



EMN Ad-Hoc Query on Violence prevention and sexual education courses to migrants

Requested by Eike LUIK on 16th March 2016

Integration

Responses from Austria, Belgium, Blocked / Unknown, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom, Norway (22 in total)

Disclaimer:

The following responses have been provided primarily for the purpose of information exchange among EMN NCPs in the framework of the EMN. The contributing EMN NCPs have provided, to the best of their knowledge, information that is up-to-date, objective and reliable. Note, however, that the information provided does not necessarily represent the official policy of an EMN NCPs' Member State.



Background information:

The recent attacks in Cologne have sparked a heated debate about arriving migrants' understanding of sexual behaviour and their lack of sexual education. Migrants' values, behaviour and attitudes towards women are often not in correspondence with European values and cultural norms. Additionally, the lack of (sexual) education and knowledge of host country's laws and norms have often been coupled with other risk factors, which are connected to migrant's background, possible traumatic experiences and current life situation.

The large influx of migrants has also increased tensions within migrant groups – uncertain and unforeseeable future, limited rights, uncertain economic situation, language barriers, little or no knowledge at all about local customs and norms etc. can all increase violent behaviour.

There are several Member States which already have implemented programmes/courses for migrants to educate and increase their awareness about sexual and violent behaviour and Member States that are considering implementing similar programmes/courses in the near future.



So far in Estonia has not been any sexual or violent misconducts related to migrants. However, Estonia is currently considering to proactively design and implement sexual education and violence prevention courses for refugees and asylum seekers. The courses are expected to be a part of the recently launched Welcoming programme and embedded in the training module specifically designed for beneficiaries of international protection.


Therefore, we would like to know more about other Member States' practices and, if applicable, relevant sexual education and/or violence prevention programmes/courses.


Questions


1. **Are there any violence prevention and/or sexual education courses/trainings designed for all newly arrived immigrants or for specific type (country of origin, age, gender, etc.) of migrants?**
2. **If yes, are the courses/trainings compulsory or voluntary?**
3. **If yes, what are the methods of notifying immigrants about the opportunity/obligation to take part in the courses/trainings?**
4. **If yes, what are the reasons of implementing the courses/trainings in your Member State (increased sexual harassment by immigrants, prevention of sexual, domestic abuse, notifying new arrivals of legal norms regarding violent behaviour in order to prevent misconduct etc.)?**
5. **If yes, who is responsible for implementing, carrying out and monitoring the courses/trainings (state, local government, NGO etc.)?**
6. **If no, whether your Member State has considered the organization of such courses to migrants?**



Responses


| | Country | Wider Dissemination | Response |
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|   | Austria | Yes | <p>1. Yes. The Federal Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs is financing projects against radicalisation and against forced marriage as a form of violence. These projects in 2016 are: - “family integration initiative” implemented by ASPIS Research and Consulting Centre for victims of violence in Carinthia. • Supreme goal: The impact of war and conflict disproportionately affects refugees and results in trauma, lack of prospects and the desire of revenge. The aim of the project is to re-integrate these people into education and training, the labour market and society by the implementation of measures against radicalisation. • Target group: families and their children originating from crisis areas such as Chechnya, Bosnia, Dagestan, Ingushetia, Afghanistan, Georgia and Ossetia. - “Motherschools” implemented by Women Without Borders in Vienna • Supreme goal: The Mothers School model is a pioneering family-centered security platform that strengthens existing counter violent extremism (CVE) approaches by engaging an untapped segment of civil society: mothers. Mothers Schools provide women with the confidence and competence to effectively protect their children from extremist ideologies. The approach includes mothers as grassroots security allies and arms them with the key skills and knowledge to recognize and respond to early warning signs of radicalization in their families and communities. • Target group: mothers with migratory background or refugee status Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>2. Voluntary. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>3. The organisations which are implementing these projects in Austria actively seek for participants for their projects using a door-to-door approach as well as advertisement through media, social media and cooperation with state organisations working with the target group. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>4. Prevention. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>5. Implementation through NGOs, monitoring through the FMEIA in Austria, who is financing these projects. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> <p>6. N/A. Source: Federal Ministry of the Interior.</p> |



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|  | Belgium | Yes | <p>1. 1. Asylum seekers: First of all, the internal rules and regulations of the reception facilities mention that it is forbidden to attack other persons, both physically and verbally. The prohibition of any form of sexual and gender-based violence, including within the family context, is also explicitly stated. Most reception centers offer one or more courses/trainings/discussion groups on the subject of sexuality, sexual health, relations between man and women, values and norms in Belgian society, 'contemporary urban interaction', the use of drugs and alcohol (and the relation with aggression and inappropriate behaviour), conflict and aggression management. 2. Beneficiaries of international protection (please see also all the AHQ on integration and the BE contribution to the 2015 EMN Study "Integration of beneficiaries of international/ humanitarian protection into the labour market: policies and good practices"): have access to a (civic) integration programmes, compulsory or voluntary depending on the region where the person lives (but by 2017 compulsory in the whole of Belgium). One of the components of the programme is the so-called "Citizenship course" (this component is compulsory in Flanders and Wallonia, not in Brussels). This course provides information about daily life in Belgium. Topics covered are education, housing, employment, health, mobility, the political system, history of Belgium and leisure. There is also ample attention to values and norms in Belgian society. During the course the beneficiaries work in group on attitudes and skills necessary to participate as full citizens in society.</p> <p>2. 1. Asylum seekers: in general, participation in these courses/discussion groups is voluntary. Some reception centers have certain 'compulsory' courses (especially for minors), but the mandatory character is not (legally) enforceable. 2. Beneficiaries of international protection: see above.</p> <p>3. 1. Asylum seekers: different methods such as: - information on courses during the intake in the reception centers - posters and billboards at the reception office (ad valvas), cafeteria/self-service restaurant, recreation room; - personal invitation by the social assistant/trainer; - handing out flyers/brochures; - addressing residents in general in the reception facility by staff - information during individual counselling sessions (social accompaniment) with the social assistant 2. Beneficiaries of international protection: by written invitation (compulsory) or information and referral at the moment of inscription in the municipality.</p> <p>4. Achieving a harmonious and safe coexistence in the reception facilities for all residents, preventing sexual and gender related violence, preventing aggression and conflicts, facilitating integration in Belgian society, imparting knowledge about legal and social norms. After the attacks in Cologne the State Secretary for Asylum Policy and Migration asked for a more harmonized offer of courses on values and norms, equality of women and men, codes of conduct and manners and sexual boundary transgression (sexual inappropriate behaviour). But also on the detection of</p> |
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| | | | <p>victims of sexual and gender based violence.</p> <p>5. The reception centers offer the courses themselves (social assistants, educators) or in collaboration with volunteers or with external associations/organisations (for example with Sensoa, the Flemish Expertise Centre for Sexual Health, more information on www.sensoa.be and www.zanzu.be with information on the human body, sexuality, relationships and feelings, ... in 13 languages). In collaboration with the International Center for Reproductive Health (http://icrh.org/), Fedasil (Belgian Agency for the reception of asylum seekers) will organise a training on the detection of victims of sexual and gender based violence for the staff of the reception centers. Fedasil is currently also developing a comprehensive training module on values and norms in Belgium, with emphasis on forms of social interaction between men and women, to be used in the different reception facilities AND standard operations procedures for prevention and response to sexual and gender based violence. .</p> <p>6. /</p> |
| | Blocked / Unknown | Yes | <p>1. No, there is no specific courses or training on violence prevention, nor on sexual education designed for immigrants in France. It is not scheduled in the Reception and Integration Contract (CAI - Contrat d'Accueil et d'Intégration) and is not expected to be in the upcoming Individualised Integration Pathway (Parcours Personnalisé d'Intégration Républicaine) created by the newly enforced law on foreigner's right in France (published on March 8, 2016). Nonetheless, associations are free to provide and organize some activities on these issues with migrants.</p> <p>2. -</p> <p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. No, as far as we know, the organization of such courses to migrants has not been discussed nor expected in France.</p> |
|  | Croatia | Yes | <p>1. Croatian Red Cross delivers trainings at two levels. One level is in the detention centres and it is intended directly to asylum seekers and persons under international protection. The other level is education in schools for teachers and</p> |



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| | | | <p>youth which includes the children of asylum seekers and people under international protection which are in the education system. Croatian Red Cross started with violence prevention education well before the refugee crisis. The content of the education sessions is focused on prevention of human trafficking topics such as various forms of psychological and physical violence. The objectives of the education are to teach participants on how to recognize the signs of danger, how to protect ourselves and whom to ask for help as well as what are the rights of victims. Trainings are age tailored (children and adults), and culturally sensitive. The posters also have been produced and placed in camps for refugees and migrants informing them about their rights and if they experience any form of exploitation or force that they can get the help from the Croatian Red Cross or the police.</p> <p>2. Voluntary.</p> <p>3. Most of the education sessions take place in the Reception Centres for asylum seekers. The participants are notified about the education sessions either verbally by employees of the Red Cross or by a written notice available at the reception desk. Education sessions taking place in schools are posted on the Internet.</p> <p>4. Primary reason for the education sessions is the prevention of the victimisation, identification and protection of victims and providing a necessary assistance to victims.</p> <p>5. The Croatian Red Cross and the Teachers Training Agency. The Teachers Training Agency is responsible only for the implementation in schools.</p> <p>6. N/A</p> |
|  | Czech Republic | Yes | <p>1. NO</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> |


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| | | | <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. N/A</p> |
|  | Estonia | Yes | <p>1. No</p> <p>2. -</p> <p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. Currently Estonia is considering to proactively design and implement sexual education and violence prevention courses for refugees and asylum seekers. The courses are expected to be a part of the recently launched Welcoming programme and embedded in the training module specifically designed for beneficiaries of international protection.</p> |
|  | Finland | Yes | <p>1. Yes, as a part of the MIELIVOK-project, in addition to training of reception centre staff, training material was also developed for asylum seekers. The material will describe the Finnish society and legislation, working life in Finland, equality and sexual health. It will also include advice on how asylum seekers can take care of their well-being and ability to manage as well as their nourishment and own economy. More information can be found in the press release: http://www.migri.fi/for_the_media/bulletins/press_releases/press_releases/1/0/project_aims_to_improve_preventive_mental_health_care_for_asylum_seekers_at_reception_centres_51775 The issue was very present in the Finnish media in the autumn, as there were some cases of sexual abuse and sexual violence. The training material was distributed to all reception centers and guidance was given on how to use them in two ways: group information sessions to the customers in the reception centres and folders with the training material were made available in different language versions. In the autumn, an information package was created for asylum seekers about sexual equality and sexual health and rights as a mobile service. The Finnish Immigration Service has launched a mobile learning course in cooperation with the mobile learning service provider Funzi. The course is about sexual equality and sexual health and rights and it is suitable for all asylum seekers. Asylum seekers can use their own mobile devices for learning. The easy-to-use service is currently available in English, other languages will be added in the future. The service is free for</p> |

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| | | | <p>users and it can be accessed with any mobile browser. The course topics are Finnish legislation and relationships, sexuality and the act of sex, sex education, sexual violence and harassment and taking care of sexual health. The purpose of the course is to give asylum seekers information about equality and sexuality, general rights and obligations as well as legislation and manners in Finland. More information from the press release: http://www.migri.fi/for_the_media/bulletins/press_releases/press_releases/1/0/information_package_for_asylum_seekers_about_sexual_equality_and_sexual_health_and_rights_as_a_mobile_service_64763</p> <p>2. Finland is in the process of implementing this training as a part of the compulsory work and study programme for asylum seekers. It is also accompanied by a statement of commitment, which is signed by the asylum seeker.</p> <p>3. Even though the training course is compulsory for the customer, and a part of the work and study programme, the Finnish Immigration Service recommends presenting the course as a possibility to learn more about the society, where the person has sought international protection. The course can be seen as a starting point in the integration process.</p> <p>4. Since the large influx of asylum seekers in the autumn of 2015, there have been more reported incidents of sexual abuse and sexual violence. The training course, the mobile services app and the training materials are implemented in order to raise awareness about sexual equality, harassment, general rights and obligations as well as legislation and manners in Finland. The aim is of course to reduce the number of incidents in this area.</p> <p>5. The overall responsibility lies with the state (Finnish Immigration Service), but there is participation by many different actors in the local government and in the NGO:s (e.g. the Finnish Red Cross who manages many of the reception centers, and the Family Federation of Finland was consulted when the training course and material were developed.)</p> <p>6. N/a</p> |
|  | Germany | Yes | <p>1. see attached document</p> <p>2. Voluntary for asylum seekers in an ongoing asylum procedure, compulsory for recognized entitled to asylum (exception: those with good knowledge of the German language)</p> <p>3. At the beginning of the asylum procedure the applicant is informed about the courses by the Federal Office</p> |

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| | | | <p>(BAMF) as well as by migration counselling centres.</p> <p>4. In order to make it easier for refugees to adapt to life here, there is therefore also a need to impart a knowledge of Germany's value system as early and as clearly as possible. This can help prevent conflicts and safeguard social cohesion.</p> <p>5. Implementing integration courses: BAMF, monitoring: BAMF, admission of course providers, teachers and teaching materials: BAMF, carrying out: course provider</p> <p>6. n/a</p> |
|  | Hungary | Yes | <p>1. This type of program has not realised yet but there have been several programs offered by governmental and NGOs that contained elements which touched upon the issue.</p> <p>2. The courses/trainings were mainly voluntary to refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection. When immigrants apply for citizenship they have to pass a constitutional exam on the legal system, norms and customs of Hungary.</p> <p>3. These opportunities offered to refugees and beneficiaries of subsidiary protection but not asylum seekers. There is a strong cooperation between organisations regarding dissemination of each other's services.</p> <p>4. The courses only mentioned these issues therefore their reasons of implementing were different: culture orientation and understanding the life in Hungary (social supports, trainings, opening business etc.)</p> <p>5. Both NGOs and governmental organisations.</p> <p>6. This type of program has not realised yet but there have been several programs offered by governmental and NGOs that contained elements which touched upon the issue.</p> |
|  | Italy | Yes | <p>1. No, there are no sexual education courses for migrants in Italy at the moment.</p> |

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| | | | <p>2. See 1</p> <p>3. See 1</p> <p>4. See 1</p> <p>5. See 1</p> <p>6. Within the adoption process of the Integration Plan for beneficiaries of international protection, measures aimed at the organisation of ad hoc sexual education courses have been considered.</p> |
|  | Latvia | Yes | <p>1. No</p> <p>2. -</p> <p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. Latvia is not planning to develop specific sexual education and violence prevention courses for refugees and asylum seekers. It is planned that these topics will be covered as a part of the socio-economic inclusion. In the Action Plan on Relocation, Resettlement and Reception in Latvia of Persons in Need of International Protection it is indicated that asylum seekers while in asylum procedure will receive a course of ten lectures which will also touch upon inclusion into the society and non-discrimination principle. Spoken and unspoken social norms, ethics. Contexts of everyday life, possible cultural differences – differences in communication, religious differences, different attitude towards conflict situations etc.</p> |
|  | Lithuania | Yes | <p>1. No, Lithuania does not have special courses or training for newly arrived immigrants on violence prevention or sexual education.</p> |

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| | | | <p>2. N/a</p> <p>3. N/a</p> <p>4. N/a</p> <p>5. N/a</p> <p>6. Not yet</p> |
|  | Luxembourg | Yes | <p>1. No.</p> <p>2. N/A.</p> <p>3. N/A.</p> <p>4. N/A.</p> <p>5. N/A.</p> <p>6. Currently Luxembourg is considering the design of a pilot project to approach gender related issues and people seeking international protection.</p> |
|  | Netherlands | Yes | <p>1. Yes, every newly arrived immigrant is informed about violence prevention by COA through: a) Information – on paper as well as spoken - about rights and obligations in the Dutch society and rights and obligations in the reception locations of COA, including house rules of COA and sanctioning if rules are not respected. b) Folder ‘Violence is not normal, Know your rights – Get help.’ http://www.pharos.nl/documents/doc/webshop/geweld_is_niet_gewoon_brochure_web_engels.pdf c) Special program with information about violence, discrimination. COA employees discuss topics like these with inhabitants to increase the knowledge and to make them conscious of the values in Dutch society. Newly arrived immigrants receive information on the subject of discrimination, differences in religion, sexuality, communication between sexes etc. The flow of information about these topics continues when inhabitants move from the reception locations to other</p> |


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| | | | <p>locations of COA (asylum seekers' centres). Next to it there are sexual education programs which can be adapted to the need of the participants. Topics can be prevention of sexual diseases, anticonception, unwanted pregnancy or to prevent violent behaviour and informing about Dutch norms and how to have a healthy sexlife. Mostly these programs are provided by the Area Health Authority (GGD). The programs are translated by interpreters so there are no language problems for the participants. Next to the programs for groups there are consults for individuals about sexual diseases and HIV. These consults are also provided by the Area Health Authority.</p> <p>2. Training courses are partly compulsory, partly voluntary. It depends on the topic and the information need of inhabitants.</p> <p>3. They will be informed whether the course is compulsory or voluntary. If voluntary: inhabitants will be stimulated (individually) to participate by COA employees. To create awareness of these topics in general, COA also provides posters to put on the walls of internal public spaces on the locations (reception, corridors etc.).</p> <p>4. There are several reasons to organise trainings: • To prevent discrimination and violent behaviour (in general and specific: sexual, domestic violence etc.) to deter would-be offenders and would-be victims. • To prevent sexual diseases, unwanted pregnancy etc. by educating about the consequences of behaviour. • To educate about Dutch norms, rules and habits (ways of behaving) in the Dutch culture, . • To support the integration into the Dutch society for those who are allowed to stay in the Netherlands.</p> <p>5. COA is responsible to organise in alignment with Dutch organisations/NGO's related to these topics. An example concerning the sexual education programs: COA is responsible to organise and facilitate and the Area Health Authority is responsible for the content of the training.</p> <p>6. -</p> |
|  | Poland | Yes | <p>1. Applicants for international protection participate in orientation courses organized by employees of the Office for Foreigners [Department Social Assistance] at one of the initial reception centres – Podkowa Leśna-Dębak or Biała Podlaska. Orientation courses enable getting acquainted with the customs and regulations in force in the territory of the Republic of Poland. Furthermore, applicants are given Rules of stay in the centre for foreigners seeking international protection, which constitute Annex to the Ordinance of the Minister of Interior of 23 October 2015, and also “First steps in Poland” - synthetic information about Poland and the rights and obligations of foreigners.</p> |



Applicants are informed about rules and procedures that function in a system of social assistance including the procedure concerning prohibition and the consequences of child marriage. They are informed, as well, about the use in the centre of the procedures to combat all cases of violence and to respond to them, especially to violence against minors foreigners. It is worth noting that the Office for Foreigners in cooperation with the Chief Commander of the Police, the UNHCR in Poland, the "La Strada" Foundation and Halina Nieć Legal Aid Centre, executes an agreement concerning standard procedures for diagnosing, preventing and responding to cases of sexual violence and gender-based violence against foreigners residing in centres for foreigners applying for international protection. Under the agreement there are organized so-called local teams of cooperation which include employees of centres for foreigners and representatives of the state agencies and organizations listed above. Among others, these local teams are intended to prevent of sexual and gender-based violence against residents of the centres for foreigners, mainly by: a. Providing appropriate security conditions at the centres for foreigners and its areas, including monitoring and security staff at the centres, regular Police patrols at the centres and its areas, immediate response to potential and existing emergencies at the centres, b. Informing about the violence by distributing information materials concerning procedures for diagnosing, preventing and responding to cases of sexual violence and gender-based violence, e.g. leaflets, or providing individual consultations for foreigners.

2. In terms of violence prevention there are non-government organisations which organize workshops for foreigners, under their projects. At the beginning of this year, "Dzieci Niczyje" Foundation and "Ocalenie" Foundation in partnership with the Office for Foreigners, started the project entitled "We protect children in centers for foreigners - a comprehensive system for the protection of children from violence and abuse", which involves voluntary educational workshops for parents and children, aimed at strengthening parental competence and preventing children from abuse and peer violence as well.

3. As above, there are voluntary workshops for parents and children concerning violence and abuse prevention, organized by NGOs in partnership with the Office for Foreigners.

4. Conditions of participation in reported workshops are determined individual by NGOs. Most of all, they are intended to educate foreign families. It is also worth noting that in each facility for foreigners in Poland medical personnel is present, including psychologists, who can carry out individual consultations with people potentially exposed to violence. Likewise, in proceedings for international protection identification of persons with special needs is taking place, including those on the experience of violence, provided by professional psychologists. In order to protect such persons applying for international protection, in 2010 a separate centre in Warsaw has been opened,


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| | | | <p>which is intended for women and mothers with children – potentially exposed to violence and abuse.</p> <p>5. As a partner on featured NGO’s project, the Office for Foreigners takes to account strengthening parental competence and preventing children from abuse and violence. It also important to raise awareness of violence among staff, that is why the majority of employees participate on workshops aimed at effectively identifying, responding and preventing violence organized by experts in this field. Mainly, NGOs are responsible of implementing the featured project and workshops for foreigners, but the Office for Foreigners takes an active part in cooperation with the staff of the centers. EU funding has also been a source for organizing such workshops by the Office for Foreigners.</p> <p>6. The Office for Foreigners intends to involve and participate as a partner in projects aimed at supporting education, strengthening parental competence and preventing children from abuse and violence or other related projects. It is also directed to advance knowledge and awareness among employees working with foreigners in centres, and improve procedures about preventing violence and abuse. The Ministry of Family, Labour and Social Policy does not organize courses for foreigners, however foreigners can apply for assistance, based on the Act of 29 July 2005 on combating family violence.</p> |
|  | Portugal | Yes | <p>1. No, there aren't. Nevertheless, Portugal not only published a National Plan directed to gender equality, citizenship and non-discrimination (2014-2017) gathering different types of activities to implement the established measures, but also disseminated awareness campaigns against female genital mutilation</p> <p>2. -</p> <p>3. -</p> <p>4. -</p> <p>5. -</p> <p>6. -</p> |
| | Slovak Republ | Yes | <p>1. No, there are no courses focused solely on violence prevention and sexual education, neither for all newly arrived immigrants nor for specific groups of migrants. There are only general cultural orientation courses for asylum seekers</p> |



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| | ic | | <p>as well as for beneficiaries of international protection in which issues such as our political system, traditions, religion, family relationships, work relations etc. are discussed.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. Yes, we are planning to establish new orientation courses for newly arrived migrants, the courses would be also focused on issues such as violence prevention and sexual education. The courses will be compulsory and will be carried out by an NGO, which will be supervised by the Migration Office of the Ministry of Interior of SR also providing the NGO with methodological guidance.</p> |
|  | Slovenia | Yes | <p>1. We are aware of cases of sexual abuses of women in some Member States. So far we didn't provided any special education curses /trainings on violence prevention and/or sexual education for newly arrived immigrants yet.</p> <p>2. NTR</p> <p>3. NTR</p> <p>4. NTR</p> <p>5. NTR</p> <p>6. Yes, we are considering to launch such courses in a near future.</p> |
|  | Spain | Yes | <p>1. The Reception and Integration System is under the umbrella of the General Secretariat of Immigration and Emigration, which depends upon the Ministry for Employment and Social Security. It is responsible for accommodating asylum seekers and coordinating the provision of services and social benefits while their applications</p> |

are processed and once they have been granted asylum status. The reception and integration system ensures that national and international legal obligations on human rights and social services are met to ensure basic needs of asylum seekers and refugees. Through a structured and dynamic process, the target is to work with asylum seekers on an individual social work plan (which includes housing, benefits, language courses, vocational education, support and guidance for employment, education etc.) for them to get the necessary tools to walk autonomously towards full integration into Spanish society. In Spain there are six public reception and accommodation centres directly managed by the Ministry for Employment and Social Security. Likewise, the ministry funds through grants six NGOs that coordinate the delivery of services (including accommodation, health, social services, welfare and education around the country) for asylum seekers and migrants around the country in order to ensure strict compliance with the national, international and EU legislation and standards. Public centres facilitate workshops on gender-based violence and sexual health education for both men and women as well as for children. Awareness-raising on human rights related topics is a line that falls within the call for proposals operating grants issued by the Ministry co-funded by European Social Fund (ESF) and Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) or entirely funded by Spain State Budget. Thus, all NGOs provide asylum seekers and refugees with training on sexual education and prevention of sexually transmitted diseases as well as on gender equality and prevention of gender-based violence. The approach may be slightly different among NGOs in accordance to their mission and their main field of expertise. Sex education involves spreading useful knowledge and skills of critical issues related to sexuality, including sexual identity and gender roles, reproductive process, alternative methods of contraception and HIV/STD (sexually transmitted disease) prevention and the health consequences of avoiding contraceptives and prevention methods. Groups are organized according to different criteria such as common language or cultural and religious background. Gender is the main standard for splitting groups when it comes to sexual health education since both male and female participants are thus more eager to speak up and participate. There is always an interpreter to avoid that language understanding is a hurdle to take full advantage of contents provided.

2. In public centres, attendance to workshops on violence against women is compulsory while sexual health education is an option. As to training organized by NGO, attendance is not mandatory in all instances but always highly recommended.

3. Migrants are notified individually about training during the first interview with the social worker. It is crucial to make women aware of how important it is to have family planning information and to know that they legally protected from gender-based violence. Information is also posted on noticeboards as a reminder and advertising.

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| | | | <p>4. On the one hand, the training is aimed at making asylum seekers familiar with local values regarding gender and sexual issues so that they can better integrate into broader society. On the other hand, the courses help spread knowledge about Spanish legislation to prevent gender-based violence. Other targets are to empower women, to raise gender awareness towards effective equality within the family and the workplace, to promote equality of opportunities and parental responsibility sharing and to address some aspects of sexual health such as contraception methods.</p> <p>5. Depending on the subject, social workers, psychologists, mediators and lawyers give workshops on gender equality and legal aspects of gender violence. A local community practitioner facilitates workshop on sexual education and sexually transmitted diseases. During individual interviews along their asylum seeking process, applicants can be informed about gender issues and legal protection (i.e. victims of violence, human trafficking...) by different officials or NGO professionals.</p> <p>6. -</p> |
|  | Sweden | Yes | <p>1. There are some elements of sexual education in the education programme "Swedish for immigrants" and The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU) is providing information in different languages. But there is no specific education or course available for all newly arrived immigrants.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. N/A</p> <p>6. After the recent discussion on these matters the Government has in the middle of March 2016 decided to dedicate 5 million SEK (approximately 500 000 euro) to education in equality and sexual education for newly arrived youths. The Swedish Association for Sexuality Education (RFSU) will be part of this project but since the decision is very recent not all information on the execution is yet available.</p> |

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|  | United Kingdom | Yes | <p>1. We do not provide such courses for migrants. However all asylum seekers are given a leaflet called, ‘Information about your asylum application’. As well as including an explanation of what to expect of the asylum process, the leaflet also informs asylum seekers about their various rights and responsibilities including that acts of violence and sexual offences will result in significant prison sentences. The leaflet also provides information about the support services available for those affected by gender based violence, FGM and domestic violence. The leaflet can be accessed on the government website. https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/513585/Point_of_Claim_English_2016_0401.pdf More widely, our work to integrate refugees is ongoing and migrants are encouraged to access organisations who can assist with integration. We are working towards achieving more integrated communities and creating the conditions for everyone to live and work successfully alongside each other. The Prime Minister announced on 20 July that Louise Casey would carry out a review on how to boost opportunity and integration in Britain. In addition, the Prime Minister recently announced that £20 million of additional funding for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) courses would be introduced in October 2016. This funding will reach the most isolated communities in the UK to help them integrate into society.</p> <p>2. N/A</p> <p>3. N/A</p> <p>4. N/A</p> <p>5. Each local authority region has a strategic migration partnership that provides coordination and support services for those organisations working with migrants.</p> <p>6. We are not currently considering such courses, but strategic migration partnerships provide integration services that reflect the needs and requirements of refugees.</p> |
|  | Norway | Yes | <p>1. The answer to this question in Norway’s case is complex. There are a number of training approaches/programs that expose most adult refugees to this topic as well as related issues. However, there is no one program that is offered to all immigrants. While most adult refugees in Norway complete the obligatory introductory program, this program is not offered to other groups of immigrants, such as labour immigrants and their families, or spouses of permanent residents in Norway, or students. Norway has included topics related to the question at hand for many years and in a</p> |

number of different ways. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration recently completed a trial training program based on establishing a good dialogue with newcomers about behavioral expectations in Norway vis-à-vis the law and violence between persons in close relationships to each other. The project received international recognition and it has recently been decided that the program will be continued and will be implemented in the reception center programs. See responses below as well as attachment that visually might be easier to read.

2. *The IOM sponsored CO program for refugees carried out prior to arrival in Norway is obligatory for adults. *The introductory program for refugees who have been granted residence in Norway is obligatory. The topic is included in this training program. *Norway also developed and tested out a dialogue approach to addressing this topic which was used in the reception centers on a voluntary basis in 2015. During the project the reception centers were provided will full funding for costs and interpreters and were obliged to carry out the dialogue groups, but actual participation was voluntary.

3. *There are well established routines for signing up those newcomers who are required to take the introductory program. The project just described was carried out in the reception centers and potential participants were invited through the normal channels of communication within the reception center.

4. *The programs Norway has developed are a part of an overall and well thought-out systematic approach to preparing refugees for life in Norway. What we have today that is related to this topic is the result of many years (15+) of focused attention to these issues.

5. * The Norwegian Directorate of Health does not provide any educational programs especially related to prevention of violence/ or sexual behavior for the mentioned groups. The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration provides asylum seekers in asylum centers some information and education on this topic.** The Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity provides an introduction program to learn Norwegian and learn about Norwegian society for refugees who have been settled in municipalities. Norwegian classes for foreigners as well as cultural orientation programs for newcomers must include discussion of violence between people in close relationships. This topic has been translated into 19 languages. The subject matter includes topics such as abuse of women and children (including abusive disciplinary actions against children), sexual assault, forced marriages and female genital mutilation. For more information : <http://www.vox.no/Norsk-og-samfunnskunnskap/laremidler/Vold-i-nare-relasjoner/> However, the Norwegian Directorate of Health has developed a course on sexuality and health for refugees and immigrants. The course is published on the Directorate of Health`s website in Norwegian. The purpose of the course is to improve and

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| | | <p>enhance information about issues related to sexuality and to increase an individual's sense of autonomy. The program is aimed at newcomers to Norway. The Directorate of Health commissioned the course and it was developed by the AMATHEA Foundation, which is a national health service which operates according to the laws related to termination of pregnancy. Email: administrasjon@amathea.no website: http://www.amathea.no/seksualitetsundervisning/ The Norwegian Directorate of Health link: https://helsedirektoratet.no/asylsokere-flyktninger-og-innvandrerer/undervisning-pa-asylmottak-om-seksuell-helse (paste link into browser) This link will lead you to the following program description, with links to each element. The program includes a 20 page power point presentation, as well as a 10 page guide which are available in Norwegian through the following links: "Undervisning på asylmottak" (Teaching in an asylum reception center) "Undervisningspakken består av:" (The teaching program consists of the following elements:) • "en power point presentasjon (disposisjon som kan tilpasses)" (a powerpoint presentation – which can be adapted) • en undervisningsveileder utarbeidet av Medisinernes Seksualopplysning (PDF) (a teaching guide developed by 'Medisinernes SeksualOppllysning' which is an ideological organization run on a voluntary basis by medically qualified professionals and who provide sex education for youth in the Oslo area.) • en nettside med informasjon om oppgaver og lenker til ressurspersoner (amathea.no) (a website with information about classroom exercises and links to resource people at AMATHEA.) The prevention unit at the Norwegian Directorate of Integration and Diversity (IMDi) reports that the cultural orientation program designed for quota refugees which takes place prior to arrival in Norway, has obligatory discussions about violence and sexual assault. More information is available about this from the IOM please contact William K. PAINTSIL, e-post: WPAINTSIL@iom.int. VOX is the Norwegian Agency for Lifelong Learning and is administered by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. Vox has developed a training program for Norwegian language and cultural orientation for adult immigrants (revised in 2012). Description in English is provided here: http://www.vox.no/English/Immigrant-integration/the-national-curriculum-in-norwegian-language-and-social-studies-for-adult-immigrants/ These courses are a part of the obligatory introduction program for refugees in Norway. The curriculum is made up of two parts, one for Norwegian language and one for 50 hours of cultural orientation including information about the government and democracy. The cultural orientation program takes place in a language the participants understand and should take place as soon as possible after the start of the training program. Bilingual teachers carry out the instruction. The point of departure is that these teachers are familiar with the Norwegian culture and society as well as the culture and society where the mother tongue of the participants is spoken. In this way, the teachers help in translating issues that are culturally related which is an important in order to bring about a transfer of knowledge and instruction based on a good dialogue. Curriculum for 50 hours of Norwegian culture and society This program aims to provide the participants with information about their rights, duties and opportunities and to convey an understanding of important values in the Norwegian society. It</p> |
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| | | <p>is made up of 7 topics, where the third is “Children and Family”. One of the aims under this topic is that the participants shall: gain knowledge and an understanding that violence/sexual assault against children and other family members, female genital mutilation and forced marriage is forbidden in Norway and that these violations are punishable by law. The legal consequences of a conviction are also explained. VOX has also developed free digital resource material which covers the 7 topics in the curriculum and which are available in 23 languages: http://www.samfunnskunnskap.no/?lang=en The topic “Children and Family” also has a brochure about violence/sexual assault in close relationships which was developed by VOX on request from the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research. Over a number of years, there has been a strong focus on this topic in the form of Plans of Action, and VOX has been asked to make a number of contributions in this regard. The training booklet about “Violence between people with close relationships” can be found in many languages, the link in English is here: http://www.vox.no/contentassets/836c4c416ecf4b2eaa2c14536a6b3aaf/engelsk_elevheftet_web.pdf (other language choices from bottom of page on website) Even though this was designed specifically for the classes in violence between persons with close relationships, much of it can be relevant for discussions about the questions related to sexual assaults in the street. For the small brochure: http://www.samfunnskunnskap.no/?page_id=500 Norwegian video lecture: "Seksualisert vold - rettigheter og konsekvenser", by specialist in psychology Didrik Hægeland, on the VOX website: http://presenter.qbrick.com/?pguid=6ec69bec-bbc7-4d7c-ad4f-a382a15b12d9 VOX has worked with the psychologist Didrik Hægeland, who is responsible for developing several of the courses as requested from VOX. He has also carried out some of the training of trainers. VOX has provided training of trainers to the bilingual teachers of the culture and society course as well as to the Norwegian as a second language teachers. The response has been very positive. One of the courses discusses the psychology of violence, how a man might handle feelings of powerlessness and depression, gender perspective, the mother’s role, ethnicity, safety and security, interdisciplinary cooperation and where one can apply for help. Another course covers the topic of rape prevention and in this connection different kinds of rape are discussed, including rape at parties, rape by persons in close relationship, rape of persons in vulnerable situations/ exploiting vulnerable situations, and street rape. The course also discusses the characteristics of each type of rape, and examples of risk factors/ profiles of the molesters, as well as attitudes. Mr. Hægeland has worked with alternatives to violence in his practice and has in addition developed a course for VOX dealing with the use of violence in raising children (any physical violence at all against children is forbidden in Norway). The following abstract was adapted from a Norwegian language report produced by “Alternative to Violence” (AV) for UDI: http://atv-stiftelsen.no/upload/2016/01/18/avslutningsrapport-2015-dialoggrupper-om-vold-udi-atv.pdf In July 2012 The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration, UDI, announced an official call for a project manager to develop a method for dialogue based groups in Norwegian asylum reception centers. The objective of the</p> |
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| | | | <p>groups was to reduce violence both in and outside the asylum reception centers, and the group participants were going to be men living at the centers. The project is based on long-term work with safety and violence prevention, and it reflects national and international violence prevention strategies. The Norwegian National Action Plans focus on preventive strategies to reduce the occurrence of violence in the Norwegian society. The project involved developing a new method including a written manual, carrying out training of employees from all Norwegian reception centers to lead dialogue groups, and supervising the employees as they held groups. The project also involved a continuous revision of the method based on knowledge attained from arranging the groups, and in the second half of the project, conferences were held to share knowledge and evaluate the dialogue groups. With funding from the UDI, the non-profit organization Alternativ til Vold («Alternative to Violence») managed the project. Training of trainers was carried out during a series of two-day seminars, and a total of 253 employees from asylum reception centers attended. Seven seminars were held from June 2013 – March 2014. The employees of the centers recruited men to participate in the groups. Participation was voluntary and irrespective of their asylum status; men going to be returned, men waiting for an answer to their application and men waiting for a place of residence in Norway participated. Two employees at the reception centre usually met with a group of men along with an interpreter present (a few groups were held in English). The group met 6 or 12 times for about 18 hours in total. UDI required that all asylum reception centers held at least two groups during the project period, and the economical costs for an interpreter were covered by UDI. 123 employees from the asylum reception centers attended conferences to evaluate and share experiences in the autumn of 2014, and a revised manual was distributed to the centers in 2015. The project has been a major success when considering the feedback from the employees as well as the participants. The employees want to lead groups again provided time and economical funding. When the project period ended in 2015 the funding from UDI for having an interpreter was no longer offered. Some centers continue to arrange dialogue groups on their own initiative, but it is no longer a task UDI requires the centers to do. Hence future implementation of the dialogue groups is currently uncertain, but is being re-considered by the Norwegian Directorate of Immigration. The contact person in UDI is Ms Nina Lindekleiv in the UDI Southern Regional office: snbl@udi.no and the contact person at AV is Ms Jannicke Stav, psychologist, Alternativ til Vold Stavanger, Norway; jannicke@atv-stiftelsen.no Newspaper articles about this project: (Please note that headlines such as “teaching migrants not to rape” do NOT reflect the goal of this program, nor the organization that developed it; the unique dialogue approach was intended to introduce, reflect on and discuss attitudes and behaviors which are vital to achieving a harmonious relationship with others in Norway, and not least of all, to make clear what behaviors are considered unethical and or illegal. The approach needs to be long term and systematic.) http://www.nytimes.com/2015/12/20/world/europe/norway-offers-migrants-a-lesson-in-how-to-treat-women.html?_r=0 In Norwegian: - http://www.dagbladet.no/2015/12/21/nyheter/innenriks/asympolitikk/42493085/ -</p> |
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6. *Norway continually reviews, evaluates and revises our approach to programs and measures related to integration of newcomers; it is an on-going effort.