



## European network of legal experts in gender equality and non-discrimination

### FLASH REPORT

**Country:** Croatia  
**Title:** COVID-19 – preliminary indications of increase of violence against women  
**Date:** 06 July 2020  
**Expert:** Adrijana Martinović  
**Context**  
**Issue at stake:** Consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown  
**Grounds of discrimination:** Sex  
**Field of application:** Violence against women  
**Source:** Policy development

### Content

**Policy (COVID-19) development:** Preliminary evidence shows an increase of violence against women and partner violence, which can only be associated with the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown. The most staggering data is that in the first five months of 2020, reported cases of rape increased by 227.8 %, and attempted rape by 175 % in comparison with the same period in 2019.<sup>1</sup>

**Key points of analysis:** Many preliminary evidence and available information point to an increase of partner and domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdown, as was expected. Reported cases of rape have more than doubled. Other available statistical evidence shows that domestic violence is on the increase as well (in April 2020, a 10 % increase in reported cases of domestic violence is reported, which includes criminal, as well as misdemeanour offences).<sup>2</sup> However, there is no specific evidence in how many of these cases victims were women.

### **Internet link source:**

Ministry of Interior, *Kalendar nasilja*, available at <https://mup.gov.hr/kalendar-nasilja/283308>.

Ministry of Interior, Basic security indicators in Croatia, January – May 2020 (*Pregled osnovnih sigurnosnih pokazatelja I.-V. 2020. godine u Republici Hrvatskoj*), available at [https://mup.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/statistika/2020/Pokazatelji%20javne%20sigurnosti/Web\\_hrvatski\\_I-V\\_2020.pdf](https://mup.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/statistika/2020/Pokazatelji%20javne%20sigurnosti/Web_hrvatski_I-V_2020.pdf).

Al Jazeera Balkans news, available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dSKDLMAGE2U&feature=youtu.be>.

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<sup>1</sup> Ministry of Interior (*Ministarstvo unutarnjih poslova*), Basic security indicators in Croatia, January – May 2020 (*Pregled osnovnih sigurnosnih pokazatelja I.-V. 2020. godine u Republici Hrvatskoj*), available at [https://mup.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/statistika/2020/Pokazatelji%20javne%20sigurnosti/Web\\_hrvatski\\_I-V\\_2020.pdf](https://mup.gov.hr/UserDocsImages/statistika/2020/Pokazatelji%20javne%20sigurnosti/Web_hrvatski_I-V_2020.pdf).

<sup>2</sup> Data retrieved from the Ministry of Interior's daily dispatch on reported cases classified as cases of domestic violence (Cro. "*Kalendar nasilja*"), available at <https://mup.gov.hr/kalendar-nasilja/283308>.