

To: UN Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences

By email: vaw@ohchr.org

Input by the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights in response to the Call for femicide related data and information

Dear Ms. Simonovic,

Please find below the answers to the questions raised in your questionnaire.

Text from the questionnaire

In order to further the collection of information on prevention activities, including through the collection of data on femicide or gender-related killings of women, the Special Rapporteur kindly seeks the continued support of States, National Human Rights Institutions, civil society actors, international organizations, academics and other stakeholders to provide data on:

- a) The existence of, or progress in, the creation of a national femicide watch and/or observatory on violence against women, or any plans to do so.

Reply: There is no national femicide watch or observatory on violence against women. Neither is there an observatory on violence against women. The implementation of the Convention of Istanbul by the Netherlands was recently evaluated by GREVIO. The government is currently preparing its response to this evaluation. GREVIO's recommendations to the government concerned the need to enhance coordination of policies on violence against women and to improve data collection. We are therefore awaiting the government's response to these recommendations.

- b) Other measures or research and studies undertaken to prevent femicide or gender related killings of women, or homicide of women, by intimate partners or family members.

We are not aware of research aimed specifically at the prevention of femicide or gender related killings of women in general. However, the government established a [National centre of expertise on honour related crimes](#), including on killings committed in the name of so-called honour. This centre provides advise to, among others, the police. It has developed trainings for police officers and carries out research on this issue. The head of research of this centre is also a lecturer at a

university of applied sciences, where she works on the same topic.

At Leiden University, there is a research project called [The Dutch Homicide Monitor](#) (information in English). The leading researcher on this project, co-authored an article: '25 years murder in the Netherlands. Analysing trends on gender and age of victims of murder'.¹ The abstract reads: "This study describes the trend in victimization of homicide in the Netherlands in the period 1992-2016. Using data from the Dutch Homicide Monitor, the findings show that the homicide rate has been falling since the 1990s. This decrease is the greatest among male and female victims between the ages 20 and 39. These findings emphasize the importance of shifting the discussion about the general homicide drop to an in-depth analysis of gender and age of victims of homicide."

c) Information on the results of analysis of femicide cases, including the review of previous court cases and actions undertaken in this respect.

We have no information on recent academic research on this question. It is worth noting, however, that the [Inspectorate Justice & Security](#) carried out an investigation into the killing of a 16-year old girl by her ex-boyfriend. He had stalked her intensively and threatened her repeatedly. The Inspectorate examined the actions taken by the police and other parties involved and analysed where mistakes had been made. A number of recommendations aimed at preventing similar incidents were made. This investigation was published in Dutch only.

d) Administrative data (by numbers and percentage) on homicide/femicide or genderrelated killings of women for the last 3 years (2018-2020), disaggregated as follows:

- i. The total number of homicides of women and men
- ii. The number of intimate partner homicides/femicides, (i.e. based on the relationship between the victim and perpetrator, the number of women and number of men killed by their partners/ex-partners, husband/ex-husband etc.)
- iii. The number of family related homicide/femicide of men and of women (i.e. based on the family relationship between the victim and perpetrator, the number of women and number of men killed by their family members, but not by intimate partners)
- iv. Other femicides or killings of women by unrelated perpetrator/s but genderrelated or with a sexual motive
- v. Data if available, disaggregated as above, of femicide during the Covid-19 pandemic (indicating the time period e.g. since March 2020 to the end of October 2020) and its comparison with such data before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Reply: Statistics Netherlands collects data on manslaughter and murder. In October 2020, it reported figures on the period 2015-2019. For quite a number of years, the number of women killed

¹ Aarten P., Schönberger H. & Liem M. (2019), 25 jaar moord in Nederland: Een trendanalyse van geslacht en leeftijd van slachtoffers van moord., Tijdschrift voor Criminologie 61(3): 260-270.

by the partner or ex-partner is approximately 40 annually. For this 5-year period, in 56% of all cases in which women were killed, the perpetrator was their partner or ex-partner. In another 7% it was a parent, and in another 12% another member of their family. Please find below the table published by Statistics Netherlands, translated by the Netherlands Institute for Human Rights. The data relate to 2015-2019. It must be noted that the data for 2019 are preliminary.

	Men	Women	Total		Men	Women	Total
	Figures				%		
Total murder and manslaughter	420	210	630		100	100	100
Total suspect / perpetrator in the picture	319	198	517		76%	94%	82%
(ex) Partner	17	118	135		4%	56%	21%
Parent of the victim	17	15	32		4%	7%	5%
Other relative	22	26	48		5%	12%	8%
Acquaintance / friend	113	17	130		27%	8%	21%
Criminals among themselves	61	1	62		15%	0%	10%
No connection	48	12	60		11%	6%	10%
Other / unknown	41	9	50		10%	4%	8%
No suspect / perpetrator	101	12	113		24%	6%	18%

Source: [Statistics Netherlands](#)