

## FEM-UnitED to prevent IPV/DV Femicide in Europe

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The FEM-UnitED project - a two-year transnational EU project - is being conducted in Cyprus, Germany, Malta, Portugal and Spain. It aims to improve system-wide responses to intimate partner violence (IPV) and domestic violence (DV) to reduce harm to women and children and prevent femicide which is defined as the intentional killing of women because they are women – in many cases perpetrated by current partners or former intimate partners. Given the limited data on femicides at European level, the focus of this project is to create an evidence base to raise awareness of intimate partner femicide prevention among the general public, as well as front-line professionals and policy makers.

Based on the European Observatory on Femicide (EOF) research tools, FEM-UnitED has developed and applied transnational research tools for the data collection of quantitative indicators to measure femicide prevalence and identify related risk factors and gaps in the policy responses to IPV/DV in the project countries, as well as identifying qualitative categories to gather data on specific femicide cases. A system for collecting data on femicide at the European level was outlined, which provides the basis for the further work on this topic. The evaluated data does not only indicate the situation of femicide at the national level (see country reports) but also allows for a comparative analysis of the collected data from the project countries (see comparative report).

In light of the research findings, FEM-UnitED provides a set of recommendations for action on femicide prevention, the design of specific support guidelines and specialised training for front-line professionals, such as police officers, social and health workers, NGOs, and victim support services, on the context of gender dynamics in cases of IPV/DV-related femicides.

By systematically holding stakeholder forums that contribute to concrete commitments for femicide prevention measures based on the project results, femicide becomes a relevant issue for policy makers and a commitment for social change. In addition, a multimedia awareness campaign for the general public has also been created.

The FEM-UnitED project presentation will focus on the key findings of the comparative report on femicide research and data in the five project countries.