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PREVENT AND COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST ROMA WOMEN

Empowerment of Roma women towards domestic violence

WP_D4.1_Kamira_Spain

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PREVENT AND COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGAINST ROMA WOMEN

Funded by the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020)

PARTNERS

KMOP | Social Action and Innovation Centre

Amalipe | Tsentar za Mezhduetnicheski Dialog i Tolerantnost Amalipe

CESIS | Centro de Estudos para a Intervenção Social

PCRM | Fundatia Policy Center for Roma and Minorities

Kamira | Federación Nacional de Asociaciones de Mujeres Gitanas

AUTHORS

Santiago Camacho Rafaela and Moreno Carbonell Blanca, Kamira, Spain (Module 1)

Alexandrou Georgia, KMOP, Greece (Module 2)

Fratila Lavinia, PCRM, Romania (Module 3)

Velikova Anna & Krumova Teodora, Amalipe, Bulgaria (Module 4)

Alexandrou Georgia, Fratila Lavinia, Velikova Anna, Krumova Teodora, Brasil Elisabete, Perista Heloísa, Santiago Camacho Rafaela, Moreno Carbonell Blanca (Module 5)

Brasil Elisabete & Perista Heloísa, CESIS, Portugal (Module 6)

EDITORS

Santiago Camacho Rafaela, Kamira, Spain

Moreno Carbonell Blanca, Kamira, Spain

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Introduction

This document corresponds to the elaboration of D.4.1. ''Training and presentation programme guide'' of the project ''Prevent and combat domestic violence against Roma women'', known by its acronym PATTERN with project number 881731, which started on June 1, 2020 and has a duration of 24 months. PATTERN is included in the call 'REC-RDAP-GBV-AG-2019- Call for proposals to prevent and combat all forms of violence against children, young people and women. The general objective of the Project is to contribute to the prevention and combat of gender violence against Roma women in Greece, Bulgaria, Portugal, Spain and Romania.

Gender-based violence is one of the major problems in our society, resulting for the still existing inequality between men and women, a problem that becomes even more accentuated when we talk about ethnic minorities, such as Roma people. That is why it is necessary to address this problem from the specificities found within this community.

Roma people constitute the largest ethnic minority in all of Europe. Some 10 of 12 million Roma live in Europe, and around 6 million are citizens or residents of the European Union[1]. The Roma community represents 1.18% of the total EU population. This percentage varies a lot between the countries participating in the PATTERN project: 0.49% in Portugal, 1.55% in Greece, 1.63% in Spain, 8.63% in Romania and 9.94% in Bulgaria[2].

Despite the number of policies and programmes promoted notably by the Council of Europe that ensure the equality and non-discrimination of this minority, today there are still numerous discriminatory incidents that continue to undermine the human rights of people belonging to this minority. Discrimination also increases in the case of women, as they suffer double discrimination: for being a woman and for being Roma. This double discrimination makes women more insecure and vulnerable, not only in the framework of general society, but also in their own community.

The main institution in the Roma community is the family, and the role of women is

1European Commission, 2020, in Perista, 2021.
2 Support topic of the special representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Roma Issues, 2012, in Perista, 2021.

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fundamental in it, since they are responsible for ensuring the well-being of the family and transmitting the values of the culture. Therefore, on many occasions, in order to preserve the family well-being and avoid conflicts, women are reluctant to denounce these violent behaviours and even to inform the authorities or entities that support battered women of the situation of abuse they live in at the hands of their partner. As a result, it is still ''frowned upon'' to file a criminal complaint against your partner.

For this reason, it is necessary to work directly with women with different profiles (educational level, age…) in the training sessions in order to promote the exchange of beliefs and opinions being this the best way to achieve the empowerment of Roma women.

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Part I: Guide to implement the training

In order to carry out the proposed training sessions with women from Roma communities, before going into the content of the training sessions, a series of guidelines has been compiled aiming to guide those who are interested in organising these training sessions on how to implement them. These guidelines are intended to facilitate the recruitment of women to the training, as well as in the choice of the site where the training will take place. At the same time, a set of guidelines will be given in section 1.3. to be applied during the training, to improve the quality of these seminars. A tool for the evaluation of the knowledge acquired by participants during the training can be also found in the present unit (1.4. Tool: Pre- and post-questionnaire for participants)

1.1. Recruitment of participants

The aim of these workshops is to empower and train Roma women in the field of gender-based violence. The sessions will be held in small groups, preferably with about 10 women per session. Due to the sensitivity of the issue, it is preferable to limit the number of attendees, so as to guarantee the greatest comfort and safety of the women.

The idea is to have groups formed by different profiles of women (women with different backgrounds and of different age groups) but with a common point, that they belong to the Roma community. That will allow us to analyse the different points of view existing about gender-based violence in their community, thereby helping women feel safer and gain the level of confidence necessary to face this type of situation.

- Factors to take into account: psychological state of women, self-esteem, age.
- Age range: 20-55
- Academic training: Regardless of studies.
- If possible, women who come from different sub communities.

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1.2. Places and requirements of physical implementation of the program

For the implementation of the sessions, it would be preferrable to choose a place where women feel comfortable and safe.

It is very important that women feel comfortable in the place where the workshops are being given as this will lead to greater participation and trust of participants.

Hence, the places chosen to carry out the training must be areas close to their environment, that are familiar to them, and that guarantee adequate privacy so that they are not coerced when participating in the activities and express their experiences and opinions about it.

1.3. Learning methods and techniques to be used

When implementing the training, it is not only the content of the training that is relevant, but also how it is imparted. Training should be carried out following the guidelines and techniques set out below.

- **Understanding the content**

In order to facilitate the participants' concentration and understanding, explanations should, as far as possible, be simple, brief, concise and accompanied by examples. Using situations that are part of their lives and that they feel familiar with, helps to better understand the content of the sessions. At the same time, it will be necessary to adapt the explanations to the level of the group and of each person, where possible For this purpose, it is advisable to ask the participants about their knowledge of the subject that is going to be taught.

- **Encouraging participation and involvement of participants in the sessions**

It is essential that the sessions are participatory at all times. The trainer should try to avoid the training sessions being given in a unidirectional way, providing the necessary means for the participants to actively participate during the sessions, so that their participation is not occasional, but forms part of the dynamic of the sessions. In this way, the trainer will try to give the participants the means to participate and express their ideas.

Some of the tools to encourage the participation of the trainees can be

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- brainstorming;
- asking the participants about their knowledge on the subject to be discussed;
- explaining the content through questions that the participants will have to answer;
- holding debates;
- asking the participants about their own experiences, provided that they want to share them;
- role-playing games simulating scenes that have to do with the content;
- dramatisation;
- team work. A useful tool when it comes to having a good dynamic in the training is the creation by the participants as a team of group rules that govern the session, created by them and applicable to them.

- **Generating links between women**

Trainers should try to ensure that the training sessions help women generate networks between them: opening channels of communication, help and mutual support once the training session is over.

- **Respect and care towards the participants**

It is important to respect the learning time of each trainee and not to ridicule or belittle the lack of knowledge. It should also be borne in mind that the topics to be discussed may touch on sensitivities, and there may be women who find that certain contents of the seminar generate negative emotions, who cry, who decide not to participate or who want to leave the room. The trainer should be attentive to these needs and should respect the emotions of the participants without invalidating or downplaying them, and give them space to share them if they wish to do so. She should also respect the participants' decisions not to participate or to leave the room, without judging them or criticising their attitude towards the participants who remain.

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1.4. Tool: Pre- and post-questionnaire for participants

The proposed questionnaire may be a useful tool to be filled in by the participants before and after the training. Roma women attending the trainings may have different perceptions of what is gender-based violence due to their personal and professional experience. Collecting information on participants' data, can provide us useful information in order to adapt the training programme to participants' needs and interests and reinforce those points where they have less knowledge.

PERSONAL INFORMATION
Age
☐18-24 ☐25-34 ☐35-44 ☐45-54 ☐≥55
Education level
QUESTIONAIRE
What is gender-based violence?
Choose one option:
Gender-based violence is the type of violence that occurs in the domestic sphere. ☐ Gender-based violence is the violence of men towards women for the simple fact of being a woman. ☐ Gender-based violence is the violence of men towards women and vice -versa. ☐ Gender-based violence occurs when a man physically and/or psychologically abuses of his wife. ☐
3. Do you consider that women can be blamed for gender-based violence?
Yes ☐ No ☐
Do you think gender-based violence is justified?
Yes ☐ No ☐
Do you think that gender-based violence is a serious problem in society?
Yes ☐ No ☐
Do you think that women should put up with certain types of situations/behaviour of violence and/ or control of their partner for the simple fact of being her partner?

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Yes ☐ No ☐ Why?.....

Do you know the resources available for victims of gender-based violence?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Do you think that Roma women have some kind of added difficulty when it comes to denouncing being victims of gender-based violence?

Yes ☐ Why?..... No ☐ Why?.....

Do you know situations of Roma women that have suffered from gender-based violence? How was it solved?

Point out from one to five how true the following statements are:

The woman who lives in a continuous state of abuse is guilty of continuing to live with that man.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

If he hits her, it's because she has done something wrong.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Violent situations occur due to the abuse of alcohol or other substances.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

Women must put up with the situation for the well-being of the children.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

If he attacks or insults me, it is because he had a bad day, and I have to put up with it.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

A man does not mistreat his wife for no reason, surely, she has done something to provoke him.
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5

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Part II: Training modules

2.1. Module 1: Conceptual framework

This module aims to familiarize participants with the concept of gender-based violence, as well as its different manifestations. Module 1 is divided into two parts: the *first part* is a conceptual part where the definition of gender-based violence is addressed, its distinction from what is known as domestic violence, as well as its different manifestations from a more generic point of view. Gender-based violence occurs in a private sphere, which is why in this *second part* addresses gender-based violence in a specific area such as that of the couple, where the participants will be given different guidelines to facilitate its recognition.

2.1.a) What is gender-based violence?

Gender-based violence is one of the most latent problems in our society. As the statistics show[3], many women die at the hands of their partners during the year. Gender-based violence is a problem that is rooted to the inequality between men and women, which today is still notorious. This problem supposes a violation of the human rights of women motivated by inequalities and the abuse of power manifested by men over women.

It is mandatory to clearly establish what is meant by gender-based violence, since many women today are still not familiar with the concept, which leads them not to undertake any type of action to take it to an end. The United Nations General Assembly, in its Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women (A/RES/48/104) published in 1993, in its article 1 defines violence against women as "*any act of gender-based violence that results, or may result in physical, sexual or psychological harm to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of freedom, whether they occur in public or private life*".

In turn, the well-known Istanbul Convention of 2011[4] establishes that ‘’"*violence against women" shall be understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women,*

3 María Paz Bermúdez, Montserrat Meléndez Dominguez, Epidemiological analysis of gender based-violence in the EU (Anal.Psicol. vol.36 no.3 Murcia oct./dic. 2020 Epub 21-DIC-2020). https://scielo.isciii.es/scielo.php?pid=S0212-97282020000300002&script=sci_arttext&tlng=es.

4 Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, Istambul, 2011, article 3.a).

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and shall designate all acts of violence based on the gender that they imply or may imply for women harm or suffering of a physical, sexual, psychological or economic nature, including threats to carry out such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, in public or private life." (Article 3.a).

At the same time, the topic and terminology should be presented in a sensitive way, having in mind that some countries rejected the Istanbul convention. In Bulgaria, there was even a decision of the Constitutional court rejecting the Istanbul convention. Nevertheless, this does not mean that the topic should not be included but that in some regions, like Bulgaria, additional sterotypes should be addressed.

Therefore, gender-based violence is the violence suffered by women for the simple fact of being women.

Gender-based violence is marked by a patriarchal structure based on customs and traditions that maintain inequality between the sexes. It is a type of instrumental violence, which helps to impose a model of inequality and domination towards women, generating a series of damages of different magnitude that causes an annulment of the personality of the victim that gives rise to a strong emotional dependence of her over her aggressor.

2.1.b) Manifestations of gender-based violence.

Gender-based violence or violence against women is not homogeneous, but manifests itself in very different ways. It is truly important to be aware of all these manifestations in order to be able to act against it. To do so, we must take into account two main elements. One element is the *type of violence* and the second element is *the perpetrator*.

In terms of types of violence against women, we find the following:

- Psychological violence. These are all those behaviours that cause or may cause psychological or emotional harm to women. Psychological violence includes mocking, belittling women's opinions, belittling their concerns, insults, acts of intimidation, indifference to demands for affection and care, humiliation, threats, denigration, emotional abandonment, blaming, economic and behavioural control, social isolation,

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confusing the victim, etc.

- Sexual violence. This is any sexual behaviour that is imposed against the woman's will. These behaviours can consist of obscene and/or intimidating comments, looks or gestures; touching; caressing; kissing; oral, genital or anal penetration; not using protection during sexual relations without consent; performing positions that the woman considers degrading; exhibitionism; viewing pornographic material; etc.

- Physical violence. This occurs when a person, in this case a man to a woman, provokes or attempts to provoke physical harm to another person, which can lead to illness or even death. Physical violence includes pushing, grabbing, hitting, slapping, kicking, punching, burning, biting, attempts to strangle, stabbing, etc. In other words, any physical force against women by any means.

- Economic violence. This is any restriction on access to and use of economic resources, as well as any interference in the economic life of women. Economic violence is the control of access to economic resources in order to generate economic dependence on the aggressor; forcing women to carry out domestic work; imposing restrictions on the woman's ability to study or work wherever she wants and wherever she chooses; putting obstacles in the way of making decisions related to the economy, controlling the economic resources of the family unit without allowing the woman to intervene, etc.

- Vicarious violence. These are behaviours that aim to harm the woman through her loved ones, especially through her children. These behaviours can be very diverse, such as threats to these people, sexual violence, provoking physical harm or even the death of the children.[5]

These types of violence do not occur only in isolation, but often the same behaviour may involve more than one type of violence. For example, sexual violence involves psychological violence and often physical violence as well.

5 Content related with types of violence have been obtained through the following sources:

- Secretary-General, of the United Nations (2006), "In-depth study on all forms of violence against women" (p. 36) https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N06/419/74/PDF/N0641974.pdf?OpenElement
- UN Women, Frequent asked questions: sorts of violences against women and girls https://www.unwomen.org/es/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/faqs/types-of-violence

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As for the perpetrators of such violence, they can range from family members to members of society at large, including the state. Thus, based on the distinction made by the Report of the Secretary-General "In-depth study on all forms of violence against women" (pp. 109 to 155), we can distinguish three scenarios in which gender-based violence can occur:

- In the *family*. It can be perpetrated by any member of the family against a woman. It occurs, for example, when women are forced into marriage or early marriage; when they are prevented from studying; when they are forced to do housework; sexual violence; violence within the couple or ex-partner, etc.
- In *society* in general. It is perpetrated by any individual or group of individuals. Examples include street harassment, sexual abuse and rape, femicide, trafficking in women, surrogate motherhood, the wage gap, symbolic violence (e.g. women as objects of pleasure for men in the publicity), online or digital violence (e.g. cyberbullying, sexting, etc.), etc.
- Violence perpetrated or tolerated by the *state* is, for example, violence in prisons, policies and regulations targeting women, female genital mutilation and even selective abortions or forced sterilisation.

2.1.c) Gender- based violence in the sphere of the couple.

When we talk about gender-based violence in the sphere of the couple, we are referring to a sort of violence against woman perpetrated by her partner, ex-partner, or similar sentimental relationship.[6] It would be situated in the family setting we have mentioned, although the aggressor does not always form part of the victim's family nucleus, since not every partners live together and because ex partners can also be perpetrators. Gender-based violence in intimate partner relationships is a specific form of gender-based violence, in which any of the above-mentioned forms of violence can occur: psychological, physical, sexual, economic and vicarious.[7] All of them manifest themselves in a particular way in intimate partner or ex-partner relationships, as will be

6 World Health Organisation (2012) "Understanding and addressing violence against women. Intimate partner violence"

7 *Idem*; European Parliament resolution of 16 September 2021 with recommendations to the Commission on identifying gender-based violence as a new area of crime listed in Article 83(1) TFEU.

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discussed in the next module.

Gender-based violence in the sphere of the couple and domestic violence

It is important to note that gender-based violence and domestic violence are different forms of violence. Gender-based violence in the sphere of couple is a type of gender-based violence, meaning that is violence against a woman due to the fact of being woman.

On the contrary, domestic violence means "all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim".[8]

The fundamental difference is that gender-based violence in the sphere of couple is based on a structural unequal relationship between men and women. It is perpetrated against women because they are women. This inequality has permeated relations between men and women at work, in the family, in the couple and in other areas of our lives. Therefore, when a man uses violence against his partner by taking advantage of this domination position, whether consciously or unconsciously, we speak of gender-based violence (within the couple). On the other hand, domestic violence is not based on this structural domination relationship.

Another important different is that gender-based violence is normally exercised by a man towards a woman, because this violence requires having a structural position of domination caused by the gender. Women have no position of domination due to the gender, but of subordination. Therefore, they can't exert violence against a man taking advantage of a role of domination over him due to their gender.

And the third different is that gender-based violence can happen inside or outside the family, while domestic violence happens inside it.

8 Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, art. 3.b.

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2.2. Module 2: Manifestations of gender-based violence against women in the sphere of the couple and how to recognize it

This module aims to familiarise Roma women with the manifestations of gender-based violence against women in the sphere of the couple and foster their empowerment while experiencing domestic violence incidents in their families. Module 2 is comprised of five interrelated sub-units: the first sub-unit presents the most common behaviours that are part of physical, sexual, psychological/emotional and economic violence; the second sub-unit familiarises women with the most common behavioural patterns of abusers for the manipulation of their victims. These patterns are so subtle and widespread in interpersonal relationships that may not easily be recognized as controlling behaviours. The third sub-unit presents two schemes that dominate in social sciences, aiming to interpret gender-based violence: the cycle of violence and the lifetime spiral of gender-based violence. The fourth sub-unit examines the impact of violence on women's physical, psychological, sexual and reproductive health, and the social consequences of violence both in victims' life and in general. The fifth and last sub-unit aims to dismantle the most widespread misconceptions around domestic violence and gender-based violence, by providing the truth behind them.

2.2.a) First signs of gender-based violence against women

According to Social Care Institute for Excellence (2015)[9], there are some signs that can be noticed in the specific types of domestic violence. However, it should be kept in mind that evidence of any sign from the following lists should not be taken on its own as proof that violence is occurring. They should rather alert anyone to make further assessments and to consider other associated factors. The lists of possible signs and behaviours are not exhaustive, while women may be subject to a number of violent types at the same time.

Signs of physical violence (examples)

No explanation for injuries or inconsistency	Unexplained falls

9 Social Care Institute of Excellence [SCIE] (2020). Types and indicators of abuse. https://www.scie.org.uk/safeguarding/adults/introduction/types-and-indicators-of-abuse#download

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of how that happened.	
Injuries are inconsistent with the person's lifestyle	Subdued or changed behaviour in the presence of a particular person
Bruising, cuts, welts, burns and/or marks on the body or loss of hair in clumps	Signs of malnutrition
Frequent injuries	Failure to seek medical treatment or frequent changes of health practitioners

Signs of sexual violence (examples)

Bruising, particularly to the thighs, buttocks and upper arms and marks on the neck	Incontinence not related to any medical diagnosis
Torn, stained or bloody underclothing	Self-harming
Bleeding, pain or itching in the genital area	Poor concentration, withdrawal, sleep disturbance
Unusual difficulty in walking or sitting	Excessive fear/apprehension of, or withdrawal from, relationships
Infections, unexplained genital discharge, or sexually transmitted diseases	Fear of receiving help that requires physical contact
Pregnancy in a woman who is unable to consent to sexual intercourse	Reluctance to be alone with a particular person

Signs of psychological / emotional violence (examples)

Be silent when a particular person is present	Uncooperative and aggressive behaviour
Withdrawal or change in the psychological state of the person	A change of appetite, weight loss/gain

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Insomnia	Signs of distress: tearfulness, anger
Low self-esteem	

Signs of economic violence (examples)

Missing personal possessions	Ignorance of the family incomes
Unexplained lack of money or inability to maintain lifestyle	Lack of a debit card or a bank account
Insufficient food in the house, despite welfare benefits	Inaccessibility to their debit card

2.2.b) The strategies of the abuser

For the most part, it's not easy to determine whether a person is a domestic abuser or not. However, there are a few traits and characteristics that are similar to most abusers. The following list[10] is indicative and refers to the most common strategies abusers use to manipulate their partners:

- An abusive person may struggle with low self-esteem.
- Abusive people will oftentimes look at their victim like an object and not a person. They believe that the victim is their property or sexual object.
- Play the victim: Abusive people usually won't say that it's an internal issue that's going on inside of them, and will argue that they are under a lot of stress and pressure, and blame their surrounding circumstances for their behaviour (drugs, alcohol, etc.)

Abusers often reveal extreme bouts of jealousy and/or display a possessive nature. They may

10 The data mentioned was derived from the following sources:

- Domestic Violence: It's EVERYBODY'S Business (n.d.). *Signs of Domestic Abuse*. Retrieved on January 10th, 2022, from https://domesticviolence.org/domestic-abuse-signs/
- Bustle (2019, April 4). *7 Emotional Abuse Tactics In Relationships That Can Seem Innocent At First*. Retrieved on January 10th, 2022, from https://www.bustle.com/p/7-emotional-abuse-tactics-in-relationships-that-can-seem-innocent-at-first-17008749
- SpeakOutLoud (n.d.). *Men's tactics of coercive control against female partners*. Retrieved on January 10th, 2022, from https://speakoutloud.net/intimate-partner-abuse/male-perpetrators-domestic-violence/mens-tactics
- Confusion to Clarity (n.d.). *Learn to Recognize 26 Covert Abuse Tactics*. Retrieved on January 10th, from https://www.confusiontoclaritynow.com/blog/covert-abuse-tactics

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accuse the victim of going out and flirting with others, or cheating on them.

Abusers may act extremely embarrassed or humiliated of the victim in front of other people.

- Abusers can be unpredictable with their emotions and/ or have a terrible temper.
- Abusers may have a mixed-up view of women and men and the roles that they play in a relationship.
- Abusers may instil vague doubts about woman's insecurities so she owns self-criticism fills in the gaps.
- Silent treatment: Abuser withholds intimacy to punish woman. He verbally or non-verbally resists communication with her. He emotionally withdraws when he doesn't get what he wants to punish and manipulate her.
- Gaslighting: messes with woman's sense of reality. Abuser tells her that what she says happened didn't really happen or that he remembers things differently than she does. When she reacts, he implies her reactions aren't rational or normal.
- Covert control: It may take the following forms:
- Giving the Illusion of Choice: abuser asks woman what she wants and then finds a plausible reason why she can't have/do it.
- He speaks for her and interrupts her input in conversations so she'll give up speaking and become more passive.
- He expresses jealousy if she gives her attention to anyone else, including children, pets, family, friends and jobs.
- He acts in ways that cause her a great deal of stress and anxiety, and then abruptly relieves that stress.
- He has control on what the victim wears and how they ought to act.
- Stone-walling: This strategy refers to abuser's refusal to communicate or address the issue. It can take an angry form such as when a partner claims they are not going to talk or

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outright refusing to listen to woman's concerns. It can also take a more passive form such as when a partner simply avoids her or puts off dealing with the matter at hand.

- Mood swings: Abuser switches between hot/cold, cheerful/ sulking, loving/ withdrawn. The good times are full of adoration, attention, affection, praise, affection, gifts, superficial sympathy (crocodile tears), charm, intense sex, and declarations of love. However, they tend to stop for no apparent reason. He also stops a punishing behaviour when woman behaves the way he wants, while he may keep her always hoping and waiting for the good times.
- Guilt tripping: Abusers often bring up his partners' faults so she feels that her inadequacy is why she is unhappy or unable to have a good relationship. They may say partner's feelings and "issues" are because of her childhood or past abuse. They explain that they did "X" because their partner did "Y."
- Abusers may resort to inappropriate restrictions including refusing to let his partner work.
- Abusers are often over-protective and 'caring' including behaviours like the woman's dissuasion from going out alone in case she gets harassed.
- They may minimise a violent behaviour or incident by saying "it wasn't that bad, get over it".
- Victim blaming: They usually blame their partner by twisting the story so she appears responsible, and they refuse to take responsibility for the harm they cause.
- Abusers may punish their partner for not carrying out duties they claim she should have, while not carrying out their own, leading to what is known as domestic slavery.
- Abusers may express deceptive remorse for behaviour when they are not sorry at all. Their intention is to manipulate their partner into forgiveness and naive trust.

- Abusers often use *diversion* (steering the conversation to another topic) or *evasion* (giving an irrelevant, vague and often rambling response) to manipulate their partner.

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2.2.c) Representations of gender-based violence against women

The present sub-unit aims to present two of the most widespread schematic representations that have been used to explain gender-based violence women and girls suffer. The first representation is "The cycle of violence"[11], which depicts the events that usually happen in an abusive relationship in the form of three independent but interrelated phases. The phases don't all happen at once and it's not all done the same way in each relationship. Sometimes it can happen within a couple of hours, while other times, it may take up to a year to complete the cycle. The second representation constitutes the "Lifetime Spiral of Gender-based Violence"[12], which was developed by the Asian & Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence to depict the different forms of violence girls and women encounter during their lifetime. Some of these are confined to one stage in the lifecycle, some continue into subsequent stages, most of them however are present in women's life. Both representations are outlined in more detail below.

The cycle of violence

Phase 1-Tension Building

In the first phase, tension builds up in the relationship. Victims report their partners becoming increasingly irritable, frustrated, and unable to cope with every-day stress. The abuser may lash out at the victim at times, but generally stops and becomes apologetic. In this phase, the victim typically attempts to please the abuser by becoming agreeable, nurturing or staying out of the way. She assumes responsibility for controlling the anger, often using denial as a defence or minimizing the inevitability of the beating and the fear. The victim may believe that she can control the violence and has some control over what happens. The abuser is aware, at some level, that his behaviour is wrong, and begins to fear that the victim will leave. The abuser becomes increasingly demanding, jealous and possessive of the victim in an attempt to prevent the victim from leaving.

11 The information for "The cycle of violence" was derived from:

- Domestic Violence: It's EVERYBODY'S Business (n.d.). Step by Step Guide to Understanding the Cycle of Violence. Retrieved on January 7th, 2022, from https://domesticviolence.org/cycle-of-violence/
- World Bank Family Network (n.d.). Domestic Abuse tips—The cycle of violence. Retrieved on January 7th, 2022, from https://www.wbfn.org/page/cycle-violence

12 Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-based Violence (n.d.). Lifetime Spiral of Gender Violence. Retrieved on January 7th, 2022, from https://www.api-gbv.org/about-gbv/our-analysis/lifetime-spiral/

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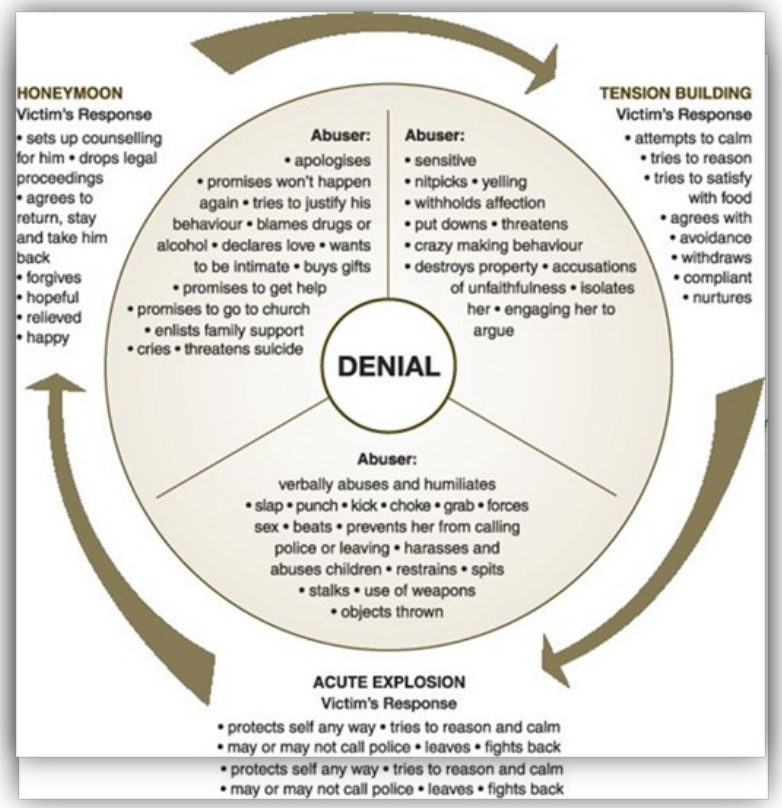
Phase 2 - A battering incident

In the process of teaching the victim a lesson, the abuser becomes enraged. Victims often report that they know that fighting back only provokes more violence, although some use this timing to release some of their own anger. Once the battering incident is over, many victims deny the seriousness of their injuries and deny their own terror as well as the reality that a similar battering could happen again.



Phase 3 - A honeymoon phase

In the third phase of the cycle of violence, the abuser exhibits kind and loving behaviour towards the victim. Being more than ever afraid that the victim will leave, a male who has battered a woman may become extremely charming. He is sorry and convinces the victim and himself that his behaviour will change. A battered woman may want desperately to believe that her suffering is over. She convinces herself that the "good" side of the dual personality is the "true" side. Somehow, the "bad" side will disappear. Her partner's loving behaviour during this phase is her reinforcement for staying in the relationship. The victim is most likely to seek help now, but it is also the most difficult time for her to leave the abuser. The victim believes that if the first two phases are somehow removed, Phase 3 will remain. She does not see this phase as a temporary part of the violence.

The three phases of domestic violence feed on one another. Denial, a powerful emotional defence, keeps the cycle going. Both partners use denial. The cycle of violence begins again. With each completion of the cycle, the incidents of violence increase in both frequency and intensity.

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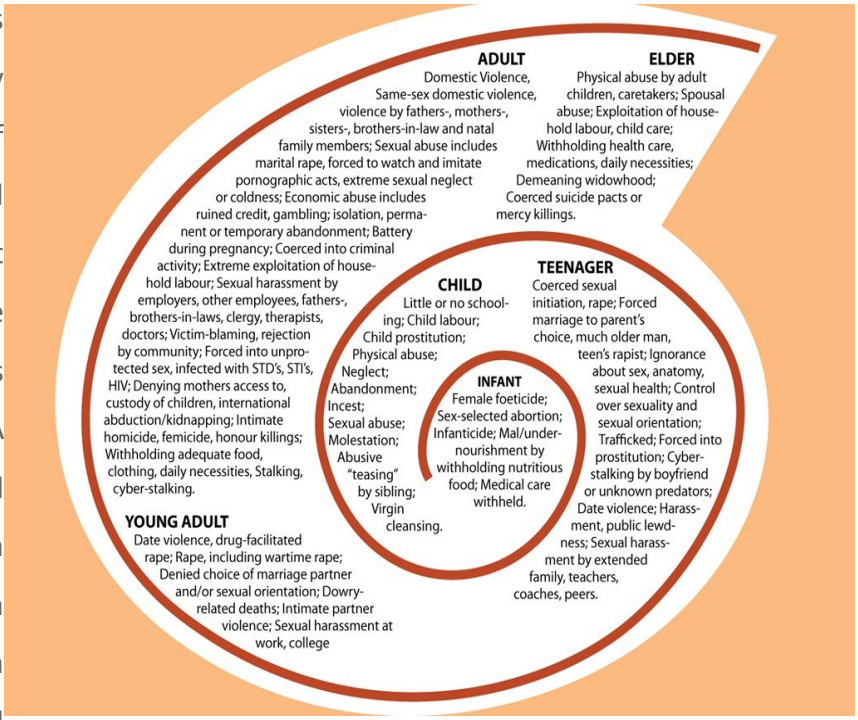
Lifetime Spiral of Gender-based Violence

The Lifetime Spiral reveals patterns of victimization by enumerating the types of violence, vulnerabilities, and harms women and girls face. It also implicitly shows the presence of different abusers located over the life course. A grandmother may withhold nutritious food for a baby girl, a brother may perpetrate incest, a priest may molest a teen girl, a father may insist on a forced marriage, a college student may date rape a classmate, a co-worker may engage in sexual harassment, a husband may batter during pregnancy, a brother- or sister-in-law may stalk, a family may silence or shame, a community may ostracize homosexuals, an ex-boyfriend may kill.



2.2.d) The impact of gender-based violence on women

Violence against women and girls (VAW) has important health and social consequences for survivors themselves as well as for their families and communities. In extreme cases, this violence can lead to severe disability or even death, but even in less severe cases, VAW impacts the everyday lives of women and girls. VAW hinders their ability to earn a living, access education, and participate in social and political life. As a result, VAW can perpetuate poverty and impede development. Violence has both direct and indirect consequences and the more severe and prolonged the abuse is, the greater the impact on the victims[13]. Some possible consequences of GBV are mentioned in the following table[14], emphasizing the impact that GBV can have on

13 Murthy, Upadhyay & Nwadinobi, n.d.

14 The data mentioned was derived from:

- Murthy, P., Upadhyay, U.D., & Nwadinobi, E.A. (n.d.). Impact of Gender-Based Violence, Conflict, Discrimination, Terrorism, Environmental Factors, and Transnational Trafficking on Women and Girls. Retrieved from https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Impact-of-Gender-Based-Violence-%2C-Conflict-%2C-%2C-%2C-%2C-Murthy-

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survivors' immediate sexual, physical, and psychological health.

Physical health consequences	Psychological health consequences	Social consequences	Consequences on sexual/reproductive health
Bruises and fractures	Depression and sadness	Victim-blaming	Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI), including HIV
Disability	Fear and anxiety	Stigmatisation	Unwanted pregnancy
Chronic pain	Self-blame, guilt and shame	Rejection and isolation by family and/or community	Unsafe abortion
Bleeding or haemorrhage (internal and external)	Re-experiencing the trauma, flashbacks	Risk of re-victimization	Miscarriage
Ocular damage	Avoidance of places or situations	Decreased earning capacity/contribution	Limited or no access to prenatal care
Gastrointestinal disorders	Trouble concentrating or remembering	Increased poverty	Traumatic gynaecological fistula
1st -2nd -3rd- degree burns	Anger	Death/honour killings	Pregnancy complications
Death, including	Self-harm	Forced marriage	Unsafe sexual behaviour

Upadhyay/4f75f7f063b2f68d1ed6aefc383bd89acb268f1f#related-papers

- World Health Organization & Pan American Health Organization. (2012). Understanding and addressing violence against women: intimate partner violence. World Health Organization. https://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/77432
- Guidelines for Integrating Gender-Based Violence Interventions in Humanitarian Action: Reducing risk, promoting resilience and aiding recovery (n.d.). How to support survivors of gender-based violence when a GBV actor is not available in your area - A step-by-step Pocket Guide for humanitarian practitioners. Retrieved from https://gbvguidelines.org/en/pocketguide/

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suicide			or sexual dysfunction
	Suicidal thoughts/actions	Perpetuation of violence	
	Low self-esteem		
	Psychosomatic disorders		
	Phobias and panic disorder		
	Eating disorders		
	Sleeping disorders		
	Harmful drug and alcohol use		

2.2.e) The most common myths around gender-based violence against women

Both gender-based violence and domestic violence are framed by a range of widely-believed and deep-rooted misconceptions that have the power to misguide anyone who is involved in such cases, either as abuser, victim, witness or even professionals. In the following table[15] are presented some of the most common myths around GBV and DV and the truth behind them, with the aim to deconstruct any misconception that may put obstacles in women's empowerment process.

The myth	The truth
Domestic violence is a private matter.	When human rights are violated and individual(s) are hurt, it no longer remains a family's business alone; it becomes everyone's problem. All

15 The data was derived from the following sources:

- Women's Aid: Until women and children are safe (n.d.). *Challenging the Myths*. Retrieved from https://www.womensaid.org.uk/information-support/what-is-domestic-abuse/myths/
- National Portal of the Government of Grenada. (n.d.). *Myths about GBV: Here are the Facts*. Retrieved from https://www.gov.gd/sites/mos/files/Myths%2C%20GBV%20and%20human%20rights.pdf
- Gender Violence Recovery Centre (n.d.). *Myths about GBV*. Retrieved from https://gvrc.or.ke/about-us/myths-about-gbv/
- The LookOut: Your place for family violence information (n.d.). *Fact Sheet 5 - Myths and Facts*. Retrieved from: https://www.thelookout.org.au/sites/default/files/The%20Lookout%20Fact%20Sheet%205%20Myths%20%26%20Facts.pdf
- Interagency Gender Working Group (n.d.). Myths and Realities of Gender- Based Violence. Retrieved from: https://www.igwg.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/MythsRealitiesGBV.pdf
- EU DAPHNE III Youth4Youth Project (2012). *Violence in relationships: Myths & Realities*. Retrieved from https://medinstgenderstudies.org/violence-in-relationships-myths-and-realities-2/

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	forms of gender-based violence affects our society, and every one of us. Whether as a victim, a survivor, a perpetrator, a family member, a friend, a community member, a professional responder, or a leader, each person has a role in ending GBV.
Gender-based violence is typical of families with a bad economic situation.	Poverty may exacerbate levels of violence. Some studies have found this phenomenon to be risk factor for gender-based violence cuts across socioeconomic levels. However, there are many individuals living in poverty who are not violent toward women, and there are many individuals in higher economic quintiles that are violent towards women. GBV can occur in every family.
Only physical violence is gender-based violence.	Domestic and family violence is a pattern of behaviour that includes the repeated use of a number of tactics designed to dominate and control a family member. These can include threats, intimidation, isolation, economic and financial control, and psychological and sexual abuse. Physical violence is **only one** of the tactics used to control another person.
If a woman suffers abuse, it is because she deserves it/ it is because she provoked it.	Violence against women is a human rights violation, and independent of any "provoking" action of the woman, it is a crime and cannot be tolerated. The specific statement constitutes an example of victim blaming.
Gender-based violence is caused by jealousy.	Jealousy is often used as an excuse to justify a violent behaviour a man had towards a woman and puts often the blame on women for "provoking" such emotion. GBV is caused by deep-rooted stereotypical and conservative beliefs and social norms regarding gender roles and the accepted behaviours for men and women.
The woman must endure for her daughters and sons.	An estimated 90% of children whose mothers are abused witness the abuse. The effects are traumatic and long-lasting. When a child witnesses domestic abuse, this is child abuse. Between 40% and 70% of these children are also direct victims of the abuse which is happening at home.[16]
Women are just as abusive as men.	In the vast majority of cases, domestic abuse is experienced by women and perpetrated by men. Women are more likely than men to experience multiple incidents of abuse, different types of domestic abuse, and sexual violence particularly. Domestic abuse exists as part of the wider spectrum of violence against women and girls. GBV is a

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	gendered crime which is deeply rooted in the societal inequality between women and men.
Abusers are mentally ill.	Research does not support this view. Most men who use violence against family members demonstrate acceptable behaviour in other settings. Many are considered respectable members of the community, and other people are often reluctant to believe they could be abusive. The psychiatrisation of violence lead to the misconception that violence is probably rooted in biological factors, averting the attention from the social factors framing it. This misconception leads to the view that abusers constitute a "specific group of people", while the truth is that anyone can be an abuser. At the same time, assuming that abusers are mentally ill leads to the further stigmatization of mental health and people who suffer from mental health problems.
Gender-based violence is caused by substance abuse such as alcohol and/or drugs.	While substance abuse is present in many domestic violence cases, it is a contributing factor, not the cause of violence. Alcohol is often used as an excuse to justify acts of violence. Many people drink but do not become violent towards their partners or towards other people in general. Many people are violent towards their partners or others when they are sober.
Violence against women is an inherent part of maleness or a natural expression of male sexual urges.	Male violence is not genetically based; it is perpetuated by a model of masculinity that permits and even encourages men to be aggressive. Male violence is based on the patriarchal representations of women in society, which subordinate them and view them as property of men (father, husband).
If the victim didn't like it, she would leave.	There are many reasons why a woman may not leave, including fear for herself, her children and even pets. Often women face significant practical barriers to separating from their partners, including a lack of money and housing options. Due to the effects of the abuse, many women lack confidence in their own abilities and accurate information about their options. Not leaving does not mean that the situation is okay or that the victim wants to be abused. The most dangerous time for a woman who is being abused is when she tries to leave, and that's why she needs a concrete safety plan.
His father was abusive to his mother, so that explains why he is like this. It's not his fault.	While growing up in a violent household may influence a child's personality, remember that it is ultimately a choice whether to abuse or not. Blaming childhood experiences

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	for violence is, once again, the abuser's tactic to avoid shouldering the responsibility for his actions. Evidence suggests that even though abusive patterns do run in families, it doesn't necessarily always lead to domestic violence, because it is a choice.
"Between husband and wife you don't mess with the spoon" (*"Entre marido e mulher não se mete a colher"*)	This popular Portuguese proverb reflects the belief, socially disseminated for decades, and partially accepted even today, that conjugal violence is a private phenomenon in which nobody but the couple should interfere. This is a position completely contrary to what is today the conception of conjugal and domestic violence, in the face of which the whole society has the responsibility to act, reveal, denounce, prevent. Therefore, to interfere in situations of domestic violence, to actively fight these practices, to denounce the cases of which one is aware, to fight for a society of equality and without violence, to educate children and adults for non-violence, for gender equality and for equal rights, to exercise and stimulate the exercise of active citizenship, are social obligations of all citizens and, above all, of the professionals who have contact with victims and/or aggressors.
"The woman only gets assaulted because she does nothing to prevent it." Or, "because she deserves it."	This first idea is based on the false concept that the woman has the power to stop the abusive situation whenever she wants, when this is not, in most cases, the truth - as a result of the strategies of manipulation and control implemented by the aggressor and the psychological consequences of domestic violence itself and its abusive dynamics, many victims tend to only become fully aware of their situation when the violence has already become regular and serious and the rupture is complex and requires skills that the victim does not have at that moment, due to coercion/intimidation strategies exercised by the aggressor; paralysing fear/terror felt by the victim; emotional, economic or social dependence on the aggressor; the belief that marriage "is a cross to bear"; investment in the conjugal project as a central element of their identity and personal fulfilment; etc. The second belief is rooted in the social legitimacy which, for decades, was conferred to the violence exercised by men, associating it with a function of "education/correction" of children and wife and in a set of stereotypes about gender roles (the role of women and men in marriage, the duties of "obedience and service" of women to their husbands, etc.) still present today in various segments of our society. We can still hear men claiming to have beaten their wives because

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	"dinner wasn't ready on time", the wife "went to the café without his permission" or "didn't take care of the house chores", and these arguments being accepted by the community (or even by certain professionals/judicial officers).
"Beating is a sign of love"; "a slap now and then never hurt anyone".	Another popular proverb that conveys a wrong image. Beating is never a sign of love; it is an illegitimate and abusive exercise of power/control. And furthermore, domestic violence is not "a slap now and then"; in most cases it is an ongoing pattern of various forms of violence exerted on the victim with the intention of subjugating/dominating/controlling her.
"Domestic violence only occurs in the lower socio-economic strata."	Victims and perpetrators come from all socio-economic backgrounds – domestic violence cuts across different cultural, religious, economic, professional, etc. patterns.

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2.3. Module 3: Specificities of gender-based violence in Roma communities

In this Module, we will present the specific particularities of gender-based violence in Roma communities. It proposes to help Roma women better understand the situations they are facing and the choices they have on solving the situations.

The problem of gender-based violence can be found in all societies and women everywhere can become victims. For Roma women there are unfortunately, specificities that make them even more vulnerable to abuses and gender-based violence, because they suffer double discrimination – from outside the community and also from the inside[17].

Roma women are most exposed to the gender-based violence due to the patriarchal organization of the communities. Women are considered to be the centre of the family, they are those who take care of everything inside the house, food, education of the children. Her role is very important because the family is the nucleus around which the Roma communities are built.[18] Nevertheless, the main role in the family is given to men.

During the WP2 of the Pattern Project, the National Reports from the consortium countries brought to our attention that the violence against women was frequently associated with the patriarchal structures of the Roma families and communities[19]. Moreover, most of the Roma women do not speak about the abuses they suffer because "in the light of their culture, this is a private matter and for this reason must be solved within the family"[20].

Unfortunately, in some cases not even the family supports the victims. According to the interviews of Roma women, and the National Reports, if a woman comes out and speaks for herself and brings out to her family the abuses that she is facing, she might lose their support, because the family does not want to lose their respect and place in the community. They might make her feel that everything is her fault and to view the abuse as her own failure[21].

17 Bradford, 2018.
18 Fundacio Surt,Combaterea violentei domestice impotriva femeilor rome: prevenire, depistare, recomandari de interventie, pag 10, 2012
19. Perista, 2021
20 Neves et al., 2018.
21 Fratila, 2019.

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The state institutions are not of real support either, according to the declarations of the study participants. Most of the times they choose not to believe the victims and to stay out of the conflicts inside the community, until it is too late. This Is also a form of abuse and discrimination. One of the Roma women summarized it very well.

"*Where should they go? What if they go and ask for help?! Nobody cares for them. Even the Police does this. Until they are killed nobody cares for them. After they are killed, they come and investigate. This is how it is*" (B.G, 38 years old).

Some Roma women presented in our research, said that the help they receive is not "real" – since they have no way to support themselves and their children. This is one of the reasons that they choose not to report the abuses suffered[22].

The poverty, the social stigma, the education level and the inconsistency of the social services support offered to the Roma women, are the main differences and particularities of the gender-based violence that happen inside the Roma communities.

The characteristics that are specific to Roma communities are in fact reflected in the gender-based violence acts against Roma women:

- Education – besides the lack of proper access to education, for the Roma women going to school can be seen still as a luxury that they cannot afford because of their role within the family.
- Employability – because of the poor education and because they need to take care of the family and the children, most Roma women do not have a steady job. Most of them work by day and without any official contracts. So this takes away their financial security and the possibility to provide for themselves and for their children.
- Gender roles – in the Roma families the women take care of the house, but the main role is attribute to men[23].
- Living conditions – even nowadays, Roma communities suffer from overcrowding. Some of

22 Perista, 2021.
23 Artinopoulou & Farsedakis, 2003.

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the communities even live in isolation and with limited access with the outside world. Social services and NGOs may also have limited access in the area.

- Cultural blaming – all the Roma women that participated in our studies talked about how people have the attitude that violence against women is a "cultural" specificity to Roma communities. This is one of the reasons that Roma women do not report the abuses they suffer, because the authorities do not take them seriously and say to them that violence against women is a custom of Romani people. In these situations, we can clearly see the double discrimination and how Roma women are victims of the community they live in and from the dominant population and the public authorities.

- Early marriage - debates about early marriage are often surrounded by assumptions about arranged, forced marriages as a cultural tradition of Roma communities. Actually, early family creation is a patriarchal rather than 'a Roma tradition'. This also makes the Roma women victims because they are taken away from school, taken away from her family and friends. The girls are even more exposed to violence acts, and they are left without support.

All Roma women presented in the studies conducted in the context of PATTERN project, were able to identify most of the forms of domestic violence and all of them consider and realize that violence against women is a crime. Most Roma women participants said that the most common form of aggression is the physical violence against them. The other forms of abuse were also mentioned like Psychological and verbal aggression and the aggressive behaviour that may consist of insults, abuse, humiliation and control.[24]

As observed in the above statements, the gender-based violence acts against Roma women, from the Roma communities, are the same as everywhere. The specificity comes in the double discrimination that the Roma women are suffering. The lack of support from their families, their own communities and the public authorities make it very hard for them to cope with the situations and to relocate themselves away from the aggressors.

Being in this kind of situation is not only difficult but drags along severe health problems because

24 Perista, 2021.

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of the abuses and also mental health issues like depression. Most of Roma women declared that they feel alone and sad and without hope and that they have low self-esteem and self-confidence problems[25].

2.4. Module 4: Accompanying a victim of domestic violence

2.4.a) Guidelines for accompaniment

This Module introduces strategies according to the assessment of the survivors' and children's safety and how to better approach them, in a sensitive gender-based approach, creating a safe, inclusive and welcoming environment for Roma women.

Every woman should be able to recognize the situation of violence and its intensity but it's crucial for her to know what actions she should take to save herself. She should receive advice and knowledge about domestic violence so that she can make her own decisions, since she should be the one who guide the process of liberating herself from the violence.

Protecting a woman's right to live safely is complex and requires the involvement of several actors, as well as the cooperation between professionals and organizations to prevent and end domestic violence. Due to cultural differences, Roma women can be stereotypical, ambiguous or unrealistic on approaching issues of domestic violence and how they stand on them.

All professionals and Roma mediators have a main role in identifying, preventing and handling domestic violence cases. However, survivors may not always feel able or ready to disclose their experiences and seek support from professionals. They will often be ashamed of the domestic violence that is present in their lives and will avoid talking about it because they perceive it as a family/ internal issue that should not be disclosed. To this we have to add the community pressure: a woman who has decided to speak about what has happened to her, about domestic violence, must be ready to be excluded from the community. Therefore, she should have strong support in order to pass through this process if community reacts against her. Nevertheless, Roma community is changing and people ready to react against domestic violence become more and more. These people should be involved as supporters

25 Fratila, 2021.

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There are six principles, developed by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (2020) that apply to all health and care settings, in order to support adults to remain safe:

1. Empowerment	People are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
2. Prevention	It is better to take action before harm occurs.
3. Proportionality	The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
4. Protection	Support and representation for those in greatest need.
5. Partnership	Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.
6. Accountability	Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice.

In cases where you suspect domestic violence may occur, the survivors may still deny it but the evidence shows that people are not offended when asked if they are experiencing domestic violence. It is important to remember that opening up is not easy and it can take time for the survivor to disclose. In such cases, professionals should keep supporting the women till they feel safe and confident and not be disappointed [26].

2.4.b) Skills for accompanying a victim of gender-based violence

Each person that works with a victim of domestic violence ought to be empathetic, supportive, encouraging and patient, without judgment or criticism.[27] Professionals should express their concern and ask direct questions in an empathetic way, as well as empathize with the victim. At all times, the Roma woman, a victim of domestic violence, must be assured that she is safe and everything she shares will not be made public.[28] The accompanying person should be well aware of the specifics of the Roma community and the group variety. This would give a clue and explain to

26 The University of Sheffield (n.d.). Supporting Victims of Domestic Violence. Future Learning online free training. https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/domestic-violence

27 United nations (2020). United to Support: How to respond to Domestic Abuse. A guide for UN personnel, p. 4, https://www.un.org/sites/un2.un.org/files/united_to_support_domestic_abuse-global_eng.pdf, last visited on 15.06.2021 r.

28 Krumova T., & Velikova A. (2021) Pattern WP2. National Report. Bulgaria, Center Amalipe

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the expert how the woman could react, what her fears and thoughts are. This would help the accompanying person to build a strategy and plan more adequate and tailored support. This includes information about which family/ community members should be attracted as supporters.

If you think a woman is experiencing domestic violence, you should not be reluctant to ask her about it. Recognizing the signs of possible domestic violence is the first step in reassuring the victim that they receive support and will be aware of their rights and options. If they decide to take action, they need to know that they have the support of professionals. Every professional must never intervene directly in the case of a victim of gender-based violence. Women in this situation should be accompanied but the professional / mediator should not decide for them or take measures without their full expressed consent.

Active listening[29]

Active listening is the process of listening attentively while someone else speaks, paraphrasing and reflecting back what they say, whilst withholding your own judgment and advice. Active listening is the way you make the other person feel heard and valued and helps you to understand their situation better as well as earn their trust.

Empathy

Some women who have experienced domestic violence have stressed that the professionals did not treat them with compassion or concern for their situation[30]. The victim may already experience feelings of shame, helplessness and hopelessness. Therefore, it is vital that they are not subjected to prejudiced, patronizing or pressurizing behaviour. On the contrary, they must be listened to carefully without being criticized. The listener must understand in detail the victim's behavior, understand the reasons that led to the situation, as well as the ways in which he can reach out to her and help her.

29 The University of Sheffield (n.d.). Supporting Victims of Domestic Violence. Future Learning online free training. https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/domestic-violence

30 Yam, M. (2000). Seen but not heard: Battered women's perceptions of the ED experience. Journal of Emergency Nursing, 26(5), 464-70. http://dx.doi.org/10.1067/men.2000.110432

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2.4.c) Confidentiality

Due to the nature of these cases of violence these women are often at high risk of suffering further violence should the perpetrator(s) find out and choose to retaliate/punish the victim for speaking out. Preserving the confidentiality of personal information is one of the fundamental principles governing the collection of data around victims´ experiences of gender-based violence. This should be even more strictly applied in Roma community where there are specific channels of communication and spreading information. It is not perceived as violating someone's personal space and safety but rather as community information. The data collected must only be relayed to third parties under the following circumstances:

- In the event that the victim decides to share it;
- Should there be a need for informed consent (an expressed authorization in accordance with statutory regulation);
- When it comes to data reporting between bodies with equal powers or on the same matters.

In addition, the accompanying person should bear in mind the lack of trust of Roma women victims of violence towards institutions. It is often believed that institutional representatives (especially if they are men) have relations with the men perpetrators in the community.[31]

2. 5. Module 5: Institutional instruments to face gender-based violence.

Throughout this module have been set out the different rights and institutions available to victims of gender-based violence in the five countries where PATTERN is being implemented. Nonetheless, in addition to national legislation, there are instruments that recognise universal rights, such as the EU Victims Rights Directie and the Istanbul Convention.

31 Krumova, T., (2021). PATTERN WP3. Training assessment needs, Bulgaria, Center Amalipe

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2.5.a) Basic legal rights and how to claim them

Romania

Romania does not have a very complex and useful set of laws that protect the victims of domestic violence or offer long term assistance for them. The **Romanian** *Law No. 217* from 22 May 2003 that was reedited and published on National Monitor on 15 October 2020 defines the different types of domestic violence and the way they operate and it is the main law that defines the domestic violence abuses and the gender-based violence. The law 211 from 2004 defines the rights of the victims and how they can benefit prom assistance from the state.

Portugal

In Portugal the rights of the victims of domestic violence derive from Law 112/2009 of 16 September[32], which approved the "Legal framework applicable to domestic violence, prevention and assistance to its victims". This Law identifies the rights of the victims of domestic violence and also foresees the existence of Victim Statutes. The Statute is an official document, which formally recognises the existence of a report of domestic violence, identifying the number under which the process that is initiated with it will take place, and lists the rights that the State recognises to the victim of that crime (whereby the crime of domestic violence has the nature of a public crime, which means that its denunciation is mandatory and that the State assumes a special role in its prevention and combat). The Statutes of Victim are attributed by the criminal police organs, by the judicial authorities and, exceptionally, by the CIG - Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality, when the complaint of the crime of domestic violence is presented, and there are no indications that the complaint is unfounded.

We identify below the set of rights and guarantees attributed to the victims of domestic violence in the Portuguese legislation.

32 Amended and republished by Law 129/2015 of 3 September, with subsequent amendments, the last of which was introduced by Law 57/2021 of 16 August.

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Rights and guarantees foreseen in the Portuguese legislation for the victims of domestic violence at social, police and judicial level*

Right to information (from the first contact with the competent authorities)	- General information on: - The type of services or organisations she/he can approach for support; - The type of support she/he can receive; - Where and how she/he can make a complaint and subsequent procedures; and what her/his role in them is; - How and on what terms you can receive protection; - Access to legal advice and legal aid; - The right to interpretation and translation; - What special defence mechanisms she/he can use, being resident in another State; - Reimbursement of expenses arising from participation in criminal proceedings. - Information that depends on the victim's willingness to (by requesting it or not opposing its receipt): - Evolution, process status and procedural situation of the accused; - Release of the defendant in custody, remanded in custody or convicted; - Name of the investigating officer so that she/he can contact him/her in the course of the investigation.
Guarantees of communication (understanding by the victim of the criminal procedure and the conditions for participating in it)	- Use of simple and accessible language, taking into account the maturity and literacy of the victim; - Right to "be accompanied by a person of her/his choice in the first contact with the competent authorities, should, due to the impact of the crime, the victim request assistance to understand and be understood".
Right to:	- Legal advice; - Legal aid;

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(Judicial protection)	- Hearing and giving evidence; - Concealment of her/his address in notifications from the competent authorities with the suspect or accused as the addressee (when she/he requests it);- Appointment of the same unofficial representative for the victim for the various processes in progress; - Reimbursement of the costs of participation in the criminal proceedings; - Court's ruling.
Right to protection	- Of the victim, his/her family or person in a similar situation: - Safety guidelines and individualised safety plan; - Tele assistance; - Psychological or psychiatric assistance. - In the acts of criminal proceedings: - Contact between victim and accused should be avoided in the places where proceedings are carried out; - Taking of statements for future memory; - Risk assessment when assigning a date for trial; - Taking of statements by videoconference or teleconference in acts that imply the presence of the accused; - Hearing in an informal and reserved environment; - Accompanied by a victim support worker when statements are taken or by another professional who has been providing psychological or psychiatric support (whenever requested); - Confidentiality.
Right to compensation and restitution of property	- Right to remove from her/his home her/his personal belongings and, whenever possible, her/his own furniture (extensive to the assets belonging to children and/or a person of legal age who is directly dependent on the victim due to a serious permanent disability and mental or physical impairment), and accompanied by the police authority; - Right to obtain a decision on compensation from the accused, unless she/he objects to it, within a reasonable period of time.
Labour rights (Labour protection)	- Change of work place (requests it, and if it is not possible at the moment, the employment contract can be suspended for the period necessary for the transfer to take place); - Justification of absences due to issues related to the domestic violence.
	- Renting support, allocation of a social housing unit or a specific equivalent modality,

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	under terms to be defined, whenever justified by the need to distance the victim from the perpetrator of the crime of domestic violence; - Social Integration Income under the terms of the law, as a matter of urgency; - Family allowance in relation to the children who are with him (on request);
Social rights (Social protection)	- Family restructuring allowance; - Preferential access to vocational training programmes; - Exemption from user charges in health services, under the terms of the law; - National Health Service with specialised responses both for clinical care and treatment, and also with a view to preventing the phenomenon of domestic violence; - Psychological and psychiatric care by multidisciplinary teams of professionals.

* Adapted from Rui do Carmo (2020). *Violência doméstica: Questões Legais*. Projeto Rasgar Silêncios, CooLabora; and from Elisabete Brasil (2019). *A lei e o combate à violência doméstica*. Curso TAV, SEIES.

Greece

In Greece, there are certain laws that frame the efforts in combating gender-based violence and promoting gender equality. The said laws are the following:

- Law 1342/1983 (Government Gazette 39/1.4.1983): Ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW).
- Law 3064/2002 (Government Gazette 248/A/15-10-2002) on Combating trafficking in human beings, crimes against sexual freedom, child pornography and sexual exploitation in general, and assisting victims of such acts.
- Law No. 3500/2006 for Combating Domestic Violence.
- Law 3896/2010 (Government Gazette 207/8.12.2010) for the Application of the principle of equal opportunities and equal treatment of men and women in work and employment.
- Law 4531/2018 (Government Gazette 62/A/5-4-2018) on I) Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention for the Prevention and Combating of Violence against Women of Domestic Violence. The ratification brought amendments to Law 3500/2006 to address domestic violence, the Penal Code and other provisions.

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- Law 4604/2019 (Government Gazette A '50 / 26.03.2019) on Promoting substantial gender equality, prevention and combating gender-based violence

Bulgaria

In Bulgaria, domestic violence is a topic that until recently was not seen as an important problem in Bulgarian society. Subsequently, a number of legal changes have been made, aimed at harmonizing and modernizing domestic legislation with European legislation. In the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence "Domestic violence is any act of physical, sexual, mental, emotional or economic violence, as well as the experience of such violence, the forced restriction of privacy, personal liberty and personal rights committed against persons who are related, who are or were in a family relationship or in de facto cohabitation."[33]

In 2019, Parliament adopted legislative amendments to the Penal Code to improve the protection of women from violence. According to the introduced definition, it is defined as systematic exercise of physical, sexual or mental violence, economic dependence, forced restriction of privacy, personal liberty and personal rights and is committed against ascendant, descendant, spouse or ex-spouse, person with a child, a person with whom he or she has been in actual cohabitation or a person with whom he or she lives or has lived in the same household.

In May 2020, the new National Program for Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence was adopted, which provides for measures to improve coordination between the competent institutions and the organizations involved.

With Decision № 412 of the Council of Ministers of 07.05.2021, the National Program for Prevention and Protection from Domestic Violence for 2021 was adopted, which adopts the Law on Amendments to the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence, and plans to the development of a "Monitoring Methodology for the Evaluation of Policies and Institutional Practices in Relation to Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence in Bulgaria".[34]

Spain

In Spain, the main rights that victims of gender-based violence have are as follows:

33 Law on Protection from Domestic Violence (2005), last visited on 10.01.2022
34 Krumova, T. (2021), PATTERR WP3. D 3.5 Domestic violence protocol – Bulgaria, Center Amalipe

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1. **Right to information**, information service by calling number 016 and legal aid. Both are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

2. **Rights of the Statute of the victim of the crime** (Law 4/2015, of April 27, of the Statute of the victim of the crime). It is important to know that a gender-based violence crime is a specific type of crimes with specific penalties. Through these, the victim has 1. The right to file a complaint. 2. The right to request a protection order in favor of the woman victim of gender-based violence and, where appropriate, her sons and daughters. 3. Right to be a party to criminal proceedings, which involves the active intervention of the woman victim of gender-based violence in the judicial process that is processed after her complaint. 4. The right to receive information about the judicial proceedings, being able to appear as a party to the criminal proceedings.

3. **Right to free, immediate and specialized legal assistance.** Women victims of gender-based violence have the right to free legal assistance, regardless the existence of resources to litigate. They can benefit from numerous services such as free advice and guidance prior to the process as well as free defense and representation by a lawyer and solicitor.

4. **Labour rights of female workers who are victims of gender-based violence.** These seek to reconcile work with the situation of gender violence, guaranteeing their protection if they are forced to leave their job.

5. **Right to comprehensive social assistance**. It consists of covering the needs arising from the situation of violence, restoring the situation in which the victim was before suffering it or, at least, mitigating its effects by making it possible for women to receive advice on the actions they can take and their rights.

2.5.b) Institutions and organisations promoting the fight against gender-based violence and gender equality

Romania

The main institution specialized in dealing with victim of gender-based violence and domestic violence in Romania is The National Agency for Equal Chances between Women and Men. They

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also have established a nonstop free of charge telephone line that offers assistance to the victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence.

The General Direction of Social Assistance is also involved in helping and assisting the victims, adults and minors, escaping their aggressor and also seeking justice by providing legal counseling and psychological help.

There are also some private organizations and NGOs that offer assistance to the victims: Association ANAIS, Association A.L.E.G., NETWORK VIF, FILIA Centre, Association Casa Ioana. They all offer legal assistance and also they can provide temporary accommodation for the victims.

There is also the Centre for Fighting Against Domestic Violence that has 24 member associations. Their main goal is to advocacy for a change in the Romanian legislation that will provide real help and assistance to the domestic violence victims.

The options of domestic violence victims are to call the free number for assistance or to go to the NGOs for help. Often the Social Services and the NGO work together to find a better solution for the victims.

Portugal

In Portugal, the fight against gender-based violence, including domestic violence, is promoted by public and private bodies which form part of the National Network of Support to Victims of Domestic Violence. The contacts and location of these services are available online in the Guide of Resources in the field of Domestic Violence1.

The activities of these support services are supervised by CIG – Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality, the public body with the mission of promoting the implementation of public policies in the field of citizenship, the promotion and defence of gender equality and the fight against domestic and gender-based violence and human trafficking. CIG is responsible for the "Action Plan for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence" 2018-2021, integrated in the wider National Strategy for Equality and Non-Discrimination – Portugal + Equal – ENIND 2018-20302.

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Furthermore, when the bodies which form part of the National Network have a cooperation protocol for the provision of services, their activity is also supervised by the Social Security services.

Greece

In Greece the main institutions and organisations working for the promotion of gender equality while combating and condemning gender-based violence can be summarized below:

- General Secretariat for Family Policy and Gender Equality (GSFPGE): 15900 SOS Helpline, 27 Counselling Centres, 18 Women's Shelters
- Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI): Research and Counseling Center
- National Centre for Social Solidarity (EKKA): Counselling, Psychosocial support, 2 Shelters, Mediation with public services
- Hellenic Police – Ministry of Citizen Protection: 24-hour telephone line (100), Reports and complaints
- NGOs: Centre for Research on Women's Issues "Diotima", International Rescue Committee Hellas, Greek Council for Refugees, W.I.N. Hellas, A21, Doctors of the World Greece, Orlando LGBT+, European Anti-Violence Network, Ergani- Center for the support of employment and entrepreneurship of women.

Bulgaria

- Agency for Social Assistance.
- Social activities and practice institute (SAPI) - The Association has Crisis Center for Women and Children, Victim of domestic violence and trafficking; Center for public support; Counseling and Prevention Center of domestic violence.
- "Animus Association" Foundation – +359 2 981 76 86, 080018676 Help line.
- Pulse Foundation, (+35976) 60 10 10, (+35976) 60 33 60, pulse.women@gmail.com, pulse.aids@gmail.com https://www.pulsfoundation.org/en/

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- Gender Alternatives Foundation, Contact: 4000 Plovdiv, Bulgaria 53, Rayko Daskalov str. (a.k.a. Dom Levski building), fl. 2, apt. 19A, Phone: 00359 32 26 07 08, Cell: 00359 879 26 01 01. e-mail: office@generalternatives.org
- Women's Association "Ekaterina Karavelova" - 086 821 495, ceta@mail.bg.

Spain

In Spain, there is a number of public institutions that are responsible for ensuring compliance of the current regulations on gender-based violence. However, it must be taken into account that these institutions have jurisdiction only in their territorial scope. The classification being as follows:

1. Institutions at the state level: Government Delegation against Gender-based Violence, the General Subdirectorate for Awareness, Prevention and Studies of Gender-based Violence, The General Subdirectorate for Inter-institutional Coordination on Gender-based Violence, the State Observatory on Violence against Women, the Observatory against Domestic and Gender-based Violence.
2. Institutions at the regional level: The Coordination Units against Violence against Women and the Units for Violence against Women.
3. Institutions at the local level: Free Legal Advice Service for Victims of Gender-based Violence and Assistance Service for Women Victims of Gender-based Violence.

2.6. Module 6: Prevention of gender-based violence

Module 6 addresses the prevention of gender-based violence, including domestic violence. The contents of this module aim to enable Roma women with a deeper knowledge, information and awareness raising on the issue of domestic violence against women, in order to prevent the occurrence of this serious problem in their communities.

Below, strategies to prevent domestic violence are suggested.

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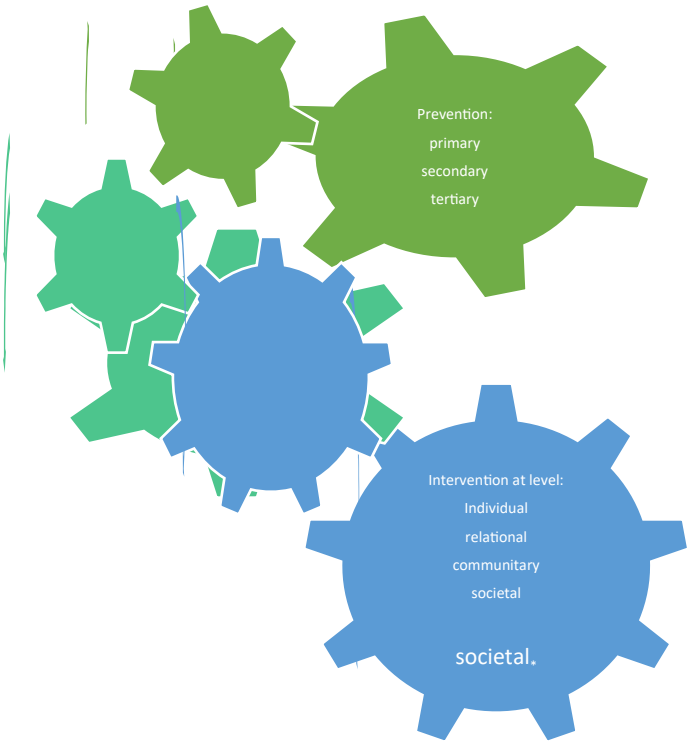
Strategies to prevent domestic violence

The PATTERN research concluded in the same sense as previous studies, that there are situations of domestic violence against women in Roma communities. Nonetheless, the use of specialised support services is infrequent due to specific characteristics of these communities. On the other hand, the fight against the patriarchal system experienced and reproduced, also in Roma communities, and which is at the root of violence against women and domestic violence, can only produce effects if a prevention strategy is implemented on various levels, in a transversal way, and is lasting over time.



Adapted from: World Health Organization/London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (2010).

Acting towards the elimination of violence against women and domestic violence, therefore,

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requires an intervention with little girls, young women and women from Roma communities on women's rights, gender equality, violence against women and domestic violence, combined with actions that can work on their empowerment and emancipation, and from childhood. It also requires, on the other hand, actions with boys and with the Roma communities in general. The following are some prevention strategies which can be implemented and may contribute to a change in behaviour and attitudes, more information and support for victims and the creation of opportunities to put an end to violence and trans-generational victimisation cycles. In this module the following actions are suggested:

Actions to prevent violence against women and domestic violence		
Target groups	**Actions to be developed**	**Objectives to be achieved**
Children/youngsters/adults	Skills development: Communication; - Active listening; - Conflict resolution; - Thinking before acting.	- Greater assertiveness in problem solving. - Develop the capacity for judgment and responsibility in decision making. - Improved ability to identify one's own and other people's feelings and to manage one's emotions and one's relationships. - Greater capacity to anticipate the possibility of violent acts and to adopt attitudes and behaviours which promote healthy relationships. - Promote equality.
Little girls, young women and women	To implement strategies that facilitate and potentiate the empowerment of little girls, young women and women,	- Promote relational changes between women and men and in gender roles. - Greater understanding about women's rights and the factors leading to discrimination against women.

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	namely through: - Information and awareness-raising actions on gender equality and its operationalisation: same opportunities, same rights and powers, equality to choose, make decisions, access resources, participate in social, economic, cultural and political life. - Work groups: work on concepts, typologies and forms of violence; work on myths related to romantic love; work on myths related to domestic violence; information on resources and their operation. - Discussion groups. - Support groups.	- Develop skills to identify gender discrimination and possibilities of individual and collective action against it. - Potentiate greater intervention within their own communities and in society at large. - Develop self-care and self-protection strategies. - Develop the ability to say no, to make choices and to decide about their lives, making decisions for themselves. - Greater information and knowledge about the dynamics of abusive relationships and the establishment of violence and its cycles. - Greater ability to anticipate situations of potential risk and how to act both preventively and to solve them. - Greater knowledge about how support services work, their resources and how to access them, enhancing their dissemination, information and use. - Greater empowerment of women and reduce/eliminate domestic and gender-based violence.
Community as a whole	- Public policies and their implementation. - Information and awareness-raising campaigns and actions. - Thematic debates. - Joint/collective	- Reduce/eliminate discrimination and gender-based violence against women through State intervention at national, regional and local levels. - Increase awareness of the problem. - Increase capacity to identify situations. - Increase knowledge of and information

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	participation in the development or initiatives promoting the elimination, prevention and combating of violence.	about available services and resources to those who need them. - Reduce/eliminate tolerance towards violence against women and domestic violence.
Primary prevention: intervention aimed at preventing violence from occurring. Acting preventively. **Secondary prevention:** responding to situations of violence and situations identified as at risk. **Tertiary prevention**: supporting victims of violence to overcome and minimise traumas and impacts left by victimisation. Intervening with perpetrators in order to prevent the recurrence of violence.		

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Annex: Practical Activities

Module 1: Conceptual framework

Title	What is what?
Type of activity	Group work
Estimated duration of the activity	30 minutes
Type of platform suggested	A place with a blackboard or a wall where pieces of paper can be stuck.
Digital tools needed	None.
Goals/expected outcomes	1. Identifying concrete manifestations of gender-based violence. 2. Identifying concrete manifestations of gender-based violence in the sphere of couple.
Description of the activity	The trainer brings to the seminar many written pieces of paper. Before the seminar, the trainer has written in each piece of paper a type of violence against women, and also violence that are no specific against women. Some of the violence agains women are inside the sphere of couple, some outside, some both. Every piece of paper must be stuck in the wall or the blackboard. These are the following steps: 1. We will ask women: Which of these violence violences are structurally against women? Women must divide the papers in two groups, depending on whether it is a general violence or whether it is structurally directed against women. 2. From the group of papers placed in the side of violence against women, we will ask: Wchich of these violence are more often specific from the sphere of couple? Women must again divide the pieces of papers in two groups, depending on wheter it corresponds to a specific violence in the sphere of couple or not. 3. At the end we will have three groups of pieces of paper,

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	each corresponding to one kind of manifestation of violence.
Materials offered (if any)	Pieces of paper and a pen.
References	

Module 2: Manifestations of gender-based violence in the sphere of the couple and how to recognize it

Title	Battered wife – Manipulator husband
Type of activity	Brainstorming and Discussion
Estimated duration of the activity	40 mins
Goals/expected outcomes	Participants are able to recognize the signs of domestic violence on victims. Participants are able to recognize the behaviors and strategies abusers use in order to manipulate their victims.
Description of the activity	*1st part (10 mins)* Six post-its are given to each participant. Participants are asked to write down 3 signs that betray that a woman suffers violence, and 3 signs that betray that a husband is abusive.
	2nd part (30 mins) The trainer/facilitator collects the post-its and puts them under the relevant category on the whiteboard: *a) A close friend of mine suffers domestic violence as she…..* *b) It's not love if he…..* The trainer/facilitator opens the discussion on the ideas shared, clarifies any misconceptions, answers questions, and adds to the categories any important elements that may be absent.

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Materials offered	• post-its • pens • tape • whiteboard marker

Module 3: Specificities of gender-based violence in Roma communities

The role of this section of the Module 3 is first to bring more understanding and knowledge of the different real-life gender-based violence acts that the Roma women are experiencing. And second, to assess the level of understanding and knowledge gained by the participants at the end of Module 3. It is recommended to do at least one of the following exercises, depending on the time frame available. The facilitator may choose what exercise considers to be more appropriate according to the participant's needs and knowledge and interests. All of the exercises can be done wither offline or online, depending on the national context.

Title	Open talk with the Roma women
Type of activity	brainstorming
Estimated duration of the activity	50 minutes
Type of platform suggested	a platform that allows the creation of breakout rooms
Digital tools needed	Phones or laptops that allow webcams and microphones
Goals/expected outcomes	To identify situations and solutions that will help the Roma women dealing with gender - violence situations
Description of the activity	The participants will be divided into 2 groups and they will be asked to give examples of gender – base violence and to tell the others how these situations were solved, if they were.

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	– 20 minutes All the participants will be reunited in one room and the conclusions will be drawn – 15 minutes
Materials offered (if any)	No materials
References	Sensitization and Capacity Building Curriculum

Title	Role play situations
Type of activity	Case studies and analyzing conclusions
Estimated duration of the activity	30 - 40 minutes
Type of platform suggested	online platform that allows participants to see each other
Digital tools needed	Phones, or laptops with webcam and microphone
Goals/expected outcomes	The participants to be able to identify real life situations and also to find solutions
Description of the activity	Scenario A – a Roma women abused by her husband decided to tell her family about it. Participants will chose the ending. Scenario B – A Roma women abused by her husband decided to call the Police to settle the abusive situation. Participants will choose the ending.
Materials offered	One page description of the proposed scenarios
References	Sensitization and Capacity Building Curriculum

Module 4: Accompanying a victim of domestic violence

Title	To turn the page

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Type of activity	Case study
Estimated duration of the activity	30 minutes
Type of platform suggested	a platform that allows the creation of breakout rooms (zoom, MS teams)
Digital tools needed	Mobile devices (computer, telephone) that allow using platforms for distant learning
Goals/expected outcomes	To draw a strategy and draft an action plan in regard to a case of a Roma women victim of domestic violence. The strategy/ plan should take into account the specifics of the Roma community
Description of the activity	The case is presented to the participants. In advance, handouts are prepared with the description of the case and the task for the small groups. (5 minutes) After presenting the case, participants are divided into small groups to prepare the strategy. They have to choose one speaker to present it to the big group (15 minutes for discussion). After joining the big group, each small group presents the outcomes. Each group has 3 minutes to present (time depends on the number of the groups). After all groups have presented, there is a joint discussion and combining the joint action plan/ strategy (10 minutes)
Materials offered (if any)	Handouts with the description of the case study

Module 5: Institutional instruments to face gender-based violence

Title	Guessing our rights
Type of activity	Brainstorming
Estimated duration of the activity	30 minutes
Type of platform suggested	A room with a blakboard or with a big screen and a

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	computer.
Digital tools needed	A computer with projection is needed in case there is no blackboard.
Goals/expected outcomes	To know the institutional resources available to victims of gender-based violence, in particular the rights they have and the organisations to which they can turn.
Description of the activity	1. The trainer ask women what do they know about the rights of victims of gender-based violence and the incstitutions that help them. 2. The trainer will write on the blackboard or in the computer projection every ideas that say women. 3. After the brainstorming, the trainer will qualify the ideas, explain which are not real rights or institutions, and add those that have not been said yet.
Materials offered (if any)	Blackboard or a big screen and a computer.

Module 6: Prevention of gender-based violence

Activity 1: To work on the notion of domestic violence, how to identify alarm signals and how to act upon them. To know the resources available for support and protection of victims of domestic violence.

Title	Domestic violence: its signals and how to act upon them. The resources available.
Type of activity	Brainstorming. Group work.
Estimated duration of the activity	85 minutes (')
Type of platform suggested/Digital tools needed	Offline: video projector or board Online: A platform that allows the creation of parallel workrooms (e.g. Zoom, Menti, Zboard), laptops/PCs/Tablet/Smartphones with cameras and microphones
Goals/expected outcomes	1. To know the notion of domestic violence (DV); 2. To identify signals that may indicate that we are facing a

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	situation of DV; 3. To identify support and protection services for victims of DV, including specialised services, locating them geographically and knowing the resources they make available.
Description of the activity	In the first part and in plenary, the notion of domestic violence defined by the Istanbul Convention, its scope and typologies are discussed. 15' Afterwards working groups are formed. Each group identifies signals which may indicate that there is a domestic violence situation and identifies support strategies according to the identified signals. 20' In the third part each group identifies possible support resources for victims of domestic violence, chooses one of them and prepares a presentation about this service which they will present to the other group when they return to the plenary. They will have to identify: the name of the organisation, the resources that this organisation provides to victims of domestic violence, the type of support, contact details, opening hours, contact details and geographical location. 30' Finally, and in plenary, each group presents the results and work done. 20' (10'*2)
Materials (possible)	Institutional websites. Guide of resources in the area of DV. Leaflets.

Activity 2: Informing and raising awareness on domestic violence

Title	Informing and raising awareness
Type of activity	Brainstorming. Group work.
Estimated duration of the activity	85 minutes (')
Type of platform suggested/Digital tools needed	Offline: video projector or board Online: A platform that allows the creation of parallel workrooms (e.g. Zoom, Menti, Zboard), laptops/PCs/Tablet/Smartphones with cameras and microphones

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Goals/expected outcomes	Production of material for information and awareness raising activities for young Roma girls and boys on domestic violence.
Description of the activity	In the first part and in plenary, the topics that an information and awareness raising action on domestic violence aimed at girls and boys from the participants' communities should address are discussed and decided upon. 15' Afterwards working groups are formed. 2' In the second part each group builds up the contents of such an information and awareness raising action on domestic violence. 30' In the third part, and in the plenary, each group presents their work. 20' The activity ends after a discussion about the work done and a reflection about the possibility of the contents worked on being disseminated among the participants' communities and their potential impact on the target groups. 18' (9'*2)
Materials (possible)	Websites. Leaflets. PATTERN publications and materials.

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