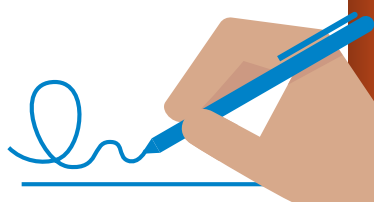


Gaps in response to violence against women and girls



4 April 2012



Serbia signed the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, also known as the Istanbul Convention, on 4 April 2012, and ratified it on 31 October 2013.

Who are the key players in providing services for survivors of violence against women and girls in Serbia?



- Service providers are women's NGOs and state institutions, including Centres for Social Work and Counselling Centres for Marriage and Family.
- Service providers collaborate well with the police, other NGOs and media.

What are some gaps in services in Serbia?



← Serbia does not have a national 24/7 helpline for women survivors of violence.

- There are a few services offered to perpetrators of violence against women and girls, but public prosecutors rarely refer them to such treatment programmes.



← Serbia does not have rape crisis centres or sexual violence referral centres.

- The following marginalised groups are underserved: women with disabilities, rural women, Roma women, women in prison women in prostitution, and women asylum seekers and refugees.

What more can Serbia do to better address violence against women and girls?



← The Government must provide necessary funding to service providers, according to the standards of the Istanbul Convention.

- Legislation to protect women and girls from all forms of violence, including stalking, sexual violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation, must be fully implemented.
- The Istanbul Convention needs to be fully implemented to end violence against women and girls, and achieve gender equality.

Information is drawn from a Multi-Country Study conducted in 2015 by UN Women in partnership with the Council of Europe to map support services for women and girls subjected to violence.

Contact: Yolanda Iriarte, Regional Programme Manager, Implementing Norms, Changing Minds

Email: eca.evawproject@unwomen.org

Web: <http://eca.unwomen.org>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/unwomeneuropecentralasia

Twitter: www.twitter.com/unwomeneca

#changingmindstoEVAW



This publication has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of **Ending Violence Against Women in Six Western Balkan Countries and Turkey: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds** and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.

