

# Collection of good practices/treatment programs

## Domestic violence

### 1 Introduction

The rationale behind developing an overview of perpetrator programmes on domestic violence within the prison and probation service is that the identification of relevant approaches can serve to inspire policymakers and practitioners elsewhere. This mapping is a result of the first expert group meeting on Domestic Violence in 2019. Domestic violence is a problem all over Europe and programmes developed in one EU country might be useful also for another country. There is a clear need for many EU countries to develop methods for dealing with domestic violence cases and perpetrators. The aim of this mapping is to encourage further development and cooperation in this important field. This overview therefore shall not be seen as a blueprint that can be applied anywhere, but rather to encourage innovation and analysis among potential users and beneficiaries. This collection aims further at bringing together policymakers, practitioners, beneficiaries and other experts that face similar challenges.

The aim of this specific format is to collect information about perpetrator programs and practices in the area of treatment of domestic violence offenders.

**Guidance template** (Please fill in one template for each programme that you deliver.)

	<b>Explanation</b>
<b>Name of the perpetrator programme</b>	Programme for perpetrators of domestic violence (PPDV)
<b>Owner/developer</b>	Corps of Prisons and Court Guard of Slovak republic/ developed in

<b>Year</b>	cooperation with the Alliance of Women in Slovakia (ngo)/ 2017
<b>Geographical scope</b>	Prisons within Slovak republic
<b>Key features of the perpetrator programme</b>	<p>PPDV is specially designed intervention programme for (men) perpetrators of domestic violence in Slovak republic, who are currently in prison and their crime (actual or previous) has any relation to what can be assigned as domestic violence/or gender based violence.</p> <p>Principal aim is to stop circle of domestic/gender based violence either with current partner or with any possible partner in a future. Subsequently through this principal aim is to accomplish:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-that violent men should take full responsibility for their violent deeds</li> <li>-that violent men should take opportunity for behavioural change and start to build respect to partner and children.</li> <li>-that violent men should learn to develop a nonviolent behaviour</li> <li>-that violent men should accept confrontation of their violent attitudes</li> <li>-that violent men should avoid any kind of violence against women</li> </ul> <p>This programme is philosophically connected and based on Duluth model.</p> <p>PPDV is delivered mainly by internal staff (trained psychologists, pedagogues, social workers who did undergo special training Work with perpetrators of Domestic Violence (The Alliance of Women in Slovakia, NGO).</p> <p>Modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Violent and non violent behaviour</li> <li>Reconstruction of crime</li> <li>Interview with victim</li> <li>Consequences of violence</li> <li>Evaluation of violence</li> <li>Nonviolent strategies of behaviour</li> <li>Personal experiences as victim</li> <li>Communication patterns</li> <li>Role of a father</li> <li>Picture of man and picture of women</li> </ul> <p>PPDV is carried with two professionals (man and women), it is financed by Corps of Prison and Court Guard of Slovak republic budgeted.</p>
<b>Risk assessment</b>	Individual psychological assessment that all sentenced prisoners in Slovakia undergo in the beginning of sentence What type of risk assessment is used for the programme?
<b>Target group</b>	All clients who have committed any kind of violence against partner and according to the initial psychological assessment this person is suitable for group work and there isn't any serious contraindication (e.g. psychosis in acute phase, serious problem with dependence, language difficulties...). PPDV is mainly voluntary programme, but in certain cases can be run with problematic clients under mandatory regime.

<b>Theory/Methodology used</b>	This program is based on the Duluth model but it also accept other useful and effective knowledge from various psychotherapy background.
<b>Individual or group programme</b>	It is mainly group programme, but certain parts is also delivered through individual sessions
<b>Duration of the perpetrator programme</b>	Minimum of 24 group sessions (max 8 clients). One group session take aprox. 1 and ½ hour.
<b>Victims safety</b>	If it is considered to be appropriate, victims can be informed. When PPDV is run with The Alliance of Women in Slovakia victims are contacted. In this case clients are obliged to accept a Partner contact person during programme.
<b>Monitoring and training</b>	All facilitators are required to have university degree (psychology, social work or other educational branch). Also special training – Work with perpetrators of DM run by The Alliance of women in Slovakia.
<b>Evaluation</b>	This is relatively new programme and evaluation is in a process.
<b>Transferability</b>	Transferability should be easily accessible, because it's based on Duluth model and also by concept and methodology of Ute Rösemann in Germany. Certain part of PPDV e.g. special devised short films would be necessary to translate.
<b>Digitalisation</b>	Special educational film were developed for the purposes of PPDV.
<b>Volume</b>	Two pilot programmes were finished so far.
<b>Lessons learnt</b>	We are finalizing PPDV and trying to start it national wide, so there are many lessons learn from whole process. This is also first standardized intervention programme in Slovak prisons which make it even harder.
<b>Current status</b>	This programme is in the final stage before starting national wide
<b>Other initiatives on Domestic violence?</b>	Close cooperation with medical units (psychiatry, addiction care), social services, and employment unit within prison...