

# Gender Equality Awareness Raising against Intimate Partner Violence II

## GEAR against IPV II

### Country Report

*Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and  
Sexual Violence (SV) in adolescents:  
preventive & supportive initiatives in  
Romania*



**Association for Liberty and Equality of Gender - (A.L.E.G.)**

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# Credits

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## Country Report

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# Project Identity

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- Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS), Cyprus
- Center for Education, Counselling and Research (CESI), Croatia
- Association for Gender Equality and Liberty (ALEG), Romania
- Plataforma Unitària contra les Violències de Gènere, Spain
- The Smile of the Child, Greece

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## Preface

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This Country Report was developed in the context and for the purposes of the Project “**Gender Equality Awareness Raising against Intimate Partner Violence II**” (**GEAR against IPV II**).

The Country Report aims to map the preventive and supportive initiatives in Cyprus that have been set in place in order to prevent adolescents’ abuse as well as to support and protect adolescents who have already been exposed to any of the following types of violence:

- a) abuse by their dating/romantic/intimate partner
- b) sexual abuse by any person (partner or non-partner).

### **The GEAR against IPV Approach**

The GEAR against IPV Approach started being implemented since 2009; more specifically it was initially implemented in 4 countries (Greece, Germany, Austria and Croatia) during 2009 – 2011 in the context of the Project “**Gender Equality Awareness Raising against Intimate Partner Violence**” (**GEAR against IPV**). During 2014-2016 it was implemented in 5 countries (Greece, Croatia, Cyprus, Romania and Spain) in the context of the GEAR against IPV II Project; both Projects were carried out with financial support from the DAPHNE III Programme of the European Union.

The **GEAR against IPV approach** is a coordinated action of **primary and secondary prevention** of **Intimate Partner Violence in adolescents’ relationships** through interventions in the school or in other settings, that are guided by specially designed educational material and are aimed at secondary school students’ awareness raising and empowerment by specially trained teachers.

The main aim is to promote the development of **healthy and equal relationships** between the sexes and the development of **zero tolerance towards violence** by raising teens’ awareness on:

- a) the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships
- b) the influence that gender stereotypical attitudes and socially imposed gender roles have on their relationships
- c) how power inequality between the sexes is related to psychological, physical and/or sexual abuse against women/girls and
- d) how adolescents can contribute to the prevention of all forms of gender-based violence.

Given the fact that almost all children and adolescents attend school, the **educational system**, at all levels, is the ideal setting for such an effort, where properly trained teachers can play a key role in the implementation of such interventions targeting the general population. The need for implementing in schools interventions related to gender stereotypes

and equality, as a means of primary prevention of gender-based violence it is, therefore, imperative.

The **GEAR against IPV approach** is a proposal for systematic intervention in the school (or other) setting, where girls and boys are invited, through a series of experiential activities, to assess but also challenge their culturally “inherited” gender stereotypes and to approach differences between sexes as individual differences rather than as characteristics of superiority of one sex over the other.

The GEAR against IPV Approach addresses

- **students** (12+ years old) of secondary education
- **adolescents** but also **young people** belonging to **high-risk groups** (e.g. have been exposed to intimate partner violence between their parents or experienced abuse and/or neglect during childhood)
- **secondary school teachers** and other **professionals** working in the school setting (e.g. psychologists, social workers)
- **professionals** and **organizations** that are active in the fields of health promotion and education, gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence, as well as to **professionals** who are providing services to adolescents belonging to high-risk groups
- **decision-making centers**, such as departments of Ministries of Education, and policy makers interested in promoting the integration of the GEAR against IPV intervention in secondary education’s curricula.

The GEAR against IPV Approach

- uses exclusively experiential activities through which, adolescents are not taught, but guided to explore their personal gender stereotypical attitudes and their impact to their own lives, to “discover” and to exercise life skills that will help them to develop healthy relationships, free from any form of violence
- allows access to the general population of children/adolescents, even in remote areas
- has already been implemented and evaluated, on a pilot basis, and appears to be effective in increasing adolescents’ knowledge and modifying their tolerant attitudes towards gender-based violence
- introduces gender equality in education as a violence prevention strategy, motivates and qualifies teachers with the necessary skills and the “know how” in order to implement such primary prevention interventions
- when integrated into the school curriculum, it enhances a) the preventive character of the intervention, as it conveys the message that schools and teachers do care about and take action towards gender equality and elimination of violence from adolescents’ relationships, and b) the sustainability of such interventions, as

teachers comprise a permanent “task force” at schools and, therefore, they can implement such interventions on a permanent basis

- consists a precise fulfilment of Article 14 of the Council of Europe (2011) *Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence*. In this article, that concerns education, it is clearly stated that such type of "teaching material on issues such as equality between women and men, non-stereotyped gender roles, mutual respect, non-violent conflict resolution in interpersonal relationships, gender-based violence against women and the right to personal integrity, adapted to the evolving capacity of learners" should be included not only "in formal curricula and at all levels of education", but also "in informal educational facilities, as well as in sports, cultural and leisure facilities and the media".

Main Activities of the GEAR against IPV Approach are

A. **Teachers’ Training Seminars** aiming to:

- theoretical and experiential training of teachers on issues related to gender stereotypical attitudes, gender equality and gender-based violence in adolescents’ relationships
- capacity building and skills development for the implementation and evaluation of the adolescents’ awareness raising workshops in school or other settings
- development of skills related to identifying, handling and appropriate referring of cases of abuse of children and teens they may face.

B. **Adolescents’ Awareness Raising Workshops** “Building Healthy Intimate Relationships”

Adolescents are offered, via experiential activities, the opportunity a) to assess and challenge –within a safe environment- their culturally “inherited” gender stereotypes and b) to explore the influence that gender stereotypical attitudes and socially imposed gender roles have on their relationships, as well as how power inequality between the sexes is related to violence against women and girls. Moreover, adolescents are provided with the necessary skills that will enable them to recognize –at an early stage- the unhealthy or even abusive characteristics of a relationship, and also empowered in ways that will enable them to create healthy relationships.

Therefore, the ultimate goal of the workshops is young people less tolerant towards IPV, more knowledgeable of the characteristics and consequences of gender-based violence and equipped with “protection skills” against intimate partner violence and other forms of gender-based violence, for both themselves and the people they know.

The long-term objective of the workshops is adolescents’ relationships to be healthy and based on equality and mutual respect as, in such a relationship, the phenomenon of gender-based violence is impossible to occur.

For the achievement of the objectives of the GEAR against IPV approach, a complete educational material has been developed in order to support the organization, preparation,



implementation and evaluation of teachers' training seminars and adolescents' awareness raising Workshops (in school or other settings), aiming to primary prevention of Intimate Partner Violence.

A **Master GEAR against IPV Package** -comprised of **a series of 4 booklets-** has been developed in such a way that it can be used by relevant organizations and professionals **as a model for the development of appropriately tailored and culturally validated National Packages** for any country.

During the period from 2010 to 2015, **National Packages** have been developed and evaluated **for 7 EU Member States** (Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Romania and Spain) after translation, completion and cultural adaptation of the **Master Package**.

## Introduction

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The magnitude of intimate partner violence in adolescents in Romania is largely not known, as the issue is not included in the scope of the measures for the prevention and combating of domestic violence. Although Romania has signed the Istanbul Convention in 2014 and plans to ratify it in 2015, the current legislation fails to address all the complex forms of violence against women. The special law on domestic violence (Law 217/2003 with its subsequent amendments) is defining only „*family violence*”. Victims are defined as persons having been subject to a form of violence by a family member, spouse or former spouse or similar, as long as there is co-habitation that can be proved by a social care investigation (the victims and the perpetrator live together). Under this definition situations when violence is perpetrated by a child against the parents or by a sibling against another sibling are treated the same with situations of violence among spouses. Other international definitions like *intimate partner violence* or *dating violence* are not in general use in Romania. Situations involving partners in a romantic relationship who do not live together similar to a family do not fall within the scope of the law. Adolescent victims of violence perpetrated by a dating partner (typically not living together) are therefore also not covered. This implicit exclusion from the legal definition impacts both on the design of national surveys and on collection of administrative data, as well as on the service provision. Romania lacks survey and administrative data on adolescents affected by dating violence as well as special policies for prevention and support in such cases.

In the framework of the research for this report A.L.E.G. sent an official letter to the national child protection authority (ANPDCA) requesting information on adolescents affected by dating violence. We received the reply that „ANPDCA does not collect information about the abusers of the children subject to different forms of violence” (letter registered with no 1603/DGPDC/SM/so/25.02.2015). From this reply we conclude that the child protection authority does not collect data on the relationship between victim and abuser and thus cannot distinguish the cases of teenage dating violence in Romania from other cases of parent abuse or other forms of violence on children and youth. This is a serious gap that prevents the authorities from building a clear picture about the characteristics and causes of violence involving youth in order to come up with informed and well-targeted policies for prevention.

However, teenagers are regarded as target group for primary prevention of „family violence” according to the National Strategy of Prevention and Combating of Family Violence, general

objective number 1, and the subsequent Action Plan adopted in November 2012 by the Romanian Government, through measures like 1.2.2 which foresees „*introduction in the formal curriculum and at all levels of education of topics like nonstereotypical gender roles, mutual respect, gender-based violence against women and the right to personal integrity, adapted to the evolving capacity of the students.*” A.L.E.G. has been part of the national working group that elaborated this strategy and advocated for the inclusion of this specific measure addressing the education system. At the same time, A.L.E.G. has been one of the most active initiator of projects and actions pushing for the implementation of this strategic objective. The Romanian school system does not include at this time gender-based violence primary prevention in the formal curriculum for all students. „Education for healthy living” is an optional subject attended by 10% of the students in Romania which includes information about domestic violence and its effects on children, starting from grades V-VI, as well as on reproductive health and prevention of sexual violence in grades VII-VIII. We strongly recommend this optional subject to be extended in such a way as to ensure that all students are included, to improve the existing teaching material and provide adequate training for teachers implementing it.

# Chapter 1

## Magnitude of the problem: Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) and sexual violence (SV) in adolescents

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### *National surveys*

National surveys in Romania are guided by the existing legal definitions. Due to the fact that the special law defines only *family violence*, while other international definitions like *intimate partner violence* or *dating violence* are not in general use in Romania, national surveys on the issue of dating violence concerning adolescents are entirely missing.

The most recent and complex national survey undertaken on the issue of family violence is that from 2003 coordinated by the Center Partnership for Equality (a non-governmental organization) available [here](http://www.fundatia.ro/sites/default/files/CPE%20CercetareViolenta%20domestica%202003_0.pdf) [www.fundatia.ro/sites/default/files/CPE%20CercetareViolenta%20domestica%202003\\_0.pdf](http://www.fundatia.ro/sites/default/files/CPE%20CercetareViolenta%20domestica%202003_0.pdf).

The survey revealed that 800.000 women had been subjected to different forms of family violence in the 12 months before the survey. Over 340.000 children aged 0 to 14 had been witnesses of violence between their parents. The methodology involved three types of questionnaires: 1. Targeting the general population, with 1800 respondents ages 18 and over of which 1200 women and 600 men, 2. Institutional questionnaires for studying the roles and responsibilities as well as the cooperation among different public entities and 3. Expert questionnaires – Delphi methodology with 190 experts from local authorities, police, medical sector and NGOs. The study was performed by the Marketing and Surveys Institute IMAS and GALLUP Organization Romania.

Important data on violence against women in Romania is revealed by the FRA survey **Violence Against Women in the EU**. Overall, 30 % of women in Romania had been subject to physical and sexual violence after the age of 15 by a partner or non-partner, and 24% before the age of 15. 6% of women have experienced sexual violence. Further detailed results are presented in the table 1.1 and 1.2.

### FRA survey's results (Romanian results)

**Table 1.1.** Prevalence of women's abuse during lifetime (since the age of 15) and during past year, by type of perpetrator(s) and by type of abuse (% of women)<sup>a</sup>

Type of Perpetrator(s)	Type of abuse	Prevalence			
		Lifetime (since 15 y/o)		last 12 months	
		Romania	EU	Romania	EU
Partner (current &/or ex) - IPV	<b>Physical &amp; Sexual Violence</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>
	Physical violence	23	20	6	4
	Sexual violence	5	7	2	1
	Psychological violence	39	43	Not measured	
Other person (non-partner)	<b>Physical &amp; Sexual Violence</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
	Physical violence	13	20	2	4
	Sexual violence	2	6	0	1
Total (partner and/or other person)	<b>Physical &amp; Sexual Violence</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>
	Physical violence	29	31	Not available	7
	Sexual violence	6	11	Not available	2

<sup>a</sup> Multiple response possible; at least one incident of physical or sexual or psychological violence occurred ( $N_{\text{Romania}} = 1,500$ ,  $N_{\text{EU-28}} = 42,002$ ).

**Source:** FRA gender-based violence against women survey dataset, 2012

**Table 1.2.** Prevalence of abuse experiences during childhood (before the age of 15) by adult perpetrator(s), by abuse type (% of women retrospectively reported abuse)<sup>a</sup>

Type of abuse	Lifetime (before 15 y/o)	
	Romania	EU-28
	a	
Psychological violence by a family member	4	10
Physical violence	23	27
Sexual violence	1	12
<b>Any Physical or Sexual violence</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Any violence</b> (physical, sexual or psychological)	<b>24</b>	<b>35</b>

<sup>a</sup> Multiple response possible; at least one incident of physical or sexual or psychological violence occurred ( $N_{\text{Romania}} = 1,500$ ,  $N_{\text{EU-28}} = 42,002$ ).

**Source:** FRA's Report (2014), Table 7.1

**Box 1.** Items measuring the prevalence during adolescence and adult life (since the age of 15) and past year's prevalence for physical and sexual partner and non-partner violence and for psychological partner violence with 4 subscales (see Table 1.1)

Since you were 15 years old until now/in the past 12 months, how often has someone:

### **Physical violence**

1. Pushed you or shoved you?
2. Slapped you?
3. Thrown a hard object at you?
4. Grabbed you or pulled your hair?
5. Beaten you with a fist or a hard object, or kicked you?
6. Burned you?
7. Tried to suffocate you or strangle you?
8. Cut or stabbed you, or shot at you?
9. Beaten your head against something?

### **Sexual violence**

1. Forced you into sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way?\*
2. Apart from this, attempted to force you into sexual intercourse by holding you down or hurting you in some way?\*
3. Apart from this, made you take part in any form of sexual activity when you did not want to or you were unable to refuse?
4. Or have you consented to sexual activity because you were afraid of what might happen if you refused?

\* **IF NEEDED:** By sexual intercourse we mean here forced oral sex, forced anal or vaginal penetration.

### **Psychological partner violence**

How often does your current partner/did any previous partner ever...

#### **Controlling behaviour**

1. Insist on knowing where you are in a way that goes beyond general concern
2. Get angry if you speak with another man/woman
3. Become suspicious that you are unfaithful
4. Try to keep you from seeing your friends
5. Try to restrict your contact with your family of birth or relatives

#### **Abusive behaviour**

1. Belittled or humiliated you in private
2. Belittled or humiliated you in front of other people
3. Done things to scare or intimidate you on purpose, for example by yelling and smashing things
4. Threatened to hurt you physically
5. Forbid you to leave the house, take away car keys or lock you up
6. Threatened to hurt or kill someone else you care about
7. Made you watch or look at pornographic material against your wishes

#### **Blackmail with/abuse of children**

1. Threatened to take the children away from you
2. Hurt your children
3. Threatened to hurt your children

#### **Economic Violence**

1. Prevent you from making decisions about family finances and from shopping independently
2. Forbid you to work outside the home

**Sources:** FRA's Report (2014), Box 2.1. and 4.1, p.p. 27 and 72.

**Box 2.** Items measuring the prevalence during childhood (before the age of 15) for psychological family violence and for physical and sexual violence by adult perpetrator(s) (see Table 1.2)

#### **Psychological family violence**

Before the age of 15, how often did an adult family member do the following to you?

1. Say that you were not loved.
2. Say that they wished you had never been born.
3. Threaten to abandon you or throw you out of the family home.
4. Any adult: threaten to hurt you badly or kill you.

#### **Physical violence**

Before the age of 15, how often did an adult who was 18 years or over do the following to you?

1. Slap or pull you by the hair so that it hurt.
2. Hit you very hard so that it hurt.
3. Kick you very hard so that it hurt.
4. Beat you very hard with an object such as a stick, cane or belt.
5. Stab or cut you with something.

## **Sexual violence**

*Before the age of 15, how often did an adult who was 18 years or over do the following to you, when you did not want them to?*

- 1. Expose their genitals to you.*
- 2. Make you pose naked in front of any person or in photographs, video or an internet webcam.*
- 3. Touch your genitals or breasts against your will.*
- 4. Make you touch their private parts – genitals or breasts.*
- 5. Force you to have sexual intercourse.*

**Sources:** FRA's Report (2014), Box 7.1, p. 121.

## ***Administrative data***

The legal definition impacts on the collection of administrative data as well. In the framework of the research for this report A.L.E.G. sent an official letter to the national child protection authority (ANPDCA) requesting information on adolescents affected by dating violence. We received the reply that „ANPDCA does not collect information about the abusers of the children subject to different forms of violence” (letter registered with no 1603/DGPDC/SM/so/25.02.2015). From this reply we conclude that the child protection authority does not collect data on the relationship between victim and abuser and thus cannot distinguish the cases of dating violence in Romania from other cases of parent abuse or other forms of violence. This is a serious gap that prevents the authorities from building a clear picture about the characteristics and causes of violence involving youth in order to come up with informed policies for prevention.

According to Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Protection – The Child Protection Department (entity responsible for policy coordination in the area of family violence up to 2014) in the timeframe 2004 – 2010, 80000 victims of domestic violence were recorded (children and adults) by social service authorities. In the year 2011 alone, 12205 victims of domestic violence (children and adults) were recorded by social service authorities. Of them, 6732 were women and girls (55%) and out of these 5436 were under 18 (80%). According to the legal definition in the Romanian legislation, these victims under 18 were subject to a form of violence by a family member (dating violence is not covered by the law). This data shows an evident focus on minors in the reporting system coordinated at national and local levels by the Child Protection authorities, but it only reflects the violence on minors perpetrated by adults in the family. According to the same authorities, over the year 2012, 700 women and 1.100 children were accommodated in shelters for victims of family violence.

General data on sexual violence is published by the General Police Inspectorate and the Public Ministry. We present below the statistics on recorded rapes according to police:

<b>Year</b>	<b>2004</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Rapes recorded	953	1013	1116	1048	1016	780	895

However, less than 50% of the perpetrators in police recorded rapes are deferred to justice. For example, for the 895 rapes in 2012, 440 perpetrators were prosecuted and out of them 158 (36%) had been accused of rape against victims under the age of 15. 56 of these perpetrators were minors themselves. Police data does not reflect the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator.



## Chapter 2

### Identification of adolescents suffering IPV and SV

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In Romania there are no specific procedures in place for identifying adolescents who are being abused by an intimate partner. Reporting procedures are in place for abuse on a minor, and key pieces of legislation establishing these are the Child Protection Law 272/2004 , Republished in 2014 and Governmental Decision HG 49/ 2011 establishing the framework methodology for the prevention and intervention in the multidisciplinary team of situations of violence against children and family violence. Child abuse is defined as *any voluntary action of a person who is in a relationship of accountability, trust or authority with the child that endangers the life, physical, mental or spiritual or moral development, physical integrity or health of the child.*

The report can be done in several ways:

- 1. in person** - person reporting (family member, relative, neighbor or other known family member, a witness), including child. The victim is presented directly to one of the competent authorities (Directorate General of Social Assistance and Child Protection - DGASPC, Public social service - SPAS, etc.);
- 2. via phone** – using the regular telephone service of the relevant authorities at local level, the child helpline service from the Child Protection authority at county level (DGASPC) - telephone number 983, 9852;
- 3. at the own initiative of the competent authorities** - professionals who interact with the child in various fields, in the public or private field - child protection, social welfare, health, education, police, justice and the local public social service (SPAS), by collecting and verifying information from community consultative structures or the social actors in the community: school directors, heads of units - territorial structures of the Romanian Police, medical personnel (doctor, medical care community health mediator), priests etc. It is a requirement in the Law no. 272-2004, as amended, to report potential cases of violence on children, for all institutions that interact with children, asking for constant collaboration with the authorities in the investigation. To ensure appropriate instrumentation of such cases, local authorities may organize lists of experts who can be contacted if needed.

A particular situation where active efforts for identification on the part of the authorities are emphasized is the generation and circulation of violence via the internet (especially cases of child pornography and prostitution) - requires specific instrumentation and monitoring of this

phenomenon by the competent professionals of the authorities, especially those working in police forces. Violence over the Internet can be also self-reported to the hotline set up specifically for this, [www.safernet.ro](http://www.safernet.ro), by e-mail and phone [raportare@safernet.ro](mailto:raportare@safernet.ro), tel. 021 - 310.31.16

The authority for reporting cases of violence against children and domestic violence is The Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection (DGASPC) at county level. If a situation of violence was reported to SPAS, police or prosecutor's office, these institutions will inform the victim about the specialized services that can be offered by DGASPC.

The referral of the case involves drafting and formally recording a Referral Form within 48 hours from the identification of the case, to be sent to DGASPC both directly and through the beneficiary (the parent or legal representative), and in some cases by direct phone contact, fax or e-mail. This form is a synthetic document including relevant data on children and families, suspicion about situation of violence. The person who initiated the report will be informed about the activities to be undertaken on the short term. The duty to report situations of violence against children will be included in the job description of all professionals interacting with children.

When the reporting is done over the phone or in writing is anonymous, this situation does not represent a reason for refusal of registration or reporting of investigation as noted, if there are enough elements of the child victim identification (name and address). Every 3 months DGASPC reports cases of abuse in the family to central child protection authorities, including also sexual violence (SV), but data is not specific enough to identify case of intimate partner violence. We recommend that the current data collection should include the possibility to identify such cases in order to generate a more precise picture about this problem and design well-targeted prevention.

Reporting obligations are also mentioned in other pieces of legislation regulating the education system. Based on the Order establishing the organization and functioning of pre-university education (Order no. 5.115/15.12.2014 of the National Ministry of Education), representatives of pre-university education establishments must report, depending on issue, to social assistance or specialized educational institutions, DGASPC or police, *any violation of the rights, including those affecting the dignity, physical and mental integrity of the pupils* (Art. 36 (6)). Regularly the County School Inspectorate receives reports from the schools regarding the types of violence recorded and sends them to the National Ministry of Education.

After the report is made to the competent Authority a processes of case management follows, with main steps that are customized in situations of violence against children and domestic violence:

1. identifying, reporting, and taking initial assessment of child victim of violence of adults and - or children victims of domestic violence;
2. detailed assessment, comprehensive and multidimensional situation of children victims of violence or adult and - or child victims of domestic violence and their families and the alleged perpetrator - abuser;
3. planning specialist services and support, and other interventions necessary for the rehabilitation of child victims of violence or adult and - or child victims of domestic violence, including family services or interventions targeted and alleged perpetrator - abuser;
4. the provision of services and interventions: assisting child victims of violence or adult and - or child victims of domestic violence and family in obtaining and using the necessary and triggering, if necessary, of legal proceedings;
5. monitoring and regular reassessment of progress, decisions and specialized interventions;
6. final stage of service and specialized interventions, monitoring and case closure - post-services.

Important aspects related to the reporting procedures regard the police, especially when criminal offences are in question (for example for severe bodily injury, sexual aggression, tentative rape and rape). While for adult victims, the criminal investigation can only be initiated based on the complaint of the victim, in the case of minors, a police criminal investigation can be initiated at the end of the detailed evaluation by DGASPC.

Secondary victimization during reporting is often a problem. Knowing how to communicate with victims is taught to some extent in police academy, but no special training on dealing with cases of DV, IPV, SV is so far part of the formal training in the police academy. Romanian police forces do not have special officers trained specifically for intervention in DV, IPV and SV. Sympathy for victims is mostly given on the basis of interpersonal skills of the officers.

Some important recommendations regarding the reporting and intervention in cases of sexual assault were made in the framework of the project COSAI - Combating violence towards children, adolescents and women (JUST/2010/DAP3/AG/1395) funded under Justice DAPHNE III Programme 2007-2013. "Issues that are believed to need improvement regard in the first place the human resources in the existing services, which are insufficient and not properly trained in accordance with the special needs of sexual assault cases. There is a need for training on the specificity of sexual assault, opportunities to intervene in these situations and training on communication.

Professionals' attitude is not perceived as empathic by the victims, discouraging their eventual return to request other services from those institutions. Situations considered to be embarrassing for the victims can deepen psychological affections installed.”

## Chapter 3

### Protection of adolescents suffering IPV and SV (tertiary prevention)

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Special provisions for protection and support for an adolescent who has experienced violence (including sexual abuse and family violence) are established under the child protection legislation but also under legislation in the educational sector.

DGASPC provides support services for minors who are victims of violence and neglect. Psychologists within the county-level General Directorate for Social Assistance and Child Protection (DGASPC) intervene for the psychological support of the victim, including during police investigations.

*School.* The annex 3 of the order establishing the organization and functioning of pre-university education lists the general intervention steps/procedures at school level in case of violence. Among other violent acts, special mention is made of sexual violence (rape, sexual intercourse with a minor, sexual corruption, seduction, sexual harassment) but this classification refers only to the violent acts taking place in the school unit. Each school has a psychological councilor who is responsible for the counseling of students in vulnerable situations, including victims of violence.

However, as there is no special training of these specialists for intervention in cases of sexual assault, and in practice most cases are referred to private centers.

#### 3.1. Support Services for adolescents

In Romania there are few support services addressing IPV/DV/SV from a gender perspective, for any victims – adults or minors. The Law 217/2003 defines only services for victims of family violence: victim shelters (of two types: crises centers and centers for long-term recovery), centers for prevention and combating of family violence, centers for information and awareness raising, and centers for assisting perpetrators. Adolescent victims have access to these services as long as the violence was perpetrated by a family member.

DGASPC includes services for assistance in cases of abuse, neglect, trafficking and exploitation of minors addressed to children at severe risk of/ or victims of violence and their families (as well as activities for prevention of all forms of violence against children). Abuse is defined as *any voluntary action of a person who is in a relationship of accountability, trust or authority with the child that endangers the life, physical, mental or spiritual or moral*

*development, physical integrity or health of the child.* In practice, DGASPC works on protecting children from abuse on the part of their family or other care-takers, and there is less of a practice to assist adolescent victims of intimate partner violence.

In case of sexual assault on a victim who is a minor, a cooperation protocol for intervention is in place at county level between the Police, DGASPC and the Forensic Medicine Service. DGASPC provides counselling and psychological evaluation by a specialist to the child victim and the Forensic Medicine Service collects specific information and data to be included in the forensic report.

Services for sexual assault in Romania are scarce (no rape crisis centers, no hotlines) and are not provided as part of a coordinated or integrated model. There are no formal protocols for referral and for the client flow between the sectors involved in the intervention in a sexual assault case for adult victims. Mechanisms for reporting the case and circulation of confidential information are partly established through agreements between those involved in the case intervention, which are most often verbal and are not part of a written, agreed and signed protocol. There are no standards agreed and adopted by all stakeholders on the safety and ethics of the sexual assault intervention.

The victim must describe what happened, recount the experience undergone 2 to 7 times in different services- medical, police, forensic, lawyer, prosecutor, court, and social assistance services for child victims.

If the situation of violence falls outside the definition of family violence, abuse or sexual violence (including trafficking), minors are advised to address private clinics, having to pay for any long term psychological support, or nearby existing NGOs serving youth (NGOs are civil society initiatives without a unitary geographical distribution throughout the country; are many counties without any NGO service). The Romanian government has yet to identify a solution to ensure the protection and support services to victims of DV, IPV and SV with a good geographical distribution, as requested by the Istanbul Convention signed by Romania in 2014.

#### *Psychological support services*

There are approximately 41 shelters and 21 centers offering free psychological counseling for victims of family violence in Romania (no official data on existing services is publicly available, but a network of NGOs in the field set up a map of services available here [www.fundatiasensiblu.ro/harta-serviciilor-pentru-victimele-violentei-domestice/](http://www.fundatiasensiblu.ro/harta-serviciilor-pentru-victimele-violentei-domestice/)). Currently there are few psychological counselling and emotional support services specialized for victims of sexual assault (one is the pilot center opened in 2014 by A.L.E.G. which includes online

counseling and has been set up as part of a project focused on adolescents). As part of the network of NGOs "Breaking the silence on sexual violence" led by A.L.E.G., we have identified 4 other centers for prevention and combating of family violence in the country who agreed to provide counseling for victims of sexual assault, in addition to their regular services. For minors who are victims of sexual assault, psychological support is provided free of charge by DGASPC staff. Adult victims may benefit from psychological counselling only in private clinics against a fee.

#### *Legal assistance and forensic services*

According to Law 211/2004 on the protection of victims of crime, free legal assistance can be accessed by victims of crime based on requests of the victims to courts. In the case of minors, legal assistance is mandatory. In practice, lawyers appointed by the courts for free legal assistance are the beginners with little experience and few people actually make use of this right. Some NGOs offer legal assistance, but they do not ensure a wide geographical distribution.

*Forensic services* issue the legal medical proof which is of critical importance in legal actions and police investigations on DV and SV. A forensic service functions in each county (victims from the entire county have to travel to the county capital to access it), subordinated to the County Public Health Directorates and coordinated scientifically and methodologically by the National Forensic Institute under whose jurisdiction it falls. There are no special national protocols for forensic examination of victims of sexual assault and no "rape kits" or "sexual assault early evidence collection kits". Usually victims address the police first and are sent by the police to the forensic service. If the victim addresses first the forensic service, she is recommended to address also to the police, but there is no mechanism for coordination with other sectors and professionals. The examination is made by a forensic medicine specialist physician without special training for sexual assault cases. Forensic medicine services have no structures specialized in providing services in cases of sexual assault. There is no special standardized form for the forensic report of DV, SV, IPV, the usual form for any forensic examination is filled in. The information collected can automatically be shared with other institutions (e.g. Police) only if the forensic report is made on the request of the police. Forensic services staff does not testify in Court, they only issue documents with legal value (forensic findings report for the police or forensic medico-legal certificate for the victim). It is not necessary to follow victims' progress past examinations.

The website of the National Institute for Forensic Medicine in Bucharest contains some limited information for victims of sexual assault (rape, sexual perversion) with or without physical aggression.

### *Medical services*

First aid and emergency medical services are free of charge regardless of the status of medical insurance along with other services part of a minimal package (pregnancy, immunization, vaccination). Other medical services require state insurance for adults. Children up to the age of 18 benefit from the basic package of medical services (e.g. consultations by family doctor, hospitalization for acute illnesses). Medical services for school students can be provided free of charge also in school cabinets where they are available. When provided to victims of DV or SV, medical services do not follow any special national guidelines or protocols for interventions. Informed consent is not required to initiate medical procedures, except for invasive procedures. Records are kept confidential, and referrals to other services are not made on a regular basis.

### *Access to support services*

In case of psychological support, parental consent is required until the age of 18.

Regarding police and court proceeding involving a minor, according to Law no. 272/2004, when a declaration is taken from children under 14 years, a psychologist from the multidisciplinary team (from Child Protection System) and parents/legal guardian have to be present. At the request of the child over 14, the interview can take place without the consent and/or presence of parents/guardian parent/legal representative.

All the records, including photography, is done with the knowledge and consent of the child, taking into account his or her maturity, and with the knowledge and written consent of the parent/ guardian parent/legal representative.

Support organizations for children/adolescents can be found under the Map of the National Child Protection Services: <http://www.copii.ro/directii.html>

## **3.2. Legal Measures**

Domestic Violence is not a distinct crime under the Penal Code. Violence against a family member constitutes an aggravating circumstance under the Penal Code. Sexual violence is considered a crime in Romania (with distinct articles in the Penal Code). Sexual harassment, rape and attempted rape, incest, sexual assault, sexual intercourse with a minor, human trafficking and trafficking of minors are offenses under criminal law and are punishable with imprisonment. The initiation of a criminal investigation in the case of adult victims require the written complaint of the victim and if the victims withdraws the complaint the investigation ceases. In the case the victim is a minor, the criminal investigation can be initiated also by competent authorities after the stage of detailed evaluation in the responsibility of DGASPC, through the multidisciplinary team. According to the Criminal Code updated in 2014, a juvenile



perpetrator cannot be punished with imprisonment. If above 16, the penal sanction takes the form of educative measures, while if under 16, the condition for criminal responsibility is to have discernment. When a criminal suspect is a juvenile the court sends a citation to DGASPC.

*Sexual assault* is defined in the Criminal Code as a sexual act other than rape, committed under constraint, when a person is unable to defend or express his/her will or taking advantage of this state, it is punished with imprisonment between 2 to 7 years and deprivation of certain rights. These acts may be sexual touching, kissing, exposure to pornography etc.

*Sexual harassment* is defined in the Criminal Code as repeatedly demanding sexual favors in an employment relationship or a similar relationship, intimidating or humiliating. It is punishable with imprisonment from 3 months to one year or a fine.

*Rape* is defined as any kind of sexual intercourse, through coercion or taking advantage of the victim's inability to defend or to express their will, and it is punished with imprisonment from 3 to 10 years and interdiction of certain rights.

The sanctions are more severe if:

- The offense was committed by two or more people together
- The victim is under the care, protection, education, protection or treatment of the perpetrator
- The victim is a family member
- The victim was a minor who had not turned 15 years
- Bodily injury and harm to the health of the victim is caused
- The act caused the victim's death or suicide

*Incest*, consented sexual intercourse, committed between relatives in direct line or between siblings, is punished with imprisonment from 1 year to 5 in case of minor victims. (Criminal Code, chap. II, Article 377)

Consent for sexual activity according to the Penal Code modified in 2014 can be given by a minor from the age of 13.

Mandatory measures to ensure protection for all victims of crime are established by Law 211/2004 with its subsequent amendments and include the obligation by police agents, prosecutors and judges to inform the victims about the any services and organizations ensuring psychological and other forms of assistance, conditions and procedures for free legal assistance, conditions for obtaining financial compensations from state funds etc. The psychological counseling of victims of crime (including sexual violence) is to be ensured by the Services for the protection of victims and social reintegration of offenders set up under the courts in each county, free of charge for a period of 3 months for adults and 6 months for

minors. However, according to recent changes in the roles and responsibilities of these services of the courts, established by Governmental Decision 1079/2013 approving the organization of the probation system, only roles in the assistance of perpetrators were retained. There are no separate structures established yet for the assistance of victims to cover the gap created. The existing legal framework is inadequate also in respect to the conditions for support, as it requires the victim to place a criminal charge before she can access any free services for victims (legal assistance, counseling etc.). However, by November 2015 Romania has the task to transpose the *European Directive 2012/29/UE from 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime* which foresees specialized integrated assistance for victim of gender-based violence, including sexual violence, regardless whether a criminal complaint has been filed or not.

#### *Special hearing of minors in court proceedings*

The new Penal Code, the child protection law 274/2004 and the governmental decision 49/2011 all include special provisions for the hearing of victims who are minors in order to lower the risk of revictimization. A single hearing (to avoid repeated testimonies) is specified in several pieces of legislation, but the actual implementation of this provision requires certain technical conditions to be present. Special spaces in courts for hearing of minors have been set up as pilot action in two cities so far (Cluj and Craiova), under the initiative of the Federation of Nongovernmental Organizations for Children with the help of the France Embassy to Bucharest. There is a great need to extend these nationally. Multidisciplinary teams for the hearing of minors work on the basis of a national protocol signed by the following ministries: Justice, Labour, Family and Social Solidarity and Health, and at county level the protocol included the attorney office, the office for organized crime, DGASPC and non-governmental organizations. The members of the team prepare all the steps for the hearing, from advising the victim and family up to actual hearing and evaluation.

## Chapter 4

### Primary and secondary prevention of IPV, DV and SV in adolescents

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Most initiatives aiming to primary and secondary prevention of intimate partner violence, domestic violence and sexual violence are implemented in Romania by non-governmental organizations. Public authorities are organizing prevention activities strictly in the framework of the existing legislation on family violence and therefore their campaigns focus on prevention of violence from family members even when addressing youth (for instance the national campaign organized in 2012 by the Child Protection Directorate under Ministry of Labour entitled “Violence should not leave you cold-blooded”). Local campaigns initiated by police or educational authorities especially for teenagers usually focus on prevention of violence in schools, without a specific focus on gender-based violence in intimate relations.

We present bellow some of the initiatives of NGOs that had a specific focus on intimate partner violence, domestic violence or sexual violence affecting teenagers.

#### Intervention 1

##### Identity (of the project/activity)

- **Name/Title:** LOG IN- Laboratories On Gender violence In New media
- **Type of abuse targeted (IPV/DV/SV):** gender based violence, cyberbullying
- **Aim(s):**
  - To prevent and fight gender-based violence through the promotion, among teen-agers of responsible behaviours in their use of social networks
  - To understand the importance of the use of social networks, new media, chats, SMS, etc. in the everyday life of adolescents
  - To make young people aware of the issue of gender-based violence and of the role that new technologies may have in encouraging it
  - To combat harmful and violent behaviours in the use of social networks by youths, proposing to teen-agers models of relationship between the sexes based on mutual respect
  - To make adults (parents, teachers, educators etc.) aware of the negative and positive uses of new media by youths
  - To propose positive ways to use new technologies, showing to teen-agers how social networks and new media can be exploited for communication, learning, exchange of opinions, participation in the social and political life

- **Responsible Organization(s):** Association for Liberty and Equality of Gender- A.L.E.G. Sibiu/Romania
- **Publication(s):** <http://aleg-romania.eu/wp-content/themes/Aleg/login.html>

### **Implementation of the intervention**

- **Setting:** High schools, Youth Club
- **Geographical coverage:** Local
- **Implementation period:** January 2013- December 2014
- **Duration:** In case of youth, each intervention conducted in one classroom lasted 12 hours, 2 hours /session. In case of adults, each session lasted between 3-6 hours
- **Participants/recipients/target group**
  - **Which sexes does it target?** Female and male adolescents and adults
  - **Identity:** Pupils and adults (parents, psychologists, social workers, teachers etc.)
  - **Age or age range:** 14-18 years and adults
  - **Other, important characteristics of participants/recipients (if any):**
  - **N of participants/recipients approached:** 275 youth directly and 700 indirectly; 280 adults
- **Implementers**
  - **Which sexes does it target?** Female and male
  - **Professional Identity:** Psychologists and peer educators (pupils)
  - **Special training needed?** The peer educators received special trainings and the support of an adult trainer and developed their own session face to face or online.
  - **N of implementers involved:** project coordinator, training coordinator, project assistant and 11 peer educators
- **Type of activities/actions included:**
  - Elaboration of the training packages (one for youths and one for adults). Testing the training packages on a restricted sample.
  - Adaptation of the packages to local contexts by experts from different backgrounds, aware of the present needs of youth and the issue of gender based violence
  - Implementation of pilot actions of training and awareness-raising. Peer education activities, vis-à-vis and through social networks.
  - Evaluation of the impact of pilot actions
  - Communication and dissemination activities (websites, guidelines, events, etc.).

### **Useful Material**

- Training packages addressed to youth and adults addressed to teachers
- Booklets addressed for adults/ parents and teachers
- Project Guidelines- addressed to implementors

### **Evaluation**

A unitary evaluation methodology based on pre- and post-questionnaires has been developed and used in all the countries where the pilot actions were implemented as part of the project, in order to measure the impact of the actions and the level of satisfaction of the participants. Regarding the level of satisfaction, we present below some outcomes.

<b>d6 - The topics discussed addressed issues that concern me in my everyday life</b>						
		Total	Country			
			CYPRUS	ITALY	LITHUANIA	ROMANIA
Completely AGREE	%	29.8	32.6	9.9	39.5	32.3

<b>d7 - The training activities stimulated my learning</b>						
		Total	Country			
			CYPRUS	ITALY	LITHUANIA	ROMANIA
Completely AGREE	%	24.8	29.9	6.6	33.8	25.4

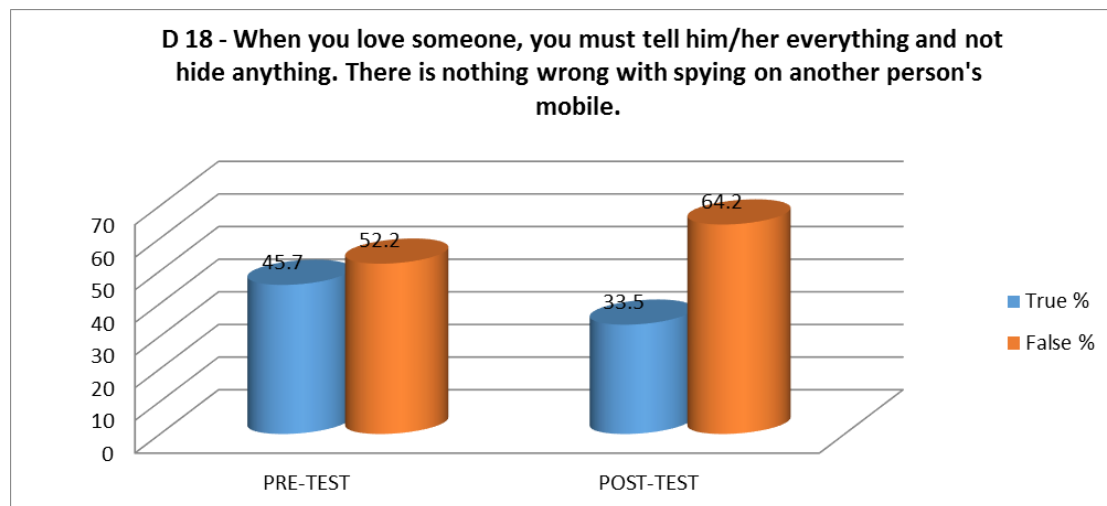
<b>d8 - The training encouraged active participation and expression of ideas successfully</b>						
		Total	Country			
			CYPRUS	ITALY	LITHUANIA	ROMANIA
Completely AGREE	%	32.6	41	17.7	36.5	34.5

<b>d9 - I enjoyed the activities I participated in</b>						
		Total	Country			
			CYPRUS	ITALY	LITHUANIA	ROMANIA
Completely AGREE	%	40.9	47.2	11.6	59.8	38.4

Finally, in response to the question “to what extent did the workshop contribute to the enhancement of your knowledge and understanding of gender based violence?”, 50.9% gave a range of 75-100, and 27.6% 50-75.

Throughout the questionnaire there is a slight preponderance of female over male scores relating to satisfaction, but it is hardly significant.

The project contributed to changing perceptions about violence, as can be seen from comparisons between pre- and post- test results as in the chart below. The partners have concluded however, that teenagers had a tendency to give the correct and „expected” answers, an issue to be aware of for the design of future evaluations.



### **Viability (lessons learned)**

The project started from the thesis that the new methods of communication and relation through social networks are not neutral, but can negatively influence the quality of affective and relational life, as much as they promote “fast” and superficial forms of interaction. These new methods can also have an important role in encouraging various forms of verbal, psychological and physical violence towards women, considering that the stereotypes and the images that circulate on internet usually stick roles to women and men that only separate them instead of making them closer.

The project included laboratories and workshops in schools based on the methodology of peer education.

### **Intervention 2**

#### **Identity (of the project/activity)**

- **Name/Title:** My Body My Own- *Sexual Violence among Youth: Awareness Raising and Counseling Center*
- **Type of abuse targeted (IPV/DV/SV):** Sexual violence
- **Aim(s):**
  - To increase the access of youth in risk situations to information services regarding sexual violence
  - To provide integrated specialized assistance to victims of sexual violence through information and awareness activities for youth and for specialists (doctors, social workers, school counselors, police officers, priests etc.) in Sibiu and Mureş counties, but also through the establishment of a pilot assistance center in Sibiu for the sexual violence victims
- **Responsible Organization(s):** Association for Liberty and Equality of Gender- A.L.E.G. Sibiu/Romania
- **Publication(s):** <http://aleg-romania.eu/corpul/>

## Implementation of the intervention

- **Setting:** High schools, Universities, Youth Centres
- **Geographical coverage:** Regional (Sibiu & Mureş counties)
- **Implementation period:** April 2014- October 2015
- **Duration:** 90 minutes/sessions/group
- **Participants/recipients/target group (whom the intervention addresses?)**
  - **Which sexes does it target?** Female and male youth and adults
  - **Identity:** High school pupils, university students, specialists (police officers, doctors, psychologists, teachers, priests etc.)
  - **Age or age range:** 14-29 years old, adults
  - **Other, important characteristics of participants/recipients (if any):**
  - **N of participants/recipients approached:** 700 youth, 50 specialists
- **Implementers**
  - **Which sexes does it target?** Female and male
  - **Professional Identity:** Psychologist, project assistant, volunteers
  - **Special training needed?** The project team and volunteers received trainings on sexual violence as a form of gender based violence, intervention methods in case of sexual violence, teamwork, confidentiality, communication skills and conflict management etc.
  - **N of implementers involved:** coordinator, project assistant, 2 psychologists, 6 volunteers, one trainer
- **Type of activities/actions included**
  - For youth: Information and awareness campaign, educational sessions based on non-formal education methods
  - For specialists: Local meetings focused on avoiding secondary victimization, understanding causes and effects
  - Pilot assistance center for victims of sexual violence: Online information and counseling. Psychological counseling (Individual, Support groups). Legal assistance, Paying for medical certificates (30 victims will be provided through the pilot center specialist support services in line with the standards of the new Directive 2012/29/EU for victims of crime)
  - The results and the methods will be disseminated to 20 service providers, replicated in a third county and integrated in the regular activities of A.L.E.G.'s support center, to continued after the end of the project

## Useful Material

- 3 Educational films on different types of sexual violence available here <http://aleg-romania.eu/corpul/>
- Lesson plans for youth seminars
- Handbook- *Sexual violence: recognize the manifestations, avoid, offer support* (the meaning of consent, how to express and respect consent, risk behavior vs. positive behavior etc.)
- Information and awareness packages for specialists

As the project is under implementation at the time when the report is drafted, we cannot include information about evaluation.



## Recommendations - suggestions

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Overall we observe serious gaps regarding the knowledge about, the identification and the primary and secondary prevention of the problem intimate partner violence affecting adolescents (including domestic violence and sexual violence). The root cause of these gaps is in the operating definitions of *family violence* and *child abuse* in the Romanian legislation, as outlined at length in previous chapters. Without a comprehensive legislative framework, the studies and policies in Romania will continue to be blind to the full dimension and variety of forms of violence affecting youth. The key recommendations we make are in the following directions:

- Revise existing legislation on family violence in order to include a comprehensive definition of gender –based violence against women and domestic violence in line with the Istanbul convention
- Collect data about the relationship between victim and perpetrator in the child protection system of administrative data collection
- Ensure access of all students at all levels of education to age-adapted training on intimate partner violence (for instance by extending the current subject “Education for healthy living” at the moment taught as an optional course)
- Ensure adequate training for the teachers implementing these trainings
- Strengthen consultation and cooperation between authorities in the field of child protection and education on the one hand and civil society organizations to make better use of the existing capacity, expertise and initiatives in the civil society for primary and secondary prevention of IPV.

## ANNEX II.

Intervention's Identity					
Project's Name		Gender Equality Festival			
Types of abuse targeted	<b>Abuse type</b>		<b>Relationship with the abuser</b>		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Psychological Violence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Violence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Violence (SV) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe):		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dating Violence (DV) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-partner Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe):		
Aim(s)		The Gender Equality Festival is an annual educational and awareness-raising campaign addressed to young people aimed at fighting stereotypes about men and women often linked to inequalities and gender based violence.			
Responsible (organization &/or person)		Association for Liberty and Gender Equality – A.L.E.G.			
Access (link &/or reference)		<a href="https://www.facebook.com/festivalulegalitatiidegen/timeline">https://www.facebook.com/festivalulegalitatiidegen/timeline</a>			
Implementation					
Where?		<b>Setting:</b> Various locations, easily accessible to the general public, especially to youngsters: pubs, bookstores, street, the central squares of Sibiu etc. <b>Geographical coverage:</b> Local			
When?		<b>Implementation period</b> (if still ongoing, starting date): Yearly			
Duration		Depending on the funding and human resources available, the Gender Equality Festival lasts from a few days up to a week			
To whom?	If children/ adolescents	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Participants' Identity</b>	<b>Age &amp; other characteristics (if any)</b>	<b>How many participants?</b>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pupils/students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general population <b>Other:</b>	..... years old	N=300
	If adults (18+)	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Participants' Identity</b>	<b>Other important characteristics?</b>	<b>How many participants?</b>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general population <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> mother/female caregiver <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> father/male caregiver <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> teacher/educator <b>Other:</b>		N=100
By whom? (implementers, if applicable)	<b>Sex</b>	<b>Professional Identity</b>	<b>Special training needed?</b>	<b>How many involved?</b>	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> teacher/educator <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> psychologist <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> social worker <b>Other:</b> A.L.E.G. staff and volunteers	<input type="checkbox"/> Not needed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes: training on gender equality, stereotypes, gender based violence etc.	N= 5 – 10 staff 30-50 volunteers	
Activities included		<i>Human Library:</i> People having interesting, empowering stories to pass on become living books, setting examples and encouraging readers to take attitude and engage in creating a tolerant, more open society. <i>Film projections</i> on various topics. In 2014, we recorded with a hidden camera the reactions of citizens of Sibiu to violent situations played by professional actors, perceived as real-life situations by the audience. Then, we played the films during the Festival, starting interesting debates with the audience.			

	<p><i>Street animation "Choose your words!"</i> With the help of the volunteers, passers-by can "write" their messages on various gender-related topics, thus sending positive messages to the community and encouraging others to take action in discriminatory situations.</p> <p><i>Forum theatre:</i> actors and volunteers play problematic situations ending tragically and then replay the whole story, this time inviting the audience to play some of the characters, in order for the story to have a happy ending. Forum theatre encourages people to react properly in discriminatory situations.</p>
<b>Useful material</b>	
<p>At the end of the 2011 edition of the Festival, A.L.E.G. published a guide, available to anyone who wants to implement activities from our Festival: <a href="http://aleg-romania.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Ghid-de-promovare-a-galitatii-de-gen-prin-metode-non-formale.pdf">http://aleg-romania.eu/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Ghid-de-promovare-a-galitatii-de-gen-prin-metode-non-formale.pdf</a></p> <p>The A.L.E.G. website and Facebook page can provide useful resources:  <a href="http://aleg-romania.eu/">http://aleg-romania.eu/</a>  <a href="https://www.facebook.com/alegromania?ref=aymt_homepage_panel">https://www.facebook.com/alegromania?ref=aymt_homepage_panel</a></p>	
<b>Evaluation</b>	
<b>Evaluation Methodology</b>	
<b>Evaluation Results</b>	
<b>Viability and lessons learned</b>	
<p>The project is easy to replicate in other settings and A.L.E.G. published the above-mentioned handbook to encourage replication. In 2015 it will be organized in Bucharest as part of the Gender Equality Coalition.</p>	

Intervention's Identity					
<b>Project's Name</b>		Education for Prevention of Gender Based Violence Through Action Methods and Theatre			
<b>Types of abuse targeted</b>		<b>Abuse type</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Psychological Violence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Violence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sexual Violence (SV) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): Bullying	<b>Relationship with the abuser</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dating Violence (DV) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-partner Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe):		
<b>Aim(s)</b>		The Project aimed at preventing and combating gender based violence through theatre, action methods and peer education			
<b>Responsible (organization &amp;/or person)</b>		Association for Liberty and Gender Equality – A.L.E.G.			
<b>Access (link &amp;/or reference)</b>		<a href="http://aleg-romania.eu/en/pro_tia-php/">http://aleg-romania.eu/en/pro_tia-php/</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/events/599779466713327">https://www.facebook.com/events/599779466713327</a>			
Implementation					
<b>Where?</b>		<b>Setting:</b> A.L.E.G. headquarters and in schools <b>Geographical coverage:</b> Local			
<b>When?</b>		<b>Implementation period:</b> May 2013 – March 2014			
<b>Duration</b>					
<b>To whom?</b>	<b>If children/ adolescents</b>	<b>Sex</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Participants' Identity</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pupils/students <input type="checkbox"/> general population <b>Other:</b>	<b>Age &amp; other characteristics (if any)</b> 15-18 years old	<b>How many participants?</b> N=300 pupils targeted as beneficiaries
	<b>If adults (18+)</b>	<b>Sex</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Participants' Identity</b> <input type="checkbox"/> students <input type="checkbox"/> general population <input type="checkbox"/> mother/female caregiver <input type="checkbox"/> father/male caregiver <input type="checkbox"/> teacher/educator <b>Other:</b>	<b>Other important characteristics?</b>	<b>How many participants?</b> N=
<b>By whom? (implementers, if applicable)</b>		<b>Sex</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Professional Identity</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> teacher/educator <input type="checkbox"/> psychologist <input type="checkbox"/> social worker <b>Other:</b> pupils	<b>Special training needed?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Not needed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes: The 10 members in the implementation team attended personal development, teamwork, conflict management, action methods and forum theatre courses. They also learned about gender based violence and discrimination, thus becoming peer educators for their	<b>How many involved?</b> N= 10 pupils

			colleagues.	
<b>Activities included</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Training of the project implementation team</li> <li>○ Forum theatre: volunteers play a problematic situation ending tragically and then replay the story, this time inviting the audience to play some of the characters, in order for the story to happy ending. Forum theatre encourages people to react properly in discriminatory situatio</li> <li>○ Invisible theatre</li> </ul>			
<b>Useful material</b>				
Is there any material available? <b>If yes</b> , for whom (implementers, participants?). If applicable, please link(s) and/or reference(s) (if different than these mentioned into the cell "access")				
<b>Evaluation</b>				
<b>Evaluation Methodology</b>	<b>Pre-test and post-tests</b>			
<b>Evaluation Results</b>	The pre-tests show that most youngsters associated violence with physical violence (32%), and few were aware of other form like economic, psychological or sexual (2 to 4%). As a result of the actions 33% of students in the post-test mentioned economic and sexual violence which indicates a significant change in their understanding of gender-based violence. 53% of students were of the opinion that the session changed their perceptions about gender-based violence. 46% of students thought it would be useful to have this kind of education as part of the regular school curriculum.			
<b>Viability and lessons learned</b>				
Increased viability due to involvement of youth peer educators.				

Intervention's Identity					
<b>Project's Name</b>		Stop Bullying			
<b>Types of abuse targeted</b>		<b>Abuse type</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Psychological Violence <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Physical Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Violence (SV) <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe): Bullying	<b>Relationship with the abuser</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Dating Violence (DV) <input type="checkbox"/> Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Non-partner Violence <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please describe):		
<b>Aim(s)</b>		The Project aims at preventing and combating bullying			
<b>Responsible (organization &amp;/or person)</b>		Telefonul copiilor Association			
<b>Access (link &amp;/or reference)</b>		<a href="http://www.telefonulcopilului.ro/stop-bullying">http://www.telefonulcopilului.ro/stop-bullying</a>			
Implementation					
<b>Where?</b>		<b>Setting:</b> On TV, in schools and high schools <b>Geographical coverage:</b> National			
<b>When?</b>		<b>Implementation period</b> (if still ongoing, starting date): beginning with 2014			
<b>Duration</b>		N/A			
<b>To whom?</b>	<b>If children/ adolescents</b>	<b>Sex</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Participants' Identity</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> pupils/students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general population <b>Other:</b>	<b>Age &amp; other characteristics (if any)</b> 	<b>How many participants?</b> 
	<b>If adults (18+)</b>	<b>Sex</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Female <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Participants' Identity</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> students <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> general population <input type="checkbox"/> mother/female caregiver <input type="checkbox"/> father/male caregiver <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> teacher/educator <b>Other:</b>	<b>Other important characteristics?</b> 	<b>How many participants?</b> N=
<b>By whom? (implementers, if applicable)</b>		<b>Sex</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male	<b>Professional Identity</b> <input type="checkbox"/> teacher/educator <input type="checkbox"/> psychologist <input type="checkbox"/> social worker <b>Other:</b> Telefonul copilului staff and Alex Velea (singer)	<b>Special training needed?</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Not needed <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (please describe)	<b>How many involved?</b> N=
<b>Activities included</b>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– national TV campaign supported by Cartoon Network and Alex Velea (singer), including 3 sp presenting bullying situations</li> <li>– presentations in schools and high schools</li> </ul>			
Useful material					
Presentation of the campaign and analysis of the phenomenon of bullying on the website of the NGO <i>Telefonul copiilor</i> (in Romanian): <a href="http://www.telefonulcopilului.ro/stop-bullying">http://www.telefonulcopilului.ro/stop-bullying</a> <a href="http://www.telefonulcopilului.ro/arhiva-noutati?id=168">http://www.telefonulcopilului.ro/arhiva-noutati?id=168</a>					
Evaluation					
<b>Evaluation Methodology</b>					
<b>Evaluation Results</b>					

	<b>Viability and lessons learned</b>

