

Combating violence against women: United Kingdom



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UNITED KINGDOM

NON. NO. NEIN. Say No! Stop violence against women

Violence against women is rooted in women's unequal status in society and that status reflects the unbalanced distribution of social, political and economic power among women and men in society. It is one of the most pervasive human rights violations of our time and a form of discrimination that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women (1). Violence against women undermines women's dignity and integrity and imposes serious harm on families, communities and societies. In the EU, estimates suggest that 1 in 3 women (or 61 million out of 185 million) have experienced physical or sexual violence, or both, since the age of 15 (2).

The full extent of violence against women is difficult to estimate, as it continues to be underreported and ignored, meaning that what actually gets reported is only a fraction of the reality. In the United Kingdom (UK), 79 % of the population tend to trust the police, which is close to the figure in the EU overall (71 %) (3).

In EIGE's Gender Equality Index 2015 it was found that where people tend to have more trust in justice institutions, levels of reported violence are higher (4). It is estimated that in the UK, 44 % of women have experienced violence, which is 11 % higher than in the EU overall (5).

The European Institute for Gender Equality has estimated that the cost of intimate partner violence against women in the UK could amount to EUR 13.7 billion per year. This figure was calculated according to the methodology used in EIGE's 2014 study (6), which Member States can replicate, as done by Estonia in 2016 (7).

Violence against women is one of the most pervasive human rights violations of our time and a form of discrimination that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women. It is rooted in women's unequal status in society and that status reflects the unbalanced distribution of social, political and economic power among women and men in society. Violence against women undermines women's dignity and integrity and imposes serious harm on families, communities and societies. In the EU, estimates suggest that 1 in 3 women (or 61 million out of 185 million) have experienced physical or sexual violence, or both, since the age of 15.

[More about EIGE's work on gender-based violence](#)



Downloads



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