WELL-BEING AND SAFETY OF WOMEN

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What was measured?

1) Prevalence of
   • Physical, sexual, psychological violence;
   • Stalking & sexual harassment;
   • Perpetrated by partners or someone else;
   • Lifetime experiences and 12 months prior.

2) Consequences of violence including witnessing;

3) Reporting behavior and support;

4) Attitudes and opinions of gender roles.

5) Exposure to armed conflict and conflict related violence

- Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina,
  Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia
- Moldova and Ukraine

The research was also conducted in Kosovo.¹

¹All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text should be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244.
Methodology

Sampling methodologies:
- Target sample size was 1,750, except for BiH (2,300), Ukraine (2,000) and MN (1,200)
- Multistage, stratified, random probability sample.

Cognitive Testing and Pilot
- Conducted in November and December 2017
- Aim: test every element of the quantitative survey, including the interviewer briefings, sampling approach and tools, questionnaire and other fieldwork materials.

Quantitative fieldwork:
- Completed in 20 weeks on average.
- Interviews conducted face-to-face using CAPI (tablet).
- 95% of interviews were conducted in complete privacy.
- Quality control.

Qualitative fieldwork:
- Key expert interviews.
- Focus group discussions.
- In-depth interviews.

Process:
- Survey company.
- Stakeholder Consultation.
- Validation roundtables.
Development of questionnaire

• Based on FRA questionnaire;
• Expanded to include additional modules (based on consultations and testing, incl. with OSCE FOs) on:
  • experiences related to conflict;
  • psychological violence (expanded on controlling and abusive behaviours);
  • norms, attitudes and behavior;
• Full questionnaire reviewed by experts on VAW ⇒ improved phrasing to avoid misunderstandings;
• Cognitive test of questionnaire in May and June 2017 ⇒ changes made to length of questionnaire, change of structure, changes to wording;
• Pilot study in November and December 2017.
Conflict focus

Sections of questionnaire:
- Section A1 – Introduction
- **Section AA – Conflict experience**
- Section B – Health, feelings of safety, knowledge about services
- **Section C – Sexual harassment**
- **Section D – Other experiences with non-partners – physical and sexual violence**
- **Section F – Experiences with the current partner**
- Section G – Current partner background
- **Section H – Experiences with previous partners**
- **Section I – Repeated incidents (stalking)**
- **Section J – Experiences in childhood**
- **Section CO – Violence in conflict**
- Section K – Respondent background/**Firearms**
- Section L – Conclusion – attitudes and behaviours
- Section M – Self-completion form

For conflict-affected women, Sections C, D, F, H, I and J included questions on whether any incident and specifically the most severe incident of violence experienced were connected to an armed conflict the respondent had lived though.
How was it measured?

- Representative sample of 15,179 women aged 18–74;
- 63 focus groups;
- 35 in-depth interviews;
- 114 key expert interviews;
- Follows methodology of EU-wide VAW survey by Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and definitions of Istanbul Convention.
- Response rate varied between 35% (UA) and 61% (AB)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Form of violence</th>
<th>EU average</th>
<th>OSCE-led survey average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Any intimate partner or non-partner physical and/or sexual violence (since the age of 15)</td>
<td>33%</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate partner physical and/or sexual violence</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-partner physical and/or sexual violence since the age 15</td>
<td>22%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual harassment since the age of 15</td>
<td>55%</td>
<td>45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stalking since the age of 15</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Relevant Findings: Childhood violence

21% of women did experience some form of physical, sexual or psychological violence before the age of 15. Large variation across countries: between 9% (BiH, North Macedonia) to 31% (SR), 32% (ME).

Physical violence is the most common form indicated, by 17%, while psychological violence is indicated by 8%* and sexual violence by 3%.

The current social-demographic situation of women with higher rates of childhood violence:
• Women who are poor versus the once who feel financially comfortable today: rate of 33% versus 14%
• 37% of (currently) disabled women
• 32% of women who (now) are a refugee or IDP

A pattern for life: Among those women who experienced childhood violence, nearly all of them (93%) say they have had some experience of the same in adulthood, compared with 65% of those who did not experience childhood violence.

Early marriage: 6% of women who have ever been married were under the age of 18 when they first got married. Equivalent of 1.1 million women in the area covered by the OSCE-led survey.

Early marriage is related to violence: 7.4% of those who reported some kind of abuse in their childhood married underage, as opposed to 5.2% of those not exposed to violence.
Relevant Findings: Abusers of girls

Perpetrators of violence against girls <15

- Physical violence: Family 88%, Non-family 25%
- Sexual violence: Family 8%, Non-family 84%

Sex of perpetrators of violence against girls

- Physical violence: Men 27%, Women 33%
- Sexual violence: Men 84% (N/A), Women 35%
- Psychological violence: Men 41%, Women 35%
- All types: Men 29%, Women 33%
### Relevant findings: Impact of IPV on children

**Being a child of an abused mother**

- 36% of mothers who experienced IPV with former partner said their children were witness to these incidents.
- 31% in case of current partner violence.
- 7% of mothers have been blackmailed with the abuse of children or seen their children abused.

**Mothers more vulnerable to, and more defenceless against violence**

- Women with children are more likely to have experienced some form of abuse in the 12 months prior to the survey (35% compared to 28% without children).
- Women with children are less likely to report to police or seek help: 15% versus 24% of women without children.
Outputs: reports

- Main Results Report
- At A Glance Report (summary)
- Technical Report (incl. Annexes)
- National results reports
- Thematic reports:
  - Disadvantaged groups
  - Conflict and VAW
- Policy Paper on women with disabilities - UNFPA
- Link between VAC/VAW - UNICEF