

Priority needs

to develop gender-responsive services for women with disabilities facing gender-based violence



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Inclusive policies and legislation

- Develop and implement inclusive policies and legislation that target gender-based violence against women with disabilities, addressing their specific needs and guaranteeing them full legal protection.
- Ensure that policies and legislation are based on a rights-based approach and take into account the specific needs and vulnerabilities of women with disabilities.

Accessible support services

- Ensure that support services (e.g., helplines, shelters, counselling, and legal aid) are accessible, inclusive, and responsive to the needs of women with disabilities.
- Allocate resources to enhance the capacity of service providers for persons with disabilities, disability rights organisations, women's rights organisations, law enforcement agencies, healthcare providers, social and education services, and judicial sectors, to deliver gender-responsive and disability-inclusive services.

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Interagency cooperation

- Foster interagency and inter-sectoral collaboration between service providers for persons with disabilities, disability rights organisations, women's rights organisations, law enforcement agencies, healthcare providers, social and education services, and judicial sectors.
- Establish referral mechanisms and protocols to ensure effective coordination and information sharing among different stakeholders.

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4 Training and capacity building

- Provide comprehensive and ongoing training programmes for service providers, professionals, and other stakeholders to increase their knowledge and understanding of gender-based violence against women with disabilities.
- Include disability-specific modules in existing training programmes for professionals within law enforcement, healthcare, social and education services, and judicial sectors.
- Provide women with disabilities and their circle of support with awareness-raising and capacity-building activities.

Data collection and research

- Promote the collection of disaggregated data on gender-based violence against women with disabilities to better understand the prevalence, nature, and impact of such violence.
- Support research initiatives that examine the underlying causes and risk factors of gender-based violence against women with disabilities to inform evidence-based policy and programme development.

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6 Empowerment and participation

- Promote the meaningful participation of women with disabilities in the design, implementation, and evaluation of policies, programmes, and services related to gender-based violence.
- Support initiatives that empower women with disabilities to assert their rights, access justice, and exercise advocacy in matters related to their safety and well-being.

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7 Awareness and prevention campaigns

- Launch awareness-raising campaigns to challenge stereotypes, inform on the rights and needs of women with disabilities, and promote a zero tolerance culture for gender-based violence.
- Develop targeted prevention programmes that address the specific vulnerabilities and barriers faced by women with disabilities, focusing on empowerment, self-defence, and building healthy relationships.
- Emphasise the crucial role of boys and men in prevention efforts and the creation of a safer society.

International cooperation

- Foster international cooperation and exchange of best practices among EU Member States and partner countries to learn from successful models and approaches in addressing gender-based violence against women with disabilities.
- Collaborate with international organisations and bodies to promote the rights of women with disabilities and advocate for the inclusion of disability perspectives in global gender equality and anti-violence initiatives.

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