

# Measuring femicide in Estonia



**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 included 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 Vienna Declaration 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;
- honour-related and gender-based sex selection-based (4);
- genital mutilation-related deaths;
- accusations of witchcraft;
- other types of femicide connected with gangs, organised crime, drug dealers, human trafficking and the prostitution of children.

**Femicide in Estonia**

There is no definition of femicide in the Estonian Penal Code. However, this type of offence may fall under other provisions of Estonian criminal law. The relevant articles for identifying femicide cases are, inter alia, Articles 113, 114, 115, 116, 141 and 151 (5).

**Article 113 – Manslaughter**  
(5) Manslaughter is punishable by 1 to 15 years' imprisonment.

**Article 114 – Murder**  
(5) Murder, if committed in a torturous or cruel manner or in a manner that is dangerous to the public, is punishable by 8 to 20 years' imprisonment or life imprisonment.

**Article 115 – Manslaughter in provoked state**  
(5) If the offence is committed in a state of sudden extreme emotional disturbance caused by violence or insult inflicted on the killer or a person close to him or her by the victim, it is punishable by 1 to 5 years' imprisonment.

**Article 116 – Causing serious health damage**  
Causing health damage that results in death is punishable by 4 to 12 years' imprisonment.

**Article 141 – Death caused by rape**  
If the offence causes the death of the victim, it is punishable by 8 to 15 years' imprisonment.

**Article 151 – Incitement of hatred causing death**  
If activities that publicly incite hatred, violence or discrimination on the basis of nationality, race, colour, sex, language, origin, religious or national orientation, political opinion or faith, or of social status result in death, they are punishable by a particularly punishment or up to 7 years' imprisonment.

**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 13 indicators with uniform definitions of the multiple forms of intimate partner violence, femicide and rape (6). A detailed report regarding the methodology for the collection, reporting and validation of data, along with detailed materials per country, has been published (7). The data presented in this factsheet refers to indicator 10 on intimate partner violence: 'Women victims of intimate femicide (aged 15 and over) committed by a male intimate partner (aged 18 and over), as a share of the women victims of intimate femicide (aged 15 and over)'. However, the data available for Estonia under this indicator is not yet comparable. The data can be accessed through EIGE's Gender Statistics Database through the URL: <https://data.eige.europa.eu/gender-statistics>.

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## Downloads

↓ [Measuring femicide in Estonia](#)  
EN (PDF, 531.09 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](#)



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## Metadata

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