



Co-funded by the
Rights, Equality &
Citizenship Programme
of the European Union



WHOSEFVA
Working with Healthcare Organizations to
Support Elderly Female Victims of Abuse



Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union under Grant Agreement no JUST/2015/RDAP/AG/VICT/9320

National Policy recommendations for Greece regarding Violence Against Older Women¹

Background

Elder population in Greece (over 60 years old) is reported by ELSTAT (2011 census) to be 2.734.621 out of 10.816.286, corresponding to 25,3%. From those women correspond to 55% (1.503.207) and men to 45% (1.231.414).

In Greece there is *no formal recognition or legal definition of elder abuse*, or a specific legislation referring on elder abuse. Since 2006 there is a law (law number 3500/2006) and has been amended by the I.4531/2018 for the prevention of domestic violence. The Istanbul Convention has been ratified in March 2018 (4531/2018) and the Hellenic Administration has formally declared its commitment to enhance its efforts for the protection of women in cases of violence. The Code of Penal Procedure (C.P.P) protects the victims by providing them with the right to file a complaint against the abuser.

However, the Hellenic legislation in reality does not foresee special protection for older people, considering that the perpetrator is usually a family member and it is rather difficult for the older person to officially report the abuse. In addition to the above at a procedural level, the processes appear to be slow, expensive and soul-destroying for victims of violence and as a result, they are discouraged from asking for help. On the local level legal reforms have also been adopted. More specifically, according to the New Legislation for Local Administration operation (Municipalities and Regional Administration) (Klisthenis Act, 2018), municipalities and communities in Greece have the competence and recourses to provide support and consultation to the victims of domestic violence.

¹ *These policy recommendations have been produced with the financial support of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020) of the European Union. The contents of these recommendations are the sole responsibility of Women's Support and Information Center NPO and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.*



Co-funded by the
Rights, Equality &
Citizenship Programme
of the European Union



WHOSEFVA
Working with Healthcare Organizations to
Support Elderly Female Victims of Abuse



Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union under Grant Agreement no JUST/2015/RDAP/AG/VICT/9320

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Development of comprehensive material and tools for relevant professionals in the field of Healthcare:

Kit of Tools for healthcare professionals on:

- Abuse “Dictionary” – Definition of Abuse, Levels of Abuse, Forms, Indication
- Legal Framework Info
- Identification & risk Assessment tools
- Documentation tools
- Intervention – Referral tools
- Matrix of Procedures and Roles;

2. Development of Multi-Agency Procedures and Structured Cooperation between entities in order to manage efficiently cases of (elder) abuse.

Formation of specialized teams (task force) in the context of Local Prosecution Offices to deal specifically with (elder) abuse. Establishment of active cooperation between public and private entities;

3. Development and Implementation of a **Supervision / Monitoring Mechanism** to ensure that procedures are put in place and followed;
4. Development and Implementation of **Specialized Education and Training schemes** for relevant professionals;
5. Set up of **procedures for cases** that there is no reporting of abuse or when the victim cannot leave abusive context (eg. family counselling).
6. Development of **structures and services specialized in elder abuse**, in order to meet the needs and provide assistance to victims.
7. Development of **Data Base for incidents of elder abuse**, Data collection regarding incidents.