

Domestic Violence – Slovakia

Corps of Prison and Court Guard

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EuroPris Expert Group DV

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Prevalence data of domestic violence in Slovakia 2008 - 2017

2008 - Representative Research on Prevalence and Experience of Women with Violence against Women in Slovakia



2014 - European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights Survey on Violence against women (FRA)



2017 – Representative Research on Prevalence of domestic violence in Slovakia



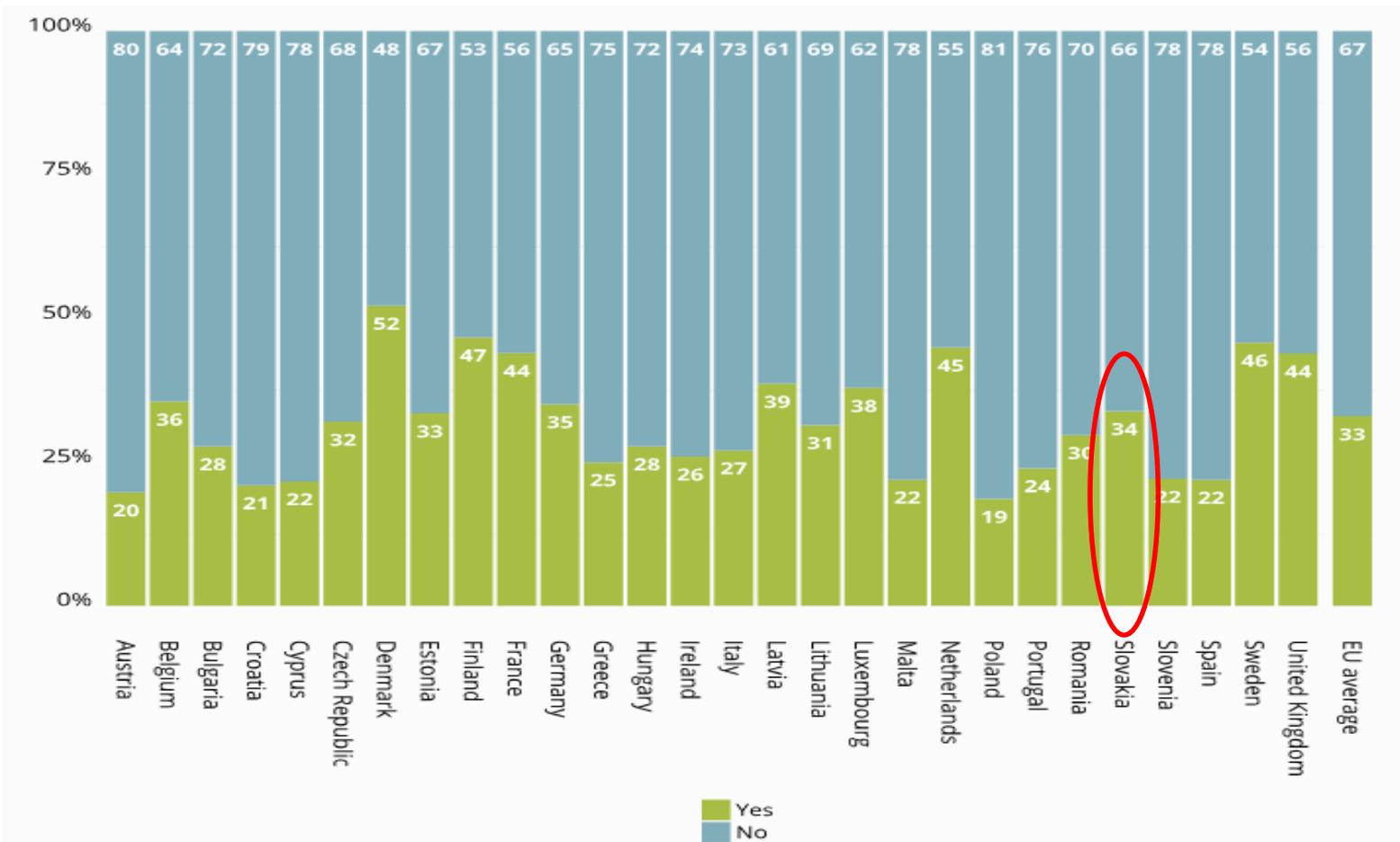
2017 – Sexual Violence against women in Slovakia

Representative Research on Prevalence and Experience of Women with Violence against Women in Slovakia 2008

- 21,2 % of women (age 18-64) reported that they have experienced violence against them from current partner (combined type of violence)
 - in 6 % it was acute violence
- 27,9% of women reported violence from ex-partner
- This research along with large scale media campaign gained significant attention in society and has become known in Slovakia as „Every fifth woman“ campaign
- Since then violence against women has become manifest, more openly discussed, and proved widespread problem within the Slovak society

Survey on violence against women in EU – FRA – European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights - 2014

Physical and/or sexual violence by a partner or a non-partner since the age of 15 – Slovakia 34% of women - (average EU 33%)



2017 – Representative Research on Prevalence of Domestic Violence in Slovakia

- **Experience of violence by family member in childhood:**
- Physical violence (e.g. slaps) have experienced 1/3 of men and 1/5 of women from their parents
- However women had commonly more severe consequences, that resulted in need for seeking help
- If violence in family was present, it tended to repeat regularly
- 2% of women reported negative sexual experiences from childhood, more prevalent were perpetrators, that they had known

2017 – Representative Research on Prevalence of Domestic Violence in Slovakia

- **Experience of violence by family member in adulthood**
- 26% - women had experience with domestic violence
- 25% - men had experience with domestic violence
- Extent , frequency and severity of violence were higher among women
- Domestic violence is present among all groups of women and men in Slovakia (regarding, age, education, income, nationality,...)

2017 – Representative Research on Prevalence of Domestic Violence in Slovakia

- **Violence in intimate relationships**
- Violence from an intimate partner experienced 36% men (which accounted 9% of 25% of total domestic violence experienced by men)
- Violence from an intimate partner experienced 73% women (which accounted 19% of 26% of total domestic violence experienced by women)
- When we talk about „intimate violence“, it is predominantly related to women
- Physical and sexual violence concerned almost exclusively women

2017 – Representative Research on Prevalence of Domestic Violence in Slovakia

Violence in intimate relationships

	women	men
Physical violence	7%	1%
Psychological violence	12%	5%
Social violence	13%	6%
Economical violence	7%	2%
Sexual violence	3%	0,1%

2017 – Sexual Violence against women in Slovakia

- 4,9% of women experienced sexual violence at some point of their lives – approx. 100 000 women in Slovakia
- 22% experienced SV in childhood,
- 63% experienced SV since the age of 15,
- 15% experienced SV as adult
- Most common form of SV was rape (38%), attempted rape (42%), consent to sexual intercourse only due to the fear from what would follow, if they refuse (36%), forced touching of intimate parts of the body (35%)...

2017 – Sexual Violence against women in Slovakia

- Majority of women (88%) known perpetrator (most common it was previous or current partner (38%) or acquaintance (28%))
- 10% of perpetrators were family members
- 85% of women did not seek any kind of help after incident
- Of those who did:
 - **11,2%** did go to **police**,
 - **7,9%** found **psychological help**,
 - **7,6%** used **religious services**

Public opinion survey - Special Eurobarometer 449

- **63%** of population of Slovakia thinks, that domestic violence is very common (14 %) or fairly common (49 %). In EU - 74 %
- **67%** of respondents in Slovakia think, that violence against women is unacceptable and should always be punishable by law (women 72%, men 60%). 2/5 of men then consider violence against women somehow acceptable
- Average in EU - unacceptable for **84%** of respondents.
- **47%** of Slovak respondents believe that sexual intercourse without consent may be justified in certain situations (being drunk, wearing provocative, sexy clothing ,...)
- In EU it is 32%

Victims rights legislation

Directive 2012/29/EU of European parliament and council establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime



transposition

Act no. 274/2017 Coll. on Victims of Crime adopted by National Council of Slovak republic



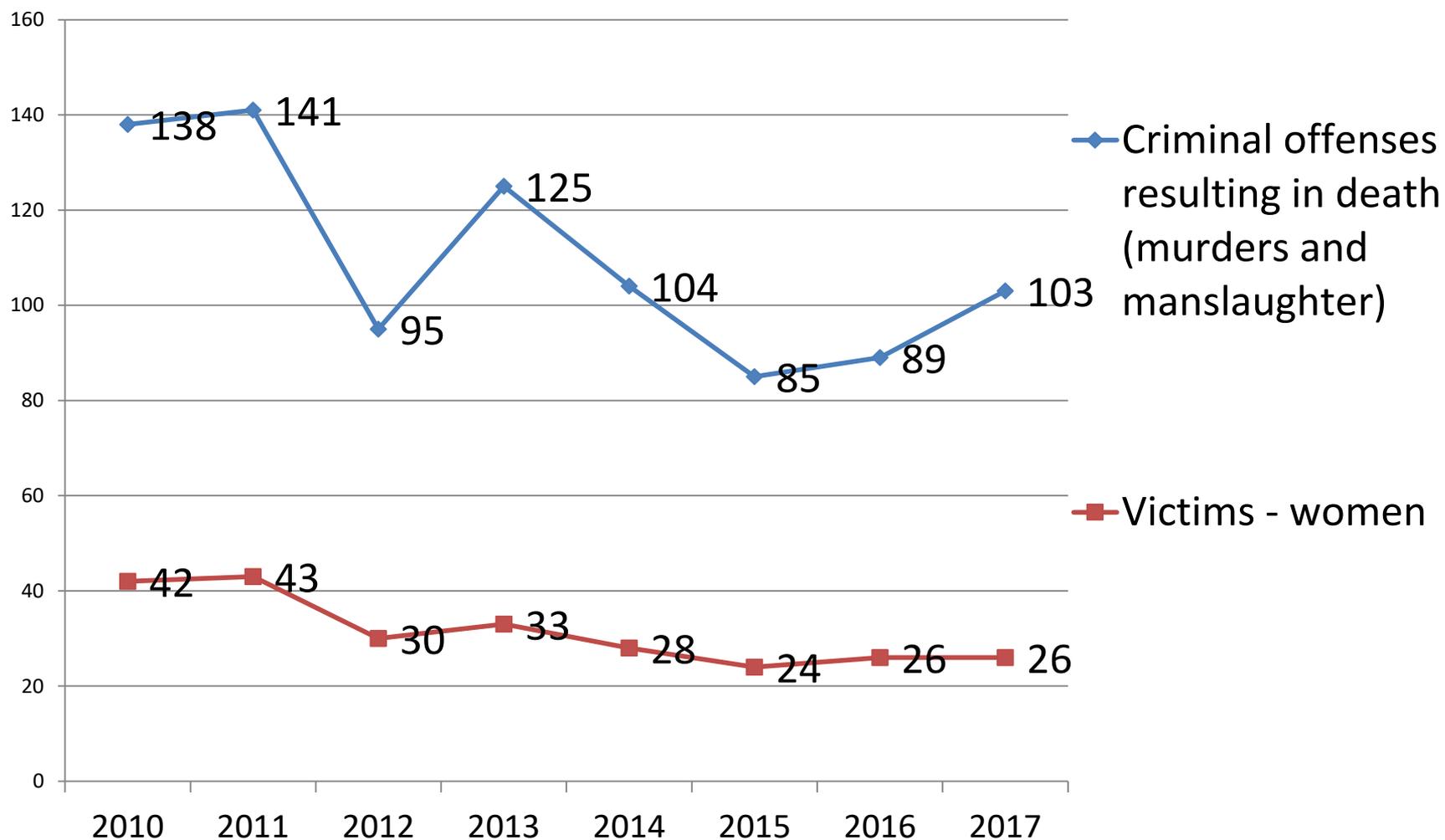
National strategic document for combating domestic violence in Slovakia

- The government adopted the **National Action Plan for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women for the years 2014 – 2019 (“NAP”)**.
- set out a systematic basis for providing institutional support for the survivors of violence against women and domestic violence
- monitoring and continuous evaluation of the NAP is carried out annually by the Committee for Gender Equality of the Government Council for Human Rights, National Minorities, and Gender Equality.
- The Plan also established 63 tasks, together with assigned bodies that are deemed responsible for each task, sources of financing, indicators for evaluation, and due dates for each task.

General Prosecutors Office of the Slovak Republic

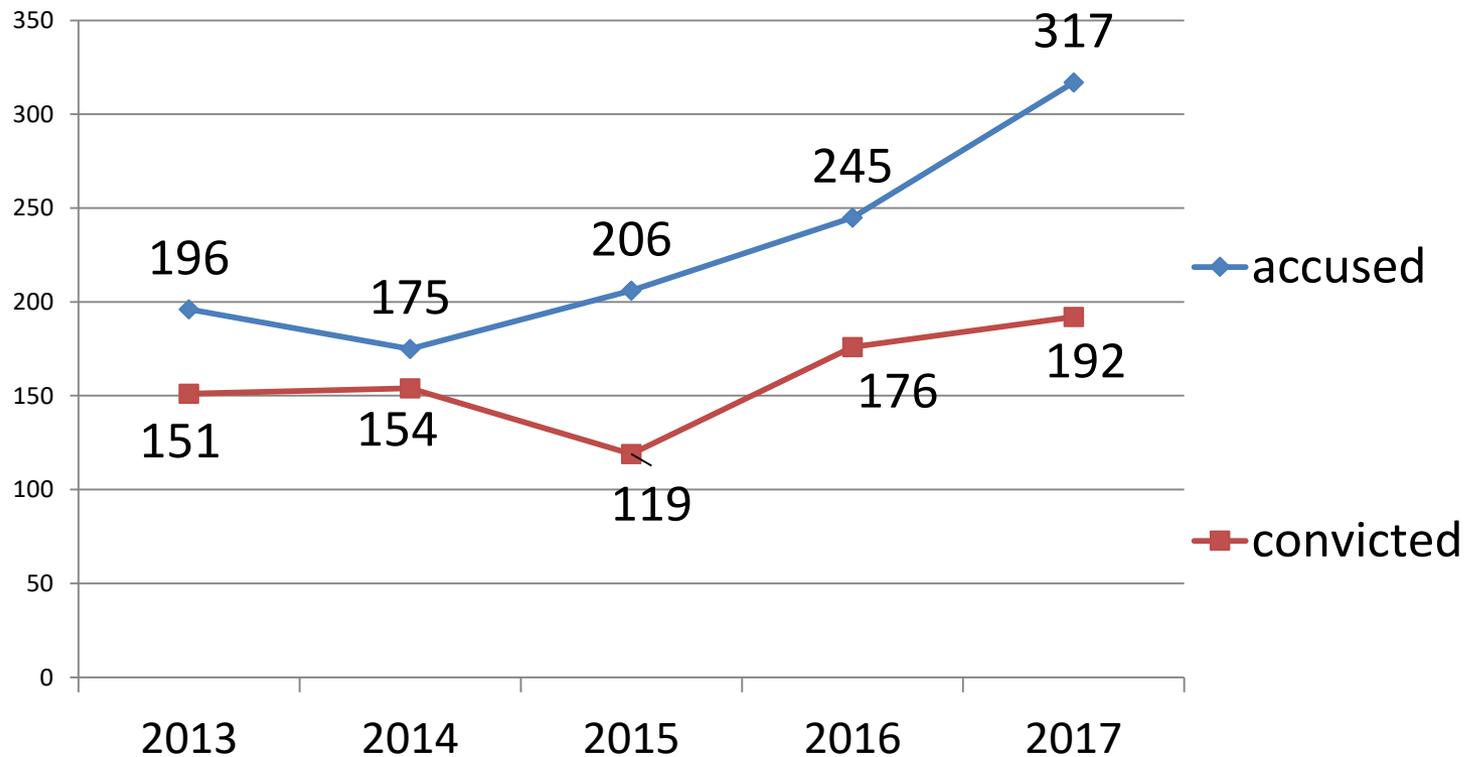
- In 2013 establishment of prosecutorial specialization in relation to the crimes of youths and minors, crimes against children, and violence in families was introduced
- Domestic violence is since then one of the priorities of GPO
- Section 208 of Criminal Code “*abuse of a close person or person in care*” remains particularly aimed at the prosecution of domestic violence crimes
- **Battered Person Line 0800 300 700, Battered persons tyranie@genpro.gov.sk** was introduced

Administrative data from general prosecutor's office of the Slovak Republic



Administrative data from general prosecutor's office of the Slovak Republic

- Section 208 of Criminal Code “*abuse of a close person or person in care*” – numbers of persons accused and convicted



Coordinating Methodical Centre for the Prevention and Elimination of Violence against Women and Domestic Violence ("CMC")

- Set up in April 2015 in accordance with Article 10 of the Istanbul Convention
- The primary aim of the Centre is to create, implement, and coordinate a comprehensive national policy in the given area
- The training of law enforcement agencies, including police officers, investigators, prosecutors, judges, ... on gender-based and domestic violence represent the crucial activities of the CMC

Long term treatment with domestic violence perpetrators in Slovak prisons

2. Treatment Program

- complex of activities that set individually-tailored goals for perpetrators

1. Initial Psychological Assessment

4. Evaluation of Treatment Program during Execution of the Sentence

3. Specialist Interventions

- psychologist
- social worker
- psychiatrist
- soft skill education training
- program for GBV perpetrators - Dulluth

5. Recommendation of Prison for Conditional Release of Perpetrator – for Court

Disadvantages of current system

- Not all perpetrators undergo same treatment in terms of length, intensity, specialization of experts involved in Treatment program
- Lacking off of minimal standard guidelines
- Lacking certain uniformity
- Not evidence-based
- Current system is lacking evaluation in terms of effectiveness
- We do not have precise numbers of recidivism

New Vision – Process of setting up new comprehensive, standardized program for DV perpetrators in Slovak prisons

1.  2013 – 21 expert in Slovak prisons did undergo special program “Work with Perpetrators of DV”

2.  2017 – 2 pilot intervention programs were carried out in 2 Slovak Prisons based on Dulluth model

3.  2017-Methodology for work with perpetrators of violence against women in penitentiary setting

-  2019 Directive on treatment with perpetrators of DM during prison sentence execution (not finally adopted)

4.  2020-launch of a new comprehensive and standardize intervention program for DV perpetrators

5.  Evaluation and Continual Implementation of Results

Thank you for your attention

