



Ending Violence against Women and Girls European Union Internal and External Policies: The Way Forward

Brussels, 20 September 2011

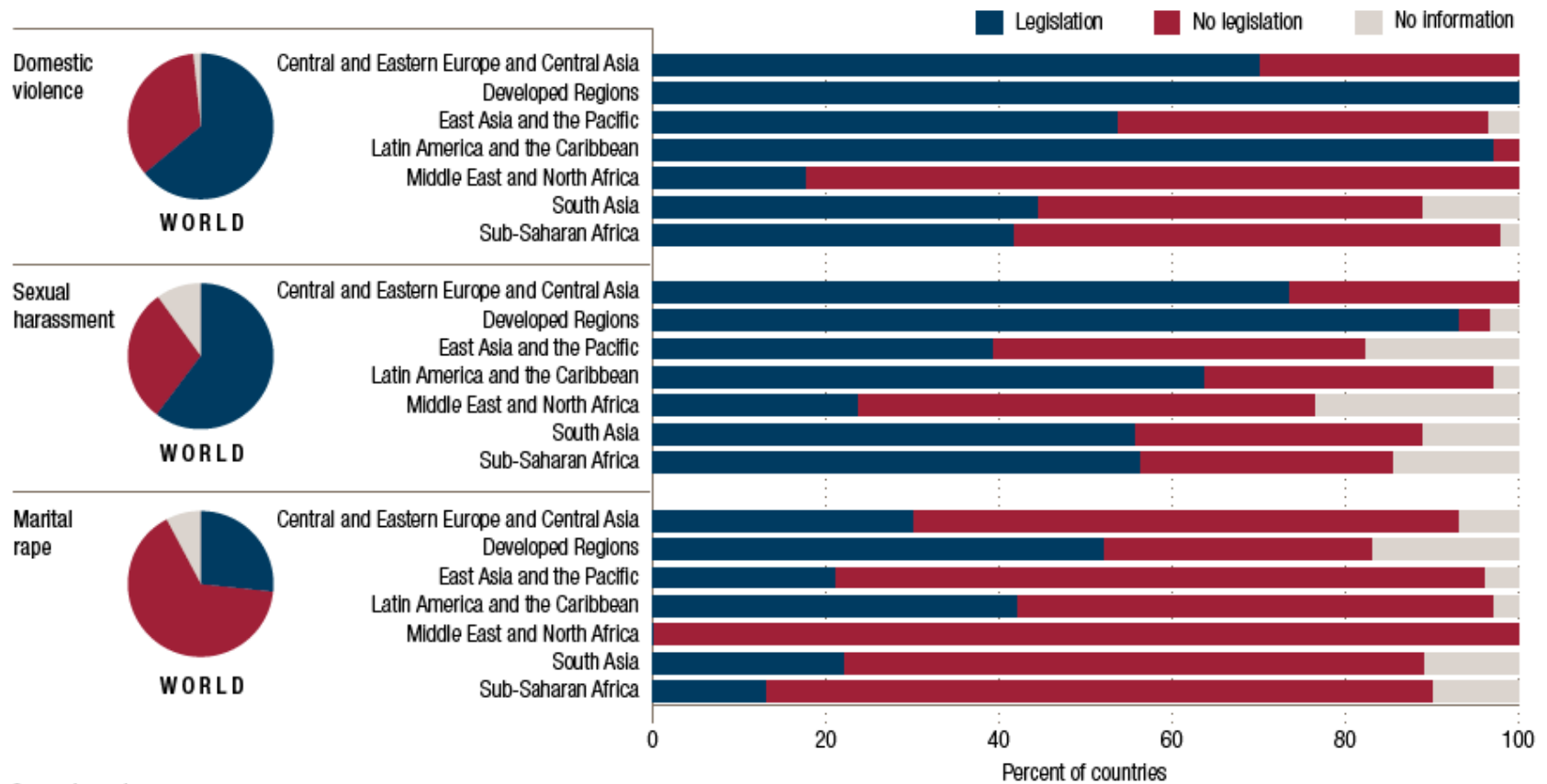
Presentation by Dagmar Schumacher,
Director, UN Women Brussels Office

Violence against women in Europe and beyond

- Global pandemic rooted in discrimination:
 - Globally: 15% to over 70% of women and girls experienced physical or psychological violence
 - Europe: between 8% and 35% of women and girls experienced physical violence from intimate partners
- Adolescent and girls and younger women at higher risk
- VAW takes various forms
- VAW has many social and economic costs



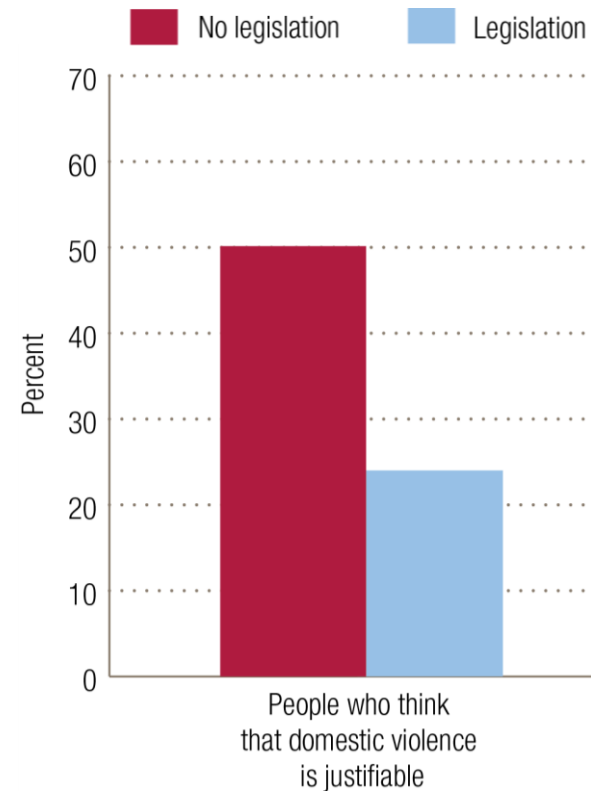
Violence against women in Europe and beyond (2)



Violence against women in Europe and beyond (3)

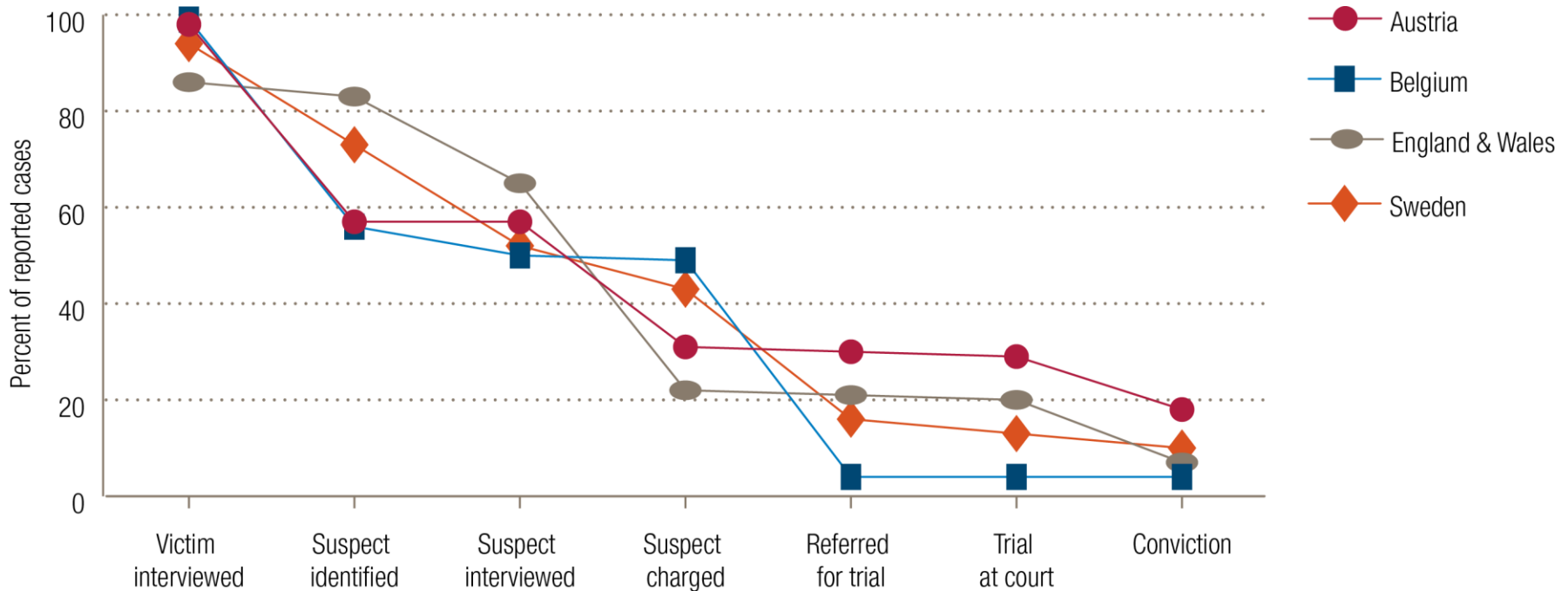
- Prevalence, laws and perceptions of domestic violence

Where there are laws in place on domestic violence, prevalence is lower and fewer people think that violence against women is justifiable.



Violence against women in Europe and beyond (4)

Only a fraction of reported rape cases result in conviction



Violence against women in Europe and beyond (5)

Reservations to CEDAW

30 countries have entered reservations in relation to equal rights in marriage or the family.

Number of countries with reservations



Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)

- 186 countries worldwide have ratified the CEDAW
- Removing reservations is a critical step to putting in place a legal framework that supports women's rights.

What does UN Women do in Europe?

- UN Women engages with **civil society** in advocacy efforts on ending VAW (EWL, WAGGGS and others):
 - Participation in EU consultations and provision of policy inputs (i.e. EC's Victims Rights Package)
 - Youth-led advocacy efforts (WAGGGS non-formal educational curriculum on EVAWG)
- UN Women partners with the **European Union** at external and internal levels

UN Women expectations from the EU on EVAW

- EU as driving force and role model
- **External action:**
 - ✓ Strong policy framework (EU Guidelines on VAW, Gender Plan of Action in Development, Comprehensive Approach on women, peace & security)
 - More resources needed (gender budgeting)
- **Internal action:**
 - ✓ Strong MS policies
 - ✓ Important support to civil society (i.e. Daphne Programme)
 - ✓ Important policy initiatives (i.e. Victims' Rights Package)
 - Need for comprehensive policy framework at EU level:
 - Coherent (internal/external) and coordinated approach across the EU
 - Advocacy , awareness raising and prevention components
 - Coherence with international standards, including the **Council of Europe Convention**

UN Women support to ensure consistency in policies against VAW

- UN Women mandate
- Initiatives with young women
- Collaboration with other UN Agencies: UN Adolescent Girls Task Force, NIKE foundation, Girls' Power Initiative
- Support to catalytic youth-led advocacy projects (WAGGGS, Religions for peace)

UN Women support to ensure consistency in policies against VAW (2)


- Global actions for a global problem:

 <p>Virtual Knowledge Center to end violence against women and girls</p>	 <p>Say NO – UNiTE Platform</p>
 <p>Safe Cities Programme</p>	 <p>Progress of the World's Women report</p>

SAY NO-UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

YOU HAVE ADDED

2

TO THE GLOBAL ACTION COUNTER 



Worldwide, up to ___ of sexual assaults are committed against girls under 16 years of age.

15%	50%
37%	45%

Source

Every action counts! Share the quiz with your friends and networks to get the word out!



CORRECT

In 2002, an estimated 150 million girls under age 18 faced sexual violence. Initiatives to end violence have to reach out to youth.

Next Question

SAY NO-UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

YOU HAVE ADDED

3

TO THE GLOBAL
ACTION COUNTER



Worldwide, up to ___ of sexual assaults are committed against girls under 16 years of age.

15%

50%

37%

45%

Source

Every action counts! Share the quiz with your friends and networks to get the word out!



2K



SAY NO-UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

YOU HAVE ADDED

8

TO THE GLOBAL
ACTION COUNTER 



Recent studies show that violence against young girls and women may be ___ in the city than in rural areas.

non existent

less common

equally common

more common

Source

Every action counts! Share the quiz with your friends and networks to get the word out!



2K



CORRECT

In Brazil, 24% of young women and girls in the city reported violence, as compared to 15.9% in the provinces. In Ghana, more adolescents in urban areas experienced coerced sex than those in rural areas. In Netherlands 40% of girls between ages 11-18 said they did not feel safe walking around the city at night.

Next Question

SAY NO-UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

YOU HAVE ADDED

9

TO THE GLOBAL
ACTION COUNTER



Recent studies show that violence against young girls and women may be ___ in the city than in rural areas.

more common

equally common

non existent

less common

Source


Every action counts! Share the quiz with your friends and networks to get the word out!



SAY NO-UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

YOU HAVE ADDED

7

TO THE GLOBAL ACTION COUNTER 



WHO studies conducted across countries indicate that more than ___ of women who reported first sex before age 15 described it as forced.

60%

30%

20%

10%

Source

Every action counts! Share the quiz with your friends and networks to get the word out!



CORRECT

Early marriage is one of the factors related to high levels of forced first sex.

Next Question

SAY NO-UNITE
TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

YOU HAVE ADDED

8

TO THE GLOBAL
ACTION COUNTER



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United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

Thank you

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