

# Combating violence against women: Portugal



**Combating violence against women**  
**PORTUGAL**

**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 harms 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. Violence against women continues to be under-reported and stigmatised, meaning that what actually gets reported is only a fraction of the reality. In Portugal, just under 10% of the population tend to trust the police (3).

In EIGE's Gender Equality Index 2018 it was found that where people tend to have more trust in justice institutions, levels of disclosed violence are higher (4). It is estimated that in Portugal 24% of women have experienced violence, which is 3% lower than in the EU overall (5).

The European Institute for Gender Equality has estimated that the cost of intimate partner violence against women in Portugal could amount to € 2.3 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).

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## Further information

[Press release: Lighting the way for change - Ending violence against women](#)



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