



IMPRODOVA

Improving Frontline Responses
to High Impact Domestic Violence

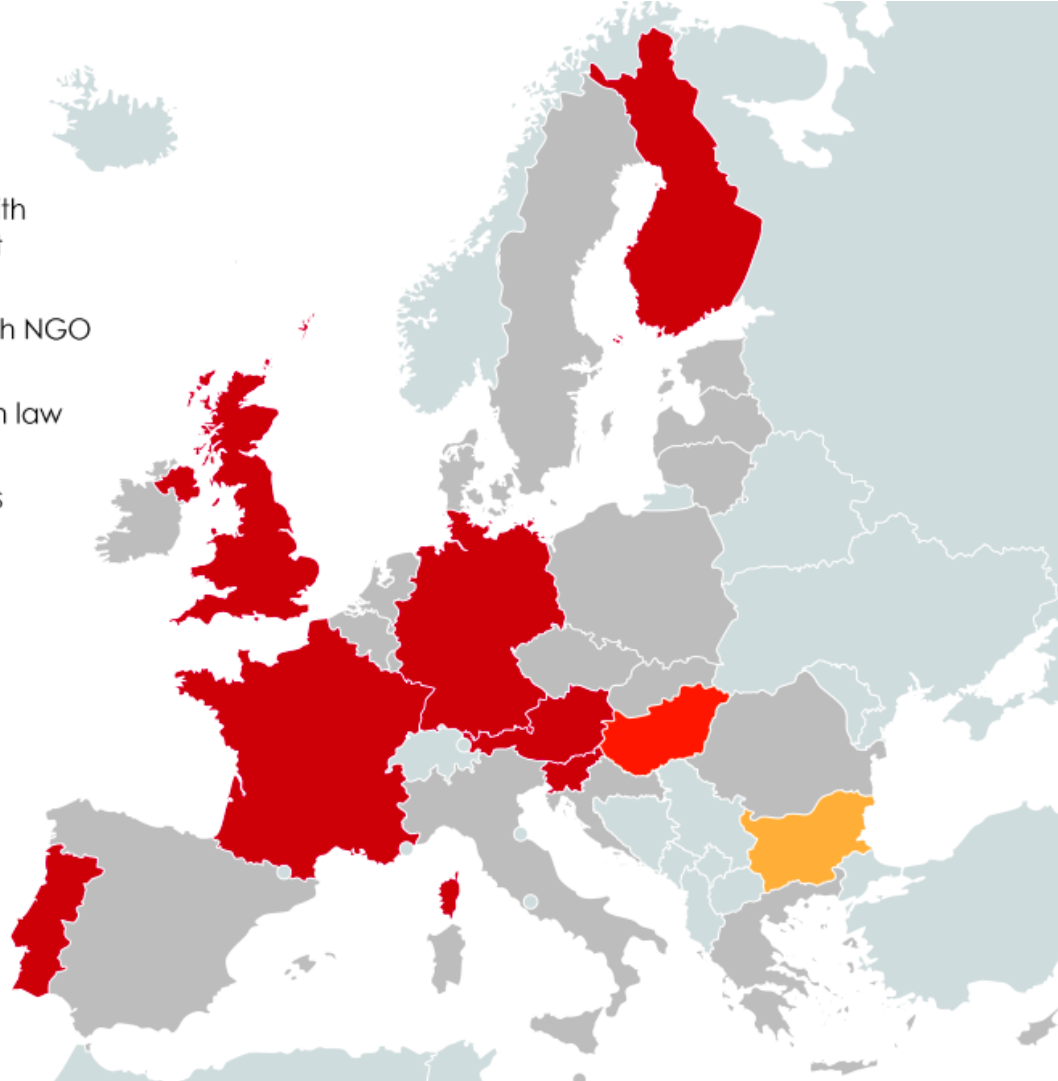
LEPH Conference Edinburgh 2019
Law Enforcement and Public Health

Fighting DV in EUROPE:

Best practices and major challenges

Professor Joachim Kersten, German Police University

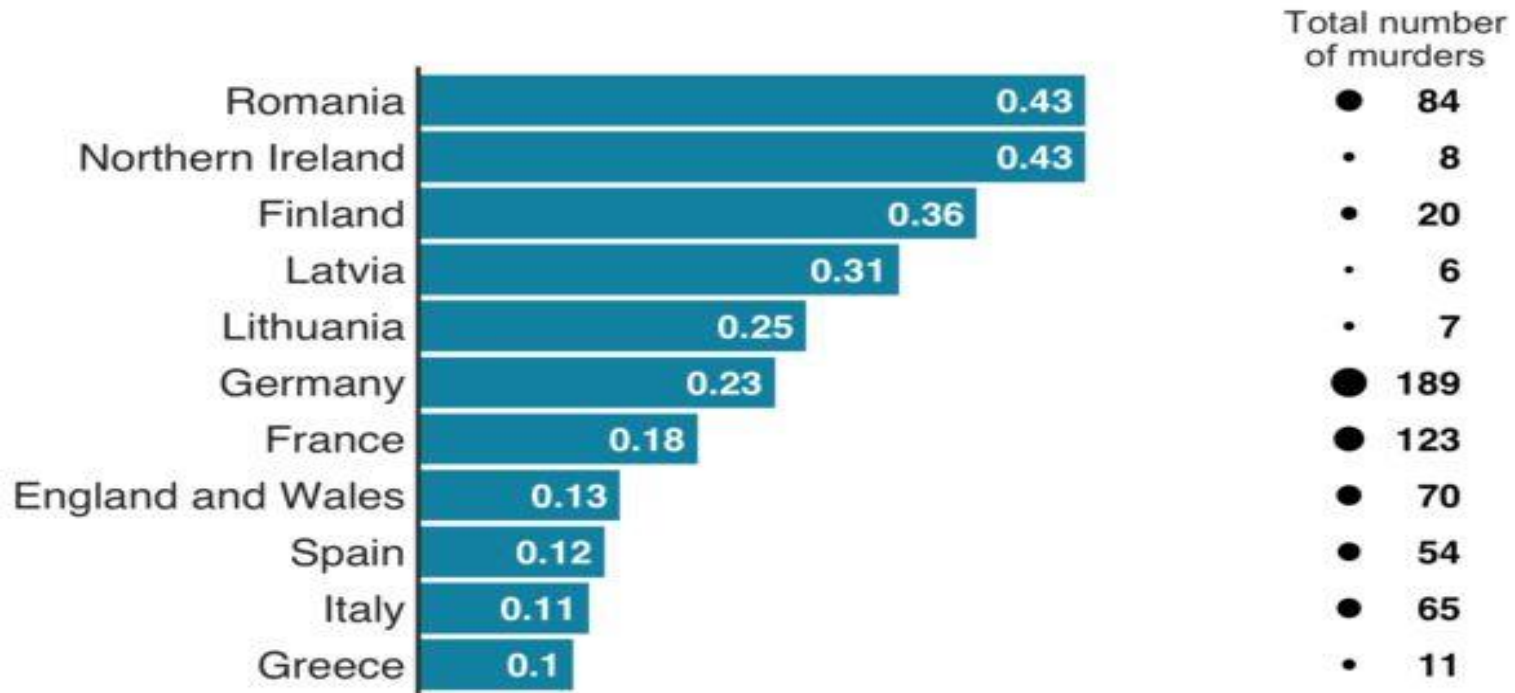
- Consortium members with formal law enforcement partners
- Consortium member with NGO partner
- Informal partnership with law enforcement
- Other EU member states



European Union: Fatal DV Incidents

Murders in Europe committed by a partner

Rate per 100,000 inhabitants in selected countries, 2017



Source: Eurostat

BBC

Victimization surveys

Percentage of females with experience of DV victimization since age 15

- Germany 35%
- Sweden 35%
- Finland 37%
- Denmark 55%
- Italy 29%

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- EU: last 12mths. 13 mill p.a
 - Current partner
 - Previous partner
 - Women underreport; why?
 - Shame; feel responsible for the reputation of the family; don't think they will get help;
 - Want to be listened and talked to;
 - Reporting and police recording
 - EU Survey data comparability: b/w 9.6 and 67.8% victimized
 - WHO 10-country survey: b/w 13 and 61% victimized
- | | FRANCE | GERMANY |
|------------------|--------|---------|
| Current partner | 11% | 7% |
| Previous partner | 31% | 24% |

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	One time	2 -5 times
• Pushed or shoved:	45%	37%
• Slapped	53%	30%
• Thrown at (hard object)	61%	34%
• Suffocated/strangled	54%	34%
• Beaten in the head	50%	30%

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- Reporting: 66% did not come to the attention of police
- Germany: 15% France: 18%
- EU average: 20% UK: 25%
- Reporting to hospital, MD: 26%
- Reporting to police: 14%
- No faith in police that they would do anything.

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- Factors that contribute and are difficult to tackle: income, alcohol consumption, cultural factors that affect reporting (victims, families, community, witnesses);
- Factors that can be tackled: Communication skills of first line responders;
- Public awareness.

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- Unmet needs of DV victims:
- Someone to talk to: 33 – 54%
- Protection: 12 – 25%
- Practical help: 13 – 21%

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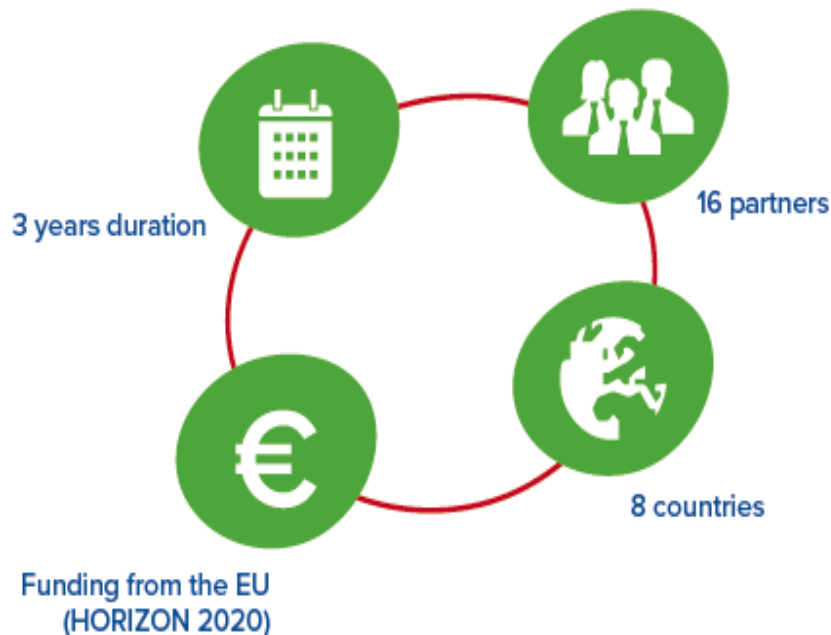
Police

Medical

NGO

- Someone to talk to ?! !? (?) !
- Protection !! (?) !? !?
- Practical help ?! ?! (?) !!

Improving Responses to High Impact Domestic Violence (IMPRODOVA project)



OBJECTIVE

Examining human factors that foster or mitigate frontline responses to high impact domestic abuse, e.g.,

- Public confidence
- Attitudes towards DV
- Respect and rapport
- **Leadership**



Top management as DV advocates

- Gate keepers to cooperate with other frontline responder agencies in DV matters by networking
- Political engagement
- Making fight against DV an organizational priority and stipulate organizational change



Leaders as technical guides

- Quality management of DV cases: take care that cases are correctly processed
- Feedback
- NGOs: Tight exchange of information with employees
- NGOs: Leaders experts in the topic of DV



Leadership as emotional support

- Debriefing of critical DV cases
- Taking care of employees psychological/mental hygiene
- BUT: often lacking because of leaders' high administrative workload



Implications

- Trustful atmosphere/interaction with DV victims requires
- strong supervisor support
- constructive leadership
- to enable frontline responders to face the challenges of DV interventions in a professional manner.
- Leaders need to be trained to guard the guardians!

Social media



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