

EN
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Answer given by Ms Dalli
on behalf of the European Commission
(7.11.2022)

The data collected and analysed by the Commission to determine the root causes of gender-based violence do not show a correlation between gender mainstreaming or migration policies and the incidence of gender-based violence.

European Statistical Office (Eurostat) provides yearly figures by gender for victims, suspects, prosecutions and convictions, for homicide, rape and sexual assault¹. Data on cultural and religious background are not collected as they are not relevant to these crimes since violence against women is a global phenomenon, independent of socio-economic, religious, ethnic or cultural background. Results of the current Eurostat survey on gender-based violence and domestic violence are expected in the first quarter of 2023².

The EU-wide survey on violence against women of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights evidences its prevalence throughout the entire EU³. Therefore, tackling gender-based violence remains a key priority as highlighted in the EU Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025⁴. The EU accession to the Istanbul Convention remains a priority action⁵ as well as the legislative proposal from March 2022 presented to address this form of violence⁶. The proposal tackles under-reporting in several provisions. For instance, its Chapter 3 includes rules on the reporting of violence against women and domestic violence to ensure that such offences can be easily brought to justice (Article 16). This entails the expedient processing of such reports and encouraging that such offences are reported, for example by removing obstacles imposed by confidentiality rules, ensuring that children can easily report offences and ensuring that undocumented persons and persons with uncertain residence status do not fear to report violence.

¹ http://appsso.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/nui/show.do?dataset=crim_hom_soff&lang=en; crime statistics database: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/crime/data/database>

² <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/products-eurostat-news/-/wdn-20211004-1>

³ https://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf

⁴ COM(2020) 152 final.

⁵ Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women, <https://rm.coe.int/168008482e>

⁶ COM(2022) 105 final.