Grey literature on justice

What is grey literature? It is literature produced by non-commercial publishers, such as public institutions, universities, research institutes and civil society. It contains a lot of useful content, but is often hard to find as it is scattered across different locations. EIGE has collected grey literature on gender equality and you can access our collection through a simple search interface. EIGE’s collection of grey literature is available in several EU languages and documents come from all EU Member States.

The relevance of gender in justice

It is essential that there is gender equality in the justice field. Access to justice is a fundamental human right and an integral aspect of the rule of law.

Grey literature in EIGE’s library

EIGE’s library hosts one of the largest collections of gender-related literature related to justice. The collection presents good practices of current policies throughout Europe as well as gender indicators aimed at assessing gender equality in this domain. Several resources focus on the ways in which the EU has mainstreamed gender into policy processes. You will also find research reports and statistical documents providing data on key gender issues related to justice.

Anti-discrimination policies

In the library you will find resources on anti-discrimination legislation and policies. Many of the resources discuss how European and national equality legislation is implemented and interpreted. You will also find resources that examine patterns across communities regarding social norms and gender roles, as well as women’s empowerment.

Our collection of grey literature includes a broad range of issues related to multiple discrimination, such as migrant women, disabled women, Roma women and LG-BTI asylum seekers.

Reading list

- Budgeting for women’s rights: monitoring government budgets for compliance with CEDAW;
- On Norms and Agency — Conversations about gender equality with women and men in 20 countries;
- Current migration situation in the EU: lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex asylum seekers.
Women’s access to justice

While accessing justice may be difficult for everyone, it is even harder for women due to gender inequalities in society and in the justice system. In the library you will find resources examining the obstacles that limit women’s opportunities to claim their rights in court. These obstacles include lack of awareness of procedures, lack of financial resources and restrictions on the availability of legal aid, gender-neutral legislation, legislation that has not been assessed for its gender impact, gender bias in courts and among law enforcement officials, as well as cultural and/or religious barriers.

Resources on women’s access to justice also address the problem of under-representation of women in the justice system.

Reading list
Equal Access of Women to Justice — Feasibility study;
Victims of crime in the EU: the extent and nature of support for victims;
Child Marriage.

Gender-based crimes and protection of victims

Crimes against women are an obstacle to achieving the objectives of equality, development and peace. They violate women’s enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

In the library you will find several resources exploring violence against women and harmful practices such as forced marriage, female genital mutilation, human trafficking and war crimes against women. The collection of grey literature on gender-based crimes includes analysis of the phenomenon, as well as ways to prevent, investigate and punish offenders. Ways to provide adequate support for victims is also discussed.

Violence against women manifests itself in multiple forms; it crosses age, social class and geographical boundaries. It has adverse consequences on victims and also entails significant costs for communities, societies and nations. It affects public welfare, health and safety, productivity, law enforcement and public budgets.

In the library you can find analysis of administrative data sources on gender-based violence and service provision in European countries for survivors, including national helplines, shelters and rape crisis centres.

Reading list
Responding to FGM in Europe: striking the right balance between prosecution and prevention: a review of legislation;
Trafficking in human beings from a gender perspective, Directive 2011/36/EU — European implementation assessment;
Gender equality: striving for justice in an unequal world, Section 4: Gender, armed conflict and the search for peace.