

Field study results: Implementation of (inter-)national norms of frontline responders

dr. Karmen Jereb
Faculty of Criminal Justice and Security, University of Maribor
June 9th, 2021, online

Field study

- WP leader: CNRS, Task leader: UM
- We brought together 17 case studies of particular locations and 18 analyses of good practices in combating DV
- We conducted about 300 interviews in total (partner countries: Austria, Germany, Finland, France, Hungary, Portugal, Scotland, Slovenia)
- We have gathered a substantial research material that has allowed us to draw some general conclusions on the facilitating factors for an effective prevention and mitigation of DV

International norms and standards

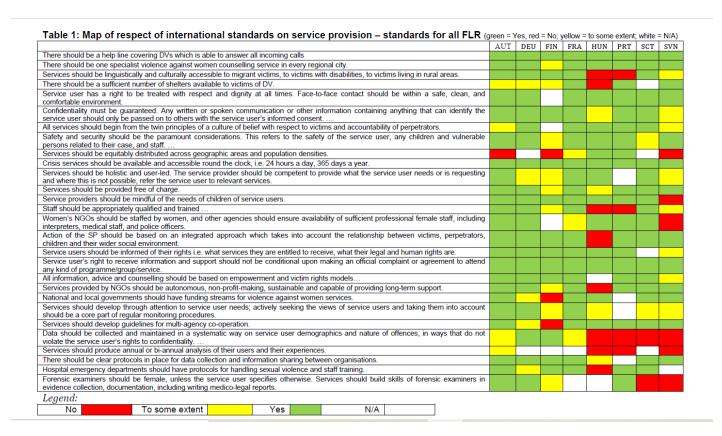
- a set of minimum standards that governments and service providers should achieve
 - to exercise due diligence
 - to investigate and punish acts of violence
 - provide protection to victims and
 - prevent DV
- confidentiality, safety, security, respect for service users, accessibility, availability
- available free of charge, interventions should employ the principles of empowerment and self-determination

09.06.2021

 service providers should be skilled, gender-sensitive, have ongoing training and conduct their work under clear guidelines, protocols, and ethics codes



Implementation of (inter-)national norms - FLR





Implementation of (inter-)national norms - Police

Table 2: Map of respect of international standards for the police (green = Yes, red = No; yellow = to some extent; white = N/A) AUT DEU FIN FRA HUN PRT SCT SVN Provision of free legal advice or legal aid for all stages of legal proceedings Police personnel should be trained on all aspects of DV. DV offences should be treated at least as seriously as other violent offences. Victims should be seen as soon as possible by a specially trained officer There should be at least one specialized officer per police unit, for DV and for sexual violence Specialist Police units should be created in densely populated areas Police should actively encourage reporting of violence: through provision of information to the community on police commitment to effective response to DV... Police should have powers to enter private property, arrest and remove a perpetrator. Protection orders should be available from the police to tackle all forms of DV. .. Police should ensure that victims receive adequate and timely information on available support services and legal measures in a language they understand Police agencies should co-ordinate with, and refer to, specialist support services for DV's victims Police should permit and enable advocates or other support persons to attend during police interviews and court proceedings - subject to the request or consent of the victim Police record systems should enable identification of cases of DV, and permit monitoring of interventions, repeat victimization and case outcomes Police should have protocols on information sharing on DV with other agencies Police should make efforts to limit the number of people a victim must deal with, and to minimize the number of times a victim has to relay her story, and thereby reduce secondary victimization Police should ensure that all reported incidents of violence against women are documented, whether or not they are a crime. and that all information obtained and reports made are kept confidential Police should ensure that immediate action is instituted when a victim reports an incident of violence against her/him Police should proceed to a risk assessment supported by timely gathering of intelligence. ... Police should develop and implement strategies to eliminate or reduce victim risks Police should ensure that police personnel meeting a victim is non-judgmental, empathetic and supportive, proceeds in a manner that considers and prevents secondary victimization, Legend: No To some extent Yes N/A



The comparison of the case studies - main findings (1)

- Specialization as a condition for better handling of victims -FLR who are specialists of DV serve the needs of victims in a better way than FLR who are generalist
- Generalists:

less knowledgeable about DV, less inclined to take non-physical violence seriously, more inclined to rely on personal discretion, and less likely to make informed and helpful referrals

Specialists:

better trained, knowledgeable about the different types of DV, more likely to follow protocols and procedures design to safeguard the victim's interests, and more likely to be part of a network of professionals from other sectors.



The comparison of the case studies - main findings (2)

Specialists:

- do not face the problem of managing conflicting priorities a problem typical of generalists. They have more reasons (and perhaps more time) to attend additional trainings, academic workshops, and to visit NGO's.
- they play the role of internal and external experts for DV prevention and investigation.
- they work to increase awareness of their non-specialized colleagues.
- In some countries virtually all police officers on the frontline response to DV are generalists. In other, it varies according to locations, with some places served with specialized units and other with only generalists.















