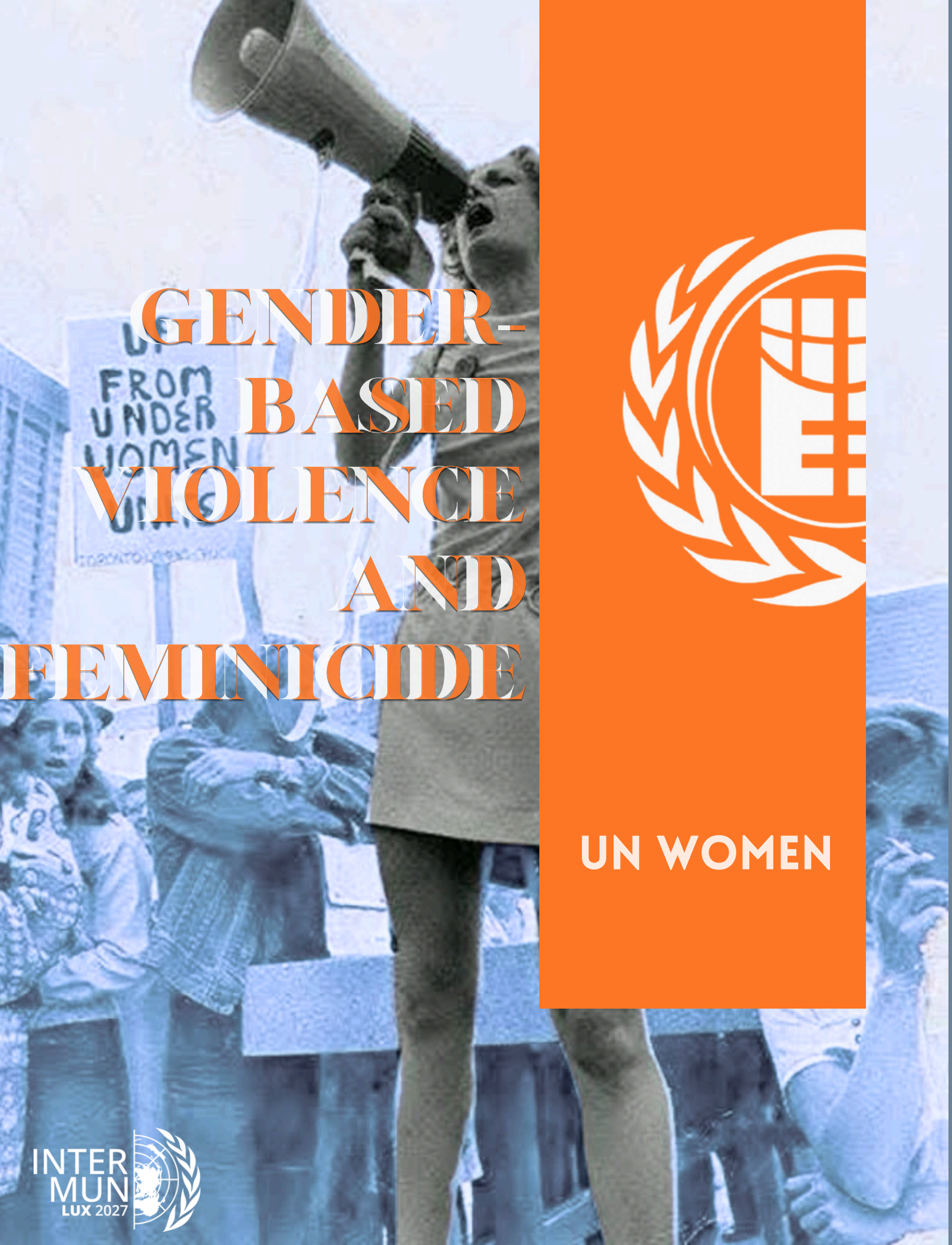

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND FEMINICIDE

UN WOMEN

INTER MUN LUX 2027

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UN WOMEN

Websites and Glossary

WEBSITES

- https://www.unhcr.org/global-trends
- https://www.un.org/en/site-search?query=forced+migration
- https://www.iom.int/news/iom-campaign-urges-uk-consumers-buy-responsibly-help-end-human-trafficking
- https://www.unodc.org/unodc/site-search.html?q=human+traffiking
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- https://www.who.int/home/search-results?indexCatalogue=genericsearchindex1&q=Health%20of%20Refugees%20and%20Migrants&wordsMode=AnyWord#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=Health%20of%20Refugees%20and%20Migrants&gsc.page=1

GLOSSARY

- **Feminicide:** Refers to the sex/gender-related killings of women and girls is recognized as the most extreme form of violence on a continuum of male violence and discrimination against women and girls. (Femadmin, 2023)

- **Violence:** The use of physical force so as to injure, abuse, damage, or destroy. («Violence», 2026)

- **Abuse:** Is an action that intentionally causes harm or injures another person. This can refer to physical abuse, psychological abuse, mental abuse, or child abuse. (Abuse, s. f.)

- **Equalty:** Treating people in such a way that the outcome for each person can be the same. (National Youth Council of Ireland, 2024)

- **Misogyny:** The hatred of, contempt for, or deep-seated prejudice against women and girls. («Misogyny», 2026)

- **Protection:** The act of keeping something or someone safe from harm or danger. (Diccionario Cambridge Inglés, 2026)

- **Stereotype:** A set idea that people have about what someone or something is like, especially an idea that is wrong. (Diccionario Cambridge Inglés, 2026)

- **Harrassment:** Any unwanted, unwelcome behavior, action, or communication that threatens, alarms, demeans, or creates a hostile environment for a person. (Diccionario Cambridge Inglés, 2026)

INTRODUCTION TO UN WOMEN

UN Women exists to advance women's rights, gender equality, and the empowerment of all women and girls.

As the lead United Nations entity on gender equality and secretariat of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, we shift laws, institutions, social norms, and services to close the gender gap and build an equal world for all women and girls. Our partnerships with governments, women's movements, and the private sector, coupled with our coordination of the broader United Nations, deliver lasting changes. We make strides in four areas:

- leadership
- economic empowerment
- freedom from violence and peace
- security and humanitarian action

UN Women keeps the rights of women and girls at the centre of global progress- always, everywhere. Because gender equality is not just what we do. It is who we are.

Over many decades, the United Nations has made significant progress in advancing gender equality, including through landmark agreements such as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women . (CEDAW, s.f.)
Gender equality is not only a basic human right, but its achievement has enormous socio-economic ramifications. Empowering women fuels thriving economies, spurring productivity and growth. Yet gender inequalities remain deeply entrenched in every society. Women lack access to decent work and face occupational segregation and gender wage gaps. They are too often denied access to basic education and health care. Women in all parts of the world suffer violence and discrimination. They are under-represented in political and economic decision-making processes. (About UN Women, s. f.)

GENERAL INFORMATION

In 2024, around 50,000 women and girls worldwide were killed by their intimate partners or other family members (including fathers, mothers, uncles and brothers). This means that, on average, 137 women or girls are killed every day by someone in their own family. In 2024, intimate partners and other family members were the perpetrators of 60 per cent of killings of women and girls globally.

In many cases, only gender-related killings perpetrated by an intimate partner or family member are counted as femicides—yet we know that gender-related killings take place in many contexts beyond the private sphere. They can be related to rape or sexual violence by someone unknown to the victim; linked to harmful practices such as female genital mutilation or so-called honor killings; a result of hate crimes linked to sexual orientation or gender identity; or connected with armed conflict, gangs, human trafficking and other forms of organized crime. (Five Essential Facts To Know About Femicide | UN Women – Headquarters, 2025)

Gender-related killings and other forms of violence against women and girls are not inevitable. Often, femicide/feminicide is a culmination of repeated and escalating episodes of gender-based violence, which means it can and must be prevented if the early signs of violence are addressed effectively. Initiatives that focus on primary prevention, changing social norms, and engaging whole communities to create zero tolerance for violence against women, work best in preventing gender-related killings.

Violence against women and girls remains a major global human rights issue. One in three women worldwide experiences physical or sexual violence, mainly from an intimate partner.

In 2024, approximately 50,000 women and girls were killed by intimate partners or family members, representing around 60% of all intentional killings of women and girls. This means that an average of 137 women and girls are killed every day by someone from their own family.

Although 165 countries have laws addressing domestic violence, only 104 have comprehensive legislation. Countries with such laws have lower rates of intimate partner violence (9.5%) compared to those without them (16.1%), highlighting the importance of strong legal protections. (Ending Violence Against Women, 2025)

ISSUES

One in three women experiences gender-based violence, UN Women, the agency dedicated to promoting women's empowerment, states that femicides are the ultimate evidence that the systems and structures designed to protect women and girls are failing. One alarming aspect of this issue is the prevalence of violence in conflict-affected areas. In 2023, the United Nations reported a staggering 50 percent increase in gender-based violence compared to the previous year. (Femicides In 2024: Global Estimates Of Intimate Partner/Family Member Femicides, 2024)

TOPICS TO DISCUSS

Femicide Prevention

The lack of effective mechanisms to identify high-risk situations allows violence against women to escalate into fatal consequences, especially when previous reports are not addressed appropriately.

Education and Awareness

The lack of education on gender equality and violence prevention can reinforce harmful stereotypes and behaviors, making it more difficult for younger generations to recognize and prevent gender-based violence.

Violence in Conflict Zones

Armed conflicts increase the vulnerability of women and girls, as instability, displacement, and the lack of institutional protection make it more difficult for them to access safety and justice.

Technology-Facilitated Gender-Based Violence

The use of social media and other technologies has created new forms of gender-based violence, such as harassment, threats, and the non-consensual sharing of private content, while laws and protection mechanisms do not always keep pace with these developments.

Government Accountability

The lack of resources, effective policies, and proper enforcement of laws can limit governments' ability to prevent gender-based violence and adequately protect women and girls.

Law Enforcement and Access to Justice

Barriers to reporting, lack of training among authorities, and inefficient judicial processes can prevent victims from obtaining protection and justice, contributing to impunity.

Data Collection and Reporting

The lack of complete and reliable data makes it difficult to understand the true extent of gender-based violence, identify the most vulnerable groups, and develop effective public policies.

ORGANIZATIONS

Un women-https://www.unwomen.org/es
UNICEF-https://www.unicef.org/
UNFPA -https://www.unfpa.org/es
OHCHR-https://www.ohchr.org/es/ohchr homepage
WHO-https://www.who.int/

The Committee on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide has adopted several measures to address this issue:

Establishment of multidisciplinary committees involving justice, health, education, and social services.

Systematic review of femicide cases to identify institutional failures and propose corrective actions.

Strengthening of legal frameworks and public policies to ensure prevention, punishment, and eradication of gender-based violence.

Training of justice operators and law enforcement agencies to guarantee gender-sensitive responses.

Awareness campaigns and community education to transform harmful social norms that perpetuate violence.

Monitoring and collection of statistical data on femicides to design evidence-based policies.

International cooperation in line with the 2030 Agenda, particularly Sustainable Development Goal 5 (Gender Equality).

IMPORTANCE:

Gender-based violence and femicide are urgent global problems that violate human rights and threaten women's safety.
They reflect inequality and discrimination, reinforcing harmful social norms and power imbalances.
Ending this violence is essential to achieve gender equality, which is recognized as a fundamental right.
Empowering women and protecting their lives contributes to stronger economies, productivity, and social growth.
International organizations like the United Nations (UN Women) work to change laws, institutions, and behaviors to build a more equitable world.

OBJETIVE:

The committee on Gender-Based Violence and Femicides works to:

Review femicide cases to identify institutional failures and propose solutions.

Promote stronger laws and policies to prevent, punish, and eradicate gender-based violence.

Ensure coordination between justice, health, education, and social services.
Raise awareness and foster cultural change to eliminate harmful norms that justify violence.

Uphold international commitments such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Goal 5: Gender Equality).

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