



ECOVIO: Economic violence: opening pathways across an unexplored gender-based violence issue for guaranteeing the women and children's fundamental rights



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D5.4. Study of the scalability and the transferability of the results to other European Countries

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 ECOVIO Project Overview

ECOVIO – Economic violence: opening pathways across an unexplored gender-based violence issue for guaranteeing the women and children’s fundamental rights – is a project funded by the European Union’s Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Commission under Grant Agreement 856593 and conducted from October 2019 until September 2021. It engages 4 partners all coordinated by the University of Extremadura and joining together experts and associations from several areas field of knowledge (Economics and Finance, Psychology, Social work, Law) from 2 countries, Spain and Italy, with a total budget around half a million.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) may affect women from any socioeconomic positions. Gender-based Economic Abuse (EA) consists of exerting control over the woman’s access to economic resources, limiting the woman’s capacity to support herself and/or her children, conditioning her lifestyle and/or generating financial dependence on the perpetrator and undermining her possibilities to escape from the loop of abuse (Stylianou, 2018; Yount et al., 2016).

While EA during cohabitation has been formulated (Postmus et al., 2016; Stylianou, 2018), it also might start after the marriage ends (separation), being an understudied phenomenon (Kiss et al., 2012). In the case of Spain, after divorcing EA is not considered as abuse, and it becomes a mere formality or disagreement, as long as the woman did not complain and impose a criminal claim for a previous GBV situation during the cohabitation (Bodelón, 2014; Cruzat and Costa, 2008), limiting the identification and understanding of EA cases. Thus, there is a lack of comprehensive research into co-determinants and a regulatory evidenced-based framework for preventing and managing EA within a GBV perspective.

The ultimate aim of the ECOVIO is to shed light into this hidden and underestimated GBV form as an essential step to ensure and guarantee the access to economic-financial rights for women and minors.

The main needs and challenges identified were:

- lack of comprehensive research into co-determinants and a regulatory evidenced-based framework for preventing and managing EA within a GBV perspective;

- EA during cohabitation has been formulated, but it also might start after a separation, remaining understudied and not being specifically considered as abuse in Spain;
- EA seems to be a mere formality or disagreement when it occurs after separation or divorce, as long as the woman did not denounce a previous GBV situation during the cohabitation, and the issue must be assessed and awareness on it spread;
- lack of knowledge and data about economic abuse against women as the GBV is, still, an unmet challenge.

To fill these gaps, ECOVIO was structured in 5 work packages with the following aims:

- To analyse gendered causes and co-determinants of the EA within the GBV context;
- To research into how to ensure and guarantee the access to economic-financial rights for women and minors, making visible the economic abuse as an unexplored side of GBV;
- To trace a route map for preventing and managing EA during and after the separation and influence decision-making bodies and entities, judges, prosecutors, lawyers, social workers and any other leading figure able to sustain change;
- To propose measures and actions for empowering women and educating girls;
- To drive institutional change, addressing the EA within the context of the GBV but also facing challenges such as wage gap and women's unemployment and sub-employment;
- To establish a system for capacity building for preventing EA at macro, meso and micro levels.

Targets groups of the Project were:

1. Authorities and professionals within the legal system (prosecutors, judges, lawyers);
2. Professionals working with women (social workers, social educators, advocates and NGOs);
3. Victims, perpetrators and society as a whole;
4. Decision making entities and advocate organisations.

1.1.1 Project Results

ECOVIO conducted a thorough research with the aim of studying what defines economic abuse as a specific form of GBV and elaborate instruments to tackle it regardless of the relationship and legal situation between the author and the victim of violence. Particularly, the aim of the research was to

explore economic abuse prevalence even after separation, considering that this issue usually has a small echo in literature and policy.

The research was conducted following three steps:

1. literature review considering the main and most recent studies on economic abuse, with the aim of finding a complete definition and a protocol to measure it;
2. semi structured interviews conducted in Spain;
3. survey conducted in Spain and Italy.

The research had the aim to identify blank spots in scientific knowledge on economic abuse and fill the gaps through tailored research on the field. Given that in most studies and articles on EA the abuses are not considered as such if EA occurs after separation, and considering that in light of the literature review and our knowledge on GBV, separation is a crucial moment in an violent and abusive relationship, the semi-structured interviews only considered separated or divorced women, with children in their care. Thus, the interviewer could assess the continuous relationship between the woman and the former partner, considering the children as a permanent link between the two even after the end of the relationship, and to assess the economic abuse on children themselves.

The 16 women participating to the interviews were equally distributed in two groups: 8 of them had previously referred to an anti-violence centre or pressed charges for GBV, and were considered as a “manifest GBV victims”, while the other 8 never referred to an anti-violence centre, nor pressed charges for GBV, and were thus considered as a “group who didn’t suffer GBV”.

All the women were of Spanish nationality to maximise the communication between them and the interviewer, all of them have been separated for at least two years to maximise the understanding of EA after the end of the relationship, and none has non-treated psychiatric issues.

The interviews investigated economic control, employment sabotage and economic exploitation, which are the three main forms of EA as highlighted by the preliminary literature review.

The main findings of the interviews are the following:

- To understand economic abuse, the two temporal dimensions of “during” and “after” the relationship are crucial;

- Economic abuse can occur even without the presence of other forms of GBV and it constitutes an independent form of GBV;
- All the three main forms of economic abuse are to be considered, as highlighted in deliverable 2.2 and as summed up above.

Regarding Economic Control, main conclusions include:

- Economic control is mostly exercised during the relationship;
- Economic control is totally different when the couple is no longer living together: at that moment, it focuses on the non-payment or delay of the ex-partner's commitments;
- Women who suffered GBV claim to have also suffered economic control when they lived together, in most cases;
- Women who did not suffer GBV indicate that they did not suffer financial control from their ex-partners during their relationship either. These women mainly suffer financial control only after separation, even though they had not previously suffered it.

Regarding Economic Exploitation, it has been observed that:

- Economic exploitation is exercised both during and after the relationship;
- Economic exploitation occurs both if other forms of GBV are present and if there are not, indiscriminately.

Regarding Employment Sabotage, it has been observed that:

- Employment sabotage occurs to a greater extent during the relationship;
- There is greater evidence of employment sabotage when there is also physical violence;
- Breaches in custody periods are the main examples of employment sabotage once the relationship ends.

The questionnaire has been submitted to 480 women in Italy and Spain with a close control of participants: 240 women referred before to an anti-violence centre (120 in Italy, 120 in Spain) and 240 women never referred to an anti-violence centre before filling the questionnaire (120 in Italy, 120 in Spain). The questionnaire investigated the three main forms of economic abuse (economic control, employment sabotage and economic exploitation) and repeated the item to assess the situation before

and after separation. Moreover, it provided for three questions on the separation agreement and four questions on potential legal proceedings due to missed payments to the alimony.

The main findings can be summed as follows:

- Economic control is mainly performed during the relationship, while, when the relationship ends, the means by which it is exercised change substantially;
- Women who suffered other forms of GBV during the relationship confirm that they suffered economic control in many cases;
- Employment sabotage is far more likely during the relationship and when physical violence occurs;
- Issues on custody are the first examples of employment sabotage when the relationship has ended;
- Economic exploitation is both exercised during and after a relationship and it is equally present in the answers of women who suffered GBV before and women who did not. This means that this form of economic abuse is not conditioned by the presence of other forms of GBV and that with the ending of the relationship it can persist or aggravate.

As conducted in ECOVIO, the research offers a thorough understanding of economic abuse in its three main forms by conducting targeted interviews and questionnaires to women in unexplored situations. ECOVIO, for instance, targeted women who never asked help for GBV before the research and more importantly, only considered separated or divorced women to understand and assess the persistence of economic abuse even after the end of the relationship.

1.1.1.1 Training for professionals

ECOVIO developed a series of materials to implement capacity building and training for professionals who work with women who suffer GBV and their children. The target groups for this result are:

- social workers, educators and advocates;
- law professionals and authorities.

The starting point to this objective is the awareness that professionals who work with women who suffer GBV do not always have the necessary knowledge and competences to address these women's needs

and help them to exit the violent relationship and regain their independence. This is certainly due to the great amount of social issues they must tackle in their work, but in these cases, it can easily result in minimisation or lack of understanding of such a complex phenomenon.

The training materials addressing social workers, educators and advocates offer an analysis of economic abuse and highlight the importance of employment and education as forms of social empowerment to end economic abuse. Furthermore, they offer the description of the questionnaire with the analysis of the results and the comparison between Italian and Spanish answers, and a useful commentary for each item. The deliverable is now available in Spanish.

The training materials addressing law professionals and authorities offer an overview of the regulation on economic violence at the Spanish level, an analysis of the field work carried out in Italy and Spain, a compendium of good legal practices related to reducing economic violence.

1.1.1.2 Network building and Observatory

ECOVIO aims at raising awareness among stakeholders even by using communication, dissemination and engagement strategies. The main stakeholder group for the Project are law professionals and authorities, professionals working with women who suffer GBV and perpetrators.

The strategy consists of stages to reach as many stakeholders as possible, spread ECOVIO's results and recruit civil society entities as a multiplier group with a high potential for disseminating the results. Lastly the Project aims at consolidating the network of stakeholders (namely social workers, law professionals, civil society entities, researchers, decision-makers and politicians).

Moreover, the Project provides for several communication strategies that encompass the use of different platforms depending on the target, such as social media, websites, scientific dissemination sites, press releases, conferences and participation in forums and professional workshops.

The Observatory is aimed at collecting and diffusing good practices on GBV and specifically EA conducted by entities within the EU region, and especially those which are successful in describing it, raising awareness and offering concrete tools to tackle it; resources from the ECOVIO Project in several languages, such as, for instance the results and deliverables of the Project; resources and specialised

articles to build a common understanding of the phenomenon and diffuse strategies to face it. It is accessible at the following link: <https://economic-genderviolence.eu/materials-and-resources/>.

1.2 Deliverable Purpose and Scope

The objective of this “Study on the transferability and scalability of ECOVIO results at the European level” (D 5.4) reflects the general objective of ECOVIO and seeks to promote the scaling-up and transfer of project results obtained in Spain and Italy to other EU countries. The ultimate aim is to activate an institutional and policy change addressing economic violence within the perspective of gender-based violence, in the framework of a multidisciplinary approach including the legal, social and cultural dimension.

As a contribution to ECOVIO’s aim to generate a European-wide impact on the legal framework and policy formulation in the area of prevention and management of gender based economic violence, this Study considers ECOVIO results achieved in WP2, WP3 and WP4 and examines and discusses their scalability and transferability against three selected macro indicators that reflect the legal, socio-cultural and political environment of the 27 EU Members.

1.3 Target Audience

The target audience of this deliverable is the general public.

1.4 Document Structure

The structure of the Study is the following:

After having presented the main results of ECOVIO Project so far, as well as the terms and concepts of reference in Chapter 1, Chapter 2 will present the methodological approach of the Study and a light analysis of the international legal framework common to most EU countries is carried out. The objective is to briefly present and sketch out the main international legal obligations concerning the issue of gender-based violence in general and economic violence in particular.

The second part of Chapter 2 is devoted to presenting the ECOVIO Theory of change, as a fundamental preliminary step in order to delve into project rationales and identify the activities/results that are expected to trigger positive changes. Then, as any scalability and transferability analysis starts with the

identification of the results that can be scalable or transferable, ECOVIO results that fall under the scope of this Study are shortly presented.

In Chapter 3, a number of drivers and barriers to the transferability and scalability of ECOVIO Project results have been selected and grouped in 3 macro-indicators and 13 sub-indicators. The EU 27 Members have then been clustered along such indicators.

Chapter 4 proposes general and result-specific key insights on the transferability and scalability in light of socio-legal-cultural diversity along Europe. This Chapter then proposes recommendations to project managers, policy makers, stakeholders and practitioners on what needs to be taken into consideration when scaling-up or transferring project results and what factors help to make the implementation successful in different contexts.

1.5 Document Status

This document is listed in the Description of Action as “**Public**” since it provides information to researchers, professionals and organizations on the occurrence of Economic Abuse as a form of Gender Based Violence in Spain and Italy, that may be used as a base for further studies and the development of measures on this field.

1.6 Glossary and Abbreviations

1.6.1 Glossary

Violence against women is understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result 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 (Istanbul Convention, Article 3);

Intimate partner violence refers to any behaviour within an intimate relationship that causes physical, psychological or sexual harm to those in that relationship.

Domestic violence shall mean all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim (Istanbul Convention, Article 3);

Gender-based violence against women shall mean violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately (Istanbul Convention, Article 3);

Economic violence

Any act or behaviour, which causes economic harm to the current or former partner. Economic violence can take the form of, among others, property damage, restricting access to financial resources, education or the labour market, or not complying with economic responsibilities, such as alimony (EIGE, Terminology and indicators for data collection: Rape, femicide and intimate partner violence. 2017).

The definition of economic violence underlines the ways in which men exert power over women by restricting access to economic means or carefully monitoring women's access to money (EIGE, Police and justice sector data on intimate partner violence against women in the European Union, 2019).

Economic control refers to the abuser's propensity to monitor and restrict the woman's ability to freely use resources in her life (Scale of Economic Abuse (SEA-as)).

Economic Exploitation consists of depleting the existing funds, committing acts that create debt for the woman, or ruin her credit (Scale of Economic Abuse (SEA-as)).

Employment Sabotage includes behaviours and attitudes that address woman's access to employment opportunities, such as job positions and interviews. All of them imply that abuser is restricting the woman's ability to obtain her own resources through employment, or an amelioration of the employment conditions (Scale of Economic Abuse (SEA-as)).

Offences within the scope of intimate partner violence under the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes

Table 1 Offences of IPV under the International Classification of Crime for Statistical Purposes.

Intimate partner violence sub-category	ICCS code	Section	Crime
Economic violence	020321	Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person	Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person: forced labour for domestic services.
	05022	Acts against property only	Theft of personal property.
	05042	Acts against property only	Damage against personal property.

1.6.2 List of Abbreviations

CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women or Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
DEVAW	Declaration on the Elimination of any form of Discrimination Against Women
EA	Economic abuse
ECHR	European Convention on Human Rights
ECtHR	European Court of Human Rights
EIGE	European Institute for Gender Equality

EU	European Union
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
GBV	Gender-based violence
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GR	General Recommendation
GREVIO	Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
IPV	Intimate Partner Violence
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
SEA	Scale of Economic Abuse
TFEU	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union
VAW	Violence against women

2 Methodology and Legal framework for EU Countries

The present Study relies on a combination of methods to address its objectives. These encompass the following:

- desk analysis of ECOVIO documentation (project proposal and deliverables) to reconstruct the project Theory of Change and to describe the project results falling under the scope of the Study;
- desk research and literature review (academic or grey literature) to carry out the light analysis of the international legal framework common to most EU countries;
- drawing upon the international legal framework analysis and literature review on scalability and transferability methodology, macro and sub-indicators were selected because of their significant associations with key contextual factors (political, legal, socio-cultural) influencing the conditions for transferability and scalability of ECOVIO project results. In this Study, 13 sub-indicators are scored across 3 macro-indicators;
- desk research on primary and secondary sources was conducted in order to score each of the sub-indicators for the 27 EU Member States (see details in Chapter 3) (for more details see Annexes C (“Data sources for the population of macro and sub-indicators”). Information was

also recorded on the specific evidence supporting the assessment for each sub-indicator, which helped to ensure that the judgements made were reliable and traceable. Overall scores are calculated by taking the average of each indicator. The highest score possible is 43;

- to conduct the analysis and synthesis of findings, the authors collated the results of the desk research in a spreadsheet, allowing the responses across the Member States to be grouped and clustered, as well as to be analysed for similarities and differences. This spreadsheet formed the basis for producing figures and narrative parts of the Study;
- triangulation of findings from all methods was used to develop a set of key insights on the transferability and scalability in-light of socio-legal-cultural diversity along Europe as well as a number of recommendations to national authorities and other stakeholders;
- limitations of the data sources used to populate the sub-indicators such as outdated information or secondary sources providing for contradictory information were mitigated consulting and accessing primary sources such as national legislation (mainly criminal law or general legislation dealing with gender based violence/domestic violence).

The Study was informed and driven by:

- International Human Rights standards;
- Feminist perspectives on gender equality, discrimination and violence against women;
- Application of gender sensitive lenses throughout all the steps of research, data collection and analysis;
- Application of an ethical approach to all research and data collection activities.

2.1 International legal framework for EU Countries

Violence against women and girls in all its forms (physical, psychological, sexual, economic, structural, cyber, harassment and blackmail on the working place) is one of the most serious gender-based violations of human rights and a discrimination against women which affect their fundamental freedoms, silences them and obstacles their participation in the public and private sphere.

The prohibition of violence against women has now reached the status of international customary law¹. Governments are required to design a comprehensive framework to prevent, punish and provide reparation for all acts of violence, as well as to provide protection to women experiencing violence.

The following paragraphs provide an overview of the main international and regional standards applicable to EU Member States, taking into consideration the three following legal and institutional frameworks: the United Nations, the Council of Europe and the European Union. These three levels create a multi-level and complex net of obligations for each State in the area violence against women, setting a common ground in terms of principles and values. Notwithstanding this, it is worth considering that, although all EU Member States are part of the United Nations and the Council of Europe, States' adherence to international standards on violence against women may vary considerably. In this regard, reference could be made to the number and type of reservations or declaration made by a State to a treaty such as the CEDAW, to the decision to not ratify or denounce the Istanbul Convention or to its level of constructive engagement with international human rights judicial/monitoring bodies.

2.1.1 United Nations

At the international level, it was under the auspices of the United Nations that to step up the protection of women's rights and to prevent and prohibit violence against women began. The first milestone was the adoption of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 1979. In 1992 the CEDAW Committee, with the adoption of General Recommendation No. 19 (GR 19), has anchored the notion of violence against women to the notion of discrimination or, more practically, to the full recognition of the substantive dimension of the principle of equality on the ground of sex.

Consistent with the attempt to develop increasingly more tangible, measurable, comparable, and implementable indicators for the State response about violence against women, in 2017, the CEDAW Committee adopted General Recommendation No. 35 (GR 35) on gender-based violence against women, updating GR 19.

¹ CEDAW, *General Recommendation No. 35 on Gender-Based Violence against Women, Updating General Recommendation No. 19*, CEDAW/C/GC/35, 2017.

Compared to GR 19 adopted in 1992, GR 35 devotes significant and extensive language to State party obligations. It does so in relation to both the most “classic” notion of responsibility for acts or omissions of State actors and the due diligence standard for acts and omissions of non-state actors². In relation to the former, GR 35 devotes two extended paragraphs (22-23) to explain the categories of States organs, agents and officials whose conduct may entail State responsibility in detail. As for the latter, GR 35 provides specific guidance on measures to be adopted at the legislative, executive and judicial level, focusing on their variety (laws, public policies, programmes, institutional frameworks, monitoring mechanisms), scope (individual and systemic) and effectiveness in practice.

Table 2 State party key obligations in relation to gender-based violence against women under GR 35.

<p>General obligation under article 2 CEDAW</p>	<p>States parties are to pursue by all appropriate means and without delay a policy of eliminating discrimination against women, including gender-based violence against women. That is an obligation of an immediate nature; delays cannot be justified on any grounds, including economic, cultural or religious grounds.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Responsibility for acts or omissions of State actors</p>	
<p>Negative obligations</p>	<p>States parties, and their organs and agents, are to refrain from engaging in any act or practice of direct or indirect discrimination against women and ensure that public authorities and institutions act in conformity with that obligation.</p>
<p>Positive obligations</p>	<p>States parties must have an effective and accessible legal</p>

² Degani, P. and Pividori, C. (2018). *Ending Violence against Women as Testing Ground for Women’s Human Rights Discourse: Practices, Limits and Challenges*, PHRG 2(2), pp. 163-184.

	<p>services framework in place to address all forms of gender-based violence against women committed by State agents, whether on their territory or extraterritorially.</p> <p>States parties are responsible for preventing such acts or omissions by their own organs and agents.</p>
<p>Due diligence obligations for acts or omissions of non-State actors</p>	
<p>Legislative level</p>	<p>States are required to adopt legislation prohibiting all forms of gender-based violence against women and girls, harmonizing national law with the Convention.</p>
<p>Executive level</p>	<p>States parties are to adopt and adequately provide budgetary resources for diverse institutional measures. Such measures include the design of focused public policies, the development and implementation of monitoring mechanisms and the establishment and/or funding of competent national tribunals.</p> <p>States parties should provide accessible, affordable and adequate services to protect women from gender-based violence.</p> <p>Guarantee adequate investigation of and sanctions for inefficiency, complicity and negligence by public authorities.</p> <p>Adopt appropriate measures to modify or eradicate customs and practices that constitute discrimination against women, including those that justify or promote gender-based violence against women.</p>

<p>Judicial level</p>	<p>All judicial bodies are required to refrain from engaging in any act or practice of discrimination or gender-based violence against women and to strictly apply all criminal law provisions punishing such violence, ensuring that all legal procedures in cases involving allegations of gender-based violence against women are impartial, fair and unaffected by gender stereotypes or the discriminatory interpretation of legal provisions.</p>
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2.1.2 Council of Europe

European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1950)

Despite the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (ECHR) does not contain specific provisions on violence against women, starting from 2007, with *Kontrovà v. Slovakia*, the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) has repeatedly ruled on cases concerning (domestic or intimate partner) violence against women.

Over the past decade, the cases concerning episodes of violence against women heard by the ECtHR had been defined under a number of ECHR provisions. In cases where the consequences of violence have reached the apex of gravity, that is when the death of the victim occurred, the Court has pertinently analysed the facts pursuant to Article 2 ECHR, which protects the right to life. In other cases, the facts of the case were analysed under the lens of Article 3 ECHR on the right not to be subject to inhuman or degrading treatment or under Article 8 ECHR protecting the right to private or family life. Moreover, in a number of cases the ECHR framed the issue of domestic violence against women in terms of gender inequality or discrimination pursuant to article 14 ECHR (prohibition of discrimination).

The European Court of Human Rights has progressively developed and clarified States positive obligations to prevent violence against women, protect victims and prosecute perpetrators³. Depending

³ A. Edwards (2010). *Violence against Women under International Human Rights Law*, Oxford; R.J.A. McQuigg (2011). *International Human Rights Law and Domestic Violence: the Effectiveness of International Human Rights*

on the circumstances of the case, Articles 2, 3 and 8 ECHR have been identified, in conjunction with Article 1 ECHR, as sources of a positive obligation on the part of States to protect individuals under their jurisdiction against the occurrence of acts of physical or psychological violence arising in the family context. The obligation is embodied, in cases of intra-individual violence, on one hand, in the duty to establish a legal framework aimed at preventing and punishing abuse, and on the other, in the duty to act with due diligence to prevent ill-treatment by non-State actors of which the authorities were, or should have been aware.

In *Kurt v. Austria* (no. 62903/15, 16 June 2021) the Grand Chamber of the ECtHR clarified for the first time the general principles applicable in domestic violence cases under Article 2 of the Convention. It did so expanding on those principles established by the so-called “Osman test” (*Osman v. the United Kingdom*, no. 23452/94, 28 October 1998). The Court reiterated that the authorities had to provide an immediate response to allegations of domestic violence and that special diligence was required from them in dealing with such cases. The authorities had to establish whether there existed a real and immediate risk to the life of one or more identified victims; to that end, they were under a duty to carry out a risk assessment that was autonomous, proactive and comprehensive. They had to assess the reality and immediacy of the risk taking due account of the particular context of domestic violence cases. If the outcome of the risk assessment was that there was a real and immediate risk to life, the authorities’ obligation to take preventive operational measures was triggered. Such measures had to be adequate and proportionate to the level of the risk assessed.

Even before the Kurt case, the European Court of Human Rights has already recognised that special diligence was required when dealing with domestic violence cases. To reach this conclusion, the Court considered both the specific nature of domestic violence and the particular vulnerability of victims must be taken into account⁴. The “special diligence” invoked by the European Court of Human Rights implies

Law, Abingdone; S. De Vido (2014). States' Due Diligence Obligations to Protect Women from Violence: A European Perspective in Light of the 2011 CoE Istanbul Convention, in European Yearbook on Human Rights.

⁴ In *M.G. v. Turkey* the Court recognised “*la diligence particulière que requiert le traitement des plaintes pour violences domestiques et estime que les spécificités des faits de violences domestiques telles que reconnues dans le Préambule de la Convention d’Istanbul (...) doivent être prises en compte dans le cadre des procédures internes*” (para. 93). In *T.M. and C.M. v. Moldova*, the Court stated that “*considering the particular vulnerability of victims of domestic violence, who often fail to report incidents, it was for the authorities to verify whether the situation warranted a more robust reaction of the State and to at least inform the first applicant of the existing protective measures*” (para. 60). In the case of *Volodina v. Russia*, application no. 41261/17, the Court held that “*the risk of*

not only situating intimate partner violence against women on a continuum that spans from interpersonal to structural violence. It also means accounting for the discriminatory content and forms of violence and, most importantly taking into account women experiences of abuse and injustice. These experiences all too often include fear, intimidation, control, threats, isolation, shame, minimization, blaming, disbelief, economic dependency, social pressure, lack of support services, re-victimisation by social institutions and judicial authorities.

In this respect, “an application of the “Osman test” informed by a gendered understanding of intimate partner violence will not impose an unrealistic or unreasonable burden on domestic authorities. Rather, it would be unrealistic and unreasonable not to hold States accountable for their failure to adequately respond to a phenomenon whose root causes, gendered nature, prevalence, dynamics, risk factors and effects on women and children are in these times common knowledge”⁵.

Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combatting Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (2011)

Adopted in 2011 and entered into force in 2014, the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combatting Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) is the European blueprint on the subject, building on the global developments paved by the United Nations, the Inter-American Human Rights system and the Council of Europe itself. At present (August 2021), 21 out of the 27 EU Member States have ratified the Istanbul Convention⁶.

a real and immediate threat must be assessed, taking due account of the particular context of domestic violence. In such a situation, it is not only a question of an obligation to afford general protection to society, but above all to take account of the recurrence of successive episodes of violence within a family” (para. 86). In the case Talpis v. Italy, application no. 41237/14, the Court reaffirmed that “the risk of a real and immediate threat (....) must be assessed taking due account of the particular context of domestic violence. In such a situation it is not only a question of an obligation to afford general protection to society (...), but above all to take account of the recurrence of successive episodes of violence within the family unit” (para. 122) and that “special diligence is required in dealing with domestic violence cases and considers that the specific nature of domestic violence as recognised in the Preamble to the Istanbul Convention (...) must be taken into account in the context of domestic proceedings (para. 129).

⁵ D.i.Re - Donne in Rete contro la violenza, Written observations submitted to the European Court of Human Rights in connection with the case of Kurt v. Austria (Application no. 62903/15).

⁶ The 6 EU Member States that have not ratified the Istanbul Convention are: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia.

The Istanbul Convention, following course with the CEDAW GR 19 as well as the jurisprudence from the CEDAW Committee and the ECtHR, codifies and further develops the understanding of violence against women as a human rights violation by identifying it as a form of gender-based discrimination that requires the strengthening of State obligations with respect to the systems for the prevention, investigation, punishment, protection, and compensation of victims (the so-called 4 Ps)⁷.

The Istanbul Convention aims to establish such a system through designing “a comprehensive framework, policies and measures for the protection of and assistance to all victims of violence against women and domestic violence”, while promoting substantive equality, including by empowering women (Article 1 Istanbul Convention). The following Table presents the main issues underpinning the Convention and its key obligations.

Table 3 State party key obligations under the Istanbul Convention.

Issues	Key obligations
Equality and non-discrimination	Parties shall take the necessary legislative and other measures to promote and protect the right for everyone, particularly women, to live free from violence in both the public and private sphere. The Convention must be implemented without discrimination on any ground, including the ground of ‘gender identity’. Parties shall adopt measures to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate, punish and provide reparation for acts of violence covered by the scope of this Convention that are perpetrated by non-State actors.
Integrated policies and data collection	Parties must adopt and implement State- wide effective, comprehensive and coordinated policies encompassing all

⁷ D. Šimonović (2014). *Global and Regional Standards on Violence Against Women: The Evolution and Synergy of the CEDAW and Istanbul Conventions*, Human Rights Quarterly, Vol. 36, No. 3, p. 604.

	<p>relevant measures to prevent and combat all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention and offer a holistic response to VAW.</p>
<p>Prevention</p>	<p>Parties shall take the necessary measures to promote change in the social and cultural patterns of behaviour of women and men with a view to eradicating prejudices, customs, traditions and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority of women or on stereotyped roles for women and men. Prevention should take the form of awareness-raising, education, preventive intervention and treatment, media self-regulation.</p>
<p>Protection and support</p>	<p>Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to protect all victims from any further acts of violence. Those should take the form (at a minimum) of: general support services, specialist support services, assistance in complaints, shelters, helplines, rape crisis or sexual violence centres, protection of child witnesses.</p>
<p>Substantive law, including criminalizing various forms of violence</p>	<p>The Convention sets some legal standards in relation to civil remedies, compensation, custody and safety, sanctions, aggravating circumstances, prohibition of mandatory alternative dispute resolution. It requires criminalization of the following forms of violence: psychological violence, stalking, physical violence, sexual violence, including rape, forced marriage, FGM, forced abortion and forced sterilisation, sexual harassment.</p>

<p>Investigation, prosecution, procedural law and protective measures</p>	<p>Parties shall ensure that investigations and judicial proceedings in relation to all forms of violence are carried out without undue delay, while taking into consideration the rights of the victim during all stages of the criminal proceedings. Measures must include prompt response to all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention, as well as adequate and immediate protection to victims, including: risk assessment and risk management, emergency barring orders, restraining or protection orders, measures of protection, ex officio proceedings.</p>
<p>Migration and asylum</p>	<p>Victims are granted an autonomous residence permit irrespective of the duration of the marriage or the relationship.</p>
<p>International cooperation</p>	<p>Parties shall cooperate with each other through the application of relevant international and regional instruments on cooperation in civil and criminal matters. Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person is at immediate risk of sexual violence, FGM, forced marriage and forced abortion/sterilisation on the territory of another Party, States must cooperate to ensure that appropriate protection measures are taken.</p>
<p>Monitoring mechanism</p>	<p>The Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) shall monitor the implementation of this Convention by the Parties. Parties shall submit a report on legislative and other measures giving effect to the provisions of this Convention, for consideration by GREVIO.</p>

2.1.3 European Union

Despite the fact the violence against women has been on the political agenda of the European Union for a long time, the European Union treaties do not refer to violence against women in their main text. The only reference is found in Declaration 19 to the Final Act of the Treaty of Lisbon (2007), referring to Article 8 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU), which states that the phrase “*eliminate inequalities between women and men*” should be read as including actions to combat all forms of domestic violence in EU policies⁸.

Echoing the rights under the European Convention on Human Rights, the Charter of Fundamental Rights, declared in 2000 and entered into force in December 2009 along with the Treaty of Lisbon, establishes rights relevant to violence against women. These include the right to equality between women and men in all areas (Article 23), the right to life (Article 2) and the right to respect their private and family life, home and communications (Article 7).

Similar to EU primary law, there is currently no secondary legislation - which includes regulations, directives and decisions - addressing or providing for the criminalization of violence against women. Due to the unclear identification of the proper legal base of any EU legal act on criminalizing violence against women, EU legislation has so far tackled various aspects of violence against women in a range of EU legislative acts, but no comprehensive legislation on the subject has yet been adopted⁹.

Among the legislative instruments that are relevant to violence against women, worth mentioning is Directive 2011/36/EU on preventing and combatting trafficking in human beings and protecting its victims. Another significant instrument is EU Directive 2012/29 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime, and replacing Council Framework Decision 2001/220/JHA. It defines gender based

⁸ European Parliament (Policy Department for Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs) (2020). *Tackling violence against women and domestic violence in Europe – The added value of the Istanbul Convention and remaining challenges*, p. 24, [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/658648/IPOL_STU\(2020\)658648_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/658648/IPOL_STU(2020)658648_EN.pdf)

⁹ European Parliament (Policy Department for Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs) (2020). *Violence against Women: Psychological Violence and Coercive Control*, [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/650336/IPOL_STU\(2020\)650336_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/650336/IPOL_STU(2020)650336_EN.pdf)

violence as follows: *Violence that is directed against a person because of that person's gender, gender identity or gender expression or that affects persons of a particular gender disproportionately, is understood as gender-based violence. It may result in physical, sexual, emotional or psychological harm, or economic loss, to the victim.* The Directive, in particular, establishes the obligation to support and protect the victim and/or their family members, as well as to give them the right to be informed about the prosecution of the perpetrator.

With respect to judicial cooperation, the EU has adopted two main instruments. Directive 2011/99/EU (criminal European Protection Order) and Regulation (EU) No 606/2013 (civil European Protection Order) which allow court protection orders made in criminal or civil cases in one Member State to be enforced in another. Another important legislative instrument is the Council Directive 2004/80/EC of 29 April 2004 relating to compensation to crime victims. The Directive imposes an explicit obligation on Member States to have state compensation schemes in place for violent intentional crime. The instrument additionally includes mechanisms to facilitate compensation claims in cross-border cases.

In October 2015, the Commission issued a roadmap for EU accession to the Istanbul Convention. The EU signed the Istanbul Convention in 2017¹⁰. The procedure for the conclusion of the Convention by the EU has been ongoing since 2016, with negotiations taking place at the Council of the EU.

In order to progress matters, in April 2019, the Parliament adopted Resolution 2019/2678(RSP), inviting the Court of Justice of the European Union to issue an opinion on the scope of the EU accession to the Convention. In the context of the Opinion Procedure, the Advocate General delivered its opinion in March 2021¹¹.

In case the EU's accession to the Convention remains blocked, the new Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 has announced the Commission's intention to propose, in 2021, measures to achieve the same objectives as the Istanbul Convention, within the limits of EU competence. In particular, the Commission intends to extend the areas of crime where harmonisation is possible to specific forms of

¹⁰ Council Decision (EU) 2017/865 of 11 May 2017 on the signing, on behalf of the European Union, of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence with regard to matters related to judicial cooperation in criminal matters. OJ L 131, 20.5.2017.

¹¹ CJEU, Opinion procedure 1/19, Opinion of the Advocate General Hogan, delivered on 11 March 2021.

gender-based violence, and propose additional measures to prevent specific forms of gender-based violence, including sexual harassment, abuse of women and female genital mutilation (FGM)¹².

Should the EU conclude the Convention, the Istanbul Convention will become part of EU law, within the boundaries of EU competence. Like every other signatory, the EU will be legally bound to implement and apply the Convention through legislation and policies, and to report to GREVIO.

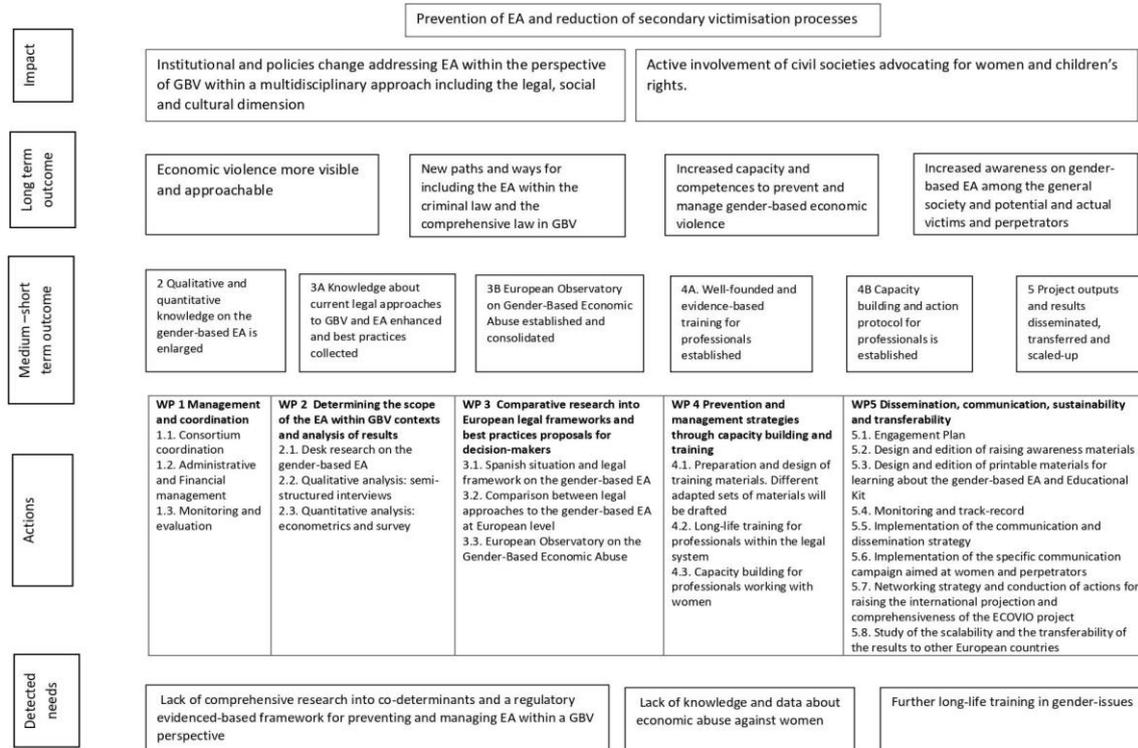
2.2 ECOVIO Theory of change

Through desk analysis of the Project documentation, the authors of the Study have been able to reconstruct the Theory of change of ECOVIO Project (see Figure 1). This activity has been a fundamental preliminary step in order to delve into project rationales and finalize the Study.

The Theory of change is a tool that illustrates identified needs, planned activities, expected results, outcomes and impact in a schematic way, to facilitate the identification of the results that are expected to trigger positive changes. Based on backward reasoning, the Theory of change describes what ECOVIO does and how its intervention is supposed to lead to the desired long-term changes and impact. By a visual representation, the Theory of change showcases how each activity was expected to trigger short, medium and long term changes. Figure 1 provides a comprehensive illustration of how and why the desired changes were expected to happen in the context of the ECOVIO Project.

¹² European Parliament, European Parliamentary Research Service (2020). *Violence against Women in the EU. State of Play*, [https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2020/659333/EPRS_BRI\(2020\)659333_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/BRIE/2020/659333/EPRS_BRI(2020)659333_EN.pdf).

Figure 1 ECOVIO Theory of change.



2.3 Transferability and scalability definition informing this Study

Both the term “transferability” and “scalability” have multiple definitions depending on the area of focus and discipline of interest. The following definitions of transferability and scalability have been selected from the literature for their relevance to the purpose and scope of the present analysis and are therefore used as reference framework for the Study. In particular, the definitions and key elements of transferability and scalability presented below informed the Study in the selection of the macro- and sub-indicators reflecting key contextual factors (political, legal, socio-cultural) influencing the conditions for transferability and scalability of ECOVIO project results. They also informed and guided the elaboration of key insights on the transferability and scalability in light of the socio-legal-cultural diversity along Europe as well as the development of a number of recommendations to national authorities and other stakeholders.

2.3.1 Definition of transferability

The extent to which the result of an intervention in a given context can be achieved in another setting¹³.

Elements of transferability¹⁴

Table 4 Elements of transferability.

<p>Political acceptability or leverage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Will the intervention be allowed or supported in current political climate? ● To what extent competing programmes and (political) targets interfere with the target of the practice and thereby hamper its implementation? ● Will it be supported by politicians, stakeholders, and network partners?
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¹³ Cambon, L. and Others (2013). *A Tool to Analyze the Transferability of Health Promotion Interventions*. BMC Public Health 3, p. 1184.

¹⁴ On these and related points cf. e. g. Buffet, C., Ciliska, D., & Thomas, H. (2011). *Will it Work Here? Tool for Assessing Applicability and Transferability of Evidence (Version A: When considering starting a new program.)*. Hamilton, ON: National Collaborating Centre for Methods and Tools. www.nccmt.ca/pubs/A&T_Tool_-_FINAL_English_Oct_07.pdf.

<p>Social acceptability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● To what extent the transferred practice is perceived acceptable and ethical by significant partners and stakeholders?
<p>Available essential resources (personnel and financial)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Who/what is available/essential for the local implementation? ● How mature is the organisation to implement the transfer? ● Is it sufficiently experienced and has the capacity to implement it? ● To what extent additional training is necessary? ● Is it sustainable and funded?
<p>Adaptation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is the current strategic plan/operational plan in alignment with the intervention to be offered? ● What is needed to tailor the intervention locally? ● Does it conform to existing legislation or regulations (either local or provincial)? Does it overlap with existing programs? ● Are there any organizational barriers/structural issues or approval processes to be addressed?

Suggested key factors for transferability are¹⁵:

- A bottom-up approach with inclusion of target population and strong commitment at highest level;
- Inter-sectoral, multi-level and multi-professional approach;
- Qualified and highly committed human resources, detailed documentation, monitoring and evaluation;
- Long-term engagement with stable funding.

¹⁵ JA-CHRODIS, *Joint Action on Chronic Diseases and Promoting Healthy Ageing across the Life Cycle* (JA-CHRODIS), Recommendations report on applicability and transferability of practices into different settings and countries, <http://chrodis.eu/>.

2.3.2 Definition of scalability

The potential of an intervention in a given context to be enlarged (in a different region) in order to increase the impact of the intervention elsewhere and/ or to handle a growing amount of needs¹⁶.

Table 5 Strategies of scalability.

Types of scalability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vertical scaling up—institutionalization through policy, political, legal, budgetary or other health systems change ● Horizontal scaling up—expansion/replication
Strategic choice areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dissemination and advocacy ● Organizational process ● Costs/resource mobilization ● Monitoring and evaluation

Elements of scaling up¹⁷

Table 6 Elements of scale-up.

Results/innovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The innovation refers to interventions and/or other results that are being scaled up ● The innovation is a package of interventions, often consisting of several components ● Changes in the approach to service delivery or community interventions are considered innovation
User organization(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The user organization(s) refers to the institution(s) or organization(s) that seek to or are expected to adopt and implement the innovation on a large scale

¹⁶ Cambon, L. and Others (2013), *op. cit.*, p. 1184.

¹⁷ World Health Organizations (2010). *Nine Steps for Developing a Scaling-up Strategy*, https://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/strategic_approach/9789241500319/en/.

<p>Environment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The environment refers to the conditions and institutions which are external to the user organization but fundamentally affect the prospects for scaling up
<p>Resource team</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The resource team refers to the individuals and organizations that seek to promote and facilitate wider use of the innovation • A resource team may be formally charged with promoting the innovation or may act informally in this role

Attributes of scalable results:

- Credible because they are based on sound evidence and/or advocated by respected persons or institutions;
- Observable to ensure that potential users can see the results in practice;
- Relevant for addressing persistent or sharply felt problems;
- Relative advantage over existing practices so that potential users are convinced the costs of implementation are warranted by the benefits;
- Easy to install and understand rather than complex and complicated;
- Compatible with the potential users' established values, norms and facilities; fit well into the practices of the national programme;
- Testable so that potential users can see the intervention on a small scale prior to large-scale adoption.

3 Drivers and barriers to the transferability of results: a proposed clustering of EU Countries

As presented in Chapter 2, the transferability and scalability of any intervention depends on a number of elements ranging from the political and social acceptability of the given intervention, the existence of any institutional and legal framework barriers, the availability of resources (human and financial) to sustain the transfer or scale-up, or the extent to which a given intervention is adaptable so as to be receptive to the new environment or context.

The analysis of ECOVIO Theory of change and of its results (research, training, network building and the Observatory) provided the knowledge basis and therefore established the boundaries and the scope for the present Study. The results, both quantitative and qualitative, aim at triggering institutional and policy change addressing economic violence within the perspective of GBV within a multidisciplinary approach including the legal, social and cultural dimension.

In line with the overall objective of ECOVIO, that is to generate a European-wide impact on the legal framework and policy formulation in the area of prevention and management of gender based economic violence, the present Chapter sets the framework for the analysis of the scalability and transferability of ECOVIO Project results obtained in Spain and Italy to the other EU countries which will be developed in Chapter 4.

Informed by the international legal framework analysis and the literature review, the present Study have identified a number of drivers and barriers to the transferability and scalability of ECOVIO Project results, against which the 27 EU countries were scored and then clustered into 3 groups of countries (see 3.4).

The identified drivers and barriers were grouped in 3 macro-indicators (“International Legal Framework”, “National Legal Context”, “National Socio-cultural Context”) and 13 sub-indicators. Macro- and sub-indicators were selected because of their expected significant associations with key contextual factors (political, legal, socio-cultural) influencing the conditions for transferability and scalability of ECOVIO Project results.

The 3 macro-indicators and 13 sub-indicators are the following:

Table 7 Macro-indicators and sub-indicators for the clusters.

Macro-indicator	Sub-indicator
International Legal Framework	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ratification of Istanbul convention 2. Ratification of CEDAW with or without reservations 3. GREVIO recommendations on economic violence 4. CEDAW recommendations on economic violence
National Legal Context	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Recognition of gendered nature of violence in national legal provisions and/or policy documents 2. Economic violence included in domestic definition of GBV 3. Economic violence considered an offense per se or partly covered by criminal law (e.g. theft, concealing assets, damage against personal property, not paying alimony, etc.) 4. Protection orders cover economic violence
National Socio-cultural Context	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gender equality index score (2020) from European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) 2. Score on economic and financial situation (2020) from EIGE 3. Difference among men and women not at risk of poverty in percentage (2020) 4. Presence of National women helplines that are free of charge and open 24/7 (that respect Istanbul Convention standards) (2018) 5. Percentage of beds missing in shelters for women survivors of GBV (2018)

As for the first macro-indicator “International Legal Framework”, it could be noted that States that participate to the International community on human rights and women’s human rights accept the occasion of being assessed and reviewed in their practices by other States, thus submitting their behaviour to possible pressures, and tend to be more compliant with general principles, international

standards and human rights requirements. The context of the specific State and its receptivity to international laws and policies are a good alarm bell of its ability and political willingness to counter violence against women and, in ECOVIO's case, in particular economic abuse against women. As described above, in fact, in order to recognise and address economic abuse, there must be a certain level of awareness on violence against women in general and on the specificities of this form of abuse in particular.

At the national level, the second macro-indicator "National Legal Context" suggests that a comprehensive and strong legal framework plays a great role in protecting women who suffer from violence: a clear definition of violence against women that includes economic abuse has the potential to protect women who suffer it, making it harder to discard or avoid considering forms of economic abuse as GBV.

The third macro-indicator, "National Socio-cultural" gives a hint on two focal points: on the one hand the economic power of men and women in a State describes whether wealth and resources are equally shared and thus women's possibilities to participate to economic life of the country and have a certain level of independence, which is a key factor for positive non-abusive relationships; on the other hand, the awareness on violence against women and its response in national and local policies highlights the prioritisation of such phenomenon in the culture of a State.

In assigning the EU 27 Member States into clusters, the relevance of each macro- and sub-indicators have been weighted considering the actual impact that each of them shows on the behaviour of each State, and thus its capacity to counter economic violence and protect women who suffer it. Each macro-indicator looks at a specific set of elements and the ways in which they affect policy makers interested in improving the consideration of economic violence look at their country's scores on each indicator as a starting point for legal reform.

In the following sections, the EU 27 Member States are scored against the 3 macro- and sub-indicators. Overall scores, representing the basis for the clustering of EU countries, are then calculated by summing the scores reached for each macro-indicator, with 43 representing the highest possible score.

3.1 Macro-indicator 1 - International Legal Framework

At the international level, States play an interesting role in recognising themselves as part of an International community, adopting conventions and therefore adapting their behaviour both internally and externally by following the principles provided for by these conventions. At the European level, and thus for the countries that are under investigation in this Study, the main international instruments to consider are the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence, commonly known as the Istanbul Convention, and the United Nations Convention for the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women, better known as CEDAW (for more details see Chapter 2, para. 2.1.2).

These two instruments enshrine the common principles the International community negotiated on the discrimination of women because of their sex and on the protection of women from violence, especially in intimate relationships. States can ratify the Conventions to participate to these communities, but they can also adhere to them by putting reservations to the applicability of the convention in their countries. The more the reservations are general and numerous, the more the convention loses its power to drive effective changes to the State's policy.

In light of the existence of such instruments, the ratification of a convention for a State indicates its willingness to bind its laws and policies to the principles contained in the text and, more importantly, to participate in a community of States in which each one is responsible for its respect and bound to a periodic review of the specific situation of the country with respect to the themes of the Convention. During each periodic review, the CEDAW and the GREVIO (Istanbul Convention) assess the coherence of the State's behaviours with the principles and articles stated in the conventions, eventually recommending each State which are the following steps to ensure their best respect.

In light of this, the sub-indicators for this section are the following:

1. Ratification of the Istanbul Convention;
2. Ratification of CEDAW with or without reservations;
3. Presence of specific recommendations on economic violence in the periodic evaluation by GREVIO for the Istanbul Convention;

4. Presence of specific recommendations on economic violence in the periodic evaluation by CEDAW for the CEDAW.

The best score for each of these indicators is 3 points, for a total of 12 points.

The evaluations are given as described in table 8:

Table 8 Rates and description for macro-indicator 1: International Legal Framework.

Sub-indicator	0 points	1 point	1,5	2 points	3 points
Ratification of the Istanbul Convention	Not ratified	/	/	/	Ratified
Ratification of CEDAW with or without reservations	Not ratified	Ratified with several and non-specific reservations	/	Ratified with one specific reservation	Ratified with no reservations
Presence of specific recommendations on economic violence in the periodic evaluation by GREVIO group	The State received one or more recommendations on economic violence	/	The State has not been reviewed by GREVIO or it didn't ratify the Convention and the	/	The State has been reviewed by GREVIO, did not receive any

			review process is not provided for ¹⁸		recommendation on economic violence
Presence of specific recommendations on economic violence in the periodic evaluation by CEDAW	The State received recommendations on the absence of criminalisation of EA or the absence of a specific law	The State received recommendations on the lack of discriminatory regulation on divorce (linked to EA)	/	The State received recommendations on the lack of data collection or other less relevant details	The State did not receive any recommendation on economic violence

Table 9 shows the evaluation given to each of the 27 EU States in application of the scores as described in Table 8. The subsequent Table 10 shows the specific recommendations by the CEDAW in the last periodic review for each Member State, with the main and more profound recommendations for the sake of this Study in bold, notwithstanding that all recommendations reveal issues in the application of the core principles of the Convention.

¹⁸ Not all states have been reviewed by GREVIO yet. The score of 1.5 represents the unknown adherence to the principles of the convention by the state.

Table 9 Evaluation of EU27 countries for macro-indicator 1, International Legal Framework.

State	Ratification of the Istanbul Convention	Ratification of CEDAW with/out reservations	Recommendations by GREVIO (year of the review)	Recommendations by CEDAW (year of the last periodic review)	Total
Austria	3	3	0 (2017)	3 (2019)	9
Belgium	3	3	0 (2020)	3 (2014)	9
Bulgaria	0	3	1.5	0 (2020)	4.5
Croatia	3	3	1.5	3 (2015)	10.5
Cyprus	3	3	1.5	2 (2018)	9.5
Czech Republic	0	3	1.5	3 (2016)	7.5
Denmark	3	3	3 (2017)	3 (2021)	12
Estonia	3	3	1.5	0 (2016)	7.5
Finland	3	3	3 (2019)	1 (2014)	10
France	3	2 (Reservations on art. 5 (b); article 29 para 1)	3 (2019)	3 (2016)	11
Germany	3	3	1.5	2 (2017)	9.5
Greece	3	3	1.5	3 (2013)	10.5

Hungary	0	3	1.5	0 (2013)	4.5
Ireland	3	1 (Reservations on art. 16, para 1 (d and f); art. 11 (1) and 13 (a))	1.5	0 (2017)	5.5
Italy	3	3	0 (2019)	1 (2017)	7
Latvia	0	3	1.5	3 (2020)	7.5
Lithuania	0	3	1.5	3 (2019)	7.5
Luxembourg	3	3	1.5	1 (2018)	8.5
Malta	3	1 (Reservations on artt. 11; 13; 15; 16)	3 (2020)	3 (2010)	10
Netherlands	3	3	3 (2019)	1 (2016)	10
Poland	3	3	1.5	1 (2014)	8.5
Portugal	3	3	0 (2018)	3 (2015)	9
Romania	3	3	1.5	1 (2017)	8.5
Slovakia	0	3	1.5	1 (2015)	5.5

Slovenia	3	3	1.5	3 (2015)	10.5
Spain	3	3	0 (2020)	3 (2015)	9
Sweden	3	3	3 (2018)	2 (2016)	11

Table 10 Recommendations to EU27 countries in the last CEDAW periodic report.

Recommendations in the last CEDAW periodic report	Year of the last periodic report	Paragraph of the report	Citation of the text of the recommendation ¹⁹
Austria	2019		
Belgium	2014		
Bulgaria	2020	23(a); 24b	<p>23(a). The fact that all forms of gender-based violence, including physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence, against women and girls are not defined and criminalized in the current legislation, nor is there provision for ex officio prosecution of acts of gender-based violence against women;</p> <p>24. To amend current legislation, including the Protection against Domestic Violence Act, to recognize all forms of gender-based violence, including physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence, against women and girls and ensure that such violence can be prosecuted ex officio and punished with appropriate penalties commensurate with the gravity of the offence;</p>
Croatia	2015		
Cyprus	2018	50; 51	50. The Committee commends the State party for implementing two of its previous recommendations, namely the adoption of the Civil Union Law and the conduct of a study on the economic consequences of separation and divorce on both spouses

¹⁹ The sources used to populate this indicator have been the last periodic report for each country, available here: https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/TBSearch.aspx?Lang=en&TreatyID=3&DocTypeID=29

			<p>(CEDAW/C/CYP/CO/6-7, para. 36). It remains, however, concerned about: (a) The apparent lack of adequate protection for children born to or adopted in the context of de facto and other civil unions; (b) The legal presumption that the “stay-at-home” spouse (usually the wife) contributes to only one third of the property acquired by the spouse who works for wages outside the home (usually the husband).</p> <p>51. The Committee recommends that the State party, in line with general recommendations No. 21 (1994) on equality in marriage and family relations and No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution, expeditiously adopt the seven bills amending the family law, with the objective of: (a) Ensuring adequate protection for children born to or adopted in the context of de facto and other civil unions; (b) Ensuring that women enjoy adequate legal protection in de facto unions and upon their dissolution; (c) Setting the legal presumption of each spouse’s contribution to property acquired during marriage at 50 per cent.</p>
Czech Republic	2016		
Denmark	2021		
Estonia	2016	18c; 19b; 38a	<p>18c. Amend the Penal Code to review the definition of rape as any non-consensual sexual act irrespective of pain, physical abuse and/or damage to health and threat, to specifically criminalize sexual harassment and to add economic and psychological violence to the definition of domestic violence;</p> <p>38a. The Committee notes with concern: that women in de facto unions and their children may be deprived of adequate protection of their economic rights in case of separation.</p>
Finland	2014	39	39. Undertake research on the economic consequences of divorce

			on both spouses, giving specific attention to the gender disparity regarding future earning capacity, pension rights and work-related benefits, and re-examine the matrimonial system that encourages separation of property;
France	2016		
Germany	2017	39c	39c. Conduct research and collect disaggregated data to assess the economic impact of divorce on women with a view to adopting public policies and programmes to improve their economic situation.
Greece	2013		
Hungary	2013	20	20. While welcoming the announcement of the State party that it would criminalize domestic violence in the Criminal Code, the Committee remains concerned about the lack of specific provisions related to other forms of violence, such as economic and psychological violence and stalking
Ireland	2017	26b; 57a	26b. The fact that domestic violence is not criminalized and there is no specific definition of domestic violence in the State party's legislation; and at the failure to address psychological, emotional and economic violence; 57a. In line with the Committee's general recommendation No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution, undertake research on the economic consequences of divorce on both spouses, with specific attention to the differences in spouses' earning potential and human capital, which addresses gender-based economic disparities between spouses resulting from the existing gender segregation of the labour market, the gender wage gap and women's disproportionate share of unpaid work, particularly focusing on whether judges take such factors into account in their decisions

Italy	2017	47d	47d. [The Committee is concerned about] The fact that women with disabilities face a situation of economic dependency, which puts them at risk of situations of violence.
Latvia	2020		
Lithuania	2019		
Luxembourg	2018	51b	51b. [The Committee notes with concern] that the adoption of regulations to remedy gender disparities and economic shortfalls upon divorce is still pending.
Malta	2010		
Netherlands	2016	44b	44b. In line with the Committee's general recommendation No. 29 (2013) on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution, examine the economic consequences of divorce on both spouses, paying specific attention to the differences in the earning potential and human capital of spouses and the gender-based economic disparities between spouses resulting from the existing sex segregation of the labour market, the gender wage gap and women's disproportionate share in unpaid work, as well as to whether judges take such factors into account in their decisions;
Poland	2014	43	43. The Committee calls upon the State party to review its regulation of the economic consequences of divorce in the light of general recommendation No. 29 on the economic consequences of marriage, family relations and their dissolution, and to aim at separating the principles and procedures for dissolution of marriage from those relating to the economic aspects of the dissolution
Portugal	2015		
Romania	2017	10a; 38c	10a. Women's lack of trust in the judicial system, their limited

			<p>awareness about available remedies for obtaining redress and the stigmatization of victims, which leads to underreporting of cases of gender-based violence against women and girls, including psychological and economic violence, sexual harassment and marital rape;</p> <p>38c. The lack of adequate legislative measures to guarantee the property rights of women upon divorce, taking into account the gender-based economic disparities between spouses resulting from sex segregation in the labour market and from the greater share of unpaid work being performed by women.</p>
Slovakia	2015	41c	<p>41c. That the State party's current law on property distribution upon divorce does not adequately address gender-based economic disparities between spouses resulting from traditional work and family life patterns. Those often lead to men having enhanced human capital and earning potential, while women may experience the opposite, so that spouses currently do not equitably share in the economic consequences of the marriage and its dissolution. Likewise, neither existing legislation nor case law addresses the distribution of future earning potential so as to redress possible gender-based economic disparities between spouses.</p>
Slovenia	2015		
Spain	2015		
Sweden	2016	38	<p>38. The Committee also reiterates its concern that the State party's current legislation on the distribution of property upon divorce does not fully take into consideration differences in the earning potential and human capital of spouses and may not adequately address gender-based economic disparities between spouses resulting from existing sex segregation in the labour market, persistent gender pay gaps and women's greater share of unpaid work.</p>

Table 11 Recommendations to EU27 countries in the GREVIO Baseline Evaluation Report.

Recommendations in GREVIO Baseline Evaluation Report	Year of the report	Paragraph of the report	Citation of the text of the recommendation
Austria	2017	8	8. Noting the absence of a full legal definition of domestic violence, GREVIO invites the Austrian authorities to adopt a universally applicable legal definition of domestic violence, which would include economic violence, in line with Article 3 b of the Istanbul Convention.
Belgium	2020	153	153. GREVIO notes that one of the main complaints about criminal legislation expressed by victim support groups is that control, persistence over time, and the fact that intimate partner violence takes place against a background of economic, administrative and/or psychological domination are totally disregarded. Nor does the scale of punishments for the above-mentioned offences seem commensurate with the seriousness of intimate partner violence – especially when the latter is repeated over time – and even when there are aggravating circumstances. The judges consulted by GREVIO also acknowledged that they felt ill-equipped to address economic violence, although some offences made it possible to criminalise behaviour adversely affecting a partner’s financial independence and/or putting that person in a vulnerable position, such as forgery (Article 193), fraud (Article 496), bankruptcy fraud (Article 490bis) and theft (Articles 463 et seq.).
Bulgaria			Not ratified
Croatia			Not examined yet
Cyprus			Not examined yet
Czech Republic			Not ratified

Denmark	2021		/
Estonia			Not examined yet
Finland	2019		/
France	2019	12; 13; 14; 16 ²⁰	<p>12. In light of the aforementioned findings, GREVIO welcomes the fact that several legislative initiatives have provided legal protection in the event of economic violence.</p> <p>13. While recognising the advantages of such a mechanism for the protection of victims, GREVIO notes with concern that the procedures for processing applications through ARIPA do not proceed with the required speed, with delays of up to several months or even years, without necessarily leading to the recovery of maintenance payments. In addition, the amount awarded at the end of the recovery procedure is sometimes less than the amount of maintenance initially fixed by the judge. Finally, GREVIO notes that the recovery of sums due by ARIPA is not possible when debtors flee or organise their insolvency, sometimes in a fraudulent manner. In these cases, victims are obliged to initiate criminal proceedings for fraud, which does not always work in their favour because of a dismissal</p> <p>14. GREVIO has been informed by the authorities that a reform has recently been launched to improve the guarantee mechanism against unpaid alimony (...). GREVIO welcomes this initiative and reserves the right to assess its impact and effectiveness in terms of preventing economic violence against women.</p> <p>16. In GREVIO's view, sustained policy mobilisation at both the legislative and operational levels would be necessary to provide an adequate response to the difficulties faced by women victims of economic violence.</p>

²⁰ The State scores 3 points because, despite receiving recommendations on economic abuse, they are mostly recognition of positive initiatives on economic abuse.

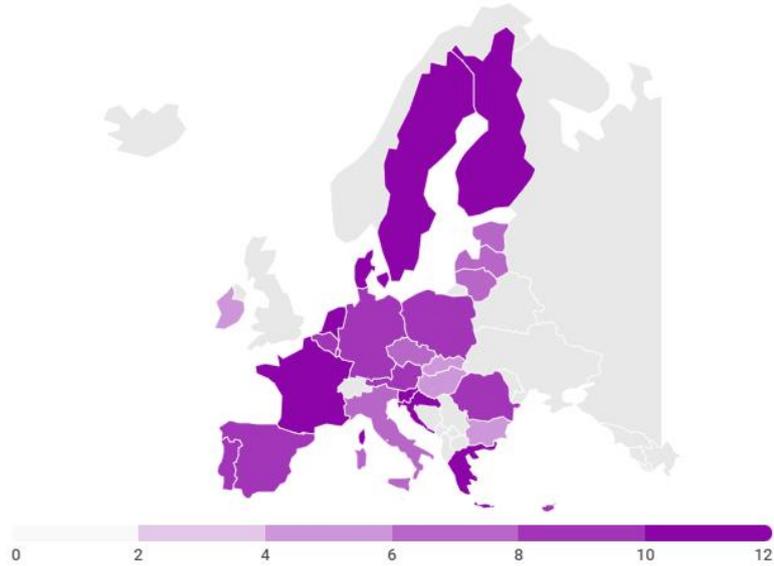
Germany			Not examined yet
Greece			Not examined yet
Hungary			Not ratified
Ireland			Not examined yet
Italy	2019	67	67. GREVIO draws attention to the fact that the offence of ill-treatment, as defined in the Italian Criminal Code, encompasses a broad range of behaviours, as well as a wide range of perpetrators, including members of the family, co-habitants or individuals exercising an authority over the victim or who are entrusted with the victim's instruction or care, making it difficult to capture the different relevant conducts identified in the Istanbul Convention such as psychological and economic violence.
Latvia			Not ratified
Lithuania			Not ratified
Luxembourg			Not examined yet
Malta	2020	161 ²¹	161. GREVIO welcomes the definition of domestic violence provided under the GBVDV Act, which covers all of the elements set out in the Istanbul Convention, notably verbal, physical, sexual and psychological or economic violence causing physical and/or moral harm or suffering.
Netherlands	2019		/
Poland			Not examined yet

²¹ Idem.

Portugal	2018	9	9. GREVIO further notes that the definition of domestic violence given in Article 152 of the PCC falls short of capturing the full range of manifestations of such violence by failing to mention economic violence.
Romania			Not examined yet
Slovakia			Not ratified
Slovenia			Not examined yet
Spain	2015	12	12. In Spain, the central piece of legislation in the area of domestic violence, Organic Law 1/2004 on Integrated Protection Measures against Gender Violence, offers a definition of domestic violence against women that is generally in line with that of Article 3b of the convention – with the small caveat that it does not cover economic violence. No comparable piece of legislation exists at the central level that defines, and covers, forms of violence against women other than domestic – or intimate partner violence.
Sweden	2018		/

The following figure, Figure 2, depicts the map of the EU 27 Member States with the gradient colour indication of their scores in the first macro-indicator. The map shows visibly the large extension of compliance of EU States with the International framework, a part for the Balkan and Baltic States, which are the ones with the lowest rates.

Figure 2 EU27 gradient map for macro-indicator 1: International Legal Framework.



3.2 Macro-indicator 2 - National Legal Context

At the national legal level, a comprehensive and strong legal framework plays a great role in guaranteeing women access to justice and protection. As described in the previous paragraph dedicated to the macro-indicator “International Legal Framework”, the due diligence obligations connected to the “legislative dimension” are well settled under international law. Such duties include, among others, the duty to adopt legislation prohibiting all forms of violence against women and girl and the duty to criminalise acts constituting forms of abuse against women. Failing to adopt an appropriate legal framework may lead to impunity and lack of accountability, as well as to a denial of women’s access to just and effective remedies and specialized assistance.

All this considered, the sub-indicators selected for the macro-indicator “National Legal Context” are the following:

1. Recognition of gendered nature of violence;
2. Economic violence included in domestic definition of violence against women/domestic violence;
3. Economic violence considered an offense per se or partly covered by criminal law;
4. Protection orders cover economic violence.

The best score for each of these indicators is 4 points, for a total of 16 points.

The evaluations are given as described in table 12:

Table 12 Rates and description for macro-indicator 2: National Legal Context

Sub-indicator	0 points	2 points	4 points
Recognition of gendered nature of violence against women	No	/	Yes
Economic violence included in domestic	No	/	Yes

definition of violence against women/domestic violence			
Economic violence considered an offense per se or partly covered by criminal law	No	Partly covered	Economic violence considered an offense per se
Protection orders cover economic violence	No	/	Yes

The first sub-indicator investigates whether the 27 EU countries recognise, in national legal provisions and/or policy documents, the gender dimension of violence against women as prescribed by international legal documents such as the Istanbul Convention²². Acknowledging that violence is not gender-neutral is crucial if the phenomenon is to be tackled appropriately in that this understanding enables policy responses to meet the actual needs of victim. Indeed, a representation of violence as affecting women and men equally erases the gender differences in terms of perpetration, victimisation, contexts, short- and long-term consequences etc.

In this connection, it is worth mentioning that in its First General Report²³, GREVIO criticised the gender-neutral approach of national legal provisions and policy documents on domestic violence. It stated that although the Istanbul Convention defines domestic violence in a gender-neutral way, it clearly establishes that violence affects women disproportionately and that domestic violence is distinctly gendered. According to GREVIO, the gender-neutral approach fails to address the specific experiences of women that differ significantly from those of men thus hindering their effective protection.

In the context of ECOVIO Project, this sub-indicator is particularly relevant as the lack of a gendered understanding of violence may hinder or downgrade the transferability of project results, which are all

²² The IC Preamble acknowledges ‘*the structural nature of violence against women as gender-based violence, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men*’ and Article 3 defines gender-based violence against women as ‘*violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately*’.

²³ GREVIO (2020). *First General Report on GREVIO’s Activities*, p. 25, <https://rm.coe.int/1st-general-report-on-grevio-s-activities/16809cd382>.

based on the understanding that economic violence is a form of gender based violence. Indeed, gender-neutral policies and practices may hide or diminish the root causes of gender inequality and gender-based violence by placing women-only services under threat and by failing to recognise the prevalence of male violence against women.²⁴ Gender-neutral practices, in addition, may create additional vulnerability that specifically targets women’s organisations, which are among the key stakeholders and possible actors for the transferability and scalability of ECOVIO project results in other countries. From the present analysis, out of 27 EU Member States, 14 have adopted a neutral understanding or definition of violence in legal or policy documents. Out of these 14, 4 Countries (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Latvia²⁵) have not ratified the Istanbul Convention. These data therefore could be partly explained referring back to the causes behind the backlash against the gendered language of the Istanbul Convention in some EU Countries. Interestingly, however, despite the ongoing national resistance to the ratification of the Convention, Lithuania and Slovakia have adopted a gendered understanding of violence.

The second sub-indicator of the macro-indicator “National Legal context” investigates whether the 27 EU countries include “economic violence” as one of the forms of violence covered in the national domestic definition of violence against women or domestic violence. In the context of EU countries, the definition of violence against women or domestic violence could be found either within a general act on violence, or in the framework of criminal law. In the context of the ECOVIO Project, this sub-indicator is particularly relevant, as it not only implies both symbolic and material recognition of economic violence, but also greater clarity for legal and social professionals and greater chances for women to seek out and obtain protection. According to the present analysis, economic violence is the least covered by Member States’ definitions of intimate partner violence or domestic violence. Only 11 out of 27 EU

²⁴ WAVE (2020). *Handbook - How Gender Neutral Policy and Practice Is Dismantling Women's Specialist Support Services and Ways to Counteract It*, https://www.wave-network.org/wp-content/uploads/WAVE_HANDBOOK_200826_3_web.pdf.

²⁵ On June 4 2021, the Latvian Constitutional Court adopted a judgement finding that the provisions of the Istanbul Convention, namely its Articles 3(c), Article 4(3) and Article 12(1), comply with the Latvian constitution.

Member States explicitly recognises “economic violence” as one form of violence, which therefore remains largely invisible within discourses on violence against women.²⁶

The third sub-indicator investigates whether economic violence is considered an offense *per se* or is at least partly covered by criminal law in the EU 27 Members. Recognised for the first time by the 1993 United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women (DEVAW), the duty to criminalize and therefore punish abusive behaviours against women is now a well consolidated dimension of the due diligence standard under international law²⁷. Criminalization of violent acts against women is not only relevant because of its symbolic relevance, in that it represents a shift towards seeing violence as a social and “political” problem rather than a private one. Indeed, very often criminalization is a precondition of victims' access to justice and certain forms of protection as well (see also the following sub-indicator “Protection orders cover economic violence”).

The data collected by the present Study shows that across Member States there is limited understanding of the need to differentiate between specific forms of intimate partner violence under criminal law. In most Member States, criminal jurisdiction does not cover the types of conduct that underlie economic violence (e.g. financial control, non-compliance with financial responsibilities through not contributing financially to the household or withholding maintenance obligations towards children).²⁸ In only two countries, economic violence is criminalized *per se*, while in 15 countries conducts underlying economic violence falls under certain “offences against the family integrity” or “offences against property”. The offences most commonly related to cover episodes or aspects of economic violence are:

- Non-payment of alimony;
- Theft/robbery;
- Damage/destruction of property.

²⁶ EIGE (2019). *Understanding Intimate Partner Violence in the EU: the Role of Data*, <https://eige.europa.eu/publications/understanding-intimate-partner-violence-eu-role-data>.

²⁷ See Chapter I, para. 1.4.

²⁸ EIGE (2019). *Police and Justice Sector Data on Intimate Partner Violence against Women in the European Union*, <https://eige.europa.eu/publications/police-and-justice-sector-data-intimate-partner-violence-against-women-european-union>.

The fact that the Istanbul Convention does not require the criminalisation of economic violence may have accommodated its absence from national legislation of most EU countries. Despite the Istanbul Convention does not provide an explicit obligation to criminalize economic violence *per se*, it however mandates States Parties to adopt all the necessary legislative measures to protect all victims from all acts of violence. In the context of the ECOVIO Project, this sub-indicator is relevant as the lack of specific offences that criminalise the distinctive features of economic violence could represent a challenge. In particular, the lack of criminalization makes the specifics of economic violence more invisible and it could also render judges and other legal professionals ill-equipped when dealing with this forms of violence.

The fourth sub-indicator investigates whether protection orders adopted to protect victims of IPV/domestic violence cover economic violence. Article 53 of the Istanbul Convention foresees the use of restraining or protection orders as measures to protect victims from further violence. The Convention provides that restraining or protection orders should be available in relation to all forms of violence covered by the Convention. Notwithstanding this, only 10 countries out of 27 cover economic violence in the scope of the protection order available in cases of intimate partner violence/domestic violence. All these factors contribute to the fact that economic violence is frequently not reported. If reported, it is seldom prosecuted; if prosecuted, the prosecution is rarely pursued in a gender sensitive manner and often leads to very few convictions and to the re-victimization of survivors, resulting in a normalization of the situation of economic violence, and impunity for perpetrators.

Table 13 shows the evaluations given to each State for the “national legal context” sub-indicators.

Table 13 Evaluation of EU27 counties for macro-indicator 2, National Legal Context.

State	Recognition of gendered nature of violence (in national legal provisions and/or policy documents)	Economic violence included in domestic definition of GBV/DV	Economic violence considered an offense per se or partly covered by criminal law	Protection orders cover economic violence	Total
Austria	4	0	2	0	6

Belgium	0	4	2	4	10
Bulgaria	0	4	2	4	10
Croatia	0	4	4	4	12
Cyprus	0	0	0	0	0
Czech Republic	0	0	2	0	2
Denmark	0	0	0	0	0
Estonia	4	0	0	0	4
Finland	0	0	0	0	0
France	4	4	2	4	14
Germany	0	0	2	0	2
Greece	0	0	0	0	0
Hungary	0	4	2	4	10
Ireland	4	0	0	0	4
Italy	4	0	2	0	6
Latvia	0	4	2	4	10
Lithuania	4	4	2	4	14
Luxembourg	0	0	2	0	2
Malta	4	4	4	4	16

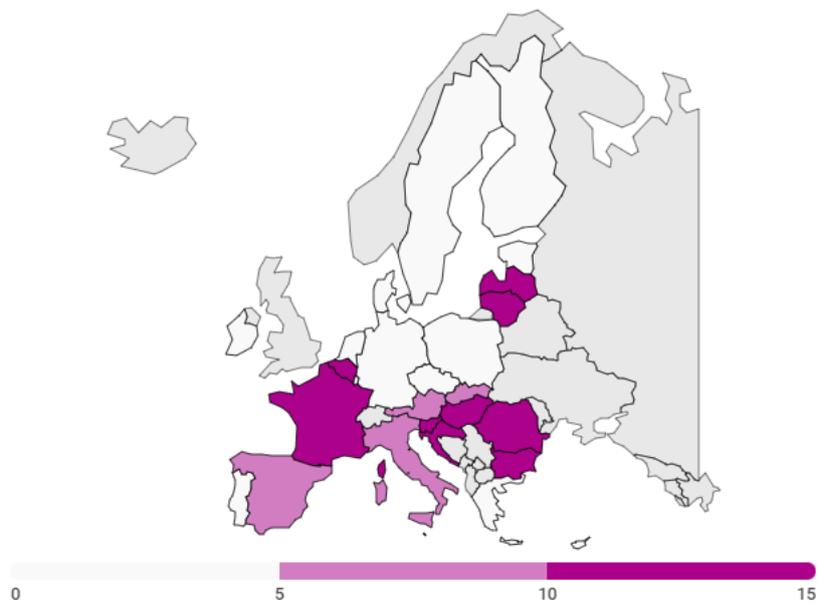
Netherlands	0	0	2	0	2
Poland	0	0	0	0	0
Portugal	4	0	0	0	4
Romania	4	4	2	4	14
Slovakia	4	4	0	0	8
Slovenia	4	4	2	4	14
Spain	4	0	2	0	6
Sweden	4	0	0	0	4

Table 13 shows that due diligence standards connected to the “legislative dimension” have not been fully incorporated at the national level with regards to economic violence. Very often States do not criminalize economic violence *per se* and use an array of different offences or even minor offences. Additionally, the implementation of criminal law may be influenced by the surrounding general context concerning the national (lack of) understanding of the gender dimension the phenomenon of violence against women as well as the general condition of women in the country. Interestingly, however, there is not consistency among the score of sub-indicator “Recognition of gendered nature of violence” and the scores of other sub-indicators belonging to the macro-indicator. This means, on the one hand, that the lack of a gender understanding of violence against women does not necessarily implies a “bad performance” for what concerns the other sub-indicators; on the other, that recognising the gendered nature of violence against women does not necessarily translate in effective legislation and protection measures.

Perfect consistency could instead be noted between sub-indicator 4 “Protection orders cover economic violence” and sub-indicator 2 “Economic violence included in the domestic definition of GBV”. This demonstrates the extent to which the lack of clarity in the legislation affects the protection of survivors and to their accessibility to specialized services.

Figure 3 below shows the gradient map of the EU 27 Member States with the gradient colour indication of their scores in the second macro-indicator. In comparison with Figure 2, it is rapidly evident that EU States are less compliant with minimum standards on the macro-indicator “National Legal Context”, with an overall worse situation all over the region.

Figure 3 EU27 gradient map for macro-indicator 2: National Legal Context.



3.3 Macro-indicator 3 - National Socio-cultural Context

Assessing a State’s gender equality requires a full set of indicators to be considered, and for European countries, and thus the 27 EU States which are under consideration for this report, the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) issues an annual report.

The overall annual score for each country is the result of the connection of indicators on work, money, knowledge, time, power and health: core areas to assess the representation and non-discrimination of women in the social and private life.

The index prioritises areas that are particularly underrepresented or need more improvement and it is specifically tailored to improve policymaking. It is thus used by the European Commission’s Joint

Research Centre and by policymakers across Europe to assess the necessities in each region and State, propose policies and lacking laws and understanding the direction of the wanted changes in society.

Considering that ECOVIO's approach is specific on economic abuse, and thus the economic power of women in their country, poverty and economic dependence. These indicators are important variables to consider for the wellbeing and the possibilities of women who suffer violence in intimate relationships, especially when they decide to stop the relationship with the author of the violence.

Given all this, the chosen sub-indicators for this macro-indicators are the following:

1. Gender equality index score for each State, for 2020;
2. Score for "Money" indicator, for 2020;
3. Difference in the percentage of men and women not at risk of poverty.

Furthermore, to assess a State's capacity to counter violence and above all offer protection to women who suffer it, we analysed the presence of national women helplines and the ability to welcome women who must flee from home when the gravity of the violence requires it, which is when they are not safe in their home because the escalation of abuse is too dangerous.

The following are thus connected with the fundamental ability of a State to protect women's rights when the violence has already occurred already mentioned in Chapter 2 and in the previous paragraphs dedicated to the international policies and the national legal context:

4. Presence of a national women helpline accessible to beneficiaries as provided for by the standards of the Istanbul Convention (which is free of charge and accessible 24/7);
5. Percentage of beds missing in shelters for women survivors of GBV who seek help because they can no longer stay in their homes.

The best evaluation for these indicators is 2 or 3 points, for a total of 14 points.

The evaluations are given as follows in Table 14, considering the average scores for the three sub-indicators by the EIGE report and the relative rates of the 27 EU countries:

Table 14 Rates and description for macro-indicator 3: National Socio-cultural Context.

	Sub-indicator	0 points	1 point	2 points	3 points
ECONOMIC EQUALITY	Gender equality index score for each State, for 2020	<58	58-68	68-78	>78
	Score for “Money” indicator, for 2020	<70	70-80	80-90	>90
	Difference on the percentage of men and women not at risk of poverty	>3	3-2	2-1	1-0

PROTECTION OF WOMEN WHO SUFFER VIOLENCE	Presence of a national women helpline accessible to beneficiaries as provided for by the Istanbul Convention (free of charge and accessible 24/7)	Non existent	Existent but not fully accessible (not free for women or not available 24/7)	Existent and accessible (free for women and available 24/7)	/
	Percentage of beds missing in shelters for women survivors of gender-based violence.	<30%	30-60%	60-80%	>80%

Table 15 shows the evaluations given to each State for the socio-cultural sub-indicators, with the indication, for sub-indicator 3 “National women helpline accessible to women” of the reason for 1 point which means that the service exists but doesn’t comply with the Istanbul Convention standards.

Table 15 Evaluation of EU27 countries for macro-indicator 3: National Socio-cultural Context.

State	Gender equality index score	Money score	Difference % men and women not at risk of poverty	National women helpline accessible to women (reason)	% of beds missing in shelters for women survivors of GBV	Total
Austria	1	2	1	2	3	9
Belgium	2	2	2	0	2	8
Bulgaria	1	0	0	2	0	3
Croatia	1	1	1	0	3	6
Cyprus	0	2	2	2	2	8
Czech Republic	0	1	0	0	0	1
Denmark	2	2	3	2	3	12
Estonia	1	1	0	2	2	6
Finland	2	2	3	2	1	10
France	2	2	3	1 (not 24/7)	2	10
Germany	1	2	2	2	3	10
Greece	0	1	3	2	2	8
Hungary	0	1	2	1	0	4

				(not 24/7)		
Ireland	2	2	0	2	1	7
Italy	1	1	1	2	0	5
Latvia	1	0	0	1 (not 24/7)	3	5
Lithuania	0	0	0	2	0	2
Luxembourg	2	3	1	0	3	9
Malta	1	2	0	0	3	6
Netherlands	2	2	3	0	2	9
Poland	0	1	3	1 (not free for women)	0	5
Portugal	1	1	2	0	2	6
Romania	0	0	1	2	2	5
Slovakia	0	1	3	2	2	8
Slovenia	1	2	2	1 (not 24/7)	3	9
Spain	2	1	2	2	2	9
Sweden	3	2	1	2	1	9

As Table 15 shows, for this macro-indicator the assessment is particularly consistent among sub-indicators, showing how the socio-cultural environment on human rights and particularly women's human rights are intimately related with a State's ability to offer just and effective tools to counter gender inequality and violence against women.

On the side, it is interesting to notice how the rates in economic values and services to women are not directly related with national GDP, as the comparison between Czech Republic and Bulgaria or Croatia shows. The equal and just spread of wealth and welfare among different segments of the population, in this case women and men, is not natural nor normal, especially when marginalised groups, as women are in Europe and beyond, are involved.

Moreover, richer States do not necessarily invest in the protection of women: Luxembourg, which is the richest EU-27 State, does not have a national helpline for women, and there is a big difference between men and women in the risk of poverty as calculated by EIGE.

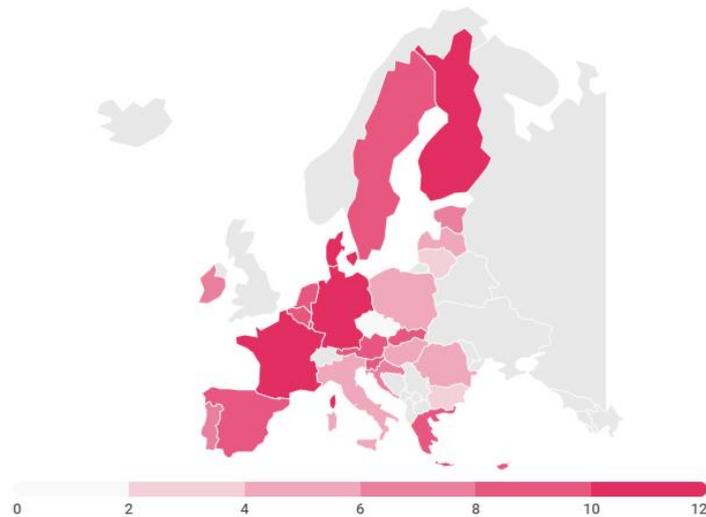
On the contrary, more modest States, like Cyprus and Spain, obtained better results in all sub-indicators, showing that the political will to invest in women's right, women's protection and in the advancement of gender equality has relevant repercussions in all the sub-indicators, and thus in different aspects of gender equality, non-discrimination and existence of necessary services for the specific target.

As a final consideration, the assessment of the fourth sub-indicator, i.e. the presence of a national women helpline accessible to beneficiaries as provided for by the Istanbul Convention (free of charge and accessible 24/7), and the several sub-optimal evaluations within the EU-27 region highlights the discrepancy between the political act of ratification of a Convention, as previously analysed and assessed for macro-indicator 1, and the actual intention to implement and fulfil its provisions.

Several of the States who had optimal evaluations in the first sub-indicator of the International framework indicator don't comply with the Convention requirement to have a national accessible and free helpline for women.

Figure 4, below, shows the gradient map of the EU 27 Member States with the gradient colour indication of their scores in the third macro-indicator.

Figure 4 EU27 gradient map for macro-indicator 3: National socio-cultural context.



3.4 Clusters

Considering the 3 macro-indicators and their 13 sub-indicators as described above, and weighing their importance to have a more complete and in-depth understanding of the 27 EU States, the Study proposes the following three clusters of States in accordance with the research as described in the previous paragraphs.

Table 16 shows the 27 EU countries listed by order of final score from the lowest to the highest. The three clusters are thus formed by following these criteria:

- Cluster 1: minimum 27 points - maximum 43 points
- Cluster 2: minimum 20 points - maximum 26 points
- Cluster 3: minimum 0 points - maximum 19.5 points

As Table 16 shows, only 6 countries are part of Cluster 1, with rather different geographic collocation, GDP situation, political inspiration and cultural background. Countries in this cluster have good records in all three macro-indicators. Nevertheless, the macro-indicator in which they are more deficient, in comparison with the other two, is macro-indicator 3. This is in contrast with what emerges in Table 16, that shows that the most deficient macro-indicator overall is National Legal Context.

Cluster 2 is composed of 10 countries, with relative differences among them and that encompass both Mediterranean countries and Nordic countries. This cluster also represents the two countries in which ECOVIO activities were conducted, and it can thus be considered as the most similar to them, meaning that we can probably detect the same difficulties with economic abuse that the partners to the Consortium of ECOVIO detected when proposing the project. At the same time, however, all of them present shortcomings in recognising and tackling economic abuse, and must thus be accompanied in the transfer of results accordingly as it is described in Chapter 4.

Denmark and Finland are curious examples: despite scoring almost perfect records for macro-indicator 1 and 3, they scored 0 in macro-indicator 2 due to unsatisfactory national legal frameworks that don't recognise GBV and economic abuse as such and do not criminalise them. Germany as well, despite having very high records for macro-indicator 1 and 3, only scored 2 in macro-indicator 2.

Cluster 3 is composed of 11 countries that have on average medium to scarce records in all the three macro-indicators. Even in this group, however, there are some examples of countries which have good records in two macro-indicators and a scarce to none ability to comply with the other. Cyprus and Greece, for instance, just like the abovementioned Denmark and Finland scored 0 in macro-indicator 2, despite having good records in macro-indicator 1, which is somehow linked to the second, assessing political willingness and compliance with the International community principles, and macro-indicator 3 which also assesses the ability of the country to address GBV with national policies.

Table 16 Clusters for EU27 countries based on the final evaluation of the three macro-indicators.

Final rank	Countries by order (min-max)	Final Evaluation	MI 1 Out of 12	MI 2 Out of 16	MI3 Out of 15	Clusters
27	Czech Republic	10.5	7.5	2	1	3
26	Poland	13.5	8.5	0	5	
25	Ireland	16.5	5.5	4	7	
24	Bulgaria	17.5	4.5	10	3	

23	Cyprus	17.5	9.5	0	8	
22	Estonia	17.5	7.5	4	6	
21	Italy	18	7	6	5	
20	Greece	18.5	10.5	0	8	
19	Hungary	18.5	4.5	10	4	
18	Portugal	19	9	4	6	
17	Luxembourg	19.5	8.5	2	9	
16	Finland	20	10	0	10	2
15	Netherlands	21	10	2	9	
14	Germany	21.5	9.5	2	10	
13	Slovakia	21.5	5.5	8	8	
12	Latvia	22.5	7.5	10	5	
11	Lithuania	23.5	7.5	14	2	
10	Austria	24	9	6	9	
9	Denmark	24	12	0	12	
8	Spain	24	9	6	9	
7	Sweden	24	11	4	9	
6	Belgium	27	9	10	8	

5	Romania	27.5	8.5	14	5
4	Croatia	28.5	10.5	12	6
3	Malta	32	10	16	6
2	Slovenia	33.5	10.5	14	9
1	France	35	11	14	10

In conclusion, as Table 17 shows, considering that the indicators analyse such different dimensions, there is not a necessary consistence among the three macro-indicators. In addition, it could also be noted that there is an average different compliance to the three macro-indicators. Among the three macro-indicators, in fact, the one that, more than the others, tends to lower rates is the National Legal Context, with a mean value of 6,4 out of 16. This highlights the already well-known inadequacy of national legal frameworks on GBV in general and on economic abuse specifically.

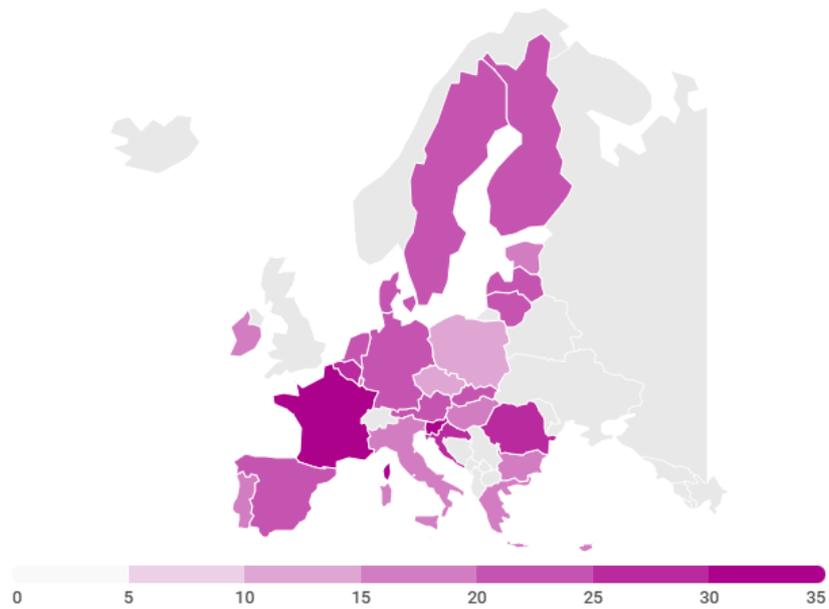
Table 17 Differences in evaluation among macro-indicators.

Macro-indicator	Max score	Mean score, %	Lowest score	Highest score
International legal framework	12	8,6 72%	4,5 (Bulgaria, Hungary)	11 (France, Sweden)
National legal context	16	6,4 40%	0 (Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, Greece, Poland)	16 (Malta)
National Socio-cultural context	15	7 46,6%	1 (Czech Republic)	10 (Finland,

				France, Germany)
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Figure 5, below, shows the gradient map of the 27 EU States for the final evaluation which sums the scores of the three macro-indicators. It is evident that there is not a clear geographical or somehow cultural or geopolitical link between a country and its rank position.

Figure 5 EU27 gradient map for final evaluation



4 Study of the transferability and scalability of the results

4.1 Transferability of the results

The transferability of a project's results has the double benefit of valuing the efforts of managing the project's activities and saving resources by designing transfer strategies for other regions by using the experience gained.

In order to transfer results of projects designed to fit a specific, an effort should be made in adapting the contexts and thus how the results should be conveyed.

ECOVIO results are based on the specific contexts of Spain and Italy, thus the analysis of EU countries conducted in Chapter 3 is particularly useful in highlighting similarities and challenges for different aspects of the political, legal and socio-cultural contexts.

The idea behind the Study of the transferability of the results, as described in Chapter 2, is to maximise the ECOVIO effort and draw preliminary conclusions on a possible subsequent work on economic abuse that includes other EU countries or clusters of countries. Furthermore, this analysis could help other organisations, Institutions and entities in general to benefit from this project in an effective way.

The three clusters of countries, as described in Chapter 3, have a progressively increased level of transferability, due to the fact that Cluster 2 and Cluster 1 are more likely to have a good level of international compliance with reference to the two abovementioned Conventions, a good national legal framework for the recognition of economic abuse as a form of GBV which is criminalised, and a good level of services for women who suffer violence combined with scarce gender discrimination.

However, as discussed in paragraph 4 of Chapter 3, there are several discrepancies on the scores for the three macro-indicators for each country. These discrepancies suggest that conclusions are to be considered within each macro-indicator rather than exclusively considering the final rate and clustering, in order to give more precise indications based on the actual situation of the country.

These considerations must be weighted against the awareness that a low score in one macro-indicator can be balanced with a good score in the other two: in this latter case women will have an increased possibility of being protected by their country's machinery or of being less discriminated by their socio-

cultural context even though, for instance, the country compliance with the international community is not ideal.

4.1.1 Considerations on the Project

Considering the Project as a whole, some considerations on its transferability can be drawn:

- As the analysis presented in Chapter 3 shows, economic abuse is not broadly recognised as a specific form of violence against women and it therefore remains a largely unexplored issue in many EU countries. If this circumstance makes the potential for transferability quite high as it means that ECOVIO's results address a relevant yet unanswered issue Europe-wide, it also indicates that ECOVIO's results could be generally difficult to transfer without a number of preliminary or preparatory activities such as thorough training on GBV and economic abuse at various levels depending on the results (governmental, judicial, policymaking, grassroots organisations, general public);
- Most EU countries do not criminalise economic abuse and do not consider it as part of the broader GBV context, discarding it from the social recognition and blame;
- Considering that ECOVIO addresses economic abuse within the perspective of GBV, countries that do not recognise the gendered nature of violence against women, adopt neutral policies or are adopting hostile attitude against the socio-cultural concept of "gender" and "gender discrimination" could be less receptive of ECOVIO underlying approach;
- In countries where there is a negative attitude about "gender", the transfer of results could be supported by NGOs and civil society organization rather than institutions and public actors. In such countries, it could be wise to adopt a bottom-up strategy starting from local/regional contexts rather than the national level. For instance, NGOs joining international networks such as WAVE (Women Against Violence Europe), WWP (Work with Perpetrators European Network) or European Anti-Violence Network (EAVN) adopt political and ethical perspectives which are consistent with ECOVIO underlying approach on gender-based violence and economic abuse and might therefore be more easily engaged for the transferability of results;
- Transferability of ECOVIO's results is highly dependent on the compatibility between the norms and values of the addressee countries and the ones of the addressors, which are Spain and Italy.

- When considering the transferability of ECOVIO's results, particular attention should be paid to the different legal systems and traditions existing among EU countries. However, being part of the European Union's area of freedom, security and justice may support and ease the process of adaptation.
- ECOVIO's results are credible and based on a sound and replicable methodology, which reduces confusion during the replicability of results and facilitates corrections and a possible contextualisation during the process;
- In general, transferability of ECOVIO results is probably easier for countries with similar or analogous situation to Spain and Italy, i.e. Mediterranean countries with average to low awareness on GBV and economic abuse, an imperfect legal framework on the issue, and a scarce to average discrimination based on gender and sufficient services for women. It is probable that countries with higher standards in the three macro-indicators could scale up the results, while countries with lower rates could take inspiration from ECOVIO and start building awareness and mechanisms to improve their conditions.

4.1.2 Research

The research conducted by ECOVIO, which is described in Chapter 1, is the first result analysed for the sake of the Study.

The research can be easily transferred thanks to its sound results, the clear methodology and the thorough literature review used to identify potential missing spots in the academic and institutional research on economic abuse.

The research can apply to countries which are similar to Spain and Italy on the Socio-cultural level and have a similar National legal context in which social workers, the judicial system, and NGOs can operate. However, the transferability of the result would need some adjustments for the following elements:

- In countries where protection orders cover economic violence and economic violence is considered as an offence by criminal law, the issue should be weighted in the research, considering that both Spain and Italy have a rather low score in macro-indicator 2 and that a

higher level of protection change substantially the practical life of a woman and her children, if she has any;

- Countries which have a high level of gender equality and economic equality might be less sensitive to employment exploitation because they offer more similar conditions to men and women, regardless of their gender, as compared to countries in which these indicators are particularly low. On the contrary, countries in which the risk of poverty for women is far more higher as compared to men²⁹ (such as Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Ireland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta) the relevance of employment sabotage and exploitation escalate considerably, reaching a higher sensitivity in comparison with other items of the research;
- Keeping in mind that economic violence may affect women of all socio-economic conditions, countries with lower gender equality policies and conditions could generally be less receptive to issues affecting women, such as GBV and EA. This also means that it could be harder to recognise EA for women who perceive behaviours and forms of violence, and especially economic abuse, as part of their gender roles in society.

Considering the key factors for transferability described in Chapter 2, to successfully transfer the ECOVIO research and draw useful conclusions, it would be useful to consider the following suggestions:

- Include a multidisciplinary team in the drafting of the research and identify local anti-violence centres to ensure a bottom-up approach. Anti-violence centres could be involved since the first phases of the research to draft the most appropriate items because they are particularly aware and responsive on GBV and know the specific target population of the country and the region;
- Moreover, the drafting of the research should also consider professionals who work for women who suffer GBV also in other contexts: social workers, lawyers, educators, teacher of their children, centres who work with perpetrators, trade unions and work councils where present, institutions, local academies and research centres and law enforcement agencies;
- The research should be a long-term engagement, with stable funding, with the possibility of following the possible changes in a woman's situation during the period of the research. To do so, the women participating in the research should be following a path with an Institution or an

²⁹ See Macro-indicator 3, sub-indicator 3.

NGO in order to be accessible and responsive during the necessary period. This is particularly relevant considering that the dropout in longer projects is usually higher because women who leave violence could be willing to forget their past and start a life that does not involve violence in any way;

- The items of the research should also be weighted in light of the specific laws on separation and divorce: in some countries, a two-year period could involve different steps in the process as compared to Italy and Spain and could thus result in different settings and situations for women.
- Provided the required adaptations, consider the possibility to integrate the items of the research into already existing research or data collection activities carried out by national institutes of statistics, universities, research centres.
- Provided the required adaptations, consider the possibility to promote the integration of a number of items of the research into the data collection systems or databases of anti-violence centres.

4.1.3 Training for professionals

The training materials developed for the Project offer a description of the research and break it down to better explain economic abuse to professionals such as: 1) social workers, educators and advocates; 2) legal professionals and authorities.

The objective of the training materials is thus to raise awareness on the issue with an experience-based perspective, starting from the answers of the women involved in the survey and interviews.

Being connected to the Research, the same observations mentioned above are applicable to the Training in terms of the socio-cultural and economic situation in the country, and the specific laws for separation and divorce.

However, considering that the Training materials are directed towards professionals, it is pivotal to pay attention to macro-indicator 2, which is the National legal context, and sub-indicators 4 and 5 of macro-indicator 3, which are the practices, linked to the services for women who suffer GBV.

As mentioned previously, the awareness of professionals about the GBV, the legal tools they have at their disposal and the general professional culture on GBV make a great difference in the objectives,

contents and methodology of training materials for professionals. There are countries, or even regions, in which GBV is solely considered as a medical issue, a legal issue or a private issue. This can result in a sole sanitary response from Institutions and medical entities that does not encompass a psychological support for women or does not validate women who suffer forms of abuse other than sexual or physical violence, thus excluding more invisible forms of GBV such as economic abuse.

On the other hand, within a system that only encompasses a legal response, women who don't trust their legal system, or live in regions with a cultural "code of silence" on violence, won't have the opportunity to leave the abusive relationship and seek help, or they will be forced to press charges in order to end the abusive relationship even if it means that they will be less safe due to the slowness of the legal system and law enforcement or the fact that they don't have any guarantee that a restraining order will be issued or, eventually, that it will be respected.

This complexity in the work to tackle GBV and the different legal, law enforcement, cultural, medical, social conditions of each country makes it evident that training materials should be tailored to the specific country's or region's conditions.

This does not mean that ECOVIO training materials cannot be transferred to other countries, but they should be heavily adapted to fit in other situations.

To ease the process, some indications and suggestions for the transferability of training materials are listed below:

- ECOVIO training materials are more easily transferable to countries with a good score in macro-indicator 1, and thus a good level of compliance with international frameworks, because it specifically mandates a multi-disciplinary and multi-agency approach to GBV;
- Addressing professionals in the legal field and authorities, ECOVIO training materials are more easily transferable to countries with civil law legal tradition such as Italy and Spain;
- Considering that ECOVIO specific focus is EA after separation, countries that criminalise the missed payment of alimony could be more receptive of ECOVIO's research structure and training;
- Training materials which are in Spanish and their attachments should be entirely translated in English and in each language of the country where they are meant to be transferred. Considering

that the level of proficiency in English and other languages is not the same for all European countries, and considering that certain European regions are not used to provide services in English, it is highly probable that training materials that are only provided for in Spanish or are only translated in English will reduce their usefulness to a limited share of the professionals involved, depending on the specific country;

- Training materials should be tailored for each country considering the abovementioned criteria and balancing the current situation with the necessity to improve the system including sectors and professionals that are not currently involved in tackling GBV but whose contribution could be crucial to build a better system. Moreover, training materials should provide for practical guidelines to conduct one's role and activate other entities from the anti-violence network;
- The transferability of training materials could be impaired by the lack of awareness on GBV in general and economic abuse specifically in Universities, technical schools, training courses for professionals and the overall educational system for professionals who are meant to work with women who suffer GBV. This results in different starting points for training materials, and different instructions for different targets;
- The structure and aim of ECOVIO training materials are particularly transferable to countries where EA is not criminalised or it is only partly covered by other offences, because their framework is more similar to the Spanish and the Italian.

Considering the abovementioned key factors for transferability, described in Chapter I, to successfully transfer the ECOVIO training materials and draw useful conclusions, it would be useful to consider the following suggestions:

- Assess the current situation of each involved country or region and identify the professionals who work to tackle GBV and those who should be involved in a long-term training;
- Include institutions, sanitary entities and the anti-violence centres, when present, to assess the specific necessities for training in each situation;
- Involve professional associations as key actors for the local/national transferability of the training materials.
- Evaluate the political willingness and the availability of funds to build a multiple-step training program: the training should be a long-term commitment and should involve follow-up

moments and workshops on specific working cases, which are particularly useful to convey the correct perspective and highlight the actual difficulties of the work.

4.1.4 Network building and Observatory

The strategy for Network building and the aim of the Observatory, as described in Chapter 1, are good examples of perfectly transferable results: they define the engagement, recruitment, dissemination and communication plan and actions and are revised and updated upon necessity. Moreover, the Observatory is a great resource which is extremely adaptable and its content and specific focus only depend on the aim and perceived necessity established by whom manages it.

Even though the transferability of this result is easier as compared to the first two, the following considerations could be useful:

- The strategy for Network building is easily transferred to countries with a similar or higher score in macro-indicator 2, National legal system, and with a similar or better Socio-cultural situation as compared to Spain and Italy;
- The strategy is more easily transferred to countries in which social media are recognised and used by professionals, institutions and entities and where these verified social network profiles and pages are considered as a reliable source of information, together with the more traditional ones;
- Network building is more easily transferable in countries with strongly socially committed Universities which value cooperation with NGOs, research centres and other Institutions;
- Countries with higher scores in macro-indicator 1 more easily transfer the Network building and Observatory strategy because they should entail a stronger multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach and already provide for occasions of good practice exchange and for awareness raising;
- Dissemination and communication strategies must be adjusted depending on the general level of awareness for the different targets, which for ECOVIO are:
 - 1) authorities, professionals within the legal system,
 - 2) professionals working with women,
 - 3) women who suffer GBV, perpetrators and society as a whole.

Considering the differences among these three targets, to make the ECOVIO strategy effective in other countries, it is necessary to assess their current level of involvement and awareness. It is useful to involve local NGOs and especially anti-violence centres who are already working on GBV, even though they are not necessarily working on EA specifically, and outline a local strategy based on their experience-based suggestions;

- The specific focus of the Observatory should encompass EA and other forms of GBV, considering the literature review, resources and scientific articles, and should entail specific good practices that inspire the target user.

Considering the abovementioned key factors for transferability, described in Chapter 2, to successfully transfer the ECOVIO network building and Observatory results, and draw useful conclusions, it would be useful to consider the following suggestions:

- Assess the current situation of each involved country or region and identify the specific necessities and focuses to consider when designing the communication and diffusion strategy, and when structuring the Observatory;
- Include institutions, sanitary entities and the anti-violence centres, when present, to assess the specific necessities and the best tools and communication channels for the dissemination and communication plan aimed at the general public and/or more specific targets such as professionals and GBV survivors or perpetrators;
- Evaluate the political willingness and the availability of funds to build a cohesive and consistent national or international communication strategy that continues even after the ending of the Project and is carried out also by other entities.

4.2 Scalability of the results

The study of the scalability of results for a project is both a challenge and a change-driver: by exploring the strategies to increase the scope of a result, we expand its impact beyond the objectives firstly established in the Project. If the objective of transferability is to spread results taking into consideration the specific conditions of a different country or region, the objective of scalability is to speculate on the possible broadening strategies to maximise the impact of the Project.

The idea behind the Study of the scalability of the results, as described in Chapter 2, is to expand the ECOVIO effort and draw preliminary conclusions on possible subsequent projects and programs on economic abuse that not only include other EU countries but aim to a broader impact. In order to scale up results, we must make an effort in considering their potentialities and imagine how they can be transformed and expand out of the initial scope of the Project.

As seen in the analysis conducted in the previous paragraph, for the sake of scalability countries with overall higher scores in all three macro-indicators will be more easily targeted to design broader scale up strategies. For this purpose, in fact, countries in Cluster 1, that have thus overall higher scores in all macro-indicators, as compared to Italy and Spain, are probably a good arena to increase the value of the Project and reach broader aims and standards. Similarly, countries in Cluster 2 represent a group of States where scalability exercises have good potentialities. On the contrary, countries with lower scores, and namely those who are part of Cluster 3 can more probably barely transfer the results. In fact, considering that they would need to build the foundation awareness on GBV and EA necessary to transfer the results, working further to scale up them would be too expensive in terms of effort, time, and money, and it won't probably justify the final results. For this reason, for the aim of scalability we will mainly refer to countries in Cluster 2 and 1.

4.2.1 Considerations on the Project

Considering the Project as a whole, some consideration can be drawn:

- Successful scaling-up is facilitated when the recipient environment entails the following features:
 - Professionals in the recipient environment (country, region or organisation) perceive a need for innovation and are motivated to implement it;
 - There is the appropriate implementation capacity, decision-making authority, and leadership;
 - There is a sufficient amount of funding.

This means that generally stronger and passionate environments will lead to further results, and that, for the sake of this Study, networks (both regional and national) and local and national Institutions can have the role of drivers of change within their scope because they have the

ability to reach out to more organisation and have first-hand information on the current necessities, tools, and political and Institutional conditions;

- To avoid the denaturation of the Project and bear in mind the initial objective of ECOVIO and its starting point, the scale up should be conducted and monitored by the ECOVIO consortium, together with other entities identified in the specific territories. The outcome could also be the starting point for a new Project that, starting from the experience gained and the new information, could propel social change.

4.2.2 Research

ECOVIO's research can be scaled-up by expanding its scope and adopting a broader focus.

As described in Chapter 1, in light of the literature review the research focused on women with children who had been separated for at least two years and with Spanish or Italian citizenship. Even though this choice is strongly motivated by the research hypothesis, the inclusion of such a limited target and the involvement of only Italian and Spanish women restricts the scope of the research and the study, even if it provides strong clues and conclusions on the phenomenon.

The following suggestions and indications could ease the scale up of ECOVIO research:

- Involve women of different ethnicities, citizenship and levels of language to create a more diverse environment. Even though Spanish and Italian women with perfect fluency in those languages are an easier target for surveys and interviews, women who suffer GBV and live in these countries can be recently arrived from their origin country, could live in those country without having acquired the right to have citizenship or could have a poorer level of Spanish or English, and are thus excluded from the scope of the research. These targets suffer GBV just as much as Spanish and Italian women and could shed light on other issues linked to their specific condition. For instance, it could be harder for them to seek help to an anti-violence centre or social services, they could rely on law enforcement more than the women who have a “family safety net”, or they could resign themselves to live with GBV because they don't know that territorial services can listen to their story and help them even though they don't speak Spanish or Italian.

- Furthermore, having their perspective could improve the research intersectionality, connect different types of discrimination and build a more complete set of competences to be included in training materials, communication and dissemination activities.
- Expand the items of research so to reflect the situation of women whose separation and divorce proceedings are regulated by a third-country's legislations as this could deeply affect the rights and obligations as spouses.
- Test assumptions or correlation that could be based on stereotypes on countries and socio-cultural situations. According to ECOVIO research, women empowerment and vulnerability to economic violence are inversely proportional: the higher the first is, the lower is the woman's possibility of experiencing or being exposed to some forms of economic abuse. However, as underlined above, all women could potentially experience GBV and economic abuse, even if with differences depending on various factors. In this case, the level of economic exploitation could be higher when women have greater economic resources to be exploited. This hypothesis could be the starting point for another scaled-up research, so to test this assumption in countries with a high gender-equality in indicator "Money" as calculated by EIGE (macro-indicator 3, sub-indicator 2). The differences among richer and poorer countries or countries with different levels of economic empowerment for women could result in interesting conclusions.
- Involve entities working with GBV, such as anti-violence centres, in the design of the research to better shape the items in order to depict a situation as close to reality and as useful to practice as possible. In that case, anti-violence centres could also be considered as targets for the research themselves.
- Consider designing the group of participants to the research by different criteria. For instance, the targets could be identified after a previous consultation with social workers, sanitary institutions, law enforcement, territorial institutions and anti-violence centres to tackle precise issues that are typical of the territory. These targets and groups could also be designed based on the research conducted in Chapter 3 of this Study.
- Include women with different marital status to assess the prevalence of economic abuse in different legal and administrative situations and assess whether national legislations are lacking.
- Design a system to randomly include women other than the ones who refer to anti-violence centres and women's associations. This might help the definition of the two groups of women

“with and without GBV” as described in the research because not all women who suffer GBV refer to an anti-violence centre nor press charges for it.

4.2.3 Training for professionals

The following suggestions and indications could ease the scale up of ECOVIO training materials:

- Include and assess the participation of countries that criminalize the non-payment of alimony as the starting point for a scalability action that focus on gender-sensitive practices. Trainings could include role play workshops and training programs based on case study, considering that the focus of ECOVIO is to assess and communicate economic abuse after separation.
- Include more and different targets to the training materials. Among the useful targets for training on economic abuse, we suggest the following:
 - anti-violence centres and services for perpetrators;
 - local and regional institutions;
 - politicians and decision-makers;
 - working unions;
 - teacher;
 - services to the community.
- Adapt training materials to the different targets based on their competences, knowledge and awareness. Adapt the materials by providing for practical guidelines for each specific target and design typical cases to work with to show practical situations and help recognising economic abuse when it applies to women they could cross in their work.

4.2.4 Network building and Observatory

Network building and the Observatory can be easily scaled up by expanding their purpose and expand their channels. The following suggestions and indications could ease the scale up of these ECOVIO results:

- Involve new partners to participate, moderate and populate the Observatory. NGOs could be particularly helpful especially in countries which are hostile to gender equality.

- Consider the creation of a moderated open-source section in the observatory where everyone could upload suggestions, best practices and experiences.
- Maximise the occasions of exchange of good practices among countries with different focuses and with different stages of competences on economic abuse and GBV. As underlined above, some countries tackle GBV with a specific and sectorial approach. By exchanging knowledge, competences, practices and functioning strategies, different countries could benefit from the exchange and change of perspective.
- Gather and rank the good practices in the Observatory by level of transferability and type of approach, and create specific sections for institutions, NGOs and social services.
- Propose the Observatory as a focal point for entities who want to expand their competences on economic abuse by creating a horizontal network and periodic discussions and meetings.
- Create a periodic newsletter managed by entities from different regions of Europe, even targeted by considering the clustering proposed in Chapter 3.
- Include other channels for dissemination and advocacy, especially involving Universities, research centres and/or human rights centres.

4.3 Example of transferred result (Deliverable 4.1)

Regulation on economic violence at the national level: a focus on the Italian context

General legal framework

- Gender-neutral formulation of criminal offences;
- For offences categorized “against the person”, aggravating circumstance if committed in the context of intimate relationships;
- Economic violence mentioned for the first time in article 3 of Law-decree 93/2013 converted by Law 119/2013;
- Economic violence is not a crime in itself;
- Protection orders for victims of domestic violence in both civil and criminal law.

A. Criminal law

Under Italian law “economic violence” is not recognised as an offence *per se*. However, the material conduct of this form of violence may be covered by a number of criminal provisions.

1. Ill-treatment in the family (Article 572 of the Criminal Code)

Article 572 of the Italian Criminal Code punishes the offense of “Ill-treatment in the family” which applies to the conduct of “anyone who mistreats a person of the family or in any case a cohabiting person, or a person under his authority or entrusted to him for reasons of education, training, care, supervision or custody, or for the exercise of a profession or art”.

The penalty for “Ill-treatment in the family” may extend from 3 years to 7 year’s imprisonment.

The basic characteristics of this crime are:

- it is categorised as a crime of habitual nature. Therefore, for violent conduct to qualify as ill-treatment, it must be characterised by the systematic nature of the violent conduct;

- it requires the criminal intent of causing physical and/or psychological harm to the victim and/or violating her dignity;
- it is subject to *ex officio* prosecution;
- the offence is commonly interpreted as applying also to former spouses and partners, regardless of any co-habitation.

In its First baseline report on Italy³⁰, GREVIO draws attention to the fact that **the offence of ill-treatment encompasses a broad range of behaviours**, as well as a wide range of perpetrators, including members of the family, co-habitants or individuals exercising an authority over the victim or who are entrusted with the victim's instruction or care, **making it difficult to capture the different relevant conducts identified in the Istanbul Convention such as psychological and economic violence.**

Relevant case-law

Supreme Court of Cassation - Criminal Section - Ruling n. 43960/2015

The Supreme Court examined a case involving a husband charged with the crime of "Ill-treatment in the family" for having, among other things, prevented his wife from being economically independent.

The Supreme Court, confirming the decision of the preliminary judge to close the criminal case, states that "having prevented his wife from being economically independent cannot integrate a form of "economic violence" under Article 572 of the Criminal Code. As already noted, this offense requires evidence of oppressive behaviours capable of provoking a real state of psycho-physical prostration of the victim. On the other contrary, the economic and organizational choices within the family, although not fully shared by both spouses, cannot in themselves integrate the crime of ill-treatment, unless it is proven that they are the result of proven acts of violence or psychological abuse"

³⁰ Para 67 <https://rm.coe.int/grevio-report-italy-first-baseline-evaluation/168099724e>,

Supreme Court of Cassation - Criminal Section - Ruling n. 18937/2016

With ruling n. 18937/2016, the judges of the Supreme Court confirmed that economic abuse may be covered by the offence of ill-treatment in the family. In the case at hand, the judges specified that "the deprivation of financial resources constitutes only one of the numerous forms of ill-treatment perpetrated by the accused" as the husband of the injured person "had prevented his wife the access to their bank account and the use of the ATM, leaving her only a card for shopping in the supermarket, with a limited plafond".

2. Violation of family care obligations (Article 570 of the Criminal Code)

Article 570 of the Criminal Code criminalises the violation of family care obligations.

It sanctions three different criminal conduct:

1. Leaving the marital home or engaging in a conduct which goes against the family order or morals, along with violating parental or marital responsibilities. (Article 570, first paragraph).
2. Taking personal advantage of or squandering properties which belong to underage children or the spouse, by abusing one's own position. (Article 570, second paragraph, no. 1).
3. Failing to provide the proper means of support to underage children, to children who are incapable of working, to the spouse or to dependent parents, due to one's own misconduct (Article 570, second paragraph, n. 2).

The penalty for this crime is up to one-year imprisonment or a fine from € 103,00 to € 1.032,00.

The basic characteristics of this crime are:

- it is punishable upon a report or complaint filed by a victim, while it can be prosecuted *ex officio* in the cases provided for by number 2 of the previous paragraph and, when the crime is committed against minors, by number 3 of the previous paragraph;
- the children or spouse have to be in a "status of need" and the obligor has to be aware of it;
- the obligor need to have the means to provide the means of subsistence;

- wilful misconduct is necessary, consisting in the conscious and free will and the intention to make the needy person lack the means of subsistence. This does not exclude the possibility of deeming the conduct punishable if it is demonstrated that the author has foreseen that, through his negligent behaviour, he would have failed the means of subsistence (criminal responsibility of the accused who had resigned from his job in order to pre-establish a situation of apparent unemployment).

3. Violation of family care obligations following termination of civil effects of marriage for separation, dissolution or invalidity (Article 570-bis of Criminal Code)

In 2018, Article 570-bis of the Criminal Code entered into force, shedding light on the consequences faced by those who, notwithstanding the judge's decision, do not comply with the obligation to pay the alimony to their children or former spouse.

In addition to those who do not pay what is necessary to support children (born both during marriage and outside of wedlock), also those who do not pay any type of due alimony following termination of marriage civil effects for separation, dissolution or invalidity are punishable up to one-year imprisonment or a fine from € 103 to € 1,032.

The basic characteristics of this crime are:

- criminal sanction is applicable regardless of the assessment of the state of need. The criminal sanction is consequent to the failure to pay the alimony established by a court decision, without any assessment as to the state of need or not of the person entitled.
- prosecuted *ex officio*.

B. Restraining and protection orders

Criminal law

The ability of criminal courts to adopt barring and restraining orders in cases of domestic violence is regulated by Law No. 154/2001. Their adoption is governed by Articles 282-bis and 282-ter of the Code of Criminal Procedure regarding precautionary measures. Such measures allow removing the indicted individual from the family home, restraining him from approaching certain locations where the victim usually dwells or from communicating with her, ordering him to stay at a certain distance from the victim.

The judge, at the request of the public prosecutor, can also order the periodic payment of a check in favour of cohabiting persons who, as a result of the precautionary measure ordered, are left without adequate means. The judge can order, if necessary, that the allowance be paid directly to the beneficiary by the employer of the obligee, deducting it from his salary. The payment order is enforceable.

Precautionary measures are issued by criminal courts upon a request by the public prosecution. No time limits apply to their issuance.

Civil law

Law no. 154/2001 further regulated the ability of civil courts to adopt barring and restraining orders. This law introduced Articles 342-bis and 342-ter of the Civil Code which entitle any individual who, within the family, faces a serious prejudice to his or her physical or psychological integrity or liberty, to apply to a civil court for a protection order.

By moral integrity we mean the "patrimony of values of which the subject can be depositary" and by freedom the value "extended to all those profiles that allow the subject to self-determine".

Civil jurisprudence has clarified that "economic violence in family relationships falls within the purview of 342-bis and 342-ter of the Italian Civil Code. Indeed, economic violence is recognized as a conduct seriously damaging the freedom of the person, capable of undermining the psychological equilibrium as well as jeopardizing the possibility of establishing an autonomous life after the separation, not only from a moral but also material point of view."

The request for a protective measure can be made regardless of any criminal proceeding. As for the protection

order under criminal law, the judge may also order the periodic payment of a check in favour of cohabiting persons who, as a result of the measures adopted, remain without adequate means. The judge may set methods and terms of payment and prescribe, if necessary, that the sum be paid directly to entitled by the employer of the obligee, deducting it from his salary.

C. Civil means of enforcement of financial obligation

If the person ordered to pay maintenance does not pay it voluntarily, it is possible to recur to the usual means of enforcement of financial obligations provided by Italian civil law.

In a nutshell, the possibilities are the following:

- send a letter of formal notice;
- in the event of a negative outcome, initiate an executive action. In fact, the separation sentence containing the obligation to pay the alimony constitutes an enforceable title, therefore, it is possible to notify an injunction followed by the foreclosure of assets.

Alternatively it is possible to request the seizure of the assets of the obligee (Article 156 c. 6 of the Italian Civil Code), or to apply to the judge to order a third party (creditor of the debtor - for example, the employer) to pay the sum directly to the beneficiary.

4.4 Recommendations

4.4.1 General recommendations for national authorities

- Ratify the Istanbul Convention and constructively engage with GREVIO and other international human rights monitoring or judicial bodies such as the European Court of Human Rights and the CEDAW.
- Advocate for the accession of the European Union to the Istanbul Convention and/or support any further legislative initiative of the European Commission for a comprehensive directive on violence against women, which shall include economic abuse among the forms of violence.
- Counter, via diplomacy and multi-lateral efforts, false or incorrect narratives about the gendered language of the Istanbul Convention.

- Recognise and address violence against women as a form of gender-based violence, as provided for by international and regional standards.
- Include economic abuse among the forms of violence against women/domestic violence recognised at the national level.
- Promote research and studies to investigate the characteristics, dynamics and incidence of economic abuse in the country.
- Adopt a national strategy on violence against women ensuring that measures equally address prevention, protection, investigation, in accordance with the due diligence standards.
- Guarantee that economic violence is effectively punished under criminal law and that victims of such violence have access to the same level of protection existing for victims of all other forms of violence.
- Set up specific forms of legal protection in the event of economic violence. Among the others, these could include:
 - a guarantee mechanism to address the problem of unpaid alimony, a form of economic violence affecting mainly women and their children;
 - the recognition of an exception of the principle of criminal immunity in the event of theft between spouses by recognising it an offense when it concerns documents essential to the victim's daily life such as means of payments;
 - the recognition of certain exceptions to the principle of solidarity of debts between spouses;
 - the possibility of early and effective dissociation of accounts and debts.
- Adopt a multidisciplinary and multi-agency approach, based on a human rights perspective in compliance with the international community requirements.

Recognize and value the experience and contribution of specialized services run by women's association, providing adequate funding.

4.4.2 Recommendations for professionals within the legal system

- Engage in continuous training on the issue of gender-based violence, advocating for the permanent inclusion of the issue in educational programmes of Law faculties, specialized

courses for members of the Judiciary as well as in mandatory training programmes of professional associations.

- Adopt a gender sensitive interpretation and application of legal norms, including:
 - criminal provisions covering some of the underlying conducts of economic abuse;
 - family law provisions dealing with separation, divorce and custody rights;
 - civil law provisions dealing with enforcement of financial obligations.
- Promote strategic litigation pushing for the recognition of different forms of economic abuse as violence against women, especially after separation and divorce.
- Recognize and value the experience and contribution of specialized services run by women's associations, according to a multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approach.

Connect with national/regional/international networks, such as the Observatory, in order to explore and disseminate best practices.

4.4.3 Recommendations for stakeholders and professionals working with women

- Advocate for the adoption of an effective national strategy for gender equality, which includes measurable and tangible actions and tools for the socio-economic empowerment of women.
- Mobilize support and reduce opposition to the gendered understanding of violence against women through advocacy with influential individuals, groups or institutions.
- Spread knowledge about the issue of economic violence, both during and after the relationship, both to the general public and to (potential) victims of economic violence through, for example, awareness raising campaigns, the drafting of informative materials, video or radio spots.
- Implement self-awareness paths on economic independence and financial literacy courses for women involved or at risk of economic violence.
- Advocate for the recognition and criminalization of economic violence as well as for the adoption of specific forms of protection.
- Engage in continuous training on the issue of gender-based violence, advocating for the permanent inclusion of the issue in educational programmes of university courses (social service, medicine, political science, educational science), professional training courses as well as in training programmes of professional associations.

- Promote forms of collaboration with universities or research institute to expand and disseminate knowledge and awareness about the characteristics, dynamics and incidence of economic abuse in the country.
- Connect with national/regional/international networks, such as the Observatory, in order to explore and disseminate best practices, but also to build networks for common initiatives or projects on the prevention and fight against economic abuse.
- Constructively engage with and take advantage of the possibilities provided for by international human rights monitoring or judicial bodies such as CEDAW, GREVIO or ECtHR to provide information (i.e. shadow reports) or to file a complaint/submission in order to report a situation of non-compliance with the due diligence standards concerning economic violence.

4.4.4 Recommendations for the general public (and women who suffer GBV and perpetrators)

- Be an activator of the social and cultural change towards the full recognition of women's right to live free from violence and the right to equality in every aspects of public and private life.
- Speak out against gender-based violence and economic violence, joining and supporting local/regional/national/international initiatives of civil society organisations.
- Get information about the phenomenon of violence against women, including economic violence, and about the different forms of support provided to survivors by specialized services such as anti-violence centres.
- Spread informative materials and contacts of specialized services at your workplace, sport facilities, etc.
- If a women you know is leaving a situation of violence, including economic abuse, let her known that she is not alone. If she wishes so, listen to her, believe her story without judging her choices. Provide her with the contact of the closest anti-violence centre.
- If you are experiencing a situation of violence or even if you are not sure that what you are living is violence, contact the anti-violence centre close to you.
- If you realize you are exerting violence, contact the centre for perpetrators near to you and get information on their support programs to stop perpetrating violence and seek help.

Annexes

Annex A. History

Document History	
Versions	V0_GruppoR
	V1_UNEX revision and content adaptation to the project template
Contributions	

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Annex C: Data sources for the population of macro and sub-indicators

Macro-indicator	Sub-indicator	Data source
1. International Legal Framework	Ratification of Istanbul convention	Details of Treaty N° 210 - Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence; https://www.coe.int/en/web/conventions/full-list/-/conventions/treaty/210/signatures?module=treaty-detail&treaty-num=210
	Ratification of CEDAW with or without reservations	Ratification Status for CEDAW - Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/TreatyBodyExternal/Treaty.aspx?Treaty=CEDAW&Lang=en
	GREVIO recommendations on economic violence	Council of Europe – Istanbul Convention – Action against violence against women and domestic violence - Country-monitoring work; https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/country-monitoring-work
	CEDAW recommendations on economic violence	UN Treaty Body Database; https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/TBSearch.aspx?Lang=en&TreatyID=3&DocTypeID=29

<p>2. National Legal Context</p>	<p>Recognition of gendered nature of violence in national legal provisions and/or policy documents</p>	<p>European Parliament (Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs) (2020). <i>Tackling violence against women and domestic violence in Europe – The added value of the Istanbul Convention and remaining challenges</i>, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/658648/IPOL_STU(2020)658648_EN.pdf</p> <p>EIGE, Legal Definitions in the EU Member States, https://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/regulatory-and-legal-framework/legal-definitions-in-the-eu</p> <p>UN WOMEN Global Database on Violence against Women, https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/en</p> <p>Council of Europe – Istanbul Convention – Action against violence against women and domestic violence - Country-monitoring work;</p> <p>https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/country-monitoring-work</p> <p>European Parliament (Policy Department for Citizens' Rights and Constitutional Affairs) (2020). <i>Violence against Women: Psychological Violence and Coercive Control</i>, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/650336/IPOL_STU(2020)650336_EN.pdf</p> <p>Additional desk research included national legislation, be it criminal or a general act on violence including provisions of different nature (criminal, civil, administrative), while policy documents mainly concerned national action plans or strategy on violence.</p>
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	<p>Economic violence included in domestic definition of GBV</p>	<p>EIGE, Legal Definitions in the EU Member States, https://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/regulatory-and-legal-framework/legal-definitions-in-the-eu</p> <p>European Parliament (Policy Department for Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs) (2020). Tackling violence against women and domestic violence in Europe – The added value of the Istanbul Convention and remaining challenges, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/658648/IPOL_STU(2020)658648_EN.pdf</p>
	<p>Economic violence considered an offense per se or partly covered by criminal law (e.g. theft, concealing assets, damage against personal property, not paying alimony, etc)</p>	<p>EIGE, Legal Definitions in the EU Member States, https://eige.europa.eu/gender-based-violence/regulatory-and-legal-framework/legal-definitions-in-the-eu</p> <p>EIGE (2019). Understanding Intimate Partner Violence in the EU: the Role of Data, https://eige.europa.eu/publications/understanding-intimate-partner-violence-eu-role-data.</p> <p>E-Justice, Family maintenance, https://e-justice.europa.eu/47/EN/family_maintenance</p>
	<p>Protection orders cover economic violence</p>	<p>European Parliament (Policy Department for Citizens’ Rights and Constitutional Affairs) (2020). Tackling violence against women and domestic violence in Europe – The added value of the Istanbul Convention and remaining challenges, https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2020/658648/IPOL_STU(2020)658648_EN.pdf</p>

3. National Socio-cultural Context	Gender equality index score (2020) from European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)	EIGE Gender equality index score (2020), https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/about
	Score on economic and financial situation (2020) from EIGE	EIGE Gender equality index score (2020), https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/about
	Difference among men and women not at risk of poverty in percentage (2020)	EIGE Gender equality index score (2020), https://eige.europa.eu/gender-equality-index/about
	Presence of National women helplines that are free of charge and open 24/7 (that respect Istanbul Convention standards) (2018)	WAVE COUNTRY REPORT 2019. The Situation of Women's Specialist Support Services in Europe, https://www.wave-network.org/wp-content/uploads/WAVE_CR_200123_web.pdf
	Percentage of beds missing in shelters for women survivors of GBV (2018)	WAVE COUNTRY REPORT 2019. The Situation of Women's Specialist Support Services in Europe, https://www.wave-network.org/wp-content/uploads/WAVE_CR_200123_web.pdf

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