violation of women's rights in the study was dropped on these grounds.

### **Follow-up of the crime gross violation of integrity**

In 2022, the Government commissioned Brå to follow up the crime gross violation of integrity (grov fridskränkning), including the judiciary's handling of such cases from registration to conviction, why so few cases lead to conviction and what could increase the conviction rate.

When it comes to children, when a report of gross violation of integrity is registered, an investigation is almost always initiated. A large amount of investigative work is often made, including several hearings with i.e. school personnel, social workers, and family members. Often there are several siblings who are plaintiffs, and they are heard separately on more than one occasion by police officers specially trained to speak with children. Despite this, four out of five investigations are closed. The main reason for why reported crimes do not lead to conviction is that children find it difficult to describe in detail when and where specific crimes took place (in practice, at least three specific crime incidences is a necessary condition for conviction). The lack of witnesses is also a factor. The study also shows that although several less serious crimes may constitute gross violation of integrity according to legislative history, in practice assault of a normal degree is required for a conviction (the same goes for crimes against an adult, please see below). In Brå's material, only 4 percent of reported crimes of gross violation of integrity against a child led to a conviction for that crime.

When it comes to adults (Brå 2023:7), in the vast majority of cases, the reported crime led to the police initiating an investigation (82 percent). The offences that were not investigated mainly concerned a man who reported that he had been subjected to repeated violence by his girlfriend or former girlfriend. The next step in the process is for the prosecutor to either drop the investigation or terminate it for the purpose of prosecuting (final report).



Of the reported crimes in the study, 30 percent were finally reported: 23 percent for gross violation of integrity (43 cases) and 7 percent for a sub-crime (13 cases). The reason investigations are closed was usually either that the plaintiff did not want to participate in the investigation or that the number of proven crimes was not enough for a charge of gross violation of integrity. The proportion of convictions in Brå's material was roughly the same as the average for all crimes (88 percent). But only half of those charged with gross violation of integrity that were convicted, were convicted of that crime. The other half was convicted of other crimes, usually assault. 12 percent of the verdicts were acquittals. According to Brå's study, only 11 percent of reported crimes of gross violation of integrity against an adult led to a conviction for that crime.

### **Study of the judiciary's handling of rape cases**

In 2018, the Government commissioned Brå to study the judiciary's handling of rape cases, including the reasons for why investigations of rape are closed. Brå published the results of the study in 2019 (Brå 2019:9), concluding that the most common primary reason for closing an investigation was insufficient evidence ("word against word"), 31 percent, followed by the investigation raises doubts (i.e., doubts about whether the conditions for the crime have been met), 20 percent. The study includes an in-depth review of 200 investigations that shows that many of the investigations include shortcomings; however, Brå estimates that only 3 percent of the closed cases had the potential to result in prosecution with better investigative work. That would have increased the proportion of reports in 2016 that led to prosecution from 6 to 9 percent, which corresponds to 50 %.

### **Brå's evaluation of the new consent law on rape in practice 2020**

The Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) has been commissioned to review the application of the new consent law on rape that was implemented in 2018 (Brå 2020:6). The main result is that there has been a significant increase in the number of prosecutions and convictions since the law was changed. The number of convictions increased from 190 in 2017 to 333 in 2019, which is an increase of 75 per cent, and new types of cases have led to indictment. The review does, however, also identify a

number of problems concerning definition in the application of the law. Such problems may jeopardise the principle of legal certainty. In the majority of cases, however, this is not a problem.

The study also shows that there was an increase in the proportion of convictions from 65 to 70 percent in rape cases in 2019 compared to 2017. The conviction rate is driven up by cases involving violence that took place after the law changed, but which contained coercion and/or exploitation of a particularly vulnerable situation. The conviction rate for cases with the same time span between crime and main offense was 68 percent in 2017, compared to 80 percent in 2019. In Brå's opinion, this may indicate that the new rules have affected the way the courts assess what evidence is required for a conviction in general. Because the question of whether the plaintiff participated voluntarily now always is the basis for the assessment in rape cases, the presence of violence or a vulnerable situation can strengthen the involuntariness, even if it is not proved that the defendant was able to carry out the sexual acts using these means.

Since the above-mentioned review was conducted at a relatively early stage, it could not give any definitive picture. Therefore, in June 2023, the Government commissioned Brå to conduct another follow-up on the new consent law. The results of the study shall be presented to the Government no later than February 14, 2025.

### **Comparative study on reported cases of rape in Sweden and Europe**

The number of reported cases of rape in Sweden stands out in a European context, and statistics show that the percentage of cleared rapes in Sweden is low. In 2020, Brå presented a study on the number of reported and cleared rapes in Sweden and other European countries (Brå 2020:2). The results show that it is not possible to compare such statistics between different countries directly because both legislation and the ways in which statistics are kept differ. Sweden should e.g. end up in the middle of the European statistics on reported rapes instead of at the top - if Sweden had had similar legislation and statistical arrangements as, for example, Germany. The ways in which statistics on the percentage of reports cleared are recorded also varies between the countries in Europe. There are, for example, variations in what is considered a cleared offence. In some countries, a reported rape is

counted as cleared if someone has been prosecuted for the offence, while in other countries it is sufficient to have a suspect.

In the study, Brå recalculates certain figures to illustrate how various factors, other than the actual incidence of rape and the effectiveness of the criminal justice system, affect the statistics on reported and cleared rapes, respectively. The differences between Sweden and other countries are then greatly reduced.

### **Evaluation of the Sexual Crimes Group at the Stockholm North police area**

Brå has evaluated the introduction of the Sexual Crimes Group on behalf of the Swedish police (Brå 2021:7). The overall purpose of the evaluation has been to investigate whether the introduction has led to better investigative work in rape cases handled within the Stockholm North police area.

Brå's assessment is that the specialization has led to higher quality in the investigations and that investigation times have been shortened. But the number of cases that have been reported to prosecutors has only increased marginally. Brå's assessment is that it may not be possible to reach that much higher. This is due to, among other things, the fact that there are evidence problems in many rape cases, that cases are reported after a long time, or that the reported situation does not meet the requirements for rape. There are factors that the investigating unit has difficulty influencing.

As mentioned in the Government Baseline Report to GREVIO in 2017, a temporary residence permit for recovery and reflection may under certain conditions be granted a foreigner victim (Chapter 5, Section 15, Second paragraph Aliens Act). In 2022, amendments to the Aliens Act were made allowing the municipal social service to, besides the person in charge of a preliminary investigation, apply for such a residence permit on behalf of victims of trafficking or human exploitation. In addition to the permit for recovery and reflection a victim may also, after application made by the person in charge of a preliminary investigation, under certain conditions be granted a temporary residence permit for the purpose of their co-operation in preliminary investigation or criminal proceedings (Chapter 5, Section 15, First paragraph Aliens Act).

## **Article 51: Risk assessment and risk management**

Being based on the Danger Assessment instrument, the FREDa assessment tool (see the Baseline Evaluation Report by GREVIO 2019, p. 52), includes consideration for all of the elements (a-i) listed under the questionnaires question 48.

The Police Authority's guidance *Checklists for initial investigative measures in cases of crime against particularly vulnerable victims* and *Crimes in close relationships* has been updated and contain descriptions of risk-enhancing factors for serious or lethal violence. Employees who file a criminal complaint must initially assess the risk of violence or threats of violence.

Examples of risk-increasing factors: serious or escalated violence, the suspect's access to weapon, strangulation violence, violation of a restraining order, knowledge of or pronounced suicide regarding the suspect, mental illness or substance abuse, ongoing separation/custody dispute, honour norms, criminal load.

For structured risk assessments, the Police Authority uses four checklists: SARA:SV for violence in close relationships, SAM for stalking, PATRIARCH for honour-based violence and Check-15 for general threats. According to an internal review by the Police Authority, structured risk assessments are not always sufficiently documented. Several development projects regarding both risk assessments and crimes in close relationships are underway within the Police Authority with the aim of developing the methods.

Regarding information on co-operation between statutory authorities and specialist women's support services in making risk assessments and how identified risks are managed, please see information stated above as well as in the section on Article of this report. About a third of the municipalities (34 percent) report that they have an agreement of co-operation with non-profit women's shelters. The safety planning at shelters referred to in the answer to the section on Article 22 above is supposed to be based on risk assessments of the social services as well as of the police. The Social Welfare Committee is also recommended by the National Board of Health and Welfare, to share the results of its risk assessments concerning adults and children with the police. In addition, the Committee is recommended to take part of the risk assessment performed by the police. The proposed reform on shelters (see

answer to Question 1 above) is likely to improve the conditions for safety planning and co-ordinated risk assessments as the municipal duty to provide sheltered accommodation for victims of violence will be legally clarified and specified.

Please refer to the information under Part 1, Article 7 of this report regarding death or fatality reviews by the National Board of Health and Welfare under a special legal act (2007:606).

Furthermore, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA), within the framework of the agency's Government commission to work against violence in young couple relationships (A2021/01443, A2021/01397), funds a research project that aims to investigate how common fatal violence in young couple relationships is and how it has evolved over time, looking at the years 1990–2017. The study will build upon an analysis of all solved cases of deadly intimate partner violence during this period. In order to increase understanding of which factors are important for fatal violence in young couple relationships, factors are also reviewed related to perpetrator, victim and circumstances of crime. The study is to consider the sex of the victim. By specifically focusing on fatal partner violence against young people, and comparing it to fatal partner violence against adults, the study will highlight factors of particular importance to this understudied subgroup. This, in turn, can increase knowledge about circumstances and challenges that appear to be of particular importance in fatal intimate partner violence against young people, and in the long run increase ability to prevent these crimes. The research project is carried out in collaboration between Mittuniversitetet and Karolinska Institutet, a medical university, with the Karolinska Institutet as the project's lead.

### **Article 52: Emergency barring orders**

As mentioned before, the assessment underlying the Swedish ratification of the Istanbul Convention, is that Sweden meets the obligations under Article 52. The Swedish judicial system has to be viewed as a whole. The provisions on deprivation of liberty in the form of remand, detention and arrest supplement the provisions on non-contact orders in such a way that the Swedish legislation effectively enables the removal of a suspected offender from a shared dwelling. The system is described more in detail in the

Comments submitted by Sweden on GREVIO's final Baseline Report published on 21 January 2019.

As mentioned in the section on Article 7 above, the Government in June 2019, appointed an Inquiry tasked with, *inter alia*, analysing and, where necessary, proposing the additional amendments in the area of non-contact orders that were appropriate in view of the evaluation of Sweden conducted by GREVIO with respect to Articles 52 and 53 of the Istanbul Convention.

The Inquiry submitted its report in October 2020, and in June 2021 the Government proposed amendments in the area of non-contact orders, mainly based on the Inquiry's results.

The Government shared the Inquiry's assessment that the existing legislation, viewed as a whole, is sufficient when it comes to the opportunities to expel a suspect offender from a joint residence since the current provision on deprivation of liberty in form of remand, detention and arrest supplement the provisions on non-contact orders in such a way that the legislation effectively enables the removal of a suspect offender from a joint residence.

As also referred to above in the section on Article 7, the Government in July 2022, appointed a new Inquiry tasked to review the legal framework governing non-contact orders (ToR 2022:114, ToR 2023:36). The review aims to analyse, *inter alia*, the need for legislation that specifically enables the removal of the suspected offender from a shared dwelling. If necessary, the Inquiry is to suggest legislative amendments. The Inquiry is also examining the scale of penalties for breaches of non-contact orders, if electronic monitoring can be used more often to ensure the enforcement of non-contact orders and the possibilities of substantially expanding the geographical area of non-contact orders in the case of particularly serious threats. A report is to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice on 7 February 2024, at the latest.

This was also addressed in the main Statement of Government Policy 2023 addressed to the Swedish Parliament, where the Prime Minister stated that "the Government is examining the possibilities of substantially expanding the geographical area of non-contact orders in the case of particularly serious threats, and also being able to detain violent men in more cases".

### **Article 53: Restraining or protection orders**

The assessment underlying the Swedish ratification of the Istanbul Convention, is that Sweden meets the obligations under Article 53. The legislation is described in further in detail in the Comments submitted by Sweden on GREVIO's final Report from 2019.

As previously outlined in this report, the Government, in June 2019, appointed an Inquiry, *inter alia*, tasked with analysing and, where necessary, proposing the additional amendments in the area of non-contact orders.

The Inquiry submitted its report in October 2020, and in June 2021 the Government proposed amendments in the area of non-contact orders, mainly based on the Inquiry's results.

In relevance to the state party recommendations (A.13), the Government proposed that an extended non-contact order may, regardless of whether the intended subject of the order has breached a previous non-contact order, be combined with an electronic monitoring provision. At that time specially extended non-contact order and a non-contact order related to a joint residence could only be issued if the grounds for such an order significantly outweighed the intrusion or detriment for the intended subject of the order. The Government proposed that the intensifier "significantly" should be discarded, so that the assessment should concern whether the grounds for such an order outweigh the intrusion or detriment for the intended subject of the order.

Moreover, the Government proposed that the scale of penalties for breaches of non-contact orders should be amended from a fine or imprisonment for most one year to imprisonment for (at least 14 days and) at most one year and that the rule of freedom from responsibility should be replaced with a provision to the effect that in minor cases the penalty is a fine.

The proposed legislation entered into force on January 1, 2022.

As mentioned above, an Inquiry is currently tasked to review the legal framework governing non-contact orders. A report is to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice on the 7 February 2024.

The Swedish Prosecution Authority has recently published an updated version of the legal guidance on the procedures relating to restraining orders and is working on a legal guidance including procedures in regard of violation of a restraining order and obstruction of the electronic monitoring.

In the appropriation directions from the Government to the Swedish Prosecution Authority for 2023, there is a requirement to report the measures taken to ensure a consistent and effective enforcement of non-contact orders.

### **Article 56: Measures of protection**

As per previous answer submitted by Sweden in the Government Baseline Report, page 77–78, regarding “Förundersökningskungörelsen” section 13 c, an injured party shall, if needed, as soon as possible be informed when a suspect that is apprehended, arrested, or detained escapes or if the deprivation of liberty is lifted (Förundersökningskungörelsen Section 13 c).

If a suspect that is apprehended, arrested, or detained has escaped, the person in charge of the detainee is also responsible for informing the injured party. The person who decides to cancel an apprehension is responsible for informing the injured party of the decision. The prosecutor is responsible for informing the injured party that a decision on arrest or detention is lifted. Interrogations during the preliminary investigation should be held with everyone that can be assumed to provide relevant information for the investigation, including an injured party. A victim who is a party to the proceedings has the right to be heard and submit evidence in the proceedings in court.

Sections 35 and 36 of the Prison Ordinance (2010:2010) state that if an inmate is serving a sentence for a crime that has been directed against someone’s life, health, liberty or peace, the injured party must be asked if he or she wants to be notified of:

1. the institution in which the prisoner is placed,
2. the prisoner is transferred to another institution or transferred to another State for the execution of the sentence there,
3. the inmate stays outside the institution according to Chapter 9. Section 1, Chapter 10. Sections 1-4 or Chapter 11. Section 1 of the Prison Act (2010:610),



4. the inmate, or the Swedish Prison and Probation Service, applies for conversion in accordance with the Act (2006:45) on the conversion of imprisonment for life,
5. the prisoner is released,
6. the prisoner escapes or is released, or
7. the inmate is absent after leave or any other stay outside the prison.

A requested notification of a planned stay outside the prison need not be given in cases where a notification appears to be manifestly unnecessary due to a decision on surveillance or other circumstances. The same applies when a notification is likely to endanger the life or health of the inmate.

Notification shall be made in a timely manner and shall consider the circumstances of the individual case.

A notification must contain information about the rules that apply to the notification of a restraining order in accordance with the Non-Contact Order Act (1988:688) unless such information has been provided earlier.

As per previous answer submitted by Sweden in the Government Baseline Report, page 77-78, regarding chapter 36, Section 18 and Chapter 5, Section 10 Code of judicial procedure, an injured party or a witness who should be heard in a criminal trial can request that the suspect (or someone in the audience) does not attend the hearing but instead take part from another place by so-called audible (medhörning). Decisions on audible can be made by the court if there is reason to assume that the victim of fear or of any other reason does not freely tell the truth because of the suspect's presence (Chapter 36, Section 18 Code of judicial procedure). The court may decide that the parties and others who participate in a trial, instead of appearing in person, can participate by audio transmission or audio and video transmission. This would be achieved primarily through participation by telephone or video link. In the assessment, the court takes special consideration if someone who should attend the meeting feels special fear to be present in the courtroom (Chapter 5, Section 10 Code of judicial procedure).

The social services within the municipalities have overall responsibility for the support of victims of crime. Help is also offered from the health care within the regions, especially in psychiatry, and in several municipalities, there are also special support centres for young victims of crime. In addition,

civil society organisations cover a wide range of victims of crime with need for protection and support. For example, the organisation Victim Support Sweden offer information, advice and support services to all victims and witnesses in all parts of Sweden in over 25 different languages through 70 different local services and are also available by phone through the European Victim Support Number 116006 that victims can call 7 days a week.

In 2022 and 2023, the Swedish Government has tasked the Swedish Crime Victim Authority to map the whole aggregated support that victims of crime are offered in Sweden, including from the civil society, and to propose a model for regular follow-up of what support and treatment crime victims receive from authorities and other relevant actors (Ju2023/01588). This also includes the development of the authority's role as an information and knowledge centre for crime victim issues and take measures with the aim of achieving equal and qualitative support for victims of crime throughout Sweden. Within this assignment, the authority is also tasked to analyse and propose various alternative actors that could be a coordinating actor in terms of support and efforts towards crime victims.

In 2021, the Government commissioned the Gender Equality Agency (GEA) to chart the situation and challenges for women and children living with protected identity and to carry out awareness-raising and capacity building measures regarding what measures can be taken to enhance their protection and living conditions (A2021/00971).

### **Part III: Emerging trends on violence against women and domestic violence**

#### **The Swedish Crime Survey**

The Swedish Crime Survey (SCS (Nationella trygghetsundersökningen, NTU)) is an annual survey of the attitudes and experiences of the general population of Sweden (aged 16–84 years) regarding victimisation, fear of crime, confidence in the criminal justice system, and crime victims' contacts with the criminal justice system. The SCS is carried out by the Swedish National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå). As for victimization of women, relevant crimes include assault, threat, sexual offences, online harassment, and harassment. Victimization is stated in percentage of the respondents during the studied year. The SCS does not include domestic

violence specifically (although special modules on domestic violence may be included, see below); however, the relationship between the victim and perpetrator in the crime incidents during the studied year is included in follow-up interviews.

In 2022, the Government commissioned Brå to implement a special module to measure crimes in close relationships in the SCS (the last time such a study was published was in 2014). The module was originally intended to be implemented in SCS 2021, which refers to exposure to crimes in 2020, but was moved forward due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The background is that it was not appropriate to carry out the survey due to the special circumstances because of the pandemic. The results would be very difficult to use and interpret. Brå will publish the results of the study in May 2024.

### **The COVID-19-pandemic has probably affected the results in the SCS**

Both for crimes relevant for the Istanbul Convention and for crimes against a person generally, victimization has decreased since 2019 (for both men and women). When comparing over time, in Sweden, the COVID-19 pandemic led to restrictions of varying extent and under different periods since March 2020. Therefore, it cannot be ruled out that the results for the question areas included in the SCS have been affected by the changed lifestyle patterns that the pandemic has brought about for large parts of the population. For example, many spent more time at home, which may have had an impact on exposure to crime but also affected the circumstances surrounding responding to the survey, such as the possibility of answering the survey/questionnaire in private and the respondents' sense of anonymity.

In a separate study (Kortanalys 2/2022), Brå shows that, among other things, eight out of ten people have cut back on seeing friends during the pandemic (80%). Most have also reduced their visits to shopping centres, malls, and museums (80%), have less often gone to restaurants, bars, and pubs (70%) or to cinemas, theatres, and concerts (67%). Furthermore, seven out of ten people (68%) have reduced their shopping in physical stores during the pandemic, and in terms of travel habits, the results shows that more than half reduced their travel both within and outside Sweden (62 and 54%, respectively). According to Brå, it is probable that the decrease in victimization primarily in 2020 but also in 2021 has to do with these lifestyle changes. More information about the study and its results can be found

below under the headline Special study on violence in the home during the COVID-19-pandemic.

### **Socioeconomic and demographic factors affecting victimization**

According to the SCS, self-reported victimization for crimes included in the study is higher among the younger age groups than the older age groups for the relevant crimes, and higher among Sweden-born women with two foreign-born parents than Sweden-born women with two foreign-born parents and foreign-born women. Furthermore, victimization is higher among women with at the most pre-high school education than among women with higher education, and higher for single women with children and single women without children than for women living together with a partner (with or without children). Finally, a higher percentage of women living in apartments report victimization than women living in houses, and a higher percentage of women living in and around big cities report victimization than women living in medium-sized cities and rural areas.

### **Assault**

According to the Swedish Crime Survey, between 2,1 and 2,3 percent of women aged 16–84 years state that they were subjected to assault during the time period 2020–2022, which is slightly lower than in 2019 (2,7 percent). During the period 2016–2018, it is possible to discern an increase in the proportion of women subjected to abuse, followed by a decreasing trend. The decreasing trend in recent years is visible in most age groups but more so in the younger groups (where the level of victimization is higher). It is also visible in other demographic categories included in the SCS (origin, level of education, housing and family situation, and place of residence).

According to the follow-up interviews carried out within the SCS, the perpetrator was a partner or former partner in most of the crime incidents concerning assault against women in 2021, 54 percent (the results of the follow-up interviews in the SCS 2023 have not yet been published). The corresponding figure for 2019 and 2020 is 29 and 28 respectively. In 22 percent of the cases, the perpetrator was a friend or acquaintance, compared to about 30 percent the two previous years. The perpetrator was unknown to the victim in 17 percent of the cases in 2021, compared to 13 in 2019 and 24 in 2020. The percentage of cases in which the perpetrator was a family member or relative has decreased from 19 in 2019, to 10 in 2020, and 3 in

2021. Only 5 percent of assaults in 2021 was carried out by a distant acquaintance or other person known to the victim, compared to 9 percent the two previous years.

### **Threat**

7,6 percent of women state that they were subjected to threats in 2022 which is the same level as in 2021 but less compared to 2020 (8,1%) and 2019 (8,9%). The proportion increased during the period 2015–2018 but has decreased since then. The decrease is visible in most demographic categories included in the SCS.

When it comes to threats, the perpetrator was unknown to the victim in 41 percent of the cases in 2021 (37 in 2019 and 40 in 2020), and a friend/acquaintance in 20 percent (23 in 2019, 30 in 2020). A distant acquaintance/other person known to the victim as perpetrator has increased from 11 percent in 2019 to 12 in 2020 and 19 in 2021. The share of partner/former partner as perpetrator has been relatively stable since 2019 (14 percent in 2019 and 2020, 16 percent in 2021).

### **Sexual offences**

7,8 percent of women state that they were exposed to sexual offenses in 2022 (the term “sexual offences” represents a wide spectrum of offences, from offensive comments in speech or writing, to very serious crimes as rape). This means a slight increase compared with 2020 and 2021 when the share was 7,7 and 7,5 percent respectively, but a decrease compared with 2019 when the share was 9,4 percent. The proportion was relatively unchanged up to and including 2012 (2–3 percent), followed by a clear increase up to and including 2017, when the proportion was 10.7 percent. As of 2018, a downward trend is visible until 2021.

Because of the previous increase in reported victimization (and registered sexual offences) the Government has commissioned Brå to analyse the development of sexual offences 2005–2017. The analysis shows that the substantial increase in the level of self-reported exposure to sexual offences registered by the SCS at the end of the period examined primarily relates to less serious sexual offences, which did not involve the use of any form of threat, restraint, or violence. The incidents which are referred to in the study

as the most serious offences in the SCS data have not increased to the same extent and lie at a much lower level (Brå 2019:5).

Victimization regarding sexual offences is much higher in the younger age groups, particularly women aged 16–19 years and 20–24 years. For the youngest group, victimization has decreased since 2019, although from high levels, from 16 to 13,5 percent. For 20–24-year-olds, victimization decreased between 2019 and 2021, from 19,2 to 16,5 percent, but increased in 2022 to 18,2 percent.

The SCS follow-up interviews shows that the perpetrator was a friend or acquaintance in 42 percent of the sexual crimes incidents in 2021, which is an increase since 2019 and 2020 (27 percent). The perpetrator was unknown to the victim in 34 percent of the crime incidents, which is a decrease since the two previous years (52 percent). The percentage of distant acquaintance/other person known to the victim has decreased slightly since 2019 (13 percent) to 11 percent in 2020 and 9 percent in 2021. In some cases, the perpetrator was a family member or relative, but the percentage has been rounded off to 0.

Self-reported victimization to sexual crimes through coercion has decreased in recent years: 1,7 percent of women state that they have been subjected to sexual offence through coercion in 2019, compared to 1,3 percent in 2020 and 2021. However, it increased slightly in 2022 to 1.5 percent. The corresponding figures for 16–24-year-olds is 5,7, 4,9, 4,9, and 5,3 percent respectively.

1,2 percent of women state that they had been exposed to sexual crimes by exploitation of a defenceless position in 2022, which is about the same as in 2019, 2020, and 2021 (1,0, 1,0, and 1,1 percent respectively). However, as with sexual offences through coercion, victimization among young women (16–24 years) stands out: 4,5 percent in 2019, 5,0 in 2020, 5,6 in 2021, and 5,8 percent in 2022.

### **Online harassment**

Self-reported exposure to online harassment among women amounted to 2,1 percent in 2022 compared to 2,2, percent in 2021 and 2,4 in 2020 and 2019. Before that, a weak upward trend was visible between 2016 and 2019. Victimization in the youngest age group, 16–19 years old, stands out

(although it has decreased in recent years): 7,2 percent in 2022, 7.9 percent in 2021, 8,2 percent in 2020 and 8,1 percent in 2019.

(Results regarding the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim is not available for online harassment since the number of crimes included in the follow-up interviews is too small).

### **Harassment**

The proportion of women stating that they have been subjected to harassment has decreased from 7,6 percent in 2019 to 6,9 percent in 2020, 6,7 percent in 2021, and 6,5 percent in 2022. The decrease is visible in most of the demographic categories. As with online harassment, self-reported victimization stands out among young women.

(Results regarding the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim is not available for harassment since the number of crimes included in the follow-up interviews is too small).

### **Special study on violence in the home during the COVID-19-pandemic**

Brå has conducted an extra survey with questions related to the pandemic, in order to gain a greater understanding of the pandemic's effects on crime (Kortanalys 2/2022). Questions related to crimes in the homes have been included, which Brå considers to be the best way to measure crimes in a close relationship under the special circumstances present during the pandemic. The study shows that 11,3 percent of women state that they have been subjected to at least one of the ten types of violence in the home included in the study during March – December 2020 (psychological violence, material violence, digital violence, threats of violence, assault, economic violence, aggravated assault, non-consensual sex, sex under threat or threat of violence, violence using weapon). By far the most common form of domestic violence during the pandemic has been psychological violence where the person has been offended, mocked, devalued, or humiliated by a by a person in the same household, 8,7 percent. The second most common form of violence was digital violence (1,8 percent), followed by threats of violence (1,7 percent). The level of victimization is highest in the youngest age group 16–24 years old: 16,4 percent.

## **The Swedish School Survey**

Every other year, Brå conducts a survey on victimization, consequences of fear of victimization, participation in crime, and attitudes towards crime among students in grade 9 (typically 15 years old). The crimes studied include i.a. abuse, threat, sexual crimes, online violations, and bullying.

### **Socioeconomic and demographic factors affect the risk for victimization**

The 2021 study shows that, in general, Swedish-born students with two foreign-born parents and foreign-born students report exposure to crime to a greater extent than Swedish-born students with Swedish-born parents. The proportion of students who state that they have been victims of crime is greater among students who live in an apartment than among students who live in a house. The proportion is also greater among students whose parents are divorced or separated than among students whose are not divorced or separated parents. A larger proportion of students where one parent has a university or college education report victimization than students where neither or both have equivalent education. The same applies to students there at least one parent is out of work.

The largest proportion of students exposed to crime is found among those who live in families with weaker financial resources. In this group, more than twice as many states that they were subjected to assault, sexual offences or threats compared to students who have more stable financial resources. These results show a similar pattern as in previous years, except for sexual offenses in 2017 when the difference was less.

### **Victimization in the 2021 study**

In the most recent study (2021), 17,2 percent of girls stated that they had been subjected to abuse during the last 12 months (3 percent stated that the abuse was serious), which is higher than in 2019 (15,3 percent). As for threat, the percentage of victimized girls had decreased from 13,6 percent to 12,1 percent. More than 40 percent of the girls who stated that they had been subjected to threat state that it took place online or on social media. When it comes to sexual crimes, 23,6 percent of girls stated that they had been subjected to sexual offences in the 2021 study (compared to about 21 percent in 2019). 9 percent stated that they were subjected to sexual actions



through coercion (compared to 6 percent in 2019). When it comes to sexual actions through coercion, respondents are asked to specify where the crime took place. Due to the small number of respondents, the result divided by sex is not published. However, 27,9 percent of boys and girls who were subjected to sexual actions through coercion state that it took place online or on social media in the 2021 survey, which is an increase since the previous study in 2019 (24,6 percent).

When it comes to online-violations, 29,1 percent of girls in the 2021 survey stated that someone had written offensive things about them on the internet (e.g. on Facebook, Instagram, a blog or similar) in the past 12 months (29,8 in the 2019-survey). 17 percent state that someone has posted pictures or footage of them on the internet that they did not want to be shared (20,1 percent in the 2019-survey). 38,7 percent of girls stated that they had been subjected to bullying in the 2021 survey, compared to 36,4 percent in the 2019 survey.

### **The Politician's Safety Survey**

Every other year, Brå conducts a survey on politicians' exposure to crime, for example threat, harassment, and violence. As for threat and harassment, respondents can specify if the crime was manifested digitally (threatening email, threats/attacks via social media, or hijacked internet account/fake account created in the victim's name). The most recent study was published in 2021 and concerns victimization in 2020.

National, regional, and local elections are held every four years in Sweden. Since victimization may increase during election years, the Politicians' Safety Survey concerns victimization during election years and the year between elections (the most recent study concerned a mid-election year). This means that it is difficult to draw conclusions about trends when comparing two consecutive studies.

In general, women in the youngest age group (29 years or younger) report the highest level of victimization. The proportion of women in the age group 29 years or younger who states victimization had increased in 2020 compared to 2018, from 38 percent in 2018 to 47 percent in 2020. However, it should be noted here that the group of elected officials who are 29 years or younger is a very small group in the population. For women in other age groups, and for men in all age groups, vulnerability instead decreased in 2020

compared to 2018. In the most recent study, victimization was higher among women with foreign background than women with Swedish background (30 and 27 percent respectively). Victimization is higher among politicians who are active on the internet or social media. About 60 percent of female politicians who state that they are active on the internet/social media to a very large extent, state that they have been subjected to crime.

When it comes to threat and harassment, 27 percent of female politicians reported victimization in 2020. The most common type of crime in 2020 was, as in previous years, threats, and assaults via social media (17 percent compared to 19,5 in 2018), followed by online violations (7,3 percent compared to 8,2 in 2018). Physical violence is much less common, 1,6 percent of female politicians reported being subjected to physical violence.

### **Violence against Children**

With the financial support of the Government, the Children's Welfare Foundation (Stiftelsen Allmänna Barnhuset) regularly carries out a national survey of violence against children in a way that largely allows for comparisons of results over time. The latest one from 2022 is based on the answers from around 5 800 pupils in year 9 of primary school.

The results show that over 57 percent of pupils had been victims of some form of violence from an adult and/or peer during their upbringing and 40 percent had been victims of violence perpetrated by an adult. Slightly more than 8 percent of the pupils had been victims of 3–5 forms of violence perpetrated by an adult. The prevalence of children who were victims of violence perpetrated by an adult at some point during their upbringing had not changed since the last survey. However, certain differences were noted with regards to specific forms of violence. A reduction was observed with regards to physical violence perpetrated by an adult and perceived violence between adults in the family. An increase was observed with regards to neglect, psychological violence perpetrated by a parent and sexual assault perpetrated by unknown adults and by peers.

Disability, chronic disease of the child, poor family finances, primary residence with one parent, substance abuse, psychiatric illness, suicidal tendencies and criminality of the parents were strongly associated with violence and vulnerability in multiple ways. Relatively few victims of violence and assault had told a professional about their experiences. The study also

reported deficiencies in how the victims are treated and access to support and treatment after violence has been exposed. It further reported that far from all students who themselves perceived that they were in need of support had received this and a significant portion of those who had sought professional support were not content.

### **Sexual exploitation**

As part of the national action plan to combat prostitution and trafficking in human beings for all forms of exploitation, the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) was given a mapping assignment regarding the extent of prostitution in Sweden which was reported on 1 October 2021. Inter alia, the report shows, that children are at greater risk than before of being exploited in prostitution and trafficking in human beings for sexual purposes when perpetrators find new ways and arenas to reach them online via various websites, dating sites, social media and even gaming apps. For further information on this and related measures, please refer to the ongoing third reporting cycle on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by the Parties.

### **Funding and Budgeting**

Please refer to the answer under Part I, Article 8 on Funding above.

### **Innovative approaches to primary prevention**

Measures and work in the field of the sixth-sub goal of the gender equality policy are extensive and are continuously evolving based on assessments and evaluations of policy and measures. In addition to a range of new legislation as outlined in previous sections of this report, recent years have also seen a number of commissions to public authorities to strengthen the intersectional knowledge and approaches to both preventing and combating men's violence against women and domestic violence, inter alia, commissions with a focus on young persons, children, elderly, persons with disabilities, LGBTIQI-persons and men as well as victims of honour-based violence and oppression. Amongst measures targeting young persons, the Government has supported a civil society run online support chat targeting young persons (both victims and perpetrators) of violence in interpersonal relationships. As also noted in this report, the measures to develop preventive work targeting

perpetrators of violence, including honour-based violence and oppression, in other ways have also been further developed.

In 2022, the Government commissioned the GEA to raise awareness of how violence in intimate partner relationships and honour-based violence affect work life. As part of this commission, the GEA is to develop supporting material for employers to increase detection of victims of violence amongst employees and to enable the employers to better support employees who are victims of violence. Linked to this measure, the Minister for Labour and Gender Equality organised a roundtable discussion with representatives from the labour market. The GEA, in carrying out this commission, is also to consult with representatives from the labour market (A2022/00389).

During the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, the Government, through the conference “Economic Perspectives on Gender-Based Violence – Paving Paths to Prevention” sought to put the spotlight on issues at the intersection of two key priority areas in both the national, European and global fight for Gender Equality: the need for women’s economic empowerment and the need to prevent and combat gender-based violence. In selecting the topic of this conference and by convening experts from the broad range of stakeholders from the global, European and national arena including political decision makers, civil servants from ministries and public authorities, international organisations including the President of GREVIO, civil society, academia and private sector, Sweden sought to provide a space for dialogue and reflection as well as to stimulate the sharing of best practices on the many economic perspectives on gender-based violence, not least on economic violence.

### **Access to asylum and international protection for women victims of violence against women**

Since 2019 (A2019/01517/ A2022/00842), the Swedish Migration Agency has taken part in a joint Government commission in order to increase the detection of violence, together with the GEA, the National Board of Health and Welfare, the Swedish Public Employment Service and the Social Insurance Agency. As described above in this report, the agencies have cooperated in developing methods and routines for asking questions about violence as well as for offering help, such as referring to the right instance for support, protection, and treatment, when needed. Work has also been

undertaken to secure knowledge about domestic violence, honour-based violence and oppression (including child marriage, forced marriage and female genital mutilation), sexual exploitation of children, prostitution and trafficking in human beings as well as sexual harassment and abuse.

Since 2021 the Agency has also had a government commission to combat and prevent female genital mutilation of girls and women (A2021/01029).

As part of the assignments, action plans have been put in place which include large investments in training and support to employees. Various key groups have been trained, including employees in housing, reception, asylum case officers and different service personnel. Filmed lectures on honour-based violence and genital mutilation are available for all employees, as well as various online training courses for employees both in Sweden and abroad. Various cases have also been produced for employees to learn more about genital mutilation.

In order to promote self-identification, asylum applicants are provided with different information. For example, on the Swedish Migration Agency's website, there is information about violence in all types of cases in different languages, both written and presented in videos. The Agency also provides information about abortion.

## **Part IV: Administrative data and statistics**

### **About Swedish crime statistics**

Crime statistics are influenced by both legal and statistical factors, and by the extent to which crime is reported and registered. These factors can vary from one country to another. There are no international standards for how crime statistics should be produced and presented, and this makes international comparisons difficult. When it comes to Swedish crime statistics, the National Council for Crime Prevention (Brå) lists three important factors to bear in mind:

- Swedish crime statistics record all reported events as crimes even if some of them are later found not to have constituted criminal offences.

- Several offences of the same kind against a single victim will be counted in some countries as a single crime. By contrast, in Swedish crime statistics every offence occurring under these circumstances is counted separately.
- In Swedish statistics, attempted offences are in most cases counted together with completed crimes.

Official Swedish crime statistics on reported and processed offences is structured according to crime codes, please see Appendix B for requested data. See Appendix C for statistics on issued non-contact orders.

Convictions is structured according to the section of the law rather than the classification system of crime codes that is used for reported and processed offences. Therefore, data on convictions and sanctions is not available disaggregated by the sex of the victim (except for the crime gross violation of a woman's integrity).

#### **Conviction decisions (district court) by principal offence and principal sanction, gross violation of a woman's integrity**

Year	Prison	Psychiatric care	Probation	<b>Total</b>
2021	113	2	12	<b>127</b>
2022	129	1	10	<b>140</b>

#### **Regarding the statistics on reported abuse against women**

The Government has commissioned Brå to study the quality of the relationship between victim and perpetrator in registered abuse cases in the years 2019–2021. Previous analyses had shown that there are quality deficiencies in the registration of the type of relationship between crime victims and perpetrators in reported assault crimes in the statistics, which have their basis in how the registration of crime codes is done. The deficiencies coincide with the revision of the classification codes for assault offenses in 2019.

The results of the study show that the number of reported assault crimes against women by former or present intimate partner have been underestimated in the official statistics during the entire period studied. For

abuse against a woman by a family member or by other acquaintances, the opposite relationship applies. The development of the number of reported assaults against women for each relationship type has also been significantly more stable than what appears in the official statistics, although the estimates show both increases and decreases. Brå's study also shows that the flaws have diminished during the studied time-period; however, according to Brå, there is still a risk that users of the data may draw incorrect conclusions about the level and development of reported assault crimes.

### **Confirmed cases of lethal violence**

The figures below come from Brå's special study of lethal violence. The statistics includes reported cases of lethal violence where lethal violence is highly likely to be the cause of death. This is because the statistic regarding reported offences is misleading where lethal violence is concerned, since it shows all reported incidents with a lethal outcome where there initially was reason to investigate if lethal violence was used. In many cases, the investigation later shows that the death was not caused by lethal violence but for example suicide, accident, or natural death. It also occurs that several police reports are made for a single case of suspected lethal violence, which means that the statistics contain "duplicates". Moreover, attempts, preparation, and conspiracy to commit murder or manslaughter are at times erroneously registered as completed murder or manslaughter.

Confirmed cases of lethal violence	2021	2022
Women, total	24	23
of which under 18 years	0	0
of which 18 years or older	24	23
of which by former or present partner	15	10

### **Police coding of crimes against women in relationships**

To improve the quality of official crime statistics, the Government requested a report from the Police Authority of how the Authority works to ensure that the registration of information on crime is done in a reliable and uniform manner in the authority. Emphasis would be placed on reporting on the measures taken to increase the quality of the registration of reported assault crimes against women. The Authority's report from February 2023 shows that competence-enhancing measures have been taken to improve the

quality of coding and investigation of crimes against women in relationships, including through information efforts towards those who receive reports of crimes at the Police's contact centre.

### **Information about domestic violence in cases involving custody, residence and contact or visitation**

It can be mentioned that in May 2021, the Government commissioned the Swedish Gender Equality Agency (GEA) (A2020/01054/JÄM) to carry out a survey to determine the extent to which, and in what way, information about violence or other abuse by one parent against another other parent or a partner or a child has been presented in cases involving custody, residence and contact or visitation, and to what extent these documents are considered in court judgements.

The GEA requested the 30 first judgements, including investigation documents, which were delivered after 1 April 2020 from all 48 district courts. A total of 1,147 judgements were received. The cases where the issue was not in dispute or where the social welfare board brought an action to the court were sorted out for statistical purposes. In the remaining 814 cases, all judgements, case details and investigations were examined to determine whether they contained information about violence or abuse.

According to the report issued in January 2022 (Rapport 2022:1), there were reports of violence or other abuse by one parent against the other parent or against a partner or a child in 64 percent of the 814 cases. A review of these showed that the court affirmed the parents' agreements in 61 percent of the cases. Due to the high percentage of cases where parents reach agreements, the GEA expanded the survey and also conducted a review of 100 agreements from 44 district courts. After sorting out cases where the courts affirmed parent agreements, a total of 198 cases remained for the purposes of the survey. These cases were examined using a survey template.

The information about violence or other abuse that occurs most frequently in the reviewed cases concerns violence or abuse by one parent against one or more children and violence or abuse of a man against a woman. Of the 198 cases examined, 67 percent of the cases contain information on violence or abuse against children. There is also information about violence or other abuse by a man against a woman in 67 percent of the cases. Information about violence or other abuse of a woman against a man occurs in 13



percent of the cases. Many cases contain information about violence or other abuse against both the other parent and one or more children.

According to the GEA, the information collected in the survey clearly shows that violence or other abuse where a woman is exposed to violence is generally more serious, and much more likely to be repeated and systematic, compared with the information on violence or abuse where a man is the victim. The survey shows that it is almost exclusively women, often in combination with their children, who are placed in sheltered housing and have their application for protected identity granted. The survey also shows that it is almost exclusively men who are convicted of violent crimes against the other parent, partner, or child.

According to the GEA, the extent to which information about violence or other abuse is emphasized in the cases differs between the courts. In 24 percent of the judgements where information about violence or other abuse against a parent or partner is referenced, the extent of the violence is not described. In cases where information about violence or abuse of a child is referenced, the extent of the violence is not described in 32 percent of the judgements. The report further states that judgements seldom contain descriptions of the negative consequences of violence for children, though there are exceptions, and few judgements are clearly written with the application of a child's rights perspective.

The report assesses that the evidence referenced as a basis for the information on violence or other abuse is difficult to follow in many of the judgements and the court's application of the law varies significantly. Criminal judgements resulting from the information on violence or other abuse have been delivered in 20 percent of the cases.

The survey shows that in a large number of the cases, there is information about violence or other abuse against parents, partners or children in the investigations linked to the cases, which do not appear in the judgement. Whether the court actually takes a position on this information cannot be determined from the judgements, according to the GEA.

According to the GEA, the survey shows that the court has carried out some type of risk assessment in 69 percent of the cases studied. In a majority of the cases where a risk assessment has been performed, the assessment is not, according to the GEA, systematic and coherent. The GEA states that no

uniform method for how risk is taken into account could be identified in the case information on violence or other abuses in the cases the agency reviewed. In most of the cases, information about violence or abuse is removed because it is not considered proven, despite the fact that the legislative history shows that the evidentiary requirements are not as high as in criminal cases when risk assessments are to be carried out, according to the GEA.

The GEA further states that the lack of a systematic approach is also evident in the fact that only a low proportion of the information about violence or other abuse against a parent or partner or child that emerges in the case is assessed as a risk in a risk assessment. There is assessed to be a risk present in only 26 percent of all cases where information about violence or other abuse against a parent or partner is presented, and in only 32 percent of all cases where information is presented about violence or other abuse against children.

## APPENDIX A

**Table 1: Initial training (education or professional training)**

Professionals	Do they benefit from initial training against violence against women and domestic violence ?	Is this training mandatory ?	Are training efforts supported by guidelines and protocols ?	Who funds the training?	Please describe the content and duration of the training
Healthcare Students in the degrees of Bachelor of Science in Physiotherapy, Master of Science in Medicine, Master of Science in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Psychology, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Master of Science in Dental Surgery and Degree of Bachelor of Science	X	X	X	Part of educational programme funded by the state.	Included in a qualitative target according to Higher Education Act and Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100) Teacher given the possibility to take part in-educational initiatives in collaboration with relevant selected university departments, 3 ECTS: Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violence against children</li> <li>• Men's violence against women and violence in intimate partner relationships</li> <li>• Especially vulnerable living conditions</li> <li>• Prostitution and human trafficking</li> </ul>

					<p>for sexual purposes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Masculinity and power</li> <li>• Honour-based violence and oppression</li> </ul> <p>And</p> <p>Theoretical perspectives on men's violence against women, 5</p>
<p>Law enforcement, Students in the degree of Master of Law</p>	X	X	X	<p>Part of educational programme funded by the state.</p>	<p>Included in a qualitative target according to Higher Education Act and Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100)</p> <p>Teacher given the possibility to take part in educational initiatives in collaboration with relevant selected university departments, 3</p> <p>ECTS:</p> <p>Themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violence against children</li> <li>• Men's violence against women and violence in intimate partner relationships</li> <li>• Especially vulnerable living conditions</li> <li>• Prostitution and human trafficking for sexual purposes</li> <li>• Masculinity and power</li> <li>• Honour-based violence</li> </ul>

					e and oppression And Theoretical perspectives on men's violence against women, 5
Criminal justice, Students in the degree of Master of Law	X	X	X	Part of educational programme funded by the state.	Included in a qualitative target according to Higher Education Act and Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100) Teacher given the possibility to take part in educational initiatives in collaboration with relevant selected university departments, 3 ECTS: Themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Violence against children</li> <li>• Men's violence against women and violence in intimate partner relationships</li> <li>• Especially vulnerable living conditions</li> <li>• Prostitution and human trafficking for sexual purposes</li> <li>• Masculinity and power</li> <li>• Honour-based violence and oppression</li> </ul> And Theoretical perspectives on men's violence

					against women, 5
Social welfare, Bachelor of Science in Social Work	X	X	X	Part of educational programme funded by the state.	Included in a qualitative target according to Higher Education Act and Higher Education Ordinance (1993:100).
<b>All newly recruited employees at the Swedish Migration Agency</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	The Migration Agency	Introductory course where GBV is included, 3 h
<b>All employees at the Swedish Migration Agency</b>	Yes	No	Yes	The Swedish Gender Equality Agency	Introductory course on detection of domestic violence among employees
<b>Colleagues working in our foreign missions</b>	Yes	No	Yes	It has been possible to produce through funds in a government assignment	E-learning about GBV for migration. 30 min
<b>Case officers and instructors at Detention Centres</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes	It has been possible to produce through funds in a government assignment  The Migration Agency in cooperation with county administrative board of Östergötland  The Migration Agency  Through funds in a government	E-learning about GBV for migration. 30 min  E-learning about HRV. 1,5 h  E-learning about human trafficking, 30 min  Filmed lectures about domestic violence, HRV and FGM  Training norm critical perspectives

				<p>t assignment</p> <p>The Migration Agency</p> <p>The national centre on men's violence against women (NCK)</p>	E-learning domestic violence, 3-4h
<b>Reception case officers and decision-making officers</b>	Yes	No	Yes	<p>It has been possible to produce through funds in a government assignment</p> <p>The Migration Agency in cooperation with county administrative board of Östergötland</p> <p>The Migration Agency</p> <p>Through funds in a government assignment</p> <p>The national centre on men's violence against women (NCK)</p>	<p>E-learning about GBV with specific cases for asylum and migration 45-60 min</p> <p>E-learning about HRV. 1,5 h</p> <p>E-learning about human trafficking. 30 min</p> <p>Filmed lectures about domestic violence, HRV and FGM</p> <p>E-learning domestic violence, 3-4h</p>
<b>Asylum case officers and decision-</b>	Yes	No	Yes	<p>It has been possible to produce</p>	E-learning about GBV with specific

making officers				<p>through funds in a government assignment</p> <p>The Migration Agency in cooperation with county administrative board of Östergötland</p> <p>The Migration Agency</p> <p>Through funds in a government assignment</p> <p>The national centre on men's violence against women (NCK)</p>	<p>cases for asylum and migration. 45-60 min</p> <p>E-learning about HRV. 1,5 h</p> <p>E-learning about human trafficking, 30 min</p> <p>Filmed lectures about domestic violence, HRV and FGM</p> <p>E-learning domestic violence, 3-4h</p>
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**Table 2: In-service training**

<b>Professionals</b>	<b>Number of professionals trained</b>	<b>Is training mandatory?</b>	<b>Frequency</b>	<b>Training efforts supported by guidelines and protocols</b>	<b>Please describe the content and duration of the training</b>
Crime investigators	2020-2022: 145	No			Crime in close relationships
Crime investigators	2020-2022: 142	No			Sexual crime
Crime investigators	2020-2022: 54	No			Trafficking in human beings
<b>Asylum case officers and decision making officers</b>	Not available at the moment	No		Yes	<p>Case studies on FGM and gender-based violence. Problem oriented case studies in which more and more fact are added. 3-4 h per case</p> <p>Training gender and sexual orientation (Module within the European Asylum Curriculum)</p> <p>Training Interviewing vulnerable persons (Module within the European Asylum Curriculum)</p>
<b>Reception case officers and decision-making officers</b>	Not available at the moment	No		Yes	Case study on gender-based violence, 3-4 h

					Training reception of vulnerable persons (Module within the European Asylum Curriculum)
<b>Migration case officers and decision-making case officers</b>	Not available	No		Yes	Case studies on gender-based violence. Problem oriented case studies in which more and more fact are added. 3-4 h per case
<b>Colleagues working in our foreign missions</b>	Not available	No		Yes	Case study on gender-based violence, 3-4h
<b>Journalists and editorial offices</b>	Not available	No	Not available		Training such as workshops, lectures and training courses, both within the framework of journalistic education and also to educate special investigators of democracy and hate crimes at the Police Academy how to prevent and tackle threats and hatred, especially online.

## APPENDIX B

Type of crime	Reported offences		Investigated offences*		Investigated offences of which prosecution initiated	
	2021	2022	2021	2022	2021	2022
<b>Attempted murder or manslaughter (1, 2 §)</b>						
Against girls under 18 years	26	16	27	26	7	9
Against women 18 years or older	169	158	154	148	41	38
Intimate partner	55	53	49	49	14	18
Family member	20	12	20	15	7	5
Other perpetrator known to the victim	32	36	30	30	14	9
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	62	57	55	54	6	6
<b>Assault (5, 6 §) (not resulting in death)</b>						
Assault against girls of 6 years and under	1 740	1 666	1 680	1 512	74	68
Perpetrator known to the victim	1 691	1 608	1 643	1 472	73	65
Outdoors	101	110	83	77	12	6
Indoors	1 590	1 498	1 560	1 395	61	59
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	49	58	37	40	1	3
Outdoors	29	34	21	22	1	3
Indoors	20	24	16	18	-	-
Assault against girls of 7–14 years	5 244	5 401	4 102	3 979	353	312
Perpetrator known to the victim	4 778	4 871	3 777	3 658	306	274
Outdoors	901	989	440	416	69	69
Indoors	3 877	3 882	3 337	3 242	237	205
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	466	530	325	321	47	38
Outdoors	325	341	233	196	37	23
Indoors	141	189	92	125	10	15
Assault against girls of 15–17 years	2 610	2 619	2 430	2 370	373	395
Perpetrator known to the victim	2 115	2 106	1 996	1 920	304	321
Outdoors	614	579	590	521	129	113
Indoors	1 501	1 527	1 406	1 399	175	208
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	495	513	434	450	69	74
Outdoors	336	343	298	287	48	47
Indoors	159	170	136	163	21	27
Assault against women 18 years or older	29 257	29 224	26 820	25 731	3 832	3 747
Intimate partner	13 583	13 445	13 464	12 682	2 050	2 044
Family member	3 336	3 043	3 194	2 820	461	448

Other perpetrator known to the victim	6 898	6 779	6 026	5 833	744	696
Outdoors	1 966	1 811	1 750	1 598	215	202
Indoors	4 932	4 968	4 276	4 235	529	494
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	5 440	5 957	4 080	4 383	563	557
Outdoors	2 911	3 112	2 253	2 311	306	273
Indoors	2 529	2 845	1 827	2 072	257	284
<b>Unlawful deprivation of liberty (2 §)</b>						
Against girls under 18 years	195	172	178	168	21	7
Against women 18 years or older	974	794	672	656	60	79
Intimate partner	342	347	342	350	34	50
Family member	87	58	81	52	7	4
Other perpetrator known to the victim	186	184	139	141	13	10
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	359	205	110	113	6	15
<b>Violation of a child's integrity, gross violation of a child's integrity (3 §)</b>						
Against girls under 18 years		5 057		4 456		800
<b>Unlawful coercion (4 §)</b>						
Against girls under 18 years	163	163	147	136	29	11
Against women 18 years or older	403	316	386	301	44	25
Intimate partner	166	123	177	127	20	13
Family member	37	32	36	24	5	5
Other perpetrator known to the victim	101	72	89	70	11	6
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	99	89	80	79	8	1
Gross violation of integrity (4 a §)						
Against girl under 18 years	543	404	560	458	50	51
Against woman 18 years or older	144	168	162	162	55	65
Intimate partner	87	121	107	118	45	55
Family member	57	47	55	44	10	10
<b>Gross violation of a woman's integrity (4 a §)</b>	1 391	1 245	1 480	1 253	271	276
<b>Unlawful Harassment (4 b §)</b>						
Against girl under 18 years	37	8	39	11	9	3
Against woman 18 years or older	424	390	417	314	125	114
Intimate partner	156	158	185	140	62	61
Family member	24	12	24	18	6	4
Other perpetrator known to the victim	145	116	123	101	36	27
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	99	104	79	55	18	22
<b>Unlawful threat (5 §)</b>						
Against girl under 18 years	3 059	3 031	2 309	2 193	280	280
Internet-related	827	845	545	557	77	84

Non internet-related	2 232	2 186	1 764	1 635	203	196
Against women 18 years or older	20 706	19 515	18 281	16 606	2 603	2 409
Intimate partner	8 100	7 503	7 876	7 192	1 273	1 155
Internet-related	899	815	907	796	146	129
Non internet-related	7 201	6 688	6 969	6 396	1 127	1 026
Family member	2 225	2 140	2 083	1 900	330	339
Internet-related	249	213	238	187	38	33
Non internet-related	1 976	1 927	1 845	1 713	292	306
Other perpetrator known to the victim	5 084	4 846	4 403	3 919	535	472
Internet-related	911	931	803	724	114	90
Non internet-related	4 173	3 915	3 600	3 195	421	382
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	5 297	5 026	3 774	3 575	446	442
Internet-related	1 019	1 036	682	642	71	56
Non internet-related	4 278	3 990	3 092	2 933	375	386
<b>Unlawful violation of privacy (6 c, 6 d §)</b>						
Against girl under 18 years	681	692	525	433	43	25
Against women 18 years or older	756	667	641	576	39	63
Intimate partner	295	300	259	271	17	49
Family member	16	16	25	16	3	1
Other perpetrator known to the victim	213	168	182	159	7	9
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	232	183	154	130	5	4
<b>Non-sexual molestation (7 §)</b>						
Against girl under 18 years	3 388	3 437	2 069	1 999	146	127
Against women 18 years or older	30 857	27 715	15 733	13 537	895	776
Intimate partner	6 965	6 848	5 600	5 087	341	333
Family member	1 571	1 504	1 042	870	65	51
Other perpetrator known to the victim	7 728	6 874	4 187	3 552	195	151
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	14 593	12 489	4 819	4 019	290	241
<b>Encouraging suicide (7 a 1 st. §)</b>						
Against girl under 18 years	.	49	.	23	.	-
Against women 18 years or older	.	77	.	59	.	5
<b>Negligently encouraging suicide (7 a 2 st. §)</b>						
Against girl under 18 years	.	8	.	3	.	-
Against women 18 years or older	.	5	.	7	.	-
<b>Rape, rape of a child (1, 4 §)</b>						
Against girls under 15 years	2 340	2 795	2 397	2 456	854	1 078
Completed rape	2 211	2 654	2 237	2 316	797	1 035
Outdoors	230	217	199	161	68	54
Indoors	1 981	2 437	2 038	2 155	729	981

Attempted rape	129	141	160	140	57	43
Outdoors	34	29	27	28	5	6
Indoors	95	112	133	112	52	37
Against girls of 15–17 years	1 215	1 124	1 249	1 122	195	149
Completed rape	1 141	1 075	1 184	1 069	186	144
Outdoors	172	131	182	147	39	15
Indoors	969	944	1 002	922	147	129
Attempted rape	74	49	65	53	9	5
Outdoors	20	17	22	13	7	1
Indoors	54	32	43	40	2	4
Rape against women 18 years or older, including aggravated rape (1 §)	1 944	1 643	5 167	4 817	550	652
Intimate partner	1 854	1 562	1 815	1 760	132	222
Completed rape	90	81	1 709	1 685	119	212
Attempted rape	108	99	106	75	13	10
Family member	101	92	126	98	9	20
Completed rape	7	7	118	89	6	19
Attempted rape	2 056	1 840	8	9	3	1
Other perpetrator known to the victim	1 919	1 720	1 941	1 779	218	258
Completed rape	105	106	1 810	1 666	201	235
Outdoors	1 814	1 614	115	98	8	8
Indoors	137	120	1 695	1 568	193	227
Attempted rape	19	21	131	113	17	23
Outdoors	118	99	20	23	2	6
Indoors	1 363	1 228	111	90	15	17
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	1 202	1 075	1 230	1 161	183	148
Completed rape	291	287	1 074	1 006	155	122
Outdoors	911	788	246	274	19	28
Indoors	161	153	828	732	136	94
Attempted rape	95	77	156	155	28	26
Outdoors	66	76	87	80	16	15
Indoors	284	286	69	75	12	11
<b>Negligent rape (1 a §)</b>						
Against girls of 15–17 years	68	69	57	64	-	1
Outdoors	5	3	4	3	-	-
Indoors	63	66	53	61	-	1
Against women aged 18 years or older	205	178	152	179	4	9
Intimate partner	102	76	68	77	2	5
Family member	1	5	2	-	-	-
Other perpetrator known to the victim	44	64	31	62	2	1
Outdoors	12	1	15	5	2	-
Indoors	32	63	16	57	-	1
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	58	33	51	40	-	3
Outdoors	1	3	1	1	-	1
Indoors	57	30	50	39	-	2

<b>Sexual assault (2 §)</b>						
Against girl 15–17 years	93	85	72	86	13	11
Against women aged 18 years or older	237	216	223	224	53	60
Intimate partner	45	56	47	54	8	13
Family member	10	11	6	13	1	4
Other perpetrator known to the victim	112	81	119	82	25	22
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	70	68	49	75	19	21
<b>Negligent sexual assault (3 §)</b>						
Against girl 15–17 years	1	1	1	-	-	-
Against women aged 18 years or older	15	7	10	10	-	-
Intimate partner	2	1	2	-	-	-
Family member	3	-	3	-	-	-
Other perpetrator known to the victim	6	3	4	5	-	-
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	4	3	1	5	-	-
<b>Sexual exploitation of person under 18 years (5 §)</b>						
Against girl under 15 years	143	89	134	169	23	83
Against girl 15–17 years	15	4	11	7	1	1
<b>Sexual abuse against person under 18 years (6 §)</b>						
Against girl under 15 years	660	523	718	558	198	137
Against girl 15–17 years	19	29	16	26	5	7
<b>Sexual intercourse with a descendant or a sibling (7 §)</b>						
Against girl 15–17 years	-	3	-	3	-	-
Against women aged 18 years or older	1	2	1	2	-	1
<b>Sexual molestation (10 §) exckl indecent exposure</b>						
Against girl under 15 years	2 892	2 682	2 253	2 227	404	312
Against girl 15–17 years	1 232	1 192	1 125	1 120	220	244
Against women 18 years or older	5 789	5 078	4 257	4 540	768	907
Intimate partner	359	297	326	323	66	37
Family member	95	84	79	81	12	16
Other perpetrator known to the victim	1 582	1 437	1 261	1 524	220	365
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	3 753	3 260	2 526	2 574	449	488
<b>Contact with child for sexual purposes ("grooming") (10 a §)</b>						
Against girl under 15 years	178	206	154	169	18	8
<b>Violation of restraining order without electronic monitoring (24 §)</b>						
Against girls under 18 years	53	68	53	62	7	24
Against boys under 18 years	37	46	28	41	7	11
Against woman 18 years or older	3 194	3 488	3 224	3 083	996	829

Intimate partner	2 400	2 568	2 505	2 185	763	549
Family member	110	177	124	146	37	46
Other perpetrator known to the victim	541	459	521	426	177	159
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	143	284	74	326	19	75
Against man 18 years or older	705	481	636	563	173	180
Intimate partner	330	164	341	176	87	92
Family member	62	69	48	79	20	29
Other perpetrator known to the victim	216	155	188	182	49	36
Perpetrator unknown to the victim	97	93	59	126	17	23
<b>Obstruction by electronic monitoring (25 §)</b>	24	505	16	494	3	6

\*Investigated offences are processed offences for which an investigation has been conducted and a decision has been made during a specific year.

Processed offences are all reported offences for which the police, prosecutor, or other criminal investigation authority during a specific period has made a decision which means that the processing of the offence is terminated. The offence may have been reported in the same year or in previous years. This means that the number of processed and investigated offences may exceed the number of reported offences during a specific year.



APPENDIX C

**Issued non-contact orders, data received from the Swedish Prosecution Authority, 2023-01--2023-05**  
 updated: 2023-06-05

Prosecutor's office and area	Ordinary non-contact order	Non-contact order regarding the joint home	Extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Others	Issued non-contact order in total	Decisions not to issue a non-contact order in total	Non-contact order, decisions in total	Cancelled
Umeå	42	5	1	2	0	0	1	51	48	99	4
Luleå	18	2	0	0	0	0	0	20	11	31	7
Östersund	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	16	28	3
Sundsvall	44	6	0	0	0	0	1	51	59	110	8
Uppsala	22	2	2	0	0	0	0	26	58	84	9
Västerås	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	18	55	73	6
Gävle	31	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	49	80	2
<b>Nord-Mitt</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>505</b>	<b>39</b>
Borås	32	0	1	0	0	0	0	33	61	94	9

Halmstad	31	1	0	0	0	0	1	<b>33</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>90</b>	6
Skövde	32	2	0	0	0	0	0	<b>34</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>90</b>	3
Uddevalla	30	0	0	1	0	0	2	<b>33</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>129</b>	10
Göteborg	42	5	0	0	0	0	3	<b>50</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>286</b>	16
Karlstad	45	3	0	0	0	0	0	<b>48</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>138</b>	11
Örebro	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>16</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>68</b>	4
Falun	48	3	0	0	0	0	0	<b>51</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>118</b>	8
<b>Väst-Bergslagen</b>	<b>275</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>715</b>	<b>1 013</b>	<b>67</b>
Norrort	59	2	2	0	0	0	0	<b>63</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>199</b>	20
Västerort	24	3	0	0	0	0	1	<b>28</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>77</b>	9
Södra Stockholm	73	2	0	0	0	0	1	<b>76</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>212</b>	22
City	23	4	1	0	0	0	1	<b>29</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>88</b>	10
<b>Stockholm</b>	<b>179</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>576</b>	<b>61</b>
Växjö	25	2	0	0	0	0	0	<b>27</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>71</b>	7
Kalmar	30	4	0	0	0	0	2	<b>36</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>102</b>	22
Södra Skåne	37	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>38</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>155</b>	14
Helsingborg	19	2	0	0	0	0	0	<b>21</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>101</b>	12
Karlskrona	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>16</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>89</b>	5
Kristianstad	18	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>18</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>86</b>	12
Malmö	45	3	0	1	0	0	1	<b>50</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>155</b>	32
Eskilstuna	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>12</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>44</b>	5
Nyköping	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	<b>7</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>46</b>	6
Linköping	21	3	1	0	0	0	0	<b>25</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>72</b>	6
Norrköping	27	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>28</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>78</b>	6

Jönköping	32	4	0	0	0	0	3	<b>39</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>153</b>	<i>14</i>
<b>Syd-Öst</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>1 152</b>	<b>141</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>929</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1 020</b>	<b>2 237</b>	<b>3 257</b>	<b>312</b>

## Issued non-contact orders, data received from the Swedish Prosecution

Authority, 2022-01--2022-12

updated: 2023-01-02

Prosecutor's office and area	Ordinary non-contact order	Non-contact order regarding the joint home	Extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Others	Issued non-contact order in total	Decisions not to issue a non-contact order in total	Non-contact order, decisions in total	Cancelled
Umeå	62	6	1	0	0	0	0	69	136	205	15
Luleå	17	2	0	0	0	0	1	20	47	67	13
Östersund	13	1	0	0	0	0	0	14	61	75	11
Sundsvall	88	5	1	0	0	0	5	99	163	262	17
Uppsala	80	2	5	0	0	0	1	88	141	229	20
Västerås	36	3	1	0	0	0	0	40	103	143	14
Gävle	51	0	1	0	0	0	0	52	177	229	9
<b>Nord-Mitt</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>382</b>	<b>828</b>	<b>1 210</b>	<b>99</b>
Borås	77	3	0	0	0	0	0	80	147	227	25
Halmstad	74	5	2	0	0	0	0	81	137	218	20
Skövde	85	6	1	0	0	0	0	92	129	221	18

Uddevalla	112	6	0	0	0	0	1	119	207	326	20
Göteborg	143	10	0	0	0	1	6	160	443	603	40
Karlstad	139	13	0	1	0	0	3	156	189	345	21
Örebro	59	1	2	1	0	0	1	64	103	167	18
Falun	99	10	1	0	0	0	3	113	206	319	13
<b>Väst-Bergslagen</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>1 561</b>	<b>2 426</b>	<b>175</b>
Norrort	94	7	1	0	0	0	2	104	275	379	39
Västerort	45	2	0	0	0	0	1	48	153	201	20
Söderort	92	5	0	0	0	0	3	100	195	295	34
Södertörn	78	3	1	0	1	0	0	83	198	281	37
City	41	1	2	0	0	0	0	44	157	201	25
<b>Stockholm</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>379</b>	<b>978</b>	<b>1 357</b>	<b>155</b>
Växjö	50	7	0	0	0	0	2	59	101	160	11
Kalmar	95	7	1	0	0	0	8	111	231	342	36
Södra Skåne	80	3	0	0	0	0	0	83	204	287	18
Helsingborg	84	5	1	0	0	0	4	94	162	256	23
Karlskrona	45	10	1	0	0	0	2	58	122	180	12
Kristianstad	58	5	0	0	0	0	2	65	145	210	30
Malmö	93	8	0	0	0	0	2	103	229	332	46
Eskilstuna	20	2	0	1	0	0	0	23	139	162	13
Nyköping	33	1	0	0	0	0	1	35	119	154	8
Linköping	28	4	4	2	0	0	0	38	113	151	20
Norrköping	65	1	0	0	0	0	0	66	114	180	17
Jönköping	76	7	0	0	0	0	1	84	261	345	35

<b>Syd-Öst</b>	<b>727</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>1 940</b>	<b>2 759</b>	<b>269</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2 214</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>2 447</b>	<b>5 349</b>	<b>7 796</b>	<b>703</b>

**Issued non-contact orders, data received from the Swedish  
Prosecution Authority, 2021**

updated: 2022-03-16

Prosecutor's office and area	Ordinary non-contact order	Non-contact order regarding the joint home	Extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Others	Issued non-contact order in total	Decisions not to issue a non-contact order in total	Non-contact order, decisions in total	<i>Cancelled</i>
Umeå	81	3	0	0	0	0	2	86	143	229	20
Luleå	21	0	2	0	0	0	0	23	33	56	5
Östersund	23	0	0	0	0	0	0	23	69	92	9
Sundsvall	92	2	0	0	0	0	1	95	191	286	19
Uppsala	82	6	1	0	0	0	0	89	203	292	20
Västerås	42	3	0	0	0	0	2	47	120	167	18
Gävle	66	1	0	0	0	0	3	70	185	255	14

<b>Nord-Mitt</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>433</b>	<b>944</b>	<b>1 377</b>	<b>105</b>
Borås	69	2	0	0	0	0	0	71	183	254	20
Halmstad	96	0	1	0	0	0	2	99	228	327	22
Skövde	86	1	1	0	0	0	0	88	143	231	20
Uddevalla	90	3	1	0	0	0	3	97	210	307	24
Göteborg	139	7	0	1	0	1	0	148	525	673	36
Karlstad	93	7	0	0	0	0	2	102	217	319	29
Örebro	64	1	1	0	0	0	3	69	163	232	17
Falun	129	13	1	0	0	0	1	144	234	378	20
<b>Väst-Bergslagen</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>1 903</b>	<b>2 721</b>	<b>188</b>
Norrort	113	1	0	0	0	0	2	116	303	419	32
Västerort	47	1	0	0	0	0	0	48	197	245	36
Söderort	90	0	0	0	0	0	4	94	244	338	57
Södertörn	76	2	2	0	1	0	2	83	285	368	53
City	41	1	6	1	0	0	1	50	135	185	20
<b>Stockholm</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>391</b>	<b>1 164</b>	<b>1 555</b>	<b>198</b>
Växjö	54	2	0	0	0	0	0	56	150	206	17
Kalmar	123	19	1	1	0	0	0	144	180	324	28
Södra Skåne	63	6	0	0	0	0	0	69	268	337	21
Helsingborg	102	7	0	0	0	0	0	109	265	374	68
Karlskrona	41	8	0	0	0	0	1	50	117	167	12
Kristianstad	53	4	0	0	0	0	0	57	149	206	25
Malmö	100	3	0	3	0	0	4	110	244	354	76
Eskilstuna	37	3	0	0	0	0	1	41	137	178	26



Nyköping	66	0	0	0	0	0	0	66	179	245	14
Linköping	43	3	4	0	0	0	0	50	141	191	26
Norrköping	53	0	0	0	0	0	1	54	115	169	14
Jönköping	136	15	0	7	0	0	0	158	324	482	40
<b>Syd-Öst</b>	<b>871</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>964</b>	<b>2 269</b>	<b>3 233</b>	<b>367</b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Prosecutor's office</b>	<b>2 418</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>2 613</b>	<b>6 313</b>	<b>8 926</b>	<b>864</b>

**Issued non-contact orders, data received from the Swedish  
Prosecution Authority, 2020**

updated: 2022-03-16

Prosecutor's office and area	Ordinary non-contact order	Non-contact order regarding the joint home	Extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order without electronic monitoring condition	Specially extended non-contact order combined with an electronic monitoring condition	Others	Issued non-contact order in total	Decisions not to issue a non-contact order in total	Non-contact order, decisions in total	Cancelled
Umeå	95	5	1	0	1	0	2	104	111	215	11
Luleå	15	1	1	0	0	0	1	18	35	53	9
Östersund	30	2	1	2	0	0	0	35	63	98	10
Sundsvall	117	11	5	0	0	0	1	134	143	277	48
Uppsala	103	3	1	0	0	0	0	107	183	290	23
Västerås	53	5	0	0	0	0	0	58	183	241	19
Gävle	35	0	0	0	0	0	1	36	196	232	16

<b>Nord-Mitt</b>	<b>448</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>492</b>	<b>914</b>	<b>1 406</b>	<b>136</b>
Borås	107	4	0	0	0	0	2	113	169	282	22
Halmstad	125	3	1	0	0	0	2	131	279	410	29
Skövde	104	8	2	0	0	0	1	115	137	252	18
Uddevalla	121	6	1	1	0	0	3	132	194	326	29
Göteborg	171	9	2	0	1	0	2	185	501	686	62
Karlstad	133	9	0	0	0	0	2	144	258	402	37
Örebro	59	1	0	0	0	0	2	62	142	204	14
Falun	123	8	0	0	1	1	0	133	223	356	31
<b>Väst-Bergslagen</b>	<b>943</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>1 015</b>	<b>1 903</b>	<b>2 918</b>	<b>242</b>
Norrort	116	4	1	1	0	0	5	127	324	451	30
Västerort	41	2	0	0	0	0	0	43	192	235	26
Söderort	134	4	1	0	0	0	0	139	283	422	46
Södertörn	96	3	1	0	0	0	0	100	368	468	35
City	37	2	1	0	0	0	0	40	176	216	32
<b>Stockholm</b>	<b>424</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>449</b>	<b>1 343</b>	<b>1 792</b>	<b>169</b>
Växjö	45	4	1	0	0	0	1	51	125	176	6
Kalmar	144	12	0	0	0	0	0	156	193	349	56
Södra Skåne	64	9	1	0	0	0	2	76	304	380	27
Helsingborg	105	16	0	0	0	0	5	126	190	316	25
Karlskrona	54	4	0	0	0	0	0	58	147	205	11
Kristianstad	53	6	1	0	0	0	0	60	199	259	22
Malmö	106	2	0	0	0	0	2	110	286	396	54
Eskilstuna	40	3	0	0	0	0	0	43	133	176	13

Nyköping	27	0	0	0	0	0	1	<b>28</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>180</b>	<i>28</i>
Linköping	54	6	1	0	0	0	0	<b>61</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>208</b>	<i>15</i>
Norrköping	73	1	0	0	0	0	0	<b>74</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>219</b>	<i>20</i>
Jönköping	103	6	0	0	0	0	2	<b>111</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>394</b>	<i>40</i>
<b>Syd-Öst</b>	<b>868</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>2 304</b>	<b>3 258</b>	<b><i>317</i></b>
<b>Others</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>25</b>	<b><i>7</i></b>
<b>Prosecutor's office</b>	<b>2 686</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>2 913</b>	<b>6 486</b>	<b>9 399</b>	<b><i>871</i></b>