

Core Indicators for measuring Gender Based Violence

Proposals for the discussion

Roberta Barletta

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Definitions of Violence against Women

UN declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women defines violence against women as:

“any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual, or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or private life” (1993).

The Beijing platform of Action (1995) enlarges the definition of violence against women and includes, among others, sexual abuse of female children in the household, dowry-related violence, female genital mutilation and other traditional practices harmful to women, violence related to exploitation, trafficking in women and forced prostitution, forced sterilisation and forced abortion, coercive/forced use of contraceptives, female infanticide and prenatal sex selection.

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)

Article 3 – Definitions

“gender-based violence against women” shall mean violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately

Article 11


1. For the purposes of the implementation of this Convention, Parties shall undertake to:
 - (a) collect disaggregated relevant statistical data at regular intervals on cases of all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention;

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)

Article 11

(b) support research in the field of all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention in order to study its root causes and effects, incidences and conviction rates, as well as the efficacy of measures taken to implement this Convention.

2. Parties shall endeavor to conduct population-based surveys at regular intervals to assess the prevalence of and trends in all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention.



Sustainable Development Goals

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Goal 5.

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Targets

5.2 Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation

5.3 Eliminate all harmful practices, such as child, early and forced marriage and female genital mutilation

Sustainable Development Goals

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Indicators

- 5.2.1** Proportion of ever-partnered women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to physical, sexual or psychological violence by a current or former intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by form of violence and by age
- 5.2.2** Proportion of women and girls aged 15 years and older subjected to sexual violence by persons other than an intimate partner in the previous 12 months, by age and place of occurrence
- 5.3.1** Proportion of women aged 20-24 years who were married or in a union before age 15 and before age 18
- 5.3.2** Proportion of girls and women aged 15-49 years who have undergone female genital mutilation/cutting, by age

Sustainable Development Goals

UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs

Goal 16.

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels

Targets 16.1

Significantly reduce all forms of violence and related death rates everywhere

Indicator 16.1.3

Proportion of population subjected to physical, psychological or sexual violence in the previous 12 months

Minimum set of indicators proposed for measuring violence against women and men (UNECE)

Physical violence

4.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to physical violence in the last 12 months

4.1.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to physical violence in the last 12 months, by frequency, severity and relationship to perpetrator

4.2.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to physical violence since age 15, by frequency, severity and relationship to perpetrator

Sexual violence

4.3 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual violence in the last 12 months

4.3.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual violence in the last 12 months, by frequency, severity and relationship to perpetrator.

4.4.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual violence since age 15, by frequency, severity and relationship to perpetrator.

Minimum set of indicators proposed for measuring violence against women and men (UNECE)

Psychological and economic violence

4.5.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to psychological violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner

4.6.1 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to economic violence in the past 12 months by the intimate partner

Violence by the partner

4.7 Proportion of ever-partnered women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner in the last 12 months

4.7.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner in the last 12 months, by frequency

4.8.1 Proportion of ever-partnered women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual and/or physical violence by current or former intimate partner since age 15, by frequency

Minimum set of indicators proposed for measuring violence against women and men (UNECE, 2015)

Under reporting

4.10 Proportion of women/men aged 15-49 years, subjected to sexual and/or physical violence in the last 12 months, who did not report the crime to the authorities/to the police

Violence in childhood

4.11.1 Proportion of women/men aged 16-49 years, subjected to sexual violence in childhood (occurring before sixteen years old)



Core indicators proposed to the Task Force discussion

Core indicators

Forms of violence:

- Physical violence
- Sexual violence
- Psychological violence by intimate partner
- Economic violence by intimate partner
- Stalking by intimate partner
- Sexual violence in childhood
- Early marriage



Core indicators

Disclosure

- Reporting to the authorities
- Seeking help

Descriptive indicators

- Multiple victimization
- Severity

Core indicators

Time frame

1. **Lifetime:** refers to the respondent's whole lifetime with respect to intimate partner violence; refers only to events occurring at age 15 and above with respect to non partners violence
2. **The past 5 years:** in the perspective of regularly updated Eu-surveys this time frame would allow to compare prevalence in the period of time between two consecutive data collections
3. **The past 12 months:** provide an indication of the extent of current levels of violence and an estimate of the number of women who may need assistance

Core indicators

Physical violence

- Total and age-specific rate of women/men subjected to physical violence during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months by relationship to perpetrator

Sexual violence

- Total and age-specific rate of women/men subjected to sexual violence during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months, by relationship to perpetrator

Core indicators

Intimate partner violence

- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women/men subjected to physical or sexual violence by their current/former partner during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months
- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women/men subjected to physical violence by their current/former partner during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months
- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women/men subjected to sexual violence by their current/former partner during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months

Core indicators

Intimate partner violence

- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women/men subjected to psychological violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime and in the past five years
- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women/men subjected to economic violence by an intimate partner during their lifetime and in the past five years

Core indicators

Stalking

- Total and age-specific rate of ever-partnered women/men subjected to stalking by an intimate partner (during their lifetime)

Sexual violence in childhood

- Total and age-specific rate of women/men subjected to sexual violence in childhood (before sixteen years old), by relationship to perpetrator

Early marriage

- Total and age-specific rate of women/man who were married (or in a union) before the age 15 and before the age of 18

Core indicators

Reporting to the authorities

1. Total and age-specific rates of women/men subjected to physical and/or sexual violence during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months, who reported the crime to the criminal authorities/to the police

More in depth (additional):

- i. Reasons for reporting
- ii. Reasons for not reporting
- iii. Perception of the suffered violence as crime
- iv. Actions of the police, criminal justice or legal authorities
- v. Consequences for the perpetrator
- vi. Satisfaction with the assistance they received by the police or legal authorities
- vii. Needs for other assistance by the police or legal authorities

Core indicators

Seeking help

1. Total and age-specific rates of women/men subjected to physical and/or sexual violence during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months, contacting any organization or service
2. Total and age-specific rates of women/men subjected to physical and or sexual violence during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months, talking to other people

More in depth (additional):

- i. Reasons for not contacting organizations or services
- ii. Satisfaction with the assistance they received by the organization or service contacted
- iii. Usefulness of talking to other people

Core indicators

Multiple victimization

- Total and age-specific rate of women/men subjected to repeated violence during their lifetime, in the past 5 years and in the past 12 months, by type of violence and relationship to the perpetrator

Severity

- There is not a single indicator to represent severity, so multiple variables are required
- Consideration must be given to both physical and emotional consequences
- Some acts such as rape, attempts to strangle or suffocate, to be burned or scalded on purpose or the use or threatened use of a knife or gun are severe by themselves

Core indicators

Severity

1. injuries suffered
2. type of injuries
3. violence during pregnancy
4. miscarriage as a result of violence
5. medical treatment needed (even if not obtained)
6. mental health consequences
7. use of drugs or alcohol to cope with violence
8. the victim's incapability to lead her/his daily life because of violence
9. the perception of own life in danger
10. having fear of partner