

The challenges of administrative data collection on violence against women: the example of Greece

Ismini Sioula-Georgoulea, Sociologist

Observatory for Gender Equality

General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality

Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs

Greece



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
GENERAL SECRETARIAT
FOR FAMILY POLICY AND
GENDER EQUALITY

The Observatory for Gender Equality

- According to the ratification of the **Istanbul Convention** (Law 4531/2018), the Observatory is the responsible unit of the General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality for the **collection** and **dissemination** of **GBV statistics**.
There was no other official body responsible for the collection & dissemination of these data prior to the ratification of the Istanbul Convention.
- Since **2017**, the Observatory has been in contact with EIGE in regards to the Intimate Partner Violence Indicators.
- Since **2006**, **Domestic Violence Legislation** (Law 3500/2006) is active in Greece. Recent changes according to the Istanbul Convention.
- **11/2020**: Starting date for the **Working Group on the Istanbul Convention** under the presidency of the G.S.F.P.G.E..



Cooperation with the competent authorities

Since **2018**, we have been establishing our **cooperation** with the authorities providing services to the victims of domestic violence.

❖ Through an extensive network of the GSFPGE with the competent Ministries/Agencies in the public sector, we:

- inform them for the necessity of data on GBV, according to the Istanbul Convention and its requirements (GREVIO questionnaire)
- discuss on the availability of the data and the variables that could be used for the collection of as comparable as possible data

➤ **Covid-19 virtual meetings**

Challenges in the Police Sector

Gaps in the recording procedure regarding:

- ❖ victim-perpetrator relationship
- ❖ type of violence
- ❖ sex and age of victim and perpetrator
- ❖ femicide (does not exist in the Greek penal law. Data are retrieved by filtering the data on homicide in combination with the Law on Domestic Violence.)

Advances in the Police Sector

- ❖ Establishment of the **Combating Domestic Violence Police Unit** with 72 stations in Greece.
- ❖ Directions regarding the new data recording were sent to all police stations.
- ❖ Changes in the data recording (**2019**):
 - **Victim-perpetrator relationship**
 - **Type of violence**
 - **Sex of victim and perpetrator**
- **Data are not correlated**

Challenges in the Justice Sector

- ❖ Data not available centrally or digitally stored
- ❖ Manual collection of the data from the court clerks
- ❖ By case
- ❖ Not all required data are available (e.g. data on sentencing perpetrators to prison, on protection orders)

➤ **Need for a unified and digitized database for all courts**

Advances in the Justice Sector

Data collection procedure:

- ❖ request from the General Secretariat ➡ to the Supreme Court of Greece
- ❖ from the Supreme Court of Greece ➡ to the 63 First Instance Courts
- ❖ data sent from the 63 First Instance Courts ➡ to the Observatory
- ❖ Observatory processes, analyses and disseminates the data

Data collection on prison sentences:

- ❖ Request from the Observatory to the General Secretariat for Anti-Crime Policy
- ❖ Total data sent from the G.S. for Anti-Crime Policy to the Observatory

➤ New negotiations with the Ministry of Justice

Dissemination of data Observatory

❖ 2 annual e-bulletins on gender based violence

2019: police & justice sector

2020: police & justice sector,
prisons,
support programmes for perpetrators,
helplines for victims of domestic violence,
state compensation to the victims,
asylum & migration.

❖ Participation in the **First Annual Report on Violence against Women**, published by the G.S.F.P.G.E. on the occasion of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women (25.11.2020)

Thank you for your attention

Ismini Sioula-Georgoulea

Observatory for Gender Equality

i.sioula@isotita.gr



MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS
GENERAL SECRETARIAT
FOR FAMILY POLICY AND
GENDER EQUALITY