**QUESTIONNAIRE**

**“Violence and its impact on the right to health”**

I have the honour to address you in my capacity as Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, pursuant to Human Rights Council resolution 42/16.

I would like to invite you to respond to the questionnaire below. Submissions received will inform my next thematic report on “Violence and its impact on the right to health”, which will be presented to the Human Rights Council in June 2022.

The questionnaire on the report is available at OHCHR website in English (original language) as well as in French, and Spanish: (<https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/health/pages/srrighthealthindex.aspx>).

All submissions received will be published in the aforementioned website, unless it is indicated that the submission should be kept confidential.

There is a word limit of 750 words per question. Please submit the completed questionnaire to ohchr-[srhealth@un.org](mailto:srhealth@un.org). The deadline for submissions is: **18 January 2022.**

Tlaleng Mofokeng

Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health

**Contact Details**

Please provide your contact details in case we need to contact you in connection with this survey. Note that this is optional.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Type of Stakeholder (please select one) | x Member State  Observer State  Other (please specify) |
| Name of State  Name of Survey Respondent | Albania  People’s Advocate Institution |

# Background

Within the framework of Human Rights Council resolution 42/16, the Special Rapporteur on the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health has identified sexuality, gender based violence and femicide as one of her priorities during her tenure (See [A/HRC/47/28](https://undocs.org/A/HRC/47/28) paras 50-64). In compliance with her mandate and in line with this priority she has decided to devote her next thematic report to the 50th session of the Human Rights Council in June 2022 to the theme of “Violence and its impact on the right to health.”

# Objectives of the report

The Special Rapporteur intends to shed light on who is seen as victims of violence, and who is affected by what type of violence, with emphasis on the violence experienced by women, children, LGBTI persons and conflict related gender based violence. She will also explore the role of men as perpetrators and their experience as victims of violence. Her analysis will look into the responses that survivors of violence receive with a focus on good practices, as well as the obligations, responsibilities, and protections that arise under the right to health framework and other relevant human rights in this connection. She will also report on emerging trends related to the impact of COVID-19 on all forms of violence and related responses.

In her report, the Special Rapporteur will address, inter alia, issues related to gender based violence, (including inter-personal and intimate violence), as well as structural violence. She will also assess the impact on violence and the right to health of the criminalization of sex work, same sex relations, transgender persons, abortion, drug use etc. The Special Rapporteur would like to identify good practices and examples of comprehensive health responses to survivors of violence, and to identify lessons learned at the community, national, regional and international levels.

# Key questions

*You can choose to answer all or some of the questions below. (750 words limit per question).*

When responding to the questions below, please use the glossary with definitions at the end of the questionnaire, and refer to all or some of the forms of violence in focus for this study as applicable in your country, countries or region in focus:

1. **Please describe, share data and information on the characteristics, number of cases, and the profile of victims and perpetrators in your country/ies or region(s) regarding:**
   1. **gender based violence against women**

In the last two decades, Albania has made progress in respecting and promoting gender equality and addressing domestic violence, gender-based violence, and violence against women by improving national legislation and policies and harmonizing with international human rights standards. Although violence against women continues to be a severe concern of Albanian society, based on the latest national violence survey data, according to which one in two (52.9%) Albanian women have experienced one or more forms of violence (intimate partner violence, violence that occurs in a romantic relationship, non-partner violence, sexual harassment, stalking) in their lives. Based on the most recent national survey, conducted by INSTAT in 2019, 1 in 2, or 52.9% of women aged 18-74, have "ever" experienced one or more of the five different types of violence in their lifetime - intimate partner violence, violence that occurs in a romantic relationship, non-partner violence, sexual harassment, stalking. More specifically, 47.0% of women (those who were or had been married and living with a partner) have "sometimes" experienced domestic violence from the intimate partner, and 65.8% of women (those who have never been married and never lived with a male partner, but who have been involved in a relationship with a male without living together) have "sometimes" experienced violence during romantic relationships.

Among all women aged 18-74, 18.2% have "ever" experienced non-partner violence, 18,1% have "ever" experienced sexual harassment, and 12.6% have experienced "sometimes" stalking. Also, regarding the recent experiences of violence, 1 in 3 women, or 36.6% of women, have experienced violence during the 12 months before the survey. In particular, 1 in 3 women, or 33.7%, have experienced domestic violence from their intimate partner, and 61,8% have experienced violence in their romantic relationships during the 12 months before the survey. Of all women aged 18-74 years, 3,4% have experienced violence from the non-partner, 8,5% have experienced sexual harassment, and 6,9% have experienced stalking in the 12 months before the survey.

In 2020, the police identified and treated 4,701 cases of violence and other crimes in the family - 72 more cases, or 1.5% more, than in 2019, where there were identified 4629 cases. Throughout 2021, according to the data reported by the State Police, there were 5312 cases of violence reported/evidenced by the police and 16 victims. On the National Advice Line 116 117 (Line), the number of cases reported/identified and handled by this line for reporting violence in 2020 was 5597 and for the period from January to September 2021, there were 2476 calls.

* 1. **gender based violence and other forms of violence against children:**

During the pandemic situation (March 2020-December 2021) at the People’s Advocate (PA) institution, 20 cases were initiated ex-officio to protect the child from all forms of violence. The forms of violence against children that are administered and investigated by the PA institution have been physical, psychological, sexual violence by persons within the circle of faith (father, boyfriend, and his friends, mother, teacher), whereas one case had to do with the violence of a 15-year-old boy exercised by the part of police forces during the period of restricted movement (quarantine). From the above cases, the age-related groups of children and victims of violence vary from 6 to 17 years.

* 1. **gender based violence against LGBTI or other persons based on real or imputed sexual orientation, sex characteristics, and gender identity:**

Although the Republic of Albania Constitution guarantees every person's rights and freedoms, there are moments when the LGBTIQ community experiences discrimination and intolerance, which are encountered within families than in society, work environments, school, and public life in general. The difficulties of this community are experienced in all human life activities, starting from family relationships, at work, in society, in education, in culture, in the health system. So, in all aspects of life and in particular, what we have found is that there are great difficulties in understanding and knowledge about the LGBTI community.

Consequently, due to some prejudices or a backward culture, they continue to be objects of attacks, inappropriate treatment, or violence against them.

Violence against women and girls in the LGBT community is alarming, but it is poorly reported or identified.

LBT in Albania faces physical violence and psychological and emotional violence, for instance, going to doctors to 'cure' homosexuality, as well as economic violence expressed by the family through the threat of non-payment of tuition in case the individual is not involved in heterosexual relations.

The report discovered that transgender women are often victims of hate crimes; they experience violence, police abuse and are excluded from health services. Also, transgender women find it impossible to rent accommodation, as when their gender identity is revealed, sometimes they are evicted with violence from their homes.

* 1. **violence against persons with disabilities, including GBV.**

Women and girls with disabilities report that barriers in communication and access to services sometimes prevent them from denouncing violence and leaving the situation of violence immediately.

Physical violence against women and girls with disabilities, for instance, has to do with: medication nonadherence, isolation at home as the wheelchair is non-functional.

* 1. **gender based violence against men**

Cases of violence against men reported to the responsible institutions are very low or insignificant.

* 1. **conflict gender based violence, including sexual violence**

Another type of domestic violence that is monitored is sexual violence. Sexual violence is any situation in which a woman is forced to engage in or take part in unwanted, unsafe, degrading, and/or degrading sexual acts.; this includes forced sex by the spouse/partner with whom the woman has also had voluntary sex (marital rape). In order to measure and calculate the women's sexual violence experiences, the analysis[[1]](#footnote-1) was based on three voices of specific behavioral. 8,6% of women have "ever" experienced, and 3,6% "currently" experienced one or more of the three types of sexual violence in their marriage / intimate relationship. Sexual violence continues to be the least reported and evidenced form of violence against women in Albania.

* 1. **Please share analysis and available evidence on the impact of COVID on the above**

In the administrative practice of the PA, regarding the monitoring of the integrated child protection system at the central and local level, based on the review and handling of ex-officio cases, online monitoring and inspections conducted physically and online, it is found the violation of the child’s right related to the violence against the child. As a result of the restrictive measures and the isolation of families at home, children who had experienced various forms of violence had difficulties obtaining specialized services due to the loss of physical contact with psychologists of schools and professionals in this field. During this period, the structures responsible for child protection focused on ongoing cases. Child protection services and their support by the relevant institutions were reduced at the beginning of the pandemic due to the lack of cooperation and coordination of responsible identification structures operating in local government units, which could identify these issues in time.

During the pandemic period and particularly with its restrictive measures, the level of violence increased significantly in Albania, as in all other countries of the world, due to the isolation of victims in the same environment with abusers for a long time. During the period (March-May 2020), the number of calls to Line 116 117 was three times higher than the same period a year ago, while the number of reports to the police was lower than in the same period of 2019.

1. **Please describe whether the legal framework prohibits and sanctions these forms of violence and the definitions and forms of violence included in the legal system. Please explain redress options for survivors of violence, (the pathway they go through if they decide to file a complaint), levels of impunity and if access to comprehensive physical and mental care for GBV-survivors is recognized as a form of reparation.**

We would like to note the changes in the provision of Article 130/a of the Criminal Code[[2]](#footnote-2) in 2020, by extending or expanding the circle of subjects against to whom criminal prosecution is exercised and as well as aggravating the sentence. For the first time the term "psychological abuse" is added, the predominant form of domestic violence.

These changes were considered necessary given the increase in the number of registered domestic violence cases, episodes of recurrence of domestic and gender-based violence, and especially cases where violence has been repeated against women who have received protection orders from court until the loss of their lives

Law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006, "On measures against violence in family relation," whose purpose is to prevent and reduce all forms of domestic violence, as well as provide more protection for victims, has undergone significant changes over the years 2018 (law 47/2018) and 2020 (Law 125/2020), fulfilling some of the key recommendations of CEDAW Committee (2016) and GREVIO (2017) for Albania.

The changes in 2020 have improved the legal framework in several areas as: paying particular attention to women, girls, children, the elderly and people with disabilities, subject to this law, court order, as measures for protection againsts domestic violence, for the immediate removal of the abuser from the apartment for a specified period of time, when the victim and the abuser live in the same shelter; adding the article on rehabilitation of abusers; inclusion in the order for immediate protection measures, of the immediate removal of the abuser from the apartment, when the victim and the abuser live in the same shelter, unless the abuser is a minor, the elderly or a person with disability - until the court issues an immediate protection order or protection order; application of the request by the police to the court for the issuance of a protection order, without requesting first the issuance of an immediate protection order, if a state of emergency has been declared in the country, etc.

According to laws No. 47/2018 and No. 125/2020, several bylaws have been adopted, where we emphasize:

* The decision of the Council of Ministers no. 327, dated 2.06.2021 "On the mechanism of the coordination of work between the authorities responsible for the referral of domestic violence cases, as well as its proceedings to support the rehabilitation of the victims of violence";
* Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) in the field of health and social care services (February 2020);
* Joint Order of the Ministry of Justice and the High Judicial Council No. 9, dated 17.06.2020 "On defining the rules in creating a special database on domestic violence issues in the courts and the unification of their registration";
* Order No. 816, dated 27.11.2018, of the Minister of Health and Social Protection "On the approval of the standards for the provision of services and the functioning of the Centers of Crisis Management for cases of sexual violence,"
* Joint Order of the Minister of Health and Social Protection and the Minister of Interior No. 912, dated 27.12.2018 "On the procedures and model of the order measures of immediate protection";
* Joint order of the Minister of Health and Social Protection and the Minister of Interior "On procedures and model of risk assessment for cases of domestic violence."A multi-sectoral system for protecting children from all forms of violence has been established, and the appropriate systems, structures, and mechanisms have been re-evaluated and reactivated with law no. 18/2017 “On the rights and protection of the child” and bylaws for its implementation. This law and related bylaws clarify child protection structures and strengthen the measures that employees can use when identifying children at risk due to violence, abuse, neglect, or exploitation, including emergency measures to immediately remove the child from the dangerous situation.

1. **Please share examples of the types of structural and institutional violence with origins within the State, (perpetrated or condoned by the State) or perpetrated by those not representing or affiliated to the state in your country/ies of region, and who is affected. In particular, describe structural/institutional violence in medical settings against women and girls, LGBTI persons and persons with disabilities or any other individuals or groups relevant in your country/ies or regions.**

In the AP institute, regarding the violation of the right to protect minors from violence, it was administered 1 case ex officio for violence exercised against a 15-year-old boy by the Tirana police forces (during restrictive measures, quarantine). Following the administrative investigation, the PA addressed recommendations to the responsible state institutions such as;

the Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health and Social Protection, General Directorate of State Police, State Agency for the Protection of Children's Rights, Tirana Judicial District Prosecutor' Office, and the Authority of Audiovisual Media, recommendations, as follows:

- Taking measures to permanently remove these employees from the duty of the ranks of State Police who exercised unjustified violence against the minor with the initials S.Ç.

- Taking measures by the prosecution body to initiate criminal prosecution against employees of the State Police for the criminal offense "Committing arbitrary actions" under article 250 of law No. 7895, dated 27.1.1995 "Criminal Code of the Republic of Albania," amended, for the physical and moral damage caused to a minor with initials S.Ç., in the sense of point 5, article 3, of law no. 37/2017 "Criminal Justice Code for Juveniles."

-Taking measures for more consolidated, efficient, timely, and concrete coordination between the responsible structures at the local level to guarantee the integrated child protection system of S.Ç.

-Taking measures to organize continuous training and qualifications for employees and other professionals working in the field of public order and safety for education on/about the child's rights.

- Taking measures to draft standard operating procedures for State Police employees, for their approach to children based on the international standards addressed to this purpose, as well as international and national acts in the field of rights and protection of the child.

- Taking measures for conducting tests of psycho-social and emotional state, continuously, to all State Police employees and professionals who work or are in direct contact with children.

- Taking measures by the State Agency for the Protection of Children's Rights, for the continuous monitoring of the work of the responsible state structures, according to the legislation, for the imposition and execution of administrative sanctions, in case of non-fulfillment of legal obligations by these structures.

- Taking measures to change the legislation on the activity of audiovisual media to determine more detailed rules regarding the treatment of abuse/violence issues against minors.

1. **Please also share information on the impact of criminalization of sex work, same sex relations, transgender persons, abortion, drug abuse, harmful practices in obstetric care, female genital mutilation on the violence experienced by the affected individuals and their enjoyment of the right to health.**

1. **Please share information on the health and other type of responses provided by the State and/or other actors in your country/ies or regions in focus to survivors of each/some of the aforementioned forms of violence. Please assess what works well and not so well, and whether COVID-19 impacted the response and how.**

During the pandemic period due to COVID-19, there was an increase in the number of violence cases against women in Albania because a significant part of the female population felt less safe both inside and outside their homes due to isolation along with the perpetrators in the same premises.

It was impossible to access many services, including health, especially during the first half of 2020, due to the restrictions on movement and increasing violence cases across the country. Counseling was provided online, but they could not satisfy the needs of abused women and girls.

1. **Please specify the budget allocated in your country/ies in focus, to health related response to survivors of all/some forms of violence mentioned above. Please indicate the percentage of the national budget devoted to this; the percentage of the international aid provided or received for this. Please explain the impact of Covid 19 to the funding of responses to all/some forms of violence in your State/institution.**

Ministry of Health and Social Protection (MHSP), based on Law no. 9669, dated 18.12.2006, "On measures against domestic violence" (amended), is the leading authority responsible for the implementation of this law. MHSP plays an important role as the central institution for drafting, monitoring, implementing, and coordinating policies and measures for combating domestic violence and gender-based violence.

In particular, the MHSP responded promptly in drafting the legal framework to respond to the situation created during the COVID-19 pandemic in the early months of 2020, where there was a significant increase in reported domestic violence cases.

Regarding the support of abused women who have a protection order, 603 women were treated with a payment of 3000 ALL per month in 2020. While victims of trafficking treated with an amount of 3000 ALL per month are 10 cases for 2020.

While for 2021, based on the Decision of the Council of Ministers no. 85/2021, to mitigate the effects caused by the Covid-19 pandemic for vulnerable groups, including victims of domestic violence equipped with a protection order, benefited from a doubling of economic assistance for six months, with financial effects starting from January 1, 2021.

Also, the Counseling Line for Women and Girls (116 117) was financed by MHSP in 2020 with 3,901,500 ALL, while for 2021, it has been approved and funded for salaries and social insurance for eight employees in the amount of 6,768,552 ALL.

The Ministry of Health and Social Protection also funds two specialized support services at the national level, providing housing and long-term care focusing on reintegration for victims of domestic violence and human trafficking.

The data on the planned and allocated budget for these two centers are the National Center for the Treatment of Cases of Domestic Violence - (allocated 22,735,294 ALL in 2020 and planned 21,530,000 ALL for 2021). National Reception Center for Victims of Trafficking - allocated 20,854,580 ALL in 2020 and planned 22,350,000 ALL for 2021).

1. **Please describe the needs of survivors of the abovementioned forms of violence as identified by your State/institution. Please share survivor-self identified needs and those of their families, with a focus on health emergency and long-term needs.**

Victims of violence need multidisciplinary services like; psychological counseling, legal counseling, health services, financial support through economic assistance programs, need for safe, long-term shelter, rent bonus support, counseling / vocational training, mediation for employment, etc.

1. **Please share examples of good practices and examples of comprehensive health responses to survivors of violence and indicate efficient multi-sectorial efforts at the community, national, regional and international levels by State or non-State actors.**

Strengthening referral mechanisms and increasing/improving specialized support services to protect and treat gender-based violence and domestic violence cases is part of the National Strategy for Gender Equality.

Coordinated Referral Mechanisms of domestic violence' ' cases led by municipalities (responsible authorities for establishing and empowerment of these mechanisms) and based on the philosophy of a coordinated multi-sectoral approach is an interdisciplinary team of community professionals who have institutional responsibilities to respond to and address the diverse needs of domestic violence survivors. They also must use legal measures to hold perpetrators accountable for their actions, including prosecution and providing rehabilitation services to them. Each team member plays a crucial role in the overall community response to the crime of domestic violence.

Based on the Decision of the Council of Ministers 327/2021, the composition of the CRM has been reconsidered and are considered as permanent members: State Police, Local Directorate of Pre-University Education, Central Directorate of Health Care Operator, structure for social services near municipality; State Social Service, the institution of the prefect, Region, Local Employment Office, NGOs, Shelters, Religious Institutions with a focus on supporting victims of domestic violence, Chamber of Advocates, Free Legal Aid Directorate. Other important actors for case management such as the district court, the district prosecutor' office, execution office, the Sexual Violence Management Center, the Probation Service, the Child Protection Unit, the Psychologist'sPsychologist's Order, the Social Worker'sWorker's Order, the mayor of the village, forensics, local media, and other professionals are considered to be invited from time to time to the meetings of the CRM Steering Committees.

Coordinated Referral Mechanisms has been set up in all 61 municipalities of the country, but it is not functional in each of them. Meanwhile, the work is underway in order to strengthen and increase their effectiveness and accountability in the way that cases are handled as well as for performing all functions (not only that of multi-sectoral coordinated case management but also functions related to coordination, prevention and information, training and capacity building of professionals, data collection, processing, and analysis, as well as documentation).

It is worth mentioning that there is a well-coordinated response to prevent violence or support victims reintegrating into life in those municipalities where these mechanisms do work.

1. **Please describe State and other actor’s initiatives and measures to prevent these forms of violence, specific budget allocated to prevention, and good practices in this regard.**

In recent years, the Albanian state has taken several measures to significantly improve the legislation against gender-based violence and criminal legislation, particularly the legal and sub-legal framework that addresses domestic violence.

In the framework of the promotional function of the People's Advocate Institution, for the human rights education of children, has been prepared a friendly publication, "Children and their rights." This friendly publication briefly summarizes the efforts of the PA institution so far with good work practices for the protection of the rights of the child the actions and inactions of state administration institutions[[3]](#footnote-3), which includes the protection of the child from all forms of violence, state mechanisms responsible for the integrated child protection system. The publication has been promoted in many educational institutions in 19 municipalities.

**Glossary of definitions for the purpose of this questionnaire**

* Gender based-violence, is violence directed toward, or disproportionately affecting someone because of their gender or sex. Such violence takes multiple forms, including acts or omissions intended or likely to cause or result in death or physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering, threats of such acts, harassment, coercion and arbitrary deprivation of liberty. Examples include, sexual violence, trafficking, domestic violence, battery, dowry related violence, coerced or forced use of contraceptives, violence against LGBTI people, femicide, female infanticide, harmful practices and certain forms of slavery and servitude. Gender-based violence may be perpetrated against women, girls, men, boys, and non-binary persons. Gender-based violence, including sexual violence, may linked to a conflict.
* Gender based violence against women (including girls) refers to violence that is directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affects women disproportionately. (CEDAW, [General recommendation 19](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=INT/CEDAW/GEC/3731&Lang=en), 1992). It includes acts that inflict physical, mental or sexual harm or suffering, threats of such acts, coercion and other deprivations of liberty. Gender based violence affect women to different degrees depending on their experience of varying or intersecting forms of discrimination including on the basis of ethnicity/race, socioeconomic status, age, disability, being lesbian, bisexual, transgender or intersex, etc. [(CEDAW, General recommendation 35, 2017).](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW/C/GC/35&Lang=enhttps://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CEDAW/C/GC/35&Lang=en)
* Violence against children refers to all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse against children. (CRC, [General Comment No. 13](https://tbinternet.ohchr.org/_layouts/15/treatybodyexternal/Download.aspx?symbolno=CRC%2fC%2fGC%2f13&Lang=en), 2011). Violence experienced by boys and girls may also be a form of gender-based violence.
* Gender based violence perpetrated against LGBTI or other persons based on real or imputed sexual orientation, gender identity, and /or sex characteristics includes killings, imposition of death penalty for homosexuality, death threats, beatings, corporal punishment imposed as a penalty for same-sex conduct, and/or transgender persons, arbitrary arrest and detention, abduction, incommunicado detention, rape and sexual assault, humiliation, verbal abuse, harassment, bullying, hate speech and forced medical examinations, including anal examinations, and instances of so-called “conversion therapy” and forced/coerced medically unecessary procedures on intersex children and adults. (Report of the Independent Expert on protection against sexual orientation and gender identitiy, ([A/HRC/38/43](https://ap.ohchr.org/documents/dpage_e.aspx?si=A/HRC/38/43), 2018, [OHCHR, Born Free and equal](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Born_Free_and_Equal_WEB.pdf), OHCHR, [Background note on human rights violations against intersex perople).](https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Issues/Discrimination/LGBT/BackgroundNoteHumanRightsViolationsagainstIntersexPeople.pdf)
* Conflict related gender-based violence: Conflict can result in higher levels of gender-based violence against **women and girls**, including arbitrary killings, torture, **sexual violence** and forced marriage. Women and girls are primarily and increasingly targeted by the use of sexual violence, including as a tactic of war. M**en and boys** have also been victims of sexual violence, especially in contexts of detention. *Conflict related sexual violence* refers to rape, sexual slavery, forced prostitution, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, enforced sterilization, forced marriage, and any other form of sexual violence of comparable gravity perpetrated against women, men, girls or boys that is directly or indirectly linked to a conflict. That link may be evident in the profile of the perpetrator, (often affiliated with a State or non-State armed group, which includes terrorist entities); the profile of the victim, ( frequently an actual or perceived member of a political, ethnic or religious minority group or targeted on the basis of actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity); the climate of impunity, (generally associated with State collapse, cross-border consequences such as displacement or trafficking, and/or violations of a ceasefire agreement). The term also encompasses trafficking in persons for the purpose of sexual violence or exploitation, when committed in situations of conflict”. (Report of the Secretary General [S/2019/280](https://undocs.org/en/S/2019/280), 2019.)
* Systemic or institutional violence refers to institutional practices, laws or procedures that adversely affect groups or individuals psychologically, mentally, culturally, economically, spiritually, or physically. This violence has its origins within or outside the state, and is a major obstacle for the realization of the right to health, a right which is interconnected with rights to the underlying determinants of health.

1. National Population Survey “Violence against women and girls in Albania”. <http://www.instat.gov.al/media/6123/publication-violence-against-women.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. <https://www.warnathgroup.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Albania_CC_1995_am2015_en.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Article 2 of the law “On the People’s Advocate”, no.8454, dated 04.02.1999, supplemented by the law no.8600, dated 10.04.2000, amended by law no.9398, dated 12.05.2005, added to and as amended by the law 155/2014, dated 27.11.2014, “On the People’s Advocate” <https://www.avokatipopullit.gov.al/en/article/legislation> . [↑](#footnote-ref-3)