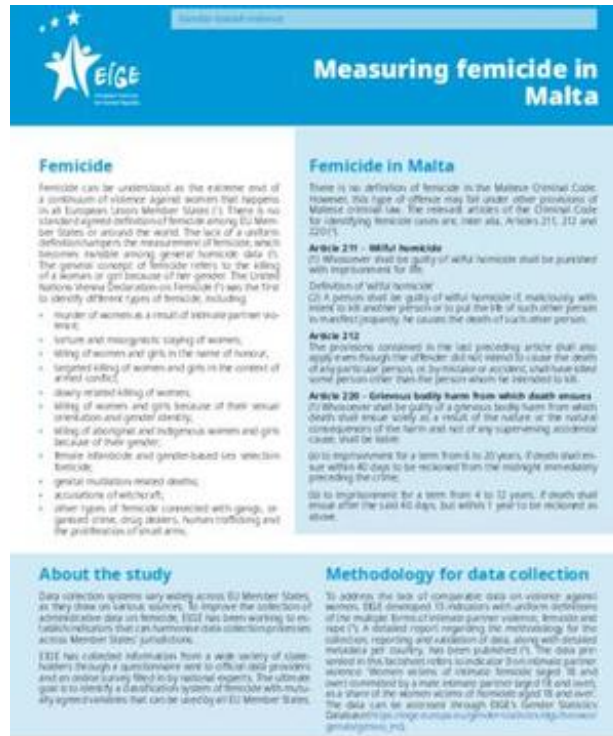


Measuring femicide in Malta



Femicide

Femicide can be understood as the extreme end of a continuum of violence against women that happens in all European Union Member States (1). There is no standard agreed definition of femicide among EU Member States or around the world. The lack of a uniform definition hampers the measurement of femicide, which becomes feasible among general homicide data (2). The general concept of femicide refers to the killing of a woman or girl because of her gender. The United Nations Special Representative on femicide (3) was the first to identify different types of femicide, including:

- murder of women as a result of intimate partner violence;
- torture and misogynistic slaying of women;
- killing of women and girls in the name of honour;
- targeted killing of women and girls in the context of armed conflict;
- identity-related killing of women;
- killing of women and girls because of their sexual orientation and gender identity;
- killing of Aboriginal and Indigenous women and girls because of their gender;
- female infanticide and gender-based sex selection femicide;
- genital mutilation-related deaths;
- accusations of witchcraft;
- other types of femicide connected with gangs, organised crime, drug dealers, human trafficking and the proliferation of small arms.

Femicide in Malta

There is no definition of femicide in the Maltese Criminal Code. However, this type of offence may fall under other provisions of Maltese criminal law. The relevant articles of the Criminal Code for identifying femicide cases are, inter alia, Articles 211, 212 and 220(1).

Article 211 - Wilful homicide

(1) Whoever shall be guilty of wilful homicide shall be punished with imprisonment for life.

Definition of wilful homicide

(2) A person shall be guilty of wilful homicide if, maliciously with intent to kill another person or to put the life of such other person in jeopardy, he causes the death of such other person.

Article 212

The provisions contained in the last preceding article shall also apply even though the offender did not intend to cause the death of any particular person, or by means of accident, culpably killed some person other than the person whom he intended to kill.

Article 220 - Grievous bodily harm from which death ensues

(1) Whoever shall be guilty of a grievous bodily harm from which death shall ensue solely as a result of the nature or the natural consequences of the harm and not of any supervening accidental cause, shall be liable:

to imprisonment for a term from 6 to 20 years, if death shall ensue within 40 days to be reckoned from the midnight immediately preceding the crime;

to imprisonment for a term from 4 to 12 years, if death shall ensue after the said 40 days, but within 1 year to be reckoned as above.

About the study

Data collection systems vary widely across EU Member States, as they draw on various sources. To improve the collection of administrative data on femicide, EIGE has been working to establish indicators that can harmonise data collection processes across Member States' jurisdictions.

EIGE has collected information from a wide variety of stakeholders through a questionnaire sent to official data providers and an online survey filled in by national experts. The ultimate goal is to identify a classification system of femicide with mutually agreed variables that can be used by all EU Member States.

Methodology for data collection

To address the lack of comparable data on violence against women, EIGE developed 15 indicators with uniform definitions of the multiple forms of intimate partner violence, femicide and rape (4). A detailed report regarding the methodology for the collection, reporting and validation of data along with detailed metadata per country, has been published (5). The data presented in this fact sheet refers to indicator 10 on intimate partner violence: Women victims of intimate femicide aged 15 and over, as a share of the women victims of femicide aged 15 and over. The data can be accessed through EIGE's Gender Statistics Database (6) or through the following URL: <https://gender.statistics.ec.europa.eu/>

Data collection systems vary widely across EU Member States, as they draw on various sources. To improve the collection of administrative data on femicide, EIGE has been working to establish indicators that can harmonise data collection processes across Member States' jurisdictions.

EIGE has collected information from a wide variety of stakeholders through a questionnaire sent to official data providers and an online survey filled in by national experts. The ultimate goal is to identify a classification system of femicide with mutually agreed variables that can be used by all EU Member States.

Downloads

↓ **Measuring femicide in Malta**
EN (PDF, 529.31 KB)

Further information

[Find all country factsheets on measuring femicide in the EU27+UK](#)



[Read our report on measuring femicide in the EU and internationally](#)



[Learn about our classification system for measuring femicide](#)



[Explore our literature review on defining and identifying femicide](#)



Metadata

COUNTRY: Malta

AREAS: Providing justice to victims of femicide: country factsheets, Gender-based violence

ISBN: 978-92-9482-896-5

DOI: 10.2839/08837