Report on availability of reliable, systematically collected and analysed data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in Europe

Femicide - the killing of females by males because they are female - is one of the most extreme manifestations of violence against women. Femicide occurs in all societies throughout the world. Thereby women of all age groups are most at risk of being murdered by someone they know: by a family member or an intimate partner.

Although international attention on violence against women as a health issue and human rights’ concern has increased within the last decades, femicide and the protection of high risk victims of intimate partner violence is still not well understood. Many murders of women and young girls by males remain unreported, uncounted, unconsidered and invisible in our society. Data and statistics on the real extent and nature of femicide play a significant role in reducing and preventing the most serious forms of gender based violence against girls, women and their children and in protecting high risk victims of violence.

For this reason, an investigation was carried out within the project PROTECT to analyse the availability of femicide data at a European and national level.

Femicide has been addressed in different contexts, including intimate partner violence, stranger violence, sexual violence, female infanticide, so-called crimes in the name of honour and dowry practices, as well as murders associated with gang activity and political violence. As a result, different definitions and conceptual framings have been proposed by researchers and activists.

Within the project PROTECT, intimate partner violence as a broader context of femicide was applied to analyse the availability of femicide data at a European and national level. In the analysis, less attention was given to specific issues of femicide such as crimes in the name of honour. Since "honour killing" and similar crimes in the name of honour are not specified crimes in the judicial system of most EU member states, candidate and applicant states, there are no systematically collected and analysed data available on so-called honour crimes at national and at European level. According to the glossary agreed upon in this project, femicide is defined here as intimate partner homicide of women, taking into account that there is no uniform definition of homicide. According to the United Nations CEDAW Committee, intimate partner violence against women can be defined as a form of gender-based violence which is "directed against a woman because

---


2 Four aspects can be identified which lead to a variation in conceptualising femicides: (a) definition and relation between victim and perpetrator: murders by current and former intimate partner/husband, by family members, friends, and acquaintances, or by strangers; including or excluding female perpetrators, same-sex partners; (b) form of violence that leads to death: inclusion or exclusion of deaths resulting from interpersonal or other violence such as AIDS, genital mutilations, armed conflicts or suicide; (c) terminologies used by official statistics and administrative data such as police, healthcare sector, legal systems; (d) responsibility of the state with regard to femicide.
she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately”. (CEDAW Committee 1992: Art 6).

While there are clear EU political recommendations towards a systematic collection of gender-sensitive data on violence against women and on femicide in the EU member states and at European level the following report deals with the questions: (a) Are there reliable, gender-sensitive data on homicide available in the EU member states, candidate states and applicant states? (b) Are these data comparable and provided at a European level? (c) What are the obstacles in providing such statistics and (d) which action need to be taken to overcome the obstacles? In answering these questions this report builds on the results of previous similar projects - especially on the EU Daphne project "Estimation of intimate partner violence homicides in Europe" carried out by Psytel3 - and will collect additional data.

This report consists of two main sections: Section I. "Background and Overview" provides general information on femicide, the relevance as well as on EU political recommendations of research and systematic collection of femicide data in Europe; Section II. "Research on gender-disaggregated statistic of gender-based intimate partner homicides of women and young girls in Europe" gives detailed information about the research procedure and research results.

I. Background and Overview

Before analysing these questions, a brief overview is given on the phenomenon femicide and on current knowledge available in strengthening understanding of femicide, including definitions and sources of information used, as well as their significance for data collection and analysis.

In addition, the relevance of research and systematic collection of reliable, gender-sensitive data which are comparable over time and between countries, data analysis and regular publication on violence against women and femicide as its most extreme manifestation are described.

Finally, a historical overview is provided on important EU political recommendations and actions towards a systematic collection of gender-sensitive data on violence against women and on femicide.

1. Breaking the silence: systematic data collection on femicides

“We face three challenges: First of all, to break the silence of these murders whose targets are women, secondly, to end the impunity in which these crimes are involved and finally, to call for a universal responsibility, since, when I did a presentation on femicide before the European Parliament, I had the perception it was regarded as a local problem.”4

3 Société civile Psytel: www.psytel.eu, 08.03.2010
Deaths of females killed by males are often unreported and invisible. For this reason public awareness raising on femicide is strongly connected with activism. In 1990, a total of 27 silhouettes represented the unknown women killed by a husband, boyfriend, intimate partner or acquaintance whose deaths went unreported in Minnesota / U.S.A. By counting the number of women murdered within one year and presenting this number in public, the Silent Witness Campaigns\(^5\) became one of the most important international actions to raise awareness on femicide around the world.

The term femicide was first publicly introduced but not explicitly defined by Diana Russell to testify killing of women at the International Tribunal on Crimes Against Women in Brussels in 1976\(^\,6\). In the article Femicide, which was published by Diana Russell and Jane Caputi in 1990, femicide was considered to be "...the murder of women by men motivated by hatred, contempt, pleasure, or a sense of ownership of women."\(^7\) In 2001 the term was redefined by Diana Russell and Roberta Harmes as "...the killing of females by males because they are female\(^8\) to clearly link femicide to the context of unequal gender relations and the notion of male power and domination over women. Moreover, this definition points out that many female infants and girls are victims of femicide while young boys are also perpetrators.

Femicide in the context of violence against women was first mentioned in Art. 1 of the Convention of Belém do Pará in 1994: "(...) violence against women shall be understood as any act or conduct, based on gender, which causes death or physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, whether in the public or the private sphere".\(^9\)

Often, only after tremendous and poignant events - such as the femicide in Juarez (Mexico) - policy starts to react on issues of violence against women. One political result of the murders of more than 370 women\(^10\) was the first legal definition of femicide in Mexico in 2006, as "the sum total of crimes against humanity consisting of criminal acts, kidnappings and disappearances affecting girls and women in a context of institutional collapse. This is a sign of breakdown of the rule of law which favours impunity. Femicide is a state crime.\(^11\) In this definition, femicide appears in a social context conditioned by a patriarchal mentality. Diana Russell clearly states that the culture promotes femicide - for example, when women report to the police that their husbands are threatening to kill them and the law enforcement fail to protect them.\(^12\)

Femicide occurs in all societies throughout the world. It has been addressed in different contexts, including intimate-partner violence, stranger violence, sexual violence, female infanticide, so called crimes in the name of honour and dowry practices, as well as

\(^5\) Silent Witness National Initiative: [http://www.silentwitness.net/index.htm](http://www.silentwitness.net/index.htm), 08.03.2010. See also: first silent witness campaign, 08.03.2010.


murders associated with gang activity and political violence. As a result, different definitions and conceptualisations have been proposed by researchers and activists.

Four aspects can be identified which lead to the variation in conceptualising femicides:

(a) definition and relation between victim and perpetrator: murders by current and former intimate partner/husband, by family members, friends, and acquaintances, or by strangers; 13 including or excluding female perpetrators, same-sex partners; (b) form of violence that lead to death: inclusion or exclusion of deaths resulting from interpersonal or other violence such as AIDS, genital mutilation, armed conflicts or femicide-suicide; (c) terminologies used by official statistics and administrative data such as police, healthcare sector, legal systems; (d) responsibility of the state for murder of women.

The different frameworks, definitions and classifications used for conceptualizing femicide lead to methodological differences in the collection and interpretation of data. Each methodology has advantages and disadvantages with respect to the ease with which data can be collected, the rigor of the data, and the use of data in advocacy efforts. In addition, there are several sources of information that can be used to collect data on femicide: criminal statistics (data from official state agencies), police reports, data from the justice sector, police statistics, medical examiner systems (administrative data), and media reports. Accordingly, a range of methodologies has been used in different contexts to collect data on femicide, including population-based studies, analysis of service records (homicide, police, hospital, court, and mortuary statistics), domestic fatality reviews, verbal autopsies, and review of newspaper articles.14

Although international attention on violence against women as a human rights’ concern has increased within the last decades, femicide is still not well investigated. There are no reliable and worldwide comparable data available on the nature and the real extent of femicide. There is an urgent need to strengthen data on the dynamics and magnitude of femicide as a critical component of advocacy and prevention. In 2007, Raül Romeva i Rueda highlights the importance of a global strategy to "... enable the EU and its partners to undertake joint actions and efforts intended to eradicate and prevent violent deaths of women everywhere15"

2. Importance of research on violence against women and relevance of availability of gender-disaggregated statistics on femicide

As we know from the media, everyday women and girls are severely injured or killed by their partners or other family members in Europe and throughout the world. However, in most media reports, these unspeakable crimes are not related to gender-based violence. Femicide and violence against women is still highly tabooed in our societies and several

---

13 In the 80's feminist researchers put a focus on investigating intimate femicide or intimate partner femicide and in 1998 Jacquelyn Campbell and Carol Runyan defined femicide as “all killings of women, regardless of motive or perpetrator status” in order to consider perpetrators’ motives or their relationships to the victims before classifying murders as femicide: Campbell JC, Runyan CW. Femicide: guest editors’ introduction. Homicide Studies. 1998;2(4):347–352.
14 Strengthening Understanding of Femicide: Using Research to Galvanize Action and Accountability, Program for Appropriate Technology in Health (PATH), InterCambios, Medical Research Council of South Africa (MRC), and World Health Organization (WHO), Washington DC, 2009: p 2.: http://www.path.org/files/GVR_femicide_rpt.pdf, 08.03.2010.
mechanisms can be identified which successfully push this sad and unacceptable reality to the back of one’s mind. Through reliable data and statistics, violence against women - which is used metonymically with femicides in this section - and the real extent of the phenomenon becomes visible. The lack of consistent information about the number of women and children affected by violence and killed by an intimate partner or family member limits our ability to gauge the magnitude of violence against women in relation to other social problems.

Furthermore, systematising information and knowledge on violence against women and femicides that is reliable, neutral and analytical is not only the basis for political arguments; it also serves a public interest. In revealing the sad numbers of women who lost their life as result of gender-based violence as well as in presenting data and statistics about prevalence and costs of violence against women, they support a claim for public funding. It is thanks to research that a politically inspired claim became an empirically founded and theoretically underpinned analysis … That has been crucial for the successful transitioning of violence against women from a political fringe subject into an issue of state concern.16

Systematic collection and analysis of gender-disaggregated statistics on the causes, nature, seriousness, and consequences of violence against women strengthens our competences to monitor changes and differences in the incidence, to evaluate and recognise gaps in the services provided, and estimate the number of such cases. Furthermore this data enables the identification of those groups of women and children at highest risk who might benefit most from focused intervention or improved services. Data on violence against women and femicide help us to monitor the effectiveness of violence prevention and intervention activities to protect girls, women and their children from femicide.17

Violence against women is a global problem and cannot be solved isolated by a single state or society. In this regard it is important to systematically collect reliable data that is comparable over time and between countries - at the European and international level. In so doing, good practice examples of prevention and protection victims of violence - especially those at high risk - can be identified. Furthermore, the protection of victims of violence can be extended at the international level.

Although reliable data on violence against women are an important feedback tool to improve the quality of the services delivered and to increase the level of professionalism for internal management and practitioners, for external policy development and policymakers, as well as for public awareness raising and media professionals, we should also consider that data related to violence against women are highly sensitive data which can also be misused. In the worst case, these data in the hands of abusers and perpetrators can cause the death of a woman. Despite the great benefits of new information technology in terms of data collection, security standards regarding usage of new information technology should be considered. Accordingly, the following questions should be raised once more: Which data are really needed to protect women? Who can

access this sensitive data and which security standards are needed to share but simultaneously protect this data from being misused?  

Violence against Women and femicide is a matter of public concern. It is time that all governments in Europe seriously improve a systematic collection of reliable data on gender-based intimate partner homicide that is comparable over time and between countries in order to protect those women and young girls who are at a high risk of serious crimes or even death.

3. Political efforts for systematic collection of gender-disaggregated data and statistics on violence against women and femicide in Europe

The absence of adequate gender-disaggregated data and statistics on the incidence of violence makes the elaboration of programmes and monitoring of changes difficult. Lack of or inadequate documentation and research on domestic violence, sexual harassment and violence against women and girls in private and in public, including the workplace, impede efforts to design specific intervention strategies.  

In the Beijing Platform for Action which was adopted at the United Nations World Conference on Women in 1995 and reaffirmed in New York in March 2005, governments commit themselves to develop strategies to systematically collect gender-disaggregated and age-specific data on the victims and perpetrators of all forms of violence against women and to compile them as statistics.

As part of the ongoing follow up to the U.N. Beijing Platform for Action in the EU, the Spanish Presidency (January – June 2002) set a focus on combating violence against women. In April 2002, the Council of Europe Recommendation Rec (2002)5 on the protection of women against violence was adopted. Among other things, the Recommendation Rec (2002)5 addresses clear advice towards the EU Member States on the preparation of statistics sorted by gender, integrated statistics and common indicators in order to better evaluate the scale of violence against women.

In June 2002, the Good Practice Guide to mitigate the effects of and eradicate violence against women was published by the Spanish Presidency and presented to the Council of Europe. This guide critically analyses studies carried out by the majority of the Council of Europe Member States to assess the extent or prevalence of violence against women, as a supplement to official records and statistics.

During the Danish Presidency (July – December 2002) a set of seven indicators on domestic violence against women was developed and adopted by the Council of Europe  

---

18 For more information: e.g. Safety Net Project: the National Safe & Strategy Technology Project: National Network to End Domestic Violence: http://www.nnedv.org/component/content/article/111.html, 10.03.2010.
20 The Protection of Women against Violence, Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of women against violence, Division Equality between Women and Men, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe, STRASBOURG CEDEX 2002: www.profeministimiehet.net/whiterib/content/texts/rec20025.doc, 08.03.2010.
22 Indicators on "Domestic Violence against Women" put forward by the Danish EU Presidency, Annex II: http://www.liqe.dk/default.asp?id=172&Lcid=da&AirNws=151&AirNwsPg=4, 08.03.2010.
also as part of follow-up efforts to the U.N. Beijing Platform for Action. These indicators have, however, not been implemented.

In May 2005, at the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe (Warsaw), the Council of Europe reaffirmed the commitment to combat violence against women, including domestic violence in the Action Plan and the establishment of the Task Force on the same subject were defined as concrete actions. The Campaign was based on the Blueprint developed by the Task Force and approved by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. As one out of four core objectives to eradicate violence against women in Europe, the Blueprint once more highlights the importance towards the Council of Europe Member States to make significant progress regarding the development of a comparable data collection system on violence against women, in order to:

- ensure the systematic collection of statistical data disaggregated by sex, by type of violence as well as by the relationship of the perpetrator to the victim in all fields. This collection should be carried out by national statistics offices or other bodies (e.g. national observatories on domestic violence);
- develop and use a method that allows for gender analysis and comparison with other member states of the Council of Europe;
- collect and disseminate good practices for preventing violence occurring in the family or domestic unit, protecting its victims and prosecuting the perpetrators at the national, regional and local level.

In July 2007, the Regional Seminar on Data Collection as a Prerequisite for Effective Policies to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence was organised within the framework of the Campaign in Lisbon. Government and NGO representatives from the ten Council of Europe Member States discussed the role of data in informing and shaping effective policies to combat violence against women.

In 2008, the study Administrative data collection on domestic violence in Council of Europe member states was published as a further activity of the Campaign. The report aims to foster a systematic statistical data collection on domestic violence against women. Accordingly, four types of data, that can be generated and collected in order to study and combat violence against women, were identified: data based on surveys (research), data from national statistic agencies, service-based administrative data (e.g. police, judiciary, public health sector) and qualitative data. Additionally, the report also

---

23 Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe in Warsaw
http://www.coe.int/t/dcr/summit/default_EN.asp


25 Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence: http://www.coe.int/t/dq2/equality/DOMESTICVIOLENCAMPAIGN/, 08.03.2010.

26 Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including domestic violence (EGTFV) Blueprint of the Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence: http://www.coe.int/t/dq2/equality/domesticviolencecampaign/Source/Blueprint_8_rev_5_EN.pdf, 08.03.2010. The Blueprint was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 21 June 2006.

27 Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including domestic violence (EGTFV) Blueprint of the Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence: http://www.coe.int/t/dq2/equality/domesticviolencecampaign/Source/Blueprint_8_rev_5_EN.pdf, 08.03.2010. The Blueprint was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 21 June 2006.

28 Regional Seminar on Data Collection as a Prerequisite for Effective Policies to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence, Lisbon, July 2007: http://www.coe.int/t/dq2/equality/domesticviolencecampaign/regional_seminars/, 08.03.2010

monitors the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation Rec (2002) of the Committee of Ministers to member states. Although more and more Council of Europe member states are carrying out population-based surveys, a general lack of systematically collected, service-based administrative data (e.g. police, judiciary, public health sector) on violence against women and their children was identified. Further - as also considered in the European Parliament Resolution on the elimination of violence against women (26th November 2009) - there is no regular and comparable data collection on different types of violence against women in the EU.

In the Final Activity Report: Council of Europe task force to combat violence against women, including domestic violence (EG-TFV) published 2008, the Task Force recommends, to appoint an observatory - femicide watch - at the international level to collect data on murders of women by their husbands, ex-husbands, intimate partners and relatives. At the national level Council of Europe member states should:

- institute a method for collecting specific data on the number of such murders of women per year disaggregated by age, number of perpetrators disaggregated by age and sex of the perpetrators as well as the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim or victims.
- collect information concerning the prosecution and punishment of perpetrators. Each case of such a murder should be carefully analysed to identify any failure of protection in view of improving and developing further preventive measures.
- co-operate with NGOs working in this field in the collection, analyses and publication of such data. Such data should be made publicly available at the national level and by the Council of Europe and published during the 16 Days on Activism against Gender Violence. The Secretariat General of the Council of Europe should ensure the publication of such data.
- entrust this task to the existing national structures mandated to work on violence against women or to the proposed national observatories on violence against women.

In 2010, the 15th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action, and four years after the official start of the Council of Europe Campaign, the Council of Europe Conclusion on the Eradication of Violence Against Women in the European Union (February 2010) states that despite the progress achieved in recent years, there is still a lack of timely, reliable, accurate and comparable data, both at national and EU level, and there has still been no detailed EU level study on violence against women. “This limits understanding of the real extent of such violence and impedes the further development of national strategies and actions and an efficient response by the EU.”

II. Research on gender-disaggregated statistic of gender-based intimate partner homicides of women and young girls in Europe

Survey data, such as the WHO multi-country study on violence against women\textsuperscript{33} or the British Crime Survey\textsuperscript{34} show that only a very small percentage of women report violence to the services or authorities and that violence against women goes widely underreported. This leads to limitations on the use of statistics from law enforcement, health services and other agencies. Administrative data is not representative and can say very little about the extent and characteristics of violence against women. However, administrative or service-based data is very important to monitor the effectiveness and quality of the response of agencies to violence against women\textsuperscript{35}\textsuperscript{36}. Therefore it is widely acknowledged among experts that both kinds of data are needed and have to be gathered regularly using common indicators, in order to be able to assess the problem properly and to plan and implement what is known as “knowledge based policy”\textsuperscript{37}\textsuperscript{38}.

The lack of consistent information about the number of women affected by violence limits our ability to estimate, identify and protect those groups of women at highest risk, whose life depends on a focused intervention combined with increased and well coordinated service based on a multi-stakeholder approach. The systematic collection of comparable gender-sensitive data on intimate partner homicide / femicide is an important measure to prevent violent deaths of women and children.

1. Questions of the Research

While there are clear EU political recommendations towards a systematic collection of gender-sensitive data on violence against women and on femicide in the EU member states and at the European level, the following questions are investigated here:

(a) Are there reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) available at the European level? If not what are the challenges in providing such statistics? Which actions need to be taken to overcome these obstacles?

(b) Are there reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) available in the EU member states, candidate states and applicant states? Are the results published regularly? Are these data comparable so that they can be provided at a European level? If not, what


\textsuperscript{36} Jansen, Henrica: Issues to consider in collecting population-based data, in: Council of Europe/ Gender Equality, and Anti-Trafficking Division/Directorate General of Human Rights and Legal Affairs: Data Collection as a Prerequisite to effective Policies to combat violence against women, including domestic violence, Proceedings from the Regional Seminar organized as a part of the Council of Europe Campaign Stop Domestic Violence against Women on the 7th of July 2007 in Lisbon, 2008: p. 31-39.


are the challenges in providing such statistics and which actions need to be taken to overcome these obstacles?

Within this report, **femicide is defined as homicide** of women by a partner or ex-partner (married or unmarried) thereby taking into account that there is no uniform definition of homicide. Thus we specifically look at gender-based intimate partner homicide/femicide. Intimate partner violence against women can be defined, according to the definitions of the United Nations CEDAW Committee, as a form of gender-based violence which is “directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately”. (CEDAW Committee 1992: Art 6).

2. Methodology

2.1. Sources of Information

In order to investigate the availability of femicide data at the EU level as well as in the EU member states, candidate states and applicant states, existing data on homicide are analyzed. Thereby, a focus is set on administrative data where data collection is already a financed and routine part of public service.

(a) Killing a person is defined as a severe crime in most countries. All cases of a person being murdered are usually recorded by the criminal justice system of every country. Two major types of statistics are collected by the criminal justice system on an annual basis: recorded crime statistics collected by the police and the criminal statistics based on criminal convictions in the court.

These data are collected at a national level. However, they are also investigated, analysed and compared at the EU level such as Eurostat data on Crime and Criminal Justice which is published annually as well as at an international level - such as the United Nations Survey on Crime Trends carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

(b) Another relevant data source on homicides/femicides, which has a financed and established data generation system, is collected by the healthcare system at a national level: the cause of death statistics. This data is again combined at the EU level in the Eurostat database on Health (Public Health / Health and safety at work) which includes the category: cause of death and at an international level – carried out by World Health Organisation (WHO).

In analysing the questions raised here, a stronger focus is put on the investigation of statistics collected by law enforcement agencies and, in particular, on crime and criminal statistics on femicide. The police are often the primary source of information on gender-based intimate partner femicide. The criminal justice sector has the potential to collect information on both victims and perpetrators and to track repeated victimization and repeated offending.

In addition, relevant surveys on gender-based intimate partner homicide are identified and analysed regarding the availability of femicide data.

2.1. Analysis
In answering the questions raised in the previous section, we

(a) analyse meta-data at the EU level - such as statistics of the criminal justice systems (crime statistics) and of the healthcare system provided by Eurostat, Interpol and Europol statistics but also data systematically generated by United Nations Organisation - along the following issues: Do data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) exist segregated by sex, age, type of violence (criminal code) and relationship between victim and perpetrator? What are the obstacles in providing gender-sensitive data on femicide at the EU level?

(b) investigate which kind of gender-sensitive statistics on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) are collected at a national level in EU member states, candidate and applicant countries? Is this data segregated by sex, age, type of violence (criminal code) and relationship between victim and perpetrator? Is this data comparable across countries? What are the obstacles in providing this data?

This analysis strongly builds on existing results of European surveys and research projects where similar data were gathered. For this reason, relevant European surveys and research projects were identified firstly in order to add to this data that have not yet been collected.

After identifying the similarity between the meso-data approach applied in EU Daphne project *Estimation of intimate partner violence homicides in Europe*, which was carried out by Société Civile Psytel, and the second research question raised within the EU Daphne Project PROTECT it was agreed to build on the results of the first mentioned project.

In order to generate comparable data it was agreed to adopt the questionnaire (see Annex 1), which was developed by Société Civile Psytel to collect meso-data in 27 EU member states, in the research part of PROTECT, thereby focussing on the collection of missing information regarding the availability of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in EU candidate states (Croatia, Former Republic of Macedonia, Turkey), EU applicant states (Albania, Montenegro, Serbia), and potential EU candidate states (Bosnia Herzegovina, Iceland).

In order to meet the question of research investigated here, question number seven of the adopted questionnaire developed by Société Civile Psytel was solidly modified. The question number eleven on so called honour related crimes was additionally included in the questionnaire as used within the project PROTECT. The questionnaire was sent to and filled in by the WAVE Focal Points (women's NGOs) located in the countries mentioned above. Additionally, expert interviews by telephone were applied as a research method in order to clarify open question.

---

42 Société civile Psytel: [www.psytel.eu](http://www.psytel.eu), 08.03.2010
43 Question number 7 as worded within the project *Estimation of intimate partner violence homicides in Europe*: Do the numbers available identify the sex of the perpetrators and victims, as well the age class?
Since WAVE does not include suicide in the femicide definition applied for this investigation of the availability of data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide), questions referring to this issue are not analysed in this project.

### 3. Results and Findings

Unsurprisingly, the main finding of this report was already assumed before conducting the analysis: there is a great lack of data on gender-based intimate partner homicide / femicide at EU level as well as in the EU member states, candidate states and applicant states.

However, critically analysing the different sources of information available on homicide to find out the challenges and obstacles which hinder the generation of this kind of data, opens up new ideas and options on how to improve the situation. These insights are presented in the following part according to a European-wide collection of femicide data but also at the national level - as revealed through an investigation based on questionnaires which were filled in by representatives of women's NGOs located in EU candidate, applicant and potential applicant countries.

### 3.1. Availability of gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) at European level

Eurostat[^44] is the statistical office of the European Communities and provides the European Union with statistics at the EU level that enable comparisons between countries and regions. Further, Eurostat develops statistical systems and supports EU candidate countries to prepare them for EU membership. Eurostat generates annual data on homicide in two different types of statistics: in the statistics of crime and criminal justice and in the statistics of public health.

#### 3.1.1. Homicide data available in Eurostat statistic of crime and criminal justice

In the Eurostat statistics of crime and criminal justice European data on homicide is offered in the category of crimes recorded by the police: homicide in cities (crim_hom_city)[^45]. Thereby homicide is defined as "... intentional killing of a person, including murder, manslaughter, euthanasia and infanticide. Causing death by dangerous driving is excluded, as abortion and help with suicide. Attempted (uncompleted) homicide is also excluded. Unlike other offences, the counting unit for homicide is normally the victim."[^46]

The homicide data provided by the Eurostat statistic of crime and criminal justice is based on offences recorded by the police and come from official sources in the countries such as national statistics agencies, the national prison administration, the Ministries of Interior or Justice and the police. Besides EU member states, data on homicide is collected from EU candidate countries, selected EU potential candidate countries, candidate states and applicant states.

---

[^44]: Eurostat: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu), 08.03.2010
EFTA/EEA countries and selected other countries\(^{47}\). Additionally, Eurostat data on homicide is also available by capital cities (police areas) in these countries and is provided in rates per 100,000 head of population averaged over three years. Homicide figures are considered as more readily comparable by Eurostat than other data of crime.

**RÉSUMÉ:** The Eurostat statistic on crime and criminal justice does not provide gender-disaggregated and age-disaggregated homicide data. Also the type of violence as well as the relationship between victim and perpetrator is left unconsidered. There is no data on intimate partner homicide (femicide) provided by Eurostat crime statistics at EU level.

**Challenges and initiatives to provide comparable gender-sensitive data on gender-based partner homicide (femicide) through Eurostat statistics on crime and criminal justice**

Measuring the development of crime in the EU is a difficult task, due to differences in the national information sources: There are different legal and criminal justice systems in the national states and differences in the list of offences that are included in the overall crime figures. Besides that, there are no consistent definitions and indicators as well as gaps in consistent data collection. For example, different rates at which crimes are reported to the police and recorded by the police officers are noticeable. Many women victims of violence are afraid to report the crimes to the police. Furthermore, if a police officer is not aware of the dynamics of violence against women he/she encounters the same situation described by a victim differently from an officer who has been trained in this area. As a result, there are differences in assessing the crime at the national level.

Several initiatives have been taken at the EU level to overcome these challenges and to generate reliable and comparable statistics on crime at criminal justice at the EU level. In 1993, the *Group of Specialist on Trends in crime and criminal justice: statistics and other quantitative data on crime and criminal justice system* was established by the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) in order to develop methods to handle problems such as varying offence definitions and different counting rules in the Council of Europe Member States. As a result, a first draft version of the *European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics*\(^{48}\) was presented in 1995\(^{49}\), which included both statistical data from 36 European countries and information on the statistical rules and the definitions behind these figures. The fourth edition, covering the years 2003-2007, was published in 2010.

In 2001, the *EU Crime Prevention Network*\(^{50}\) was set up by an EU Council Decision to promote the activity of crime prevention in member states across the EU, and to identify and share valuable good practice examples in preventing crime, mainly traditional crime.

Based on the *Hague Programme*\(^{51}\) which was adopted by the European Council in 2004, the *EU Action Plan for the Development of a Comprehensive and Coherent EU Strategy to...*

---


\(^{49}\) In contrast to other periodical international surveys on crime and criminal justice carried out by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (United Nations Survey on Crime Trends - CTS) or INTERPOL, which rely on the provision of data by national sources who were asked to follow standard definition, the methodology adopted in the *European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics* is based on a co-ordinated network of national correspondents. Each country has one person responsible for collecting and initial checking the data.

Measure Crime and Criminal Justice (2006-2010)\textsuperscript{52} was implemented by the Commission in August 2006 to take concrete actions in developing a more comparable system of crime and criminal justice statistics. An expert group was established by the Commission Decision (2006/581/EC) to advise on the implementation of this Action Plan. In parallel, a Eurostat working group was set up to process the findings and recommendations of the expert group. A number of expert sub-groups and task forces were implemented to examine particular tasks\textsuperscript{53}.

Critical reflection on initiatives applied to improve availability of gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) through Eurostat statistics on crime and criminal justice

Surprisingly, neither the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics nor the Action Plan for the development of a comprehensive and coherent EU strategy to measure crime and criminal justice, - the latter was adopted in the same year when the Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women started - consider or contain any action on developing indicators to measure violence against women and gender-based intimate partner homicide/femicide. Although completed homicide data according to police and vital statistic are provided in the European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics, they are neither segregated on gender, age and relation between victim and perpetrator nor on different types of violence; interestingly enough, this survey highlights figures on female (not male) offenders on homicide per country.

But other well acknowledged international surveys on crime - such as United Nations Survey on Crime Trends - CTS \textsuperscript{54,55} carried out by United Nation Office on Drugs and Crime, Statistics of the International\textsuperscript{56} / European Criminal Police Organization (Interpol / Europol), The International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS)\textsuperscript{57} – also fail to provide gender-disaggregated figures on intimate partner homicide / femicide. The latest International Statistics on Crime and Justice\textsuperscript{58} also contain no data on gender-based intimate partner homicide / femicide but highlight the importance of statistical work in the development of indicators on violence against women in general (without

\textsuperscript{53} E.g. an expert sub-group was established in 2008 to identified policy needs of data in the areas of effectiveness of criminal justice systems, juvenile criminal justice, judicial cooperation in criminal matters and the cost of criminal justice.
\textsuperscript{55} There are no gender-disaggregated and age-disaggregated homicide data available on the United Nation Survey on Crime Trends. Neither type of violence nor relationship between victim and perpetrator are considered. Femicide as violence against women in general is not taken into account. There is a slight difference between the two questionnaires - 10th and 11th CTS - investigated: in the Annex of the questionnaire Tenth CTS: 2005-2006 the attempt was made to analyse which different indicators of homicides (as well as wording in national language) are used by police recording in different countries. In this regard, the two categories “homicide related to family” and “homicide related to sex” are considered - but only in the Annex not in the questionnaire. See: UNDOC: Questionnaire for the Tenth United Nations Survey of Crime Trends and Operations of Criminal Justice Systems, covering the period 2005-2006 Annex: http://www.unodc.org/pdf/crime/tenthsurvey/Annex.pdf, 08.03.2010.
\textsuperscript{56} Interpol: http://www.interpol.int/, 08.03.2010.
\textsuperscript{57} The International Crime Victim Survey: http://rechten.uvt.nl/icvs/index.htm, 08.03.2010.
mentioning data on femicide explicitly) by referring to the United Nations 2008, Statistical Commission, Friends of the Chair group for indicators on Violence against Women\(^59\).

**Recommendations to improve availability of gender-sensitive data on gender-based partner homicide (femicide) through Eurostat statistics on crime and criminal justice**

- Consideration and implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendation Rec (2002)5 on the protection of women against violence\(^60\) as well as findings and results of the Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence (2006 - 2008)\(^61\) also at the EU level.

- Including the great interdisciplinary knowledge of experts on violence against women into activities to improve the collection and analysis of gender-sensitive data at the EU level in general and on gender-based homicide/femicide by inviting researchers and practitioners working in the field of violence against women to participate in working groups, expert group and task forces.

- Intimate partner homicide should be included as an autonomous cause of mortality in the Eurostat statistics of crime and criminal justice. Thereby it is important to consider gender-based violence by developing indicators for this specific homicide category.

- Development and implementation of well defined indicators and categories to systematically measure violence against women and femicide at EU level so that statistical data collection systems of EU member states, candidate and applicant countries can appropriately orient themselves. Furthermore, it is important to strive to promote the development and use of a consistent set of indicators at the national level.

- Development and implementation of systematic method of collection, analysis and reporting data on gender-based intimate partner homicide, which considers both levels –the national and EU level. The results should be summarized in a report and published annually.

- Consideration and adoption of U.N. recommendations on statistics - especially recommendations in collecting and analyzing gender-sensitive data on violence against women. In this regard the U.N.-Secretary General Database on Violence against Women\(^62\) is mentioned here:

In December 2006, the General Assembly of the United Nations adopted a comprehensive resolution calling for an intensification of efforts to eliminate all forms

---


\(^{60}\) The Protection of Women against Violence, Recommendation Rec(2002)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of women against violence, Division Equality between Women and Men, Directorate General of Human Rights, Council of Europe, STRASBOURG CEDEX 2002: [www.profeministimiehet.net/whiterib/content/texts/rec20025.doc](http://www.profeministimiehet.net/whiterib/content/texts/rec20025.doc), 08.03.2010.

\(^{61}\) Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence: [http://www.coe.int/t/dg2/equality/DOMESTICVIOLENCECAMPAIGN/](http://www.coe.int/t/dg2/equality/DOMESTICVIOLENCECAMPAIGN/), 08.03.2010.

\(^{62}\) UN-Secretary General Database on Violence against Women, [http://webapps01.un.org/vawdatabase/home.action](http://webapps01.un.org/vawdatabase/home.action), 08.03.2010
of violence against women and requesting the Secretary-General to establish a coordinated, multilingual database on the extent, nature and consequences of all forms of violence against women, and on the impact and effectiveness of policies and programmes for, including best practices in combating such violence. A database was established which contains a well structured and user-friendly search engine. The main information gathered in the database was collected through a questionnaire which was filled in by member states. In the questionnaire, the U.N. definition of violence against women is used and both types of crimes - femicide and so-called honour crimes - are explicitly mentioned in the overall definition. According to the results of the U.N. database, there are no systematically collected data and statistics on femicides available in European countries. This result affirms, on one hand, the findings of this report. On the other hand, it also reveals that not all data which are gathered on the issue of femicide have thus far found entrance into this database.

Another attempt to improve the statistical work by generating internationally comparable data on violence against women is The International Violence Against Women Survey (IVAWS). This survey is based on the comparative methodology of the International Crime Victim Survey (ICVS), combined with the specific expertise of the national violence against women surveys of Canada.

3.1.2. Homicide data available in Eurostat statistic of public health

In the Eurostat statistics of public health European-wide data on homicide are analysed in the statistic of Causes of Death in the category of Death due to homicide, assault, by gender - [tps00146]. Data on cause of death provide information on mortality patterns and refer to the underlying cause which - according to the World Health Organisation (WHO) - is "the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury".

64 Questionnaire of UN-Secretary General Database on Violence against Women: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-q-member.htm, 08.03.2010. Other sources of information include states parties’ reports to human rights treaty bodies, information provided by Member States in follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women (1995) - for reports of the Secretary-General and in statements made at the United Nations, as well as information available through relevant United Nations entities.
65 United Nations (2006) Secretary-General's in-depth study on all forms of violence against women (A/61/122/Add.1).
66 Questionnaire to Member States, United Nations Secretary-General’s coordinated database on violence against women, p. 4: When responding to the questionnaire, Member States are encouraged to provide information on measures taken to address all forms of violence against women. Forms include, but are not limited to, intimate partner violence, such as battering, and marital rape; harmful traditional practices, such as female genital mutilation, female infanticide and prenatal sex selection, early marriage, forced marriage, dowry-related violence, crimes against women committed in the name of "honour", and maltreatment of widows; femicide; sexual violence by non-partners; sexual harassment and violence in the workplace and elsewhere; trafficking in women; custodial violence; and forced sterilization; as well as violence against women in armed conflict. p 4: http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/vaw/v-q-member.htm, 08.03.2010.
67 According to the result of the U.N. database two sources of information on so-called honour crimes are available in Europe: one administrative data in Denmark and one research and statistical data project in Germany: http://webapps01.un.org/vawdatabase/searchDetail.action?measureId=5215, 08.03.2010.
Causes of death are classified by the 65 causes of the European shortlist of causes of death. This shortlist is based on the WHO's International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD). Homicide is thereby defined in the category External causes of morbidity and mortality (V01-Y98), subcategory Assault (X85-Y09) as: "injuries inflicted by another person with intent to injure or kill, by any means" except of legal intervention (Y35) and operations of war (Y36).

The medical certification of death is an obligation in all member states. Cause of Death data are derived from the death certificates collected in the public healthcare system. Countries code the information provided in the medical certificate of cause of death into ICD codes according to the rules specified in the ICD. This is carried out, in most cases, by a physician. In the case of non-natural deaths, the certification could be made by forensic physicians or, in some countries, by legal professionals, such as coroners in England.

Data are available for EU-27, Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Iceland, Norway and Switzerland. The annual national data are thereby provided in absolute number, crude death rates and standardised death rates. They are calculated on the basis of a standard European country by 100,000 inhabitants.

Résumé: The Eurostat statistic on Health (Public Health / Health and safety at work) provides homicide data separated for female and male in the tables: Deaths, males, Homicide and assault [7630], Deaths, females, Homicide and assault [7650]). However there is no age-disaggregated information available. Also the exact type of violence which results in death, as well as the relationship between victim and perpetrator is not considered. Summarising the homicide data of the Eurostat health statistic does not provide data on gender-based intimate partner homicide / femicide at EU level.

The general orientation of the European Shortlist of Death by the International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems is seen here as a valuable strategy to collect and analyse gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide / femicide. In comparison to the European shortlist of causes of death, the ICD (External causes of morbidity and mortality (V01-Y98), subcategory Assault (X85-Y09) considers a larger variety of types of violence. Furthermore, the ICD starts a general attempt to include the relationship between victim and perpetrator in the list of indicators. This is, for example, applied in the category Y07: other maltreatment syndromes. However, this approach has also not been adopted at the EU level in the

---

73 Ibid: International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems: Y35: injuries inflicted by the police or other law-enforcing agents, including military on duty, in the course of arresting or attempting to arrest lawbreakers, suppressing disturbances, maintaining order, and other legal action. http://apps.who.int/classifications/apps/icd/icd10online/, 03.08.2010.
74 Ibid: International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems: Y36: Injuries due to operations of war occurring after cessation of hostilities are classified to Y36.8. Includes injuries to military personnel and civilians caused by war and civil insurrection: http://apps.who.int/classifications/apps/icd/icd10online/, 03.08.2010.
77 Ibid: Y07 Other maltreatment syndromes which includes mental cruelty, physical abuse, sexual abuse, torture and excludes neglect and abandonment (Y06) and sexual assault by bodily force (Y05) aggregated by spouse or partner [Y07.0], parent [Y07.1], acquaintance or friend [Y07.2], official authorities [Y07.3], other specified persons [Y07.8], unspecified person [Y07.9]
European shortlist of causes of death, which leads to the assumption that the EU does not take U.N. recommendations on statistics seriously.

Recommendations to improve availability of gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) through Eurostat statistic of public health

- Consideration and adoption of U.N. recommendations on statistics - especially recommendations in collecting and analyzing gender-sensitive data on violence against women as well as in terms of the ICD.

- Including the great interdisciplinary experience and knowledge of experts on violence against women into activities to improve a gender-sensitive data collection and data analysis on violence against women and gender-based homicide / femicide at the EU level by inviting researchers and practitioners working in the field to participate in working groups, expert group and task forces.

- Working towards a system which allows combining gender-sensitive intimate partner homicide / femicide data from the public health system and from the criminal justice system.

3.2. Availability of gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in the EU member states, candidate states and applicant states

The investigation of gender-sensitive statistics on gender-based intimate partner homicide/femicide in EU member states, candidate and applicant countries is strongly built on existing results of European surveys and research projects where similar data were gathered. For this reason, relevant European surveys and research projects were identified and are briefly described in the following part in order to add to the data that have not been collected yet.

(a) Protecting Women Against Violence. Analytical study of the results of the second round of monitoring the implementation of Recommendations Rec (2002)5 on the protection of women against violence in Council of Europe

The last report on monitoring the implementation of the Council of Europe Recommendations Rec (2002)5 on violence against women also analyses the situation on data collection and research in EU member states. Thereby the question was raised: 

police statistics systematically record, in standardised categories according to criminal offences, the sex of victim, sex of perpetrator, and the relation between perpetrator to victim? If so, are they available in national reports?

According to the answers provided by the Council of European Member States\textsuperscript{79}, 27 out of 40 member states report that police statistics systematically record data on sex of perpetrator, sex of victim and their relationship in reporting on the most common criminal offences within the family. Furthermore 21 countries state that statistics are available which combine all three categories - sex of perpetrator, sex of victim and their relationship - according to criminal offences.

Due to the practical experience of experts working in the field of violence against women and the lack of means and methods of systematic collection of gender-sensitive intimate partner homicide, the correctness of the answers given by representatives of EU member states / Council of Europe Member States is questioned by the researchers who conducted this survey.

\textit{(b) 3rd International Report Partner Violence against Women: Statistics and Legislation, by Instituto Centro Reina Sofia (ICRS)}\textsuperscript{80}

This report provides compared statistical femicide data from countries in Africa, South America, Australia and Europe\textsuperscript{81} referring to the year 2006. Statistical data "regarding women killed (in general, by family members and by partners)"\textsuperscript{82} were thereby collected from official national organisations such as Ministries of Justice, Ministries of the Interior, Ministries of Social Affairs, from police departments and from national statistical agencies of the various countries.

This survey compares femicide data between countries and available in total numbers for the year 2006 such as: Femicide Total in 2006 (p. 67f), Domestic Femicide in 2006 (p. 80f), and Partner Femicide in 2006 (p. 87). Furthermore, femicide data disaggregated by age group of victims in percentage in 2006 as well as type of weapons used to committed femicide in 2006 are presented in tables.

Although the researchers who carried out the survey are aware of the fact that "many countries still do not have crime data disaggregated by sex (not even in the case of serious like homicides) and even less by victim-offender relationship"\textsuperscript{83} such kinds of data were passed on by several official state organisations to Instituto Centro Reina Sofia. Simultaneously, researchers and practitioners who are working in the field of violence against women clearly state that such data are not systematically collected in their countries. This suggests that official state organisation do not always provide reliable data - especially when it comes to data on violence against women.

\textsuperscript{79} Ibid: see Table 17.Content of police statistics and availability in a national report, p 44.
\textsuperscript{81} Africa: Algeria, South America: Argentina, Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic; Canada; United States; Europe: Germany, Andorra, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Scotland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Estonia, Finland, the Netherlands, Hungary, England & Wales, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Monaco, Norway, Portugal, Czech Republic, Turkey.
\textsuperscript{82} Ibid: p 65.
\textsuperscript{83} Ibid: p 65.
The WAVE Country Report also provides relevant statistics and data concerning the prevalence of violence against women. The data was mainly collected from WAVE's Focal Points located in 46 European countries, thus reflecting an NGO perspective. In the general statistic section of the questionnaire, the question is raised: Please fill in the number of femicides (women killed by men) in your country? According to the WAVE Country Report 2008, out of 44 investigated countries, 19 countries do not have administrative gender-sensitive data on femicide.

Together with partners from three EU member states (France/Psytel, Italy/ASLN5 and Hungary/Mona) the Société Civile Psytel carried out the project "Estimation of intimate partner violence homicides in Europe" within the European DAPHNE III programme 2007-2013 (European programme on the prevention of violence towards children, adolescents and women). Based on the principle "We believe it is necessary to analyse and interpret the published data so that the «numbers are correct, but not just numbers»" the project aims to provide an estimation of intimate partner violence-related homicides in 27 EU member states, as well as a cost estimation of these homicides. A methodology was thereby applied which utilised a three-pronged approach to collect and analyse:

- **macro-data**: data available in European and international databases,
- **meso-data**: collection of results of studies and scientific reports from all of the 27 EU member states related to intimate partner violence, depending on their availability; collection of official statistics on intimate partner homicide by sending a questionnaire to women's NGOs and national statistical agencies,
- **micro-data**: collection of homicide cases by key word search in major newspapers in France, Italy and Austria in order to analyse circumstances, relationship between perpetrator and victim and the social perceptions related to femicides by IPV in the press.

The definition of intimate partner homicide, as developed within the project, does not only include mortality related to intimate partner violence - the direct femicides in which the perpetrators were or have been intimate partners (husbands, current or past partners) - but also if feasible by the legislation in the country, boyfriends/girlfriends, ex-boyfriends/girlfriends, and persons dating (without necessarily having an intimate relationship). The definition of Psytel further includes suicides of homicide perpetrators linked to intimate partner violence, collateral homicides (children, family members but

---

86 Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, England, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine.
87 Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Turkey
88 Société civile Psytel: [www.psytel.eu](http://www.psytel.eu), 08.03.2010
not so-called crimes in the name of honour) at the moment of the crime and especially the suicides of female victims of intimate partner violence.

Based on the data collected according to the expanded definition of intimate partner homicide, as well as on an algorithm specially developed within the frame of this project, a number of intimate partner violence related femicides was estimated for every EU member state.

3.3. Investigation on availability of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in EU candidate, applicant and possible applicant states

As described above (see 2.1. Analysis) it was agreed to build on the results of the EU Daphne project *Estimation of intimate partner violence homicides in Europe* carried out by Société Civile Psytel.

The questionnaire developed by Société Civile Psytel in order to collect meso-data in 27 EU member states was thereby adopted, narrowly modified and sent to women's NGOs - the WAVE Focal Points - to collected missing information regarding the availability of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in EU candidate states, EU applicant states, and potential EU candidate states.

**Availability of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in EU candidate states**

**Croatia:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available

In Croatia, intimate partner violence is a specific offense. It is both a misdemeanor according to the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence and a criminal act according to the Penal code, Art. 215a.

Homicide data is not available segregated by sex of perpetrators and victims, age class of perpetrators and victims, relation between perpetrator and victim as well as type of violence in Croatia. Currently mortality numbers related to intimate partner violence can only be requested from the police in accordance with very specific questions – e.g. within the frame of a scientific survey. The official mortality data are generated by the Central Bureau of Statistics and published by the Ministry of the Interior but this data is only disaggregated by sex.

Since domestic violence has become an increasingly important issue, statistics are generated according to the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence and on a Criminal

---

89 Société civile Psytel: [www.psytel.eu](http://www.psytel.eu), 08.03.2010

90 Data about availability of femicide data in Croatia were provided by WAVE Focal Point - Autonomous Women's House Zagreb: [www.azk2.net](http://www.azk2.net), 08.09.2010.

91 There is no special article that makes femicide or any form of violence against women resulting in heavier sentences. (In practice, men often receive a lighter sentence if they murder a wife because they were "provoked" and so on. The maximum prison sentence for murder in Croatia is 40 years - only given for multiple murders).
Act according to the Penal Codec (Art. 215a). These data are provided by police and by court segregated by sex and relationship of victim and perpetrator. Nevertheless, statistics provided on the basis of these sources are not informative because the definition of relationship between victim and offender is not apparent. Different types of relationships (husband, ex-husband, common-law husband, ex-common-law husband, other family member) are summarized in one category. This leads to the problem that statistics only provide the number of male/female/child victims and perpetrators but it is unclear if the perpetrator was - e.g. husband, ex husband, common law husband, ex common law husband, other family member - which makes a big difference. Moreover, reliable and statistical underpinned assertions regarding the number of women violated by a husband or other family member etc. cannot be made. Moreover, boyfriend/girlfriend relations are not included in the definition of relationships between victim and perpetrator because they are not considered in the laws. Additionally, these data are also not classified by type of violence.

Data on deaths by homicides and suicides segregated by sex and age of victim and perpetrator as well as by type of violence of the victim is not published by the health service.

So-called crimes in the name of honour are not a specific offense in Croatia. This type of violence is not analyzed through public statistics.

**Republic of Macedonia:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available\(^92\)

In the Republic of Macedonia domestic violence is a specific offence. Intimate partner homicide is treated as an aggravated offence, like any other homicide. The definition of homicide in the Criminal Code includes general articles of what homicide is, but the language is not gender-sensitive and there is no specific article on homicides related to intimate partner violence.

In the Republic of Macedonia there are no gender-sensitive data on mortality related to intimate partner violence available. Existing figures identify sex and age of perpetrator, as well as type of violence. The relation between victim and perpetrator is not considered. There is evidence for the motive of homicide which contains the motive category "homicide related to domestic problem" but not domestic violence. These statistics are published by the police service and the Ministry of the Interior is in charge of these statistics.

The health services in the Republic of Macedonia do not publish gender-sensitive data on deaths by homicides and suicides. Crime from noble urge is a criminal act, but there is no information provided regarding the number of crimes committed.

**Turkey:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available\(^93\)

---


\(^{93}\) Data about availability of femicide data in Turkey were provided by WAVE Focal Point - Mor Çat Kadın Sığınçığı Vakfı (Purple Roof Women's Shelter Foundation): [www.morcati.org.tr](http://www.morcati.org.tr), 08.09.2010; The questionnaire was translated by Deniz Kemiz.
In Turkish Penal Code, intimate partner violence is not regulated as a separate and independent category of crime. However, such crimes as homicide against a wife is treated as an aggravating reason. Furthermore, the Law No. 4320 on “Protection of Family” regulates the measures to protect victims of violence in the case of violence against the spouse between married couples who live together or separately. This Law No. 4320 is only applied to officially married couples which is a fatal implementation because it is also necessary to provide special protection for women who live together with their male partners without official wedlock or wedlock by “imam” and divorced women by accepting them as intimate partners. Getting married in front of an imam but without an official wedlock is a very common practice in Turkey. Further, in the Turkish Penal Code (Article 82) the punishment of the perpetrator is increased in the case of felonious homicide against a wife. The “wife” here means official spouse and there is no other regulation apart from this.

Gender-sensitive data on intimate partner homicide which are segregated by sex and age of victim and perpetrator, by relationship between victim and perpetrator, as well as by type of violence are not systematically collected and analysed in Turkey. However, since 2005 the General Police Directorate provides annual figures on family violence-related femicides. According to that data 317 women were killed in 2005, 663 women were killed in 2006, 1,011 women were killed in 2007, 806 women were killed in 2008 and in the first seven months of 2009, 953 women were killed by a family member. According to the data received from the Headquarters of the Gendarmarie the number of femicides is in the first seven months of 2010 is 226. Besides gender-based intimate partner violence, these figures also include so-called honour related killings.

So-called honour-related killings are not regulated as a special category of crime in Turkey. During the revision of The Turkish Penal Code, despite the requests and active lobbying of women NGOs "Killings in the Name of Honour" is not regulated as an aggravated reason of "Felonious Homicide". However, "Töre" (which means almost ‘custom’ but not exactly) is regulated as an aggravated reason. It is claimed that not all the killings in the name of honour are committed by the motivation of "Töre". It is observed that, in practice, courts reduce the punishments of perpetrators of honour killings based on the patriarchal understanding of gender relations in the society.

**Availability** of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) **EU applicant states**

**Albania:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available

In Albanian legislation, domestic violence and concrete violence against an intimate partner does not connote a penal act in itself. In the Penal Code (Article 50.g) crime is considered an aggravating offence when the act is committed to profit from the family, friendship, or welcoming relations.

Gender-sensitive data on intimate partner homicide - identified by sex and age class of perpetrators and victims, by relationship between perpetrator and victim, as well as by the type of violence - is not systematically collected, analyzed and published in Albania.

---

94 Data about availability of femicide data in Albania were provided by WAVE Focal Point - Women's Forum Elbasan.
The police collect more detailed data on sex and age of victims and perpetrators, but this data is not accessible. This data is only provided if it is required within the frame of a specific survey related to cases of domestic violence that end in death.

All data collected by official institutions is forwarded to the National Institute of Statistics (INSTAT). Within the framework of their research ISTA provides data that consider violence against women: e.g. the "Domestic Violence National Observation" was published by ISTA in March 2009.

In the Albanian Penal Code, so-called crimes in the name of honour are not considered as specific offences, although there are frequent cases - especially in the northern part of Albania - which can be assigned to this type of violence. No data about so-called crimes in the name of honour it provided in order to analyze this specific type of femicide.

**Montenegro:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available

On the 27th of July, 2010, the parliament of Montenegro passed the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence. Article 2 Domestic Violence (the violence), of this law, defines domestic violence as "an act or failing to act of a member of the family that endangers physical, sexual or economic integrity sanity or tranquillity of another family member sexual, notwithstanding the place where it was committed." In accordance with this law (Article 3), family members (see definition) are not intimate partners. This all means that intimate partner violence is not a specific offence. The gaps of this definition exclude victims of intimate partner violence from protection measures and from statistics.

In February 2008, the annual report of the police directorate of Montenegro was published. This includes the numbers of murdered people in Montenegro in the period 2003-2007. The report does not present data segregated by sex, age and relationship between victim and perpetrator. The available data only shows initials of victims, towns and a qualification of the murder in accordance to Criminal Code of Montenegro. Therefore it is not possible to determine the exact number of deaths that are related to intimate partner femicides.

In April 2010, a review of criminal offences according to the criminal code for the year 2009 was sent to the SOS Hotline Niksic by the police directorate. This review contains figures on victims of violence segregated by sex. According to this paper, seven women were murdered in Montenegro in 2009. Four murders were qualified as murder (Article 143) while three murders were qualified as grave murder (Article 144). The mortality number of women related to intimate partner violence cannot be extracted from this data.

---

95 Data about availability of femicide data in Montenegro were provided by WAVE Focal Point - SOS Center for Women and Children Victims of Violence Niksic: www.sosnk.org, 08.09.2010.
97 1. spouses or ex-spouses, their children or children of any of them; 2. unmarried couples or ex-unmarried couples regardless of the duration of their unity, their children or children of any of them; 3. blood relatives and relatives from full adoption in direct line without any limitations, and side-line relatives to the extent of fourth degree of relation 4. relatives from non-full adoption; 5. in-laws to the extent of the second degree in a marriage or in common law marriage, 6. persons who live together in the same household, regardless of their kinship, 7. persons who have a child together or a child has been.
99 Archives of the SOS Hotline Niksic
In Montenegro data on all cases of deaths are provided by the health services and recorded in the Registry of Deaths\textsuperscript{100}. The Registry or Deaths collects data differentiated by sex and age of a dead person; however this data is not publicly accessible. In order to get this data, a person has to make a special request to the competent services.

So-called crime in the name of honour is not defined as a criminal offence in Montenegro and there exist no statistics about it. Furthermore, Montenegro does not have a criminal offence 'hate crime' which is one of the drawbacks of its legislation.

**Serbia:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available\textsuperscript{101}

In Serbia intimate partner violence can be considered as a specific offence under the broader definition of *criminal act of domestic violence*.

The national statistical agency provides data regarding the number of reported Criminal Acts by the article and paragraph in Criminal Code\textsuperscript{102} and on finished court cases within one year, segregated by sex of victim and offender and by age groups referring to victims - child (under 14) or minor (14 to 18). There is no segregation by relationship between perpetrator and victim. State institutions have the obligation to fill in special report sheets on each individual case of reported criminal offence or judicial sentence and send it to the national statistical agency.

Only police can provide partial numbers of persons killed by perpetrators classified according to husband, ex-husband and relative. Unfortunately, other intimate partner homicides are not recognized. This partial data on intimate partner homicide is neither published by police nor is this data sent to the national statistic agency of Serbia. This data can only be requested in accordance with the Law on Public Available Data.

Inconsistency in definition has a negative effect on the systematical conducting of statistical work, but also excludes people from protection measures. In Serbia, the definition of the group of people which can apply protection in accordance with the Criminal Code\textsuperscript{103} differs from the definition of the group of people that can request protection in accordance to the Protection Order related to the Family Law\textsuperscript{104}. In this case it is strongly recommended to amend the Criminal Code based on the Family Law in order to equalize protection of all persons.

\textsuperscript{100} Registry of Deaths in Montenegro: [Google Search](https://www.google.com/search?source=ig&hl=en&rlz=1G1GGLQ_ENUS350&q=podaci+o+umrlim+licima+u+crnoj+gori+&btnG=Google+Search\&aq=f&aqi=&aql=&oq=&gs_rfai=)

\textsuperscript{101} Data about availability of femicide data in Serbia were provided by WAVE Focal Point - Autonomous Women's Center against Sexual Violence: [WAVE Focal Point - Autonomous Women's Center against Sexual Violence](http://www.womenngo.org.rs/), 08.09.2010.

\textsuperscript{102} In Serbia there are two articles in the criminal code under which intimate partner homicide can be prosecuted. First is par. 4 of art. 194 (domestic violence article) in which death incidentally resulted during domestic violence abuse. This offence is considered aggravated circumstance (death was not the intention of perpetrator). The second is aggravated murder under which IP homicide can be prosecuted is art. 114 par. 10 (person causes death of a member of his family, whom he previously abused – intention of perpetrator is requested). Unfortunately, lots of IP homicides are prosecuted as ordinary act of homicide under art. 113.

\textsuperscript{103} Criminal Code: 1. marital or extra-marital partner, their children, spouse's parents, adopter and adoptee; 2. brothers and sisters and their spouses and children, previous spouses and their children, and previous spouses' parents, if they reside in the same household; 3. persons who were or still are in emotional or sexual relationship, that is, persons who have common child or a child is expected to be born, even though they never lived in the same family household.

\textsuperscript{104} Family Law: 1. marital and ex-marital partners; 2. children, parents, and other related cousins (in blood, in law and adoption) and persons related by guardianship; 3. persons who live or lived in the same family household; 4. extra marital partners or ex-extra marital partners; 5. persons who were or still are in emotional or sexual relationship, or who have or are expecting a child, even though they have never lived together in a shared household.
Health institutions are obligated to send all data on reported death cases according to type of death (natural or violent), sex, age, marital status, education and occupation of the deceased, and data of the event (origin of the violent death, date and time, place, activities of the deceased when the event happened and outside source of the death in accordance with the ICD10 codes) to the national statistic agency of Serbia.

So called crimes in the name of honour are not specific crimes in the judicial system in Serbia. Neither institutions nor journalists/media recognize this type of crime when committed.

**Availability** of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in potential EU candidate states

**Bosnia Herzegovina:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available

In Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), domestic violence, respectively intimate partner violence is defined as a criminal offence in the Criminal Law. Thereby, intimate partner homicide is defined as a major criminal offense.

Information or statistical data, which is recorded and published by police, health institutions or judiciary and prosecutor's office reveal sex of the perpetrator and victim, their age and relationship, but rarely the type of violence which was committed. Data that also considers types of violence is only published by NGOs working in the field of violence against women. It is important to include indicators of different types of violence in the official statistics.

Health services publish data on deaths by homicides distinguished by sex, and age of the victim according to the death certificate.

**Iceland:** no systematically collected and analysed data on femicide available

Intimate partner violence is not a specific offence in Icelandic law, but the latest changes in the General Penal Code concludes that violence in a close relationship is more punishable than violence where the perpetrator and victim are not related.

The mortality numbers related to intimate partner violence are unknown. There are no homicide data available segregated by sex of perpetrators and victims, age class of perpetrators and victims, relation between perpetrator and victim or as type of violence. No specific institution is in charge of these statistics. There is no specific publication regarding intimate partner homicide but the National Commissioner of the Icelandic Police gathers some information of this kind.

---

105 Data about availability of femicide data in Bosnia Herzegovina were provided by WAVE Focal Point - Medica Zenica - Counselling Centre for women and children victims of violence: [http://www.medicazenica.org](http://www.medicazenica.org), 08.09.2010.

106 Data about availability of femicide data in Bosnia Herzegovina were provided by WAVE Focal Point - Women's Shelter in Iceland: [http://www.kvennaathvarf.is](http://www.kvennaathvarf.is), 08.09.2010.
The Iceland Statistics collect information about death causes but do not make a distinction between homicides in close relationships and homicides in general. The directorate of health publishes information on numbers of deaths by causes of death, age and gender.

So-called crime in the name of honour is not a specific offence in Iceland. Official statistics indicate that crimes of this kind are still unknown in the country.

**RÉSUMÉ of the investigation on availability of reliable, systematically collected and analysed, gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in EU candidate, applicant and possible applicant states**

By investigating the availability of reliable figures on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) in EU candidate, EU applicant and potential EU candidate states, the main challenges of providing such data at the national level are clearly revealed. As confirmed by the results of the EU Daphne project "Estimation of intimate partner violence homicides in Europe" (see above) and by the experience of international PROTECT partners and advisory board members, similar problems – as described here - are also identified in EU member states.

The police are often the primary source of information on intimate partner homicides and other types of femicide. The criminal justice sector has the potential to collect information on both victims and perpetrators. Because these sectors operate on the basis of a code of law, it should be possible to organize data by criminal code sections.

However, there are still countries in Europe (e.g. Bulgaria, Albania) where domestic violence, family violence, intimate partner violence is not recognised as a specific offence. Since police collect information on the basis of the law it is a huge challenge for them to identify cases of domestic violence if there is no crime defined as “domestic violence” in the criminal code.

Furthermore, definitions applied in different legislation related to domestic violence or family violence, can also limit an appropriate collection of data on gender-based intimate partner homicides. For example, in Croatia boyfriend/girlfriend relationships are not included in the protection law, so this type of victim-perpetrator relationship is not considered in the data collection of the police.

In Albania, the new Law on Protection from Domestic Violence only considers crime committed by family member as domestic violence. NGOs, such as WAVE Focal Point SOS Hotline Niksic, strongly recommend using the term “intimate partner violence” instead. They were informed by the members of the parliament that “intimate partners cannot be treated as family members.” This shows the importance of raising awareness about the dynamics of violence against women among policy makers and to implement appropriate measures to protect all victims – especially those at high risk.

Some countries also have specific laws on domestic violence while others address domestic violence under laws on assault, grievous bodily harm, sexual assault, stalking, homicide and other crimes. This is one challenge in order to combine gender-based intimate partner homicide data at the EU level.
Furthermore, even within an individual country, different Ministries may record the same crime differently, in light of different interests and responsibilities, such as the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Health. However this fact also involves the opportunity to identify violence against women as cause of death on different levels. Since it can be assumed that cases of femicide are blanketed, for instance by covering them up as accidents, the “light of different interests and responsibilities” can help to assess the cases of gender-based intimate partner homicides from different angles.

Although data on homicide are collected in all countries by police, they are often not identified as gender-based intimate partner homicides. As mentioned above, this is, on one hand, caused by legislation, on the other hand, based on a lack awareness and knowledge about dynamics of violence against women. It is very important to provide special training on violence against women to police officers and to include this important topic in the curriculum of police education. Many women survivors of violence do not trust police and are afraid of reporting this crime. Also in this regard, it is essential to have female police officer sensitised on violence against women. The same applies for other professionals working in the social field – such as healthcare professionals, social workers, lawyers, etc.

Another reason for unavailability of reliable data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide) is the fact that there is no systematic method established to collect, analyse and report such statistics. Therefore it is important to use unified definitions and indicators in order to measure femicide and generate reliable data which are comparable over time and between countries.

Furthermore, in most countries, it is not possible to gain a complete picture of the magnitude of violence against women because statistics are not broken down according to the sex of the victim and the relationship of the victim to the perpetrator is not described. In nearly all European countries there is a need to improve statistical work in this regard. Again, this should be recognised as a chance because this gives us the opportunity to establish a methodological system which allows us to generate homicide data that is not only segregated by sex of the victim and perpetrator, by age of the victim and perpetrator, by the type of violence and by clearly defined indicators of relationships between victims and perpetrators, but data that is also comparable over time and among countries.

The European Union and all countries in Europe have the obligation to combat violence against women and to protect women survivors and their children in the best way possible. Police have the potential to track repeated victimization and repeated offending, which is a typical characteristic of violence against women. Police therefore play a major role in identifying violence against women and that group of victims at very high risk. In order to improve multi-agency based protection measures and to prevent these women and children from their lives it is essential to improve the data collection system of the police.

Violence against women and femicide as extreme manifestations of gender-based violence is a socio-political problem which can only be solved by raising awareness and breaking taboos. Reliable data on violence against women – especially on gender-based intimate partner homicide – help us to make violence against women visible. Due to a lack of reliable data, most European countries do not publish these relevant figures regularly.
Data on homicide is collected in all countries throughout Europe and very often this data is acquired segregated by sex and age of perpetrator and victim – sometimes also according to a definition of relationship between victim and perpetrator as well as toward type of violence. However, most countries do not analyse and publish this data in a way that the number of femicides is revealed.
5. Good Practice Examples of systematic collection and analysis of gender-sensitive data on gender-based intimate partner homicide (femicide)

Besides the U.K. and France, one country that has made major efforts in recent years to make violence against women visible in their statistics is Spain. Spain has developed comprehensive and coordinated measures to prevent gender-based violence against women. The effectiveness of these measures is monitored through the State Observatory of Violence against Women in the form of annual reports supported by a comprehensive set of indicators and variables concerning gender-based violence and by regularly collected data (Gobierno de Espana/Ministerio de Igualdad 2007, 2009b). This data is compiled in a database. This is an attempt to co-ordinate the data produced by different sources, including governmental administrative records, the national surveys provided for in the National Statistics Plan and specific surveys of gender-based violence. Observatory reports are regularly published on the website of the Spanish Ministry for Equality, which contains an extra site on violence against women.\textsuperscript{107} Several of the reports are also available in English. Statistics on femicide (women killed by partners or ex-partners) are published monthly.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Femicide data\textsuperscript{108} Spain\textsuperscript{109}</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These numbers point to a trend towards a considerable decrease of femicide cases especially from 2008 to 2009, but the timeframe is too short and the numbers too small for a secure statement.

A second Observatory of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence was established by the Spanish judiciary system, which collects and analyses data generated by the courts.

**Conclusion:** The Spanish model of monitoring and evaluation measures to prevent gender-based violence and to generate and publish data serves as a good practice model in the EU. The initiative of the Spanish EU presidency to establish a European observatory on gender-based violence against women should be supported and such observatory should be based on the experience of the Spanish observatory.


\textsuperscript{109} Population Spain: app 40 million (39 802 827, Eurostat population statistic)
III. RECOMMENDATIONS

Although there have been several attempts at EU level to implement a systematic collection of reliable data from the police and justice systems as well as from the healthcare system, data on gender-based intimate partner homicide/femicide are neither available in most EU member states, EU candidate, applicant and potential applicant countries, nor at the European level.

A few effective actions can considerably improve the generation of reliable data on femicide at national and at European level:

Taking VAW and femicide into account in all initiatives which intend to improve national and European statistics, such as: European Sourcebook of Crime and Criminal Justice Statistics, EU Action Plan for the Development of a Comprehensive and Coherent EU Strategy to Measure Crime and Criminal Justice (2006-2010) by:

- considering and implementing the European recommendations on the generation of data on VAW and femicide - e.g. Council of Europe Recommendation Rec (2002)5 on the protection of women against violence and Council of Europe Campaign to Combat Violence against Women (2006 - 2008);
- including the rich interdisciplinary expertise of researchers and practitioners working in the field of VAW;
- including gender-based intimate partner homicide/femicide as an autonomous category in the Eurostat statistics of crime and criminal justice as well as in crime statistics of all European countries;
- development and implementation of unified definitions and indicators to measure femicide which are comparable over time and between countries and which are applied in all European countries as well as at the European level;
- statistics of crime and criminal justice can be improved considerably by making a few changes: classifying all violent crimes according to gender of victim, gender of perpetrator, age of victim, age of perpetrator, type of relationship between victim and perpetrator, and providing for correlation of these categories;
- due to different definitions of type of relationship between victim and perpetrator in the legislation of EU member states, candidate states and applicant states, the development of clear and unequivocal categories presents a specific challenge. It is important to continue scientific discussion regarding this issue, and at the same time, to find pragmatic solutions for core data collection criteria;
- increase efforts to promote the use of a consistent set of indicators at the national level by raising awareness on VAW and on femicide among policy makers and to encourage them to support the generation of reliable and comparable data on femicide in their countries.

Development and implementation of a systematic method in collecting, analysing and reporting data on gender-based intimate partner homicide/femicide, which considers both: the generation of comparable data at the national and the European level.

- At the national level the data collection of the police should be improved because: (a) the criminal justice sector is hierarchically structured, which simplifies the implementation of a systematised method of data collection; (b) police are already the primary source of information on gender-based intimate partner homicides and
other types of femicide. The collection and analysis of homicide data is already a financed and routine part of this public service; (c) the criminal justice sector has the potential to collect information on both victims and perpetrators. Police have the potential to track repeat victimisation and repeat offending. By collecting this information, high risk victims of violence can be identified and protection measures can be applied; (d) the data can be easily analysed and published in the annual national crime statistics.

- Training on VAW should be provided to police (but also to other professionals in the social sector, such as health-care professionals, lawyers, judges, social workers, etc.) by experts working in the field of VAW, so that police officers can identify VAW and femicide cases and improve data collection and methods of measuring both.

- Establishing critical observatories (e.g. autonomous feminist women’s NGOs) in all EU member states, EU candidate, applicant and potential applicant countries to analyse the data collected by the police and other public services on the magnitude and nature of VAW, thereby especially focusing on the number of women who were killed by their intimate partners and relatives. The results should be summarised in a report and published annually.

- At the EU level, the collection and analysis of gender-based data on intimate partner homicide/femicide should be conducted by Eurostat.

In order to seriously work towards ending the killing of women by males because they are female, we need global data on femicide. For this reason it is important to consider UN recommendations and definitions in collecting, analysing and reporting femicide data both at the national and at the European level.
ANNEX

ANNEX 1: Questionnaire used within project PROTECT

1.) Is intimate partner violence a specific offence in your country?

2.) Is intimate partner homicide a specific, ordinary or aggravated offence?

3.) Is it currently known in your country the mortality numbers related to intimate partner violence?

4.) Who publishes this information? Police services, health services, law services?

5.) Is there a specific institution in charge of these statistics? A public observatory or associated one, a specialised service, specialised university centres?

6.) Which definition exists for homicides? Can you provide it? (femicides related to intimate partner violence, homicides, violence leading to death, collateral homicides, suicides by perpetrators, or of the victims, homicides and attempted homicides mixed)

7.) Do the numbers available identify the sex of the perpetrators and victims, age class of the perpetrators and victims, relation between perpetrator and victim (e.g. wife / husband, ex-husband/ex-wife, girlfriend / boyfriend, ex-boyfriend/ex-girlfriend) as well as type of violence?

8.) Do you have information on estimation methods or how the numbers are generated?

9.) Do the health services publish deaths by homicides and suicides (death certificate results distinguishing, if possible, the type and the age?)

10.) Do you know of any studies in your country which show the link between suicide and intimate partner violence?

11.) In your country are so-called crimes in the name of honour a specific offense? Do you have statistics on so-called crimes in the name of honour in your countries? If yes, can you please send us the latest numbers?

12.) Would you be available for collaborating on our project to be able to respond to questions for which you do not have the answers and thus improve the data collection of intimate partner mortality in your country? Contacts (mail, telephone) with the concerned ministries and the associations tackling intimate partner violence, expert interviews in the field. For a more specific proposal, you may be granted an all-inclusive fee (upon agreement with the director of the project Psytel).

13.) To improve the definition do you think other categories should be included? If yes, which ones?
PROTECT is financed by the European Commission within the Daphne-Programme.

PROTECT is co-financed by the city of Vienna: Department of Women’s Issues, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth,

PROTECT is co-financed by the following PROTECT partners: Dirección General de la Mujer de la Comunidad de Madrid, General Directorate for Gender Based Violence Prevention and Youth Reform (former IMRM), and the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna, Austria.