

Gender-based violence (GBV)

Factsheet

“While the majority of GBV victims are female, we must not overlook the fact that men can also experience abuse in their relationships.”



Find more information on gender [here](#).

“Good to know”

GENDER

Gender includes the roles, behaviours, activities, and attributes that a given society at a given time considers appropriate for men and women. “Masculine” and “Feminine” are gender categories.

SEX

Sex refers to the sum of biological characteristics that determine whether an individual is female, male, and/or intersex.

GENDER NORMS

Gender norms refer to the accepted attributes and characteristics associated with each gender at a particular point in time for a specific society or community.

GENDER STEREOTYPES

Gender stereotypes are simplistic generalisations about the gender attributes, differences, and roles of women and men.

GENDER DIVERSITY

Gender diversity recognises that many peoples' preferences and self-expression fall outside commonly understood gender norms.

GENDER RELATIONS

Gender relations are social relations between women and men, including the distribution of power, access to and control over resources between the sexes.

GENDER IDENTITY

Gender identity refers to a person's deeply felt psychological identification as man, woman, or other which may or may not correspond to the person's physiology or designated sex at birth.

GENDER ROLES

Gender roles refer to the different socially ascribed attitudes, behaviours, work, or responsibilities assigned to men and women, boys and girls, or transgender persons.

GENDER EQUALITY

Gender equality means that women and men benefit from equal conditions, treatment, and opportunities for realising their full potential, human rights and dignity, and for contributing to (and benefiting from) economic, social, cultural, and political development. Gender equity ensures this process.

Intersectionality



Click [here](#) for an explanation video on intersectionality.



Find more information about the Istanbul Convention on the legal frameworks in [Module 6](#).

“There is no such thing as a single-issue struggle because we do not live single-issue lives.”

Audre Lorde, Black Feminist Lesbian Activist

Social categorisations such as e.g., race, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, and class are interconnected and are assigned to a given individual or group. Intersectionality describes how these categories “intersect”, either reinforcing or reducing the likelihood of experiencing systemic oppression, different forms of discrimination and inequalities.

Gender-based violence

Gender-based violence is defined as violence directed against a person because of gender. Women, men, LGBTQI+ people (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex) and other people who do not fit into the heterosexual norm or traditional gender binary categories.

Some examples:

- Domestic violence
- Femicide – murder of women
- Forced marriage

The Istanbul Convention (Council of Europe, Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence) frames gender-based violence and violence against women as a gendered act which is ‘a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women’.

Under the Istanbul Convention acts of gender-based violence are emphasised as resulting in ‘physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life.’

Helpful sources

They can be found [here](#).