

Indicator name
Existence of up-to-date data available, on: a) women in politics, and b) violence (including online violence) and abuse faced by women in politics and public life at regional, national and local levels
GAP III Thematic area of engagement
Promoting equal participation and leadership
Aggregable indicator
No
Indicator type (quantitative/qualitative)
Qualitative
Related objective in the Gender Action Plan III
Overall thematic objective: Women, men, girls and boys, in all their diversity, participate equally in decision-making processes, in all spheres and at all levels of political and public life, including online, to take on leadership roles, to enjoy and exercise their human rights and seek redress if these rights are denied. Specific thematic objective 5: Improved systems for collecting quality, disaggregated and globally comparable data on women's political participation and leadership.
Technical Definition
This indicator intends to measure if there are available and reliable up-to-date data on women in politics and on the violence (including online violence) and abuse faced by women in politics and public life at regional, national and local levels. The following definition apply: - <u>Violence against women</u> refers to all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.¹ - <u>Online violence against women</u> can take many forms, cyber harassment, revenge porn and threats of rape, sexual assault or murder. Perpetrators can be partners or ex-partners, colleagues, or as is often the case, anonymous individuals. Some women are particularly exposed, such as women public figures and politicians.²
Rationale
From the local to the national level, women's leadership and political participation are restricted. Women are underrepresented as voters, as well as in leading positions. This occurs despite their proven abilities as leaders and agents of change, and their right to participate equally in democratic governance. But structural barriers through discriminatory laws and institutions still limit women's options to run for office. Capacity gaps mean women are less likely than men to have the education, contacts and resources needed to become acknowledged leaders. Despite the increase in the number of women at the highest levels of political power, widespread gender inequalities persist, according to the 2021 edition of the IPU–UN Women “<u>Women in politics map</u>”. The data show all-time highs for the number of countries with

¹ Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence – Istanbul Convention (Art.3)

² Council of Europe, [Cyberviolence against women](#)

women Heads of State and/or Heads of Government, as well as for the global share of women ministers. However, after the 2020 spike of 21.3% of women holding ministerial positions, progression has slowed — with just a small increase to 21.9% in 2021. The data³ also reveal that the number of countries with no women in government has increased, recording a sharp downward trend in the last few years.

Violence and harassment against women in public life is a human rights violation. It has seemingly increased as more women have gained access to power. Perpetrators intend to stop women from accessing power and silence them so as to limit their influence on and perspectives in policy formulation. Women politicians have been killed in office, left their positions after receiving death threats, or withdrawn from elections citing abuse. Women voters, candidates and election administrators have faced targeted, gender-based violence in elections. Human rights defenders, women's organisations and feminist groups have been targeted, and women of colour have experienced disproportionate levels of violence. Online, gender-based abuse, cyberbullying and sexual harassment are increasingly common against women active in public life.⁴

States are responsible for collecting data on the progress made in preventing, investigating and punishing any violence against women in politics as well as in advancing legal reforms to address acts of political violence in existing laws.⁵

Data source and calculation

Reporting covers cooperation and development initiatives, humanitarian (if applicable) and investment frameworks funded by the EC (INTPA, NEAR, FPI, ECHO) and EEAS.

EUMS may provide information related to their interventions through their contributions to GAP III reports or through the EUDs, e.g., in cases of joint dialogue (i.e., as part of joint programming or TEI).

Data sources:

The intervention's monitoring and reporting systems, e.g., inception, interim and final reports from implementing organisations (including governments, international organisations, national and international civil society organisations, etc.), ROM reviews and evaluations.

Surveys/interviews conducted and budgeted by the intervention can also be relevant data sources.

Baseline and endline studies conducted and budgeted within the EU intervention using the same data collection methodology. The baseline and endline studies can be conducted as part of the gender country profile and/ or gender sector analysis, or be based on existing official reports and published data.

Calculation:

- Availability (Yes/No) of up-to-date data on:
 - women in politics.
 - violence (including online violence) and abuse faced by women in politics and public life at regional, national and local levels
 - on both, a) and b)

Worked example

³ For more info on facts and figures, check [Women's leadership and political participation](#) (UN WOMEN, 2021)

⁴ [Women's full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, as well as the elimination of violence, for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls](#) (UN 65 CSW, 2021)

⁵ [Violence against women in politics](#) (Report from the Special Rapporteur on violence against women - UNGA, 2018)

In country A, the EU supports a joint programme for strengthening the capacities of and the coordination between the National Statics Office and the Gender Equality Observatory in order to have updated data on how many women are in politics (including data disaggregated by age, disability status and gender). In addition, the EU intervention has put in place a new data programme in coordination with the Ministry of Women and Gender Equity (Directorate General on Violence against Women), the Gender Equality Observatory and the local statistics offices to better collect data on violence (including cyberviolence) in public life.

As a result of the EU intervention, updated and reliable data are now available on how many women are in politics at national and local level and what kinds of violence they suffer at local level.

- Therefore, it should be reported: Yes, for both a) and b)

In country B, the EU has supported a similar programme but despite the efforts made, the Statistics Offices at national and local level continue to face technical problems regarding ensuring the availability of up-to-date data.

- Therefore, in this case it should be reported: No for both a) and b)

Baseline

Data from official counterparts (i.e., national women's machinery, national gender and human rights observatories, line ministries/ authorities, statistical institutes, etc.). Data from international and national organisations or other independent non state actor.

If baseline data are lacking, a mapping can be done at the start of the intervention using surveys/ interviews.

The baseline can be 0 when the indicator is achieved with the EU funded intervention.

Disaggregation

N/A

Availability and Timeliness

Information should become available annually, depending on the duration of the action.

Related DAC Code/CRS

151 - Government & Civil Society-general /15110 - Public sector policy and administrative management / 15112 - Decentralisation and support to subnational government / 15180 - Ending violence against women and girls / 15196 – Government and civil society statistics and data (voluntary code)

160 - Other Social Infrastructure & Services / 16062 - Statistical capacity building

Associated SDGs

SDG 5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls

Target 5.5: Indicator 5.5.1 (See Metadata [\(a\)](#) and [\(b\)](#)).

Target 5.2: Indicator 5.5.2 (See [Metadata](#))

Other issues

The gender country profile and/ or gender sector analysis can be relevant sources of information for establishing baselines.

If there is no gender analysis available at the EUD, it is recommended to look at the analysis undertaken by EU Member States or other trusted partners (UN, World Bank, human rights national and regional mechanisms, etc.) as well as the [national-level reviews](#) carried out in 2019 by UN Women and the partner countries to assess progress made and challenges encountered in the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Special attention should be paid to following up on partner country institutions reached with EU support.

