



2013 Statistics
Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre
Vienna

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Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna

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01. 2013 Statistics of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna

1.1 Client contacts at the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre in 2013

Clients	Number
Referral based on notification by police authorities	3 580
Referral by others, self-referral	580
New clients, total	4 160
Referral prior to 2013, services again delivered in 2013	1 947
All clients in 2013	6 107

In 2013, the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna provided services to a total of 6 107 clients. 3 580 of them contacted the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna following notification by the police. 580 clients came of their own accord or were referred to the Intervention Centre by other institutions. 1 947 clients who had already taken up services before returned to the Intervention Centre in 2013. (For further data on clients see section 1.3). At present, only 20 full-time employees are available for service provision. Support over a longer period or long-term counselling is thus hardly possible even though it would be essential for violent prevention. An expansion of the services for victims of violence is absolutely necessary, something which is also stipulated in the Programme of Action of the Austrian Federal Government.¹

1.2 Police and court interventions

1.2.1 Number and type of police notifications

Notification by police authorities	Number
Notification of barring order under Security Police Act Sect. 38a), incl. 73 BOs for childcare institutions	3 429
Notification of crime report (incl. stalking, no BOs)	374
Notification of dispute settlement	45
Total	3 848

2012 saw a rise in police notifications to the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna, with regard to both number of barring orders issued and number of notifications. In 2012 the number of notifications totalled 3 701, compared to 3 848 in 2013. This is an increase of 147 cases. Table 1.1 shows 3 580 victims were referred to the Centre, which means that in several cases more than one police intervention was required (see also Table 1.2.6).

¹ Arbeitsprogramm der österreichischen Bundesregierung 2013 – 2018, p. 46

Approximately 90 % of police notifications (3 429) related to barring orders. This is an increase of 183 compared to the previous year (2012: 3 246 barring orders). In part, this is due to the expansion in September 2013 of barring orders to schools and childcare institutions. In 2013 a total of 73 barring orders were issued for childcare institutions. It is good to see that the legal amendments regarding the protection of children have been effective. Still, the number of children that are protected is fairly small compared to those 5 765 children and young people who are experiencing violence directly or indirectly (see Table 1.3.4). The goal is therefore to ensure statutory protection for a larger number of children. To this end, it is essential to improve the documentation of police interventions and to gather more detailed data on all children affected by domestic violence. The intervention centres and violence prevention centres have drawn up a proposal on this matter, addressed to the Federal Ministry of the Interior on this matter.

374 notifications by the police related to crime reports. This figure does not include all reports filed in the context of interventions due to domestic violence, but only reports in the absence of barring orders. In addition, numerous reports were filed parallel to issuing barring orders. 2013 saw a total of 3 012 crime reports resulting from police interventions due to domestic violence (see also Table 1.2.9).

The majority of these 374 crime reports are reports relating to Section 107a of the Criminal Code (insistent pursuit/ stalking).

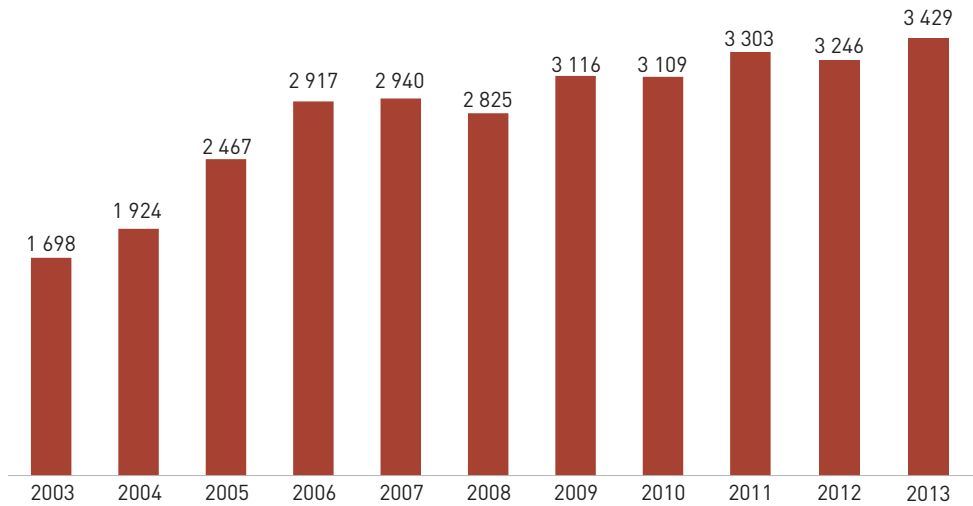
What gives rise to concern is the small number of notifications to the intervention centre of dispute settlements and other police interventions in cases of domestic violence: only 45 in 2013. This figure has seen a massive decline in recent years. In 2010, the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna had been notified of as many as 1 789 dispute settlements. This decrease may be due to an increase in barring orders, but in view of such a strong decline this seems unlikely. Rather, it is reasonable to assume rather that the police no longer notify the Intervention Centre Vienna of interventions relating to dispute settlement, which is a setback for the prevention of domestic violence. According to an Austrian study on homicides, the killings

had often been preceded by repeated barring orders and dispute settlements. The study concludes that “in view of this fact it would be desirable if the violence prevention centres/intervention centres were notified at a nationwide level also of dispute settlements resulting from police interventions due to domestic violence, as this is the only way to document the complete history of violence.” (Haller 2012, p. 61f., emphasis added by Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna)

The Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna thus requests the Ministry of the Interior to issue a general circular ensuring that the intervention centres/violence prevention centres are notified of all dispute settlements and other police interventions in cases of domestic violence. Only in this way can risk factors be identified at an early stage, and appropriate measures be taken.

The Federal Ministry of the Interior is furthermore requested to also gather data on all interventions relating to domestic violence and violence in intimate social relationships in order to permit an assessment of the general development of police interventions, i.e. whether they are increasing or declining. The corresponding statistics should be maintained in accordance with the minimum standards of the Council of Europe Convention.

1.2.2 Development of police-issued barring orders from 2003 to 2013



The table reveals that the number of barring orders reported to the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna has continuously risen in the past 10 years, and has in fact more than doubled.

From 2012 to 2013 the number of barring orders rose by 183 cases, to 3 429, which represents the highest figure of the past 10 years in Vienna. The rising trend is likely to continue. This does not seem to be due to an increase in violence but, rather, in addition to the expansion of barring orders to include childcare institutions, also due to the fact that either the response patterns of the police have changed and barring orders are now issued more often, or that the number of victims who call the police has increased.

1.2.3 Police interventions in Vienna, by district and frequency

District police station (PS) or provincial criminal agency (PCA)	No. of inhabitants ²	Dispute settlement	Crime report	Barring order	Police notifications total	BOs per 10 000 inhabitants
PS Innere Stadt, 1st district	16 268		9	28	37	17.2
PS Brigittenau, 2nd & 20th districts	180 843	1	25	338	364	18.7
PS Landstrasse, 3rd district	85 508	4	6	206	216	24.1
PS Margareten, 4th, 5th & 6th dist.	114 177	2	7	162	171	14.2
PS Josefstadt, 7th, 8th & 9th dist.	94 207	1	30	133	164	14.1
PS Favoriten, 10th district	182 595	2	69	521	592	28.5
PS Simmering, 11th district	92 274	3	17	250	270	27.1
PS Meidling, 12th & 13th districts	140 447		13	216	229	15.4
PS Fünfhaus, 14th & 15th districts	159 775	10	18	371	399	23.2
PS Ottakring, 16th & 17th districts	151 054	2	56	386	444	25.6
PS Döbling, 18th & 19th districts	117 054	17	32	236	285	20.2
PS Floridsdorf, 21st district	146 516		43	220	263	15.0
PS Donaustadt, 22nd district	165 265	3	29	243	275	14.7
PS Liesing, 23rd district	95 263		14	110	124	11.5
PCA, northern districts office			1		1	
PCA, western districts office			1	1	2	
Police/other province			4	8	12	
Total	1 741 246	45	374	3 429	3 848	19.7

This table lists police interventions both by type and district, and shows the distribution of police measures taken in response to domestic violence in individual police districts.

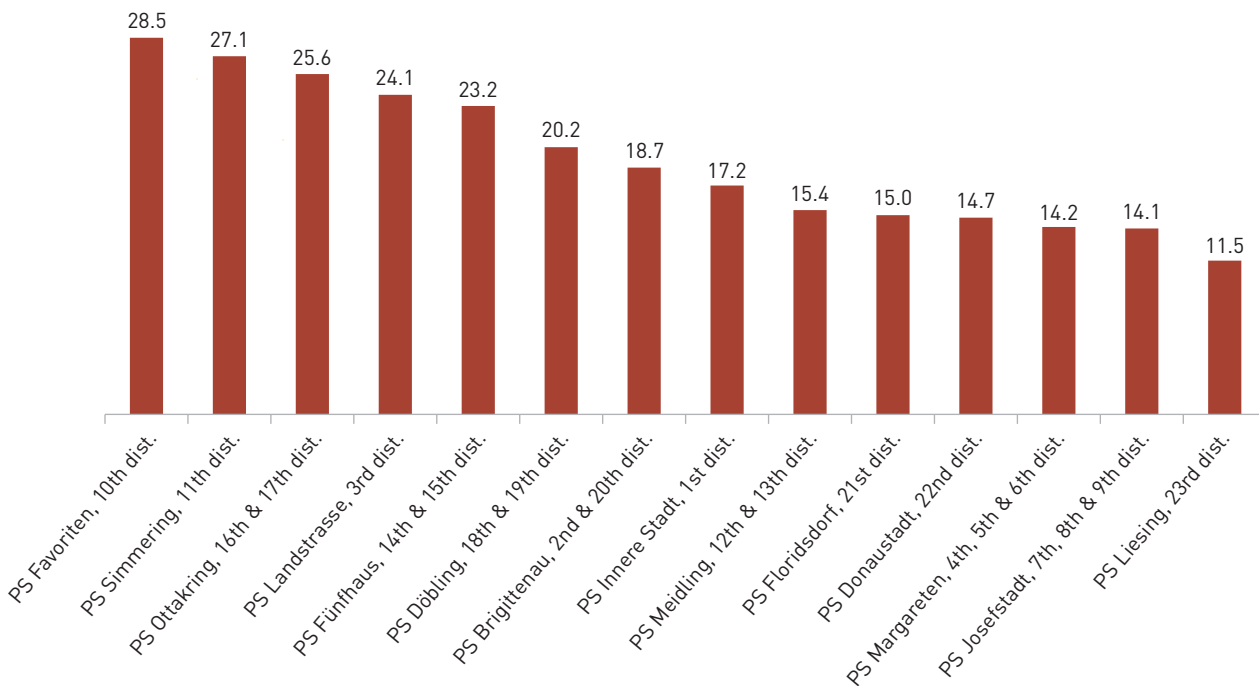
As absolute figures are not very conclusive with regard to regional comparisons, the number of barring orders has been broken down by number of inhabitants. The resulting figure is then used as an indicator for comparisons. The number of barring order per inhabitant permits conclusions as to how often this measure has been taken at both regional and national levels.³

For further information see also next table.

² Source: Statistik Austria 2013.

³ The PROTECT Guidance Report also recommends using this indicator. It is a good basis for European comparisons of protection measures as well (WAVE 2013).

1.2.4 Number of barring orders per 10 000 inhabitants according to police district



When the police notifications are broken down by number of inhabitants, it becomes apparent in which districts of Vienna police interventions due to violence in intimate social relationships have been most frequent: in the police districts of Favoriten, Simmering and Ottakring. The smallest number of barring orders were issued in the police districts of Liesing, Josefstadt and Margareten. The differences in the individual police districts range from 28.5 in Favoriten, where the number of barring orders has been greatest, and 11.5 in Liesing, with the smallest number of barring orders. This range is similar to the figures from the previous year (2012: 12.2 – 27.6 barring orders per 10 000 inhabitants), but it is still important to examine the reasons for these differences.

In Vienna, the total number of barring orders issued per 10.000 inhabitants in 2013 averages 19.7 (compared to 18.7 in 2012).

1.2.5 Multiple barring orders⁴

Number of BOs	Victims	Percent	Percent
1	2 581	81.3 %	81.3 %
2	385	12.1 %	12.1 %
3	126	4.0 %	4.0 %
4	38	1.2 %	2.6 %
5	16	0.5 %	
6	16	0.5 %	
7	6	0.2 %	
8	2	0.1 %	
9	1	0.0 %	
10	2	0.1 %	
Total	3 173	100 %	

The table reveals how often a victim-perpetrator constellation resulted in barring orders for the first time in 2013, or whether barring orders had already been issued previously (in 2013 or before).

In the majority of cases, barring orders had been issued for the first time (2 581 cases, or 81.3 %). In 385 cases it was the second barring order, in 126 cases it was the third; and in 81 cases, barring orders had already been issued four times or more. Recurring violence is among the most frequent risk factors, i.e. in 592 cases (18.7 %) where barring orders were issued in 2013, a situation of (high) risk has to be assumed, which requires particularly intensive interventions.

1.2.6 Mention of weapons in police notification

Mention of weapons	Number
Threat with knife	160
Injury with object	28
Injury with knife	27
Threat with firearm	22
Threat with other weapon	19
Threat with cutting weapon	11
Injury with other weapon	6
Injury with cutting weapon	4
Injury with service weapon	1
Injury with firearm	1
Mention of weapon (without threat or injury with weapon)	91
Total	370

In 2013, 370 notifications of barring orders mentioned weapons (i.e. approx. 10 %), which the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre documents separately, also for risk assessment reasons. In 18.1 % of these 370 cases, injury with a weapon was documented as well. Weapons indicate high risk, and are often involved in cases discussed by the multi-agency risk-assessment conferences (MARACs – see glossary; see Wiener Interventionsstelle 2014).

In order to obtain reliable information on the development of police responses to domestic violence it would be necessary to maintain statistics on ALL police interventions. Furthermore, it would be important to repeat the prevalence study on violence against women conducted by the European Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA 2014) in 3 – 4 years to get data on the development of the extent of violence, whether it is increasing or declining.

If data from representative surveys (such as the prevalence study) were combined with administrative data (police intervention statistics, criminal statistics, judicial criminal statistics) it would be possible to acquire information on the development of violence problems. In addition, qualitative studies should be conducted to find out whether, and in which way, legal and psychological support has been effective, if it is regarded as helpful by the clients and whether such services may prevent or stop violence.

⁴ This figure refers to the number of victims of a perpetrator for whom one or several barring orders were issued (i.e. it does not refer to the number of barring orders).

1.2.7 Applications for interim injunctions (II)

	Number
Applications for II, total	1 015
– of these: application while barring orders in force	836
– of these: application for II with assistance by Intervention Centre	772

It is apparent that the majority of applications for an interim injunction (82.4 %) are filed while barring orders are in force. In most cases, the corresponding applications were filed with the assistance of our team (approx. 75 %). This shows the significance of the individual measures (police interventions, civil law measures and psychosocial assistance), which should therefore always be planned jointly.

Type of interim injunction	Number
II under Section 382b/e (prohibition extending to flat, contact and entry of certain areas)	417
II under Sec. 382e (contact, entry of certain areas)	360
II under Section 382b (flat)	79
II under Section 382g (stalking)	102
II under Section 382h (protection of flat)	4
Type of II unknown	53
Total	1 015

In 2013, the Intervention Centre documented a total of 1 015 applications for interim injunctions. The majority concerned prohibitions to enter the flat and to contact the victim (856). In addition, the Intervention Centre recorded 102 interim injunctions aimed at protection from stalking.

1.2.8 Barring orders relating to crime reports and other measures

Crime reports and measures	Number	Percent	No. of crime reports	Crime reports %
Crime report	2 891	85.8 %	3 012	89.4 %
Crime report and detention	106	3.1 %		
Crime report and commitment to an inpatient psychiatric institution in accordance with the Act on Involuntary Commitment	15	0.4 %		
Involuntary commitment	8	0.2 %		
No further measure	350	10.4 %		
Total	3 186	100 %		

The figures reveal that barring orders are frequently issued in connection with criminal acts: in 2013 the police filed a crime report parallel to issuing the barring order in 3 012 cases (almost 90 %).

A barring order is a preventive measure to avoid violence before a criminal act is committed, and can, or must, be taken whenever conditions of immediate danger apply: the primary duty of the police actually is, after all, to prevent offences, while investigation and prosecution come second.

The fact that barring orders are rarely issued in the absence of punishable offences (approx. 10 %) can be interpreted in several ways: either the persons experiencing violence tend to call the police only after a punishable offence has been committed, or the police tend to issue barring orders primarily in these cases. To answer this question, too, statistics on ALL police interventions due to domestic violence would in fact be needed.

Imposition of pre-trial custody

According to Table 1.2.8, 2013 saw a total of 106 detentions due to punishable offences parallel to issuing barring orders. This does not mean, however, that pre-trial custody was imposed on all perpetrators. In view of a total of 3 012 reports (see Table 1.2.8) and taking into consideration that 1 676 reports of severe offences which could give grounds for arrest were recorded in 2013 (see table below), the number of detentions (106) seems small.

1.2.9 Reports of severe offences

Crime reports with possible reasons for arrest	Number
Severe bodily injury (Sections 84, 87)	46
Dangerous threat (Section 107)	1 200
Severe coercion (Section 106)	234
Continued exercise of violence (Section 107b)	185
Attempted murder (Section 75/15)	6
Murder (Section 75)	1
Total	1 672

The small number of detentions or impositions of pre-trial custody is in line with the experience of victims' protection organisations: even in cases of repeated dangerous violence, reports are often filed while the perpetrator is allowed to go free. This obviously is the greatest, and most dangerous, safety flaw in Austria's current system of protection from violence (see Logar 2012).

In the case of repeated dangerous violence, especially if severe prior offences have been recorded, issuing barring orders is insufficient as a prevention measure. In such a situation, criminal prosecution measures are required in order to prevent the accused from inflicting further damage or even killing, or severely injuring, human beings. Such interventions include not only pre-trial custody but also safeguarding measures such as protection orders and work with perpetrators in the context of probation assistance, as well as referrals to anti-violence training programmes. At present, such preventive measures are hardly taken, even though they are obviously necessary to prevent the repetition or escalation of violence (see Wiener Interventionsstelle 2014).

Commitment to an inpatient psychiatric institution

Table 1.2.8 also lists 23 instances of the perpetrator's commitment to an inpatient psychiatric institution in the context of barring orders issued by the police. Even though this figure is small, in such cases high-risk factors may be present, as in the case of pre-trial custody, and thus require specific interventions.

1.2.10 Reports by offence

Report due to	Number	Percent
Bodily injury	2 176	48.4 %
Dangerous threat (Section 107)	1 200	26.7 %
Insistent pursuit, i.e. stalking (Section 107a)	393	8.7 %
Severe coercion (Section 106)	234	5.2 %
Continued exercise of violence (Section 107b)	185	4.1 %
Coercion (Section 105)	134	3.0 %
Deprivation of liberty (Section 99)	53	1.2 %
Rape (Section 201); sexual coercion (Section 202)	49	1.1 %
Severe bodily injury (Section 84); intentional severe bodily injury (Section 87)	46	1.0 %
Severe sexual abuse of underage persons (Section 206); sexual abuse of underage persons (Section 207); pornographic depiction of underage persons (Section 207a)	20	0.4 %
Attempted murder (Section 75/15)	6	0.1 %
Murder (Section 75)	1	0.0 %
Total	4 497	100 %

For 2013, a total of 4 497 of crime reports relating to domestic violence and stalking were recorded by the Intervention Centre (plus 399 reports relating to other offences such as trespassing or damage to property). The largest part is accounted for by reports due to bodily injury (48.4 %) and dangerous threat (26.7 %). As a rule, violence in intimate social relationships is not just a one-off incident, but often multiple offences are repeatedly committed against the same victim. The situation may escalate, especially when the person experiencing abuse tries to end the relationship, to defend herself or to report the violence. Staff specifically trained in responding to such offences, as well as prudence by the police or court authorities are thus required in order to protect the victims effectively to avoid additional danger due to the intervention by the authorities.

1.2.11 Court assistance

Victim's gender	CA services	Percent
Women	722	93.6 %
Men	49	6.4 %
Total	771	

Section 66 of the Code of Criminal Procedure entitles all victims of violence to psychosocial and legal court assistance in criminal proceedings, and under Section 73b of the Code of Civil Procedure they have the right to psychosocial court assistance in civil proceedings (e.g. divorce, child custody, etc.) that are connected with criminal proceedings. Court assistance for victims of violence is free and funded by the Federal Ministry of Justice.

The Intervention Centre has provided court assistance to victims of violence since 2006, on behalf of the Ministry of Justice. In 2013, 771 victims were assisted in 822 proceedings: 93.6 % were female, and 6.4 %, male.

1.3 Data on victims

1.3.1 Gender of victims

n = 6 107⁵

Gender	Number	Percent
Female	5 345	87.5 %
Male	762	12.5 %
Total	6.107	100 %



It is mostly women who suffer domestic violence: in 2013, 5 345 (87.5 %) victims were female, and 762 (12.5 %) were male. These figures confirm the definition in the Council of Europe Convention concerning violence against women and domestic violence (2011), namely that domestic violence has to be regarded as gender-based violence against women. In order to be effective, prevention measures must therefore also pursue a gendered approach.

For age distribution and relationships between victims and perpetrators see tables in section 1.5.

1.3.2 Age of victims

n = 5 865

Age	Number	Age group	Number	Percent
0 – 10	97	0 – 18	453	7.7 %
11 – 14	68			
15 – 18	288			
19 – 21	370	19 – 40	3 542	60.4 %
22 – 30	1 545			
31 – 40	1 627			
41 – 50	1 168	41 – 60	1 643	28.0 %
51 – 60	475			
61 – 70	155			
71 – 80	49	61 – 80	204	3.5 %
Over 80	23	Over 80	23	0.4 %
Total	5 865			100 %

Unknown: 242

In 2013, 453 victims were children and young people. Compared to the previous year, the percentage of underage victims has thus risen from 4.8 % to 7.7 %. There is reason to assume that this results from the expansion of barring orders to include schools and childcare institutions.

The majority of victims (3 542, or 60.4 %) lie in the 19 to 40 age group, and 1 643 (28 %) are aged between 41 and 60. 227 victims were over 61.

⁵ The tables below refer to the total number of clients in 2013, i.e. including persons who had already contacted the Intervention Centre in previous years and returned to the Centre in 2013 as violence incidents had emerged again. The figure (n) is not the same in each table, however, as certain data are not available for all clients or could not be gathered: support and advice take priority over data collection. The figures listed under "Unknown" in the individual tables relate to these data on victims and perpetrators that have not been recorded.

1.3.3 Children and young people in the household experiencing violence

Children per household	Number of households	Number of children affected
1 child	1 837	5 765
2 children	1 029	
3 children	371	
4 children	123	
5 children	33	
6 children	8	
7 children	6	
10 children	1	
Households with children/total	3 408	
No children	2 457	
Unknown	242	
Households/total	6 107	

In 2013, 5 765 children and young people were affected by violence. According to the definition in the 2013 Act Modifying Family Matters and Name Changes, witnessing violence committed against a caregiver is regarded as a danger to the child's welfare. These children and young people need advice and support, which the Intervention Centre is unable to provide at present (see Gleirscher/Logar 2014). We will address our concerns to the Minister for Family Affairs in 2014 and ask her to provide the funds needed for supporting these children.

1.3.4 Nationality of victims

n = 5 544

Nationality, summarised	Number	Percent
Austrians	3 315	59.8 %
EU/EEA and Swiss nationals	865	15.6 %
Third-country nationals	1 349	24.3 %
Stateless	15	0.3 %
Total	5 544	100 %

Unknown: 563

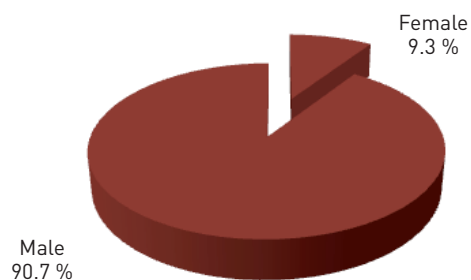
The majority of victims (3 315, or 59.8 %) are Austrian nationals. 865 (15.6 %) are nationals of the EU or EEA (including Switzerland). 24.3 % are nationals of other states (third countries). In 2013, the Intervention Centre provided services to victims from 86 different countries. This underlines the importance of having native speakers among the advisory staff, as well as the services of advisers with foreign languages skills and interpreters.

1.4 Data on perpetrators⁶

1.4.1 Gender of perpetrators

n = 5 870

Gender	Number	Percent
Female	546	9.3 %
Male	5 324	90.7 %
Total	5 870	100 %



More than 90 % of perpetrators in the context of domestic violence and violence in intimate social relationships are male, which is another indication that this specific form of violence is not neutral with regard to gender, but a gender-based phenomenon, and, according to the Council of Europe Convention, “a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between men and women” (Council of Europe 2011, Preamble). Any work with perpetrators must therefore be aimed at changing the power and dominance relations between genders and at establishing equality in families, as well as in institutions and in society.

For further figures broken down by gender, age and relationships between victims and perpetrators, please consult the tables in section 1.5.

1.4.2 Age of perpetrators

n = 5 625

Alter	Anzahl	Altersgruppen	Anzahl	Prozent
0 – 10	0	0 – 18	207	3,7 %
11 – 14	20			
15 – 18	187			
19 – 21	313	19 – 40	3.244	57,7 %
22 – 30	1.327			
31 – 40	1.604			
41 – 50	1.370	41 – 60	1.961	34,9 %
51 – 60	591			
61 – 70	174			
71 – 80	26	61 – 80	200	3,6 %
über 80	13	über 80	13	0,2 %
Gesamt	5.625			

Unknown: 278

The table shows that 187 perpetrators registered in 2013 were aged between 15 and 18, and thus underage. 20 even fell into the age group between 11 and 14. These cases may also relate to violence between brothers and sisters.

Intimate partner violence may already start in young people’s first relationships. These young perpetrators need mobile advisers as contacts because they do not usually turn to support services themselves.

Abusive young adults are another target group that requires proactive approaches, as, on the one hand, the risk of repeated violence is high, while on the other hand, patterns of violence have not yet become firmly established. 313 perpetrators were between 19 and 21.

In the case of these young adults, youth criminal law applies, and it is important not to play down their violence. Sanctions, combined with appropriate measures such as probation assistance and anti-violence training, should be imposed. Awareness-raising and prevention measures may help these young people develop respectful, non-violent patterns of behaviour in partnerships.

The largest group of perpetrators is aged between 19 and 40 (57.7 %). 34.9 % of the perpetrators are in the age group from 41 to 60. Even though the number of perpetrators decreases significantly in the group aged 61 or older, in 2013 still 213 (3.8 %) of the perpetrators still fell into this group.

⁶ For notes on the term “perpetrator” please consult the glossary. Perpetrators are usually referred to as “he” because 90 % of perpetrators are male; female perpetrators shall be deemed to be included.

1.4.3 Nationality of perpetrators

n = 5 342

	Number	Percent
Austrians	3 022	56.6 %
EU/EEA and Swiss nationals	643	12.0 %
Third-country nationals	1 652	30.9 %
Stateless	25	0.5 %
Total	5 342	100 %

Unknown: 528

The largest group of perpetrators is accounted for by Austrians (56.6 %). Around 12 % are EU or EEA nationals. 30.9 % come from third countries.

1.5 Relationships of victim to perpetrator

This chapter examines the relationships between persons suffering violence and perpetrators.

1.5.1 Relationships of victim to perpetrator/total

n = 5 799

Relationship – perpetrator is	Number	Percent		
Husband	1 885	32.5 %	53.0 % (3 075)	75.4 % (4 370)
Live-in partner	971	16.7 %		
Boyfriend	219	3.8 %		
Former husband	316	5.4 %	22.3 % (1 295)	
Former live-in partner	452	7.8 %		
Former boyfriend	527	9.1 %		
Father (in law)/mother (in law)	278	4.8 %	15.1 % (878)	
Stepfather/stepmother	49	0.8 %		
Son/daughter ⁷	336	5.8 %		
Brother/sister	122	2.1 %		
Other family member ⁸	93	1.6 %		
Other relationship ⁹	459	7.9 %		7.9 %
Stranger (no personal relationship, e.g. stalker)	92	1.6 %		1.6 %
Total	5 799			100 %

According to the table, approximately three out of four (75.4 %) cases of violence in intimate social relationships are committed by intimate partners, especially in continuing intimate partnerships: the largest proportion, i.e. 53 % of perpetrators, is accounted for by intimate partners (3 075 husbands, live-in partners or boyfriends), followed by former partners (1 295 perpetrators, or 22.3 %).

In 15.1 % of the cases, the perpetrators were other family members, primarily fathers/mothers (including step-parents: 327 perpetrators), and sons or daughters (336 perpetrators). In 7.9 % of the cases the perpetrators were other persons in the victim's intimate social environment.

In 92 cases (1.6 %) the perpetrator was described as a stranger, particularly a stalker whom the victim did not know (however, stalking is frequently committed by former partners).

The tables below give further details of the relationships of victims to perpetrators, broken down by gender, and distinguishing between adult victims and underage victims.

⁷ Figures include foster children and stepchildren, as well as sons and daughters-in-law.

⁸ This group includes grandparents, grandchildren, uncles and aunts, as well as other relatives.

⁹ This group includes acquaintances, neighbours, flatmates/housemates, and other relationships.

1.5.2 Violence against women – relationship of victim to perpetrator

n = 4 854

	Perpetrator (male) is	Number	Percent		
Female adult victims	Husband	1 791	36.9 %	58.8 % (2 853)	
	Live-in partner	875	18.0 %		
	Boyfriend	187	3.9 %		
	Former husband	306	6.3 %	24.3 % (1 181)	
	Former live-in partner	422	8.7 %		
	Former boyfriend	453	9.3 %		
	Father	42	0.9 %	7.4 % (360)	
	Stepfather	10	0.2 %		
	Son	208	4.3 %		
	Brother	57	1.2 %		
	Other family member	43	0.9 %		
	Other relationship	218	4.5 %		
	Stranger	50	1.0 %		
	Perpetrators (male)	4 662	96.0 %		
		Perpetrator (female) is	Number	Percent	
		Live-in partner	4	0.1 %	
		Girlfriend	3	0.1 %	
		Former girlfriend	3	0.1 %	
		Mother	28	0.6 %	2.1 % (101)
		Daughter	49	1.0 %	
	Sister	13	0.3 %		
	Other family member	11	0.2 %		
	Other relationship	68	1.4 %		
	Stranger	13	0.3 %		
	Perpetrators (female)	192	4.0 %		
	Perpetrators/total	4 854	100 %		

The table reveals that regarding female victims, 96 % of the perpetrators were male. More than 4 000 of clients (approx. 83 %) suffered violence committed by their partners (59 %) or former partners (approx. 24 %). In other words: in the vast majority of cases, violence against women is committed within an intimate relationship, or after separation.

Regarding female perpetrators, whose total number is small (4 %), daughters account for the largest group.

1.5.3 Violence against men – relationship of victim to perpetrator

n = 588

	Perpetrator (male) is	Number	Percent		
Male adult victims	Husband/civil partner	1	0.2 %		
	Live-in partner	10	1.7 %		
	Boyfriend	2	0.3 %		
	Former live-in partner	1	0.2 %		
	Former boyfriend	4	0.7 %		
	Father	30	5.1 %		26.7 % (157)
	Stepfather	7	1.2 %		
	Son	72	12.2 %		
	Brother	22	3.7 %		
	Other family member	26	4.4 %		
	Other relationship	109	18.5 %		
	Stranger	14	2.4 %		
	Perpetrators (male)	298	50.7 %		
		Perpetrator (female) is	Number	Percent	
	Wife	91	15,5 %	28,4 % (172)	
	Live-in partner	66	11,2 %		
	Girlfriend	15	2,6 %		
	Former wife	10	1,7 %	11,7 % (64)	
	Former live-in partner	23	3,9 %		
	Former girlfriend	31	5,3 %		
	Mother	9	1,5 %		
	Daughter	3	0,5 %		
	Sister	3	0,5 %		
Other family member	5	0,9 %			
Other relationship	27	4,6 %			
Stranger	7	1,2 %			
Perpetrators (female)	290	49,3 %			
Perpetrators/total	588	100 %			

In the case of adult male victims, approximately half of the perpetrators were male. Regarding violence exerted by family members, abuse by sons was recorded most frequently (72 cases, or 12.2 %). The statistics do not give details on the perpetrators' age, the figure thus includes both young people and adult sons.

The largest part of female perpetrators were wives and live-in partners or former partners (approx. 40 %).

Considerable differences are found with regard to the percentage of violent acts committed by family members (parents, children, sons, daughters, other relatives). They account for approximately 30 % of the perpetrators of male victims, while the proportion of violence committed by family members against female victims is less than 10 %.

1.5.4 Underage victims – relationship of victim to perpetrator

In 2013 the Intervention Centre recorded 357 underage victims of domestic violence. 62.7 % of them were girls, i.e. gender-based patterns are already apparent with regard to children and young people affected by violence.

Female underage victims

n = 224

	Perpetrator (male) is	Number	Percent		
Female underage victims	Husband	2	0.9 %	30.8 % (69)	
	Live-in partner	16	7.1 %		
	Former live-in partner	6	2.7 %		
	Boyfriend	12	5.4 %		
	Former boyfriend	33	14.7 %		
	Father	76	33.9 %	52.7 % (118)	
	Stepfather	17	7.6 %		
	Son (son in law; stepson; foster son)	4	1.8 %		
	Brother	18	8.0 %		
	Other family member	3	1.3 %		
	Other relationship	16	7.1 %		
	Stranger (no personal relationship, e.g. stalking)	3	1.3 %		
	Perpetrators (male)	206	92.0 %		
		Perpetrator (female) is	Number	Percent	
		Mother	8	3,6 %	5.4 % (12)
		Stepmother	1	0,4 %	
		Sister	1	0,4 %	
	Other family member	2	0,9 %		
	Other relationship	5	2,2 %		
	Stranger	1	0,4 %		
	Perpetrators (female)	18	8,0 %		
	Perpetrators/total	224	100 %		

In over 52 % of cases of violence against girls, the perpetrator is a male family member. More than 30 % of the perpetrators are partners or former partners, i.e. even among victims under the age of 18, the proportion of intimate partnership violence is considerable. Prevention services specifically addressing children and young people would be needed here as well, for instance, school-based programmes could be intensified.

Male underage victims

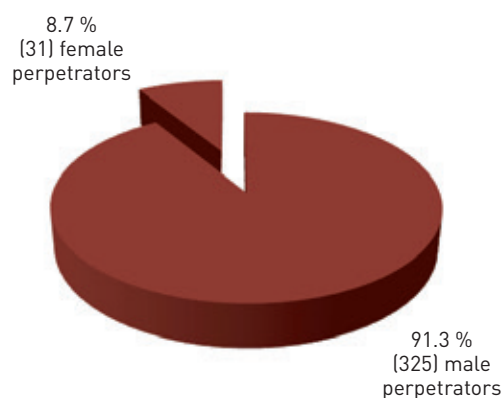
n = 133

	Perpetrator (male) is	Number	Percent	
Male underage victims	Former boyfriend	1	0.8 %	73.7 % (98)
	Father	78	58.6 %	
	Stepfather	13	9.8 %	
	Brother	6	4.5 %	
	Other family member	1	0.8 %	
	Other relationship	16	12.0 %	
	Stranger/no personal relationship	4	3.0 %	
	Perpetrators (male)	119	89.5 %	
	Perpetrator (female) is	Number	Percent	
	Former girlfriend	2	1,5 %	9 % (12)
	Mother	7	5,3 %	
	Stepmother	1	0,8 %	
	Sister	2	1,5 %	
	Other family member	2	1,5 %	
Perpetrators (female)	14	10,5 %		
Perpetrators/total		133	100 %	

In more than 73 % of the cases, violence against boys is committed by male family members, while intimate partnership violence plays a very insignificant role. The abuse is mostly perpetrated by fathers (58.6 %) and stepfathers (9.8 %), totaling 68.4 %.

The following table and figure illustrate the gender percentages for abusers of underage victims. In 2013, 91.3 % of the abusers of children and young people suffering direct violence were male, and 8.7 % were female.

Perpetrators' gender	Victims' gender	Number		Percent
Perpetrators (male)	Victims (girls)	206	325	91.3 %
	Victims (boys)	119		
Perpetrators (female)	Victims (girls)	18	31	8.7 %
	Victims (boys)	14		
Underage victims: victim/perpetrator relationship – total		357		100 %



1.6 Vienna's anti-violence programme

Since 1999, the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna and the Vienna Men's Counselling Service have cooperated to implement an anti-violence programme aimed at the protection of victims and the prevention of violence (see Wiener Interventionsstelle 2014).

Participants in 2013	Number	Percent
Training completed	14	17.9 %
Participants in the programme ¹⁰ (assessment or training)	29	37.2 %
Referred to another service or not admitted after assessment	29	37.2 %
Drop-out	6	7.7 %
Total	78	100 %

In 2013 the Vienna Men's Counselling Service recorded individual contact with a total of 880 men in sessions focusing on domestic violence issues (initial talks and assessment). 78 perpetrators were admitted to the anti-violence training programme to help men stop violent patterns of behaviour in intimate relationships and to the support programme for victims. In 2013, 14 participants completed the programme, and 29 were in the programme at the time of data collection. Another 29 men were not admitted after the assessment session¹¹ or referred to another service.

Type of referral to programme	Number	Percent	
Criminal court/public prosecutor, incl. 1 referral after release from prison on probation	27	34.6 %	64.1 %
Family court in the context of custody/visitation rights	3	3.8 %	
Referral by youth and family welfare office	14	17.9 %	
Referral requested by partner	6	7.7 %	
Self-referral	23	29.5 %	
Other	5	6.4 %	
Total	78	100 %	

The table shows on which basis perpetrators have been referred to the anti-violence training. 50 (approx. 64 %) of the participants were referred by public authorities (courts, youth and family welfare office) or took part because their partners wanted them to. 23 (approx. 30 %) joined the programme on their own initiative.

¹⁰ As at 22 January 2014.

¹¹ The assessment stage serves for deciding whether participation in the anti-violence training is advisable or not. In cases of lacking acceptance or motivation, continued perpetration of violence or if a man is regarded as highly dangerous, admission to the anti-violence training is refused.

02. Nationwide data on domestic violence in Austria in 2013

2.1 Nationwide figures/overview¹²

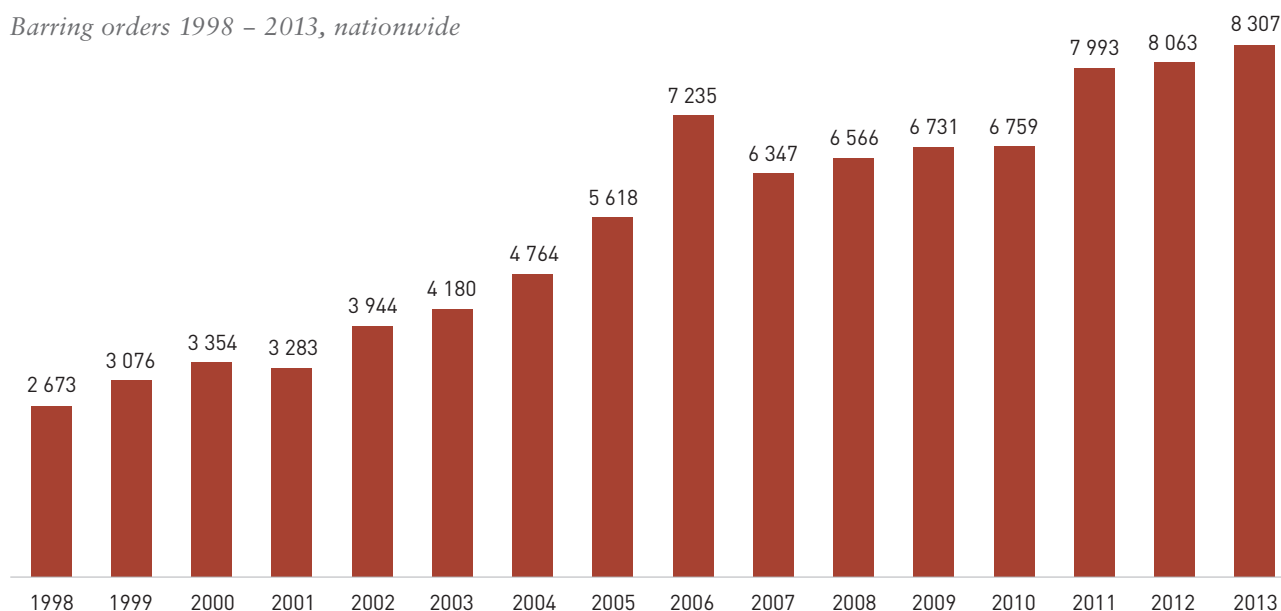
In 2013

- ... the police issued a total of **8 307** barring orders in Austria.
- ... **16 624** victims of domestic violence took up services of violence prevention centres/intervention centres.
- ... **87.2 %** of the centres' clients were women or girls, **91.2 %** of the perpetrators were male.
- ... **9 335** children witnessed domestic violence or were indirectly affected by violence.
- ... **2 139** applications for interim injunctions were filed with the assistance by violence prevention centres/intervention centres.
- ... **2 955** persons received support in the context of court assistance.

¹² Source: Statistics of the Federal Association of Austrian Violence Prevention Centres and Intervention Centres.

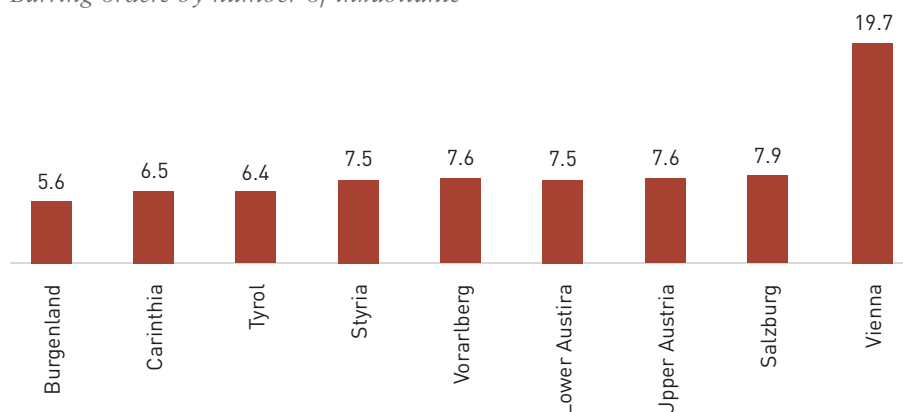
2.2. Police interventions (Security Police Act Section 38a) in Austria, 1998 – 2013¹³

Barring orders 1998 – 2013, nationwide



The diagram illustrates the development of barring orders issued in the past 15 years.

Barring orders by number of inhabitants¹⁴



The diagram shows the number of barring orders broken down by number of inhabitants: in Burgenland, 5.6 barring orders were issued per 10 000 inhabitants, and Vienna accounts for the highest proportion, i.e. 19.7 barring orders per 10 000 inhabitants. Compared to the previous year (18.7) Vienna has seen a further increase.

In three provinces the proportion of barring orders has gone down compared to the year before. The difference to the previous year is particularly high in Vorarlberg (2012: 9.2 BO per 10 000 inhabitants v. 7.6 in 2013).

The Austrian average for 2013 is 9.8 barring orders per 10 000 inhabitants (2012: 9.5 on average).

¹³ The figures given in this table refer to police notifications to the violence prevention centres and intervention centres (statistics from the Federal Association of Austrian Violence Prevention Centres and Intervention Centres). They are higher than the figures in the statistics recorded by the Federal Ministry of the Interior (number of BOs for all Austria in 2013: 7 810; difference to figures reported to violence prevention centres/intervention centres: 497). The Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna assumes that the number of reports to the victims' protection organisations is correct as only actually existing notifications are in fact recorded. In our view, this discrepancy is due to the fact that police statistics are no longer derived from the notifications themselves but are generated on the basis of police files that have been processed. To avoid this situation, it would be necessary to link the statistical record to the reports to the Intervention Centre made under Security Police Act Section 38 and use this as a basis.

¹⁴ Barring orders broken down by number of inhabitants.

2.3 Barring orders (EOs/BOs) issued by the police in accordance with Security Police Act 38a, and other interventions aimed at protection from domestic violence

Figures for Austria 1997 – 2013¹⁵

Year	EO/BOs	Violation of EO/BO	Violation of EO/BO, %	Other responses to domestic violence (dispute settlements)
1997	1 449	138	n/a	No data available (n/a)
1998	2 673	252	n/a	n/a
1999	3 076	301	9.8 %	5.233
2000	3 354	430	12.8 %	7.638
2001	3 283	508	15.5 %	7.517
2002	3 944	475	12.0 %	7.391
2003	4 180	633	15.1 %	6.558
2004	4 764	641	13.5 %	6.195
2005	5 618	668	11.9 %	6.171
2006	7 235	629	8.7 %	6.467
2007	6 347	586	9.2 %	4.967
2008	6 566	615	9.4 %	5.118
2009	6 731	655	9.7 %	5.307
2010	6 759	770	11.0 %	n/a
2011	7 993	n/a*	-	n/a
2012	8 063	n/a	-	n/a
2013	8 307	n/a	-	n/a
Total	90 342	-	-	-

Regrettably, the Federal Ministry of the Interior does not currently record violations of barring orders. The corresponding figures would be important, however, to check whether, and how often, the orders are complied with or not. Furthermore, the Federal Ministry of the Interior no longer collects the number of other responses to domestic violence (dispute settlements), even though this would be essential in order to assess whether the number of total interventions in cases of domestic violence has changed or remained at the same level over time. The Federal Ministry of the Interior is requested to collect these statistical data as completely as possible again.

¹⁵ Based on figures provided by the Federal Ministry of the Interior covering the years from 1997 to 2010. For 2011 to 2013, figures provided by the violence prevention centres/intervention centres have been used.

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Abbreviations and glossary

Abbreviations

BO | barring order

EO | eviction order

CEDAW Committee | Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

II | interim injunction

PCA | provincial criminal agency

PS | police station

Glossary

Barring order (BO)

When the Federal Act on Protection Against Domestic Violence was introduced, the Security Police Act was amended to include barring orders and eviction orders as a protection against violence (Section 38a). Police officers are thus authorised to evict persons constituting a danger from their place of residence and its immediate surroundings and to prohibit their return for 14 days. Persons experiencing violence are thus protected from suffering further violence. If additional protection is required, an application for an interim injunction can be filed, which extends the barring order to a period of four weeks.

If children aged under 14 are experiencing violence, the barring order may also include kindergartens, schools and other childcare institutions.

Interim injunction (II)

Victims of violence can contact the competent district court of their place of residence and apply for an interim injunction to extend the protection period covered by the barring order.

Under the Act on Enforcement Procedures, three types of interim injunction can be issued as a protection against violence: II in accordance with Section 382b (protection against violence in the home), Section 382e (general protection against violence) and Section 382g (protection against invasion of privacy).

Domestic violence/intimate partner violence/violence in intimate social relationships

The terms “domestic violence” and “intimate partner violence” are used synonymously in this report. In certain cases, the term “violence in intimate social relationships” is used. Violence in intimate social relationships and domestic violence mostly affects women and girls, therefore the term “gender-based violence” is used as well.

This type of violence can be exerted in different forms and includes physical, sexual and psychological violence, such as psychological terror, humiliation, prohibitions and isolation. Any exertion of power, abuse of power, injury or use of force is regarded as violence. Experiencing violence results in various types of limitation for those affected.

The 2011 Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence therefore underlines the importance of gender-sensitive political prevention measures: “Parties shall undertake to include a gender perspective in the implementation and evaluation of the impact of the provisions of this Convention and to promote and effectively implement policies of equality between women and men and the empowerment of women.” (Council of Europe 2011, Article 6).

Perpetrator

The Austrian Security Police Act in fact uses the term “Gefährder” (endangerer) rather than “abuser” or “perpetrator”. Barring orders can be issued as a preventive measure, i.e. before a person has committed an offence. It is thus not legally correct at that point to refer to the person concerned as an “abuser” or “perpetrator”.

For easier reading, the term “perpetrator” (and, sometimes, “abuser”) is

nevertheless used in the English translation. As 90 % of all perpetrators are men, they are referred to with male pronouns.

Violence prevention centres/intervention centres

As a consequence of the Federal Act on Protection Against Violence, intervention centres were established for each province to support victims of violence after the issue barring orders. With the exception of Vienna, all intervention centres have meanwhile been renamed "violence prevention centres", and the Vorarlberg centre is called "violence protection centre"

MARAC

The first multi-agency risk assessment conferences were established in the United Kingdom. The Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna took over and adapted this approach aimed at preventing severe violence ('MARAC Vienna').

Victim

Violence committed in domestic settings is a punishable offence with far-reaching consequences for those experiencing violence. However, victims of violence do not by any means passively endure violence: on the contrary, they try to protect themselves against the violence in numerous ways and to cope with a situation that is often next to unbearable.

Impressum:

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