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WAVE: Violence Against Women Comparative Report: Italy, Spain and Turkey

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ABSTRACT

This comparative report has been developed as part of the WAVE project which aims to contribute to the fighting of Violence Against Women (VAW) in Turkey by fostering knowledge exchange between Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) in the EU and Turkey. It aims to create a greater familiarization with EU legislation and practices, as well as providing actions/tools to prevent VAW. We aim to increase the knowledge of the characteristics of VAW in Italy, Spain and Turkey in order to enhance the exchange of policies and actions to combat VAW. The legal frameworks, definitions and implementation problems in the three countries are examined. The available data including administrative data and population surveys is described. The situation of violence against women in the three countries is presented in terms of prevalence, consequences and attitudes and awareness. The key measures taken against violence against women and its evolution and impact are also studied. We specifically focus on training, raising awareness and support services. Key policy recommendations are also developed in a bid to influence this crucial policy area.



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Key Findings

Legal and Institutional Framework

- In Turkey the main legal concept regulating violence against women is domestic violence, whilst in Italy and Spain the concept of gender based violence prevails.
- Different acts of violence against women are penalized or criminalized in Italy, Spain and Turkey. For example, forcing an adult or child into marriage is a specific criminal offence in Spain – whilst in Italy and Turkey it is not. In Turkey –however other sanctions are provided by the law for forced marriage.
- Public prosecutors are able to initiate criminal proceedings in the cases of violence within the family in Italy, Spain and Turkey. This is also the case for sexual violence in Spain and Turkey – however in Italy public prosecutors can only initiate criminal proceeding in more severe cases.
- In Italy, Spain and Turkey – in line with the Istanbul Convention mediation and conciliation in cases of violence against women is prohibited.
- The institutional framework varies considerably between the three countries. In Spain it is very well developed including two different bodies to clearly separate the co-ordinating and implementing functions from that of monitoring and evaluation.

Description of Available Data:

- Police administrative data should include the sex and age of the perpetrator and victim, their relationship and this information should feed into statistical reporting. Whilst this data is collected in Italy, Spain and Turkey-the extent to which this is publicly available differs according to the country. In Italy and Turkey this disaggregated data is not publically available. In Spain this data is published.
- In Italy national criminal justice statistics on cases of domestic violence are not publicly available. In Spain criminal justice statistics on intimate partner violence are collected and they are publically available. In Turkey –whilst criminal justice statistics are publicly available – as cases involving domestic violence are not recorded as a separate category – no data is available.
- Various national level population surveys have been carried out in Italy, Spain and Turkey in order to detect the prevalence and consequences of violence against women. All use the FRA/ WHO definition which means that there is a solid basis for comparison.

Situation of VAW:

Prevalence:

- 27% of women in Italy and 22% of women in Spain have experienced physical and or sexual violence or threats by a partner or non-partner since the age of 15. In Turkey 36 % of ever-married women have experienced violence by a partner since the age of 15.
- 5% of women in Italy and 3% of women in Spain and Turkey have experienced sexual violence by a non-partner since the age of 15.
- 38% of women in Italy and 33% of women in Spain have experienced a form a psychological violence by a partner by the age of 15. In Turkey 44% of ever-married women have experienced a form of psychological violence.
- 18% of women in Italy, 11% of women in Spain and 27% of women in Turkey have experienced some form of stalking.
- 13% of women in Italy, 8% of women in Spain and 30% of women in Turkey have experienced some form of economic violence.
- According to available survey data patterns of prevalence of physical, sexual and psychological violence against women show that it is very prevalent in all three countries despite being the lowest in Spain- followed by Italy and greatest in Turkey.

Consequences:

- The physical health effects of VAW tend to be similar in Italy, Spain and Turkey- although categories vary slightly. In all three countries bruises and scratches are the most common type of injury.
- Regarding the psychological consequences of suffering violence by a partner in both Italy and Spain – anxiety was the most commonly cited effect. Feeling nervous, stressed and anxious were the most common psychological consequences of violence in Turkey.

Attitudes and Awareness:

- Perceptions of frequency of violence against women as ‘very common’ are high at 35% in Italy and 31% in Spain. In Turkey there is no available data.
- Only 34% of women in Italy, and 59% of women in Spain were aware of laws and political initiatives to prevent domestic violence. These figures rise to 41% and 69% respectively when asked about laws and political initiatives to protect women in case of domestic violence. In Turkey more than 80% stated that they were aware of protective measures and penalties. In Turkey levels of awareness have been linked to literacy levels and geographical regions.

Key Measures taken:

- All three countries use national actions plans (NAPs) as a key tool to combat violence against women. The extent to which these offer a comprehensive strategy to target violence against women varies between the countries. For example Spain and Turkey offer comprehensive coordinated policies – whereas Italy does not.
- One of the major indicators of whether the country has a comprehensive strategy to target violence against women is the extent to which policy-makers consult with, listen to and provide support to women's organisations working in the field. This has not occurred in Italy nor Turkey and only to a moderate degree in Spain.
- Italy, Spain and Turkey have developed victim support services - providing legal, social, psychological and economic assistance to victims. The extent to which each government allocates sufficient resources and the degree to which professionals are adequately trained to provide assistance to victims varies between countries. All three countries would benefit from greater resource allocation to this field and more training of professionals.
- More research is needed on the actual work with perpetrators that is carried out. Whilst information is available on how work with perpetrators is included in national guidelines or legal provisions – in all three countries there seems to be a lack of information about how these programmes work in practice. In Turkey real concerns have been raised about the interview and risk forms used during interviews with perpetrators.
- In Italy training on domestic violence is not included in legal provisions. In Spain training on domestic violence is included in legal provisions for staff in health institutions. In Turkey legal provisions specify that training is necessary for public service workers like judges and police working in this field.
- In Italy specialized competence based training for professionals to enhance skills and capacities to respond appropriately to victims/ and or perpetrators is foreseen in the national extraordinary plan against sexual and gender violence, nevertheless no specific measures have been planned or funded to date.
- In Spain competence based training is included in the national action plan and targets: justice administrative personnel, members of the judiciary and the crown prosecution service, security forces, teachers, medicine students, health care professionals and social services.
- In Turkey specialized competence based training for professionals includes personnel from the judiciary, public training centres, provincial social services and directorates of education and ŞÖNİM (Violence Prevention Monitoring Centre) personnel. However, the large number of cases where victims of violence sought help from the authorities and then have been killed highlights –the greater need for training and raising awareness for judiciary and law enforcement officers.

Implementation of the law and national action plans:

- In Italy the main problems regarding the implementation of the law include: the weakness of the regulative framework, coordination, a lack of adequate funds and great regional variation in the quality of services provided coupled with a lack of support for civil society organisations working in this field.
- In Spain the main problems regarding the implementation of the law include: a lack of resources – which has been exacerbated by budget cuts justified by the economic crisis, regional variation in the quality of services provided, a lack of due diligence in investigating complaints, measures to challenge stereotypes in various spheres particularly in education are not duly implemented and insufficient evaluation of the impact of laws and policies.
- In Turkey the main problems regarding implementation of the law include: a lack of financial and human resources, an inadequacy of support mechanisms (shelters and support mechanisms) and a lack of gender equality training for the judiciary and law enforcement officials. ŞÖNİMs are inadequate in number and are often not centrally located. These are not accessible for women with disabilities. The quality of service provision has been deemed low whilst there is a real a lack of trained staff.
- In comparative terms Italy needs to further develop the regulative framework for violence against women – whereas in Spain and Turkey the focus should be placed on the gap between the legislative framework and implementation.
- All three countries would benefit from further support and resources for women’s civil society organisations that are providing vital support to women survivors of violence.
- Increased dialogue between policy makers and civil society organisations working in the field must also occur if policy interventions combating violence against women are to be effective.

Glossary of Terms and Definitions:¹

Administrative Data:	Administrative data are produced as a result of the administrative processes of organisations. This information is primarily collected for administrative purposes- such as registration, record keeping or transaction and record keeping – usually during the delivery of a service, but not for research or statistical purposes (as oppose to survey data). They are considered primary or raw data. ²
Population Data:	Survey-based data can provide pertinent information usually on prevalence, but also incidence, severity and frequency of violence. This approach depends on the willingness of the respondent to disclose any violence she has experienced. Under-reporting is a common issue faced by all sample surveys or opinion surveys independent of the focus of the exercise but especially important for sensitive topics as violence against women. ³
Gender Based Violence:	Gender-based violence is a violation of fundamental human rights. It is violence directed against a person on the basis of gender, which constitutes a form of discrimination. Gender-based violence is an aspect of inequality between men and women, and it reinforces and perpetuates the power imbalance between the sexes. ⁴
Violence against women:	<p>‘violence against women’ is understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.⁵</p> <p>The Istanbul convention defines gender based violence against women as “violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately”⁶</p>
Domestic Violence:	The Istanbul Convention Explanatory Report notes in paragraph 41 that: “Domestic violence includes mainly two types of

¹ These definitions are taken from various reports produced by EIGE.

² European Institute for Gender Equality, (EIGE). (2014a). Administrative data sources on gender based violence against women in the EU: Current status and potential for the collection of comparable data – technical analysis, Vilnius, EIGE. Available at: <http://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/administrative-data-sources-gender-based-violence-against-women-eu-report>

³ <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/data-collection>

⁴ European Institute for Gender Equality, (EIGE). (2013a) Study on international activities in the field of data collection on gender-based violence across the EU, Luxembourg, Publications office of the European Union. p 7.

⁵ Council of Europe (2011a). Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention), 2011. Article 3 p8.

⁶ Council of Europe, 2011a. Article 3 (d).

	violence: intimate-partner violence between current or former spouses or partners and inter-generational violence which typically occurs between parents and children.” There is however a lack of a generally accepted and clear definition of ‘domestic violence’. ⁷
Family Violence	Violence exerted inside the family, both to female and male family members.
Intimate Partner Violence:	Intimate partner violence refers to behaviour by an intimate partner or ex-partner that causes physical, sexual or psychological harm, including physical aggression, sexual coercion, psychological abuse and controlling behaviours. ⁸
Sexual violence (outside intimate relationships):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sexual assault (excluding rape): These acts refer to any sexual act committed against non-consenting women, even if they do not show signs of resistance, with the exception of rape/ penetration.⁹ • Rape: Any act of sexual penetration, of whatever kind and by whatever means, of a woman body by the use of violence and threats or by trickery or artifice or by taking advantage of a woman who is not in a position to give free consent or to offer resistance and regardless of whether the person shows signs of resistance.¹⁰ • Sexual harassment: Unwanted physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature, violating the victim’s dignity and creating a hostile environment. Acts are inclusive of, but not limited to, vulgar actions, requesting sexual favours, threatening or forcing with the purpose of gaining sexual satisfaction, forcibly imposed sexual intimacy. Sexual harassment is an action which the offender knows, or ought to know will constitute harassment.¹¹
Stalking:	Seeking the proximity of the victim with serious detriment to the person’s lifestyle and arousing, indirectly, directly or virtually, distress, fear or harm in the targeted person. This can be done in particular by trying to establish contact by any means, misusing the victim’s personal data for the purpose of ordering goods or services or causing third persons to make contact, threatening the victim or someone close to the victim. ¹²

⁷ Council of Europe, 2011a.

⁸ <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs239/en/>

⁹ European Commission (2010b). Feasibility report to assess the possibilities, opportunities and needs to standardise national legislation on Violence against Women, violence against children and sexual orientation violence. Luxembourg, Publications Office of the European Union.

¹⁰ Hagemann-White, C., Katenbrik, J and Rabe, H. (2006). Combating Violence against Women: Stocktaking report on the measures and actions taken in Council of Europe Member States, Strasbourg, CoE, Directorate General of Human Rights Available at: [http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/equality/03themes/violence-against-women/CDEG\(2006\)3_en.pdf](http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/equality/03themes/violence-against-women/CDEG(2006)3_en.pdf)

¹¹ European Commission, 2010b.

¹² EIGE, 2014a.

1. Introduction

The main aim of the WAVE (Women Against Violence Engagement) project is to contribute to the fighting of violence against women (VAW) in Turkey by fostering knowledge exchange between EU and Turkish Civil Society Organisations (CSOs). The project was funded by the Civil Society Dialogue programme which brings together civil society organisations from Turkey and the EU around common topics, to exchange knowledge and experience, and to build a sustained conversation between the organisations. The Programme is co-financed by the European Union and the Republic of Turkey under the Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance (IPA).

The project aims to familiarise CSOs with EU legislation and practices, as well as providing actions/tools to prevent VAW. The specific objectives are: 1) to increase the knowledge of the characteristics of VAW in the partner countries and enhance the exchange of policies and actions to contrast VAW among Italy, Spain and Turkey (2) to improve the capabilities of CSOs through the provision of a dedicated tool kit and training; (3) to increase dialogue between policy makers and CSOs. The consortium is made up of civil society organisations specialising in research and training in violence against women and from Italy (FGB), Spain (NOTUS, SURT) and Turkey (FWS, TSSA).

In recent years, VAW has gained increased attention in international policy and legal spheres. For example the “Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women”, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in its resolution in 1993 recognized the “urgent need for the universal application to women of the rights and principles with regard to equality, security, liberty, integrity and dignity of all human beings”.

Arguably the most important international action to fight VAW is the “Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence”- (the so-called Istanbul Convention) ratified in Strasbourg on 7 March 2011 by the Council of Europe (CoE). The convention defines VAW as a human rights violation and a form of gender-based violence that is committed against women because they are women.

“This legally binding human rights treaty commits States parties to adopt a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary response to violence through long-term preventative actions along with measures to ensure the prosecution of perpetrators and protection of survivors. In effect since August 2014, the Istanbul Convention is currently the most comprehensive international instrument on violence against women and is open for accession by any State in the world.”¹³

To date the convention has been signed and ratified by 19 countries, including Turkey, Italy and Spain whilst it has been signed but not ratified by 39 countries.¹⁴

The explanatory report of the convention points out that many States have conducted surveys to measure the extent of VAW. Although methodologies vary, these surveys show that across countries, one-fifth to one-quarter of all women have experienced physical violence at least once during their adult lives and more than one-tenth have suffered sexual violence involving the use of force. Figures for all forms of violence, including stalking, are as high as 45%. Most

¹³ Heisecke, K and Werner, S. (2014). Ending Violence Against Women and Girls: The World’s Best Laws and Policies, Future Policy Award p2. Available at: http://worldfuturecouncil.org/fileadmin/user_upload/Future_Policy_Award/FPA_2014/fpa2014_brochure_en_final.pdf

¹⁴ See here for the list of signatories: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/210/signatures>

of those violent acts are carried out by men in their immediate social environment, usually intimate partners and ex-partners. Besides, the report noted that secondary data analysis estimates that about 12% to 15% of all women have been in a relationship of abuse since the age of 16.¹⁵

The importance of improving knowledge on VAW is stressed in the Istanbul Convention. Thus, article 11 encourages States to collect data and conduct research on VAW as an essential step to effectively design policies and actions in the field of preventing and combating all forms of VAW. This implies generating robust comparative data in order to guide policies and to monitor the implementation of policies. It is with a view to this that this report has been developed.

1.1 Conceptual Definition and Scope

There are many different concepts used in international texts to describe violence against women. In this field it is important to agree a common understanding of the different terms and definitions used as these not only reflect a range of different theories- but also policy and legal frameworks.¹⁶ The evolution of different terms and concepts in this field is also indicative of advances in research and social attitudes. For example, the term ‘domestic violence’ has been criticized for delimiting the scope of violence against women to the ‘domestic’ sphere, i.e. as a private problem beyond the realm of public intervention. Violence against women occurs in many spheres, in the home, in the workplace, in the street –to name a few. Attempts have also been made to specify the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator in key concepts – for example intimate partner violence and within family violence are now widely discussed. An explicit gender dimension has also become increasingly recognized as a crucial component of the concept – as ‘gender-based violence against women’ is a social problem that violates the fundamental human rights of women – thereby reinforcing gender inequalities in all spheres of society. This concept “highlights the relevance of violence against women as being based on gender, aiming at making the historical imbalance between women and men more visible”.¹⁷

Gender-based violence against women and girls includes the following however the list is not exhaustive:

- violence in close relationships,
- sexual violence (including rape, sexual assault and harassment in all public and private spheres of life),
- trafficking in human beings,
- slavery,
- sexual exploitation and harmful practices such as child and forced marriages,
- female genital mutilation,
- crimes committed in the name of so-called ‘honour’,
- emerging forms of violations, such as online harassment,
- various forms of sexual abuse instigated or facilitated through the use of information and communication technologies,
- stalking and bullying.

¹⁵ Council of Europe (2011b). Explanatory Report to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. Istanbul, Council of Europe. Available at: <https://rm.coe.int/CoERMPublicCommonSearchServices/DisplayDCTMContent?documentId=09000016800d383a>

¹⁶ EIGE, 2014a, p.20.

¹⁷ Ibid.

Developing a comprehensive comparative study of all the above forms of violence in three countries was beyond the scope of this project. Whilst we acknowledge the wide range of different forms of gender based violence we focus on the following areas:

- intimate partner violence,
- sexual violence, including rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment (outside intimate partner violence)
- stalking.

2. Methodology

In order to develop this report a twin-track approach to collecting and analysing information was undertaken. A research template was developed to ensure that comparable information was collected for each country. The research template covered the following areas:

- National legal framework
- Legal definition of VAW applied in country
- Description of administrative data and sources in each country
- Description of population surveys in each country
 - Situation of VAW in the country
 - Prevalence
 - Consequences
- Attitudes and Awareness
- Key measures taken against VAW and its evolution and impact
 - Training
 - Raising awareness
 - Victim support services¹⁸

National experts filled in the research templates for their respective countries and identified the main sources used. This process was complemented by further desk research. The main sources used were: the Council of Europe's 2014 monitoring report¹⁹, various EIGE reports²⁰ and the 2014 FRA survey²¹ and data explorer²². The former covered all three countries, Italy, Spain and Turkey within a comparative framework. The EIGE reports and the FRA survey data covered only Italy and Spain. For Turkey the data taken from these last two sources was compared to the 2014 Survey on Violence against Women in the Family in Turkey –which uses the WHO definition of violence. Other national level surveys also provided important information for all three countries.²³

¹⁸ See Annex 1 for the research template.

¹⁹ Hagemann-White, C. (2014). Analytical study of the results of the 4th round of monitoring the implementation of Recommendation Rec (2002)5 on the protection of women against violence in Council of Europe member states, CoE, Strasbourg. Available at: <http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/convention-violence/Docs/Analytical%20Study%20ENG.pdf>

²⁰ Please see <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence> for an overview of their work in this area.

²¹ European Fundamental Rights Agency, (FRA). (2014). Violence against Women: An EU-wide survey. Main results. Luxembourg: Publications Office of the European Union. Available at: http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf

²² Please see <http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVT/vaw.php>

²³ Please see the table 4 on for a description of the main surveys used.

The Council of Europe's mandate focuses on setting and promoting standards in the area of human rights, rule of law and democracy. Therefore, its research activities are carried out in the context of that mandate and focus on monitoring the compliance of the member countries with Council of Europe's standards. The Council of Europe has undertaken a series of initiatives to promote the protection of women against violence since the 1990s. These initiatives include first of all the adoption, in 2002, of Council of Europe Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member countries on the protection of women against violence. This recommendation is now superseded by the legally binding Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (The Istanbul Convention).

The 'Analytical study of the results of the 4th round of monitoring the implementation of Recommendation Rec(2002)5 on the protection of women against violence in Council of Europe member states' presents the results of 2013 as well as a comparative analysis of developments since the setting up of the monitoring framework. Their regular monitoring aims to:

"present a numerical overview of progress based on cross-nationally comparable measures in the areas of legislation and policies to prevent and combat violence against women, support services and protection for women who suffer violence, programmes for perpetrators, prevention efforts through public awareness and media, education and training, and in the area of data collection and research."
(Hagemann-White, 2014:4).

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) is an EU agency, which was established in 2007. Its establishment has raised the issue of gender equality higher on the EU's agenda, including the area of violence against women.²⁴ EIGE's work on violence against women concentrates on the following areas:

- Administrative Data on gender based violence in the EU
- Violence Domain in the gender equality index
- Gender – Based Violence: Gender statistics, research methods, tools and good practices, awareness raising
- Domestic Violence/ Support Services for women – victims of domestic violence
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Sexual Violence

It has produced various reports and factsheets in the area of violence against women and has given a major impulse to creating a comparative picture of violence against women in Europe specifically in the areas of mapping administrative data²⁵, female genital mutilation (FGM)²⁶ and mapping good practices in preventing domestic violence.²⁷

The European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) carried out a survey on gender-based violence against women in the 27 EU Member States and Croatia in 2012.²⁸ This is the first time that comparable data has been collected on women's experiences of violence in the EU. The findings of the survey are based on interviews with 42, 000 women in all EU Member States - interviewees were selected on the basis of random sampling. The findings are therefore

²⁴ <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/eige-studies>

²⁵ EIGE, 2014a.

²⁶ <http://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/estimation-girls-risk-female-genital-mutilation-european-union-report>

²⁷ <http://eige.europa.eu/rdc/eige-publications/preventing-domestic-violence-good-practices>

²⁸ Please see European Fundamental Rights Agency (2014).

representative of the experiences and opinions of women aged between 18 and 74 and who live in the EU. Questions were asked about physical, sexual and psychological violence, childhood victimisation, sexual harassment and stalking, as well as online abuse. All women interviewed were asked about their personal experiences of various forms of violence, the frequency they had experienced certain types of violence and the consequences of this violence on their lives. Information concerning reporting and non-reporting to the police was also collected as was women's use of support services.

3. Legal & Institutional Framework

Key Findings:

- In Turkey the main legal concept regulating violence against women is domestic violence, whilst in Italy and Spain the concept of gender based violence prevails.
- Different acts of violence against women are penalized or criminalized in Italy, Spain and Turkey. For example, forcing an adult or child into marriage is a specific criminal offence in Spain – whilst in Italy and Turkey it is not. In Turkey –however other sanctions are provided by the law for forced marriage.
- Public prosecutors are able to initiate criminal proceedings in the cases of violence within the family in Italy, Spain and Turkey. This is also the case for sexual violence in Spain and Turkey – however in Italy public prosecutors can only initiate criminal proceeding in more severe cases.
- In Italy, Spain and Turkey – in line with the Istanbul Convention mediation and conciliation in cases of violence against women is prohibited.
- The institutional framework varies considerably between the three countries. In Spain it is very well developed including two different bodies to clearly separate the coordinating and implementing functions from that of monitoring and evaluation.

3.1 National Legal Framework and Definition

"A central provision of REC (2002)⁵ in Paragraph II calls on member states to: "Recognise that states have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish acts of violence, whether these acts are perpetrated by the state or private persons, and provide protection to victims". In the Istanbul Convention, Chapter 5 on substantive law spells out this duty, and in particular obligates Parties to take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the intentional commitment of each of these forms of violence is criminalized."²⁹

There is no homogeneity regarding the characteristics of the legislation of VAW across the EU. As Hagemann-White (2014) points out whilst the Council of Europe's actions of developing and setting-out the 'due diligence obligation to punish perpetrators of violence against women' – has given impulse to legislative reforms and policies that criminalise and prosecute such acts- the diversity of European legal systems results in different approaches to the framing and

²⁹ Hagemann-White, 2014, p14.

application of criminal law. For example, this may affect whether each form of violence is a named criminal offence – or whether the legal definition refers to gender.³⁰

A comparative approach to the main legal concepts that regulates violence against women in Italy, Spain and Turkey reveals similarities and differences on various levels. For example in Turkey domestic violence is the main legal concept regulating violence against women. In this case the definition includes the following forms of violence; physical, sexual, psychological and economic – whilst it is defined as occurring between family members or those regarded as family members or who are related - whether or not they live in the same house. In Turkey domestic violence is also defined without reference to a gender dimension even if a definition of Violence against Women is included in a specific article of the law –i.e. it recognizes that violence is directed at women because they are women and it also disproportionately affects women. On the other hand Italy and Spain use the concepts of gender violence (Italy) or gender based violence (Spain) as the main legal concepts in this field- although in Italy it has a specific focus on domestic violence. This approach explicitly defines violence against women with a gender dimension – that considers the unequal power relations between women and men. In Spain the scope of this concept is limited to intimate relationships (past or present) thereby being much more specific than ‘family members’ again regardless of whether or not victim and perpetrator cohabit.

	Italy	Spain	Turkey
General Legal Definition VAW:	<p>“Gender violence” with a specific focus on “Domestic violence” is the main legal concept regulating VAW in Italy. It is described as “one or more acts, serious or not episodic, of physical, sexual, psychological or economic occurring within the family or household, or between related persons, currently or regardless of whether the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim”.</p>	<p>“Gender Based Violence” is the main legal concept regulating VAW in Spain. It is described as: “the violence which, as a manifestation of discrimination, the unequal situation and the power relations of men over women, is exercised against women by those who are or have been their spouses or those who have been connected to them through similar relations of effectivity, even without cohabitation.” This is the only type of violence against women explicitly considered in gender terms in the legal framework in Spain.</p>	<p>“Domestic violence” is the main legal concept regulating VAW in Turkey. Domestic violence is described as, “ any physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence between the victim of violence and perpetrator of violence between family members and the people who are considered as a family member whether or not they live in the same house.” VAW is defined as: “the gender based discrimination directed against a woman just because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately and any attitude and behaviour violating the human rights of women and defined as violence in this law. Violence is defined as, “the acts which results or probably results in persons having physical, sexual, psychological or economic attitude and behaviour which include the threat, pressure and arbitrary violation of person’s freedom as well and conducted in social, public and private spaces”</p>

Table 1: General legal definitions of Violence Against Women operating in Italy, Spain and Turkey.

³⁰ Hagemann-White, 2014, p19.

In the following section we will briefly detail the current legal frameworks operating in Italy, Spain and Turkey.³¹

3.1.1 Italy ³²

The main legal instrument against VAW in Italy is Act No. 119 of 15 October 2013 “Urgent Regulations about Security and combating violence against women as well as civil protection and compulsory administration of provinces” which addresses both stalking and gender-based violence through prevention, punishment and protection. This is the main law regulating this field.

In terms of punishment it saw the introduction of aggravating circumstances. For example severer penalties are given for crimes committed by a co-habiting or non-cohabiting spouse. Severer penalties are also envisaged for the crimes against the particularly vulnerable (i.e. a pregnant woman) as well as if a child under 18 witnesses the violence.

Regarding prevention:

- the criminal police, upon the public prosecutor’s authorization, have the option to adopt a precautionary measure. This may include the urgent removal from the family house – of the person caught in the act of committing specific crimes (including sexual violence, sexual acts with a minor, corruption of a minor, group sexual violence). This can occur if there are reasons to suggest that criminal behaviours might be repeated, thus seriously compromising the victim’s life or integrity.
- a prevention measure can be adopted by the chief constable when battery or grievous bodily harm offences are committed in the context of domestic violence and are reported to the law enforcement authorities. Even if there is no complaint from the victim the chief constable can caution the offender after collecting the necessary information from the investigative bodies and after hearing the persons informed of the facts.
- Other preventative measures include; a gun ban, driving restrictions or electronic tagging.
- Ministry of the interior must include a section on gender based violence in its annual reports for the Parliament.

Moreover, important measures are provided regarding the protection of victims of domestic violence. In particular:

- Greater protection of victims in relation to hearings
- Guaranteeing transparency in investigations and legal proceedings:
 - law enforcement authorities, health facilities and public institutions are obliged to inform the victims of certain crimes (e.g. sexual crimes and child pornography) about anti-violence centres, or to put them in contact with the centres.

³¹ Please see annex 2 for a detailed description of legal reforms undertaken during the past 20 years.

³² This section is largely taken from: Information related to best practices, and other relevant information related to investigation and prosecution of gender-related killing of women and girls in accordance with the resolution of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice entitled "Taking action against gender-related killings of women and girls" – Italy. Available at: http://www.unodc.org/documents/justice-and-prison-reform/IEGM_GRK_BKK/Italy_reply_for_publication.pdf

- Protection is also extended to foreign victims

Other important acts are:

- Act No. 154 of 8 April, 2001 included ‘Measures against violence in family relations’ which included innovative instruments to combat domestic violence and ensure the victim’s protection – albeit on a temporary basis.
- Act No. 39 of 23rd April 2009 introduced the specific crime of ‘stalking’ as well as a preventative measure, i.e. the ‘warning’ to be applied by the chief constable when requested by the victim.

3.1.2 Spain

The main legal instrument against VAW in Spain is the Law 1/2004 of 28 December, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender-based Violence (Spanish Law against VAW). It has been termed ‘one of the most advanced laws on intimate partner violence against women in Europe’.³³ It encompasses an explicitly gendered analysis as well as survivors’ right perspective- whilst also including preventive and protective measures alongside criminal sanctions.³⁴ The law establishes the concept of gender-based violence, equivalent to that of intimate partner violence. The purpose of the law is to combat the violence exerted against women by their present or former spouses or by men with whom they maintain or have maintained analogous affective relations, with or without cohabitation.

Gender-based violence is defined as a problem that not only affects the private sphere, but demonstrates inequality within society. Violence is exerted against women just for the fact of being women, and being considered by their aggressors as lacking the minimum rights of freedom, respect and decision-making capacity.

The law aims to provide a comprehensive and multidisciplinary response to the problem of gender-based violence. The main action areas of the law are:

- Raising awareness and detection measures in a wide range of fields like education, advertising and the media and the healthcare system.
- Awareness raising campaigns targeted to the whole of the society.
- Recognition of the rights of victims and their children so that they can put an end to violent relationships and recover their life project: right to information, holistic social assistance, labour and Social Security rights, economic rights (active labour integration income, priority access to protected housing and public care homes for elders), and other rights (pressing charges against violence, requesting a protection order, being part of the criminal procedure).
- Specific rights of foreign women.
- Establishment of a holistic system of institutional involvement and public policies for the protection, support and security of victims.
- Criminal protection of victims against physical and psychological damages.
- Emergency and long term protection orders are introduced.
- Specialized courts dealing with violence against women with competences on criminal and civil matters at national level are introduced- that are sensitive to the needs of survivors of gender violence and can offer a quick judicial procedure.

³³ Heisecke & Werner, 2014.

³⁴ Ibid.

The recognition of corresponding rights depends on the judgment, finding the accused guilty as charged or the court protection order in favour of the victim. These may be exceptionally granted pending the court protection order, with a report from the Public Prosecutor's Office pointing to existing evidence that the claimant is a victim of gender-based violence.

In Catalonia it is relevant to mention Act 5/2008, of 24th April, on the right of women to eradicate sexist violence (Catalan Law against VAW). This is the law applicable in Catalonia, which complements the Spanish law. It uses an innovative definition which encompasses violence committed by intimate partners and 'others' in various different spheres. The act defines "sexist violence" (sometimes translated as "male-based violence") as: "violence that is exercised against women in a display of the discrimination and inequality entailed in a relationship system that enshrines the power of men over women". This term includes different types of violence: physical and psychological violence, sexual violence and sexual abuse and economic violence. Moreover, the law states that sexist violence may occur in different spheres: partnerships, family, employment and the social and community spheres.

The main action areas of the law are described as follows:

- The law established a broad range of public policies to eradicate sexist violence in the field of prevention, detection, training and education of professionals, social media and prevention programs in the educational system. It also includes actions to promote research and social awareness initiatives.
- The law recognises a catalogue of rights of women in situations of sexist violence: real and effective protection, right to legal care and attention, healthcare, economic rights (housing, minimum income, indemnification, etc.), occupation and occupational training, and recovery through the public and free services of the Comprehensive Assistance and Recuperation Network.
- The Administration of the Catalan Government can appear as an interested party in trials for sexist violence in cases of a woman's death or serious injury.

The legal text broadens the range of the means for identifying situations of violence, as it does not require a criminal certification of the situation (e.g. protection order) to have access to certain resources.

The law takes an intersectional approach as women in specific situations are recognized: immigration, prostitution, residence in rural areas, old age, transsexuals, disability, human immunodeficiency virus, Roma ethnic groups, women in prison and at risk of female genital mutilation.

3.1.3. Turkey

The Law No. 6284 passed on the 8th March, 2012 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women is the major legal instrument to combat violence against women in Turkey. Both preventive and protective measures for the victims of violence, perpetrator and potential perpetrator are established in the Law in detail. The measures foreseen in the Law are not only defined against physical violence but also cover sexual, economic, psychological violence and stalking. The scope of the target group is broadened to all women (regardless of marital status) children, their family members, as well as the victims of stalking.

The Law No. 6284 includes new measures such as:

- those who violate a protection order will be subject to three days- ten days ' imprisonment -(or 15-30 days for repeat offences);
- armed forces are newly authorized to issue a cautionary order in the cases where delay would be detrimental as soon as the victim needs protection (thus, law enforcement authorities are able to take protective measures in the absence of resort to a family court or to the prosecuting authorities);
- there are various means of protecting victims, e.g., by issuing a restraining order to prevent the perpetrator of violence from going home, by requiring that the perpetrator gives up any weapon or similar device in his possession to law enforcement authorities or his employer, by requiring the perpetrator stay away from the victim's workplace; and, upon her request, by relocating the victim;
- offenders face a mandatory confinement term of up to six months for breaching restraining orders;
- the Law enabled the use of technological devices and electronic bracelets to track the perpetrators and to alert the victims so they can inform the authorities,³⁵
- protective and preventive orders can be issues both at the weekends and on public holidays.

In addition, the Law No. 6284 also regulates the establishment of the Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (ŞÖNİMs) in which:

- qualified personnel are employed to provide support and monitoring services to prevent violence and efficiently implement the protective and preventive measures. They operate seven days a week and twenty- four hours a day whilst their procedures and principles are regulated.³⁶

One main problem regarding the legislation in Turkey is that it excludes the particularly vulnerable. For instance, Law number 6284 excludes woman who have 'special' needs and services from mainstream VAW support mechanisms. This violates the rights of these women as they can not be referred to mainstream support services.

3.2 Criminalisation

The Council of Europe 2014 study notes how "all member states have provisions against physical violence, such as assault or causing physical bodily harm, this may not be the case with threats, and psychological violence has been newly criminalized in some states in connection with laws on domestic violence or family violence".³⁷

³⁵Female Activists Make History with New Law to Protect Women, supra; Turkish Parliament Approves Bill to Prevent Violence Against Women, HÜRRIYET DAILY NEWS (Mar. 8, 2012).

³⁶ Upon the entry into force of the Law, the Prime Minister issued the Circular No: 2012/13 on the Regulation on the Implementation of the Law No: 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women in April 2012 to provide a clarification regarding the implementation of the Law and guidance for the implementers. The Implementation Regulation came into force on 18 January 2013. Furthermore, the Regulation on the Opening and Operation of Women's Shelters, for the restructuring of the women's shelters, was prepared and entered into fore on the 5th January, 2013.

³⁷ Hagemann-White, 2014, p14.

In the following table we can see how according to the Council of Europe (CoE) report (2014) different acts of violence are penalized or criminalised in Italy, Spain and Turkey.³⁸ For example, in Italy sexual harassment at work is not a specific criminal offence – nor do other remedies provided by the law exist– whilst in both Spain and Turkey it is a specific criminal offence. In Turkey female genital mutilation is not a specific criminal offence – whilst in Italy and Spain it is. In Spain forcing an adult or child into marriage is a specific criminal offence whilst in both Italy or Turkey it is not. In Turkey however there are other sanctions provided by the law for forced marriage –which are not present in Italy. The Istanbul Convention clearly defines psychological violence and stalking and asks States to criminalise these forms of violence- which Italy, Spain and Turkey have all done. The 2014 COE report however notes that the definitions in the Istanbul convention are narrow and can be considered minimal. Whilst the Spanish Organic Act (2004) does not include a definition of psychological violence – regional acts against violence may include a definition such as the Catalan Act (2008: “Psychological violence: covers any behaviour or intentional omission that produces a loss of esteem or suffering in a woman, by means of threats humiliation, extreme irritation, demands for obedience or submission verbal coercion, insults, isolation or any other limitation of her sphere of freedom.” (art.4.1).

Acts of Violence against Women penalised or criminalised?

	Intentional physical violence	Psychological violence	Stalking	Sexual harassment at work is a specific criminal offence	Other remedies are provided by the law in case of s.h. at work	FGM is a specific criminal offence	Other sanctions provided by the law for FGM	Forcing an adult or child into marriage is a specific criminal offence	Other sanctions provided by the law for forced marriage
Italy	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No
Spain	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Turkey	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes

Table 2: Acts of Violence against Women penalised or criminalised. Source: Hagemann-White, 2014.

3.3 Prosecution and Mediation

Despite the fact that the legal framework penalizes different forms of violence against women – this does not necessarily result in sanctions in practice. As most gender-based violence against women is committed by known men, partners, ex-partners, family-members, work colleagues, neighbours or acquaintances – it becomes much more difficult for the victims to pursue sanctions. In practice therefore whether sanctions are implemented – and their subsequent dissuasive effects activated– “depends on whether the responsible statutory agencies have both the power and will to initiate prosecution when there is evidence of a crime”.³⁹ In the following table we can see how the public prosecutor can initiate criminal proceedings in cases of violence within the family in Italy, Spain and Turkey. This is also the case for sexual violence in Spain

³⁸ Please note how criminalisation as encouraged by the Istanbul convention does not necessarily mean that the act in question appears as a named offence in the Criminal Code’ (Hagemann-White, 2014, p14).

³⁹ Hagemann-White, 2014, p18.

and Turkey – however in Italy public prosecutors can only initiate criminal proceedings in more severe cases.

	Violence within the family	Sexual Violence	
	In all cases?	In all cases?	Only in more severe cases?
Italy	Yes	No	Yes
Spain	Yes	Yes	N.A.
Turkey	Yes	Yes	N.A.

Table 3: Public prosecutors can initiate criminal proceedings in cases of violence within the family/ sexual violence in Italy, Spain and Turkey Source: Hagemann-White, 2014.

Article 48 of the Istanbul Convention prohibits mediation and conciliation in cases of violence against women. This is the case in Italy, Spain, and Turkey.

The competent authorities have the power to issue emergency protection orders in situations of immediate danger to prohibit the perpetrator from entering the residence/ contacting the victim in Italy, Spain and Turkey.

3.3 Main Institutional Actors

The establishment of a governmental coordinating body for the implementation of policies and measures that aim to prevent and combat violence against women has been identified as an important indicator of national political will in this field.⁴⁰ The Istanbul Convention encourages an institutional framework which is comprised of two different bodies to clearly separate the coordinating and implementing functions from that of monitoring and evaluation. A description of the main institutional actors with responsibility for VAW in Italy, Spain and Turkey shows the great disparity of the institutional frameworks responsible for VAW in the three countries. In Italy – for example, VAW has not been allocated to a specific Ministry whereas in Spain a comprehensive institutional framework has been developed.

3.3.1. Italy

In June 2013, a "task force" on gender-based violence was settled under the Presidency of the Ministry Council to design a national statistical Observatory on Gender-Based Violence.⁴¹ Despite this - its plan of action was not confirmed by the last government and since February 2014 not one Ministry has been given specific responsibility for combating violence against women. This topic has however been introduced within the new regulative context concerning

⁴⁰ Hagemann-White, 2014.

⁴¹ Roselli, A. (2014) The Policy on Gender Equality in Italy, Directorate –General for Internal Policies, Policy Department C, Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs, the European Parliament, Brussels. Available at: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2014/493052/IPOL-FEMM_NT\(2014\)493052_EN.pdf](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/note/join/2014/493052/IPOL-FEMM_NT(2014)493052_EN.pdf)

More information available at: <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/index.php/primo-piano/2385-violenza-sulle-donne-guerra-convoca-task-force-interministeriale>

education⁴², the reform of public administration⁴³ and for measures to reconcile the demands of care, living and working.⁴⁴

3.3.2 Spain

The main institutional actors in Spain with responsibility for violence against women are the following:

- Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality: This ministry is responsible for proposing and implementing government policies on cohesion and social inclusion, family, child protection and care for dependent or disabled people. Gender equality and VAW policies are under this ministry. Its main bodies related to VAW policies are:
 - Government Delegation for Gender-based Violence: The office proposes government policies against all forms of violence against women and promotes, coordinates and advises on all actions carried out in this area.
 - State Observatory on Violence against Women, which institutionally collaborates on gender-based violence, collects, analyses and disseminates information periodically, collects information on measures and actions implemented and evaluates the impact of policies and measures. It also prepares reports and studies on gender-based violence, advises the government and other institutions involved and participates and maintains relations with similar international institutions. The State Observatory on Violence against Women is comprised of both public administrations and civil society organisations. For example, it includes representatives from the autonomous regions, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces and the person holding the office of Public Prosecutor on Violence against Women, on behalf of the State Public Prosecutor amongst others. Social partners, organisations and civic associations are also represented including five representatives of women's organizations at national level working on gender-based violence.⁴⁵
- Ministry of Justice: Within the field of VAW, there are specialized courts dealing with violence against women: They deal with all the reports which involve gender-based violence. The General Council of the Judiciary should also be mentioned, it is the constitutional body that governs all the Judiciary of Spain, such as courts, and judges,

⁴² LEGGE 13 luglio 2015, n. 107 Riforma del sistema nazionale di istruzione e formazione e delega per il riordino delle disposizioni legislative vigenti. (LAW 13 July 2015, n. 107 Reform of the national system of education and training and delegation the reorganization of the laws in force.) Art.1, c.16.

⁴³ LEGGE 7 agosto 2015, n. 124 Deleghe al Governo in materia di riorganizzazione delle amministrazioni pubbliche. (15G00138) (GU n.187 del 13-8-2015). (LAW Aug. 7, 2015, n. 124 Powers to the Government in respect of reductions in public administrations. (15G00138) (OJ 187 of 13.8.2015). Art. 14, c.6

⁴⁴ DECRETO LEGISLATIVO 15 giugno 2015, n. 80 Misure per la conciliazione delle esigenze di cura, di vita e di lavoro, in attuazione dell'articolo 1, commi 8 e 9, della legge 10 dicembre 2014, n. 183. (15G00094) (LEGISLATIVE DECREE 15 June 2015, n. 80 Measures for reconciliation of care needs, and living labor, in implementation of Article 1, paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Act 10 December 2014, n. 183. (15G00094)). Art.24.

⁴⁵ Source: Real Decreto 253/2006, de 3 de marzo, por el que se establecen las funciones, el régimen de funcionamiento y la composición del Observatorio Estatal de Violencia sobre la Mujer. See <http://www.msssi.gob.es/ca/ssi/violenciaGenero/ObservatorioEstatal/home.htm> for its composition.

and is responsible for collecting all the data on VAW from courts through the Observatory against Domestic and Gender-based violence. This body is formed by the following institutions: the General Council of the Judiciary (GCJ), which holds the presidency, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Health, Social Security and Equality, the Office of the State Public Prosecutor, the autonomous regional governments with competence in justice affairs represented through a yearly rota system, and the General Council of Spanish Lawyers which collects and analyses data from judicial statistics, promotes analysis, studies and research on the judicial response, and draws conclusions and recommendations on the evolution of gender-based violence. It also gives annual awards to recognize a person, institution or association for their role in the eradication of gender-based violence.

Ministry of Interior: This ministry is responsible for coordinating services for protection and safety and to assess when they are needed.

3.3.3 Turkey

In 2011, the Ministry of Family and Social Policy was established with the Governmental Decree No. 633 on the Organisation and Duties of the Ministry of Family and Social Policy, which is the main institutional actor with the responsibility for violence against women in Turkey. Accordingly, the General Directorate on the Status of Women (KSGM) was re-organised and was affiliated to the Ministry of Family and Social Policies as a general directorate in 2011. The women's shelters were placed under the responsibility of KSGM whilst the allocated budget and personnel capacity of the General Directorate have been increased. The Ministry of Family and Social Policy merges a number of institutions that are responsible for social protection, social assistance, women, children, the disabled and family issues, in an effort to overcome the institutional fragmentation in this field.

Throughout the 2000s, a number of research committees have been established in the Turkish Parliament to conduct research on the prevalence and reasons for violence against women in Turkey and to make proposals for policies to combat it. Parliamentary Research Commission for the "identification of the causes for and measures to combat violence against women and children, and custom and honour crimes" was established in 2005 in order to address the issue of honour killings in depth and to determine the causes of violence against women and children. Following the report of the Parliamentary Commission, the Prime Ministry Circular No. 2006/17 on the "Measures to be taken to prevent the Acts of Violence against Women and Children and Custom and Honour Killings" was issued in 2006. In line with the Circular, the "Violence Against Women Monitoring Committee" was established under the responsibility of the relevant State Ministry.

Another Parliamentary Committee, namely the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women (KEFEK) was established in the Parliament in 2009, with the aim to promote equality between women and men to practice and to develop solutions.⁴⁶ Moreover, the Committee aims "to keep track of the national and international progress in protecting and promoting women's rights and achieving gender equality, inform the Parliament on the relevant improvements, negotiate the primary and secondary tasks referred to it, and present opinions at the specialised commissions regarding the bills, motions and decrees submitted at the Parliament".⁴⁷ The Commission also established a range of sub-committees including those on "Identifying the Defects in the Legislation on Violence against Women and its Implementation", "Early

⁴⁶ KSGM (2012). *Kadına Yonelik Siddetle Mucadele Ulusal Eylem Planı 2012-2015*, Ankara, KSGM.

⁴⁷ Report Prepared on Occasion of the 20th Anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action -Turkey.

Marriages” and “Psychological Violence Inflicted upon Women due to Sex of Their Children, Bride Price and Traditional Marriages” and “Mobbing at the Workplace”.⁴⁸

Other ministries, namely Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Interior also have various responsibilities for combating violence against women in Turkey.

In Turkey, family courts were established in 2003 with the Law No. 4787 on the Establishment, Mission and Jurisdiction of Family Courts. They are in charge of cases concerning “the protection of the financial entity of the family, fulfilment of financial obligations resulting from marriage, placement of poor members of families in social homes, protection of children, fulfilment of obligations regarding allowances for children, placement of deserted children in relevant institutions, management and protection of the property of children and protection of physically or mentally disabled children”.⁴⁹

4. Description of Available Data

Key Findings:

- Police administrative data should include the sex and age of the perpetrator and victim, their relationship and this information should feed into statistical reporting. Whilst this data is collected in Italy, Spain and Turkey-the extent to which this is publicly available differs according to the country. In Italy and Turkey this disaggregated data is not publically available. In Spain this data is published.
- In Italy National Criminal Justice statistics on cases of domestic violence are not publicly available. In Spain criminal justice statistics on intimate partner violence are collected and they are publically available. In Turkey –whilst criminal justice statistics are publicly available – as cases involving domestic violence are not recorded as a separate category – no data is available.
- Various national level population surveys have been carried out in Italy, Spain and Turkey in order to detect the prevalence and consequences of violence against women. All use the FRA/ WHO definition which means that there is a solid basis for comparison.

The different legal terms and definitions that are employed by EU Member States regarding the forms of violence against women have been recognized as a major obstacle for data collection and comparative analysis throughout Europe⁵⁰. The FRA factsheet highlights how “given the significant impact of violence against women, it is unfortunate that policymakers and practitioners in many EU Member States still have to grapple with a lack of comprehensive data on the scale and nature of this problem.”⁵¹ Due to the fact that most women do not report violence and are not encouraged to do so – official criminal justice statistics only include

⁴⁸ KSGM, 2012.

⁴⁹ Bjornberg, K. and Richmond, P. (2003) The Functioning of the Judicial System in the Republic of Turkey, Report of an Advisory Visit 28 September- 10 October 2003, European Commission, Brussels. p 21.

⁵⁰ EIGE, 2013a.

⁵¹ FRA, 2014.

reported cases which are just the tip of the iceberg. This has huge implications for evidence-based policy making in this area.⁵²

There are two main types of data that shed light on violence against women: administrative data (criminal statistics [police] and criminal justice statistics [courts]) and population survey data. EIGE defines administrative data as that data that is:

“produced as a result of the administrative processes of organisations. This information is primarily collected for administrative purposes- such as registration, record keeping or transaction and record keeping – usually during the delivery of a service, but not for research or statistical purposes (as oppose to survey data). They are considered primary or raw data.”⁵³

On the other hand, survey-based data:

“can provide pertinent information usually on prevalence, but also incidence, severity and frequency of violence. This approach depends on the willingness of the respondent to disclose any violence she has experienced. Under-reporting is a common issue faced by all sample surveys or opinion surveys independent of the focus of the exercise but especially important for sensitive topics as violence against women.”⁵⁴

4.1 Administrative Data

Administrative data can be used to examine the number of cases of different forms of violence that are reported to different agencies – and can play an important role in the evaluation of procedures, outcomes and services. The difficulties of extracting useful information about violence against women from police crime statistics has been widely documented. Consensus has been reached that police statistics should at their minimum include (in those cases where the perpetrator and the victim are known to one another, i.e. are in the family or immediate social environment): the sex and age of the perpetrator and victim, their relationship and this information should feed into statistical reporting. As Hagemann-White (2014) points out article 11 of the Istanbul Convention states that Parties shall “collect disaggregated relevant statistical data on all forms of violence covered by this Convention”, and the Explanatory Report paragraph 76, recommends that “as a minimum requirement, recorded data on victim and perpetrator should be disaggregated by sex, age, type of violence, as well as the relationship of perpetrator to the victim, geographical location as well as other factors deemed relevant, such as disability.”⁵⁵

There are two main types of administrative data: criminal statistics – i.e. those collected by the police and criminal justice statistics which are collected by the courts.

4.1.1 Criminal and Criminal Justice Statistics

According to the CoE 2014, Italy has all the data and combines them but does not publish either disaggregated statistics or a report on domestic violence.⁵⁶ There are two main official

⁵² Ibid.

⁵³ EIGE, 2014a.

⁵⁴ <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/data-collection>

⁵⁵ Hagemann-White, 2014, p41.

⁵⁶ Ibid, p43.

documents from 2006 and 2010 that provide some data on homicides, sexual violence and stalking.⁵⁷ Police forces have their own statistical product which is not public: only for internal use and to be sent to the highest political authorities when requested. Data are only available after treatment and validation made by SAC: SAC sends data to the National Statistics Office, ISTAT for publication.⁵⁸

In Italy National Criminal Justice statistics on cases of domestic violence are not publicly available.⁵⁹ Data collected is only accessible for internal use by Ministers or public officers. Specific requests by public administrators can be filed for data to be extracted. Information on criminal cases involving domestic violence is recorded separately from other criminal cases. Data is also available on cases that have resulted in conviction and types of sentences.⁶⁰ Other administrative data sources are publically available in the social services sector- specifically the requests of help to the helpline.⁶¹

Spain systematically records all recommended data, publishes disaggregated statistics in a national report and also publishes a police statistical report on domestic violence.⁶² Regarding intimate partner violence – the main criminal statistic regarding casualties includes the age of victim and perpetrator, cohabitation and relationship with perpetrator. Data is also recorded about the number of perpetrators who have committed suicide. The Ministry of interior also collects data relating to the monitoring system in terms of gender-based violence: number of cases and number of cases with police protection, per level of risk. The National Institute of Statistics, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice, also collects data on domestic and family violence. It includes different forms, from the use of physical force to intimidation, whether or not it occurs at home and is perpetrated by at least one family member against another. Data collected are the following: number of victims and reported persons (with protection orders or provisional remedies), family relationships of victims with perpetrators, countries of origin of victim and perpetrator, type of criminal offence and provisional remedies.

In Spain criminal justice statistics on intimate partner violence are collected by the Observatory against Domestic and Gender-based violence. They are available on the website of the General Council of the Judiciary (GCJ),⁶³ and include data on the following topics:

- Total number of sentences and absolutions on violence against women in all kinds of courts (specific courts of violence against women, criminal courts and provincial audiences).
- Number of complaints received in courts of violence against women, per source of complaint (victim, family, police, etc.).
- Type and urgency of criminal matters registered in courts of violence against women (e.g. offence, misdemeanour).
- Type of offences and misdemeanours in courts of violence against women.
- People prosecuted in courts of violence against women, and number of sentences and absolutions.

⁵⁷ WAVE, 2012, p147.

⁵⁸ EIGE, 2014a, p141.

⁵⁹ WAVE, 2012, p147.

⁶⁰ EIGE, 2014a, p141.

⁶¹ <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/index.php/numeri-di-pubblica-utilita-sezione/117-numero-verde-1522-antiviolenza-donna>

⁶² Hagemann-White, 2014, p43.

⁶³ <http://www.poderjudicial.es/cgpj/es/Temas/Violencia-domestica-y-de-genero/Actividad-del-Observatorio/Datos-estadisticos/La-violencia-sobre-la-mujer-en-la-estadistica-judicial--Datos-anuales-de-2014>

- Protection orders requested and granted in courts of violence against women, per source of request.
- Measures adopted derived from protection orders and other provisional remedies granted in courts of violence against women, both criminal (prison, leaving own domicile, restraining order, prohibition to communicate, prohibition of returning to the scene of the crime, suspension of possession and use of weapons, others) and civil measures (attribution of housing, transfer of housing, suspension of visits, others).
- Protection orders in police courts.
- Sentences and absolutions in criminal courts.
- Cases in provincial courts.
- Cases in juvenile courts.

In Spain specific courts deal only with violence against women. The aim of these courts is to expedite the processes related to violence against women. They deal with most cases of gender-based violence. They have civil and criminal jurisdiction, and are dedicated exclusively to issues related to gender violence. They offer victims a quick response – a critical factor when the victim’s life is at risk. The mechanism starts as soon as a complaint of abuse is registered.

Other data on intimate partner violence centralised by the Government Delegation for Gender-based Violence are:

- Calls to the gender-based violence helpline, per person calling.
- Economic aids granted, under article 27 of the Law 1/2004.
- Electronic tracking devices: number of installations, uninstallations and active devices.
- Users of a 24/7 helpline for victims, using personal tracking technology.
- Economic aids granted to change residence.
- Subsidized and replacement contracts.
- Active insertion income grants.

The EIGE study “Mapping the current status and potential of administrative sources of data on gender-based violence in the EU” (2014) also cites several administrative data sources updated regularly. Access to all these sources is restricted, but some of the data collected are integrated into the Government’s Delegation for Gender-based Violence and other bodies’ statistical reports and databases. Indicators and data collected vary among sources, as the EIGE report states.

Most of the sources of these data are the documents used in the recording system of the cases of intimate partner violence: judiciary documents, protection order requests, monitoring databases, etc. The Police’s Comprehensive Monitoring System of Gender-Based Violence Cases tends to be the most extensive.

Administrative sources found on the EIGE database are detailed in the table below:

	Name and website	Type of Gender Based Violence	Sector	Organisation
1	Central Registry for the Protection of Victims of Domestic Violence http://www.mjusticia.gob.es/cs/Satellite/es/1215197983369/Estructura_P/1288781229623/Detalle.html	Intimate Partner Violence	Justice	Ministry of Justice
2	Central Registry of Convicts	Intimate Partner Violence; Rape;	Justice	Ministry of Justice

	http://www.mjusticia.gob.es/cs/Satellite/es/1215197983369/Estructura_P/1288781229521/Detalle.html	Sexual Assault (excl. rape); Sexual Harassment		
3	Comprehensive Monitoring System of Gender-Based Violence Cases http://www.interior.gob.es/web/servicios-al-ciudadano/violencia-contra-la-mujer/sistema_vdg-o-viogen	Intimate Partner Violence	Police	Spanish Home Office
4	Forensic Medical Examination Report of Urgent Risk Assessment of Gender-Based Violence http://www.observatorioviolencia.org/bbpp-proyecto.php?id_proyecto=152	Intimate Partner Violence	Justice	Official Institutes of Legal Medicine
5	Medical Report of Injuries & Medical History http://www.msssi.gob.es/en/	Intimate Partner Violence; Rape; Sexual Assault (excl. rape)	Health	Health Care Services Professionals
6	Official Police Report http://www.policia.es	Intimate Partner Violence; Rape; Sexual Assault (excl. rape); Sexual Harassment	Police	National Police Forces
7	Reports on Fatal Incidents (No official name) http://www.fiscal.es/Fiscal-especialista/Violencia-sobre-la-mujer/Funciones.html?cid=1240559967690&pagename=PFiscal%2FPPage%2FFGE_contenidoFinal	Intimate Partner Violence	Justice	Department on Violence Against Women, Public Prosecutor's Office
8	The Protection Order (the protection order request form) http://ow.ly/zN219	Intimate Partner Violence	Justice	The Police Court
9	The statistical service of the General Council of the Judiciary http://www.poderjudicial.es/cgpj/en/Subjects/Domestic_and_gender_violence/Activity_of_the_Observatory/Statistic_Data	Intimate Partner Violence	Justice	Competent Violence Against Women Courts (Juzgados de Violencia sobre la Mujer)

According to the CoE, 2014 monitoring report Turkey collects all the recommended data systematically, but does not publish disaggregated statistics, although a national report on domestic violence is published.⁶⁴

⁶⁴ Hagemann-White, 2014, p43.

In Turkey criminal records are publicly available– but are separate for police and gendarme. The police records on domestic violence are not publicly accessible- although data from the time period 2008-2011 can be retrieved from a report of the Turkish Grand National Assembly Committee for Human Rights Investigation for Violence Against Women and Family Members.⁶⁵ The gendarme records can be accessed from the official webpage of the General Commandership of Gendarmerie.⁶⁶ Data requests can also be made to the Turkish Grand National Assembly in order to be addressed to the concerned ministry, or directly to the Ministry of Family and Social Policies. An example of the former was when a Sirnak deputy addressed a parliamentary question to the Assembly, and successfully obtained data on femicides and the rates of conviction of cases. For the latter, CSO Purple Roof provides some examples of attaining information as a civil initiative. CSO Purple Roof wrote petitions to the Ministry of Family and Social policies, and obtained data on protective measures.

In Turkey criminal justice statistics are available on the official webpage of the Ministry of Justice General Directorate of Criminal Records and Statistics and the Turkish Statistical Institute (TUIK).⁶⁷

Criminal cases involving domestic violence are not regarded as a separate category from other criminal cases, since they can be regulated by several codes in different courts. For instance, domestic violence is recorded under divorce cases, if it is taken to a family court as a reason for divorce. Or, it is recorded as an offence against the family and as a violation of the Law no. 6284 on the Protection of Family and the Prevention of Violence against Women, if the cases are taken before criminal courts or civil courts. In criminal or court records, cases are documented either as mentioned above, or can be specified as sexual assault, sexual crime or homicide, depending on the case. No data is available on intimate partner violence in terms of the number of cases brought to court.

Data for the prevention and monitoring of VAW however will be publically available with the new procedures developed by the Family and Social Policy Ministry.

4.2 Description of Population Surveys

Population surveys are often used to try to measure the prevalence of violence against women. As previously mentioned in the methodology section the FRA provides the first EU-wide dataset on the extent, nature and consequences of violence against women, as reported by women in 28 EU Member States. Various population surveys on violence against women have also been carried out at the national level in Italy, Spain and Turkey.

The following table provides a summary of the most recent significant surveys in this field in these three countries.

Population Surveys:

Country	Italy:	Spain:	Catalonia:	Turkey:	Turkey:
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⁶⁵ The PDF version of the report can be reached via:

http://www.tbmm.gov.tr/komisyon/insanhaklari/docs/2012/raporlar/29_05_2012.pdf

⁶⁶ The official webpage of the General Commandership of Gendarmerie:

<http://www.jandarma.gov.tr>. The PDF version of the report for 2013 can directly be reached via http://www.jandarma.gov.tr/asayis/Aile_Cocuk/aile_ici_siddet_2013.pdf

⁶⁷ Turkish Statistical Institute. Criminal Records Database:

<http://tuikapp.tuik.gov.tr/girenhukumluapp/girenhukumlu.zul>

Name of Survey	Violence against Women in the Domestic Sphere and Beyond Family Survey 2014	Macrosurvey on Violence against Women	Survey on Sexist Violence in Catalonia	Survey on Violence against Women in the Family in Turkey	Population and Health Survey (2013-2014)
Sample size (how many and age range)	24, 761, 000 women, aged 16-70.	10,171 over 16	14,122 women between 18 and 70 years old 1,501 men	15, 072 women, aged 15-59.	11, 794 between 15 and 49 years old
Year of Survey	2014	2015,	2010	2014 -2015	2009
Regularly updated? At what interval?	Plans to repeat survey ⁶⁸	1999, 2002, 2006, 2011	No	2008	2008
Types of violence included?	Physical, sexual, economic and psychological	Physical, sexual, economic, emotional violence and controlling behaviour [intimate partner violence and physical and sexual outside intimate partnerships]	Perceptions and prevalence of harassment in public spaces/ workplace, sexual harassment in the workplace intimate partner violence	Physical, sexual psychological and economic.	Physical and psychological
Frequency of violence included?	Lifetime/ previous 12 months / in the last 5 years	Lifetime/ previous 12 months	Lifetime/ previous 12 months	Lifetime/ previous 12 months	Only related to attempt control of women
Consequences of violence?	Health/ physical and psychological	Health/ Physical, psychological and sexual	No	Health/ physical and psychological + children	No
Attitudes and awareness?	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes (attitudes) No (awareness)
How is VAW defined? FRA/ WHO	Uses FRA/ WHO definition	Uses FRA/ WHO definition	No	WHO definition	WHO definition
Does it include information about reporting and non-reporting to the police?	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Does it include information about women's use of other services that can provide assistance to victims?	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No

Table 4: Summary of the most recent significant surveys in this field in Italy, Spain and Turkey.

⁶⁸ WAVE, 2012, p147.

5. Situation of VAW

Key Findings:

Prevalence:

- 27% of women in Italy and 22% of women in Spain have experienced physical and or sexual violence or threats by a partner or non-partner since the age of 15. In Turkey 36 % of ever married women have experienced violence by a partner since the age of 15.
- 5% of women in Italy and 3% of women in Spain and Turkey have experienced sexual violence by a non-partner since the age of 15.
- 38% of women in Italy and 33% of women in Spain have experienced a form a psychological violence by a partner by the age of 15. In Turkey 44% of ever-married women have experienced a form of psychological violence.
- 18% of women in Italy, 11% of women in Spain and 27% of women in Turkey have experienced some form of stalking.
- 13% of women in Italy, 8% of women in Spain and 30% of women in Turkey have experienced some form of economic violence.
- According to available survey data patterns of prevalence of physical, sexual and psychological violence against women show that it is very prevalent in all three countries despite being the lowest in Spain- followed by Italy and greatest in Turkey.

Consequences:

- The physical health effects of VAW tend to be similar in Italy, Spain and Turkey- although categories vary slightly. In all three countries bruises and scratches are the most common type of injury.
- Regarding the psychological consequences of suffering violence by a partner in both Italy and Spain – anxiety was the most commonly cited effect. Feeling nervous, stressed and anxious were the most common psychological consequences of violence in Turkey.

Attitudes and Awareness:

- Perceptions of frequency of violence against women as ‘very common’ are high at 35% in Italy and 31% in Spain. In Turkey there is no available data.
- Only 34% of women in Italy, and 59% of women in Spain were aware of laws and political initiatives to prevent domestic violence. These figures rise to 41% and 69% respectively when asked about laws and political initiatives to protect women in case of domestic violence. In Turkey more than 80% stated that they were aware of protective measures and penalties. In Turkey this has been linked to literacy levels and geographical regions.

Physical Violence: An estimated 13 million women in the EU have experienced physical violence in the course of the 12 months before the survey interviews. This corresponds to 7% of women aged 18-74 years in the EU.
FRA Factsheet, 2014.⁶⁹

Sexual Violence: An estimated 3.7 million women in the EU have experienced sexual violence in the course of the 12 months before the survey interviews. This corresponds to 2 % of women aged 18-74 years in the EU.
FRA Factsheet, 2014.⁷⁰

Rape: One in 20 women (5%) in the EU 28 has been raped since the age of 15.
FRA Factsheet, 2014.⁷¹

Stalking: In the EU-28 18% of women have experienced stalking since the age of 15, and 5% of women have experienced stalking in the 12 months preceding the survey. This corresponds to about 9 million women in the EU-28 experiencing stalking within a period of 12 months.
FRA Factsheet, 2014.⁷²

In Spain and Italy we can use comparative data to examine the situation of Violence against Women- mainly on the basis of data collected by the FRA survey (2014) which statistically measures the prevalence, consequences, attitudes and awareness of VAW in each Member State. This data however is complemented by the national level surveys that are referred to in table 4 in order to provide a more in-depth description of the phenomenon. In Turkey we will mainly use findings from the 2014 -2015 Survey on Violence against Women in the Family in Turkey for prevalence and consequences although this will also be complemented by supplementary sources where deemed necessary. For example the lack of official data and statistics charting the number of 'honour' based crimes and killings and forced marriages is examined using the only available data - those collected by civil society organisations.

5.1 Prevalence

Percentage of women who have experienced:			
	Italy	Spain	Turkey
Physical and/ or sexual violence or threats by partner/ non-partner since 15	27%	22%	Data not available.
Physical violence by a non-partner since the age of 15	16%	14%	14%
Physical violence by a partner since the age of 15	17%	12%	36% ⁷³
Sexual violence by a non-	5%	3%	3% ⁷⁴

⁶⁹ <http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2014/violence-against-women-eu-wide-survey>

⁷⁰ Ibid.

⁷¹ Ibid.

⁷² Ibid.

⁷³ According to the survey on Violence against Women in the Family in Turkey in 2014, this is the percentage of women who have ever been married, who have experienced physical violence since the age of 15.

partner since the age of 15			
Sexual violence by a partner	7%	4%	12%
Psychological violence by a partner since the age of 15	38%	33%	44.9% ⁷⁵
Controlling behaviour by a partner since the age of 15 ⁷⁶	31%	26%	Data not comparable.
Economic violence ⁷⁷	13%	8%	30% ⁷⁸
Any form of stalking	18%	11%	27% ⁷⁹

Table 5: Prevalence table

In all three countries more than one in five women have experienced physical and/ or sexual violence or threats since the age of 15 – this rises to more than one in three women in Turkey. The different types of violence can be disaggregated by partner/ non-partner in Italy, Spain and Turkey. Regarding sexual violence we can see how in this case 7% of women in Italy, 4% of women in Spain and 12% of women in Turkey- have experienced sexual violence by their partner. The figures for sexual violence inflicted by a non-partner are 5% in Italy and 3% in both Spain and Turkey. The figures for psychological violence are staggeringly high across all three countries reaching 44% of ever married women in Turkey. 13% of women in Italy, 8% of women in Spain and 30% of women in Turkey – have experienced some form of economic violence. Almost one in five women in Italy, just over one in ten women in Spain and just over one in four women in Turkey have experienced stalking.

A comparative analysis of the three countries across the indicators –seems to reveal an emerging pattern: violence against women seems to be slightly less prevalent in Spain than in Italy and most prevalent in Turkey. This tentative analysis must be read with caution given the limitations of collecting data on this under-reported sensitive topic.⁸⁰

The following section goes into greater detail in the case of prevalence in Turkey. Marriage before the age of 18 is a worrying case in Turkey.) The research of the HÜNEE point out that

⁷⁴HÜNEE 2015, p16.

⁷⁵ This data concerns women who have ever been married.

⁷⁶ This includes restricted contact with family and friends, insisting on knowing movements, anger at speaking with other men and suspicion of unfaithfulness.

⁷⁷ This includes being prevented from making decisions about family finances, shopping independently and being forbidden to work outside the home.

⁷⁸ 30% of women reported that they had experienced types of *economic violence*, such as prevention from working, forcing to quit job, or appropriation of women's income. Prevention from working is the most common type of economic violence; in fact, one in every four women reported that their partner had prevented her from working at least once in her life HÜNEE 2015. Kadina Yonelik Siddet Yayginligi, in Survey on Violence against women in the Family in Turkey. Ankara. p81-120. p97.

⁷⁹ In the recent survey conducted in 2014, *stalking* was studied as a type of violence for the first time. Accordingly, 27% of women reported that they had experienced behaviour considered as stalking at least once. In the study, insistent phone calls and messaging, following on social media, visiting and disturbing workplace and following on street are considered as stalking behaviours. The most common type of stalking is insistent phone calls at 19%. Also, the study revealed that stalking behaviour is mostly performed by strangers (HÜNEE 2015, p118).

⁸⁰ As the FRA factsheet states: “differences between countries can reflect a number of factors as well as actual differences in victimisation rates, such as: Whether it is culturally acceptable to talk with other people about experiences of violence against women, including survey interviewers; and the possibility that enhanced gender equality in a country could lead to higher levels of disclosure about violence against women since incidents are more likely to be openly addressed and challenged in societies with enhanced equality”.

regardless of the type, violence is more common in early marriages than in marriages over the age of 18. To illustrate, while the figure for physical violence is 48% in early marriages it decreases to 31% in adult marriages. The figures are 18% and 10% for sexual violence, and 51 and 42% for psychological violence, respectively.⁸¹

44% of ever married women in Turkey reported that they had experienced psychological violence at least once. Almost one in every 5 ever-married women reported that she had been belittled, whilst 21.2% reported that they had been threatened by their partner. In terms of experiencing partners' controlling behaviour a staggering 61.5% of women report that their partners always want to know where they are – whilst 43.4% of men get angry when they learn that their wives or partners talk to another man and 33.6% interfere with what their partners' wear.⁸²

30% of women reported that they had experienced types of *economic violence*, such as prevention from working, forcing to quit job or appropriate women's income. Prevention from working is the most common type of economic violence; in fact one of every four women reported that their partner had prevented her from working at least once in her life.⁸³

Femicides

*"It is estimated that of all women killed globally in 2012, almost half were killed by intimate partners or family members, compared to less than six per cent of men killed in the same year"*⁸⁴

In Italy in 2013, 79 women were killed by their intimate partner whilst between 2000 and 2013, 1122 women were murdered by their intimate partner.⁸⁵

In Spain in 2014, 59 women were killed by their intimate partners⁸⁶ and between 2003 and 2013, 700 women were killed by intimate partner violence.⁸⁷

In Turkey according to the data published by the Ministry of Justice, female homicides increased dramatically between 2002 – where they were around 100 and 2009 when this number almost reached 1000.⁸⁸

In Turkey the non-existence of official and detailed statistics on the instances of violence against women, including killings and early and forced marriages has been highlighted as problematic by the European Commission.⁸⁹ For example in 2009 the Ministry of Justice said that 953 women were murdered whereas the Ministry of Family put this number at 171.⁹⁰

⁸¹HÜNEE 2015, p99-100. The percentage of married women participants between 15-19 is 3.6%.

⁸²HÜNEE 2015, p96.

⁸³ HÜNEE 2015, p97.

⁸⁴ See more at: <http://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures#notes>

⁸⁵ EURES Ricerche Economiche e Sociali (2014). Secondo Rapporto sul femminicidio in Italia Caratteristiche e tendenze del 2013.

⁸⁶ <http://ibasque.com/mujeres-asesinadas-en-espana-por-violencia-machista-en-2014-resumen-anual/>

⁸⁷ <http://www.elmundo.es/espana/2013/11/03/52766e7363fd3d62298b456e.html>

⁸⁸ Öztürk, A. (2015). "Violence against Women in Turkey: Reflections of the Increasing Conservative Political Climate ", Vol. IV, Issue 7, pp.32-40, Centre for Policy and Research on Turkey (Research Turkey), London, Research Turkey. Available at: (<http://researchturkey.org/?p=9413>).

⁸⁹ E.C., 2012; E.C., 2013; E.C., 2014.

⁹⁰ <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-31709887>

The lack of official administrative data in this field has meant that feminist civil society organisations collect data from incidents reported in the press. For example the independent feminist association, ‘We Will Stop Women Homicides’ shows that on average, 250 women are killed each year by their husbands, ex-husbands, partners or fathers.⁹¹ The figures collected from Bianet also show a sharp increase in the numbers.⁹² According to information available at Bianet, in 2014, at least 281 women were killed and 560 women were injured by men.⁹³ At least 58 (20.64%) of those who were killed, were killed because they wanted to divorce, 25 (8.9%) were killed as a result of lack of protection from state services and 11 women were killed by men who had been brought before the courts due to previous violence but had not received any penalty. Indeed 3.9% of women were killed by men who had committed violence, but had been acquitted, condoned or were under probation. It is unclear the extent to which those murders are so-called ‘honour killings’ due to the lack of available data.⁹⁴ Linked to ‘honour killings’ it is claimed that there has been a surge in ‘honour suicides’ as women are pressurized to take their own lives. This has been on the increase since the changes in penal law mean that those convicted of ‘honour killings’ now get life imprisonment.⁹⁵

5.2 Consequences

The consequences of violence against women are often described in terms of both the physical and psychological health effects victims suffer. For example the results of the WHO study “strongly support other research which has found strong associations between violence and both physical and mental symptoms of ill-health”.⁹⁶ In order to examine the consequences of violence against women we have used the FRA data visualization tool to show a comparative picture between Italy and Spain (see annex 3).

The Turkish Ministry of Health (2014) shared the 2013 health records in response to a parliamentary question on ‘work and applications undertaken in line with various aspects of the Law No. 6284. In the response paper it is indicated that in 2013, 13,853 women applied to medical institutions complaining about injuries resulting from domestic violence. However, it should be noted that this number only reflects the cases when domestic violence is officially

⁹¹ Webpage: We will Stop Female Homicides. Accessible at:

<http://kadincinayetlerinidurduracagiz.net/>

⁹² <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-31709887>

⁹³ Full article: <http://bianet.org/bianet/kadin/161558-erkekler-2014-te-281-kadin-oldurdu>

⁹⁴ The Istanbul convention states that ‘Honour crimes’ are one form of gender based violence.

‘Honour killings’ have been defined as having an “ulterior aim can be the restoration of family honour, the desire to be seen as respecting tradition or complying with perceived religious, cultural or customary requirements of a particular community”. The drafters of the Convention moved away from the original idea of introducing a separate criminal offence for so-called “honour crimes” and agreed instead to ban any attempts to justify criminal behaviour on the basis of culture, custom, religion, tradition or so-called “honour”. See:

http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/convention-violence/thematic_factsheets/Honour%20Crimes_EN.pdf

⁹⁵ Prior to this change in law – a male member of the family under 18 – may have been pressured to commit the crime with the view to him serving a reduced sentence due to his age. Now it seems certain families pressure the female to commit suicide to ‘restore honour’ to the family.⁹⁵ In Batman and the surrounding region in south east Anatolia – from 2000 until 2006 - it was reported that there were 165 suicides or suicide attempts in Batman, 102 of them by women - it is difficult to determine how many of these were so-called ‘honour-suicides’.

⁹⁶ WHO, (2005). Summary Report, WHO Multi-country Study on Women’s Health and Domestic Violence against Women: Initial results on prevalence, health outcomes and women’s responses. p15.

recorded or reported by a victim. This source is used to unpick some of the health consequences of violence against women in Turkey.

In Italy and Spain bruises and scratches are the most common type of injury inflicted by a partner. Similar to Italy and Spain, in Turkey scratches and scars are the most common type of injury (62%). In Turkey this is followed by damage to the eardrums and eyes (65%)⁹⁷. Wounds, sprains and burns are the next most commonly reported injury inflicted on the victim of violence in Spain and Italy – which is commensurate with the findings from the Turkish health records which cite wounds and lacerations (12%) followed by burns (4%) as the next most common consequences of violence against women by a partner. In Spain concussion or other brain injury (5%) constitutes an alarming finding– which is absent from the Italian findings – and is not an explicit category in Turkey. In Italy and Spain this is followed by fractures, broken bones and broken teeth – (2% in Spain and 3% in Italy) but this category is missing for Turkey. Damage to internal organs is a consequence in both Spain (5%) and Turkey (4%) yet is surprisingly absent in the case of Italy.⁹⁸ Miscarriage is the consequence of physical violence by partners experienced by 2% of women in Spain and 1% of women in Italy.⁹⁹

In terms of the long-term psychological consequences of experiencing violence by a partner in both Italy (38%) and Spain (39%)– anxiety was the most commonly cited effect –of the most serious incident suffered. Lack of confidence was the next prevalent psychological consequence for the effect of violence by a partner in Spain (35%)– whereas in Italy feeling vulnerable (22%) was the next most commonly cited long-term psychological effect – followed by lack of confidence (19%). In Spain depression (30%) was followed closely by difficulty sleeping (28%), feeling vulnerable (26%) and difficulties in relationships (26%). Concentration difficulties (18%) and panic attacks (14%) were the least commonly cited psychological consequences of intimate partner violence in Spain. In Italy difficulty in sleeping (18%) was followed by depression (15%) panic attacks (11%), concentration difficulties (8%) and difficulties in relationships (8%).

In Turkey in the 2014 survey women were asked about recent psychological problems, and if they had ever thought about committing suicide. It is observed that experiencing mental health problems is more common amongst victims of physical or sexual violence. Whilst 45.3% of the women who have not experienced violence reported that they felt unhappy in the last four weeks, it rises to 69.5% for the victims of violence. 13.2% of those that have experienced violence reported suicidal tendencies – this is three times higher than those who have not experienced violence. There are various other psychological consequences reported including: feelings of stress, nervousness and anxiety, exhaustion, inability of coping with daily activities, loss of appetite, stomach problems (feeling like they have a stomach disease) and problems focusing.¹⁰⁰ Fear is also very common psychological consequence- which has been linked to the media and the victimization of women on T.V and in newspapers. The 2014 Turkish survey also provides figures on actual attempts to commit suicide. Accordingly, attempting to end life is five times more common among women who have experienced violence compared to women with no experience of violence.¹⁰¹

Other Consequences

⁹⁷ This indicator was not included in the FRA survey.

⁹⁸ Figures for Turkey for this section are taken from, HÜNEE (2015). Kadına Yonelik Siddetin Sonuclari, in Survey on Violence against women in the Family in Turkey. Ankara. p129.

⁹⁹ For data for the consequences of physical and sexual violence/ Physical injuries from violence by a non-partner in Italy and Spain please see Annex 3.

¹⁰⁰ HÜNEE, 2015, p136-8.

¹⁰¹ Ibid.

Studies have tended to limit the scope of the effects of violence to health issues- this however seems to be changing. EIGE's work in the field of violence against women place large costs on economy and society.

Costs of Gender Based Violence on Economy and Society:

"It is likely that an increase in the currently small amount spent on prevention and mitigation of harms, by increasing spending on specialised services, would lead to a decrease in the extent and impact of the violence. The findings from..[a] UK case study are that the cost of: intimate partner violence against women is more than 13.5 billion euros; of intimate partner violence against women and men is more than 15 billion; the cost of gender-based violence against women almost 28.5 billion; and the cost of gender-based violence against women and men is more than 32.5 billion euros. Proportionate to the size of the population in that country as compared with the UK, this leads to costs of gender-based violence against women in the EU of almost 226 billion euros. This represents 87 % of the total cost of gender-based violence to the EU which was estimated to be close to 256 billion euros. The spending on specialised services, which are immensely beneficial to women, to mitigate the harms and prevent the repetition of the violence is 3 % of the cost of intimate partner violence against women. The loss to the economy, through lost output as a result of injuries, is around 12%. Services, especially criminal justice, make up around 30 % of the cost of the violence. Just under half the cost is a result of the public estimation of the value placed on the physical and emotional impact that the violence causes."

EIGE <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/eiges-studies-gender-based-violence/estimating-costs-gender-based-violence-european-union>

In Spain research has highlighted the importance of exploring the effects of violence in all the different spheres of women's lives, from employment to housing to social life.¹⁰² Employment consequences can include inactivity, job loss, unemployment and difficulties in finding a job. Consequences may also affect the professional career of women as dropping out of training activities, loss of professional opportunities and a general deterioration of the professional career have been observed. Efficiency at work can also be affected as absenteeism and the rate of sick leave increases whilst there are the difficulties of carrying out the work as well as the added burden of trying to hide that they are subject to violence.

There are also economic consequences: victims may lack personal income and access to the household income or exercise no control over their economic resources. Economic losses and damages, economic insecurity and dependence on financial aid- must all be factored in. Some victims are the main breadwinner in the household. A separation resulting from VAW may also entail economic losses and damages, economic insecurity and dependence and lack of financial aid (i.e. pension) from the former partner. Concerning housing there may be the need to live in hiding or forced cohabitation with the ex-partner. Additional costs may also include: moving house, accessing social benefits for housing, access to shelters, homelessness and situations of going back to the house inhabited by the ex-partner.

Finally, legal consequences include reporting to the police, securing a result through the criminal process or dropping the criminal process, measures of protection, lack of security, repercussion of the divorce on the children's custody, frustration with legal system, emotional exhaustion and economic difficulties to face legal process.¹⁰³

¹⁰² Camarasa i Casals, M. (2009). Proposal of new indicators to measure the effects of gender violence. Barcelona: Surt. Available at:

http://www.surt.org/docs/publicats/2009/gvei_proposta_indicadors_en.pdf

¹⁰³ Ibid.

5.3 Attitudes and Awareness

The FRA survey sheds some light on the attitudes and awareness of violence against women in Italy and Spain.

5.3.1 Perceptions of frequency of violence against women

The perception of frequency of violence against women in Italy and Spain are the following:

	Italy	Spain
Very common	35%	31%
Fairly common	55%	53%
Not Very common	8%	11%
Not at all common	1%	1%
Don't know	1%	3%

Table 6: Source: FRA dataset

Italy has one of the highest perceptions of violence against women as very common in the EU at 35%.¹⁰⁴ This can be partially explained by the media campaign that was prevalent in Italy at that time, “the media monitoring in Italy produced a large number of front-page articles about fresh evidence in the disappearance of a young girl in 1983”.¹⁰⁵ In Spain there has also been considerable media attention and feminist campaigning since the mid- late 1990s –which may also explain the relatively high perceptions of violence against women as very/ fairly common.

There is no data on perceptions of frequency of violence as far as we are aware in Turkey.

5.3.2 Knowledge about victims of domestic violence in the circle of friends and family

The FRA survey asked, ‘Do you know any women in your circle of friends and family who have been a victim of any form of domestic violence? In Italy 39% of women gave an affirmative response as did 35% of women in Spain. 60% of women in Italy said no as did 62% of women in Spain.

In the Turkish survey this phenomenon is explored in a different way. Those women that have experienced violence are asked if they have spoken to anyone about it. Among the women who have experienced violence at least once in their lives, 44.3% in general and 54.7% in the rural areas reported that they had never shared it with anyone before. As for those who had spoken about their experiences, the majority had shared their experiences with their family (37%), friends and neighbours (24%), partner’s family (17.4%), and 1.4% shared with an institution – albeit unofficially.¹⁰⁶ 38.5% of victims reported that they did not receive any help from people who had witnessed the incident or from those they had spoken to about their experience of violence. For this data, calculations are made for all victims of violence.

In Italy the 2015 survey includes whether women speak about the violent incidents experienced. 23,5% of women who suffered violence by their ex partners and almost 40% of those who

¹⁰⁴ See FRA, 2014, p153.

¹⁰⁵ Ibid, p.154.

¹⁰⁶ HÜNEE, 2015. Kadına Yonelik siddetle Mucadele Yontemleri, in Survey on Violence against women in the Family in Turkey. Ankara. p154.

suffer violence by actual partners, do not talk to anybody about the intimate partner violence experienced. Only 35% talk about intimate partnership violence with friends, 33,7% with relatives, 6,7% with police or other institutional organisations.¹⁰⁷

In Spain the Macro-survey on violence against women (2015) states that 81% of women that have suffered physical violence and/ or sexual violence and/ or fear of their partner or ex-partner- have told some one about their experience. 54.7% had spoken to a friend; 40.1% had spoken to their mother; 32.2% to their sister; 20% to their father; 19.5% other female relative; 17.2% other male relative; 16-8% to a female relative of their partner or ex-partner; 15.1% to a neighbour or work colleague; 8.8% to a male relative of their partner or ex-partner; 2.1% to a teacher or tutor.

In Turkey in the case of witnessing or sharing incidents, women most commonly receive help from their family (19.4%). This figure is followed by the man's family (9.8%), and friends and neighbours (7.8%) whilst 0.8% of women reported that they received help from their unofficial application to an institution.¹⁰⁸

5.3.3 Levels of awareness of laws and political initiatives to prevent domestic violence and protect women in the case of domestic violence.

A minority of women in Italy (34%) are aware of specific laws and political initiatives that focus on prevention of domestic violence– this is in contrast to the majority (59%) of women in Spain. A staggering 58% of women in Italy are not aware of preventative laws or political initiatives - this figure drops to 29% of women in Spain.¹⁰⁹

The levels of awareness of laws and political initiatives to protect women in cases of domestic violence is higher in both Italy (41%) and Spain (69%) than for preventative initiatives. 51% of women in Italy and 22% of women in Spain claim to have no knowledge of these.¹¹⁰

In Turkey women were asked about their awareness of related laws. More than 80% of women reported that they were aware of protective measures and possible penalties stated in the Law No. 6284 to Protect Family and Prevention of Violence Against Women. 88% of women who are aware of the Law No. 6284 said that they had heard about the law through the media and 61% was from their friends and family. Hearing about it at school, from a public institution, or posters/billboards, and civil society organisations remains below 5%.¹¹¹

Altınay and Arat (2008) argue that only 57.2% of women reported that they are aware about the Family Protection Law. Their study presents a positive correlation between awareness/ unawareness of Family Protection Law and the Property Regime. The Property Regime regulates the equitable distribution of any type of property possessed before and during marriage in the case of divorce amongst other issues concerning assets. There is also a strong correlation between awareness/ unawareness and education. 54% of illiterate women were unaware of both laws – whilst only 14% of illiterate women were aware of both laws.

¹⁰⁷ ISTAT, 2015, p4.

¹⁰⁸ HÜNEE, 2015, p156.

¹⁰⁹ 12% of women in Spain and 8 % of women in Italy were not aware of preventative or political initiatives. FRA dataset see Annex 4.

¹¹⁰ 9% of women in Spain and 8% of women in Italy were not aware of preventative or political initiatives. FRA dataset see Annex 4.

¹¹¹ HÜNEE, 2015., Kadına Yonelik Sıddetle İlgili Yasalara İlişkin Bilgi Düzeyi, in Survey on Violence against women in the Family in Turkey. Ankara. p184. Participants could choose more than one option.

Regarding university/ college graduates –only 3% were unaware of both laws whilst 77% were aware of both. Another striking finding about awareness is regional disparity. While 61% of the women living in the Central and Western regions of the country had heard of the Family Protection Law, only 35% of women in the Eastern region had heard of the law. Altınay and Arat (2008) claim that taking the findings into consideration, differences in education level underlie the striking discrepancy in the percentages for the different regions.¹¹²

5.3.4 Information available about recently having seen or heard a campaign against VAW

According to the FRA data 83% of women in Spain have recently seen or heard a campaign against violence against women- the corresponding figure for Italy is 66%. To our knowledge there is no available information about women who have recently seen or heard a campaign about violence against women or domestic violence in Turkey.

5.3.5 Level of awareness of institutions or services for victims of VAW

The FRA survey included a question where three specific organisations or services that provide assistance to victims of violence against women in their country were identified. Interviewees were asked if they were aware of these organisations- responses were then classified according to whether interviewees had heard of 0, 1, 2, or 3 of these organisations/ services. In Italy 17% of women had heard of all three organisations/ services whilst in Spain 29% of women had heard of all three organisations/ services. 22% of women in Italy and 18% of women in Spain had heard of two organisations/ services and the percentages that had heard of one organisation/ service was 42% (IT) and 38% (ES). 19% of women in Italy and 15% of women in Spain had not heard of any of the organisations/ services.

In Turkey the data relating to this issue comes from their official application to institutions. Victims were asked about their awareness of the existing institutions they can apply to. Among victims, the police, shelters, gendarme, prosecution office and health institutions are the most known institutions working on the issue (86.2%, 85.2%, 73.6%, 71.1% and 70.4% respectively). These figures are followed by family court (68.8%), governorship/sub-governorship (63.6%), Ministry of Family and Social Policies and its local branches (61.0%), women's organisations (59.4%), 183 Violence Line (55.9%), bar associations (45.0%), women consulting centres of municipalities (39.6%), and Centre for Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (12.4%).¹¹³

5.3.6 Victim blaming attitudes

Research has been carried out looking at how public attitudes shape the social climate in which intimate partner violence against women takes place. Attitudes condoning or fostering intimate partner violence are social factors that contribute to a climate of tolerance that may influence incidence rates (WHO, 2002), reporting rates, public and professional responses, or help-seeking behaviours by victims.¹¹⁴

The European Commission's 2010 Domestic Violence Against Women Report surveys opinions on whether domestic violence is acceptable. This survey includes important data for Spain and Italy. In Spain 91% of respondents stated that it is unacceptable and should always be punishable by law. 6% said it is unacceptable but should not always be punishable by law, 2%, said it was, acceptable in certain circumstances and 1% said it is acceptable in all circumstances.

¹¹² Altınay, A. and Arat, Y. (2008). *Türkiye'de Kadına Yönelik Siddet*. Istanbul. p58.

¹¹³ HÜNEE, 2015, p165.

¹¹⁴ Gracia, E. (2014). Intimate Partner Violence against Women and Victim-Blaming Attitudes among Europeans, *Bull World Health Organ*, 2014; 92:380-381.

The figures for Italy were the following: 87%, 7%, 2%, and 3% respectively.¹¹⁵ In Turkey Altınay and Arat (2008) state that 89.4% of the interviewees responded that there is never a valid justification for violence.

6. Key Measures Taken

Key Findings:

- All three countries use national actions plans (NAPs) as a key tool to combat violence against women. The extent to which these offer a comprehensive strategy to target violence against women varies between the countries. For example Spain and Turkey offer comprehensive coordinated policies – whereas Italy does not.
- One of the major indicators of whether the country has a comprehensive strategy to target violence against women is the extent to which policy-makers in this field consult with, listen to and provide support to women’s organisations working in the field. This has not occurred in Italy nor Turkey and only to a moderate degree in Spain.
- Italy, Spain and Turkey have developed victim support services - providing legal, social, psychological and economic assistance to victims. The extent to which each government allocates sufficient resources and the degree to which professionals are adequately trained to provide assistance to victims varies between countries. All three countries would benefit from greater resource allocation to this field and more training of professionals.
- More research is needed on the actual work with perpetrators that is carried out. Whilst information is available on how work with perpetrators is included in national guidelines or legal provisions – in all three countries there seems to be a lack of information about how these programmes work in practice.
- In Italy training on domestic violence is not included in legal provisions. In Spain training on domestic violence is included in legal provisions for staff in health institutions. In Turkey legal provisions specify that training is necessary for public service workers like judges and police working in this field.
- In Italy specialized competence based training for professionals to enhance skills and capacities to respond appropriately to victims/ and or perpetrators is foreseen in the national extraordinary plan against sexual and gender violence, nevertheless no specific measures have been planned or funded to date.
- In Spain competence based training is included in the national action plan and targets: justice administrative personnel, members of the judiciary and the crown prosecution service, security forces, teachers, medicine students, health care professionals and social services.
- In Turkey specialized competence based training for professionals includes personnel from the judiciary, public training centres, provincial social services and directorates of education and ŞÖNİM (Violence Prevention Monitoring

¹¹⁵ European Commission (2010a). Domestic Violence against Women Report. Brussels, Directorate General for justice, p46. Available: http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_344_en.pdf

Centre) personnel. However, the large number of cases where victims of violence sought help from the authorities and then have been killed highlights – the greater need for training and raising awareness for judiciary and law enforcement officers.

6.1 National Action Plans

National action plans to prevent violence against women are key tools in national government's fight against violence against women. Establishing and publishing a National Action Plan (NAP) addressing (all forms of) violence against women was a general indicator in the monitoring of the implementation of Recommendation Rec (2002)5 on the protection of women against violence in Council of Europe member states. However, as Hagemann-White (2014) states:

“diverse approaches to developing national policies on violence against women were being pursued that had not been fully captured by the general idea of a NAP. It was found that preference was sometimes given to the concept of a “National Strategy”, while the comprehensive national policy could be laid out in one or several action plans or strategies each with a specific focus. Member states also revealed patterns of policies that locate violence against women in a general framework such as gender equality, health, crime prevention, family policies or child protection”.¹¹⁶ In line with the Istanbul Convention – the progress indicator shifted to whether they have: “established a comprehensive and coordinated policy addressing all forms of violence covered by the Istanbul convention and offering a holistic response to violence against women”.¹¹⁷

Italy

The 2015 Italian NAP defines the planned activities in the following two areas:

- Area 1 - Actions to support anti-violence centres (public and private) aimed at expanding the number of services offered to victims whose safety is at particular risk;
- Area 2 - Interventions aimed at the opening of new anti-violence centres in residential areas of the country where there is a greater gap between the demand and supply.¹¹⁸

The NAP has however been subject to much criticism as the plan was developed without consultation with Italian women's organisations who specialize in providing support to women who have experienced violence, i.e. anti-violence centres and women's shelters.¹¹⁹ See below box for a full explanation:

Comments to 'Special Plan of Action against sexual and gender based violence', FGB, 16 June 2015

¹¹⁶ Hagemann-White, 2014, p6.

¹¹⁷ Ibid.

¹¹⁸ See

http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it/images/stories/documenti_vari/UserFiles/Il_Dipartimento/av_visocentriantiviolenza_14112011.pdf

¹¹⁹ See <http://www.wave-network.org/content/wave-observatory>

On May 7, 2015 the Special Plan of Action against sexual and gender-based violence, provided for by Article 5 of the Law no. 119 of 2013, which implemented the Istanbul Convention, was approved. "The State takes charge of the entire path of emancipation from violence against women who are its victims, and does so with public policies that intervene on several fronts, thereby revolutionizing the political and cultural approach to challenge this phenomenon," these the words by Giovanna Martelli, Councillor of the Prime Minister regarding Equal Opportunities. The document, however, has not received the approval of the associations that work with and are in daily contact with women who suffer sexual, psychological, physical, and economic violence – as they manage often voluntary one-stop listening desks and anti-violence centres scattered throughout the country.

"The Renzi Government loses a historic opportunity to fight male violence against women with specific, coordinated, and effective actions, through a Plan that addresses the pressing requirements laid down by the Istanbul Convention in order to prevent and combat male violence", was the comment of the associations D.i.Re (Women Against Violence Network, which brings together 70 anti-violence centers and refuges in Italy), Telefono Rosa Onlus, Udi (Union of Italian Women), Pangea Foundation and Maschile Plurale to the text just approved by the Government to implement the Convention and combat gender-based violence in Italy. "The role of anti-violence centres is weakened in all Actions of the Plan, and they are treated like any other subject of the private sector in social work, with no other role than that of mere executors of a service", the associations explain. This hits a nerve, because supporting services of this kind are one of the central factors in implementing effective prevention against gender-based violence, as confirmed by EIGE in the guidelines issued in March of 2015.

At the centre of criticism is the lack of involvement by civil society and by those actors who, for years, every day, have been actively involved in providing support to women who suffer violence: "the associations have had no part in the elaboration and drafting of this document - which, indeed, has been communicated to them without the possibility of making changes. This Plan has not even been submitted to the government's task force on the subject, whose two-year work, albeit at times controversial, was largely rendered worthless.

The associations also highlight problems of coordination at the local level between the local networks, as there is the risk of creating in the same area multiple networks with the same institutions (e.g. ASL, Public Prosecutor's Office, Prefecture). "The distribution of resources is fragmented without an organic and competent oversight. Therefore, it won't have any impact on the actual support of the paths for the autonomy of women," they explain.

The distribution of resources is another sore point: the associations signing the note call it "absolutely minor towards the objectives of the Plan within three years, overly skewed towards inclusion programs, particularly those concerning job placement, at the expense of listening, reception, hospitality, and paths of empowerment."

Moreover, they point out, the language of the Plan is discriminatory with respect to gender: "there is no female conjugation even when discussing female professional figures."

Finally, the role played by ISTAT is questioned. "The Institute of the State that so far has gathered, validated, and processed the data on gender-based violence is erased from the Plan. A 'Data Bank' is set up which will be contracted out to the private sector. With this decision, the plan to make periodic research on gender-based violence stable and mandatory disappears altogether. Without such periodical research, any policy of prevention and contrast is unthinkable – and impossible to assess."

By ingenerere:<http://www.ingenerere.it/news/violenza-di-genere-il-piano-sbagliato> (edited version).

Spain

The current action plan in Spain is the National Strategy for the eradication of Violence against Women 2013-2016, is in force. It is a structuring tool for the action of government to end violence against women. It has four main goals:

1. To breaking the silence, as an accomplice to abuse. This objective responds to the general idea that society, as a whole, continues to express its outright condemnation of the violence suffered by women. It conveys the message that there is no impunity for aggressors and takes action to achieve a society free of violence. This framework includes all awareness-raising and prevention measures, in line with the standard classification which describes the different levels of violence prevention: primary, secondary and tertiary. The specific objectives are strengthening prevention and intensifying detection.
2. To improve the institutional response which is now provided by diverse authorities and public and private bodies in their respective areas, making customized plans and moving towards personalised schemes.
3. To provide a tailored response to minors and especially vulnerable women (rural women, women with disabilities, women over 65, immigrant women, women with addictive disorders).
4. To give greater visibility and attention to other forms of violence against women. Alongside the mistreatment of women by their partners or former partners, it is also important to move forward in combating other forms of violence against women, as international organizations require. Forced marriages, female genital mutilation, trafficking in women and girls for sexual exploitation, harassment and sexual assault, as well as immolation, mutilation with acid, honour killings, enslavement and sexual exploitation, are mentioned in the plan.

In Spain, some women's organisations have been involved in consultation processes for the preparation of strategy. The 2013-2016 Strategy document describes the consultation process of the members of the State Observatory on Violence against Women in the following terms:

“Given the importance of civil society and, more specifically, the different social players, particularly and primarily the specialised associations and the women’s organisations, the initiative to prepare this Strategy was presented to the State Observatory on Violence against Women in the meetings held on 19 February 2012 and 28 May 2012. (...) In this respect, its members were asked to put forward proposals for consideration and inclusion in the Strategy”.

It should be noted that the State Observatory on violence against Women only involves a limited and specific set of civil society organisations, including women's organisations which were directly appointed by the Observatory regulations (2006), and which do not necessarily represent the women's movement.

More generally, it should be noted that the Spanish Shadow Report to the CEDAW reports on relevant difficulties for the participation of the women's movement in Spain, due to the shortcomings in the state and regional participation councils, which are not representative of women's associations, do not have a social or political impact and only deal with issues brought up by the Government.

Turkey

The General Directorate on the Status of Women (KSGM), to be later affiliated to the Ministry of Family and Social Policy, produced two National Action Plans to Combat Violence against Women for the 2007-2010 and 2012-2015 periods. The aim of the National Action Plans are to

implement all necessary measures taken to prevent violence against women in collaboration with all stakeholders.

The second National Action Plan (2012-2015) sets practical and result-oriented goals. The Plan aims to “implement necessary measures with the cooperation of all parties in order to eliminate all kinds of violence against women in the country”.¹²⁰ The goals of the National Action Plan are identified as follows:

- To make legal arrangements regarding gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence and eliminate the problems of implementation.
- To create social awareness and ensure a mentality change regarding gender equality and violence against women in order to eliminate negative attitudes and behaviours that produce and perpetuate violence against women.
- To arrange and implement health services for the women victims of violence, for their children (where relevant) and for those who perpetrate violence or have the potential to perpetrate violence.
- To strengthen the inter-organisational/inter-institutional and inter-sectorial cooperation mechanisms in order to ensure service provision for women who are exposed to violence and their children where relevant.

The second National Action Plan employs the targets set in the first Plan, but along with domestic violence, it adds the terms gender equality and violence against women into its area of focus. The Plan states that regulations with zero tolerance to violence should be initiated as soon as possible. Accordingly, on 20.03.2012 Law No. 6284 to Protect Family and Prevention of Violence Against Women was enacted. Secondly, as a protective measure, the number of shelters and the services they provide are planned to be increased. Later, it is announced that at least one shelter is going to be established in each province. Moreover, free day-care services are going to be provided for residents of those shelters. Additionally, to prevent violence and ensure effective implementation of protective and preventive measures, Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (ŞÖNİM) are established. ŞÖNİMs are still in trial period and have successfully been implemented in 40 provinces. ŞÖNİMs function as a first stage unit for victims of violence against women. Besides victim support services, ŞÖNİMs provide rehabilitation and anger management services for the perpetrators of violence. Finally, as promoted in the Plan, the Law No. 6284 presents electronic support services for some cases. This project has been implemented in two cities (Adana and Bursa) for the time being. By 8 March 2014, this number has increased to 4 with the application of electronic bracelet mechanisms that can watch both victims and perpetrators in Ankara and Izmir.¹²¹ To conclude, the National Action Plan of 2012-2015 suggests more concrete measures, ensured by the new law in the following period. More measures have been taken by the state agencies in the 2012-2015 period.

The Family and Social Policy Ministry has been preparing the 2016- 2019 National Action Plan. Its draft has been sent to CSOs, public institutions and gender studies departments in universities, in order to collect their opinions. A meeting was held with CSOs at the 4 of March, 2016.¹²²

6.1.1 Victim Support Services

¹²⁰ KSGM, 2012, p20.

¹²¹ Up to date information is obtained through the contributions made by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.

¹²² This information is obtained through the contributions made by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.

“Support services dealing with domestic violence are specialized organisations or units within general services that provide help to victims of violence, usually women and their children. They help them escape from violence; seek protection and justice; and recover from traumatic experiences. Options include: listening; advice; advocacy; shelter; self-help; counselling; protection and prosecution; and access to activism.” EIGE: Study on ‘Collection of methods, tools and good practices in the field of domestic violence (area D of Beijing Platform for Action)’. EIGE¹²³

6.1.1.1. Victim support services included in national level action plan and legal provisions

The Istanbul Convention says: The Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that victims have access to services to facilitate their recovery. Such measures will include, if necessary, services such as legal advice and psychological support, financial assistance, housing, education, training and assistance in finding a job. The Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that victims have access to health and social services, that these services have adequate resources and professionals adequately trained to provide assistance to victims and direct them to the appropriate services.¹²⁴

Italy

Support services are included in national laws such as the law ratifying the Convention of Istanbul.

In Italy, the national level action plan includes victim support services. The United Nations Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women in Italy in 2012 acknowledged the great experience and expertise that exists in the provision of services including the legal, social, psychological and economic assistance to victims of violence against women.¹²⁵ Despite the limited availability of resources for this activity, the Special Rapporteur was informed of public-private partnerships, including through a system of tenders, which so far has allowed the CSO to continue this work for the benefit of women and girls who have suffered violence. During its mission, the Special Rapporteur also took note of the positive role of cultural mediators for the promotion of knowledge and mutual understanding between the host society and migrant communities, which can help address the various forms of violence against women, and the development of culturally appropriate responses by the State.¹²⁶

The 2010 and 2015 plans promoted the development of support, protection and reintegration services for victims with particular reference to those centres against violence and in general to protection services in which women of all ages are welcomed. The goal is to support the development of structures which can offer listening via the telephone interviews by appointment, support in the exit route from violence, refuge in emergencies, legal advice and assistance including legal aid, counselling, support for child witnesses of violence- through staff with adequate training. There are no additional resources to support this plan.¹²⁷

¹²³ <http://eurogender.eige.europa.eu/sites/default/files/EIGE-GOOD-PRACTICES-SUPPORT-SERVICES-Domestic-Violence.pdf>

¹²⁴ <http://documenti.camera.it/Leg17/Dossier/Testi/AC0173.htm>

¹²⁵ United Nations General Assembly, Human Rights Council, 20th Session, Report of the Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences, Rashida Manjoo, Mission to Italy, 2012. Available at: http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/HRBodies/HRCouncil/RegularSession/Session20/A-HRC-20-16-Add2_en.pdf

¹²⁶ Ibid, p17-18.

¹²⁷ Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri (2010). Piano d'azione straordinario contro la violenza sessuale e di genere (2015) p6.

Spain

The national action plan also includes measures related to victim support services. The following are the main measures:

- Guarantee the right to legal aid to victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking from the immediate moment prior to filing the complaint.
 - Prepare a guide with practical information on self-protection to increase the security of women who have suffered abuse.
 - Provide comprehensive and specialised assistance to women who have suffered gender-based violence and are in prisons under the Ministry of the Interior.
 - Strengthen the on-line information service of the 016 Helpline which allows people to send questions on gender-based violence by electronic mail and to receive a personalised reply.
 - Promote measures aimed at providing assistance to women victims of gender-based violence abroad.
 - Promote a European telephone assistance service (116) to offer specialised information, assistance and referral.
 - Finance the aid to which victims may be entitled established by Law 35/1995 of 11 December, on Aid and Assistance to Victims of Violent Offences and Offences against Sexual Freedom.
 - Endow the Child Support Guarantee Fund, particularly to cover support to minors whose legal custody is held by a victim of gender-based violence.
 - Support women's organisations and other specialised entities in designing programmes aimed at the prevention of violence against women and the comprehensive protection of victims of this form of violence.
 - Have residential resources ready to offer specialised and multidisciplinary assistance to women who suffer violence, which guarantee the right to comprehensive social assistance recognised in Organic Law 1/2004 of 28 December, on comprehensive protection measures against gender-based violence.
 - Have non-residential resources ready to offer information and advice (psychological, legal, health and socio-occupational) and support over the full length of the recovery process, which guarantee the right to the comprehensive social assistance recognised in Organic Law 1/2004 of 28 December, on comprehensive protection measures against gender-based violence.
 - Promote cooperation by the voluntary sector in providing support to women who suffer gender-based violence, without undermining any of the functions of the professionals in their duty to provide comprehensive protection and assistance to the victims.
 - Provide women who have suffered gender-based violence and can demonstrate a lack of financial resources, access to sheltered accommodation.
-

- Finance, depending on availability of budget funds, autonomous region projects aimed at guaranteeing comprehensive social assistance to women victims of gender-based violence and their children.
- Make an analysis of the financial aid granted under that established in article 27 of Organic Law 1/2004. The analysis should include, where appropriate, recommendations on better ways to meet the objectives.
- Promote, in collaboration with trade unions, companies and non-profit organisations, the implementation of training and social and labour-market inclusion programmes aimed at women who have suffered violence.
- Regard women victims of gender-based violence as a preferential group in the collaboration agreements for promoting and encouraging the employability of unemployed women signed by the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality and the territorial administrations.
- Encourage the hiring of victims of gender-based violence and employment contracts for substituting victims of gender-based violence by subsidising employers' contributions to the Social Security system.¹²⁸
- Maintain victims of gender-based violence in the Active Insertion Income Programme and, in particular, the supplementary aid to help the victim move to another place of residence.
- Guarantee the right to receive contributory unemployment benefit or, as the case may be, non-contributory unemployment benefit, when the employment relationship is suspended or terminated as a result of being a victim of gender-based violence.

National legal provisions also include regulations of victim support services, as follows:

The Spanish Organic Act 1/2004 of 28th December on integrated protection measures against gender-based violence includes:

- Right to information
- Right to integral social assistance
- Legal Assistance
- Labour and Social Security Rights
- Specific employment program
- Social assistance
- Access to housing and public nursing homes

The Catalan Act 5/2008, of 24 April, on the right of women to eradicate sexist violence includes:

- Right to effective protection
- Right to specific health care and assistance
- Rights of care and repair
- Grant aid for access to housing
- Priority access to public housing

¹²⁸ Employers are subsidised to hire victims and also hire other workers to cover for victims' suspension of contract (typically for psychological reasons or because they move to another town for security reasons). See <http://www.emprenemjunts.es/?op=63&n=90>.

- Aid for the functional adaptation of the home
- Right to employment and training
- Training programs
- Right to legal advice
- Right to legal assistance
- Services and permanent guard on duty specialist
- Financial aid and other benefits
- Compensations
- School grants
- Entitlement to the benefits of the guarantee fund pensions and benefits

Turkey

In Turkey the opening and strengthening of institutional capacities of victim support services, such as shelters, community houses, Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (ŞÖNİMs), are included in the National Action Plan. These support services for victims, their children and rehabilitation of perpetrators are included in the National Action Plan within the context of the medium and long-term targets. Moreover, the provision of psychological assistance for professionals in the cases of burn-out and secondary trauma stress is mentioned. Both laws point to the necessity of shelters and other services not only to provide a place to stay for the victims, but also to support them in their recovery process. The Law No. 5393 deems each municipality whose population is 100.000 or more responsible for opening shelters for women and children. Furthermore, the Law No. 6284 specifically states that support services operate for both protection and prevention purposes. Some examples of those services can be summarised as follows.

Firstly, in 2013, ŞÖNİMs have been presented as the main institutions for the support purposes by the General Directorate of the Status of Women (KSGM). In detail, the Law No. 6284 lists the responsibilities of ŞÖNİM towards the victims as:

- Managing applications for protection, and co-ordinating other services provided by various actors on the same issue,
- Providing consultancy on rights, support mechanisms, employment and other issues, and encouraging them attending vocational training courses,
- Assisting to solve psycho-sociological and economic problems.

And the responsibilities of ŞÖNİM towards the perpetrators are:

- Providing training and rehabilitation on anger management, coping with stress and violence,
- Assisting to get help from health centres in the cases of drug and alcohol addiction,
- Encouraging attending vocational training courses, if necessary.

In those cities where there are no ŞÖNİM the Provincial Directorate of Family and Social Policies are in charge.

6.1.1.2 Support Services Available:

In Italy, the support centres are available in all regions. Women's centres against violence also provide medical counselling, employment advice and parenting support. The House of the women of Bologna has built an online map of the centres against violence in Italy in order to

help all women to find a centre in its own territory.¹²⁹ This interactive map allows one to search the 139 refuges available throughout the national territory. Since 2006, the Department for Equal Opportunities has developed a helpline 1522 as a public service in order to provide exclusive listening and support to women victims of violence, from 2009 it also supports the victims of stalking. The number is available 24/7 and is accessible from the entire national territory free from both fixed and mobile networks, with a reception available in Italian, English, French, Spanish and Arabic. The telephone operators dedicated to the service provide an initial response to the needs of victims of gender violence and stalking, offering useful information and guidance towards the public and private social and health services in Italy. The relational and communicative style pursued with victims falls within a framework of shared front-line service provision and competence. It also tries to offer operational support for measures taken by local anti-violence networks as well as ensuring the necessary communication channels are established between the central judicial, social, health, safety and public order administrative bodies.

In Spain both counselling centres and services exist however no data is available on the number of centres per year. Most women's shelters provide services for non-residents. They are present across all regions and there is state funding. Most counselling services provide the following types of services: counselling, information and advice, advocacy, intervention safety support, independent advice on VAW, legal advice, court accompaniment, networking, outreach, resettlement support and specialist child support. Emergency services are also available. Data from 2006 show 5,980 users of emergency services per year. Regarding specific support services for women victims of intimate partner violence, Spain provides services in hospital, emergency interventions by social services and emergency accommodation, but no mobile psychosocial support. There are emergency services across most regions.

As regarding helplines women's helplines operate 24/7, free of charge and with state funding. Data from 2010 show 67,696 calls received per year. 47,176 of the calls were from women. A national trafficking helpline also exists, 24/7 and free of charge. There are no specific helplines for victims of stalking, honour crimes and LBT, but there are other helplines available.

In terms of women's shelters, the latest official data available are from 2010 and show 148 shelters, with a capacity of 4,500 beds.¹³⁰ After 2010, there are no official data for all 19 regions of Spain: the number of shelters is available only for 3 regions (47 shelters in total) and the number of beds is available for 18 regions, with 3,329 beds in total.¹³¹ Most accept children and have dedicated staff for children. They are available across all regions, free of charge and state-funded. Some have security precautions. Length of stay is more than 6 months. There are no data available of the number of women and children who are not able to find a place immediately. Regarding general shelters, the type of shelters available are mother and child shelters, family shelters and homeless shelters.

Available information on Intimate Partner Violence support services for women shows that there are government websites, support services, women's organisations and networks. There are also leaflets in public places and information is provided through television, radio, newspapers and magazines and billboards. Information is provided in all national minority languages and in some cases in English. Special police units/taskforce supporting the victims exist and are present across some regions. Data of 2010 show 1,994 specialised officers per year. Legal advice for victims of IPV is available in all regions, free of charge. Support courses

¹²⁹ <http://comecitrovi.women.it/index.php?route=centri/italia>.

¹³⁰ Wave Country Report: Spain, 2010, p255. Available at: http://www.wave-network.org/sites/wave.local/files/WAVE_COUNTRY%20REPORT%202010_NEU.pdf

¹³¹ Wave Country Report: Spain, 2014, p185. Available at: <http://www.wave-network.org/content/wave-report-2014>

for victims to help re-enter the labour market is available across most regions. National health protocol for the victims include hospitals, emergency services, maternity services, reproductive health services, general practitioners and mental health services. There are some special support services for vulnerable groups (migrant women, minority ethnic women, refugees, girls and young women, LBT women, disabled women and other groups of women), but there are no data available on the number of services provided for each group.

In Turkey ŞÖNİMs are good examples of victim support services in several aspects. Firstly, they include support not only for the victims, but also for the perpetrators. Secondly, they control and co-ordinate other state agencies, which can be considered as a promising step for the eliminating application problems, and standardizing the quality of services. Lastly, ŞÖNİMs provide information about violence against women. Nevertheless, as it is noted before, the intention of centralising services in one body brings some problems in terms of flexibility.¹³² In other words, victims are made to shuttle between institutions in their most vulnerable times when immediate action is needed.

Secondly, as it is the case in many countries, shelters provide the most needed help for victims, who need security and protection for themselves and their children.¹³³ Shelters provide temporary assistance for victims of physical, sexual, economic and verbal violence together with their children to protect them from further violence, solve psycho-social and economic problems, and prepare them for a fresh start.¹³⁴ The standard residence period in shelters is 6 months, but it can be extended if necessary.

In Turkey rather than being a service provider, ŞÖNİMs work as consultancy co-ordination units.¹³⁵ Moreover, since they are appointed as central units, they collect and provide data on the issue. According to the information provided by KSGM (2013) as a part of a pilot project in 14 cities in 2013, 10.825 women, 257 men and 1.129 children benefited from ŞÖNİMs. The reasons for application are listed as: experiencing violence (47%), demand for shelter (33%), consultancy (16%) and other related reasons (4%). 75% of the victims were guided by law enforcement agents, while the figures are 5% for public institutions, 4% for judicial institutions, 1% for complaints and 15% for individual applications.¹³⁶

By the end of 2013, there were 90 shelters, affiliated to the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, with an accommodation capacity of 2041 people; 32 shelters run by municipalities with an accommodation capacity of 779 people; and 3 shelters belong to civil society organisations with an accommodation capacity of 36 people.¹³⁷ By the end of 2015, there are 95 shelters affiliated to the Ministry of Family and Social Policies, 32 shelters to municipalities and 3 shelters civil society organizations (they work with human trafficking victims), that is a total of 130 shelters in the country with a service capacity of 3354 people.¹³⁸ By January 2016, country-wide, this number has increased to 135 shelters (100 attached to the Ministry of Family and Social Policy, 4 belonging to civil society organisations and 31 run by the municipalities), with a total accommodation capacity of 3.404 people.¹³⁹

¹³² Mor Çatı, 2011; Mor Çatı, 2014.

¹³³ KSGM 2013.

¹³⁴ Ibid.

¹³⁵ Ibid.

¹³⁶ Ibid.

¹³⁷ Ibid; The Ministry of Family and Social Policies 2013.

¹³⁸ <http://kadininstatusu.aile.gov.tr/uygulamalar/turkiyede-kadin>

¹³⁹ Up to date information is obtained through the contributions made by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies.

6.1.2 Work with Perpetrators

In Italy national guidelines for treatment programs for male perpetrators of violence against women in relationships are provided. There is no data on the implementation of such programmes. The main objective of the work with male perpetrators of violence is stopping the violence, accountability and building alternatives to it in order to prevent recurrence. The programs for perpetrators of violence must give priority to the safety of the perpetrators ex and current partners and children. To achieve these objectives it is fundamental: a) to enhance male awareness in relation to issues of masculinity within the patriarchal system and its links to violence b) reflect on the relational models and on parenting. The programs for male perpetrators of violence are only a part of a larger system of intervention against domestic violence and should be undertaken in synergy with specific support services for women. For effective action on violence in relationships, programs for male perpetrators of violence should be part of a system of integrated intervention - particularly important remains close collaboration with services for women victims of violence and their children. These are just some of the elements specified in the guidelines.¹⁴⁰

Spain has legal provisions to offer perpetrator programmes. However, these legal provisions do not indicate the approach that the programmes use or whether such programmes are actually offered.

Resocialisation programmes during imprisonment are implemented. In Spain, those who receive a penalty, for the first time, of less than two years can chose to follow perpetrator programmes instead of serving time in prison. For inmates, the perpetrator programmes are voluntary.¹⁴¹ This Perpetrator Intervention Program¹⁴² aims at decreasing the likelihood of committing new acts of violence and at modifying sexist attitudes and developing patterns of behaviour that respect gender equality. This is done through: awareness and changing thoughts, attitudes and sexist beliefs that justify gender inequality; identification of the different ways in which gender-based violence is exercised; assumption of responsibility, eliminating defensive strategies or justifying violent acts; development of empathy toward victims of abuse: special emphasis on children as direct victims of gender-based violence, recognizing forms of abuse and exploitation.

Perpetrator programmes are not included as an integral part of an intervention.

In Turkey SÖNİMs include support not only for the victims, but also for the perpetrators. These support services include anger management, rehabilitation, help in quitting any addiction and medical support. Anger management for perpetrators are carried out in some big cities for a limited amount of time – for example educational groups once a week for eight weeks. The application for perpetrators to access support in the SÖNİMs can be made by the perpetrator individually, or directed by courts, police, or other public institutions. In Turkey real concerns have been raised about the interview and risk forms which are being used during interviews with perpetrators.

6.1.3 Training

¹⁴⁰ <http://www.cattedracriminologia.unimi.it/wp-content/uploads/Linee-guida-nazionali-dei-programmi-di-trattamento-per-uomini-autori-di-violenza-contro-le-donne-nelle-relazioni-affettive.pdf>

¹⁴¹ EIGE, 2012.

¹⁴² <http://www.institucionpenitenciaria.es/web/portal/Reeducacion/ProgramasEspecificos/maltratoadores.html>

“Training in approaching and addressing domestic violence can be used in different contexts and for different purposes, responding to multiple needs and objectives:

- to inform and transfer knowledge on most up-to-date research results on the prevalence and seriousness of domestic violence that demonstrates its gendered dimension; its effects and consequences on victims’ health, well-being and citizen status. In doing so, it is also instrumental in showing that domestic violence constitutes a human rights violation and a major public problem
- to present available methods and tools that help detect domestic violence at the first contact with women and men asking for help without disclosing their status of being wither domestic violence victims or perpetrators
- to explain domestic violence patterns and dynamics and the whole range of victims’ needs and requests, thus helping approach them in a respectful and sensitive way, paying attention to diversity;
- to present available methods and tools to assess risk of lethal or escalating domestic violence
- to enhance skills and capacities to respond appropriately in different settings considering the paramount objectives of victims’ safety, and empowerment as well as the need to challenge perpetrators’ use of violence, thus providing opportunities for change.” EIGE: Study on ‘Collection of methods, tools and good practices in the field of domestic violence (area D of Beijing Platform for Action)’.

6.1.3.1 Inclusion of training on prevention of domestic violence in the national level action plan

In Italy training on prevention of domestic violence is included in the National level action plan. In particular, it provides for the preparation of specific training courses for the police using behavioural and organizational models already tested in some territories and sensitizing the judiciary in order to facilitate training sessions targeting magistrates. The main problem is that there are no adequate resources to support this plan.¹⁴³

In Spain the current national strategy includes prevention as one of the main objectives, both through awareness-raising actions and training. Some of the training measures aimed at preventing violence are:

- Include modules on equality of women and men and gender-based violence in training courses of more than 20 hours a week which are part of the annual training schemes of the ministerial departments, except when duly justified for reasons of high technical specialisation.
- Carry out training actions aimed at the female prison population geared towards providing the necessary information on prevention, identification and challenging of gender-based violence.
- Design teacher training and teaching material on the prevention of gender-based violence.
- Develop on-line training initiatives aimed at education centre teachers on coexistence, education in values and the prevention of risky behaviour, specifically considering the prevention of gender-based violence.
- Include a course unit in the training provided to sports teachers that includes specific knowledge on the detection and prevention of gender-based violence in women and minors.
- Support universities in offering official post-graduate courses on gender equality and gender-based violence.

The strategy also includes training on intersectional issues, such as training on disabilities and intercultural issues. It also includes training on human trafficking for sexual exploitation.

¹⁴³ Dipartimento Pari Opportunità, 2010.

In Turkey references to various training programmes can be found in the National Action Plan for 2012-2015 under the sub-title awareness-raising and changing perspectives towards gender. The objectives for the trainings are indicated as follows:

- To ensure co-operation in providing trainings and seminars for public organisations, local governments, trade unions, universities, professional organisations, media and representatives of civil society organisations, in order to facilitate the transfer of measures combating VAW into state plans, policies and programmes.
- To provide visual and printed materials for policy and decision-makers, service providers and the general public, in an effort to raise awareness and change perspectives towards gender equality and violence against women.
- To organise seminars, trainings, conferences etc. for men.
- To include informative aspects to education materials, and review the existing ones to identify gendered statements.
- To prepare and deliver informative materials about gender equality, violence against women and health and reproduction for couples before marriage.
- To prepare media programmes for the radio and television channels, and to identify the existing ones.
- To include gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence topics in the course materials in under graduate and graduate studies, especially in the medical and social sciences departments.

6.1.3.2 Legal provisions include training on domestic violence

In Italy training on domestic violence is not included in legal provisions.

In Spain training on domestic violence is included in legal provisions, specifically in the Constitutional Act 3/2007 of 22 March for effective equality between women and men, which deals with the integration of the principle of equality in health policy: gender-based violence is included in training for staff rendering their services in health institutions, in order to ensure their ability to detect and handle gender-based violence.

In Turkey the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence Against Women specifies that training is deemed necessary for public sector personnel such as judges, and police force, who are engaged in related services.

6.1.3.3 Training Providers

In Italy training is delivered by governmental institutions and CSOs.

In Spain there are no general rules on training providers but governmental institutions and local governments tend to subcontract training more and more to consultants and CSOs. There are also some training programmes at the university level.

In Turkey the main public actor working on gender equality and violence against women related trainings is the General Directorate for Women's Status at the Ministry of Family and Social Affairs, which is responsible for operating governmental policies and measures on gender

equality issues among various other contributors, such as academia and civil society organisations.¹⁴⁴ EU projects have also made important contributions to educational activities.

6.1.3.4. Awareness raising and competence training

In Italy training has been developed to raise awareness for different groups among the general public and for professionals on the main features and relevance of the problem. In Italy, in recent years training and refresher courses regarding domestic violence, in particular regarding minors, targeting personnel working in the social, sanitary and police fields at the local level has multiplied.

Moreover, anecdotal evidence suggests that despite the increase in requests for training the training supply remains scarce. There is a real need for training on how to integrate awareness of VAW into practices, evaluation intervention protocols adopted and networking. Training has been addressed to the following target groups: the police, social workers, health workers, centres against violence, women's non-profit organizations.¹⁴⁵

In Italy specialized training for professionals to enhance skills and capacities to respond appropriately to victims and/or perpetrators is scarce. If, we analyse the data regarding training experiences in the field of domestic violence only 18.6% of operators have attended specific training related to domestic violence in the last three years. This training on the whole deals with psychological issues (41.8%), medical issues (16.4%), or social services assistance (15.1%). Very few have received training in rape and related topics (3.4%). Only a minimum part of this training is obligatory – despite receipt of a certificate on completion.¹⁴⁶ There is very little training for front-line service providers who come into daily contact with victims. A clear picture does emerge from front-line service providers who would like to receive specialised training. When asked the question “Do you think more training in the area of rape is important?” 83.2% answered “yes” demonstrating their willingness to be trained in the methods of combating domestic violence.¹⁴⁷

In Italy, the centres against-violence are involved in training women victims of violence to enable them to recover their skills and ability to re-enter the world of work or to recover their self-esteem. This however depends on the individual refuges and organizations that deal with this issue in the territory.

In Spain training and awareness-raising of stakeholders is one of the three cross-cutting themes of the latest national action plan. This cross-cutting theme covers systematic measures aimed to intensify the capacity and quality of the response of the stakeholders involved in the eradication of gender-based violence. These measures include training and awareness-raising actions to improve their personal and professional skills and competencies and to increase their motivation to achieve the common objective of achieving a society free of violence against women.

Some of the target groups are:

- The justice administration personnel.
- Members of the Judiciary and the Crown Prosecution Service.
- Security forces.
- Teachers (especially of new technologies).

¹⁴⁴ See Annex 5 for a list of training provided by the Foundation for Women's Solidarity (KDV).

¹⁴⁵ Basaglia et al, 2006, p122.

¹⁴⁶ Ibid p117.

¹⁴⁷ Ibid, p. 118.

- Medicine students (inclusion in the core educational content of all the medical specialities).
- Health care professionals (updated quality criteria).
- Social services (focus on detection and provision of assistance).

This training is usually provided to working professionals, as a way of continuing education. They are not usually included in formal professional training curricula, but there are exceptions (e.g. Social Work) and attempts to improve in this respect (e.g. Medicine Schools). There are also Master's Degrees specialised on VAW, which aims to train-the-trainers.

Victims of violence have preferential access to occupational training courses aimed at their job placement and some specific programmes are catered to them.¹⁴⁸

In Turkey a considerable amount of training is provided by public and civil organisations for the police, social service workers, individual trainers, and personnel of related public institutions and civil society organisations, as well as for ordinary women and men who can be exposed to or involved in violence. The trainings aim to provide expertise for the trainers on the issue and raise general awareness. The content of trainings ranges from legal procedures, rights and responsibilities, parental responsibilities in training their children, to psychological assistance and rehabilitation, and vocational training.

The Circular No. 2006/17 on 'Measures taken against Violence against Women and Children and Honour Killings' pays attention to the need for training of service providers not only about legal procedures but also to eliminate operational difficulties, especially due to discouraging attitudes. Related to the Circular, the 'Protocol on the Project of Training about Procedures and Role of Police in the Prevention of Violence against Women' is enacted including organizing trainings for police officers. The trainings are implemented at two levels. At the first level, 270 trainers were trained so that they can carry out further trainings. At the second level, these trainers were sent to each city and 40,400 police officers have been trained.¹⁴⁹ Furthermore, a second protocol was agreed on the training of health personnel in 2008. The Protocol followed the same procedure as the former, and conducted its processes in two stages.¹⁵⁰ At the end of the project 60.000 health staff were trained.¹⁵¹ In this way, besides training personnel, experts for further projects were also prepared. Similar projects were carried out for judicial staff, for religious staff and for the gendarmerie.¹⁵² Finally, in line with the statement in Circular No. 2006/17: "Gender equality trainings must universally be assured for the employees at all public institutions, universities and private sector organisations", training programmes were carried out for the staff of Turkish Radio and Television Institution (TRT), Public Training Centres and Provincial Directorates of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, women's shelters and social services.¹⁵³ At the end of the projects 326 judicial personnel, 748 personnel from Public Training Centres¹⁵⁴, and 2018 personnel from Provincial social services and directorates of education¹⁵⁵ are trained. Unfortunately, the results of the trainings for the personnel of other institutions are not available. With the National Action Plan for 2012-2015, trainings have been extended for ŞÖNİM (Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres) personnel.

¹⁴⁸ http://www.empleo.gob.es/es/Guia/texto/guia_1/contenidos/guia_1_2_7.htm

¹⁴⁹ KSGM, 2008a.

¹⁵⁰ KSGM, 2008b.

¹⁵¹ KSGM, 2011a.

¹⁵² For the list and content of protocols and activity reports see:

<http://kadininstatusu.gov.tr/uygulamalar/kadina-yonelik-siddetle-mucadele>

¹⁵³ KSGM, 2010, 2013.

¹⁵⁴ KSGM, 2010.

¹⁵⁵ KSGM, 2011b.

7. Implementation of law and national action plan

Key Findings:

- In Italy the main problems regarding the implementation of the law include: the weakness of the regulative framework, coordination, a lack of adequate funds and great regional variation in the quality of services provided coupled with a lack of support for civil society organisations working in this field.
- In Spain the main problems regarding the implementation of the law include: a lack of resources – which has been exacerbated by budget cuts justified by the economic crisis, regional variation in the quality of services provided, a lack of due diligence in investigating complaints, measures to challenge stereotypes in various spheres particularly in education are not duly implemented and insufficient evaluation of the impact of laws and policies.
- In Turkey the main problems regarding implementation of the law include: a lack of financial and human resources, an inadequacy of support mechanisms (shelters and support mechanisms) and a lack of gender equality training for the judiciary and law enforcement officials. ŞÖNİMs are inadequate in number –and - often not centrally located. These are not accessible for women with disabilities. The quality of service provision has been deemed low whilst there is a real a lack of trained staff.
- In comparative terms Italy needs to further develop the regulative framework for violence against women – whereas in Spain and Turkey the focus should be placed on the gap between the legislative framework and implementation.
- All three countries would benefit from further support and resources for women’s civil society organisations that are providing vital support to women survivors of violence.
- Increased dialogue between policy makers and civil society organisations working in the field must also occur if policy interventions combating violence against women are to be effective.

7.1 Italy

The main problems regarding the implementation of the law concerns the weakness of the regulative framework, coordination and the lack of adequate funds.¹⁵⁶ For example on the 8th of August 2013, the Council of Ministers approved a set of measures to combat femicide (Law 93/2013) by further exacerbating the punishments and improving the tools for victims' protection.¹⁵⁷ This decree however was born in a climate – especially prevalent in the media – where violence against women is considered an ‘emergency’. This has various implications including the peripheral value given to the strategy to support the actions of prevention and care of victims of violence. No provision of extra funding was allocated: “the implementation of the provisions of this article shall be covered by the use of human resources, equipment and financial resources available to current legislation, no new or increased burdens on public

¹⁵⁶ Roselli, 2014.

¹⁵⁷ Ibid, p20.

finances.”¹⁵⁸ This ‘emergency’ conception of violence against women also highlights the consistent failure of the government to consider violence against women as a structural phenomenon.

The Italian system of welfare services is based on public/ private partnerships (where private in many cases are civil society organisations or the third sector) and different tasks are distributed among different levels of governance (regions, provinces and local municipalities). This means that service delivery across the national territory is not uniform and the quality of services varies dramatically according to the regions – this is the case with services aiming to support women whom have experienced violence¹⁵⁹.

The financing plan, required by law 119/2013 allocated 17 million euros to address the problem of gender violence. Two million euro was allocated to non-governmental refuges – i.e. 3000 euros per centre. The rest has been allocated to the regions to create new centres. The facilities listed by the regions – which receive the allocated funds are not only centres against violence but also mediation and family reconciliation centres – some of which form part of the Catholic “pro-life movement”. There are two main risks with this approach. Firstly, that centres are opened merely to attract more funds to the region (the more centres – the more financial resources received). Secondly, it is highly unlikely that those services established will be efficient or effective.

Other critics converge on the non-compliance with Article 9 of the Istanbul Convention which states: “Parties shall recognise, encourage and support, at all levels, the work of relevant non-governmental organisations and of civil society active in combating violence against women and establish effective co-operation with these organisations”.¹⁶⁰ The legislation against violence against women in Italy fundamentally emerges from a logic which attempts to “safeguard the public order, the safety of citizens and the traditional family structure”.¹⁶¹ Issues of concern remain a lack of attention to victim support services and an overall framing of violence against women.¹⁶² Operating in this difficult context however anti-violence centres funded and promoted by civil society actors linked to the Italian women’s movement must be recognised as providing “a national network of anti-violence centres to exchange experiences, to dialogue with the public authorities at local and national level and to become the backbone of the national helpline service for violence against women.”¹⁶³

7.2 Spain

The Spanish Shadow Report to the CEDAW comments on some important problems in the implementation of the Spanish Law:

- Persisting lack of resources in the fight against all forms of gender-based violence, with a reduction and territorial imbalance in services of integral support.
- Lack of due diligence in investigation of complaints. Provisional stays of proceedings have increased 158% between 2005 and 2012. In 2012, courts filed over 50% of cases initiated. Complaints have decreased since 2008 and complaints by men accused of gender-based violence against their victims have increased, re-victimising women.

¹⁵⁸ www.magma.analisisqualitativa.com/1201/articolo_08.htm

¹⁵⁹ Roselli, 2014.

¹⁶⁰ <http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/standardsetting/convention-violence/convention/Convention%20210%20English.pdf>

¹⁶¹ Roselli, 2014.

¹⁶² Ibid.

¹⁶³ Roselli, 2014, p20-21.

- Persistence of discriminatory stereotypes obstructing access to and the realization of justice in cases of gender-based violence. Serious deficiencies in the prevention of gender-based violence, as well as on training of legal actors. Additionally, measures to modify cultural patterns and breaking with stereotypes in education and culture are not duly implemented.
- Budget cuts in equality policies, including policies against gender-based violence.
- Insufficient evaluation of impact of laws and policies.

Susanna Martínez the head of a state-funded research commission into gender-specific violence highlights the effects of the crisis and subsequent austerity policies on women victims of violence: "It's not just that many women are economically dependent on their husbands and partners, making it much more difficult to leave an abusive relationship; it's also the fact that there are far fewer resources to provide them with the help they need." Since 2012 the PP party has slashed government spending on preventative measure by a third- these cuts have been mirrored at the regional level with devastating consequences.¹⁶⁴

Catalan Law:

According to the evaluation report requested by the Catalan Government even though there have been a lot of initiatives there is still a lack of dedication of resources to the topic.¹⁶⁵ It is necessary to consolidate and expand the services currently provided, ensuring the commitment and coordination of all institutions and stakeholders.

Also there is low coverage in the services that exist, and none of them provide support even to a half of the women affected. Moreover, women have low access to specific recourses regarding information and support on the topic, and there are difficulties in services for recovery to cover the important needs that victims of VAW have.

Finally, a deficiency of the law is that it focuses on women as victims and does not pay enough attention to children and teenagers who are collateral victims of this VAW. It would be essential to focus on this group to prevent the reproduction of violence in the future.

7.3 Turkey

For the implementation of the legislation regarding violence against women in Turkey, a number of criticisms can be listed. Despite the existence of a variety of legal arrangements in Turkish legislation, the implementation can somehow be considered to be ineffective and selective, mainly due to:

- lack of resources,
- including insufficient human resources and funds,
- lack of monitoring, evaluation and follow up of measures,
- inadequacy of support mechanisms such as shelters and intervention centres,
- lack of indicators and objectives,
- negative attitudes towards women, related laws and shelters due to conservative ideologies.

¹⁶⁴ http://elpais.com/m/elpais/2014/03/21/inenglish/1395408904_668688.html

¹⁶⁵ Alfama et al, 2012.

The European Commission repeatedly states that “gender equality, combating violence against women, including honour killings, and early and forced marriages remain major challenges for Turkey”.¹⁶⁶ Although the reform initiatives and legal changes in the 2000s have been appreciated, Turkey is expected “to turn legislation into political, social and economic reality”¹⁶⁷ and show more efforts to combat honour killings, domestic violence and forced marriages in Turkey.¹⁶⁸

In order to translate the legislation into political, social and economic reality, the Turkish government is highly recommended to “to proactively promote changes in stereotypes and in the perception of gender roles in all spheres”.¹⁶⁹ Instances, in which women under judicial protection were reported to be killed, raise questions about the effectiveness of the existing legislation and its implementation.¹⁷⁰

Turkey: An in-depth look at Implementation Problems:

One of the identified problems relates to the financial and human resources in terms of law enforcement. The European Commission states that implementation of the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women requires additional human resources and coordination.¹⁷¹ The criticisms about the effectiveness of the implementation of the Law No. 6284, the clarity of some of its provisions and the inadequate number, competences and training of the staff dealing with domestic violence have been voiced both by the civil society organisations and the European Commission¹⁷² and it is recommended that national and international resources should be allocated for the sustainability of actions, policies and circulars on women’s rights and gender equality.¹⁷³

Another main problem regards the attitudes of the law enforcement officers and those implementing the law. Instances in which “‘consent’, ‘undue provocation’ and ‘appearing older’ were used to justify a reduction in sentences for sexual crimes” can still be observed.¹⁷⁴ There are also some court judgments in which “the rulings attempted to justify violence inflicted on women and sometimes on juveniles with reference to the victim’s family background and attitude”.¹⁷⁵ In some other cases, it is observed that “police officers tried to convince domestic violence victims to return to their alleged abusers rather than help them pursue their complaints”.¹⁷⁶ The cases “in which the victim of violence sought help in vain from the authorities and ended up being killed” also shows that there is a need for awareness-raising and training for members of the judiciary and law enforcement officers on the existing legislation, especially on the new Law No. 6284.¹⁷⁷ In addition, concerns about the inadequacy of the capacity of the family courts have also been repeatedly voiced¹⁷⁸ and it is argued that they were established without the necessary expertise and on-the-job training.¹⁷⁹

¹⁶⁶ E.C., 2012, p26.

¹⁶⁷ E.C., 2013.

¹⁶⁸ E.C., 2012 p67.

¹⁶⁹ E.C., 2012.

¹⁷⁰ E.C., 2014.

¹⁷¹ Ibid.

¹⁷² Ibid.

¹⁷³ E.C., 2012.

¹⁷⁴ E.C., 2013; E.C., 2014.

¹⁷⁵ E.C., 2012, p27.

¹⁷⁶ E.C., 2012.

¹⁷⁷ E.C., 2012.

¹⁷⁸ Ibid; E.C., 2013.

¹⁷⁹ Shadow NGO Report, 2010.

An important category of main problems regarding the implementation appears in relation to the insufficiencies of women’s counselling centres and Violence Prevention and Monitoring Centres (ŞÖNİMs). They are considered to be insufficient in number and inadequate in service quality.¹⁸⁰ Women’s NGOs, which would like to open such shelters, cannot do that due to lack of financial support.¹⁸¹ For the municipal women’s centres opened in line with the Law No. 5393, the problem of a lack of “qualified staff with a background in social work, psychology, law and health, and capable of responding effectively to the legal, social, educational and health needs of women and children” is identified.¹⁸² There are actually no clear follow-up mechanisms or sanctions for municipalities who do not establish shelters in line with the Municipality Law No. 5393¹⁸³ whilst monitoring mechanisms have not been established to examine their efficient functioning.¹⁸⁴

Another main implementation problem regards data collection. Non-existence of official and detailed statistics on the instances of violence against women, including killings and early and forced marriages is a major concern.¹⁸⁵

A recent monitoring report by Mor Çatı Foundation (2014) identifies the problems in terms of the implementation of the Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women through first-hand experiences of the victims of violence. The report argues that symbolic numbers of ŞÖNİMs are far from providing the support indicated in legislation, which results in difficulties for the women victims of violence in accessing shelters, in-kind and financial support, child care support, vocational training and job finding support; and the institution is insufficient in terms of fulfilling its coordination responsibilities as assigned to it by the Law No. 6284.¹⁸⁶ More specifically, the report indicates a number of implementation problems regarding the number and location of ŞÖNİMs; quality and behaviours of the staff; and, quality of the services provided by ŞÖNİMs.

Regarding the number and location of ŞÖNİMs, the report states that number of ŞÖNİMs all over Turkey is not sufficient. For example, in Istanbul, with a population of over 14 million inhabitants, there is only one ŞÖNİM.¹⁸⁷ In addition, the existing ŞÖNİMs are not usually located at central locations, which can cause severe transportation problems for women. Many interviewees indicated that they could reach ŞÖNİMs only by phone, due to the difficulties in accessing the facility, as well as hesitance of scheduling face-to-face meetings by the staff.¹⁸⁸

Regarding the quality of ŞÖNİM staff, the report states that a great deal of personnel did not have comprehensive and consistent knowledge about the functioning of the Law No. 6284; they are not equipped with sufficient knowledge and skills to provide necessary support for women to fight violence; and, they were not sensitive to the issue of violence against women.¹⁸⁹ This is seen to complicate the economic, psychological, legal and social empowerment of women.¹⁹⁰

In terms of service provision, the report states that the interviewees were not happy with their experience with ŞÖNİMs, either for their face-to-face or on the phone communication, because

¹⁸⁰ E.C., 2014.

¹⁸¹ Ibid.

¹⁸² Shadow NGO Report, 2010.

¹⁸³ Ibid, E.C., 2014; Shadow NGO Report, 2010.

¹⁸⁴ Shadow NGO Report, 2010.

¹⁸⁵ E.C., 2012; E.C., 2013; E.C., 2014.

¹⁸⁶ Mor Çatı, 2014, p21.

¹⁸⁷ Ibid, p17.

¹⁸⁸ Ibid, p17.

¹⁸⁹ Ibid, p21-22.

¹⁹⁰ Ibid, p21-22.

they did not feel that they received sufficient attention from staff.¹⁹¹ In some cases, women with children older than 12 were not accepted into the shelter.¹⁹² Although ŞÖNİMs are obliged to work in line with 7/24 principle by Law, some women were declined due to the non-existence of experts after 5 pm, and women were directed to the police station instead.¹⁹³ In addition, although the Law foresees a detailed needs analysis for the victims of violence, the report states that of the women who had any experience of ŞÖNİMs, a needs analysis had not been conducted.¹⁹⁴

In addition to the domestic implementation problems, Turkey has also been subject to international jurisdiction regarding violence against women. In a case, namely the Opuz v. Turkey case, at the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR), the Court found that “Turkey had violated the rights to life, to be free from torture and the prohibition against gender discrimination, as defined by the European Convention on Human Rights”¹⁹⁵, by not being able to protect a woman who was subjected to violence by her husband although the victim filed several complaints with the Turkish authorities. The court also decided that Turkey had to pay 36.500 euro to Ms. Opuz in 2009. However, by 2014, “implementation of the ECHR judgment in the Opuz v. Turkey case relating to effective judicial decisions with preventive or deterrent effect for offenders” was still pending.¹⁹⁶

In practice the implementation of public services working with women in the field have tended to reproduce the practices which reinforce gender inequality. The problem should be dealing with the perception of violence by the authorities according to experienced women NGO’s in Turkey. Steps that are taken by the ministry should be then independently monitored by the NGO’s. Accordingly, the ministry should include NGO’S in the relevant implementation, protection, prevention and monitoring steps.

Looking at the main implementation problems regarding violence against women in Turkey, it is not surprising to see that Turkey has continuously been advised “to make further sustained efforts to turn legislation into reality as regards women’s employment, education and political representation, tackling violence against women, and early and forced marriages”¹⁹⁷

8. Conclusions and Main Policy Recommendations

8.1 Conclusions

Legal and Institutional Framework

In Turkey the main legal concept regulating violence against women is domestic violence, whilst in Italy and Spain the concept of gender based violence prevails. The latter therefore encompasses a much broader definition – not only shifting the focus away from the private sphere – to include violence carried out in the public sphere but – this approach also locates the

¹⁹¹ Ibid, p18.

¹⁹² Ibid, p20.

¹⁹³ Ibid, p21.

¹⁹⁴ Ibid, p18.

¹⁹⁵ <http://www.womenslinkworldwide.org/wlw/sitio/caso-interna.php?idcaso=216&idi=en>

¹⁹⁶ E.C., 2014.

¹⁹⁷ E.C., 2013, p64.

catalyst for change at the societal level. Violence against women recognised as gender based violence crucially acknowledges the link between violence against women and gender inequality and discrimination. This re-affirms a human rights based approach to violence against women. This is imperative as:

*"the framework of international human rights law provides a forum for asserting individual claims of human rights violation" as well in "broad terms about the fundamental entitlement of all human beings to live in dignity, and in conditions of social justice and thereby provide a foundation from which to establish a set of demands premised on the intrinsic worth of the individual. The human rights approach justifies legitimate claims, not because the realization of rights such as that to health or life is a means to another end, such as quality child care, environment, development or population policies, but because the realization of their rights is an important goal in itself."*¹⁹⁸

An individualised human-rights approach that sees women primarily as individuals and not just as forming part of a family unit is imperative –if VAW is to be effectively tackled.

Different acts of violence against women are penalized or criminalized differently in all three countries. For example, forcing an adult or child into marriage is a specific criminal offence in Spain – whilst in Italy and Turkey it is not. In Turkey – however other sanctions are provided by the law for forced marriage.

Hagemann-White (2014) points out how penalisation in law does not necessarily equate to sanctions in practice. As the majority of gender-based violence against women is committed by known men, i.e. partners, ex-partners, family members, work colleagues, neighbours etc. – this means that sanctions will be much more effective if statutory agencies have the power and desire to initiate prosecution. This is the case in Italy, Spain and Turkey as public prosecutors are able to initiate criminal proceedings in the cases of violence within the family. This is also the case for sexual violence in Spain and Turkey – however in Italy public prosecutors can only initiate criminal proceeding in more severe cases. The extent to which statutory agencies use these powers however needs to be examined. In Italy, Spain and Turkey – in line with the Istanbul Convention mediation and conciliation in cases of violence against women is prohibited.

The institutional framework varies considerably between the three countries. In Italy since 2014 no Ministry has been allocated responsibility for VAW. In Spain the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality have responsibility for policies tackling VAW. It's two main bodies related to VAW policies are the Government Delegation for Gender Based Violence - which proposes policies and coordinates actions and the State Observatory on VAW- which monitors and evaluates the impact of policies and measures. It therefore offers a comprehensive institutional framework where the coordinating and implementing functions are separated from monitoring and evaluation. In the Ministry of Justice there are also specialized courts dealing with violence against women – whilst it oversees the Observatory against Domestic and Gender-based violence which collects and analyses judicial statistics. In Turkey the Ministry of Family and Social Policy has responsibility for VAW. The Turkish Parliament has established various committees to carry out research and on the prevalence and reasons for VAW in Turkey. Other Ministries (Justice, Education, Health and Interior) also have different responsibilities for tackling VAW. In Turkey 'Family' courts have been established although it has been argued that they were established without the necessary expertise and on the job training.

The participation of civil society's organisations in various government bodies dealing with VAW varies between all three countries.

¹⁹⁸ <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/news/savitri.htm>

“Around the world, the driving force behind legal and policy advances related to ending violence against women and girls has been civil society mobilization, in particular feminist movements. For decades activists have been working hard to bring the issue to the political agenda and to hold governments accountable for holding laws and policies. They are the bearers of decades of expertise on the issue, supporting survivors, raising awareness and advocating for better laws and policies.”¹⁹⁹

In Italy VAW policies – specifically the NAP – was developed without the participation of civil society organisations- it has subsequently been criticised by the Women Against Violence Network – which is comprised of 70 anti-violence centres and refuges. In Spain – whilst some women’s organisations have been involved in a consultation process for the 2013-2016 Strategy, and the State Observatory on VAW involves a limited and specific set of women’s organisations – these can not be seen as representative of the women’s movement. The Spanish Shadow Report to the CEDAW also highlights the difficulties of the participation of the women’s movement due to shortcomings in the state and regional participation councils. Advances in the Turkish law have been partially attributed to a strong women’s and feminist movement within Turkey and policymakers need to listen to the experiences of the women’s organisations working in this field.

Description of Available Data

There are two main issues regarding administrative data – these are what data is recorded and whether or not the data is publically available. In Italy, Spain and Turkey police data includes the sex and age of the perpetrator and victim, their relationship -the extent to which this data is publicly available differs according to the country. In Italy and Turkey this disaggregated data is not publically available. In Spain this data is published. National Criminal Justice statistics on cases of domestic violence should also be publically available – this is not the case in Italy. In Spain criminal justice statistics on intimate partner violence are collected and they are publically available. In Turkey –whilst criminal justice statistics are publically available – as cases involving domestic violence are not recorded as a separate category – no data is available.

Various national level population surveys have been carried out in Italy, Spain and Turkey in order to detect the prevalence and consequences of violence against women. All use the FRA/WHO definitions of violence which means that there is a solid basis for comparison.

Situation of VAW

The prevalence of VAW is alarmingly high in all three countries- if one considers the difficulties involved in accurate data collection for experiences of VAW and it’s under-reporting. According to available survey data patterns of prevalence of physical, sexual and psychological violence against women show that it is very prevalent in all three countries despite being the lowest in Spain- followed by Italy and greatest in Turkey. Of course this analysis must be read with caution given the difficulties associated with comparability. These high levels of prevalence suggest urgent action needs to be taken by policymakers in order to tackle it – through awareness raising of society at large as well as providing training to help service providers not only detect – but also provide appropriate support to the survivors of violence in the best way possible.

¹⁹⁹ Heisecke & Werner, 2014, p15.

In terms of the consequences of VAW – the physical health issues and to a lesser degree the psychological consequences of experiencing VAW tend to be recognized. There is an increasing tendency to quantify what these health effects and other effects of VAW are having on the economy. This work is welcome – as it demonstrates how a minimal investment in prevention, can result in a decrease in the extent and impact of the violence. This approach however must be complimented with a human rights perspective – which highlights the importance of the realization of human rights as a goal in itself.

Attitudes and awareness regarding the perceptions of frequency of violence against women as ‘very common’ are above 30% in both Italy and Spain. In Turkey there is no available data and so this is a real need for more research in Turkey concerning this aspect. Women in Italy and Spain were more aware of laws and political initiatives to protect women than preventative measures. This highlights how more work needs to be done to promote preventive work in this area in both Spain and Italy. In Turkey awareness of protective and preventative measures is related to literacy levels and geographical regions. Campaigns need to be carefully thought out and target illiterate women informing of both preventative and protective measures.

Key Measures taken

All three countries use national actions plans (NAPs) as a key tool to combat violence against women. The extent to which these offer a comprehensive strategy to target violence against women varies between the countries. For example Spain and Turkey offer comprehensive coordinated policies – whereas Italy does not. One of the major indicators of whether the country has a comprehensive strategy to target violence against women is the extent to which policy-makers in this field consult with, listen to the experiences of the women’s movement (civil society organisations) and provide support to them. This has not occurred in Italy nor Turkey and only to a moderate degree in Spain.

Whilst all three countries have developed victim support services - providing legal, social, psychological and economic assistance to victims- the extent to which the three governments allocate sufficient resources differs. For example, in Italy a major criticism from the women’s associations has been –the lack of resource allocation to achieve the NAPs objectives. The small amount that has been allocated is overly skewed towards job placement at the expense of listening and empowerment work. It is clear that all three countries would benefit from greater resource allocation to this field. More research is needed on the actual work with perpetrators that is carried out. Whilst information is available on how work with perpetrators is included in national guidelines or legal provisions – in all three countries there seems to be a lack of information about how these programmes work in practice.

Whether or not training on VAW or domestic violence is included in legal provisions is indicative of a comprehensive approach to VAW. In Italy it is not whereas in Spain training on domestic violence is included in legal provisions for staff in health institutions. In Turkey legal provisions specify that training is necessary for public service workers like judges and police working in this field. In Italy however specialized competence based training for professionals to enhance skills and capacities to respond appropriately to victims/ and or perpetrators is foreseen in the national extraordinary plan against sexual and gender violence, nevertheless no specific measures have been planned or funded to date. In Spain competence based training is included in the national action plan and targets: justice administrative personnel, members of the judiciary and the crown prosecution service, security forces, teachers, medicine students, health care professionals and social services. In Turkey specialized competence based training for professionals includes personnel from the judiciary, public training centres, provincial social services and directorates of education and ŞÖNİM (Violence Prevention Monitoring Centre) personnel. However the large number of cases where victims of violence sought help from the

authorities and then have been killed highlights –the greater need for training and raising awareness for judiciary and law enforcement officers.

Implementation of the law and national action plans

In Italy the main problems regarding the implementation of the law include: the weakness of the regulative framework, coordination, a lack of adequate funds and great regional variation in the quality of services provided and a lack of support for civil society organisations working in this field. In Spain the main problems regarding the implementation of the law include: a lack of resources – which has been exacerbated by budget cuts justified by the economic crisis. In Spain budget cuts in equality policies including policies against VAW has had devastating effects on front-line services. Preventative measures have seen their budget reduced by a third since 2012. This has been accompanied by regional variation in the quality of services provided, a lack of due diligence in investigating complaints, measures to challenge stereotypes in various spheres particularly in education are not duly implemented and insufficient evaluation of the impact of laws and policies. In Turkey the main problems regarding implementation of the law include: a lack of financial and human resources, an inadequacy of support mechanisms (shelters and support mechanisms) and traditional attitudes among the judiciary and law enforcement officials. ŞÖNİMs are inadequate in number and are often not centrally located. The quality of service provision has been deemed low whilst there is a real a lack of trained staff.

8.2 Recommendations for Turkish Policymakers

“Laws and policies should be based on human rights and the safety of survivors.... Good laws and policies should provide for and constitute an integral part of a comprehensive strategy towards combating violence against women and girls, by drawing upon a range of methods to ensure perpetrator accountability, prevention, services for survivors, research and data collection and analysis.”²⁰⁰

Data Collection and Research:

- Police data – should be made publically available.
- National Criminal Justice Statistics - cases involving domestic violence / VAW should be recorded separately to enable monitoring and evidence based policy-making.
- Regular research on the prevalence, causes and consequences of various forms of violence against women needs to be carried out to further inform laws, policies and programmes.
- Future research and analysis could focus on:
 - o **Early marriages** – the disproportionately high levels of violence against women in early marriages means that it is an important area to explore further. Turkish data exists for 2008 and 2014 and greater exploration of the links between the available data on: forming of early marriages, age and education difference between the spouses, decision-maker of early marriage, person who

²⁰⁰ Heisecke & Werner, 2014, p64.

conducted the ceremony, and different forms of violence and coping strategies would be very useful.²⁰¹

- **perceptions of frequency of violence** could also be explored –as a way of examining levels of social acceptance.

Policy Making:

- Policy making in the field of combating VAW needs to be an inclusive process and all stakeholders need to take part. This is extremely important in the case of civil society organisations – as those directly affected by violence should be included into the policy making, implementation and evaluation processes.
- Policy making and institutional structures developed to feed into policymaking in this area need to be based on a human rights perspective. VAW must be recognised as violating the rights of individual women.

Implementation:

- Space should be created for experts and different professionals and practitioners to work together to develop solutions in order to overcome the problems encountered in implementing Law 6284.²⁰²
- Civil society organisations should be more engaged in the implementation processes in both governmental and non-governmental bodies in order to challenge and overcome the lack of empathy of public administration personnel and ensure checks and balances.

Evaluation and Monitoring:

- An independent observatory needs to be established to ensure effective evaluation and monitoring of the implementation of the NAP.
- Penalisation and rehabilitation mechanisms need to be evaluated separately and simultaneously. The rehabilitation services provided to perpetrators by ŞÖNİMs should not rule out the penalization process but needs to complement it.
- Evaluations of ŞÖNİMs should include the CSOs that work in this field to enable amongst other things an inclusive discussion of ŞÖNİM regulations and tap into the vast experience that CSOs working in this field have gained.²⁰³

Adequate funding needs to be ensured:

- Financial and human resources that are required for the effective implementation of all provisions of a law or policy need to be made available in a sustainable manner.
- Funding needs to be allocated specifically for competence training and raising awareness.
- Financial support needs to be allocated not only to the ŞÖNİMs but also to other organisations that provide support services for VAW.

²⁰¹ HÜNEE (2015) Research Summary, Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey, Ankara, Hacettepe University, p39. Available at:

<http://www.hips.hacettepe.edu.tr/ingilizceozetraporweb.pdf> .

²⁰² Ibid, p37.

²⁰³ Ibid, p37.

Training:

- Funding for training needs to be made available for competence development for front-line staff (ŞÖNİMs) as well as for the judiciary and policy-makers to ensure a gender equality/ women's rights' perspective is integrated into the judiciary and law enforcement agencies. Staff from the family courts also need to have competence development training.
- The impact of trainings organised by different organisations related to gender equality and violence against women's needs to be evaluated and further action taken on the basis of these findings i.e. target groups etc.²⁰⁴
- Gender equality and violence against women needs to be integrated into the formal curriculum throughout primary, secondary and tertiary education – whilst teachers need to be trained in gender equality and violence against women.²⁰⁵ There is a need to proactively promote changes in stereotypes and the perception of gender roles in all spheres.
- Training for personnel in ŞÖNİMs and CSOs need to include the regional dimension to ensure that local realities are reflected in the training. This will substantially improve the quality of service.²⁰⁶
- The competence and knowledge of trainers needs to be controlled, and trainings should be more standardised. Trainers should be registered.

Awareness of Law No 6284:

- To raise awareness of prevention and protection measures – it is important to include those with low literacy levels and target those geographical regions with highest levels of violence. Trainings should inform people about law No: 6284 and explore the reasons for this law. Target groups should include young men and women across different socio-economic levels.²⁰⁷
- Raising awareness training for media professionals is key to making sure the law gets correct coverage and people are informed of its existence.²⁰⁸
- Law enforcement personnel need more training on the law.²⁰⁹
- Media resources – especially the TV should be more accessible for CSOs.

Support Mechanisms:

ŞÖNİMs:

- There is a clear need for a greater number of ŞÖNİMs that are more centrally located and offer a better quality of service provision.
- For a better quality of service provision:
 - o Value judgements must not be included in initial assessment reports – a standardised language must be used throughout in order to carry-out a non-biased needs assessment.²¹⁰
 - o A reduction in bureaucracy is needed in order to ensure a quick response to women's needs when the crucial contact is made.²¹¹

²⁰⁴ Ibid, p38.

²⁰⁵ Ibid.

²⁰⁶ Ibid, p38.

²⁰⁷ Ibid, p37.

²⁰⁸ Ibid.

²⁰⁹ Ibid.

²¹⁰ Ibid, p38.

²¹¹ Ibid.

- Better trained Staff. Staff need to have a comprehensive and consistent knowledge of the functioning of Law 6284. They need to participate in training to ensure that they have the knowledge and skills to offer the necessary support for women to fight violence.
- Some ŞÖNİMs provide support to male perpetrators of violence in the same facilities as the support work to female victims is carried out. This is not acceptable. It is recommended that the training and support programmes for men are standardised and carried out in a distinct location.²¹²

Other organisations that provide support services for VAW:

- Women's organisations working in the field of equality and violence should be supported on a regular basis by the Ministry. Supporting these organisations that provide services for women who have experienced violence, e.g. shelters/ guest houses and carry out other empowerment activities – is vital to enable women survivors to re-establish their life project free from violence.
- The experiences that these CSOs have gained supporting women survivors need to be learnt from and embedded into mainstream service provision.

²¹² Ibid, p38.

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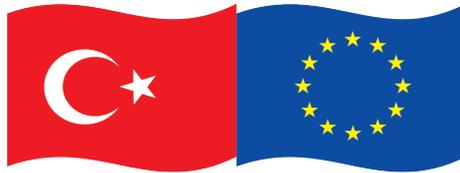
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Annex 1: Research Template



This project is co-financed by the European Union and the Republic of Turkey

WAVE Project Research Template:

Overall Objectives:

- Contribute to the fighting of VAW in Turkey, fostering knowledge exchange between EU and TR CSOs.
- Target groups will become familiar with EU legislation and practices as well as actions/tools to prevent VAW.

Specific Objective:

- Increase knowledge of VAWs characteristics in the partner countries, enhance exchange of policies and actions to contrast VAW among TR, IT, ES
- Improve capabilities of CSOs through the provision of a dedicated tool kit and training
- Increase dialogue between policymakers and CSOs

Basic Country Information:

- Country:
- When was CEDAW ratified?
- When was CEDAW Optional Protocol Ratified?
- When was the CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence signed?
- When was the CoE Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence ratified?

National Legal framework:

- Please indicate the legal basis/ acts relevant to VAW.
- Legal definitions
- Provisions in the law
- Please detail significant legal reforms concerning VAW enacted in your country during the last 20 years
- Please indicate the main institutional actors with responsibility for VAW.
- Please list the main problems regarding the implementation of the law.

Legal Definition of VAW applied in country:

What is the legal definition (indicate source and provision) of the following aspects of VAW in your country?

- Intimate partner violence
- Rape
- Sexual Assault
- Sexual Harrassment (exclu. Rape)
- Stalking

Description of administrative data and sources in each country:

National Criminal Statistics (police)

- Are national criminal statistics on domestic violence publically available? (Y/N)
 - If so, where?
- Are national criminal statistics on domestic violence collected separately from other criminal offences? (Y/N)
- Is the data disaggregated by gender? (Y/N)
- Does it include information on the victim and the perpetrator? (Y/N)
- Does it include information on relationship and age? (Y/N)

National Criminal Justice Statistics (courts)

- Are national criminal justice statistics publically available? (Y/N)
 - If so, where?
- Is information on criminal cases involving domestic violence recorded separately from other criminal cases? (Y/N)
- Is data available on cases that resulted in conviction? (Y/N)
- Is data available on types of sentences?
- Is data available on cases that resulted in conviction? (Y/N)
- Is data available on types of sentences? (Y/N)

Other

- What other administrative data sources are publically available in your country?
- Is there an administrative recording system to document violence against women? (Y/N)

Description of population surveys in each country

- What population surveys have been carried out in your country to measure the prevalence of VAW?
 - Please detail these in terms of sample size (how many and age range)
 - Year of survey
 - Regularly updated? – At what interval?
 - Does this cover
 - i. types of violence? (please detail)
 - ii. frequency of violence? (please detail)
 - iii. Consequences of violence? (please detail)
 - iv. Attitudes and awareness? (please detail)
- How is VAW defined in each survey?
- Does it follow the FRA survey definition?

- Does it follow the WHO Multi-country Study on Women's Health and Domestic Violence against Women's definitions?
- Does it include information about reporting and non-reporting to the police? (Y/N)
- Does it include information about women's use of other services that can provide assistance to victims? (Y/N)
- What else does it include?

Situation of VAW in the country:

Prevalence:

- Please detail the percentage of women who have experienced physical and or/ sexual violence by a partner and/ or a non-partner since the age of 15 (source)
- Please detail the percentage of women who have experienced physical violence by a non-partner since the age of 15 (source)
- Please detail the percentage of women who have experienced physical violence by a partner since the age of 15 (source)
- Please detail the percentage of women who have experienced sexual violence by a non-partner since the age of 15 (source)
- Please detail the percentage of women who have experienced sexual violence by a partner since the age of 15 (source)
- Please detail the percentage women who have experienced any form of psychological violence by a partner since the age of 15 (source)

Consequences of VAW:

- What are the identified consequences of VAW?
- Long-term psychological consequences (source)
- Physical injuries (frequency and type of injury) (source)
- Other consequences identified (source)

Attitudes and Awareness:

- Please detail the perceptions of frequency of violence against women (source)
- Please detail knowledge about victims of domestic violence in the circle of friends and family (source)
- Please detail the levels of awareness of laws and political initiatives to prevent domestic violence (source)
- Please detail the levels of awareness of laws and political initiatives to protect women in the case of domestic violence(source)
- Please detail information available about having recently seen or heard a campaign against VAW(source)
- Please detail levels of awareness of institutions or services for victims of VAW (source)

Key measures taken against VAW and its evolution and impact:

- Is there a National Action Plan to prevent Violence? (Y/N)
- If so, does this give high priority to prevent violence against women- particularly intimate-partner violence?
- Please provide a brief description
- How many complaints of intimate partner violence were brought to court? (year of latest available data)

- How many of these were dismissed/rejected/not completed?
- Is free legal aid provided to women survivors of violence during the court proceedings?
- If so, what does this include/exclude?

Raising Awareness:

Is there currently a national level awareness-raising campaign? (Y/N)

- If so, detail its name
- If not can you identify one carried out in the past and indicate the year
- Is/ was it promoted by CSOs, governmental bodies or statutory agencies?
- Please provide a brief description of campaign
- Please indicate three best practices
- Name
- Duration in time
- Promoter (CSOs, governmental bodies, statutory agencies)
- Brief description
- Why can it be considered best practice?

Training:

- Is training on prevention of domestic violence included in the national level action plan? (Y/N)
- If so please detail
 - Is training on domestic violence included in legal provisions? (Y/N)
- If so please detail
 - Is it delivered by governmental institutions/ CSOs/local governments/ or professional bodies?
 - Is there awareness raising training for different groups among the general public or for professionals to inform on the main features and relevance of the problem? (Y/N)
 - If so –which groups are targeted?
 - Is there specialised training for professionals to enhance skills and capacities to respond appropriately to victims and/ or perpetrators?
 - Are these targeted at the police force, judiciary, health personnel, education or health personnel?
- Is it included in formal professional training?
 - Is there training for trainers for different target groups to promote knowledge transfer?
 - Is there training for domestic violence victims to rebuild capacities and skills – to re-enter the labour market or regain self-confidence?

Victim support services: methods and tool provision and implementation:

- Are victim support services included in national level action plan? (Y/N)
- If so please detail
- Are victim support services included in national legal provisions? (Y/N)
- If so please detail
 - Please detail support services available: (e.g. listening, advice, shelter, counseling, legal aid provision, helplines etc)
- Number of women's shelters
 - Is work with perpetrators carried out? (Y/N)
- If so please detail

- Percentage of women who have sought help from official institutions or CSOs
- Broken down by (none, police, lawyer/public prosecutor/hospital or health service/ CSOs/Social Services)
 - Does support exist for professionals with secondary trauma stress?
 - Are prevention strategies part of a broader anti-discrimination strategy to eradicate VAW?
 - Is there a coordinated intervention mechanism including law enforcement, social services, judiciary, health officials and women's organisations?
- Please indicate three Victim Support best practices
 - Name
 - Duration in time
 - Promoter (CSOs, governmental bodies, statutory agencies)
 - Brief description
 - Why can it be considered best practice?

Identification of Civil Society Organisations working with VAW/ Toolkits

- Which Civil Society Organisations are working with VAW?
- Please identify toolkits that have been developed in your country
- Name of toolkit
- Year of publication
- Organisation that produced toolkit
- Aims of toolkit
- Target audience of toolkit
- Website

Key Sources:

For Basic Country Information:

See WAVE Country Report:

<http://www.wave-network.org/sites/default/files/WAVE%20COUNTRY%20REPORT%202012.pdf>

For Legal Definitions:

It and Sp. <http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/legal-definitions>

http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf

For prevalence:

IT: National Survey on violence against women conducted by the National Statistical Institute in 2006 – provides information.

TR: National Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey, 2009

SP: National Prevalence of Violence against Women Survey; Observatory Against Gender Violence collects statistics on VAW and since 2001 elaborates annual reports focusing on the juridical procedures provided to the victims.

EU wide survey on Violence against Women recently launched by the Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) represents a major advance in terms of prevalence surveys at EU level. The survey provides data based on interviews with 42, 000 women across the EU -28.

SP: Macroencuesta de violencia de género, 2011

For Consequences of VAW

IT and SP:

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/violence-against-women-survey>

For Attitudes and Awareness

IT and SP:

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/violence-against-women-survey>

For description of administrative data and sources in each country

See WAVE Country Report, IT, SP TR:

<http://www.wave-network.org/sites/default/files/WAVE%20COUNTRY%20REPORT%202012.pdf>

For IT and SP:

EIGE Gender Based Violence Administrative Data Mapping Tool

<http://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/administrative-data-sources/about#mapping-tool>

EIGE, 2014 Administrative Data Sources on Gender-Based Violence Against Women in the EU: Current Status and Potential for the Collection of Comparable Data.

http://eige.europa.eu/sites/default/files/MH0113492ENN_PDF.Web_.pdf

EIGE, 2014 Administrative Data Sources on Gender-Based Violence Against Women in the EU: Current Status and Potential for the Collection of Comparable Data- Technical Analysis.

http://eige.europa.eu/sites/default/files/202336_2014.6215_EIGE_STATUS_REPORT_web.pdf

For National Legal Framework

TR: UN (2008) Good Practices in Legislation on Violence against Women in Turkey and Problems of Implementation.

http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/egm/vaw_legislation_2008/expertpapers/EGMGP_LVAW%20Paper%20_Pinar%20Ilkcaracan%20and%20Liz%20Ercevik%20Amado_.pdf

National Research on Domestic Violence against Women in Turkey, 2009.

For Key measures taken against VAW and its evolution and impact

IT and SP see EIGE Study on ‘Collection of methods, tools and good practices in the field of domestic violence (Area D of Beijing Platform for Action)’.

EIGE Brief: Raising Awareness

<http://eige.europa.eu/content/document/domestic-violence-awareness-raising>

For Training

EIGE Brief: Training

<http://eige.europa.eu/content/document/training-on-prevention-of-domestic-violence>

For Victim Support

<http://eige.europa.eu/content/document/violence-against-women-victim-support-report>

EIGE Brief: Support Services

<http://eige.europa.eu/content/document/domestic-violence-support-services>

For Identification of Civil Society Organisations working with VAW

TR: European Women’s Lobby, Observatory on Violence, Country Focus Article, Turkey.



Annex 2: Most Significant Legal Reforms concerning VAW enacted in Italy, Spain and Turkey during the last 20 years:

Italy:

- Act No. 66, 15th February 1996, “Norms against Sexual Violence” radically updates the regulative framework defining sexual violence as an offence against the individual and no longer as an offence to ‘public morality’. Sexual violence is considered an offence against personal liberty.
- Act no. 154 4/5th April 2001, “Measures against Violence in Family Relations” addresses gender-based violence. It provides for protective measures such as the removal of the perpetrator from the household. The offender may also be ordered to pay a fixed amount of money regularly to the cohabiting person who has been left without sufficient measures of subsistence as a result of the injunction order. Both physical and psychological aspects of violence can be reported. VAW is not considered a specific crime but one of a violent crime within intra-family relations.
- Act no. 228, 11th August 2003, “Measures against Trafficking” addresses VAW in the context of trafficking dedicating resources to implementing services targeting the victims.
- Act No. 7, 9th January 2006, “Provisions concerning the prevention and prohibition of the practice of female genital mutilation” provides for dis-qualification from the health profession and extends punishment to acts carried out abroad. It defines promotion and co-ordination activities, informative campaigns and dedicated services and training courses for health professionals.
- Act No. 38 23rd April 2009, “Urgent measures on public safety and to combat sexual violence as well as stalking actions” modifies the penal code by defining stalking as a crime.

Spain:

It is worth highlighting the successive amendments to the Criminal Code, procedural legislation and other important regulations, such as:

- Organic Law 3/1989 of 21 June, revising the Criminal Code, which introduced the crime of routine violence into article 425.
- Organic Law 11/2003 of 29 September, on Concrete measures in the areas of citizen security, domestic violence and social integration, which brought routine violence to article 173 of the Criminal Code and for the first time introduced the “offence of occasional abuse” into article 153.
- Organic Law 15/2003 of 25 November, Reforming the Criminal Code, which established, on a mandatory basis, the punishment of restraining measures in all violence against women and domestic violence offences.

Moreover, the following laws are also important:

- Law 27/2003 of 31 July, which regulates the protection order for victims of domestic violence. The protection order brings together the different protection instruments aimed at victims of domestic or gender-based violence offences and minor offences, and is granted through a fast and simple judicial procedure. It establishes a provisional

remedy of a civil or criminal nature that guarantees the victim's permanence in her domicile and combines, in the same decision, the imposition of restraint on liberty measures on the aggressor to stop him from making further contact with the victim. It also adopts measures geared towards providing security, stability and legal protection to the victim and her family.

- Organic Law 5/2010 of 22 June, amending Organic Law 10/1995 of 23 November, on the Criminal Code, introducing a new Title on "Trafficking in human beings", and amending the articles on the definition of additional penalties of disqualification from exercising parental authority and of deprivation of parental authority, as well as the possibility of replacing the prison sentence with the permanent monitoring system.
- Organic Law 1/2015, of 30 March, amending Organic Law 10/1995 of 23 November, on the Criminal Code. This latest reform, which will be in force after 01/07/2015, establishes important articles related to VAW:
 - Forced marriage is included as an aggravated type of coercion.
 - New criminal offence of harassment (article 172 ter), to punish behaviour that, without the use of violence, restricts the freedom of victims through surveillance or repeated telephone calls.
 - Disclosure of intimate images of the victim, without her consent, is also punished, even if the victim facilitated them to someone.
 - Any type of sexual act with minors under 13. With those under 16, sexual abuse should be considered when there is deceit or abuse of position of trust, authority or influence.

Due to its relevance in the area of the protection of foreign women, we should mention:

- Organic Law 2/2009 of 11 December, reforming Organic Law 4/2002 of 14 January, on rights and freedoms in Spain, which amended article 19 on family reunification and introduced article 31 bis to make it easier for undocumented foreign women victims of gender-based violence to obtain a residence permit.
- Organic Law 10/2011 of 27 July, amending articles 31 bis and 59 bis of Organic Law 4/2002 of 14 January, on rights and freedoms in Spain.
- Decree-Law 3/2013 of 22 February, amending the fees system in the area of the Justice Administration and the legal aid system, which recognises the right to legal aid, irrespective of economic means, to all victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking.

Turkey:

- Law No. 4320, 1998 on Protection of Family was the first legal document which directly aimed at preventing violence against women and provided a description of "domestic violence"—superseded by Law No. 6284 on the Protection of Family and Prevention of Violence against Women in 2012.
- Civil Code No. 4721, 2001 "a new approach to the family and to women's role in the family"—as it abandoned the previous approach that "assigned women a legislatively subordinate position in the family with rights and duties defined in respect to the husband with one that defines "the family as a union based on equal partnership".²¹³
- Penal Code No. 5237, 2002/4 Contains over 30 thirty amendments that are considered as a major step towards gender equality and protection of women's rights in Turkey.²¹⁴

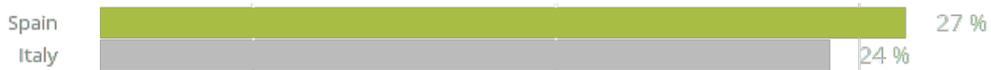
²¹³ WWHR, 2005, p8.

²¹⁴ Ibid.

Annex 3: Data for Consequences of physical/ sexual violence. Italy & Spain

2. Consequences of physical and sexual violence / Physical injuries from violence by a non-partner

Bruises, scratches



Wounds, sprains, burns



Fractures, broken bones, broken teeth



Concussion or other brain injury



Internal injuries



Other



Miscarriage



0 10 20 30

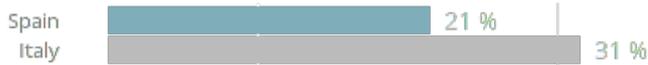
© FRA - All rights reserved - FRA gender-based violence against women survey dataset, 2012 | All : All | Spain - Italy

2. Consequences of physical and sexual violence / Emotional response to violence by a partner

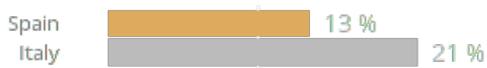
Anger



Aggressiveness



Shock



Fear



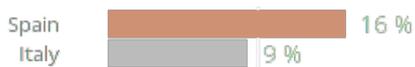
Shame



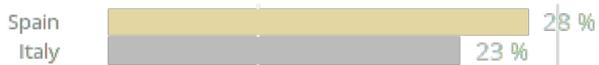
Embarrassment



Guilt



Annoyance



Other



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2. Consequences of physical and sexual violence / Emotional response to violence by a non-partner

Anger



Aggressiveness



Shock



Fear



Shame



Embarrassment



Guilt



Annoyance



Other



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2. Consequences of physical and sexual violence / Long-term psychological consequences of violence by a partner

Depression



Anxiety



Panic attacks



Loss of self-confidence



Feeling vulnerable



Difficulty in sleeping



Concentration difficulties



Difficulties in relationships



Other



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2. Consequences of physical and sexual violence / Long-term psychological consequences of violence by a non-partner

Depression



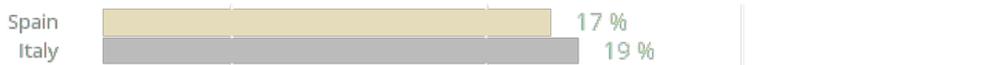
Anxiety



Panic attacks



Loss of self-confidence



Feeling vulnerable



Difficulty in sleeping



Concentration difficulties



Difficulties in relationships



Other

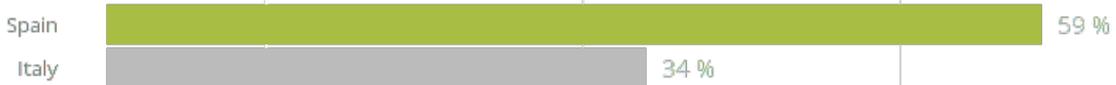


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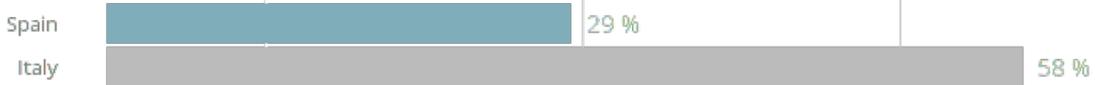
Annex 4: Data for Attitudes and Awareness Italy & Spain

6. Opinions, attitudes and awareness / Awareness of laws and political initiatives to prevent domestic violence against women

Yes



No



Don't know



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6. Opinions, attitudes and awareness / Awareness of laws and political initiatives to protect women in cases of domestic violence

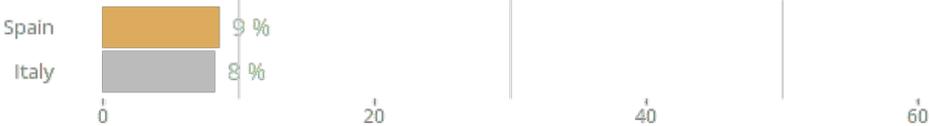
Yes



No



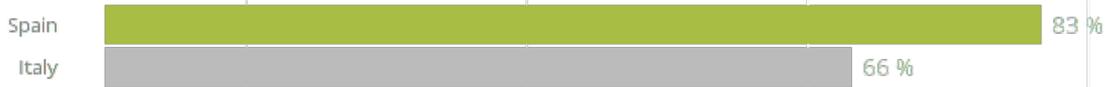
Don't know



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6. Opinions, attitudes and awareness / Having recently seen or heard campaigns against violence against women

Yes



No



Don't know



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6. Opinions, attitudes and awareness / Awareness of institutions or services for victims of violence against women

Aware of all three organisations



Aware of two organisations



Aware of one organisation



Not aware of any of the three organisations



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Annex 5: A list of trainings provided by the Foundation for Women's Solidarity (KDV) is as follows.

In 1993, KSGM signed a protocol entitled "Improve and Support Training and Research on Women's Issues" with the Middle East Technical University Gender and Women Studies Graduate Programme (METU-GWS). Within this protocol, METU-GWS prepared and realised three training courses for developing gender sensitivity for security personnel and reducing domestic violence against women in 1998-1999. The target group of those trainings were the Police Departments in three Turkish cities (Diyarbakır, Trabzon and Ankara), as well as one for the Police Academy students in Ankara²¹⁵.

In 2012, a protocol on both parents' better domestic training on gender equality was signed with the Mother-Child Education Association (AÇEV). As a preliminary process, AÇEV provided trainings for 81 Ministry and 15 ŞÖNİM directors. Afterwards, the trainings were repeated for 100 more Ministry personnel. Finally, in Gaziantep, one of the pilot cities, 27 mothers and 26 fathers were trained as supportive specialists, and started to conduct further trainings.²¹⁶

"The Project for Strengthening Mechanisms to Prevent Violence in Co-operation with Local Partners" was conducted by local organisations - İzmir Women's Solidarity Association, Adana Women's Consulting Centre and Association for Shelter House Protection (AKDAM) - under the supervision of the Foundation for Women's Solidarity (KDV). The Ministry of Family and Social Affairs was the major beneficiary of the project and the European Union financed it. The project was designed for the 1 February 2014 – 31 April 2015 period, and aimed to strengthen the capacity of the participant organisations by providing trainings for their members.²¹⁷ To this end, 25 members from each organisation were trained. Furthermore, seven members were trained to be trainers. Later on, the trainees provided free psychological and judicial assistance to victims at Women Solidarity Centres. Finally, in order to raise awareness, home meetings were organised for women.²¹⁸

The "Women's Human Rights Training Programme (KIHEP)" was directed by Women for Women's Human Rights - New Ways (WWHR) in co-ordination with Social Services and the Child Protection Agency (SHÇEK), with the Sabancı Foundation as the donor. The idea of the project stems from research conducted by the WWHR between 1994 and 1996 in Istanbul, Ankara, East and South-East Anatolia, which revealed two striking results: women's lack of awareness of their rights and not benefiting from their rights. KIHEP was actively carried out since it began in 1996. Similar to other programmes, in KIHEP, first local trainers were prepared for independent activities in their constituencies, and later accompanied by WWHR professionals for several months, they started working with women in the field. The programme focused on 15 themes, such as human rights, constitutional and civil rights, violence against women and domestic violence, strategies against violence, economic rights, gender-roles-sensitive education for children, women and sexuality, women and reproduction rights, etc.

²¹⁵ Acar, F.; Altunok, G.; Dedeoğlu, S., Göksel, A.; Gözdaşoğlu---Küçükaliöğlu, E. (2007). Issue Histories Turkey: Series of Timelines of Policy Debates, Quality in Gender+ Equality Policies (QUING) Project, Vienna: Institute for Human Sciences (IWM), p72. Available at http://www.quing.eu/files/results/ih_turkey.

²¹⁶ KSGM 2013. For the full report see <http://kadininstatusu.gov.tr/uygulamalar/kadina-yonelik-siddetle-mucadele>.

²¹⁷ For more about the project see <http://www.kadindayanismavakfi.org.tr/2014-devam-etmekte-yerel-isbirlikleri-araciligıyla-siddetle-mucadele-mekanizmalarinin-guclendirilmesi>

²¹⁸ Kadın Dayanisma Vakfı (2014). Yerel isbirlikleri Aracılığıyla Sıddetle Mucadele Mekanizmalarının Guclendirilmesi Projesi: Proje Ozeti.

Following the training, 63% of the participants noted that the violence they experience ended, and 22% said it decreased. Moreover, an amelioration of the emotional and economic situations of women was reported. 54% reported that they returned to education, while 29% were employed in a paid job and 13% started their own business. The project was then conducted by the WWHR in many cities.²¹⁹

²¹⁹ For more about the programme see
<http://www.kadinininsanhaklari.org/programlar/kihep/kihep-nedir/>

Annex 6: Victim Support Good Practices

Italy:

A good practice for addressing the phenomenon of violence against women is the ‘network model’. In the network model, several local organizations, including traditional local Welfare services and specialist gender oriented services, collaborate to improve services within each organization, creating the opportunity to welcome requests for help, building bonds of trust with women, eroding tolerance of violence, and trying to limit secondary victimization.²²⁰

One good practice is shown by the Emilia Romagna network of centres against violence, by the Emilia Romagna Region.²²¹ This involves the creation of territorial networks of public and private bodies which can receive women victims of violence, as well as the creation of specific territorial agreements, useful for sharing the points of access to public services and methods of operational links to prevent and combat male violence, and protect and support the victims. They are part of the network of all territorial resources: institutional, social services, health and social health (family counselling, first aid, hospitals and territorial obstetrics and gynaecology, family centres, doctors, paediatricians and other responsible parties) and the third sector, particularly in relation to the women’s associations who run the regional network of women’s refuges. Over the years, centres have developed significant expertise in the area of refuges, of the routes out of violence, and prevention; working from a gender perspective and offering specific services dedicated to women. It is recognized that the fundamental strategy to counter violence and offer a better standard of services to victims, is down to the public/ private network aiming to avoid duplication and eliminating confusion and delays.²²²

Networking has also been used in an urban project taking place in several Italian cities, promoted by the Department for Equal Opportunities. The “Anti-violence Network of the ‘Urban-Italia’ cities” is cited among the examples of “good practices”. Not only is the network’s ability to collect data useful to understand the phenomena of violence against women and its perception among citizens and operators, but the methodology developed permits the sharing of this data with other networks fighting gender violence. The project is developed by the Department for Equal Opportunities, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transport, the European Commission and eight Italian cities: Venice, Rome, Naples, Foggia, Lecce, Reggio Calabria, Palermo and Catania.²²³

Spain:

The “Service of Attention, Recovery and Reception” (SARA) of the Municipality of Barcelona (“Servei d’Atenció, Recuperació i Acollida”, SARA) was developed in 2013 and is ongoing. It was developed by the City Council of Barcelona. It consists of a walk-in support service for victims of gender-based violence, including women, children, boys and girls, and people in their environment directly affected by violence. It also provides advice to professionals and those close to the victims. It can be considered a “good practice” as it is a comprehensive service,

²²⁰ Basaglia, A. et al (2006). Il silenzio e le parole II Rapporto nazionale Rete Antiviolenza tra le città Urban-Italia. Dipartimento per i Diritti e le Pari Opportunità.
http://www.retepariopportunita.it/rete_pari_opportunita/userfiles/pubblicazioni/rapporto_urban_06.pdf

²²¹ http://www.direcontrolaviolenza.it/wp-content/uploads/2014/03/ANCI_DIRE_LINEE_GUIDA_ASSISTENTI_SOCIALI.pdf

²²² <http://sociale.regione.emilia-romagna.it/famiglie/temi/violenzalineeguidarevWeb.pdf>.

²²³ Basaglia et al, 2006, p15-17.

easily accessible for women as an entry route for all victims and integrates both urgent situations and long-time processes of recovery. The professional team is multidisciplinary.²²⁴

The “Web of Resources to Support and Prevent Cases of Gender-based Violence” (WRAP) (“Web de recursos de apoyo y prevención ante casos de violencia de género”) was developed in 2011 and is ongoing. It is funded by the Delegation for Gender-based Violence, Ministry of Health, Spain. It includes a comprehensive database and a Spanish map where the resources can be traced territorially. The resources can also be traced by category: counselling and information services; women’s associations; police assistance; judgements on gender-based violence; legal assessment; NGOs. It also has the possibility to add a new resource to the database by giving information on the name, territory, features, etc. It can be considered a “good practice” as it offers a comprehensive interactive mapping database of the whole of Spain.²²⁵

The “Protocol Framework for Coordinated Action Against Gender-based Violence” (“Protocol marc per a una intervenció coordinada contra la violència masclista”) began in 2009 and is ongoing. It is funded by the Catalan Women's Institute, Catalonia, Spain. The protocol includes a wide range of questions concerning the struggle against gender-based violence in Catalonia: the legal framework against domestic violence in the region; the existing instruments of coordination, monitoring and evaluation of the policies against domestic violence in the region; a conceptual framework of the origin of domestic violence; the principles, definition, objectives and stages in the elaboration of the protocol; the configuration of territorial procedures for intervention and the role of each and every administrative section; the service standards of the different responses against domestic violence (common and specific services against gender-based violence); and a final synthesis. It can be considered a “good practice” as it is a comprehensive and detailed document for developing a coordinated and global response to violence in Catalonia, improving the quality of the services offered to victims. Objectives mentioned in the protocol are: setting minimum standards of performance that enable adaptability of the protocol framework, considering the needs and potential of each territory; defining the national procedure as a common reference model; promoting models of specific and appropriate intervention in the areas where domestic violence can occur; establishing proper mechanisms for coordination and cooperation to enable an adequate transmission of information between all agencies and stakeholders, and developing a specific model of data collection to ensure the efficacy of the struggle against gender-based violence.²²⁶

Turkey:

As a civil society organisation, Mor Çatı Women’s Shelter Foundation works to provide consultancy and a secure environment for the victims of violence. Since its foundation in 1990, Mor Çatı has provided social, judicial and psychological consultancy for over 35.000 women and children. Moreover, it provided shelter for 379 women and 453 children. In the Mor Çatı Shelter the period of residence is arranged in accordance with the needs of women in a way to give each woman the support they need for a fresh start. Moreover, in order to prevent sexual discrimination, male children of victims of every age are accepted in the shelter. Mor Çatı welcomes women from every age and group in its shelter. Last but not the least, personnel in the shelter are trained by Mor Çatı experts.²²⁷ Therefore, since it is organised to meet the needs of each resident, the Mor Çatı Shelter shows “good practice” when compared to other shelters.

²²⁴http://w110.bcn.cat/portal/site/Dones/menuitem.de19ba4a7f0fe87b6306809220348a0c/?vgnextoid=488c3919874b3410VgnVCM1000001947900aRCRD&lang=ca_ES

²²⁵ <http://wrap.seigualdad.gob.es> ; <http://eige.europa.eu/content/web-resources-to-support-and-prevention-of-domestic-violence-cases>

²²⁶ http://dones.gencat.cat/ca/temes/violencia_masclista/coordinacio/protocol_marc/ ; <http://eige.europa.eu/content/protocol-framework-for-coordinated-action-against-gender-violence-protocol-marc-per-una-inte>

²²⁷ Mor Çatı Women’s Shelter Association (2015). 2014 Yili Faaliyet Raporu, Istanbul.

Finally, both KSGM²²⁸ and Mor Çatı²²⁹ reports show that legal advice is one of the most demanded support services in women's combat against violence. Women often seek legal advice and free judicial support to end their ties with the perpetrator and receive a protection order. Both of the victim support services mentioned above provide legal assistance; however there is one project, Gelincik Project, that specifically serves this purpose since 2011.

The Gelincik Project is run by experienced lawyers of the Ankara Bar Association, who have worked on children and women's rights for a long time. Beside judicial support, the project assists victims in finding shelters and jobs. The project has a free 7/24 telephone line (Gelincik Line - Gelincik Hattı) for women to reach them whenever they need. Women who cannot reach the Centre by their own means, are picked up by a private car accompanied by a women lawyer. Following the first meeting, the victim is taken to medical jurisprudence. Afterwards, all necessary legal measures are taken and followed up by the lawyers of the Ankara Bar Association. In case the victim does not wish to go back to her home, she is taken to a shelter. If the shelter does not have any available place, women are placed in a temporary guest house or hotel. Until the end of the case, the lawyers support the victims. By March 2014, the Gelincik Line had been called by 25.000 victims, and 2.923 women had applied to the Gelincik Centre in person. 2.418 lawyer appointments have been made by the Centre, while 520 women have been placed in shelters and 210 women have received psychological support. The Gelincik Centre works with 40 experts and 350 voluntary lawyers.²³⁰ The Gelincik Project is a good example of a legal support mechanism, since it supports women through the whole legal process, and also protects them by helping them find a shelter.

²²⁸ KSGM (2014).

²²⁹ Mor Çatı Women's Shelter Association (2015)

²³⁰ Ankara Barosu (2014). Gelincik Projesi 3 Yasında, Available at:
<http://www.ankarabarusu.org.tr/Arkasayfa.aspx?S=HaberTop10Img/haber1339>

Annex 7: Raising Awareness Campaigns

Raising Awareness

“Awareness-raising is a fundamental component of primary prevention strategies aimed at: Changing attitudes, behaviours and beliefs that normalize and tolerate domestic violence among the general public. Preventing men and women from becoming victims or perpetrators of abusive relationships; and informing the wider public, and especially victims and perpetrators, about the resources available to tackle the problem. Awareness-raising campaigns are recognized as the most efficient and effective means of communicating information, especially to the general public. They can meet all the above mentioned objectives, emphasizing the fact that domestic violence is not a private matter but an unacceptable violation of human rights. Awareness-raising is a two-way street, fostering communication and information exchange in order to improve mutual understanding as well as mobilizing communities and the whole society to bring about the necessary change in attitudes and behaviour.” EIGE: Study on ‘Collection of methods, tools and good practices in the field of domestic violence (area D of Beijing Platform for Action)’

Italy:

In Italy, the current national level awareness-raising campaign is “Recognize the Violence”. On the 25th of November 2014, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women convened by the UN, the Department for Equal Opportunities at the Presidency of the Council adopted the campaign “Recognize the Violence”. The campaign was undertaken free of charge by a group of professionals that have always been committed to these issues. The campaign intends to focus on viral messaging on the Internet.²³¹

The campaign “Recognize the Violence” includes a series of four different subjects in which the protagonists are four different pairs of men and women embracing. But the man's face is obscured, rendered unrecognizable by a large black rectangle, on which we read an invitation to every woman: “Violence has many faces. Learn how to spot it”. The meaning is clear: women must find the courage to abandon the mask of forced acceptance and acquiescence which they are often forced to wear, and to leave the fake protective embrace of their violent partner. It is an invitation to look more clearly at who you have next to you. Each image is then accompanied by different titles. The aim is to provide concrete advice on how to prevent and react to the first signs of violence. These are: “You have only one way to change an abusive boyfriend. Change boyfriend”; “Do not marry a violent man. Children learn quickly”; “A violent man does not deserve your love. He deserves a complaint”; “The slaps are slapping. Exchanging them for love can damage you”.²³²

In 2009, the Ministry of Equal Opportunities launched a campaign against violence against women entitled “Respect Women, Respect the World: a white rose, a symbol of the purity of the female world, gradually becomes black, poisoned by the dark evil that is violence against women. A pain that remains private, silent - out of fear or shame”.²³³

²³¹ <http://www.pariopportunita.gov.it>

²³² Ibid.

²³³ Ibid.

The campaigns entitled “Recognize the Violence” and “Respect Women, Respect the World” have been promoted by the Ministry for Equal Opportunities.

In 2014, a clothing company ‘United Colors of Benetton’ promoted a campaign about violence against women. A woman ‘stoned’ with flower petals by a group of men: this is the symbolic image, strong and surprising, the new United Colors of Benetton campaign, conducted in support of UN Women (the UN agency for promoting gender equality and empowerment of women), on the occasion of the UN international Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on the 25th of November. The campaign chooses to overturn the flower cliché in order to say “stop” to all forms of discrimination and abuse of power, reminding the world that women no longer have to pay with discomfort, suffering or their life; they have the choice to be themselves and not what their partners, men, religion or society would like them to be. The goal of the campaign by the United Colors of Benetton, conceived and produced by Fabrica, is also to raise awareness in the world on the need for systemic interventions in support of women and prevention programmes, starting with the training of girls and boys, to build a culture based on recognition, respect for difference and real equality. It is a way of emphasizing the urgent need to think and act, putting women and men together, side-by-side.²³⁴

Spain:

Currently, there is a national level awareness-raising campaign called “Hay Salida” (There is a way out)²³⁵ promoted by governmental bodies; it is a campaign from the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality. It works against gender-based violence targeting youth and adolescents to detect early signs of abuse and prevent cyberbullying. It uses the slogan “Tell it” to communicate that “domination and control have nothing to do with love.” This is because harassment through new technologies has become an increasingly common form of sending insulting and threatening messages as a form of abuse among young people, according to recent studies by the Government Office for Gender-based violence. Part of the campaign shows famous male actors from Spain gesturing as if they were being abused, with a voiceover saying sentences which are commonly used by perpetrators.

The Catalan Women's Institute started a campaign called “Loving doesn’t hurt”²³⁶ in January 2014, which urges teenagers to stop abusive relationships. Material has been compiled under the names “Loving doesn’t hurt! Live love free of violence” and “Keys to identify cyberstalking”, with the aim of helping teenagers identify abusive relationships, including ones online. Some material aimed at teachers and other professionals working with teenagers has also been published.

In November 2014, the Catalan Women's Institute launched another campaign of social awareness²³⁷ with the slogan “Those who exert violence against women require accomplices. Turn your back!”, showing people turning their back to the camera with the message “Turn your back” written on their skin.

²³⁴ http://www.huffingtonpost.it/2014/11/24/benetton-campagna-contro-violenza-donne_n_6211450.html

²³⁵ <http://www.msssi.gob.es/campanas/campanas12/haySalida.htm>

²³⁶ http://dones.gencat.cat/ca/temes/violencia_masclista/prevencio_sensibilitzacio/estimar_no_fa_mal/

²³⁷ http://premsa.gencat.cat/pres_fsvp/AppJava/notapremsavw/277556/ca/linstitut-catala-dones-endega-campanya-promou-rebuig-social-violencia-masclista.do

Other programmes:

"Break the Mistreatment" awareness-raising materials ("Talla amb els mals rotllos")

Duration: 2005-2006

Promoter: Catalan Women's Institute

Brief description: The Break the Mistreatment programme was a comprehensive programme including several awareness-raising and training actions to prevent sexist violence in intimate partnerships of teenagers and young people. The programme involved training of youngsters (17-29 years) to become gender-based violence prevention agents in their communities, as well as an awareness-raising campaign involving TV advertising, posters and leaflets.

Why can it be considered best practice?

The campaign connected with the language of young people and projected a positive image of intimate relationships among teenagers.

Example of TV advertisement: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JIJOrGumjQI>

Leaflet: http://www.educacionenvalores.org/IMG/pdf/material_talla-2.pdf

More information about the training: <http://eige.europa.eu/content/break-the-mistreatment-programme-talla-amb-els-mals-rotllos>

"Zero Tolerance to Aggressors"

Duration: 2008

Promoter: Ministry of Equality of Spain

Brief description: National campaign against intimate partner violence, with three advertisements: one from the point of view of the victim, one from the point of view of the victim's children; and one from the point of view of the aggressor's group of acquaintances. The advertisements were shown on television, radio, newspaper, and on the Internet.

Why can it be considered best practice?

The campaign targeted three different audiences. The advertisements targeted to men and women were especially valuable. The advertisements for women did not revictimise women, but showed a positive image.

Website: <http://www.msssi.gob.es/campanas/campanas08/tolerancia0.htm#actua>

"Women of the North, Women of the South"

Duration: 2012-ongoing

Promoter: Catalan Women's Institute

Brief description: DVD including five videos and five graphic animations featuring immigrant women from different countries who have contributed to the eradication of gender-based violence through their testimonies and experiences.

Aims and objectives: The material constitutes a tool for professionals working with these groups in order to influence the prevention and identification of different manifestations of gender-based violence. The multimedia materials, with animation, images and video, allows dynamic participation on a group level, and addresses different aspects of gender-based violence.

Why can it be considered best practice?

The tool is interactive and integrates the voices of diverse women from different parts of the world.

Turkey:

There are several national level awareness-raising campaigns that are currently carried out by state agencies and CSOs.

"Let's Say Stop" (Dur Diyelim): The campaign was initiated by the Ministry of Family and Social Policies right after the brutal murder of Özgecan Aslan in February 2015. The motto of

the campaign is “We will not be mere spectators of violence against women, we will do our share of work”. A webpage (<http://durdiyelim.com>) was set up for the campaign to enable politicians, celebrities and public figures to share supportive videos on the issue. Also, the campaign was supported in social media by starting a page on Facebook, initiating the hashtag #durdiyelim on Twitter and sharing videos on Vimeo. Finally, a collage of videos of politicians and celebrities has been shown on different TV channels. The aim of the campaign is to demonstrate state support behind campaigns to combat violence against women, and show the decisiveness of the government in initiating measures. Since it uses social media and television, the campaign manages to reach almost all parts of society, which makes it one of the most comprehensive and wide-spread campaigns in its league.

“Be a Man First!” (Önce Adam Ol!): The campaign was organised by the Women and Democracy Association (KADEM) for the 25th of November - the International Day against Violence against Women - of which the Association was the host for 2014. The organisation was founded by Sümeyye Erdoğan, the daughter of the Head of the Republic of Turkey. The association has close relations with government and state agencies. The motto of the campaign is “whoever beats a woman is not a man”. The campaign has a short video dramatising the exclusion of a man who beats his wife from the society. The video is broadcast on TV and campaign posters are visible in public areas. The campaign is one of the most visible ongoing national awareness-raising campaigns run by a women’s organisation²³⁸. (For the short video and more, see <http://kadem.org.tr/once-adam-ol-kampanyasi-tanitim-filmi/>).

“End Violence within Family” (Aile İçi Şiddete Son): The campaign was launched by Hürriyet (a nation-wide daily newspaper), and supported by Aralık Association (a women’s organisation), Penti (a private textile brand), and CNNTURK (a media company). In 2015, Hürriyet gave up carrying out the campaign and delegated it to the Confederation of Turkish Women’s Associations. The campaign is actively working on any kinds of domestic violence and forced marriage of young girls - child brides - since 2004. The aims of the campaign are: raise awareness on domestic violence; create social sensitivity; help changing attitudes; and, contribute to political processes addressing the issue. In 2007, as part of the campaign, a helpline was introduced to provide immediate advice to victims of violence against women. Since 2007, the helpline has been used by 42,240 victims, and 15,674 victims of violence against women were assisted. The campaign is important, because, besides national awareness-raising, it takes immediate measures and physically helps victims of violence against women. Moreover, it is one of the longer-lasting campaigns combating violence against women in Turkey. (For more information, please check <http://aileicisiddeteson.com>).

“Platform to End Violence” (Şiddete Son Platformu): The Platform brings together 270 women’s and LGBT associations to monitor changes made in the Turkish Penal Code. The Platform is active since 2011. It has been organising demonstrations and publishing statements on the issue. The major claim of the Platform is that while there are significant aggravations in penalties for some cases, no change has been made for cases of violence against women. Although the changes of the Turkish Penal Code were finalised, the Platform has continued its activities whenever there are debates on legal practices, or incidents of violence against women in Turkey. The platform and its activities are important, because it brings a great number of Civil Society Organisations together. Also, it pays attention to legal deficiencies, and voices legal demands of women. (For a list of news about the activities of the platform see <http://www.bianet.org/konu/siddete-son-platformu>).

²³⁸ This campaign is included here since it uses media effectively to reach a wide range of society. However, it is also important to state that the campaign is criticised by women’s organisations and journalists defending women’s right due to its masculine rhetoric. For more see <http://t24.com.tr/yazarlar/yilmaz-murat-bilican/adam-olma-degerleriyle-kadini-korumak,10715> ,<http://erktoia.org/once-adam-olmana-gerek-yok-siddet-uygulama-yeter/>