**Inputs from WHO for Independent Expert on the enjoyment of all human rights by older persons’ report on Violence, abuse and neglect against older persons**

* **Legal, policy and institutional frameworks**: is there a non-discrimination law that prohibits discrimination based on age? Is there a legislation on violence against persons and/or domestic violence that includes violence, abuse and/or neglect of older persons? Does the law establish a specialised independent body receiving complaints of discrimination based on age? Is there a national plan, policy or strategy to address violence against older persons, that is overseen by a national mechanism to monitor and implement it? Please provide detailed information and relevant documents, if applicable.
* In relation to ageism, Chapter 6 of the *Global report on ageism* focuses on policy and laws, in particular on their effectiveness and includes multiple examples: <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1336324/retrieve>
* For legislation on violence and abuse of older person, although somewhat out of date now, the *Global status report on violence prevention 2014*, is still probably the best source of data on measures – including laws, policies, programmes, and services – countries are taking to address violence and abuse of older people, see in particular the Part VI and Part VIII (country profiles): <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241564793>
* There are, of course, many publications relevant to this, including, for instance:
	+ Podnieks, E., & Thomas, C. (2018). Public health, human rights, and global perspectives on elder abuse. In Elder abuse and the public's health. Springer Publishing Company, New York, NY.
	+ Phelan, A. (2020). Advances in Elder Abuse Research. Practice, legislation, and policy. New York: Springer International Publishing.
* **Manifestations of violence**: what forms of violence, abuse and neglect are older persons facing? In which settings does it happen? Please provide detailed information.

We have produced a number of publication relevant to this, including:

* <https://eapon.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/toronto_declaration_en.pdf>
* <https://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0010/144676/e95110.pdf>
* A series of systematic reviews and meta-analyses on the prevalence of abuse of older people:
	+ Yon, Y., Mikton, C. R., Gassoumis, Z. D., & Wilber, K. H. (2017). Elder abuse prevalence in community settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis. The Lancet Global Health, 5(2), e147-e156. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214109X17300062>
	+ Yon, Y., Ramiro-Gonzalez, M., Mikton, C. R., Huber, M., & Sethi, D. (2019). The prevalence of elder abuse in institutional settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis. European journal of public health, 29(1), 58-67. <https://academic.oup.com/eurpub/article-pdf/29/1/58/27696401/cky093.pdf>
	+ Yon, Y., Mikton, C., Gassoumis, Z. D., & Wilber, K. H. (2019). The prevalence of self-reported elder abuse among older women in community settings: a systematic review and meta-analysis. Trauma, Violence, & Abuse, 20(2), 245-259. <https://www.academia.edu/download/88688466/152483801769730820220717-1-1vcztla.pdf>
* And we are about to publish an evidence and gap map on all the main aspects of abuse of older people, including its prevalence, consequences, risk factors, and interventions. The final “mega-map” – i.e. an evidence and gap map based on systematic reviews – should be completed by May 2023. See: <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdf/10.1002/cl2.1227>
	+ It includes 111 systematic reviews and some 1640 primary studies on all these aspects of abuse of older people.
* In line with the priorities identified in the prioritization exercise we conducted in 2022 (see: <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1433670/retrieve>), we have launched a project, in collaboration with the University of Malaya to:
	+ Conduct a systematic review of the quality of instruments to measure abuse of older people (to be completed in 2023);
	+ Develop a new and better instrument to measure the prevalence of abuse of older people;
	+ And conduct multi-country studies using this new instrument to have better global, regional, and country estimates of the prevalence of abuse of older people – in all its forms;
* **Intersectionality**: how does violence, abuse and neglect affect specific groups of older persons (e.g. older women, older LGTBI persons, older persons belonging to ethnic and indigenous groups, older refugees and internally displaced persons, older persons with disabilities, etc.) Please provide detailed information.
* There is some – albeit limited – information on this in the systematic reviews above;
* There will be some information on this in the mega-map we will soon be publishing:
	+ <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/cl2.1227>
* **Data**: are data available at national and local level about violence, abuse and neglect of older persons? Are national surveys about violence including experiences of older persons? If available, please provide figures and data.
	+ Again, there is data available in the reviews mentioned above
	+ And information will be available in the mega-map when it becomes available in a few months’ time.
	+ Lack of data was identified as one of the factors that accounts for the low global political priority of abuse of older people in this study we published last year: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanhl/article/PIIS2666-7568(22)00143-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanhl/article/PIIS2666-7568%2822%2900143-X/fulltext)
* **Access to justice**: how does the State fulfil its obligations to ensure older persons’ access justice, and to obtain remedies and reparations, when their human rights have been violated as a result of violence, abuse and neglect?
	+ We have not compiled much information on this aspect, beyond what is in the 2014 *Global status report on violence prevention*, which, as mentioned, is probably somewhat out of date. See: <https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/9789241564793>
* **Access to information**: How do you raise awareness about violence against older persons in the public? How does information about access to essential services (e.g. healthcare, legal assistance, social services, access to shelters) is made accessible and available for older persons?
* The main relevant publication we have on this is Chapter 9 (9.1. on campaigns) of the Global report on ageism: <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1336324/retrieve>
	+ This concludes the evidence supporting the effectiveness of awareness raising campaigns, while somewhat mixed and limited, is promising.
* Please provide examples of **good practices** for preventing, monitoring and address violence and abuse against older persons.
	+ In the absence of interventions proven to work, and in line with the findings of the prioritization for the field we conducted in 2022 (see <https://apps.who.int/iris/rest/bitstreams/1433670/retrieve>), we have launched an “intervention accelerator” which aims to develop a portfolio of effective and cost-effective interventions to prevent and respond to abuse of older people in community and institutional settings in low, middle, and high income countries (see <https://www.nature.com/articles/s43587-022-00301-0>).
	+ In our mega-map mentioned above, we have identified a total of 55 systematic reviews that focus on interventions to prevent, detect, and respond to abuse of older people. These include 202 primary studies.