

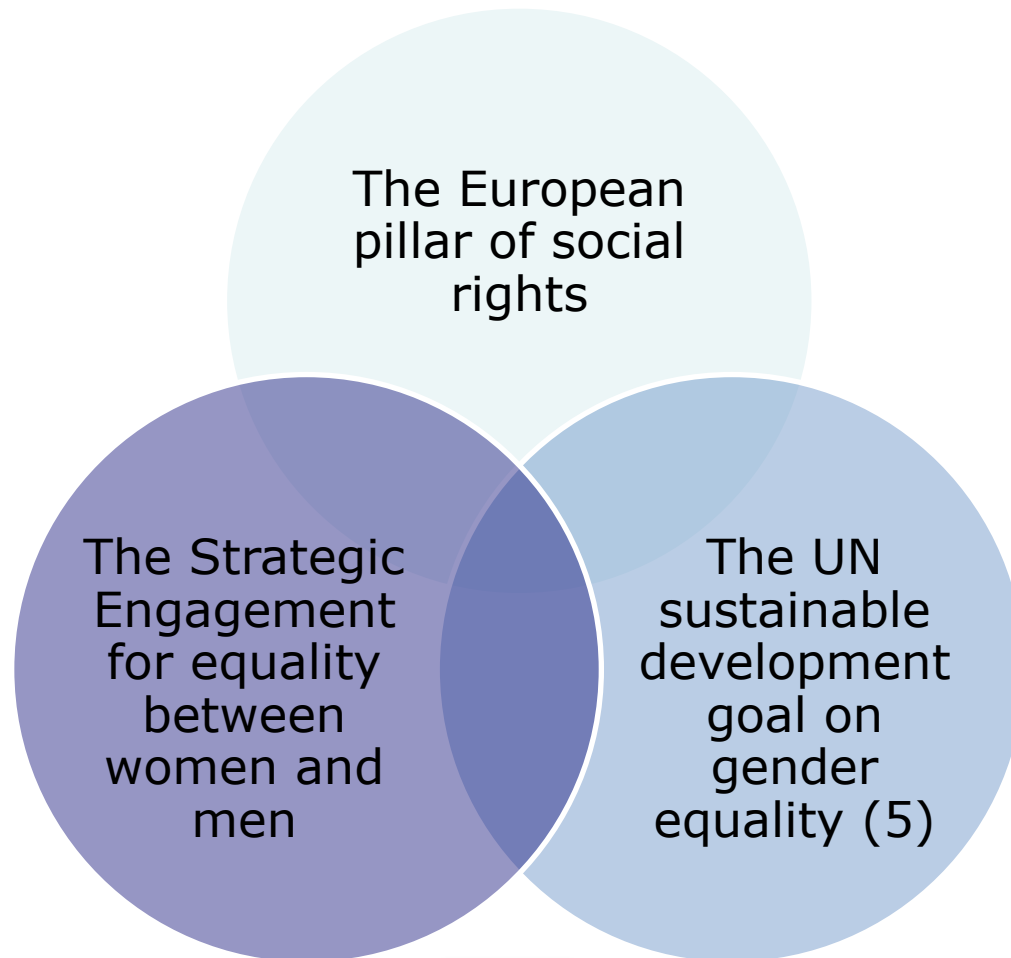


Gender equality in the EU: some reflections on gender and health

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**Conference: Right from the Start: Resetting the Agenda in
Women's Health, European Institute for Women's health,
Brussels, 4 December 2017**

Gender and health : some entry points



Strategic engagement for gender equality 2016-2019



increasing female labour-market participation and the equal economic independence of women and men



reducing the gender pay, earnings and pension gaps and thus fighting poverty among women



promoting equality between women and men in decision-making



combating gender-based violence and protecting and supporting victims



promoting gender equality and women's rights across the world

Forms of violence against women

Domestic violence, including intimate partner violence

Sexual violence, including rape and sexual assault

Sexual harassment and harassment based on sex

Stalking

Cyber violence, including cyber harassment, cyber stalking and online sexist hate speech

Sex trafficking

Harmful practices, e.g. female genital mutilation, forced marriage, so-called "honour crimes"

Figure 13a: Percentage of women experiencing sexual and/physical violence since the age of 15

Source: FRA Survey

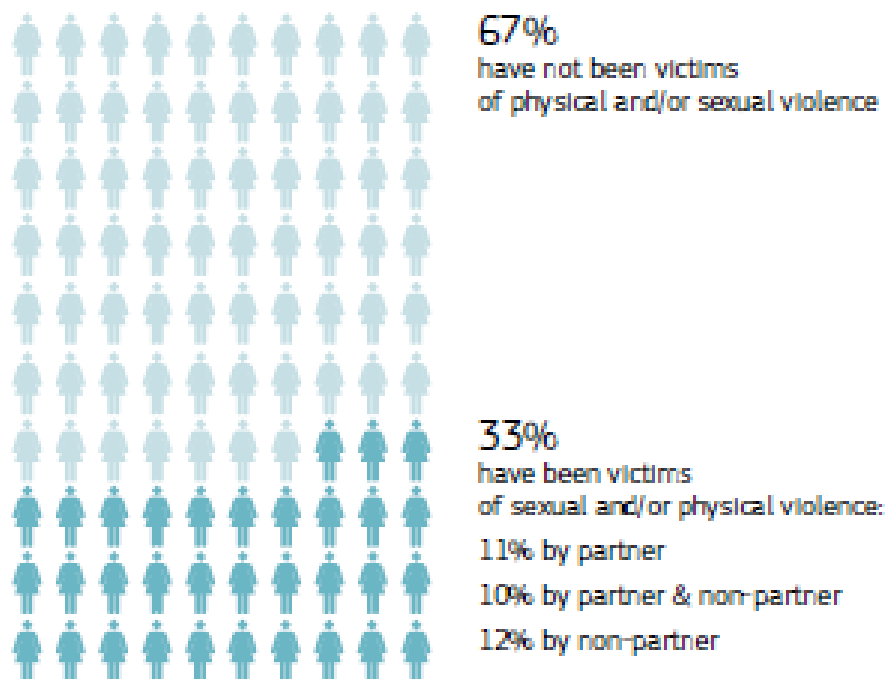
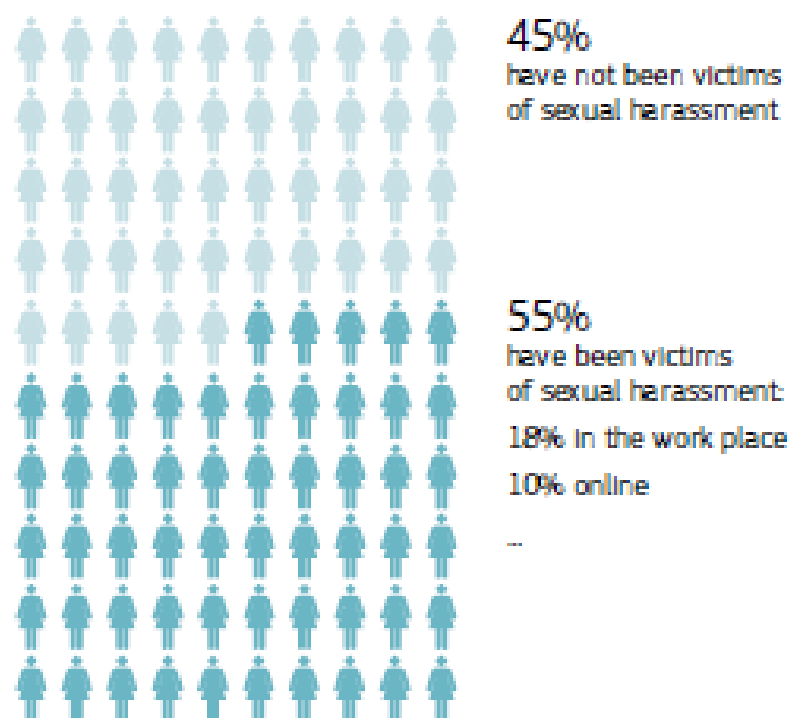


Figure 13b: Percentage of women experiencing sexual harassment since the age of 15

Source: FRA Survey



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: HEALTH IMPACT


Women exposed to intimate partner violence are →

Mental Health

TWICE 
as likely to experience depression

**ALMOST
TWICE** 
as likely to have alcohol use disorders

Sexual and Reproductive Health

16% 
more likely to have a low
birth-weight baby

1.5 TIMES 
more likely to acquire HIV and 1.5 times
more likely to contract syphilis infection,
chlamydia or gonorrhoea

Death and Injury

42% 
of women who have experienced
physical or sexual violence at the
hands of a partner have
experienced injuries as a result

38% 
of all murders of women globally
were reported as being committed
by their intimate partners

All statistics can be found in the report entitled Global and regional estimates of violence against women: Prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence, by the World Health Organization, the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, and the South African Medical Research Council, found here:

<http://www.who.int/reproductivehealth/publications/violence/en/index.html>

Focused Actions to combat violence against women (2017)

- ❑ *Funding to support national information, awareness-raising and education activities aimed at preventing and combating violence against women*
- ❑ *Funding for transnational projects by civil society organisations, local authorities, universities and other stakeholders*
- ❑ *European "umbrella" activities including Eurobarometer on gender-based violence, social media campaign, exchanges of good practice, Maltese Presidency conference on violence against women, mainstreaming in other policy areas*
- ❑ ***Istanbul Convention***
 - ❑ All member states have signed this Convention + ratification process ongoing



A NEW START TO
SUPPORT
WORK_LIFE
BALANCE OF
PARENTS AND
CARERS

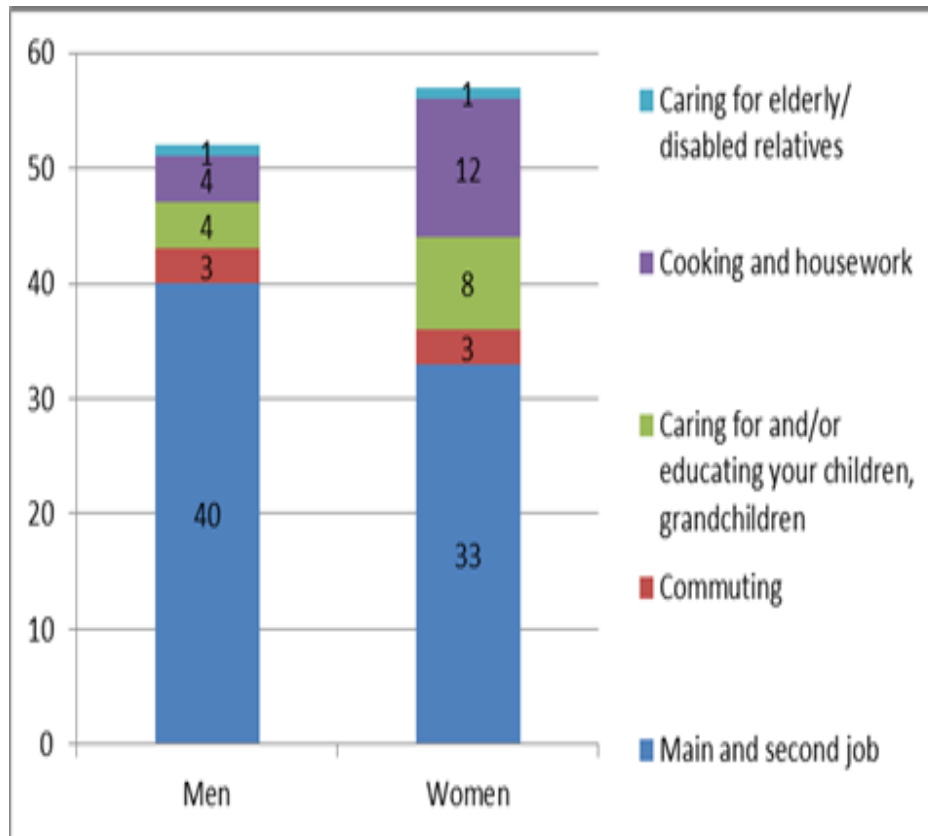
#SocialRights

- **Communication 'An initiative for Work-life balance for Working Parents and Carers (April 2017)**

Care & work : double burden?

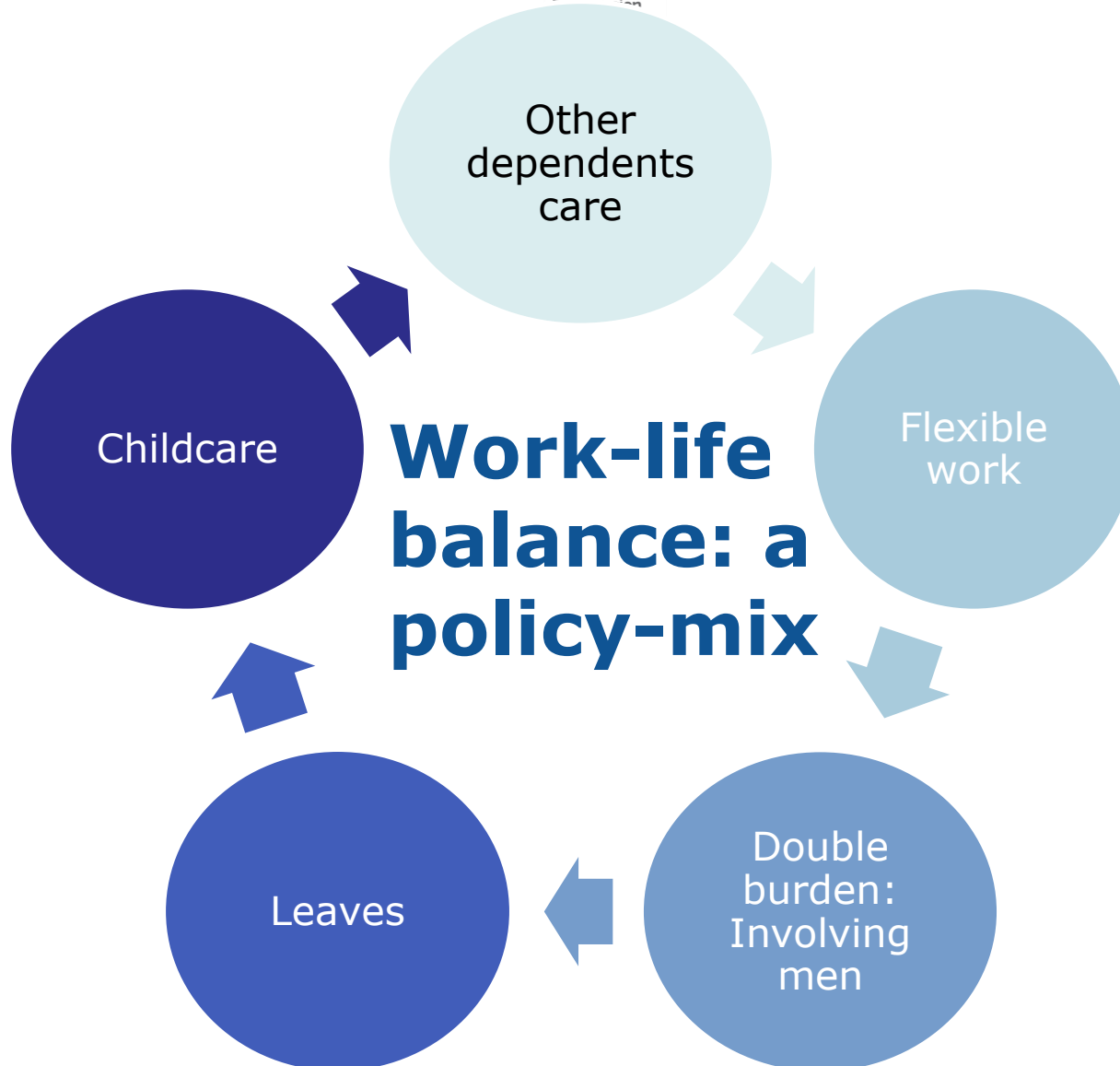


Average time spent by workers on paid and unpaid work per week



Source: Eurofound (2015)





Legislation...

- Revised parental leave directive
- 10 days paid paternity leave
- 4 months for both parents, paid at sick leave level
- Flexible working arrangements
- Carer's leave



... but also policy pressure

- Monitoring the Barcelona targets
- Country-specific recommendations on female employment in 10 EU Member States
- Mutual learning & capacity building on e.g. dismissal protection pregnancy

... and financial support

- Use of the Structural Funds to develop childcare/ other care facilities
- Call for projects on 'closing gender gaps'



Beijing Platform for Action

Women and health

- women's access throughout life cycle to appropriate, affordable and high quality health care, information and related services*
- preventative programmes promoting women's health*
- gender sensitive initiatives to tackle sexual diseases and reproductive health issues*
- research and information on women's health*
- monitoring women's health*

Violence against women

- integrated measures to prevent and eliminate violence against women*
- study of causes and consequences and effectiveness of preventative measures*
- eliminate trafficking of women*

Thank you for your attention!

