

Measurement framework of violence against women in the EU

Conference in Vilnius
16.-17. November 2016

Presentation: IfeS, Vertr.-Prof. Dr. Monika Schröttle, Julia Habermann

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(1) Introduction

Background:

- Policy-making on the basis of reliable data
- Proposals for different indicators by various actors

Necessity:

- Monitoring Istanbul Convention
- Identification of political fields of action



(1) Introduction

Aim:

Develop indicators of the extent of violence against women and indicators for contextualization as a basis for monitoring violence against women.



(2.1) Political framing

European Union:

- Directives on human trafficking, European protection orders, victims rights
- Necessity of (improved) data collection was highlighted
 - E.g. Resolution by the European Parliament in (2011) and Conclusions by Council of the European Union (2014)
 - National statistics disaggregated by sex of the victims, sex of the perpetrators, their relationship, age etc.

(2.1) Political framing

Council of Europe:

- Istanbul Convention (2011)
 - Conviction rates of perpetrators
 - Number of protection orders
- Resolution on the systematic collection of data (2016)
 - Calls on Council of Europe Member States to conduct regularly repeated population-based surveys
 - Both: Data disaggregated by sex, age, relationship etc.

➤ **Data collection and disaggregation as integral part of international documents**

(2.2) Theoretical framing

Violence against women

Gender-based violence

- Different terms and concepts
- Clear to operationalize
- Central background: Unequal gender relations and power hierarchies

**Direct/interpersonal
violence**

Indirect/structural
violence

(2.3) Purpose of and criteria for an indicator (methodological framing)

Purpose

- Summarize a complex construct
- User-friendly, fast and easy to interpret
- Evaluate the status quo and developments
- Reliable basis for data-based policy-making

Criteria

- Goal-orientated
- Enable comparison
- Consider relevant dimensions of VAW
- Consider as few as possible and as many as necessary components
- Be practicable
- Data availability immediately, in short-term or medium-term
- Ideal indicators for long-term-perspective

(2.4) Construction process

Approximation from two sides

Theoretical

Preferable indicators
deducted from theoretical
framing and defined goals

Practical

Availability of data:
immediately, in short-term
or medium-term

Analysing of previous proposals

Development of own proposals

Discussion with experts

Final set of indicators

(3) Concept of the measurement framework

Contextualizing factors

Additional indicators on
specific forms of VAW

Core indicators on
the extent of VAW

One single
score

(3.1) Components for Indicator(s) on VAW

Indicator(s)

Forms

Physical violence	Sexual violence	Lethal violence	Psychol. (incl. economic) violence	Sexual harassment	Stalking	Human trafficking	Forced marriage	FGM	Forced abortion, sterilization
Number of indicators		General composition			Few		Several		
Victim-perpetrator relationship		Intimate partner				Others			
Severity/Frequency		Health consequences		Long-term relevance			Frequency		
Timeframe		Last 12 months		3 or 5 years		Lifetime			
Proportion		Prevalence				Incidence			
Age limit		Lower age limit				Upper age limit			
Further disaggregation		Age	Ethnicity	Place of occurrence			Etc.		

(3.2) Core indicators and score

Purpose:

- Few and central forms of VAW as basis
- Prevention of the emergence of a black box
- Forms, which can be researched well and interpreted in a comparable way
- Forms, which should potentially concern all women

- The division between core and additional indicators does not reflect their importance, seriousness or health consequences

(4.3) Core indicators and score

Physical and/or sexual violence by partner(s)

- The proportion of women who experienced any physical and/or sexual violence by a current or former partner in the last five years/ last 12 months

Physical violence by non-partner(s)

- The proportion women who experienced any physical violence by (a) non-partner(s) in adult life in the last five years/ last 12 months

Sexual violence by non-partner(s)

- The proportion women who experienced any sexual violence by (a) non-partner(s) in adult life in the last five years/ last 12 months

Intentional homicide

- Number of women aged 15 or above who were intentionally killed by any perpetrator in the last five years/ last 12 months per 100,000 female population

(4.3) Core indicators and score

Health consequences

- The proportion of women who had physical and/or mental health problems as a result of physical and/or sexual violence

Multiple victimization

- The proportion of women who experienced rather frequent acts of physical and/or sexual victimization, which is defined as three or more times in the last 12 months/perhaps more than 10 in the last five years

Disclose experiences of VAW

- Proportion of women who assess that they would not talk to others about a) physical/sexual violence experienced by a partner , b) sexual violence by non-partners , c) physical violence by non-partners

(4.3) Core indicators and score

Immediate feasibility



- Data gaps: Intentional Homicide
(Number of female victims aged 15 and above)
- Only available, comparable data: FRA survey (2014)
 - Timeframe of the last five years is missing
 - Disclosure: For the aim to correct prevalence rates, optimal question is not included
 - In combination to timeframe (last 12 months/lifetime) problems with health consequences and multiple victimization

➤ **Compromises have to be made by implementation of the proposal with existing data**

(4.3) Core indicators and score

Possible calculations at the moment

Timeframe

Since the age of 15
(last 12 months problematic because
of low number of cases and
identification of health consequences)

Forms of violence

- Physical/sexual by partner
- Physical/sexual by non-partner

(4.3) Core indicators and score

Possible calculations at the moment

Additional information

- Health consequences
- How to define multiple victimization since the age of 15 with the categories “never”, “once”, “2-5 times”, “6 and more times”?
- Disclosure: Measurement through reporting to institutions and anybody else in the case of the most serious incident

(4.3) Additional indicators

Purpose:

- Further information on specific forms and contexts of VAW
- Different forms of VAW need different state reaction and prevention

(4.3) Additional indicators

Sexual violence

- Proportion of women who experienced sexual violence since the age of 15; in the last five years; in the last 12 months
- Disaggregated by victim-perpetrator-relationship (current or former partner, family member, others)

Physical violence

- Proportion of women who experienced physical violence since the age of 15; in the last five years; in the last 12 months
- Disaggregated by victim-perpetrator-relationship (current or former partner, family member, others)

(4.3) Additional indicators

Stalking

- Proportion of women who experienced stalking since the age of 15; in the last five years; in the last 12 months
- Disaggregated by victim-perpetrator-relationship (current or former partner, family member, others)

Sexual harassment

- Proportion of women who experienced sexual harassment since the age of 15; in the last five years; in the last 12 months
- Disaggregated by victim-perpetrator-relationship (current or former partner, family member, others)

(4.3) Additional indicators

Psychological violence

- Expressed as proportion of women
- In the last five years, last 12 months, since the age of 15
- Disaggregated by
 - Victim-perpetrator-relationship (current or former partner, family member, others)
 - Place of occurrence (in the workplace, in education, internet elsewhere)

Intentional homicide

- Number of women aged 15 and above per 100.000 female population
- In the last 12 months
- Disaggregated by
 - Victim-perpetrator-relationship (current or former partner, family member, others)

(4.3) Additional indicators

Female genital mutilation (FGM)

Forced marriage

- Number of women per 100,000 female population
- In their lifetime, while they were already living in Europe

Forced sterilization

Forced abortion(s)

Human trafficking

- Number of women per 100,000 female population
- In their lifetime

(4.5) Data Sources – in general

Victimization survey:

- Determination of extent and consequences of VAW
- Need for regularly collected data across all EU Member States

Administrative data:

- Monitoring activities of institutions
- Identification of political fields of action

(4.5) Data Sources

Victimization survey

- Sexual violence
- Physical violence
- Psychological violence
- Stalking
- Sexual harassment
- Multiple victimization
- Consequences of VAW
- Low tendency to disclose experiences of VAW

Administrative data

- Intentional homicides

Specialized surveys/Administrative data

- FGM
- Forced abortion
- Forced sterilization
- Forced marriage
- Human trafficking

(5) Discussion

1. What do you think of the suggested variables of the composite indicator (core set of indicators)? Would you add or exclude certain forms of violence?

(5) Discussion

2. Are you in agreement with our proposal to include an indicator on disclosure of violence? How would you suggest that to measure disclosure and or reporting in EU-28?

Content

17th of November

6 Contextualizing factors

7 Outlook

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(6.1) Contextualizing factors

Contextualizing factors

Additional indicators on
specific forms of VAW

Core indicators on
the extent of VAW

One single
score

(6.2) Contextualizing factors

Purpose:

- Interpretation of prevalence rates
- Monitoring Istanbul Convention

Criteria:

- Regularly available
- Comparable between EU Member States
- Availability of data for the majority of MS
- Number should be adequate

(6.3) Contextualizing factors

Identification of seven relevant dimensions:

- 1 Institutional visibility
- 2 Performance of law enforcement agencies
- 3 Support
- 4 Policies
- 5 Prevention
- 6 Societal framework
- 7 Health system

(6.4) Contextualizing factors

1 Institutional visibility

1.1 Reporting violence to at least one institution (legal system, support services, health system)

Disaggregated by institution

Victimization survey

(6.5) Contextualizing factors

2

Involvement of law enforcement agencies

2.1 Reporting to the police

a) sexual offences, b) physical assaults, c) intimate partner violence

Crime statistics

2.2 Number of criminal convictions

a) sexual offences, b) physical assaults, c) intimate partner violence, d) intentional homicide

Crime and justice statistics

2.3 Number of protection orders by

a) police, b) civil courts, c) criminal courts

Crime and justice statistics by civil and criminal courts

(6.6) Contextualizing factors

3

Support

- 3.1 Number of places/beds in shelters per 10.000 female population
- 3.2 Number of non-residential specialized support services per 10.000 female population
- 3.3 Availability of at least one 24-hour, free of charge hotline

WAVE or GREVIO

(6.7) Contextualizing factors

3

Support

3.4 Cumulative costs and/or number of equivalent full-time-jobs

in a) shelters, b) non-residential support services, c) hotlines

GREVIO / Alternative state reports

3.5 Number of women with demand unmet

by a) shelters, b) non-residential support services, c) hotlines

GREVIO / Survey (optional)

(6.8) Contextualizing factors

4

Policies

General challenges:

- Important work done on regional and local level
 - Desirable to include
- Extent of resources (finances and staff) which are exclusively spent in the field of VAW cannot be determined
- Reasonable effort for data collection

(6.9) Contextualizing factors

4

Policies

4.1 States obligations and activities

- Composite indicator (max. three points)
- Per aspect one point:
 - Ratification of the Istanbul Convention
 - Existence of National Action Plan (NAP)
 - Existence of a separate department on national government level

General research / GREVIO

(6.10) Contextualizing factors

5

Prevention

General challenges:

- Decentralized programs
- Variety of programs
- Number does not reflect intensity and purview

5.1 Number of perpetrator programs per 100.000 population

GREVIO

(6.11) Contextualizing factors

6 Societal framework

6.1 Attitudes towards and legitimacy of VAW

- Proportion of population who are of opinion that violence against women is acceptable in certain situations

European wide survey, e.g. Eurobarometer

6.2 Overall violence crime rates

- Number of violent crime per 100.000 population

Crime statistics

(6.12) Contextualizing factors

6 Societal framework

6.3 Gender Equality

- Gender Equality Index (Score + single domains)

EIGE

6.4 Violence in childhood

- Proportion of women who experienced physical and/or sexual violence in childhood (before the age 15)
- One of the most important risk factors

Victimization survey

(6.13) Contextualizing factors

6 Societal framework

6.5 Alcohol consumption

- Number of deaths due to alcohol abuse per 100,000 inhabitants disaggregated by sex

Eurostat

- Proportion of men with high levels of alcohol consumption

European Health Interview Survey (EHIS)

(First wave participation of 17 EU Member States)

(6.14) Contextualizing factors

6 Societal framework

6.7 Financial situation

- Proportion of population that is unemployed
- Proportion of population that is at risk of poverty

Eurostat

6.8 Divorce rate

- Number of divorces per 100 marriages

Eurostat

(6.15) Contextualizing factors

7

Health system

7.1 Use of the health system

- Proportion of women who consulted the health system after violence

European Survey

- Long-term: Advancement of administrative data collection

(7) Outlook

- Instrument for monitoring the extent of violence over time and across countries and contextualization
- Identification of fields of action for further reduction of VAW
- Strength of the tool can be applied when it is implemented with its single components
- Not yet completely realizable
 - Regularly repeated victimization survey every five years
 - Advancement of administrative data

(8) Discussion

1. What do you think of the suggested variables for the societal context (contextual indicators)?

(8) Discussion

2. Would you have concrete suggestions the indicators for “policies”, “prevention” and “health system”?

(9) Discussion

1. What do you think of the suggested options? Any preference for option a, a-1 or b?