

**Title: Describing the concept of SGBV and associated determinants according to Professionals and Residents from European Asylum Centers**

**Authors:** Charlotte Oliveira (1), Ines Keygnaert (2), Maria do Rosário Martins (3) , Sónia Dias (3)

**Affiliations:** (1)PhD Student of International Health, IHMT, UNL; (2) International Centre for Reproductive Health, Faculty of Medicine &Health Science, Ghent University, Belgium; (3) GHMT, IHMT, UNL

**Introduction**

Sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) is a major public health problem and a threat to human rights. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are a vulnerable population to violence. The complexity of migration process, legal status, socio-demographic and economic factors are potentials determinants to SGBV.

**Objectives**

To understand the dimensions of SGBV concept and its determinants in a vulnerable population and professionals working with these communities.

**Methodology**

We conducted a cross-sectional study, using secondary data from Senperforto Study (Keygnaert et al., 2014). Data was collected from 2008 to 2010 in eight European countries. Data analysis comprises a principal component (PC) analysis and statistical tests - *X2 test* and *Fisher test*.

**Preliminary Results**

The PCA resulted in 14 PC for residents and 17 PC for professionals (representing > 80% of total variability of the data). **Residents:** Psychological violence was associated with immigrant status according to the law. Sexual violence with sex, age, marital status, religion, year of arrival to Europe, immigration status and activity in the hosting country. Regarding socio-economic violence, it was associated with sex, age, immigration status, marital status. The concept of harmful cultural practices was associated with sex, having children, activity in the country of origin, and the level of education. **Professionals:** Psychological violence was associated with the type of facility where they worked. Sexual violence with age, marital status and immigration status. Socio-economic violence was associated with sex. The concept of harmful cultural practice, namely the concept of genital mutilation was associated with sex.



## Conclusions

Understanding violence concept and its determinants is a complex process. Our study suggest a difference in SGBV concept from residents and professionals' perspective, as well in the determinants. Preventive and response measures such be adapted to the reality.

## References

Keygnaert, I., Dias, S. F., Degomme, O., Deville, W., Kennedy, P., Kovats, a., ... Temmerman, M. (2014). Sexual and gender-based violence in the European asylum and reception sector: a perpetuum mobile? *The European Journal of Public Health*, 25, 90–96. <http://doi.org/10.1093/eurpub/cku066>