

# TOPIC 2: The question of Gender Based Violence

## Definition of Key Terms

### Gender

It is either of the two sexes (male and female), especially when considered with reference to social and cultural differences rather than biological ones. The term is also used more broadly to denote a range of identities that do not correspond to established ideas of male and female. ("Gender.").

### Base

It is to form, develop, or find something on the basis of something else ("Base."). Comprehending this terminology as a phenomenon where violence is acted according to gender will be sufficient for further debates to come.

### Violence

It is a behaviour involving physical force intended to hurt, damage, or kill someone or something ("Violence."). Comprehending this terminology as any type of harm that is perpetrated against a person or group of people because of their factual or perceived sex, gender, sexual orientation and/or gender identity will be sufficient for further debates to come.

## Background Information

Violence against people that is motivated by a person's gender is referred to as gender-based violence. It has its roots in negative norms, the abuse of authority, and gender inequity.

Gender-based violence (GBV) is a significant human rights issue that poses a danger to one's health and safety. In their lifetime, one in three women are predicted to encounter sexual or physical abuse. The threat of GBV for women and girls considerably rises during migration and times of crisis.

Sexual, physical, mental, and financial harm that is inflicted in public or privately might be considered gender-based violence. Threats of violence, coercion, and manipulation are also included. Violence against intimate partners, sexual assault, child marriage, female genital mutilation, and so-called "honour crimes" are just a few examples of how this might manifest.

The effects of gender-based violence are terrible and can affect survivors for the rest of their lives. It might even result in death.

## Key Issues

### Human Trafficking

Human trafficking is the trading of human beings as commodities and exploiting them for profit or personal benefit. This highlights one of the issues caused by gender based violence. It involves the recruitment, transportation, harbouring or receiving of persons through force, coercion or deception. Human trafficking has been an ongoing issue in this world, affecting millions of people in the world especially females and children. The number of referrals to the NRM will likely underestimate the true scale of trafficking as it only relates to detected cases in which adults have consented to being referred. To be specific, globally 71% of human trafficking victims are women and girls and 29% are men and boys. Moreover, children are estimated to account for 29% of human trafficking victims. This is a significant global issue related to gender based violence as those subjected to trafficking can be found to have health risks associated with exploitation and abuse, and also experience the long-term psychological impact of being enslaved.

### Gender inequality

The relationship between gender and violence is complex. Evidence suggests, however, that gender inequalities increase the risk of violence by men against women and inhibit the ability of those affected to seek protection. There are many forms of violence against women; this briefing focuses on violence by intimate partners, the most common form. Though further research is needed, evidence shows that school, community and media interventions can promote gender equality and prevent violence against women by challenging stereotypes that give men power over women.

### HIV

Unequal gender norms and power dynamics, further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic, continue to put women in all their diversity at increased risk of HIV infection and reduce their access to and uptake of HIV services. The number of new HIV infections among women is still increasing in eastern Europe and central Asia and in the Middle East and North Africa. In sub-Saharan Africa, six out of seven new HIV infections among adolescents aged 15–19 occurred in girls, and young women aged 15–24 years are twice as likely to be living with HIV than men. Violence against women increases women's risk to HIV by 50%. Women living with HIV are often subjected to violence because of their HIV status. COVID-19

has had a profound impact on women's vulnerability, with violence against women surging during the pandemic and HIV, SRH and social services often unavailable.

## Timeline of Resolutions, Treaties, and Events

Date	Description of event
April 7, 2011	The European legislative document, the result of the Council of Europe's ongoing efforts to end violence against women and domestic abuse during the 1990s, was negotiated by its 47 member states and approved on April 7, 2011, by its Committee of Ministers.
June 21, 2019	The groundbreaking pact, which was adopted in 2019, outlines global legal norms for avoiding and combating violence and harassment at work. Governments must ensure that there are comprehensive national laws against harassment and violence at work, as well as laws requiring employers to maintain workplace policies against violence and harassment. These laws must include prevention strategies, complaint procedures, monitoring, enforcement, and support for survivors.
November 2019	The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence. Also known as the Istanbul Convention, is a human rights agreement that prohibits violence against women and domestic abuse. It was made public on May 11, 2011, in Istanbul, Turkey, and is open for signature.
April 20, 2020	The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission strongly denounces the increase in sexual and Gender Based Violence , particularly against children. In order to include child protection in government responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and recovery plans, the ECOWAS commissions and the Regional Child Protection Working Group (RCPWG) issued a joint advice to all ECOWAS Member States.

## Possible Solutions

Perhaps the fastest, timely and important considerations which we can take into our understanding is recognizing Gender Based Violence. Addressing the underpayment of women compared to men can be formally addressed within a formal discussion including international board members which addresses GBV. This would larger recognition of this issue as it is addressed at one

This can be accomplished by planning campaigns, providing training, facilitating peer-to-peer education, or incorporating a gender equality component into all facets of educational policies. Providing readily available information about what Gender Based Violence is, its various manifestations, potential cures, and existing support systems.

Finally, solutions should take in count the humanitarian aspect of this real world issue with Gender Based Violence. This issue directly concerns the well beings of the victims which have experienced first hand Gender Based Violence. Steps towards resolving these topics would help further equalise women's rights and reduce Gender Based Violence.

## Recommendations for Research

Delegates should begin their research by investigating their country's historical involvement in Gender Based Violence. Delegates should furthermore go in depth with what steps their country took to reduce Gender Based Violence, any actions taken by the government or people who have influence on the population and any public events which have taken place such as protests and marches. Another guide to researching GBV for Delegates is to inquire more about the future than the past. Delegates are encouraged to research about what their country is planning to do within the future and their steps within the future to put Gender Based Violence to an end.

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