



**CONSULTATION MEETING ON GBV DATA COLLECTION:  
ADMINISTRATIVE DATA SOURCES  
AND CHALLENGES OF DATA COLLECTION**  
19 - 20 March 2014

European Institute for Gender Equality  
Gedimino ave. 16, Vilnius

## **BACKGROUND PAPER**

### **Objectives of the Meeting**

The overall objectives of the meeting are to present the results of EIGE's study on Administrative Data Sources and to share experiences on data collection within the different administrations and organisations in the Member States that work on combating Gender-based Violence (GBV). Sharing of ideas and strategies and consulting the participants' expertise will support EIGE's work with the Member States in this field and will strengthen its ability to contribute to constructive outcomes.

The critical issues that EIGE will debate in the meeting are:

1. Different methodological approaches to data collection on GBV
2. Identification of the key gaps in data collection
3. The potential use of administrative data sources for measuring GBV
4. Requirement for data collection of the Victims Directive: pooling of evidence and expertise of a variety of stakeholders, at MS level, on collecting data on GBV crimes
5. The mandate of a Working Group on Indicators for GBV at EU level

More specifically, EIGE will present and discuss the following topics:

#### *a. EIGE's main activities on GBV*

This will involve a presentation of EIGE's studies on gender-based violence and a discussion on challenges, gaps and future requirements on data collection to comply with the international legal framework and to provide comparable data to measure the magnitude of the problem.

#### *b. Study on Administrative Data Sources*

EIGE will share the first results of the study "Mapping the current status and potential of administrative data sources on GBV across the EU" and the online mapping tool developed from it.

*c. The need for a common approach to data collection*

The Istanbul Convention and, above all, the Victims Directive are triggering action at Member State level concerning the regulatory framework underpinning administrative data collection on GBV, amongst other crimes. In order to implement the Victims Directive, Member States are invited to consider collecting and disseminating reliable, regularly updated, judicial, police and administrative data on victims and perpetrators of all crimes (including GBV crimes), working in close cooperation with national and European Statistical Offices.

*d. Enhanced cooperation between stakeholders at different levels*

The objective of this session will be to consider the mandate and possible composition of an Expert Group to propose EU-wide indicator(s) on GBV. This Expert Group will focus on the development of a set of commonly accepted indicators on for example, the scope, prevalence or incidence of GBV, which it is hoped will contribute to addressing the urgent need to strengthen the knowledge base on GBV.

**Expected outcomes**

The outcome of the Consultation Meeting will be an identified next step to be taken to confront the specific challenges in data collection on GBV. A summary of the discussion, including the relevant insights put forward at the meeting, will be presented in the report of the meeting.

**Background information:**

**a. EIGE's work on GBV**

The collection, analysis and dissemination of objective, reliable and comparable data and information on equality between women and men are several of the main tasks of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE). Gender-based violence (GBV) reflects and reinforces inequalities between women and men and remains a major problem in the European Union.

EIGE's Gender Equality Index has highlighted the lack of comparable data on GBV in the EU Member States. This lack of data is compounded by the absence of common agreed methodologies within Member States on the collection of statistics on GBV and presents policy makers with immense barriers in addressing GBV adequately. Also, monitoring the effectiveness of European and national policies and actions taken is made more difficult. Committed to supporting ongoing work across the EU to address and combat GBV, EIGE notes that evidence in the form of comparable and harmonised data is crucial for informed decision-making. It is therefore necessary to map existing data sources, concepts and methodologies used in data collection developed in the Member States. EIGE launched the

study “Mapping the current status and potential of administrative sources of data on gender-based violence in the EU” to expand knowledge about the situation of and possibilities for administrative data collection on GBV in the EU-28.

Administrative data can provide detailed information on how judicial, police, health and social protection services respond to the prevention, protection, and prosecution of incidents of GBV. In this sense, administrative data reflect only what is recorded by an agency interacting with a victim or perpetrator. It does not measure the prevalence of GBV in a Member State, due to the high rate of unreported incidents of GBV. However, the availability of this data in all Member States makes administrative data providers a valuable source of information which can be assessed.

As a first step, EIGE will share with the representatives of the MS the results of this study regarding *what kind* of administrative data is collected on GBV and by *which methods*. The study also assesses the extent to which these administrative data are used and can be used for official statistical products in EU Member States.

During 2014, EIGE will continue supporting the implementation of EU policies on GBV, through analysis of data availability in the MS and by assessing the data’s comparability, especially focusing on data collection as called for by Directive 2012/29/EU (Victims Directive).

### **b. Key documents**

- Directive 2012/29/EU of 25 of October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime
- Directive 2011/99/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011, on the European protection order
- DG Justice: “Guidance Document related to the transposition and implementation of the Directive 2012/209/EU”

### **c. Background documents**

- UN: Report of the Friends of the Chair of the United Nations Statistical Commission on the indicators on violence against women E/CN.3/2009/13<sup>1</sup>,
- EIGE: “Beijing: An overview of the Beijing platform for action”<sup>2</sup>
- Annex I: Legislative and Policy Framework
- Annex II: Background information on the Study ‘Mapping the current status and potential of administrative sources of data on gender-based violence in the EU’

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<sup>1</sup> <http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/meetings/vaw/docs/finalreport.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <http://eige.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/Overview%20of%20BPfA%20-%20Violence%20against%20Women%20-%20D.pdf>