

Violence Against Women: An EU-wide survey

with selected results

for Portugal



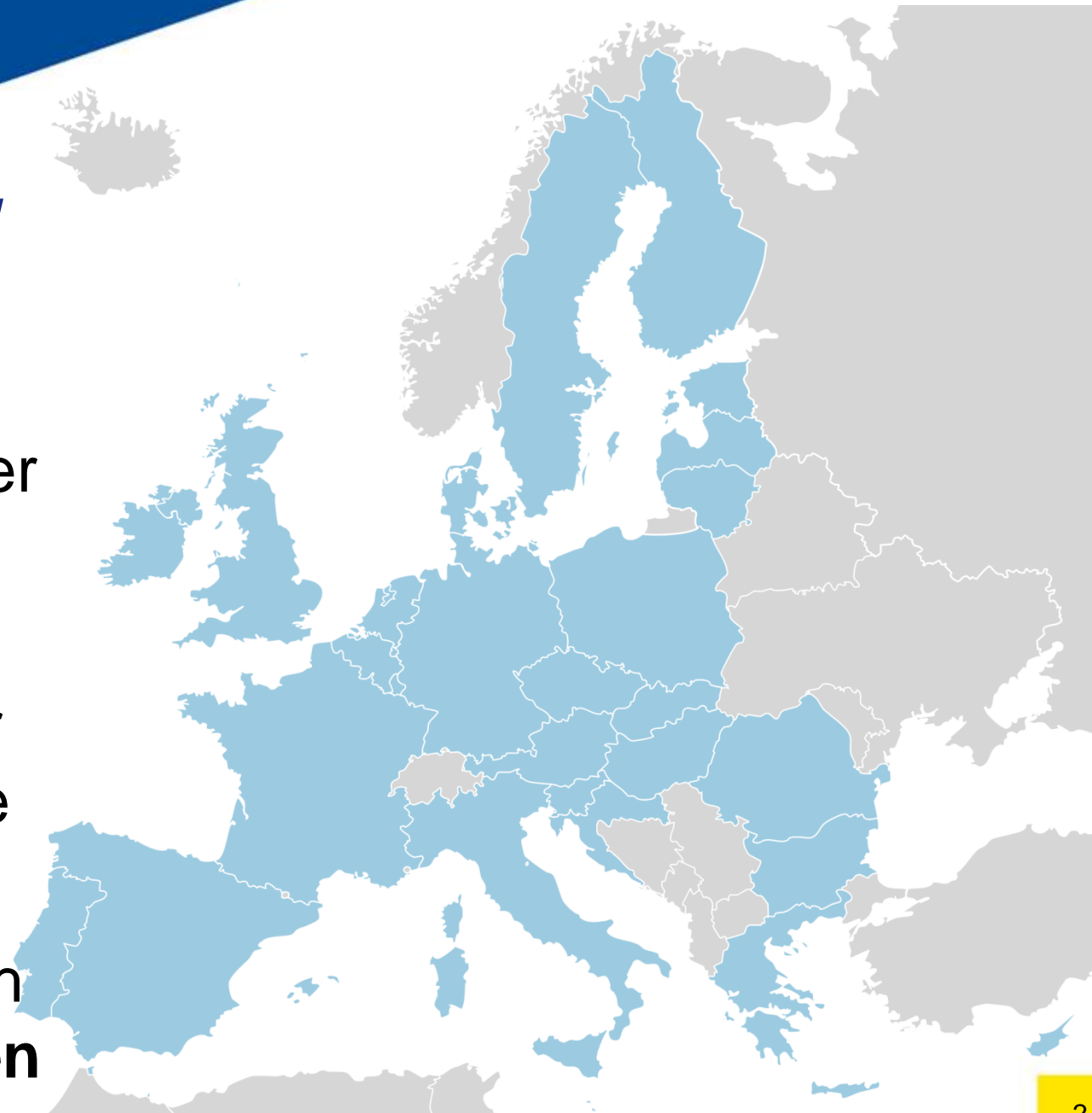
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FRA

The FRA VAW survey

- 28 EU Member States
- 1,500 interviews per Member State
- In total, interviews with **42,000 women**



How the survey was carried out

- Random sample of women aged 18-74 years old
- All interviews face-to-face
- Each interview between 25 mins to over 2 hours
- A standardised questionnaire for all countries
- Female interviewers with specialised training
- **2 years to develop the survey + 1 year for fieldwork**

What the survey asked

- Physical and sexual violence – by partners & non-partners
- Psychological violence by partners
- Stalking and sexual harassment – including cyber
- Fear of victimisation and its impact
- Awareness of law & support services
- Violence in different settings & by different perpetrators
- **Experiences since age 15 & in last 12 months**
- **Experience of violence before age 15 – by an adult**

Main results report

- Contains information on using the survey results
- Recommendations at the end of each chapter

Available at
<http://fra.europa.eu>



Overall prevalence of physical & sexual violence

An illustration of what women
said about their experiences

- **1 in 3 women has experienced physical and/or sexual violence (at least once since she was 15)**
 - 8 % of women in the last 12 months

- **22% of women have experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner**

- **11% of women have experienced some form of sexual violence**

- **5% of women have been raped**

- **1 in 2 women has been sexually harassed**
 - As many as 1 in 5 women in the last 12 months

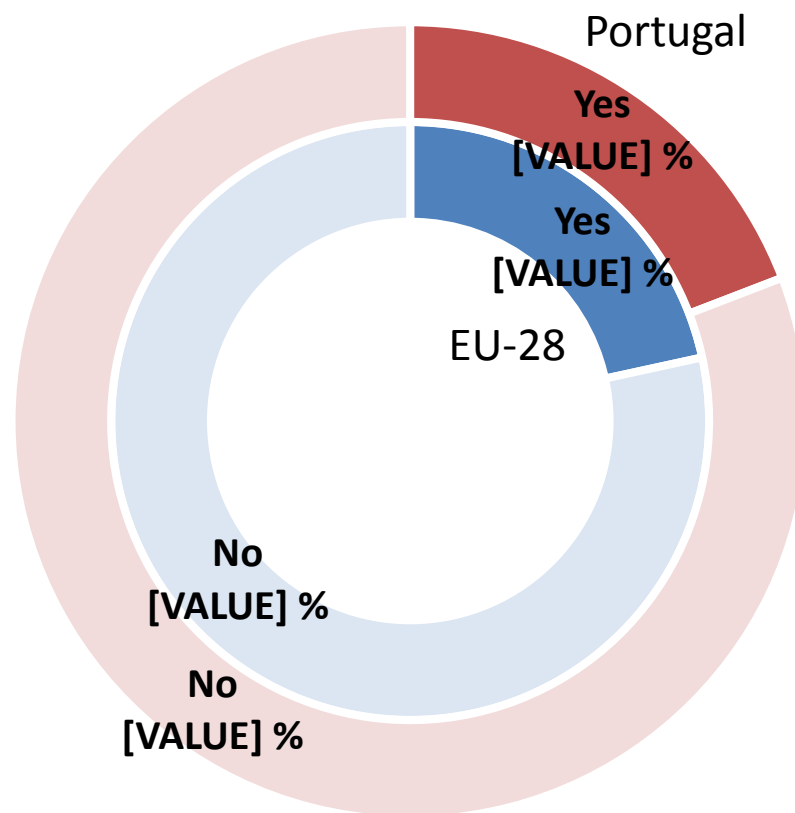
Physical violence since age 15 (%)

	Any partner or non-partner
Pushed or shoved	23
Slapped	17
Hard object thrown at them	9
Grabbed or pulled by the hair	13
Beaten with a fist or a hard object, or kicked	10
Burned	1
Tried to suffocate or strangle	4
Cut, stabbed or shot	1
Beat head against something	4
Any of the above	31
Any of the above, excluding 'pushed or shoved'	25

Sexual violence since age 15 (%)

	Any partner or non-partner
Forced into sexual intercourse – by holding down or hurting	5
Attempted sexual intercourse with force – by holding down or hurting	6
Made to take part in sexual activity when didn't want to or couldn't refuse	6
Consented to sexual activity because was afraid of consequences if refused	6
Any of the above	11

Physical and/or sexual violence by a current or a previous partner since the age of 15



Main prevalence rates in Portugal, Spain and EU-28 (%)

		Portugal	Spain	EU-28
Since the age of 15	Physical and/or sexual violence by any partner	19	13	22
	Psychological violence by any partner	36	33	43
	Physical and/or sexual violence by non-partner	10	16	22
	Sexual harassment	32	50	55
	Stalking	9	11	18
Before the age of 15	Physical, sexual or psychological violence	27	30	35

Of those women experiencing sexual violence by a previous partner – repeat victimisation

PREVIOUS PARTNER/S ONLY %	Once %	2-5 times %	6 or more times %
Forced into sexual intercourse – by holding down or hurting	32	28	40
Attempted sexual intercourse with force – by holding down or hurting	33	30	37

FRA findings – follow-up

- Repeat victimisation is a particular characteristic of intimate partner violence – physical & sexual
- MSs encouraged to review legislation & practical responses for their capacity to recognise & effectively respond to repeat victimisation
- One in six women who had been abused by their previous partner experienced violence after the relationship ended
- Protection needs to be offered to vulnerable women in the aftermath of abusive relationships, and perpetrators must be closely monitored to prevent violent recidivism

FRA findings – follow-up

- Of women who were pregnant during a violent relationship – 20% of victims of current partner violence say violence occurred during pregnancy
- Health providers should routinely check if a woman is at risk of violence
- A partner's heavy alcohol use is strongly related to violence in a relationship
- National violence prevention measures should address this; police & other agencies could routinely collect data on alcohol abuse in domestic violence cases to inform their responses

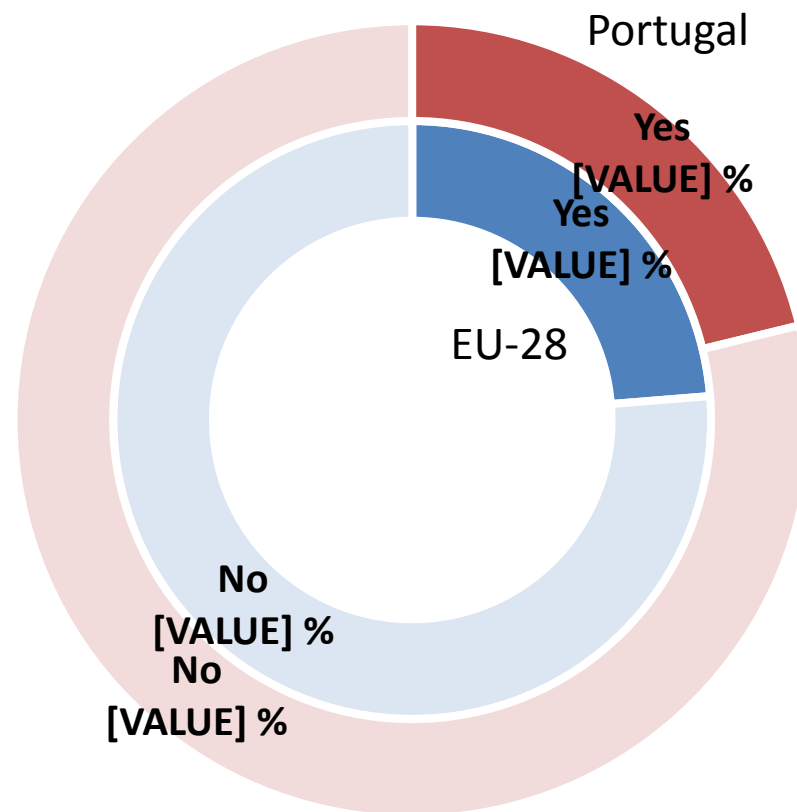
Reporting & victim support

What women did with respect to
the most serious incident of
sexual violence

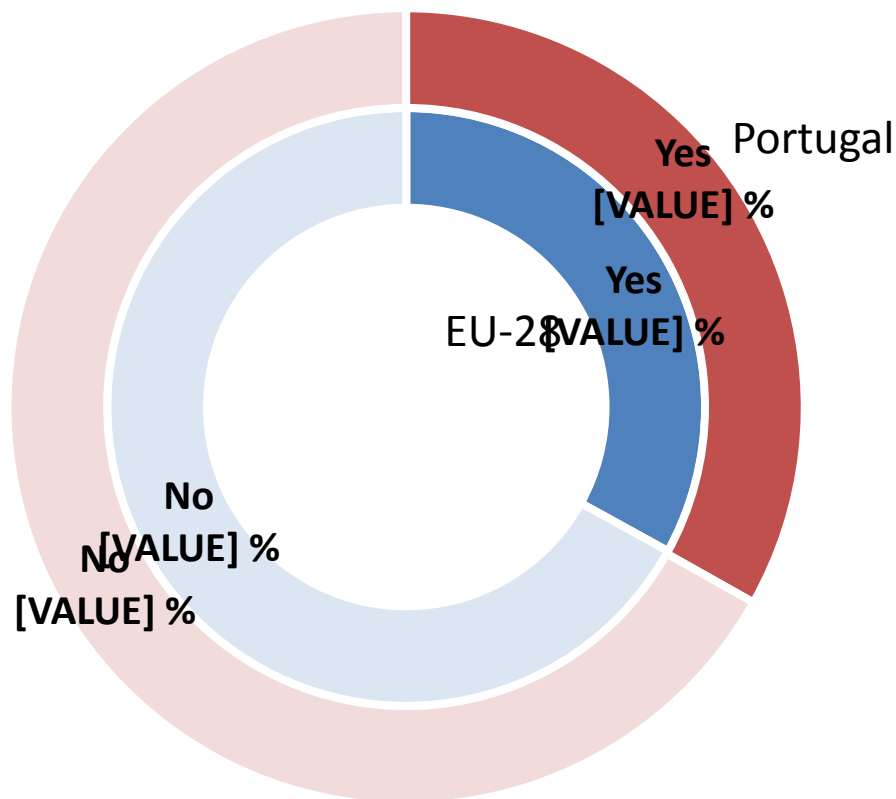
Who was contacted after most serious incident of sexual violence

SINCE AGE 15, %	By any partner (current and/or previous)	By someone else (not a partner)
Police	15	14
Hospital	12	12
Doctor, health centre or other health care institution	22	16
Social services	7	2
Women's shelter	6	1
Victim support organisation	4	4
Church/faith-based organisation	4	2
Legal service/ lawyer	15	6
Another service/ organisation	5	3
Any of the above	39	30

Women
 contacting a
doctor, hospital
or other health
care – after
 most serious
 incident of
 violence by a
 partner



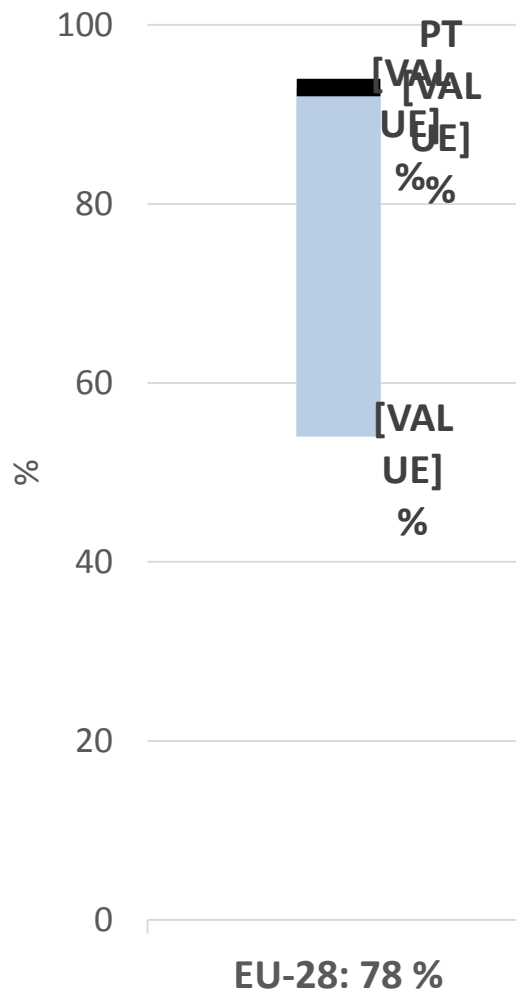
Women
contacting any
organisations or
services (incl.
 police) – after
 most serious
 incident of
 violence by a
 partner



Knowledge & avoidance

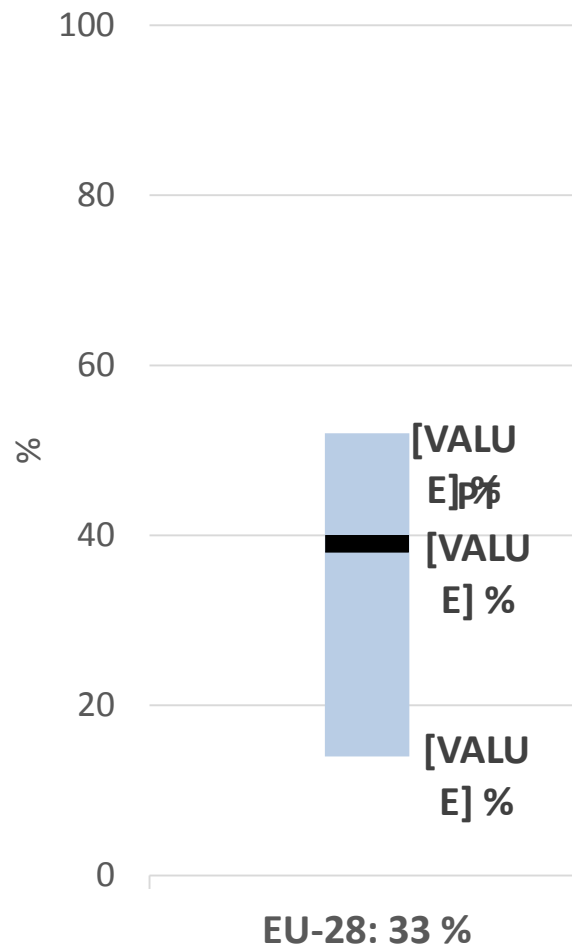
What women said about the extent of violence and their avoidance behaviour

Women who perceive that violence against women is very or fairly common in their country



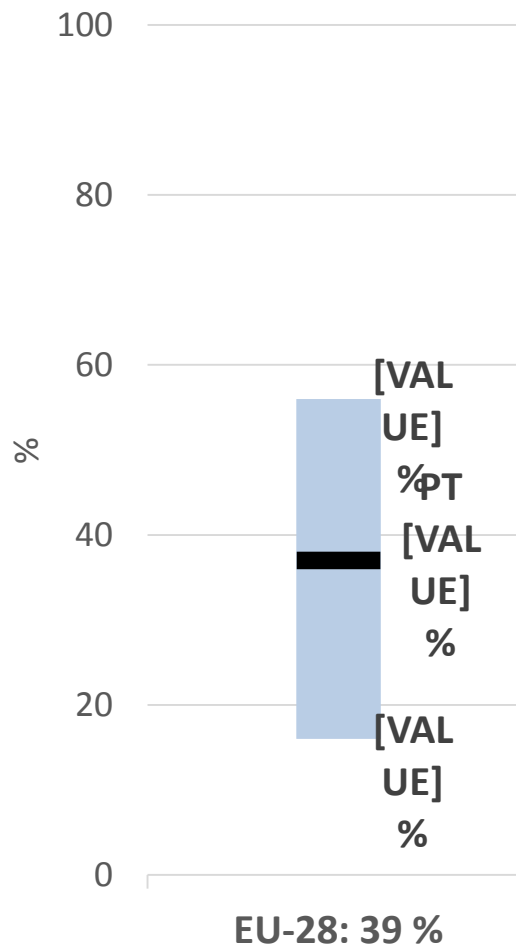
Highest and lowest values in the EU-28, and the result for Portugal

Women who avoid private situations or places for fear of being physically or sexually assaulted



Highest and lowest values in the EU-28, and the result for Portugal

Women who know of cases of domestic violence in their circle of friends or family

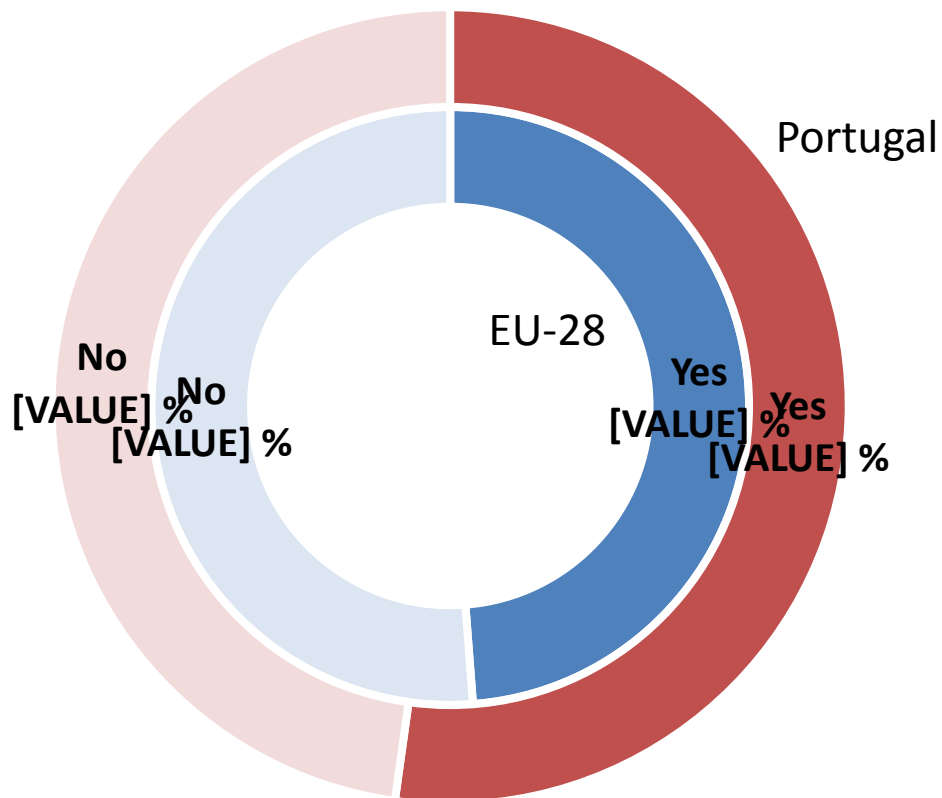


Highest and lowest values in the EU-28, and the result for Portugal

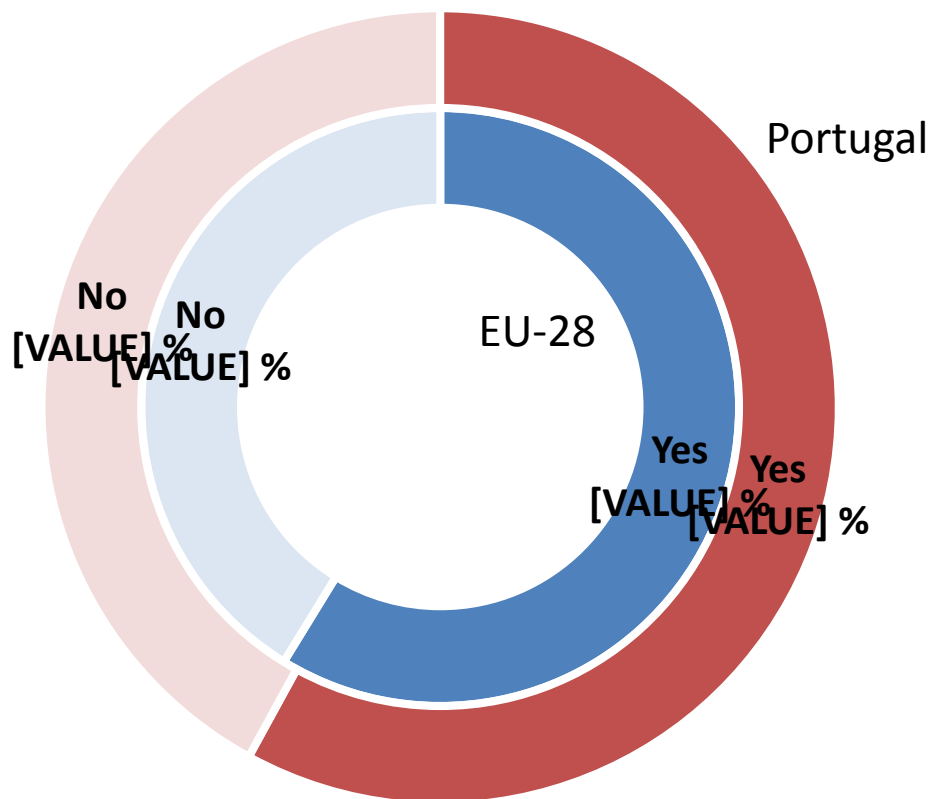
Rights awareness

What women said about their rights and their awareness of campaigns

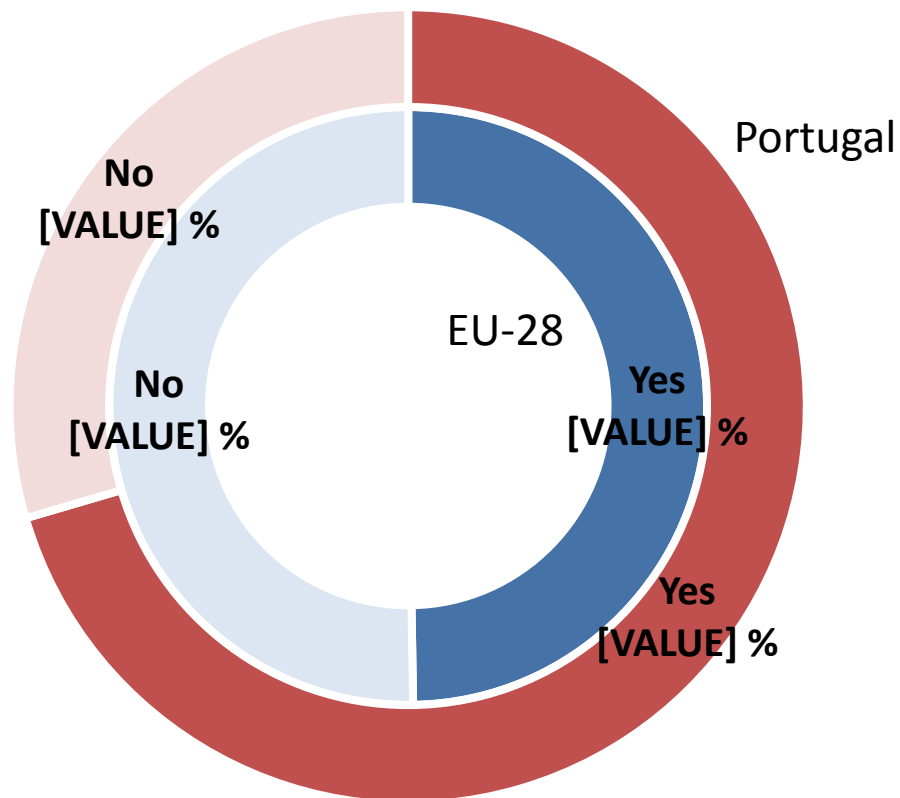
Awareness of laws and political initiatives to prevent domestic violence against women



Awareness of laws and political initiatives to protect women in cases of domestic violence



Having seen or heard campaigns against violence against women



What can be done – report's opinions

Need for policy responses from different fields

- Employment, health, education – working together

To critically look at societal & state responses

- Review scope & implementation of existing laws & policies
- Need to target men and women – gender equality

Training and support

- Specialist training and adequate resources for support organisations, healthcare, employers, police

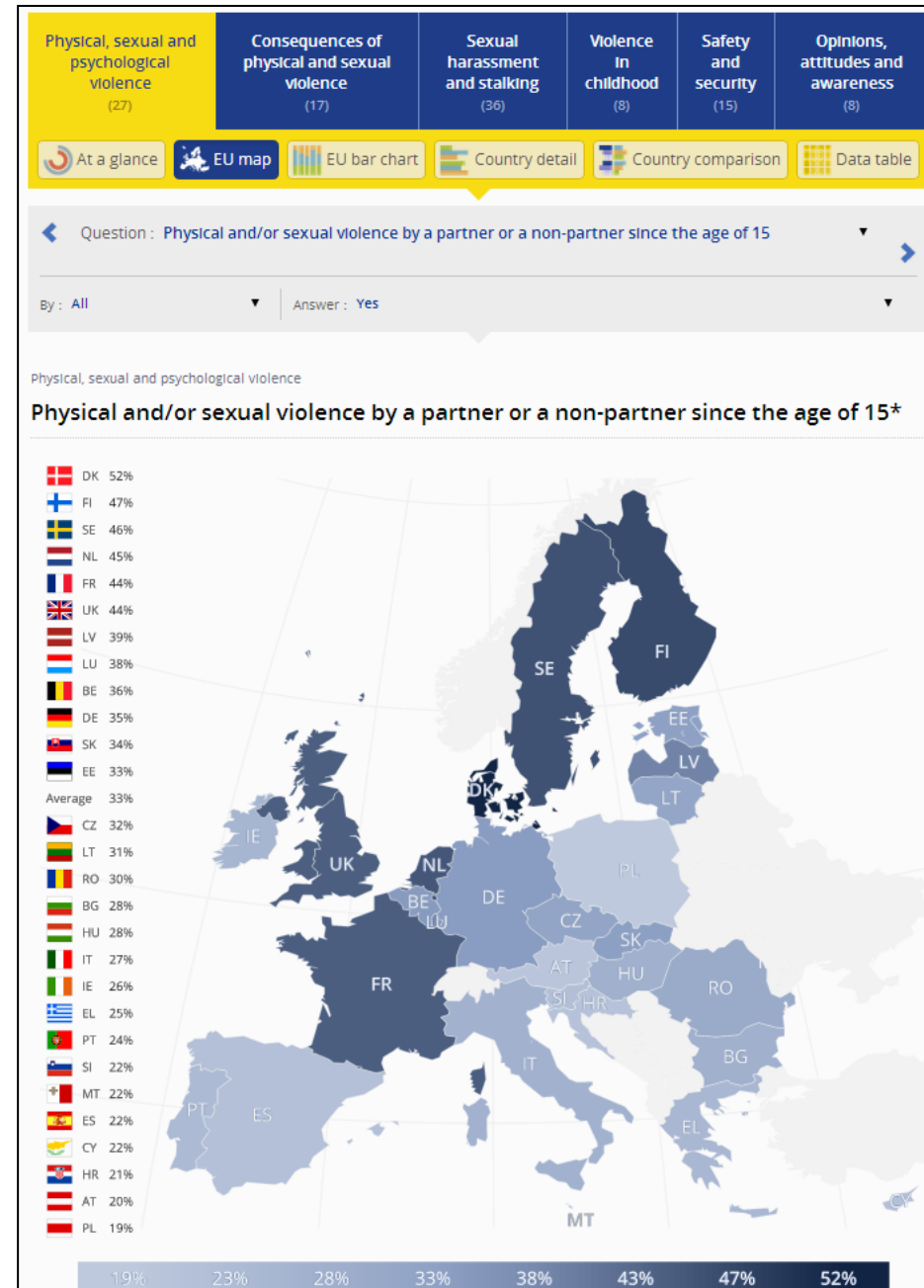
Internet / social media platforms

- Proactively assist victims and address unwanted behaviour

Data explorer

- Data by topic, country...
- Visual presentation:
 - Country maps
 - Charts
 - Country comparisons
- Data tables
- All exportable for reuse

<http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVT/vaw.php>



Thank you



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