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Gender-based violence

*«One of the leading causes of death of women aged 16 to 44 years old, worldwide, is homicide by an intimate person»
World Health Organization, 2013*

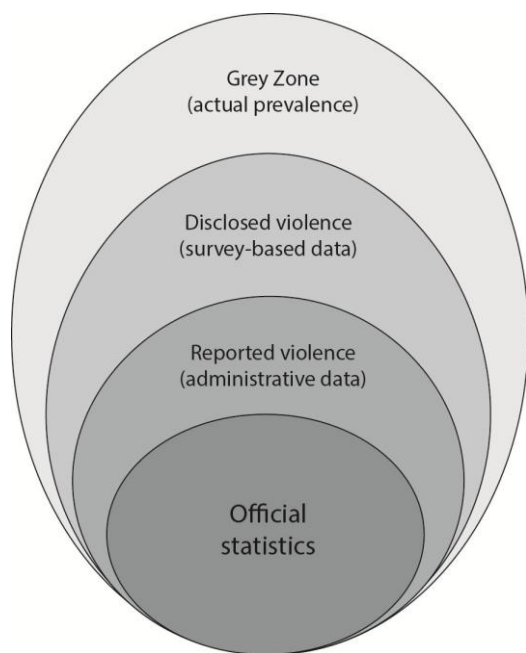
Acts of violence against women are not isolated incidents, but constitute the most extreme expression of gender inequality. Gender inequality lies in the unequal distribution of social, political and economic power between men and women. Gender-based violence constitutes a social phenomenon and the most common human rights violation in modern societies. According to the World Health Organization gender-based violence is a global public health matter affecting 1/3 of women globally.

In April 2018 the Greek Parliament ratified the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) (law 4531/2018), according to which gender-based violence is defined as human rights violation and a form of discrimination against women. All forms of violence are included in the Istanbul Convention: physical, sexual, psychological, economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.

The ratification of the Istanbul Convention marks a significant extension of the term “domestic violence”, by comprising “intimate partner violence” in the term and in that way the extend of violence against women in being recognized on a discourse level as well as on a legal one. With this extension the possibility of recording offences and prosecuting perpetrators whose relationship with the victim is not necessarily marital. The perpetrator of intimate partner violence can be a former or current spouse or partner as recognized by internal law, irrespective of whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim. This widening is absolutely necessary in order to record and capture the phenomenon of gender-based violence and to plan an integrated framework for the protection and support of all victims of violence. The inclusion of intimate partner violence in the Greek legislation was realized with the amendment of the law on domestic violence (law 3500/2006).

The Convention ensures equal protection and the right of all women (irrespective of social class, nationality/ethnicity, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, language, cultural characteristics, religion, legal status, etc) in essential measures of protection, support and reintegration (health services, housing, social and legal assistance, training, occupation, counseling support and legal aid).

An important aspect of gender-based violence is the difficulty to estimate its extent. The majority of those incidents remain under-reported and stigmatized. As a result, police reports constitute a small percentage of the actual prevalence.



In this figure ¹ are depicted the available data sources for gender-based violence. As we can notice, official statistics are only a fraction of the actual incidents. Systematic collection of administrative data has been recognized as an important factor for the improvement of national policies for the prevention and combating of violence against women. While survey-based data constitute estimations of the prevalence of violence against women, administrative data can be used as a way to assess the implemented policies for the combating of gender-based violence, as well as a way to measure the effectiveness of state's responsiveness.

Under-reporting of violence against women is a problem that most of the EU Member States are dealing with. One way of estimating the reporting rate of incidents of gender-based violence is the eurobarometer indicator for the trust of citizens in the police. In 2019 the aforementioned indicator for Greece was 66%, while the highest rate was recorded in Finland, 93% of the public opinion trusts the police and the lowest rate in Albania, with 43%²

This problem is further underlined in the concluding observations of the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW – *Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women*) on March 2013:

[The Committee] is, however, concerned at the persistence of violence against women, including domestic violence, in the State party, which remains underreported due to the prevalence of discriminatory social and cultural norms.

At the same time, the Committee is further concerned at the lack of information, studies and statistical data on the nature, forms, extent and causes of violence against women.

An effort to map the phenomenon on a European level is the EU-wide survey conducted by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) in 2012 based on interviews with 42.000 women across the 28 Member States in European Union. In this survey and regarding Greece, the rate of women victims of violence is 25% of sample, while the rate of women that reported the incident to the police is 14%, coinciding with the European mean. From the women that chose not to report to the police a serious incident of physical and/or sexual violence by a partner, 55% stated that they dealt with it themselves or they involved a friend. From the women that chose to report the

¹ Source EIGE: <https://eige.europa.eu/publications/understanding-intimate-partner-violence-eu-role-data> (p. 8)

² <http://ec.europa.eu/COMMFrontOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Chart/getChart/themeKy/18/groupKy/88> (06/2019).

incident to the police, satisfied with the assistance received answered the 44% of the sample, ranking Greece third to last in that question.³

Harmonization of statistical data on a European level is one of European Institute's for Gender Equality (EIGE) targets, as it is necessary for the comparison of the data in order to implement the Istanbul Convention. Other obstacles that need to be surpassed is the differences in the legal definitions of crimes regarding violence among Member States, the lack of documentation of certain forms of violence as crimes, as well as the lack of documentation for the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator in police records. According to Article 11 of the Istanbul Convention (art. 4 par. 8 of l. 4531/2018), the Observatory of the G.S.F.P.G.E. is responsible for the coordination of data collection on all forms of violence covered by the Convention.

The 23rd E-bulletin of the Observatory of the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality (G.S.F.P.G.E.) belongs to the thematic area of the Beijing Platform for Action "Violence against Women" and the monitoring of the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (article 11 of l.4531/2018).

More specifically, statistical data according to the indicators proposed by the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) for the monitoring of the Convention are presented. In the following table are presented the indicators that the Observatory of G.S.F.P.G.E. is responsible to collect on an annual base:

³ All survey data are available here: <https://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/survey-data-explorer-violence-against-women-survey>

Police	
Indicator 1	Annual number of women victims of intimate partner violence (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over), as recorded by police
Indicator 2	Number of reported offences related to intimate partner violence against women committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Indicator 3	Number of men perpetrators of intimate partner violence against women (and percentage of male population that are perpetrators)
Indicator 4	Annual number of women victims of physical intimate partner violence (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over) as recorded by police
Indicator 5	Annual number of women victims of psychological intimate partner violence (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Indicator 6	Annual number of women victims of sexual intimate partner violence (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Indicator 7	Annual number of women victims of economic intimate partner violence (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Indicator 8	Annual number of women victims reporting rape (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Indicator 9	Women victims of intimate femicide (18 and over) committed by a male intimate partner (18 and over), as a share of the women victims of homicide aged 18 and over
Courts	
Indicator 10	Number of protection orders applied and granted in cases of intimate partner violence against women by type of courts
Indicator 11	Number of men (aged 18 and over) prosecuted for intimate partner violence against women
Indicator 12	Number of men (aged 18 and over) sentenced for intimate partner violence against women
Indicator 13	Annual number of men (aged 18 and over) sentenced for intimate partner violence against women held in prison or with a sanction involving a form of deprivation of liberty
Additional Indicator	Annual number of partner violence cases which are subject to criminal mediation

Greece is not yet in a position to collect reliable and comparable data for the aforementioned indicators, as it is the case for the total of the E.U. countries, with the exception of isolated countries for isolated indicators⁴. The comparability and reliability of the data is a target and an obligation deriving from the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. The difficulty in the collection of these indicators is a result of the gaps in the legislation and the recording systems of the Police and the Justice Sector of all E.U. Member States. In the case of Greece, the gaps and the necessary modifications are mentioned thoroughly under the correspondent tables with the data collected from the two institutions that follow. It is, therefore, an effort to approach the phenomenon. On the first column of the table it is mentioned the name of the indicator that expresses the available data of the Observatory at the time of this publication, while on the last column it is mentioned the corresponding indicator proposed by EIGE.

⁴ At this point, fully comparable data for 8 out of 9 police indicators can be provided only by the Czech Republic, France can provide data for 6 out of 9 indicators and Germany for 5 out of 9. 12 countries can provide comparable data for one of the 9 indicators, while the remaining 13 countries are not in a position to provide comparable data on any indicator.

Police statistics on domestic violence

Indicators that we have at our disposal	Year								EIGE's Indicators
	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	
Annual number of women victims of domestic violence			1630	1818	2302	2321	2696	3196	Indicator 1: Annual number of women victims of intimate partner violence (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Number of reported offences related to domestic violence	1303	2005	2455	2896	3512	3572	3839	3134	Indicator 2: Number of reported offences related to intimate partner violence against women (aged 18 and over) committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Number of men perpetrators of domestic violence (percentage of male population that are perpetrators)			1620	1886	2351 (3%)	2428 (2,9%)	2891 (3%)	2395 (2,5%)	Indicator 3: Number of men (aged 18 and over) perpetrators of intimate partner violence against women (and percentage of male population that are perpetrators)
No records for the type of violence untill 2018									Indicator 4: Annual number of women (aged 18 and over) victims of physical intimate partner violence committed by men (aged 18 and over)
No records for the type of violence untill 2018									Indicator 5: Annual number of women (aged 18 and over) victims of psychological intimate partner violence committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Women victims of sexual assault (337 PC)					191	259	263	224	Indicator 6: Annual number of women (aged 18 and over) victims of sexual intimate partner violence committed by men (aged 18 and over)
No records for the type of violence untill 2018									Indicator 7: Annual number of women (aged 18 and over) victims of economic intimate partner violence committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Annual number of women victims reporting rape	264	220	245	216	182	163	205	223	Indicator 8: Annual number of women (aged 18 and over) victims reporting rape committed by men (aged 18 and over)
Women victims of intentional femicide (299PC) in combination with the law of domestic violence	11	12	6	13	12 (44,4%)	11 (36,7%)	13 (50%)	7 (30,4%)	Indicator 9: Women (18 and over) victims of intimate femicide committed by a male intimate partner (18 and over), as a share of the women victims of homicide (aged 18 and over)

The most important breakdown that is lacking in the table above is the **relationship between victim and perpetrator**. Offences related to persons sharing the same residence are included in the context of domestic violence (Law 3500/2006 before its amendment). So in the data are also included offences where the offender might be the father and the victim his son, or two siblings respectively. In the context of intimate partner violence (Law 4531/2018, as amended the Law 3500/2006), are included crimes which are committed by **adult men perpetrators** against **adult women victims** who have or have had some type of **intimate relationship**, regardless of whether they share or have shared the same residence.

Therefore, the data presented here do not refer to intimate partner violence but to domestic violence, without further clarifying the victim's relationship with the perpetrator. Therefore, Indicator no. 1 (annual number of women victims of intimate partner violence) depicts the number of women who have reported domestic violence to the police. As we can see, this number has been increasing in

recent years, recording a 49% increase over the period 2012-2017. It should be emphasized that, as we mentioned in the introduction here, **this increase is not necessarily interpreted as an increase in domestic violence victims, but rather as an increase of the victims' reports to the police.**

Indicator no. 2 (the number of reported offences related to intimate partner violence) refers to crimes that were reported to the police regarding domestic violence, omitting the gender, the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator, as well as the type of violence. From 2010 to 2016 these offenses increased in an annual basis, with the exception of 2017, where compared to 2016 there was a decrease of 18.4%.

Indicator no. 3 is complementary to the first two indicators and refers to the number of men perpetrators of domestic violence. The perpetrators, as well as the victims, may be more than one, so with the data at our disposal we cannot infer the percentage of men who have committed the reported crimes that are included in the second Indicator. We can, however, compare the rates of men and women perpetrators of domestic violence. For example, out of the 2,833 perpetrators in 2017, whose gender information is recorded, 84.5% were men and 15.5% women (438 women perpetrators of domestic violence). At the same time, we can also extract the rates of men perpetrators of domestic violence crimes in relation to the entire male population who has committed some crime. Thus, according to police data for 2017, 2.5% of all men offenders had committed a domestic violence crime. This figure for 2014 and 2016 was 3%, while in 2015 it was 2.9%.

For Indicators no. 4, 5 and 7, which refer to the annual number of women victims by type of violence (physical, psychological and economic respectively), the country cannot provide data before 2019, as separate forms of violence were not recorded by the authorities. At this point it is worth noting that with the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, the Hellenic Police changed the way in which domestic violence cases were recorded with a directive notified to all police stations of the country.⁵ Under this directive, the police will now proceed in recording the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator as well as the type of violence that is being committed, including also psychological⁶ and economic violence⁷.

The figures listed in Indicator no. 6 are related to the incidents of sexual assault reported to the police in accordance with Article 337 of the Criminal Code, without further information on the sex of the victim or the perpetrator, as well as on the relationship between them. The corresponding EIGE indicator is for women victims of sexual violence⁸. By amending the police registration system, we believe that by 2019 the country will be able to provide comparable data for this indicator. At the same time, the comparability of these indicators will mean that Indicator no. 1 will aggregate the set of Indicators no. 4-7, which categorize the victims to the type of violence.

The only indicator that does not include the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator is Indicator no. 8, which refers to rape. This is the only indicator that will be fully comparable once the victim's age is included. As we have already mentioned, the collection of statistics under the Istanbul Convention, relates to adult women victims of intimate-partner violence, while in the figures presented here for Indicator no. 8 we have no information on the age of the victims. **Victims' and perpetrators' age and gender** are important variables which are included in the annual data that the country has to compile.

⁵ (Directive on the Crime of 'Domestic Violence' - Implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, Protocol No: 1507/18/2643165, 28.12.2018).

⁶ This type of violence includes acts such as: coercion, defamation, slander and verbal abuse, harassment, humiliation, neglect, isolation, acts of jealousy, threat, stalking, mental abuse.

⁷ This type of violence includes acts such as: property damage, theft of personal property, deprivation of liberty, financial dependency, refusal of maintenance, forced labor in domestic work.

⁸ This type of violence includes acts such as sexual assault and rape.

We note that the total rapes reported to the police in the years 2010-2017 ranged from 163-264. We must, however, reiterate that the actual picture of the phenomenon is not reflected in the above figures due to the failure of reporting these incidents. It is worth noting that if we compare the rape reports to the police authorities of Sweden and Greece, two countries with almost the same population, we will observe that in Sweden rape is reported 14 times more (3,143) than in Greece (223). The above comparison is indicative of the different degree of reports of the respective incidents to the police and not their actual frequency. Characteristically, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) report states: 'Increased gender equality leads to higher levels of disclosure about violence against women'. In societies with higher levels of equality, incidents of violence against women are more likely to be tackled and fought more openly.

Indicator no. 9 refers to the annual number of women victims of intimate femicide committed by a male intimate partner. As the concept of femicide has not yet been incorporated into the legislation of any Member State of the European Union, the European Institute for Gender Equality is trying to approach the phenomenon through the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. The concept of femicide highlights the phenomenon and is used to specify the rate of women homicides motivated by the victim's gender. In Greece, victims of femicide are assessed through the use of the article on intentional homicide (Article 299 of the Criminal Code) in conjunction with the Law on Domestic Violence (Law 3500/2006). Therefore, the information in the table above informs us that in 2017 seven women were murdered in Greece by a member of their family, while in 2016 the murders of women by their close relatives amounted to 13. The table above does not include data for 2018, where femicides committed by family members rose again to 13. As we can see from our data for most of the reporting years, every month a woman is murdered by a member of her family.

As a percentage of women victims of homicide, femicides appear to range from 30.4 to 50%. Specifically, for the year 2018 that is not listed, the proportion of domestic femicides was 46.2%, as in all of the 28 homicides of women, 13 were committed by a member of the victim's family. According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2017, the proportion of women murdered worldwide by a partner or family member (50.000) in relation to female homicide (87.000) reached 58%.⁹

In view of the changes made to the information system of the Hellenic Police, we believe that the data for 2019, to be published by the Observatory as soon as they become available, will correspond to the indicators proposed by the European Institute for Gender Equality. As mentioned above, the collection of data is necessary for policy making and in this regard the establishment of a department dedicated in combating domestic violence by the Hellenic Police, with 73 stations across the country, aiming in the prevention and combating of gender-based violence it is considered fundamental.

Following, data from the courts, as they were sent to the Observatory, will be examined. As in the table on police data, the first column indicates the name of the indicator according to the available data and the last one corresponds to the EIGE's indicator.

For the collection of the following data, the Observatory of the GSFPGE addressed the 63 First Instance Courts of the country, through the Supreme Court, which all responded to our request. However, some of the First Instance Courts did not have the required data of some indicators, so we are currently arranging meetings with other justice bodies to collect them. This is also the reason why some indicators are less complete than others. So, after the name of the indicator we mention the number of First Instance Courts that had the necessary data.

⁹ https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/GSH2018/GSH18_Gender-related_killing_of_women_and_girls.pdf

Statistics on domestic violence provided by the justice sector

Indicators recorded by the justice sector	2016		2017		2018		Matching with EIGE's Indicators
	Men	Women	Men	Women	Men	Women	
Annual number of granted restraining orders (according to Article 18 of Law 3500/2006) <i>Available data from 16 out of 63 First Instance Courts (25.4%)</i>	17	2	45	2	33	3	Indicator 10: Annual number of protection orders applied and granted in cases of intimate partner violence against women by type of courts
Annual number of prosecutions against men (aged 18 and over) for committing a crime against a member of their family (Articles 6, 7, 8, 9 of Law 3500/2006)	2890	463	3628	688	4082	697	Indicator 11: Number of men (aged 18 and over) prosecuted for intimate partner violence against women
Annual number of convictions against men (aged 18 and over) for committing a crime against a member of their family (Articles 6, 7, 8, 9 of Law 3500/2006) <i>Available data from 57 out of 63 First Instance Courts (90.5%)</i>	634	49	797	58	785	66	Indicator 12: Number of men (aged 18 and over) sentenced for intimate partner violence against women
Annual number of men (aged 18 and over) who serve a sentence of deprivation of liberty in a prison for committing a crime against a member of their family (Articles 6, 7, 8, 9 of Law 3500/2006) <i>Available data from 14 out of 63 First Instance Courts (22.2%)</i>	22	0	14	0	11	0	Indicator 13: Annual number of men (aged 18 and over) sentenced for intimate partner violence against women held in prison or with a sanction involving a form of deprivation of liberty
Annual number of cases that have been submitted in the process of penal mediation (Article 11 of Law 3500/2006) <i>Available data from 56 out of 63 First Instance Courts (88.9%)</i>	493	60	589	100	529	94	This particular indicator has emerged after a proposal of the General Secretariat for Human Rights and does not match any of EIGE's suggested Indicators

Collecting data from the justice sector in Greece is a complicated and time-consuming process, as the digitized systems for recording data are incomplete. This means that First Instance Courts employees should look for the required data in the hard copies of the case files.

The statistics listed above do not fully match with EIGE's proposed indicators, as they do not record the gender and age of the victim, as well as the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. However, they are a significant reflection of the phenomenon of domestic violence in Greece.

Thus, for Indicator no. 10 on the imposition of restraining orders from 16 First Instance Courts for offenses involving domestic violence against a family member, in 2016 89.5% of the perpetrators who were sanctioned with this measure were men (17 men, 2 women), in 2017 the percentage was 95.7% (45 men, 2 women) and in 2018 it was 91.7% (33 men, 3 women).

The data presented in Indicator no. 11 (*annual number of prosecutions for crimes against a family member*) come from the total of 63 First Instance Courts. So we note that 86.2% of the perpetrators prosecuted for domestic violence in 2016 were men, 84% in 2017 and 85.4% in 2018.

Indicator no. 12 (*annual number of convictions for a crime committed against a family member*) includes data from 90.5% of the First Instance Courts (57 out of 63). The convictions in 2016 regarded men by 92.8%, 93.4% in 2017 and 92.2% in 2018.

Indicator no. 13 relates to the annual number of perpetrators serving a prison sentence for domestic violence against a member of their family (14 out of 63 First Instance Courts recorded the relevant data). Although we look at a 22.2% of the First Instance Courts, we observe that all the imprisoned perpetrators for domestic violence in 2016-2018 are men (22 in 2016, 14 in 2017 and 11 in 2018).

The last indicator mentioned in the table above refers to the annual number of perpetrators subject to penal mediation. The indicator is not proposed by EIGE, but is a proposal from the Ministry of Justice aiming in the monitoring of this process. As the table shows, the majority of the First Instance Courts (56 out of 63) were able to provide this information. The procedure of penal mediation is a compromising way in order to avoid litigation, where the perpetrator promises not to commit any act of domestic violence in the future, agrees to be removed from the common residence if the victim demands so, agrees to attend a special treatment program for the combating of domestic violence by an institution of the public sector and to pay compensation at any damage caused to the victim. From the data collected we observe that in this process the majority of the perpetrators are men. In 2016, 89.2% of the perpetrators involved in the penal mediation process were men, 85.5% in 2017 and 84.9% in 2018.

In order to meet the country's obligations under the Istanbul Convention on the collection of statistics by the Institution of Justice, it is necessary to record the sex and age of the victim, as well as the relationship between victim and perpetrator.

From the information presented in the present e-bulletin, as we have mentioned above, no conclusions can be drawn about the dimensions of intimate partner violence,, however, significant findings emerge on facts regarding domestic violence, which includes intimate partner violence. The fact that data from justice show men as perpetrators of domestic violence with percentages as high as 84%, gives prominence to the need of combating violence against women by men, as defined by the Istanbul Convention which is now the law of the State (Law 4531/2018).

In order to convert judicial decisions into statistics it was decided to collect data on prosecutions and convictions against men perpetrators based on specific articles of the Law for Domestic Violence (Law 3500/2006). The table that was sent to the country's 63 First Instance Courts along with the data collected is presented below.

Table: Collection of data from the 63 First Instance Courts of the country based on the articles of the Law on Domestic Violence (Law 3500/2006)

First Instance Courts	YEAR 2016		YEAR 2016		YEAR 2016	
Law 3500/2006, as applicable today	Criminal prosecutions by gender		Convictions by gender		Imprisonments by gender	
	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN	MEN	WOMEN
Article 6 Paragraph 1 Domestic physical damage	1330	226	362	32	15	0
Article 7 Paragraph 1 Domestic violence and threat	339	52	56	6	1	0
Article 7 Paragraph 2 Domestic violence and threat	1031	169	193	8	6	0
Article 8 Paragraph 1 Rape and sexual assault	24	0	0	0	0	0
Article 8 Paragraph 2 Rape and sexual assault	16	2	0	0	0	0
Article 9 Paragraph 1 Domestic infringement of sexual dignity	150	14	23	3	0	0
Total	2890	463	634	49	22	0
	YEAR 2017		YEAR 2017		YEAR 2017	
Article 6 Paragraph 1 Domestic physical damage	1649	292	432	34	8	0
Article 7 Paragraph 1 Domestic violence and threat	428	90	56	7	0	0
Article 7 Paragraph 2 Domestic violence and threat	1373	284	258	14	4	0
Article 8 Paragraph 1 Rape and sexual assault	27	3	8	0	1	0
Article 8 Paragraph 2 Rape and sexual assault	4	0	1	0	0	0
Article 9 Paragraph 1 Domestic infringement of sexual dignity	147	19	42	3	1	0
Total	3628	688	797	58	14	0
	YEAR 2018		YEAR 2018		YEAR 2018	
Article 6 Paragraph 1 Domestic physical damage	1869	312	442	41	7	0
Article 7 Paragraph 1 Domestic violence and threat	381	80	57	8	0	0
Article 7 Paragraph 2 Domestic violence and threat	1623	282	249	12	0	0
Article 8 Paragraph 1 Rape and sexual assault	13	0	8	0	2	0
Article 8 Paragraph 2 Rape and sexual assault	9	1	0	2	1	0
Article 9 Paragraph 1 Domestic infringement of sexual dignity	187	22	29	3	1	0
Total	4082	697	785	66	11	0

First Instance Courts				
Law 3500/2006, as applicable today	Penal mediation		Imposed restraining orders	
	Men	Women	Men	Women
YEAR 2016	493	60	17	2
YEAR 2017	589	100	45	2
YEAR 2018	529	94	33	3

Statistics on Domestic Violence from Counseling Centers and Shelters

From Monday April 2, 2012 to Thursday November 15, 2018, 25.079 women addressed the 41 Counseling Centers across the country, in person and through third parties. 22.183 of the cases concerned violence. During the same period, 1.352 women victims of violence were accommodated in the 21 Shelters.

For the first 318 days of 2018, 4.274 women victims of violence were assisted at the Counseling Centers of the country.

18.938 women out of all women who addressed the Counseling Centers during 2012-2018 reported domestic violence. For the women that were accommodated in the Shelters, the victims of domestic violence for the same period amounted to 1.125.

Statistics on Domestic Violence from SOS telephone line 15900

Out of the 3.325 women who called GSFPGE's helpline (15900 – SOS helpline) in 2018, 88.8% of the cases involved domestic violence, while according to the recorded victim-perpetrator relationship, 68.5% of the incidents concerned intimate-partner violence. We are referring to intimate-partner violence since in 59.2% of these cases (1967 calls) the perpetrator was the husband of the victim and in 9.3% the partner (309 calls). Significant is the rate of domestic violence by other family members reported by 514 women on the SOS helpline in 2018, which was 15.5%.

The implementation of the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women is a priority for the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality. Part of the implementation is the collection and publication of data by the Observatory on an annual basis, with the aim of monitoring the phenomenon and developing measures to combat violence against women.

The sources used to extract data were:

- *Hellenic Police*
- *First Instance Courts*
- *Hellenic Statistical Authority (ELSTAT)*
- *Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA)*
- *European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)*
- *European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)*
- *Eurobarometer*
- *Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)*
- *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)*
- *World Health Organization (WHO)*

paratiritirio.isotita.gr is a special website of the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality designed to include, analyze, process and diffuse statistical data and indicators for gender equality policies.

Its goal is mapping gender differentiations in 12 basic policy areas and the monitoring of any relevant trends and advances in Greece. Moreover, it includes 84 gender indicators based either on the Beijing Platform for Action or on specific national priorities and is followed by metadata.

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