**The rights of older women in international, regional and national law, policies and**

**programmes**

1.What legal instruments, policies and programmes exist to address the particular challenges

faced by older women, and how are they implemented and monitored?

-Article 19 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation states equality "regardless of gender"

-The social and economic rights of women in the Russian Federation are reflected in the Family, Administrative, Labor, Criminal Codes, in a large number of different Federal laws

-National Strategy for Action for Women 2017-2022; The government approved the Coordination Council under the Government of the Russian Federation for the implementation of the National Action Strategy for Women for 2017-2022

- There is a Committee on Family, Women and Children in the lower house of the Russian parliament.

Nevertheless, according to 2019 data, Russia dropped from 75th to 81st place in the Global Gender Gap Index (.pdf), published by the World Economic Forum (WEF) (<https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/4197233>).

2. What type of statistical data are collected on older women, if any, and is it disaggregated by

age, gender, and other relevant factors? How are older women defined for the purposes of

law, policy and data collection?

The Federal State Statistics Service annually publishes Collections "Women and Men of Russia", which contains statistics on older women in various categories: health care, labor, education and others. There are other sources of such statistics, for example: <http://www.statdata.ru/nasel_pol_vozr>

The National Strategy for Women indicates, as the goals of social policy for older women, "support in the form of promoting affordable employment, access to meaningful leisure ... preservation of their ability to self-service, physical and functional activity, independence from outside help in everyday life." (<http://eawfpress.ru/about/organizatsiyam/strategia2017.php>).

The National Strategy in the Interests of the Older Generation in the Russian Federation notes the presence of a gender imbalance among older people towards older women, as well as their higher life expectancy.

On the website of the Ministry of Labor of the Russian Federation, there is a large list of government agendas regarding various issues of older people (all recent years) - viewing them since 2016 shows that there are no topics with regard to older women (<http://government.ru/rugovclassifier/475/events/>).

The national project «Demography» (2019-2024) indicates in one of the target indicators a decrease in mortality in the group of 16-54 years (<http://project.krskstate.ru/nacprojects/demografia>). In general, it is obvious when browsing social websites that the group of older people is practically not divided by gender and there are no specialized ones targeted at older women, both urban and rural.

3. Please indicate how older women take part in participatory mechanisms?

Experience shows the wide participation of older women in the work of voluntary associations of older people, both in urban and rural areas, in the work of NGOs; in these types of organization of older people, women are very energetic, sometimes active up to the age of 80-82; in other structures - state, local self-government - the representation of older women is much more modest and belongs to the younger age groups - 60-65 years.

The limiting factors for the participation of older people in society and the state, including older women, are poverty, poor health, loneliness, feelings of uselessness, feelings of disrespect on the part of young people - this was reported by most of the interviewed older people in Russia (<https://www.rbc.ru/society/06/10/2017/59d71ba29a794779b25168e2>).

**Economic, social and cultural realities lived by older women**

4. What are the specific challenges and concerns faced by older women, including on the basis

of their accumulated life experience as compared to older men, in enjoying their economic,

social and cultural rights (for example in terms of social protection, health, education, work,

adequate standard of living, land and property ownership)? Please provide related data and

statistics, including disaggregated data, where available.

According to Rosstat (2018), there were 46.07 million pensioners in Russia, or 31.36% of the total population of the country, of which 36.34 million, or 24.74%, were old age. Moreover, women make up more than 2/3 (68.7%) of the number of pensioners (<https://www.rosmedobr.ru/journal/2019/nepreryvnoe-obrazovanie-i-starenie-naseleniya/>).

Elderly women in Russia live longer than men, but more complaints about their health, experts write. About 30% of women rate their health as poor, and among men the share of such people is about 20%; this is explained by the fact that among older women there are more widows or those who have experienced divorce. Lonely people tend to assess their health worse (<https://www.bbc.com/russian/features-43064720>).

In recent years, the number of older married couples has been declining. In 2015, 58% of the men and women surveyed over 50 were married. 29 years ago, in 1989, more than 61% of women and men were married, according to the census. Over the years, the number of people who have divorced or simply separated from their partners has increased. At the same time, the number of women who have never been married has decreased. If in 1989 about 5% of older women reported that they never got married, then by 2015 their share had dropped to 3.1% .

48% of elderly Russians aged 80 and older say that they are satisfied with their lives, while men are much more likely to say that they are satisfied with their lives than women. Working men are usually much more satisfied with their lives than women. In women, this effect is less pronounced. (<https://www.bbc.com/russian/features-43064720>).

In the area of ​​employment, older women are better off: contrast to men, the chances of women over 50 to find a job have increased. The only exceptions are the least educated: the chances of employment for women of pre-retirement age with a minimum education have dropped by 40%. This is because a significant number of women are employed in education, health care and public services, experts explain. For example, there are five times more women of retirement age in the civil service than men who are retired; “A massive trend in recent years - women do not leave work after reaching retirement age, but continue to work. Retired men, as a rule, continue to work for fewer years, because they retire at an older age” the experts write; according to the same data, more than half of women over 50 are engaged in highly professional activities (<https://www.rbc.ru/economics/14/06/2019/5d0262ab9a79474943dcfa86>).

The material status of older women is low: only 0.4% of older women consider their financial situation to be high, 5% of women consider themselves well-off, half of the respondents believe that they have no extra money, but they have enough to live on (50% of women and 56% of men). Women experience material difficulties more often by 6% than men. Pensions remain the main source of income for almost all pensioners. In terms of their material level, they belong to the “traditionally” poor. (<http://shgpi.edu.ru/files/nauka/vestnik/2015/2015-2-22.pdf>); according to other materials of a sample survey of household budgets, in 2014 among the poor

the population was 3.1% of men aged 60 and over, and women aged 55 and over - 7.6%, and among the extremely poor population, women of this age accounted for 5.6%.

Compared to the previous year, these indicators increased (<https://ecfor.ru/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/13_problemy-starshego-pokoleniya.pdf>).

According to the same data, a feeling of loneliness is characteristic of 27% of single older women and 25% of men. (<http://shgpi.edu.ru/files/nauka/vestnik/2015/2015-2-22.pdf>). According to media reports, the majority of single people in the country are elderly women; in general in Russia 54.2% of lonely people are pensioners, 83.3% of them are women

(<https://takiedela.ru/2020/09/yepidemiya-odinochestva/>).

Empirical experience shows the wide participation of older women in various cultural events, both in cities and villages - often it is older women who are the basis of singing and dancing groups in various cultural events; older women are widely involved in the work of sections in houses of culture, in sports events at urban or rural levels. Elderly women are the basis of the work of many social NGOs in the regions of the country, they actively participate in the movement of "silver volunteers", in the activities of Universities of the third age.

In general, you can see very scanty data on the main life problems of older women - we did not find specialized studies or reviews, some static compilations do not distinguish between older men and women, speaking only about "older people", in media articles they also write more often about "older people "or they mention in two lines the situation with older women. One gets the impression that Russian sociology and gerontology have not yet approached the study of the topic of elderly women at a higher level.

5. What forms of gender-based discrimination and inequality experienced by women throughout

the life cycle have a particular impact on the enjoyment of their human rights in older age?

In 2019, then-Prime Minister Dmitry Medvedev admitted that the problem of gender discrimination in the Russian Federation is more acute than in a number of other countries, and called for a solution to this issue. In particular, in his opinion, it is much more difficult for a woman than for a man to ensure her career growth, since a woman has the responsibility of raising children; at the same time, according to him, there are a sufficient number of women-leaders of small enterprises and middle-level managers in Russia - three quarters versus one quarter of men (<https://tass.ru/obschestvo/6274619>). According to independent experts, there is no message from the state that it is interested in gender equality. The Gender Equality Law has been tried three times and rejected three times (<https://www.forbes.ru/forbes-woman/420257-zhenshchiny-emansipirovany-ravenstva-net-sociolog-o-gendernoy-povestke-v-rossii>).

Signs of gender discrimination in Russia start in young women with or without entering the labor market: maternity leave after the birth of a child / children leads to a lag in career and earnings; 35% of women say that there is discrimination in employment and at work;

in Russia, there are still fewer women leaders than men. According to experts, the salary of women ranges from 65 to 72% of the level of salaries of men; only 12% of women see themselves as leaders, compared to 42% of men.

(<https://www.forbes.ru/forbes-woman/420257-zhenshchiny-emansipirovany-ravenstva-net-sociolog-o-gendernoy-povestke-v-rossii>, <https://www.vedomosti.ru/opinion/columns/2019/03/05/795636-za>, <https://rg.ru/2021/01/20/v-belarusi-i-rossii-vziat-kurs-na-gendernoe-ravenstvo.html>,

<https://pro.rbc.ru/demo/5d9768df9a7947a1fc8080a8>).

Expert's data: There are industries where women are predominantly employed, and there wages are lower compared to industries where men are predominant. At the same time, when women find themselves in conventionally "male" industries, their wages are lower than those of men working there. Conversely, when men enter the "female territory", their pay rises in comparison with women; there is violence and harassment in the workplace. And mostly women suffer from this. The pay gap for work of equal value averages 15% in favor of men.

(<https://rg.ru/2019/06/19/pochemu-u-zhenshchin-net-ravnyh-s-muzhchinami-vozmozhnostej-na-rynke-truda.html>).

Another part of the problem is gender-based violence. According to experts: In different regions of Russia there are many centers offering assistance to victims of gender-based violence, and there are projects such as Nasiliu.net that focused on public education and information dissemination to prevent violence. The real scale of the problem is still unclear because, according to activists, there are no reliable statistics, data on domestic violence are underreported, and the Criminal Code proposes too narrow definition. There are more than 150 crisis centers in Russia, but only a few are truly active and widely known. Female misogyny, victim blaming, deficiency solidarity between activist and feminist communities and within these communities all leads to disunity. However, due to the coronavirus quarantine measures, exacerbating the problem of domestic violence, also pushed Russian activists to joint efforts and pool scarce resources; Russian women also face pressure from “traditional values” and a whole range of other problems: from medical risks (increased maternal and perinatal mortality in remote regions, increased use of caesarean sections, reduced access to medical abortions) to human rights problems (violation of the rights of pregnant women in localities imprisonment) and poverty (huge child support debts and insufficient government support for single mothers).

(<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/status-zhenschin-v-rossiyskom-obschestve-doklad-po-itogam-konferencii>).

6. Has the COVID-19 pandemic affected older women differently than older men and how?

The coronavirus in the Russian Federation has hit women harder than men. Because the authorities ignore the women's agenda, it will be difficult for women to recover economically after the pandemic (<https://www.dw.com/ru/zhenshhiny-v-rossii-vo-vremja-pandemii-itogi-i-poteri-goda/a-55688228>). According to experts, the problems revealed during the coronavirus pandemic are not so much medical or biological, they are political and social problems. It is today that the question of what Russia chooses is being decided not only for the elderly, but also for all present and future generations.

Thus, women of retirement age have a high risk of social isolation (single, widows), while older women require more social and medical resources. This is the risk of not receiving the necessary resources during a pandemic. According to the expert, during a pandemic, the burden on social protection increases, so officials redistribute the forces of social workers so that they deliver food and medicine to a larger number of citizens. At the same time, people with disabilities and the elderly who need and do not receive care are joining the ranks of the victims of the pandemic.

( <https://www.elibrary.ru/item.asp?id=43031096>, <https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/4357850>).

A serious gender problem, including for older women, during a pandemic is domestic violence during self-isolation. According to an expert (NGO - Center for the Prevention of Violence "Anna"), the absence of a law on the prevention of domestic violence during a pandemic deprives women, children and the elderly from protection.

(<https://www.dw.com/ru/zhenshhiny-v-rossii-vo-vremja-pandemii-itogi-i-poteri-goda/a-55688228>).

There is very little information in the available Russian sources about the impact of the pandemic on older people in general and older women, in particular - there is practically no data (including statistical data) on the state of mental health of older people in the country, domestic violence against the elderly during the period of self-isolation; one can only assume that such a pandemic will fall, knowing the age and gender composition of the Russian elderly.

7. Please share examples of how older women participate in and contribute to economic, social

and cultural life, including inter-generational solidarity and support.

- Tatiana is 73 years old, and 40 of them work as a doctor in the village. And in order to keep up with all her favorite patients, she even mastered an ATV!

<https://twitter.com/i/status/1367656657103302659>

- A well-known woodcarver and master of sports of the USSR, famous in Nizhny Tagil, is preparing to celebrate the "iron wedding" with his wife

<https://www.oblgazeta.ru/society/121029/>

- Readers of the "Oblastnaya Gazeta" celebrated their centenary (both women)

<https://www.oblgazeta.ru/society/118622/>

- Two gold and four bronze medals were won by Sverdlovsk specialists over 50 years old at the II National Championship "Skills of the Wise" as part of the competition of cross-cutting professions "WorldSkills Hi-Tech". The results of the championship were summed up at the end of October, due to the coronavirus pandemic, the competition was held in a remote-in-person format.

<https://www.oblgazeta.ru/society/science/116778/>

- Five veterans of the Middle Urals (including women) received an honorary badge for providing social and legal assistance to veterans and their family members, as well as for educating young people for citizenship, hard work, and respect for human rights and freedoms.

<https://www.oblgazeta.ru/society/112947/>

- Penza pensioners knit blankets to order via the Internet, and with the proceeds they help lonely old people to survive.

<https://rg.ru/2021/03/03/reg-pfo/penzenskie-pensionerki-pridumali-kak-pomoch-detiam-vojny.html>

# - A ninety-year-old bride in Transbaikalia signed with her lover.

<https://info.sibnet.ru/article/581334/>

- 94-year-old woman and 6-year-old boy received the primary exercise competition badges

(<https://t-l.ru/300212.html>).

**Forms of discrimination against older women and gender-specific abuses**

8. What forms of structural and systematic discrimination do older women face (for example

through laws, policies, traditional and customary practices, etc.) and what measures have been

taken to address them?

Systemic factors:

- the presence in Russia of a significant sector of the informal economy - women are often involved in the informal sector with lower wages and less protection

(<https://rg.ru/2019/06/19/pochemu-u-zhenshchin-net-ravnyh-s-muzhchinami-vozmozhnostej-na-rynke-truda.html>)

- cultural peculiarities, suggesting that only the husband / father should work, and the mother should remain in the family with the child (in Russia there is a right to paternal maternity leave, but only a few use it)

- the list of professions prohibited for women is still long, so in 2021 100 professions are excluded from this list, however 356 prohibitions still remain

(<https://rg.ru/2021/01/01/kem-nelzia-rabotat-zhenshchinam-v-2021-godu.html>)

- one of the systemic problems so that technical progress does not lead to gender gaps is the involvement of girls in higher engineering and technical education; once it was not prestigious among girls, but now the media are actively promoting engineering and technical education for women

(<https://medcollege5.ru/professii/inzhenernye-spetsialnosti-dlya-devushek.html>).

9. How do intersectional factors exacerbate the combined effect of ageism and sexism, including

the perspective of older LGBTI women, older women with disabilities, older migrant women,

older women belonging to indigenous and minority groups, etc.?

In 2014, one of the experts reported that “feminism in Russia is“ on the periphery of public consciousness ”, another expert -" not only the principles of feminism, but the term "feminism" itself cause sharply negative reactions from both men and women to mass platforms on the Russian Internet; nevertheless, issues of gender inequality and sexism are relevant among the citizens of the country; for example, 33% of women surveyed believed that they had fewer rights, than among men (versus 23% of men surveyed), the average salary of women in Russia is only 64% of the salary of men, Russia was only 94th in the world in terms of the number of women in parliament, according to the Global Gender Gap Index.

The participation of women in politics among men is approved by 66% and not approved by 30%, among women 86% approve and 12% disapprove. They would like a woman to become president in Russia in the next 10-15 years, 44% of women, but half the number of men (21%). Sexism, the expert's conclusion, is a conflict in our modern culture.

(<https://www.bbc.com/russian/society/2014/10/141021_sexism_russia_politics>, <https://www.rbc.ru/opinions/society/13/04/2016/570e361f9a79477063c54efd>).

Researchers have identified a number of factors that exacerbate the combination of ageism and sexism:

- retirement age in Russia - a marker of old age

- the Russian word "baboushka” ( grandmother) is a symbol of an old woman with gray hair, poor and sick, who has no future

- face the selfishness of matured children, poverty, lack of full-fledged communication, indifference from bureaucrats, social services and medical institutions

- widespread domestic violence

- are not seen as attractive customers or profitable consumers of entertainment and leisure establishments

- older women advertisements often recommend the best medicine, the right kind of vegetable oil or laundry detergent. These are either caring "grandmothers" or helpless and confused old women who need to be translated across the street

- looking “younger than her age” in TV programs, “controlling the aging body” for a woman becomes something of a social obligation

- traditional gender stereotypes persist, justifying structural social inequality on the basis of gender and age: a woman is a product, a man is a buyer, young women have the right to choose, and the elderly must follow the traditions of society.

(<https://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/chuvstvuyu-sebya-prosto-babushkoy-starenie-eydzhizm-i-seksizm-v-sovremennoy-rossii/viewer>, <https://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/pozhilye-zhenschiny-vniz-po-lestnitse-vozrasta-i-gendera>).

In this context, the reasons why it is not possible to find open materials / links of publications on the problems of elderly women-migrants, elderly lesbians in available sources (for example, in a relatively detailed presentation of the problems of the Russian LGBT community, Ikipedia does not mention elderly lesbians at all) , there are no words at all about the problems of elderly LGBT people in the country - <https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%9F%D1%80%D0%B0%D0%B2%D0%B0_%D0%9B%D0%93%D0%91%D0%A2_%D0%B2_%D0%A0%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%81%D0%B8%D0%B8>).

For elderly women migrants, only one material was found about 54-year-old G. from Uzbekistan, who worked for many years in caring for the elderly near Moscow: with the onset of the pandemic, her client fell ill with Covid-19 and was hospitalized. Kovida and G. herself, but she was not hospitalized or treated, she called Uzbekistan to help her with advice on treatment

(<https://www.bbc.com/russian/features-52926298>).

For older indigenous women, virtually no data were found; there is a message about the retirement age of older people and life expectancy:

- men retire at 55 and women at 50

- "most of these peoples do not live up to retirement: the average life expectancy is 45 years for men and 57 for women" (these are the peoples of the North, Siberia and the Far East)

(<https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/4173995>).

According to experts, in Russia there are no special mechanisms to protect indigenous peoples from discrimination, taking into account their particularly vulnerable position. The legislation of the Russian Federation on small indigenous peoples is generally declarative in nature and does not provide specific procedures for the implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples

(<https://adcmemorial.org/prava-korennyh-narodov/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=11440883401&utm_content=490937397082&utm_term=%D0%BD%D0%B0%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%B4%20%D1%80%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%81%D0%B8%D0%B8&gclid=Cj0KCQiAnKeCBhDPARIsAFDTLTLzwwbSib6LCFPPpfM6OY3TFTFWWIKZxF9HC0URcrXevO93rESd2UAaAsTNEALw_wcB>).

The opinion of the main lobbyist for the law against domestic violence, State Duma deputy Oksana Pushkina: according to world experience, laws on the prevention of domestic violence were adopted by those parliaments where women and men were represented in a 50-50 ratio; today there are 70 women out of 450 deputies in the State Duma, 29 women out of 170 senators in the Federation Council, and only one woman in the government, the remaining 20 ministers are men (<https://www.dw.com/ru/kommentarij-kto-i-kak-dolzhen-otstaivat-zhenskie-interesy-v-rossii/a-55974047>).

10. What forms does gender-based violence and abuse against older women take and how is such

violence prevalent? Please share available data and statistics, including in relation to

femicides.

The expert reports (2021): Rosstat and the Ministry of Internal Affairs do not talk about how many women are victims of domestic violence every year (<https://www.forbes.ru/obshchestvo/421475-statistika-zla-kak-ocenit-uroven-nasiliya-v-rossiyskih-semyah>).

Another part of the problem: there are not many researchers of gerontological violence in Russia (<https://zona.media/article/2020/05/07/elder-abuse>).

The leader of one of the women's NGOs protecting victims of violence reported (2021) that over the past year and a half, they had only one complaint about domestic violence from older people, and that was an elderly man (<https://lenta.ru/articles/2021/01/14/dn/>).

According to other data, only a very small percentage of women in Russia who have experienced domestic violence have ever gone to the police. A survey of women who called the All-Russian Hotline for Women Experiencing Domestic Violence showed that less than a third of the victims had ever called the police (<https://ombudsmanrf.org/upload/files/docs/lib/VAW_Report_2020_rus_web.pdf>).

Speaking about a significant number of complaints from women with complaints of domestic violence during the quarantine period (2020), experts from women's NGOs do not divide these complaints by age and do not single out older women (<https://www.kommersant.ru/doc/4424150>).

In the international material "RESEARCH ON PREVENTION AND COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, INCLUDING IN SITUATIONS OF SOCIAL WELL-BEING,

IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION "(April 2020), the concept of" older women "is not mentioned (<https://ombudsmanrf.org/upload/files/docs/lib/VAW_Report_2020_rus_web.pdf>).

According to the young researcher, "now there is crisis management for young women, but not for the older generation.( <http://www.tsu.ru/news/aspirantka-tgu-vyyavlyaet-prichiny-nasiliya-nad-po/?sphrase_id=192111>). In a study by this expert, 60% of older people in the older population studied (the majority were women) reported violence; dominated by psychological violence (except physical, economic and sexual) (<http://www.mental-health.ru/files/journal/2017/2/n-2-2017.pdf>).

In the material, the media examined all publicly available sentences for violent crimes (committed before quarantine) against the elderly and found that 82% of the victims are elderly women. Among the forms of violence were murder, grievous harm, torture, insults

(<https://zona.media/article/2020/05/07/elder-abuse>).

Femicid.net project (Russia): In 2019, according to news alone, there were 1,750 femicides in Russia, in 2020 - 1,468, in 2021 - 212 (figures as of March 11, 2021) (<https://www.wmmsk.com/femicid/>). Older women are not included in this data.

11. Please provide examples of how the life cycle perspective is integrated into policies and

programmes to prevent and address gender-based violence against women and girls.

1.National Ombudsman Tatyana Moskvalkova: “In our country there is no legislation dedicated to combating domestic violence, while regulations governing these issues exist in 125 countries of the world. Their experience shows that specific laws on the prevention of domestic violence are more effective than individual articles of the Criminal, Civil or Administrative Codes. Work on the relevant bill in our country is underway " (<https://duma.mos.ru/ru/34/news/novosti/borba-s-semeynyim-nasiliem-zadacha-gosudarstvennogo-masshtaba>).

- Expert: we need a bill on domestic violence, which the parliament still does not pass; The law should have been passed a long time ago, but they are not giving it a go ... rejection of the law contradicts the Strategy for Action in the Interests of Women until 2022, which was signed by Dmitry Medvedev in 2017 (<https://lenta.ru/articles/2021/01/14/dn/>).

- Details of the bill: <https://ru.wikipedia.org/wiki/%D0%97%D0%B0%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%BD%D0%BE%D0%BF%D1%80%D0%BE%D0%B5%D0%BA%D1%82_%C2%AB%D0%9E_%D0%BF%D1%80%D0%BE%D1%84%D0%B8%D0%BB%D0%B0%D0%BA%D1%82%D0%B8%D0%BA%D0%B5_%D1%81%D0%B5%D0%BC%D0%B5%D0%B9%D0%BD%D0%BE-%D0%B1%D1%8B%D1%82%D0%BE%D0%B2%D0%BE%D0%B3%D0%BE_%D0%BD%D0%B0%D1%81%D0%B8%D0%BB%D0%B8%D1%8F_%D0%B2_%D0%A0%D0%BE%D1%81%D1%81%D0%B8%D0%B9%D1%81%D0%BA%D0%BE%D0%B9_%D0%A4%D0%B5%D0%B4%D0%B5%D1%80%D0%B0%D1%86%D0%B8%D0%B8%C2%BB>

- Human Rights Watch recommendations of the current version of the draft law on the prevention of domestic violence - <https://www.hrw.org/ru/news/2019/12/09/336369>

- Could not find data on systematic education and training of women and girls in the field of gender-based violence prevention. There are only recommendations from the newspaper of lawyers to create an integrated system: we need a broad program of educating schoolchildren and adults about the inadmissibility of domestic violence; general professional training programs for police officers, guardianship authorities, prosecutors, courts and medical institutions on how to work with victims of domestic and gender-based violence; the creation of psychological and social support services for victims, as well as special programs to work with aggression, the organization of shelters where victims could take refuge. (<https://www.advgazeta.ru/mneniya/zashchita-zhertv-domashnego-nasiliya-kak-sdelat-ee-effektivnoy/>)

2. In 2016, the National Action Strategy for Women for 2017-2022 was approved

- Employment: the employment rate of women aged 20-49 with preschool children reaches 65.8% of all workers (<https://ombudsmanrf.org/news/novosti_upolnomochennogo/view/kruglyj_stol_acirclaquoprofilaktika_i_preduprezhdenie_socialnogo_neblagopoluchija_zhenshhin_i_nasilija_v_otnoshenii_zhenshhin:_prichiny_i_puti_preodolenijaacircraquo>).

- In 2011, the "Law on Mediation" came into force in Russia (<https://www.jour.fnisc.ru/index.php/snsp/article/view/4270>)

- In 2017, the Law on the decriminalization of beatings was adopted; according to the new norms, they were transferred to the category of administrative offenses and the statistics of female victims dropped sharply (<https://lenta.ru/articles/2021/01/14/dn/>).

- In the country, the demand for the services of family psychologists was growing even before the Covid-19 pandemic, however, according to the expert, this is more typical for large cities, in general, 1-2% of the population turned to psychologists; the situation changed dramatically in the first year of the pandemic - the number of requests increased by 69% and women predominated. Psychological experts are promoting more accessible forms of counseling: distance, free, or cheaper.

(<https://www.bbc.com/russian/features-48351161>, <https://iz.ru/1012584/ekaterina-iasakova/stress-karantirovan-spros-na-psikhologov-vo-vremia-pandemii-vyros-na-69>).

- There are about 150 crisis centers in Russia, to which women victims of domestic violence can turn. Unfortunately, there is not enough information about them - many do not know about their existence, do not know what kind of help they can receive, or turn to very late, when they need not to leave, but to flee from the family. There is an all-Russian help line 8 (800) -7000-600. (<https://special.philanthropy.ru/women?gclid=Cj0KCQiAnKeCBhDPARIsAFDTLTItNHICZv9ZyQuatuf3LAP06UmJpmNfpiYfGkxXpVzGcd40crSvat4aAqDCEALw_wcB>).

- In January 2021, Russia adopted the Law on Sobering-Up Centers for People in a State of Alcoholic intoxication (<https://rg.ru/2021/01/01/v-rossii-otkroiutsia-platnye-vytrezviteli.html>).

12. Please share information about reporting, accountability, remedy and protective mechanisms

available and targeted to older women victims of gender-based violence and discrimination.

According to government data (2013): in 2012, a working group was formed to develop a draft federal law “On the Prevention and Prevention of Domestic Violence”; an all-Russian helpline was opened for survivors of domestic violence; cycles of training seminars and optional classes were held for students of Moscow police colleges, the All-Russian Institute for Advanced Training of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation for district police officers; recommendations for law enforcement officials on the prevention of domestic violence were developed for dissemination among local police officers; assistance is provided (data for 2013 - E.K.) 17 centers of psychological and pedagogical assistance to the population; 6 centers for emergency psychological assistance by telephone, 239 centers of social services for the population; 847 integrated social service centers with crisis departments for women; 21 crisis centers for women (<https://mintrud.gov.ru/social/social/115>).

In accordance with the Federal Law "On the Basics of Social Services for Citizens in the Russian Federation" (2013) 161 domestic violence is recognized as the basis for the provision of social services by both state and non-governmental organizations; victims / survivors of domestic violence have the right to receive medical, psychological, legal and other forms of social assistance (Article 20), and can also access urgent social services (including assistance in obtaining temporary accommodation) (Article 21) ; in 2014–2015 in 53 Russian regions, showed that at the time of the study, there were 95 shelters for women (both state and non-governmental) in the country, with a total of 1349 places. However, for women in

in crisis situations, only 434 places were allocated; Taking into account the population of the Russian Federation, currently equal to 146.8 million people166, the minimum need is almost 14,700 places in shelters. Crisis Center for Helping Women and Children is a state organization that provides free or partially free medical, psychological and legal aid, individual rehabilitation programs and a temporary shelter for women victims of domestic violence living in Moscow, has 102 places; since the population of Moscow is more than 12.5 million people, which means that in order to meet the minimum needs, the number of places in shelters in Moscow needs to be increased more than 12 times. Crisis centers or shelters are not available in all regions of the country - crisis centers or shelters are not available in all regions of the country - residents of many regions cannot access crisis centers, which are located only in larger cities. Even where local service centers do exist, they are often not known either to professionals (for example, police officers may not be aware of the existence of a crisis center in their area) or to the survivors themselves. There are more than a hundred NGOs throughout Russia dealing with the problem of domestic violence, and one of their main areas of activity is the provision of social, psychological and legal assistance to victims / survivors of violence; their work is seriously hampered by financial constraints, including in terms of access to finance. In addition, the authorities rarely turn to NGOs as experts and partners to prevent and combat violence against women. Finally, neither governmental nor non-governmental organizations currently address the assistance needs of particularly vulnerable survivors of domestic violence. This group may include, inter alia, women with disabilities, women with HIV, women with alcohol or drug addiction, ethnic minorities and women migrants. (PREVENTION STUDY AND COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, INCLUDING IN SITUATIONS SOCIAL WELFARE, IN THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, april 2020

<https://ombudsmanrf.org/upload/files/docs/lib/VAW_Report_2020_rus_web.pdf>)

Lawyer: when a victim of violence makes a statement, the police must issue a coupon-notification of acceptance of the statement (often the police refuse to issue it); there must be a forensic medical examination in cases of physical violence; the police should initiate domestic violence cases and investigate them in good faith, shorten the time frame for verification, which sometimes takes a very long time.

The police could advise and refer women to helping organizations, to the hotline of the same center "Anna", which we have always asked for - that they give leaflets of organizations that work in the regions. (<https://lenta.ru/articles/2021/01/14/dn/>)

After the adoption of the law decriminalizing beatings against family members or close persons (2017), beatings became an administrative (not criminal) violation and the official statistics of beatings changed downward; the statistics of the Ministry of Internal Affairs reflects the number of criminal cases initiated, beatings are no longer a criminal case, and they do not fall into statistics. If you want to improve statistics - cancel the crime (media). Lawyer: in 2017, the statistics decreased due to the victims - there are more administrative cases and fewer criminal cases. But the problem with statistics is that it does not include applications that were refused. It contains only that which was instituted upon the fact and goes to court. A huge share of violence is not included in the statistics, and the initiation is often refused - we have been trying for months to appeal this to the prosecutor's office. (<https://lenta.ru/articles/2021/01/14/dn/>)

Advokatskaya Gazeta (2019): unfortunately, at the moment there is no more or less transparent statistics that would reliably reflect the level of domestic violence in Russia. (<https://www.advgazeta.ru/mneniya/zashchita-zhertv-domashnego-nasiliya-kak-sdelat-ee-effektivnoy>)

Lawyers talk about the need to create a complete “infrastructure” working to delegitimize domestic and gender-based violence, procedural rules on protection orders, specially formulated criminal or administrative-legal prohibitions on domestic violence and the public nature of accusations in cases of domestic violence. (<https://www.advgazeta.ru/mneniya/zashchita-zhertv-domashnego-nasiliya-kak-sdelat-ee-effektivnoy/>)

January 2021: The measures taken to prevent domestic violence against women are insufficient; other means of protection are needed, including administrative prohibitions and sanctions. This is stated in the report of the ombudsman for human rights in the Russian Federation Tatyana Moskalkova (<https://iz.ru/1113086/2021-01-18/moskalkova-sochla-profilaktiku-domashnego-nasiliia-v-rossii-nedostatochnoi>).

In 2020, the ECHR (European Court of Human Rights) for the first time accepted a complaint on domestic violence without exhaustion - this means that the applicant did not even apply to the Russian courts, collecting only refusals from the police and certificates of bruises; According to the lawyer, the precedent can only mean that “it is so obvious to the court that the Russian authorities are not going to protect Russian women from domestic violence that the ECHR does not consider it necessary to drive them to all the useless circles of the hell of the Russian systems. Complaints to the ECHR about domestic violence will now be get in and examined faster, and Strasbourg will be closer than the magistrate." (<https://www.dw.com/ru/kommentarij-kto-i-kak-dolzhen-otstaivat-zhenskie-interesy-v-rossii/a-55974047>)

At the end of 2020, the Ministry of Internal Affairs also refused to human rights defenders who called for the creation of questionnaires for police officers, which, as world practice shows, help to identify cases of domestic violence.

Human rights activist: At the end of 2020, together with our partner organizations, we asked the Ombudsman in Russia Tatyana Moskalkova to assist in holding a round table with police officers, to act as a mediator between NGOs and the Ministry of Internal Affairs, where we could discuss the possibility of introducing risk assessment protocols, but, alas, she did not support it.

( <https://lenta.ru/articles/2021/01/14/dn/>)