

Data collection on intimate partner violence by the police and justice sectors: Denmark



The infographic features the EIGE logo and title at the top. Below the title is a photograph of a woman in a courtroom setting. The main text is divided into two columns. The left column asks 'Why do we need administrative data on intimate partner violence?' and explains that many women remain unprotected due to inadequate law enforcement approaches. The right column defines intimate partner violence according to EIGE and notes that it disproportionately affects women. At the bottom, two donut charts show that in Denmark, 12% of women have been victims of intimate partner violence in their lifetime, but only 7% of those women contacted the police.

Why do we need administrative data on intimate partner violence?

Many women victims of intimate partner violence in the EU Member States remain unprotected. Perpetrators often go unpunished due to inadequate law enforcement approaches, which do not align with international human rights treaties. A gender-neutral approach to the law, coupled with the unavailability of data and existing stereotypes result in the denial of violence against women and its tolerance or normalisation. EU States must ensure that they carry out the due diligence principle to investigate and punish acts of violence and provide compensation to victims. Improving data collection and providing comprehensive and reliable administrative data is crucial to monitor the police and justice sectors' response to violence against women. It also shows a state's willingness to measure the effectiveness of its law. High-quality administrative data is in line with the international commitments of Member States to combat violence against women published in Denmark 2012 (2012) The Victim Rights Directive and the Istanbul Convention.

The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) defines intimate partner violence as all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim. It constitutes a form of violence which affects women disproportionately and which is therefore strictly gendered.

2012 Definition of intimate partner violence in line with the definition of domestic violence of the Istanbul Convention.

In Denmark, 12% of women have been victims of intimate partner violence in their lifetime.

Only 7% of those women contacted the police.

Source: Research from Agency for Equal Opportunities, Denmark (2012) in partnership with EIGE.

Many women victims of intimate partner violence in the EU Member States remain unprotected. Perpetrators often go unpunished due to inadequate law enforcement approaches, which do not align with international human rights treaties. A gender-neutral approach to the law, coupled with the unavailability of data and existing stereotypes result in the denial of violence against women and its tolerance or normalisation.

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AUTHOR: EIGE

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