Greece 2022: Developing a Nationwide Domestic Violence Risk Assessment

GLOBAL RIGHTS for WOMEN *Justice for Victims of Violence*

Ending violence against women and girls within Greece using a risk assessment tool for advocates and law enforcement.

The National Police Service in Greece is launching a risk assessment pilot in three cities: Athens, Crete and Kavala.

What is a risk assessment?

A risk assessment tool assesses the frequency, severity, and patterns of domestic violence, using victims' responses to narrative questionnaires and available data on a particular case. Risk assessment tools enable law enforcement, the justice system and community actors to identify lethal offenders and those most likely to re-abuse in domestic violence cases.

GRW Risk Assessment Guiding Principles

GRW provided training and technical assistance on the development and implementation of the risk assessment in Greece. We met with shelter advocates, members of civil society and law enforcement who are actively engaged in working on issues relevant to women's rights.

Many of them work on the frontlines assisting the needs of migrant and refugee women.

Why conduct risk assessments for domestic violence?

•to identify the most dangerous offenders and manage the risks posed to victims.

•to assess both an offender's risk of re-offending, and a victim's risk of lethal assault.

Benefits of Using Risk Assessments

•Help the system decide which offenders need more restrictions and monitoring

•Educate practitioners and service providers about domestic violence and provide a shared language about risk factors.

GRW in Greece

"This training was very helpful because of its international perspective and the expertise brought by Cheryl Thomas and Melissa Scaia, especially the strength of both the theory and their practice experiences. It was a total change of perspective that will benefit victims."

-- Eleni Fotou, Hellenic Risk Assessment for Domestic Violence, and Forensic Psychologist

Cheryl Thomas trained on international laws regarding risk assessment, and **Melissa Scaia** trained on coercive control tactics and how to implement a risk assessment.

By the Numbers

75

police and practitioners across Greece attended Global Rights for Women's training on risk assessments.

10,000

women in in Greece in the last year filed domestic violence cases.

500,000

refugee women in Greece will be impacted by survivor-centered and trauma informed approaches to their cases.

Data: European Institute for Gender Equality, Publications Office

Workshop Partners & Supporters

Many organizations and individuals came together to support the development of the 2022 Greece Risk Assessment.

Eleni Fotou, Hellenic Risk Assessment and Forensic Psychologist
Kalypso Goula, Gender Secretariat Greece
Hellenic Police, Domestic Violence Division
Kavala Women's Aid Centre
Ministry of the Interior
Ministry of Migration & Asylum and associated NGOs and International Organisations (ie. UNHCR, IOM)
Melissa Scaia, Global Rights for Women
Ms Syreggela, Deputy Minister Greece
Women's Aid Centre of Syntagma
Cheryl Thomas, Global Rights for Women

GRW

To learn more about Global Rights for Women, please visit our website at: www.globalrightsforwomen.org.

For specific questions about future workshops, please contact Executive Director, Cheryl Thomas, cthomas@grwomen.org.