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The Regional Civil Society Observatory  
المركز الإقليمي لمؤسسات المجتمع المدني



EuroMed Feminist Initiative  
المبادرة النسوية الأورومتوسطية  
Initiative Féministe EuroMed

## VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE SOUTH MEDITERRANEAN REGION REGIONAL CIVIL SOCIETY OBSERVATORY FACT SHEET

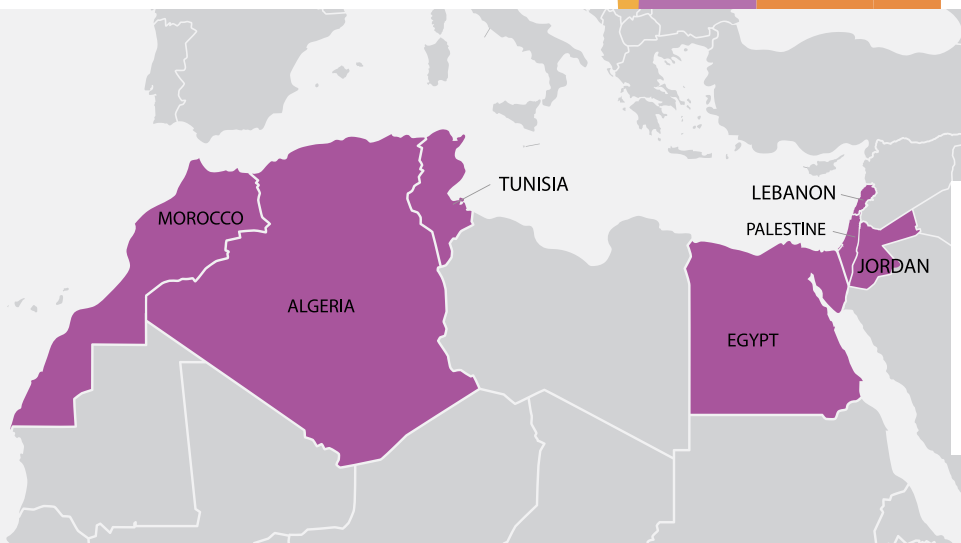
"The human rights of women and of the girl-child are an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights"

The Vienna Declaration and Program of Action (VDPA), (part I, para. 18)



"Gender-based violence is a violation of human rights and main barrier to gender equality, it is detrimental first and most to women, and in particular for the victims themselves, but also it weakens the society as a whole".

Ministerial Declaration of the 4th Union of Mediterranean (UfM) Ministerial Conference on women's rights (November 2017, Cairo), (point 9)



### Methodology:

- Between December 2019 and January 2020
- In seven countries in the South Mediterranean region
- Quantitative survey
- 2,870 questionnaires exploited

## FINDINGS FROM THE SURVEY:

### EXPERIENCE, PERCEPTION AND AWARENESS OF WOMEN REGARDING VAWG

In the South Mediterranean region, there is little reliable information about the prevalence and trends in Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). However, some studies about the reality of women illustrate the magnitude of the problem and show alarming figures on VAWG. Advancing women's rights and combating all forms of VAWG are priorities for Euro Mediterranean countries as stated in the 4th Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) Ministerial Declaration on "Strengthening the Role of Women in Society" (Cairo, 2017) and States are responsible for enacting and implementing laws and public policies to combat VAWG and ensure achieving gender equality.

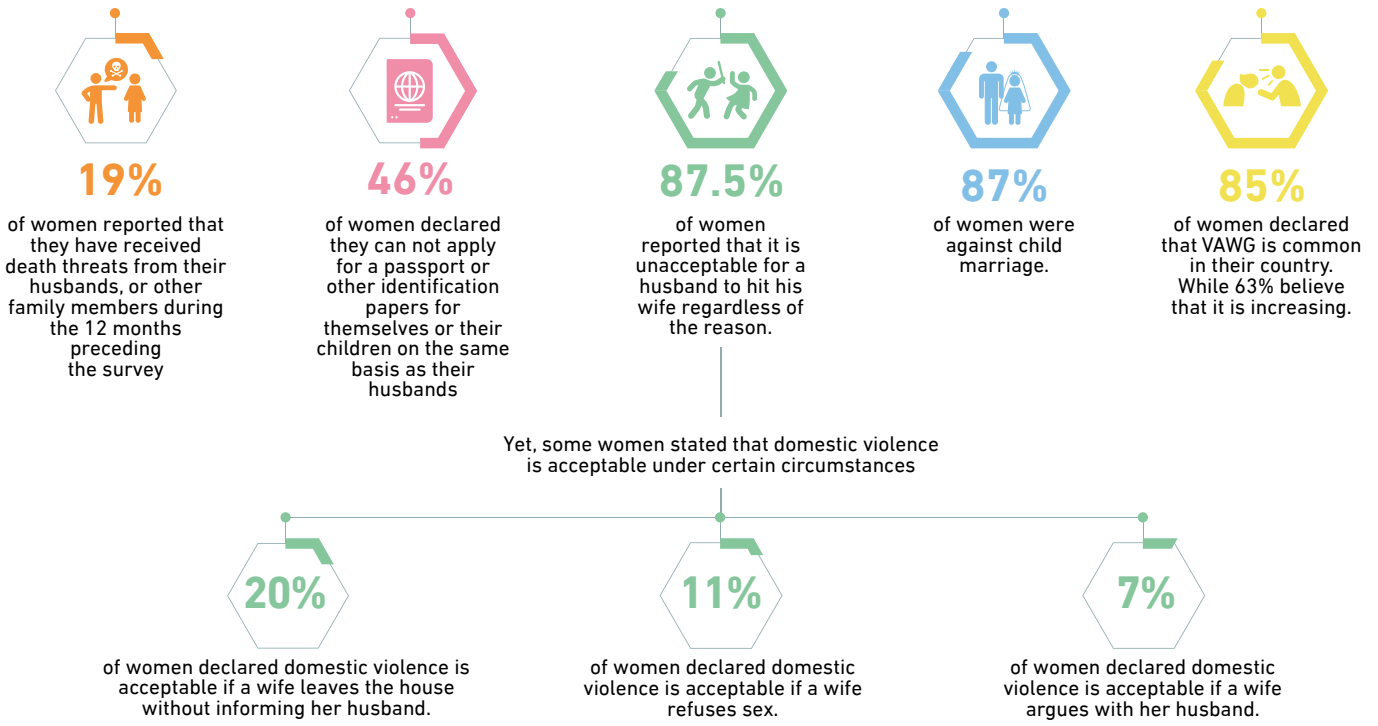
In 2019, the Regional Civil Society Observatory (RCSO) on VAWG was established to follow up on the implementation of the 4th UfM Ministerial

Declaration, particularly in the area of VAWG, Women, the Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA) and Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE). The RCSO was established under a three-year (2019-2021) regional project "Combating Violence against Women in the Southern Mediterranean Region", funded by the EU and implemented by EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI) and a consortium of nine member organizations in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia.

In December 2019, the RCSO launched a survey in these seven countries to assess the level of awareness of women towards the laws and services provided for victims of VAWG, as well as to know the personal experience, perception and values related to VAWG.

# OVERVIEW OF THE MAIN RESULTS OF THE SURVEY

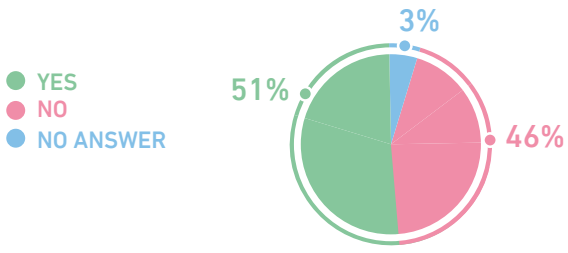
## VAWG IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN:



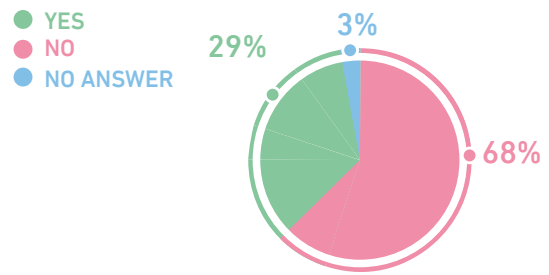
## SURVEY BREAKDOWN

### A- Legal Framework:

Women can apply for a passport or any identification papers for her or her children in the same way as men

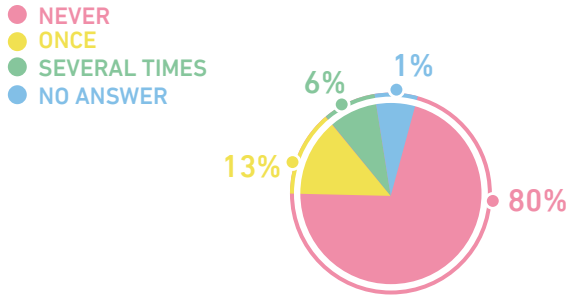


### B2. Women who complained after receiving death threats

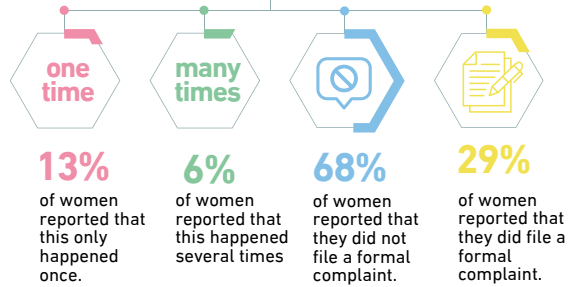


### B- Personal Experience Towards VAWG:

B1. Women who received a death threat from their husband, or other family members

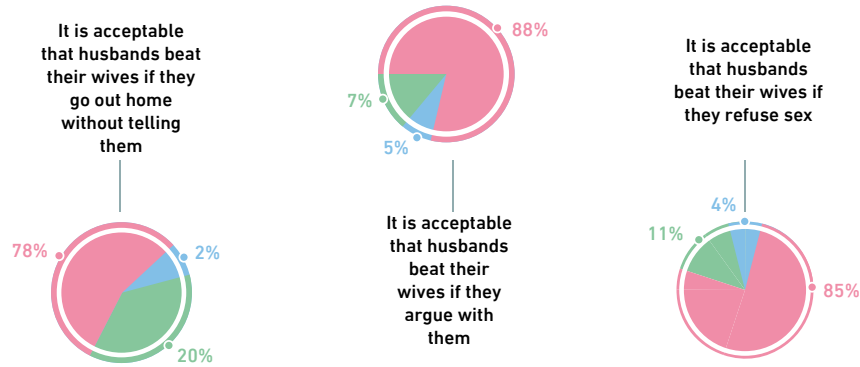


Amongst the 19% of women who received death threats from their husbands, or other family members during the last 12 months:



### C- Attitude and Values Towards VAWG:

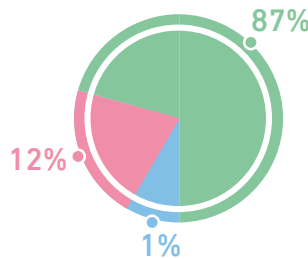
● YES ● NO ● NO ANSWER



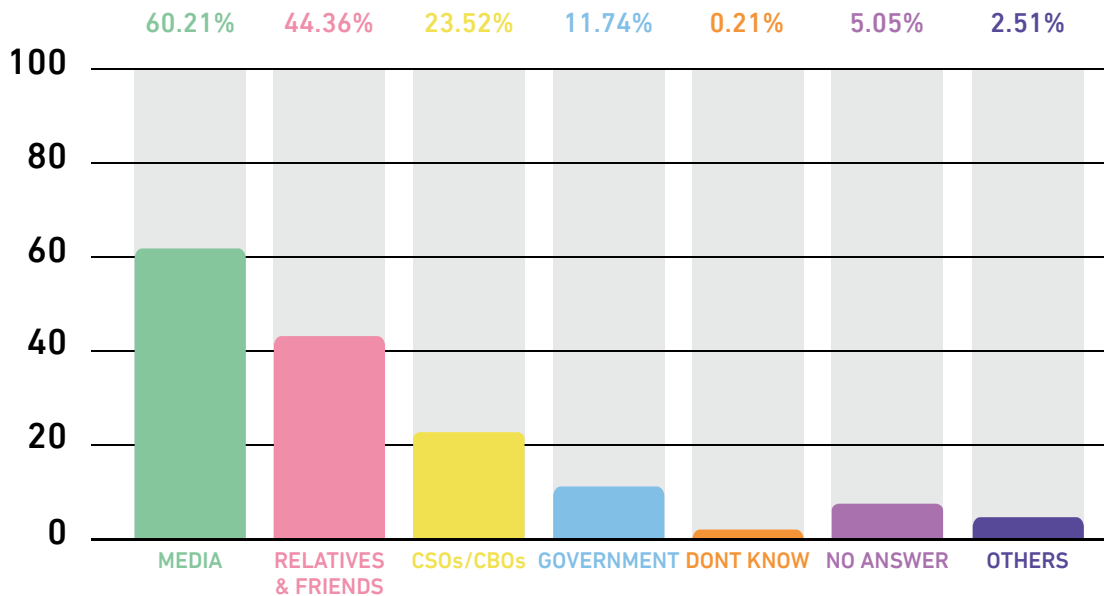
### D- Awareness Towards VAWG:

Women's perception that child marriage should be stopped

● YES ● NO ● NO ANSWER

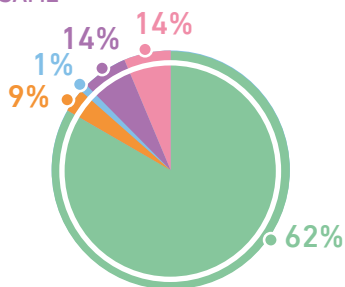


### Sources of information on VAWG

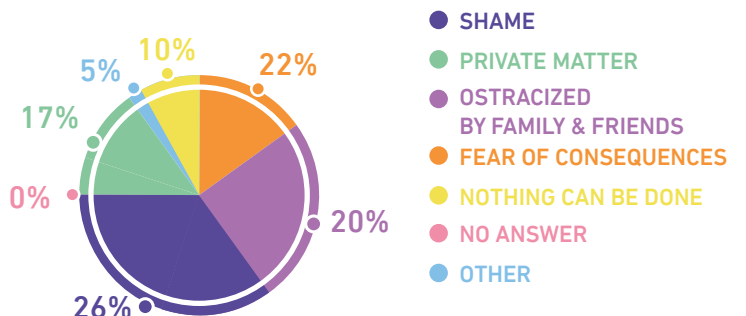


### Women's perception of VAWG level

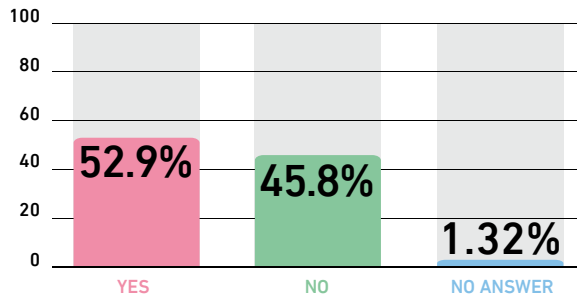
● STAYING THE SAME ● DECREASING ● INCREASING ● NO ANSWER ● DON'T KNOW



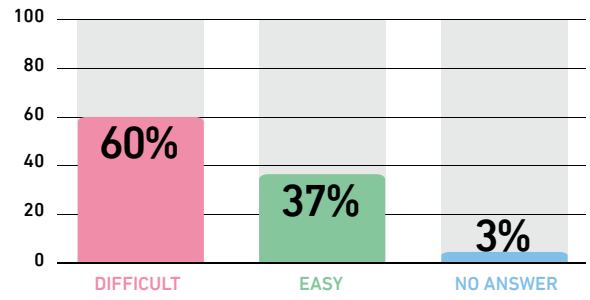
### Barriers that hinder women from reporting violence



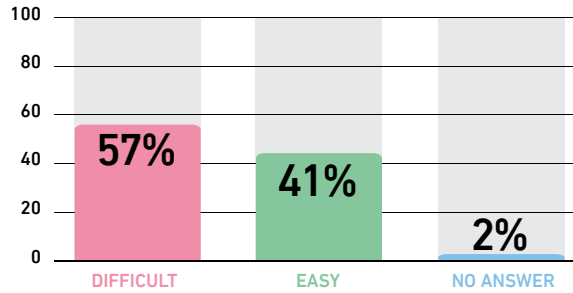
## E- Knowledge of Existing Support Services:



Women are aware of existence of government institutions that address VAWG



Women perception of accessing legal aid services in the community



Women perception of accessing police services in the community



### About the EuroMed Feminist Initiative EFI:

**EuroMed Feminist Initiative** is a policy network encompassing women's rights organization from both shores of the Mediterranean and advocates for **gender equality and women's rights as inseparable from democracy** building and citizenship, political solutions to all conflicts, and for the right of people to self-determination. EuroMed Feminist Initiative seeks to improve and promote women's rights as **universal human rights, the value of gender equality, and the use of non-violent means to solve conflicts**. Our criterion and position align with the international resolutions and conventions and regional instruments promoting the universality of women's rights and strengthening women's impact and voices in conflict resolution.

### About the Regional Civil Society Observatory on VAWG:

**The Regional Civil Society Observatory (RCSO)** is an independent civil society mechanism that follows up on measures and actions to combat VAWG, in particular the implementation of the **Ministerial Declaration of the 4<sup>th</sup> UfM Ministerial Conference on women's rights (November 27<sup>th</sup> 2017, Cairo)** in the area of combatting all forms of **VAWG, Women, Peace and Security Agenda (WPSA)** and **Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE)**.

**The RCSO** is hosted by the **EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI)** in Amman, Jordan. It aims to develop regional tools to follow up on the implementation of the **4<sup>th</sup> UfM Ministerial Declaration**. These include evaluating and highlighting gaps between international women's rights mechanisms and national legislations, providing evidence-based recommendations to policymakers aiming to improve the efficiency of policies and measures in this field and preparing guidelines for **developing WPSA, and support the adoption and implementation of further instruments on UNSCR 1325**.

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**Regional Civil Society Observatory (RCSO) is hosted by EuroMed Feminist Initiative**

**EFI Regional Office- Amman, Jordan**

Lana Commercial Complex - Building No. 5,

Abdullah Ben Rawahah Street

Al Rabiye

Tel: +9626265521782

Fax: +9626226554956

Email: ife@efi-euromed.org

[www.efi-rcso.org](http://www.efi-rcso.org)

[www.Ostik.org](http://www.Ostik.org)

[www.efi-ife.org](http://www.efi-ife.org)