

## **Schnellrecherche der SFH-Länderanalyse vom 29. Juli 2016 zu Mazedonien: Schutzmöglichkeiten für Opfer häuslicher Gewalt**

Fragen an die SFH-Länderanalyse:

- Welche Schutzmöglichkeiten (Frauenhäuser und Organisationen) gibt es für von häuslicher Gewalt Betroffene?
- Wie behandeln Polizei und Gerichte Anzeigen und Klagen der Gewaltbetroffenen?

Die Informationen beruhen auf einer zeitlich begrenzten Recherche (Schnellrecherche) in öffentlich zugänglichen Dokumenten, die uns derzeit zur Verfügung stehen sowie auf den Informationen von sachkundigen Kontaktpersonen.

### **1 Schutzmöglichkeiten für von häuslicher Gewalt betroffene Personen**

**Weite Verbreitung und grosse Stigmatisierung.** Laut *US Department of State* (USDOS, April 2016) ist häusliche Gewalt ein anhaltendes und weit verbreitetes Problem in Mazedonien. Kulturelle Normen und Stigmatisierung führen laut derselben Quelle unter anderem dazu, dass Betroffene Gewalt oft nicht melden oder keine Anzeige erstatten.

**Bestehende Gesetze bieten nicht genügenden Schutz.** Häusliche Gewalt ist laut USDOS (2016) zwar gesetzlich verboten, aber weiterhin weit verbreitet. Die *Istanbul-Konvention* (Übereinkommen des Europarats zur Verhütung und Bekämpfung von Gewalt gegen Frauen und häuslicher Gewalt) wurde von Mazedonien zwar 2011 unterzeichnet, aber bisher nicht ratifiziert (WAVE, Juli 2016). Nach Angaben von *UN Women* (2014) wurde im Herbst 2014 zwar ein neues Gesetz zu häuslicher Gewalt verabschiedet, welches neue Formen der Gewalt wie ökonomische Gewalt oder Stalking definiert und verschiedene neue Massnahmen («risk assessments», «urgent proceedings») vorsieht. Das *UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* jedoch zeigt sich in seinem Bericht vom Juli 2016 darüber besorgt, dass das aktuelle Gesetz zu häuslicher Gewalt sowie die weiteren relevanten Gesetze (Strafgesetz, Gesetz gegen Diskriminierung) weiterhin keinen genügenden Schutz für Opfer häuslicher und geschlechtsspezifischer Gewalt bieten. Auch die Europäische Kommission kritisiert im November 2015, dass das neue Gesetz zu häuslicher Gewalt weiterhin nicht alle Formen der Gewalt einschliesst und nur Zivilverfahren («civil proceedings») gegen Täter vorsieht. Das *UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women* (CEDAW) zeigte sich im letzten Bericht aus dem Jahr 2013 ebenfalls darüber besorgt, dass bestehende Gesetze nicht alle Opfer häuslicher Gewalt schützen.

**Ungenügende Umsetzung der bestehenden Gesetze: Weiterhin ungenügender Schutz durch Behörden.** Das *UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* hält in seinem Bericht vom Juli 2016 fest, dass nur wenige Täter häuslicher oder geschlechtsspezifischer Gewalt verurteilt und diese nur milde bestraft werden.

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Die renommierte NGO *Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia*, welche unter anderem auch von Gewalt Betroffene rechtlich berät, berichtete im Mai 2016, dass das bestehende Gesetz zu häuslicher Gewalt durch Polizeibeamte in Polizeistationen, Angestellte in Social Work Centers und Mitarbeitende in Gerichten ungenügend umgesetzt wird. Die betreffenden Behördenvertreterinnen und -vertreter verfügen oft über nur ungenügende oder keinerlei Kenntnisse des Gesetzes. Die Beamten stützen sich oft ausschliesslich auf Bestimmungen des Strafgesetzes und treffen nicht die gesetzlich vorgesehenen Massnahmen. Laut derselben Quelle erlassen die Gerichte Schutzmassnahmen nicht wie vorgesehen innert kurzer Zeit, sondern benötigen in der Regel äusserst lange Bearbeitungszeiten.

Laut Telefonauskunft eines Experten der NGO *Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia* vom 29. Juli 2016 weist die Polizei vor allem in ländlichen Gebieten erfahrungsgemäss eine von häuslicher Gewalt betroffene Person ab bzw. kann es ablehnen, einen Bericht zu erstellen oder eine Anzeige entgegen zu nehmen. Das *Helsinki Committee* habe wiederholt ungenügendes Verhalten von Polizei und Behörden gegenüber Opfern häuslicher Gewalt beobachtet. Dabei spielt es laut dem Experten der NGO auch eine Rolle, dass in ländlichen Gebieten innerhalb albanischer und mazedonischer Gemeinschaften häusliche Gewalt – darunter auch Gewalt des Vaters gegen seine Kinder – oft als in der Gemeinschaft akzeptierte und übliche familiäre Praxis angesehen werde. Ist der Täter oder seine Familie zudem einflussreich, zum Beispiel in der Politik bzw. in einer Partei tätig, erhöhe dies die Wahrscheinlichkeit, dass die Behörden einen Fall häuslicher Gewalt nicht behandeln würden. Auf Anfrage gab der Experte an, dass der Grund für die abweisende Haltung von Polizei und Behörden gegenüber dem Gewaltopfer auch darin bestehen könne, dass jemand aus dem Umfeld oder der Familie des Täters eine Funktion bei Polizei oder Gerichten ausübe.

Auch das *US Department of State* (USDOS 2016) hält in seinem aktuellen Bericht fest, dass Polizei und Justizbeamte abgeneigt sind, Vergewaltigung in der Ehe sowie häusliche Gewalt strafrechtlich zu verfolgen.

Der Bericht der NGO *Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia* vom November 2015 dokumentiert eine Reihe von Fällen extremer häuslicher Gewalt mit Todesfolge in den letzten zwei Jahren, wobei die Behörden ungenügend reagiert und Schutz geboten haben. Laut *Helsinki Committee* sind dies die Konsequenzen eines ungenügenden systemischen Schutzes durch die Behörden, welche die vorgesehenen Massnahmen nur ungenügend ergreifen.

**Ungenügende Unterstützung der Opfer und limitierte Verfügbarkeit von Schutz durch Frauenhäuser.** Nach Angaben des *UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights* vom Juli 2016 werden Opfer häuslicher Gewalt nur ungenügend unterstützt. Laut derselben Quelle sind auch die vorhandenen Frauenhäuser, die rechtliche Unterstützung und die Behandlungsmöglichkeiten der physischen und psychologischen Auswirkungen der Gewalt für die Opfer nur ungenügend.

USDOS berichtete im April 2016 von sieben staatlichen Frauenhäusern mit limitierter Kapazität sowie von einem durch eine NGO betriebenen Frauenhaus mit bis zu 30

Plätzen. Zudem gibt es laut USDOS zwei Krisenzentren für temporären Schutz von Opfern häuslicher Gewalt.

Das Netzwerk *Women against Violence Europe* (WAVE) machte im Juli 2016 anhand von Informationen nationaler Expertinnen und Experten davon abweichende Angaben. Gemäss WAVE sind die Angaben in seinem Bericht vom Juli 2016 auf dem aktuellsten Stand. Es ist deswegen davon auszugehen, dass der Bericht von WAVE ein präziseres Bild der verfügbaren Institutionen gibt. Laut WAVE (Juli 2016) existieren insgesamt lediglich sechs Frauenhäuser. Vier der Frauenhäuser sind staatlich finanziert und können Unterkunft für maximal sechs Monate bieten. Zwei Krisenzentren werden durch NGOs betrieben. Eines dieser Zentren kann Unterkunft für bis zu sechs Monate bieten, das andere lediglich Notunterkunft für bis zu 48 Stunden. Die staatlich finanzierten Frauenhäuser befinden sich in den Städten Skopje, Sveti Nikole, Kochani und Bitola. Die beiden Krisenzentren befinden sich in Skopje. Die Frauenhäuser sind für die Betroffenen kostenlos. Die staatlichen Frauenhäuser sind ständig geöffnet. Die Zentren der NGOs hingegen sind nur geöffnet, solange die notwendigen finanziellen Mittel vorhanden sind. Zusätzlich gibt es laut WAVE eine Notunterkunft für Opfer von Menschenhandel.

Nach Angaben von WAVE mussten in den letzten drei Jahren zwei Frauenhäuser wegen mangelnder finanzieller Mittel schliessen. Zudem besteht für verschiedene Gruppen kein bzw. nur beschränkter Zugang (ältere, behinderte Menschen, Migrantinnen ohne Identitätspapiere, lesbische Frauen und Transgender-Menschen). Nach Einschätzung von WAVE ist der Zugang zu Frauenhäusern für die am meisten marginalisierten Gruppen von Frauen weiterhin schwierig. Auch das *UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women* (CEDAW) zeigte sich 2013 besorgt über die kleine Zahl verfügbarer Frauenhäuser.

USDOS, 2016:

*„Rape and Domestic Violence: Rape, including spousal rape, is illegal. The penalties for rape range from one to 15 years’ imprisonment, but those laws were poorly enforced. Domestic violence is illegal but was a persistent and common problem. Cultural norms, including social stigmatization, victims’ concerns over possible shame to the family, discouraged women from reporting violence against them or filing criminal charges.*

*Police and judicial officials were reluctant to prosecute spousal rape and domestic violence.*

*The government ran seven limited-capacity shelters, and one NGO operated a shelter for women at risk that could accommodate 30 women. A national NGO operated a hotline in both Macedonian and Albanian languages and ran two crisis centers to provide temporary shelter for victims of domestic violence. Local NGOs combating domestic violence relied largely on international donations.»*

Quelle: USDOS – US Department of State: Country Report on Human Rights Practices 2015 – Macedonia, 13. April 2016:

[www.ecoi.net/local\\_link/322490/461967\\_de.html](http://www.ecoi.net/local_link/322490/461967_de.html).

WAVE, 2016:

*«This compilation of country profiles is a reflection of the data and information gathered throughout the research that was carried out for the WAVE Report 2015. The main methodological tool used during this data collection process represented an extensive questionnaire that sought to provide a comprehensive picture of specialist support services for women and children survivors of violence existing in 46 countries. In addition to this, issues such as government policies for funding of women's support services, campaigning, training and prevention activities are also addressed. Since funding for women's support services is subject to many constraints, is it often the case that shelters or helplines may stop being operational within a certain timeframe. On the other hand, new services can also be established.*

*We therefore ask our readers to keep in mind that the actual number of women's support services from the countries included in this data collection process will invariably change with time. Hence, **in certain instances numbers on specialist supports services from the WAVE Report 2015 do not exactly coincide with data presented in this compilation, as more recent updates were made to the latter.** (...)*

*Population: 2,065,769*

*Female Population: 1,030,928*

*Member of Council of Europe: Yes (1995)*

*Member of European Union: No*

*CEDAW ratified: Yes (2003)*

*CEDAW Optional protocol ratified: Yes (2003)*

*Istanbul Convention – signed: yes (2011); ratified: no*

*(...) The following information has been compiled from the research carried out in 2015 for the WAVE Report (...) with national experts working in the field of violence against women. The research methodology involved an extensive questionnaire and a follow-up Skype interview. The profile includes information on women's networks, shelters, centres, and policy and funding.*

*Women's Helplines*

*National women's helplines*

*There are a total of three women's helplines in Macedonia: one national mobile SOS helpline for victims of domestic violence (141 700, free of charge only from mobile phones, operating 24/7), and two national SOS helplines for victims of domestic violence (15 700, 15 315, both operating 24/7 and not free of charge). The helplines do not provide multi-lingual assistance 24/7, assistance is available only in Macedonian.*

*Two of the helplines are supported by the state, but budgetary information was not available. The helplines are operated by three NGOs: National Council for Gender Equality (141700), Organization of Women Skopje (15700), and Crisis Centre “Hope” (15315).*

*Other national helplines for victims*

*Additionally, there is a helpline for children called SOS Line for Children and Youth (NGOM), operated by the NGO “First Children’s Embassy in the World Megjashi”. It is available 24/7, but not free of charge.*

*Women’s Shelters*

***There are a total of six women’s shelters in Macedonia. Four are state funded shelters providing accommodation of up to six months and two are crisis centres run by NGOs, one providing accommodation of up to 6 months and the other providing emergency housing for up to 48 hours. The state funded shelters are in Skopje, Sveti Nikole, Kochani and Bitola, and the two crisis centres are in Skopje. The shelters are free of charge for women victims of domestic violence and their children. The state funded shelters are open constantly, while the crisis centre ran by NGO is only open when the needed financial resources are allocated. There is one additional shelter for victims of sex trafficking.***

*Some shelters have the age limit of 16 for boys staying with their mothers. The Ministry of Labour and Social Policy has developed regulations on the standards for establishing services for survivors of domestic violence, and women must first go through the Centres for Social Work to be allotted a place in women’s shelters. Two women’s shelters had to close in the past three years, due to a lack of financial resources. Elderly women are placed in elderly homes and do not have access to women’s shelters, while undocumented migrant women do not have any access to women shelters either. Some, but not all women’s shelters accept lesbian and transgender women, while most shelters are not accessible for women with disabilities.*

*This summary shows **that access to shelters is still quite difficult for most marginalized groups of women.** Some of the shelters (family shelters) allow men to be accommodated, as well as women.*

*Women’s Centres*

*There is no information available on the number of women’s centres in Macedonia.*

*Other services*

*Other services include counselling centres, centres for survivors of sex trafficking and intervention centres with a pro-active approach. All the services are only available in Skopje. All of the centres offer information and advice, most have counselling services and some have advocacy, empowering and practical support, risk assessment and safety planning, legal advice, legal representation, court accompaniment, outreach, and support concerning income and work. Furthermore, some shelters offer*



*multi-agency support for survivors and systemic/family support, and cooperate with perpetrator programs.*

#### *Women's Networks*

*There is one national women's network in Macedonia called Voice against Violence – National Network to End Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. The Network is formed by 20 civil society organizations working in the field of prevention and dealing with the issue of violence against women, including domestic violence. The activities of the network include advocacy, monitoring, research, awareness-raising and education.*

#### *Policy & Funding*

*The National Strategy for Prevention and Protection against Domestic Violence 2012-2015 is the current national policy targeted at domestic violence. Additionally, two other policies, the National Strategy for Gender Equality 2013-2020 and the National Action Plan for Gender Equality 2013-2016, are in place in Macedonia. The national coordinating body for prevention and protection from domestic violence of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy is in charge of implementing the policies and measures to prevent violence against women, as well as evaluating their own work. The interviewed NGOs did not feel that this body was doing effective work on behalf of survivors of domestic violence. State funding to women's NGOs in Macedonia is not sufficient. There is a National Strategy for Cooperation among Government and Civil Society Organizations, and Law for Associations and Foundations, but women's NGOs are not specifically addressed in the National Strategy.»  
Quelle: Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE), Compilation of Country Profiles, Juli 2016, S. 2; 139-142:*

*[http://files.wave-network.org/researchreports/WAVEReport2015\\_Compilation\\_Country\\_Profiles.pdf](http://files.wave-network.org/researchreports/WAVEReport2015_Compilation_Country_Profiles.pdf).*

UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2016:

*«39. The Committee welcomes the adoption of the Law on Prevention of and Protection against Domestic Violence. **It remains concerned, however, that the Law and other relevant laws of the State party, including the Penal Code and the Law on Prevention of and Protection against Discrimination, do not ensure adequate protection to women victims of domestic violence and gender-based violence. It is also concerned at the low level of convictions and lenient punishment of the perpetrators and at the insufficient support provided for the victims of domestic violence, including shelters, legal aid and treatment for the physical and psychological effects of such violence.** The Committee regrets the lack of data on domestic violence (art. 10).*

*40. The Committee **recommends that the State party take measures to review the Law on Prevention of and Protection against Domestic Violence and other relevant laws in order to provide appropriate protection to all victims of domestic***

*violence and gender-based violence with a view to preparing its ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). It also recommends that the State party intensify its efforts to enforce the Law by ensuring that all reported cases of domestic violence are investigated promptly, impartially and effectively and that the perpetrators are brought to justice, and that it provide adequate support to the victims of domestic violence by increasing the number of shelters and allocating sufficient funding for legal aid as well as physical and psychological treatment. It further recommends that the State party improve the LIRIKUS database on domestic violence.»*

Quelle: UN Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, Concluding observations on the combined second to fourth periodic reports of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 15. Juli 2016, S. 8:

<http://daccess-ods.un.org/access.nsf/Get?Open&DS=E/C.12/MKD/CO/2-4&Lang=E>.

Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia, 2016:

*«III. Lack of application by relevant institutions of the Law on Prevention, Detering and Protection against Domestic Violence. (Article 10 – Protection of the family, mothers and children)*

*9. In the course of providing free legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, the Helsinki Committee notices inefficient application of the Law on Prevention, Detering and Protection against Domestic Violence by police officers in Police stations, employees in Social Work Centers and by the Courts. The employees of these institutions show very insignificant, if not nil knowledge of the Law. As a result, we are constantly encountering situations when in cases of domestic violence the police officers do not rely on this Law, but only on the provisions of the Criminal Code, and subsequently fail to use the envisaged measures. Additionally, when a victim of domestic violence requests temporary protection measures from the regular Courts, in accordance with the Law, the judges, instead of respecting the deadlines established by the laws– which are short, in order to provide efficient protection of the endangered victim – lead this procedures as if they were regular criminal procedures, in pursuance of the provisions of Criminal Procedure Code, which envisages very long deadlines. On account of these reasons, the purpose for which these measure have been envisaged is not fulfilled, that purpose being urgent protection of endangered domestic violence victim.*

*CASE STUDY 1: 'By the end of 2015, my former partner assaulted me with knife, seriously threatening that he would endanger my life and body, as well as the life and body of a person close to me. Immediately after the assault, I alerted the Police. The Police visited the site and took minutes, but nevertheless even 45 days later provided no information on the developments concerning the case. After I had visited the Police station in order to gather information on the case, I was told that the case had been closed as a grievance and that the assailant had been warned (?!). I couldn't believe that the events took such turn, so I filed criminal charges directly to the Public Prosecution Office. The Public Prosecution initiated procedure, but the Court sentenced my*

*former partner to only 4 months imprisonment, although he had already been convicted and also reported by me on account of previous assaults.*

*The Court's conviction did not stop him to continue harassing me, threatening me, and to continuously endanger my safety and the safety of my family. I do not feel protected, and believe that the system is not able to protect me against future attacks.'*

*Recommendation:*

*1. The state should ensure efficient application of the Law on Prevention, Deterring and Protection against Domestic Violence, especially of the provisions which guarantee urgency of proceeding of all competent institutional bodies which undertake measures for protection of victims and prevention of violence.*

*2. The state should adopt amendments to the laws, so that all forms of gender-based violence may be included, as well as to undertake measures for systematic following, prevention and protection against all forms of gender-based violence.»*

Quelle: Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia, Information for consideration by the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights regarding the review of the combined second, third and fourth periodic reports of Republic of Macedonia under the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural rights, 58th Session (06 June 2016 - 24 June 2016), Mai 2016, S. 7-8: [http://tbin-ternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CESCR/Shared%20Documents/MKD/INT\\_CESCR\\_CSS\\_MKD\\_23934\\_E.doc](http://tbin-ternet.ohchr.org/Treaties/CESCR/Shared%20Documents/MKD/INT_CESCR_CSS_MKD_23934_E.doc).

Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia, 2015:



## GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

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### FEMICIDE - A CONSEQUENCE OF THE INEFFICIENT SYSTEMIC PROTECTION OF WOMEN

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In the course of the Month of October 2015, the public was informed about yet another case of femicide in which a woman was brutally axed by her husband. In the daily-news bulletin, the Ministry of Internal Affairs cited damaged family relations as a reason for the murder, while, off the record, the event was preceded by an argument. Only two days after, the media covered an event in Kochani in which a man took his life by hanging himself, after the previous night he had physically abused his wife and stabbed her with a knife in the arm.

The Helsinki Committee regrettably reminds that these two events are only new episodes in the saga of multiple acts of gender-based violence and domestic violence which have led to tragic outcomes in the past two year. In fact, in May this year, an elderly woman was found dead in her home in the Skopje residential area of Przhino with visible traces of violence, whereby the main suspect was her son. In January, a pregnant woman was killed at the Children's Clinic in Skopje and her body was dumped from the roof by the murderer. In the course of 2014 the state law enforcement authorities have failed to prevent as many as 5 cases of gender-based violence which resulted in tragic outcomes. At the beginning of May 2014, a dead woman was found in Kavadarci and her husband was accused of the murder. Near the end of the month, a man from Skopje killed the partner that he was having a love affair with, with firearms and then he killed himself. The victim had been repeatedly warning that he would kill her if she dared to leave him. Towards the end of July, a man from Skopje killed his partner and her sister with firearms, whereby he committed suicide. Only three months later, in November, we witnessed the triple murder in Kavadarci, where a man killed the mother, father and sister of the spouse he was divorcing. The victim had reported the offender for domestic violence on several occasions, yet the institutions provided no

protection to the victims. Furthermore, near the end of the month of November another triple murder took place, in Zletovo, where a man killed the parents of the spouse he was divorcing, as well as an acquaintance of their, the uncle of a man that the murderer suspected was having a romantic relationship with his ex-wife. The offender had also already been reported to the competent authorities for domestic violence.

The Helsinki Committee considers the above-mentioned examples to be a direct consequence of the inefficient systemic protection of women against gender-based violence. The state has the goal of providing timely information, shelter and assistance to the victims of domestic violence in order to prevent the occurrence of femicide, as well as conduct risk assessment of the victim's situation. In addition, in cases of femicide it is necessary for the state to conduct detailed investigation into the circumstances of the case in order to establish the guilt of the offender, as well as all the other involved parties who have failed to provide adequate protection and correspondingly punish them for neglect. These obligations for the state are stipulated in the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence which has been signed by the Republic of Macedonia, but has not yet been ratified.

#### **Recommendation:**

Due to the obvious inefficiency of the institutional protection of women as victims of violence and the increase in the number of gender-based murders, the Helsinki Committee believes that it is necessary for the country to ratify the Istanbul Convention and implement the obligations arising from it without any further delay.

Quelle: Helsinki Committee for Human Rights of the Republic of Macedonia: Monthly Report on Human Rights in the Republic of Macedonia; October 2015, 11. November 2015, S. 5-6: [www.mhc.org.mk/system/uploads/redactor\\_as-sets/documents/1138/Monthly\\_report\\_October\\_2015\\_eng.pdf](http://www.mhc.org.mk/system/uploads/redactor_as-sets/documents/1138/Monthly_report_October_2015_eng.pdf).

Europäische Kommission, November 2015:

*“A new Law on Combating Domestic Violence was adopted to protect survivors, but it fails to recognise all forms of violence and only provides for civil proceedings against perpetrators.”* Quelle: Europäische Kommission: The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia Report 2015, 10. November 2015, S. 59: [www.ecoi.net/file\\_upload/1226\\_1447156342\\_20151110-report-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia.pdf](http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1226_1447156342_20151110-report-the-former-yugoslav-republic-of-macedonia.pdf).

CEDAW, Concluding Observations 2013:

*«Violence against women*

*22. While noting the amendments to the State party's 2008 Family Law, which extend the definition of a victim of family violence, the Committee remains concerned that this law does not protect all victims of violence, that family violence remains criminalized as an aggravating circumstance only and that specific and comprehensive legislation covering all forms of violence against women, in particular domestic, sexual and psychological violence, is absent. Furthermore, while commending the adoption of the National Strategy for Prevention and Protection from Family Violence 2012–*

*2015 and the National Coordination Body for the Prevention and Protection from Family Violence, the Committee expresses its concern about the increasing incidence of all forms of violence which are underreported, in particular psychological, physical and sexual violence against women and girls; the limited use of protection orders; the limited number of State-run shelters and the lack of data on violence against women.»*

Quelle: UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Concluding observations on the combined fourth and fifth periodic report of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, adopted by the Committee at its fifth-fourth session (11 February-1 March 2013), 22. März 2013: [www.ecoi.net/file\\_upload/1930\\_1369661975\\_g1342154.pdf](http://www.ecoi.net/file_upload/1930_1369661975_g1342154.pdf).

UN Women, 2014:

*«But with growing advocacy from women's groups, and support from UN Women and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), in August 2014 the Parliament of The FYR Macedonia adopted a **new path-breaking law to combat domestic violence, protect survivors and strengthen the prosecution of perpetrators. It expands the definition of violence to include economic violence and stalking, and introduces risk assessments and urgent proceedings, such as to remove perpetrators from households.***

*The law establishes a national coordination body and introduces training on gender equality in the formal education system and for service providers. In preparation for the law, in July UN Women began training civil society service providers to act as trainers in their respective organizations.*

*The new law also fulfils commitments made when the Government of FYR Macedonia signed on to UN Women's COMMIT initiative in 2013.*

*To strengthen relevant institutions and the judicial system, for two years, starting in 2012, the FYR Macedonian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy and the Academy for Judges and Public Prosecutors partnered with UN Women and UNDP on a project funded by the Government of the Netherlands. They developed standards for comprehensive support services and conducted an assessment of court proceedings in domestic violence cases from a gender perspective, which helped target specialized training courses for judges and public prosecutors.»*

Quelle: UN Women - UN Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (ersetzt UNIFEM, DAW, INSTRAW, OSAGI), New law spurs action, bringing protection to many, 30. Oktober 2014:

[www.ecoi.net/local\\_link/293378/428217\\_de.html](http://www.ecoi.net/local_link/293378/428217_de.html).