

# European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, selection of relevant and recent passages from published reports related to Greece

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## Contents

<b>Data Explorers and tools</b> .....	4
<b>Violence against women survey data explorer</b> .....	4
<b>Jewish people’s experiences and perceptions of hate crime, discrimination and antisemitism</b> .....	4
<b>EU LGBT survey data explorer</b> .....	4
<b>Roma survey data explorer</b> .....	4
<a href="http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/survey-data-explorer-results-2011-roma-survey">http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/survey-data-explorer-results-2011-roma-survey</a> <b>Indicators on the right to political participation of people with disabilities</b> .....	4
<b>Mapping victims’ rights and support in the EU</b> .....	4
<b>Mapping child protection systems in the EU</b> .....	4
<b>Annual reports</b> .....	5
Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2014 - Annual Report 2014 (June 2015).....	5
1 Equality and non-discrimination .....	5
2. Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance .....	5
3. Roma integration .....	5
4. Asylum, borders, immigration and integration.....	6
5. Information society, privacy and data protection .....	6
6. Rights of the child .....	7
7. Access to justice, including rights of crime victims.....	7

<b>Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2013 - Annual Report 2013 (June 2014)</b> .....	7
An EU internal strategic framework for fundamental rights: joining forces to achieve better results.....	7
1. Asylum, immigration and integration .....	7
2. Border control and visa policy .....	8
4. The rights of the child and the protection of children.....	8
5. Equality and non-discrimination.....	8
6. Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance .....	8
7. Roma integration .....	9
8. Access to justice and judicial cooperation .....	9
9. Rights of crime victims .....	10
Thematic areas.....	10
Access to justice.....	10
Freedom to conduct a business: exploring the dimensions of a fundamental right (August 2015) .....	10
Severe labour exploitation: workers moving within or into the European Union (June 2015)....	10
Victims of crime in the EU: the extent and nature of support for victims (January 2015).....	12
Asylum, migration and borders .....	13
Fundamental rights at land borders: findings from selected European Union border crossing points (November 2014) .....	13
Addressing forced marriage in the EU: legal provisions and promising practices (October 2014) .....	13
Criminalisation of migrants in an irregular situation and of persons engaging with them (March 2014) .....	14
Fundamental rights at Europe's southern sea borders (March 2013).....	14
Gender .....	15
Violence against women: an EU-wide survey. Main results report (March 2014) .....	15
Inequalities and multiple discrimination in access to and quality of healthcare (March 2013)...	17
Hate crime.....	17
Discrimination and hate crime against Jews in EU Member States: experiences and perceptions of antisemitism (November 2013) .....	17
Information society, privacy and data protection .....	17
Access to data protection remedies in EU Member States (January 2014) .....	17
LGBT .....	17
EU LGBT survey – European Union lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender survey – Main results (October 2014) .....	17
Being Trans in the EU - Comparative analysis of the EU LGBT survey data (December 2014).....	19

Persons with disabilities.....	19
Implementing the UN CRPD: An overview of legal reforms in EU Member States (May 2015)...	19
The right to political participation for persons with disabilities: human rights indicators (May 2014) .....	19
Legal capacity of persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with mental health problems (July 2013).....	20
Racism and related intolerances.....	20
Racism, discrimination, intolerance and extremism: learning from experiences in Greece and Hungary (December 2013).....	20
Antisemitism: Summary overview of the situation in the European Union 2001–2012 (November 2013).....	21
Tackling racism and discrimination in sport - Guide of Promising Practices, Initiatives and Activities (May 2013) .....	21
Roma .....	21
Discrimination against and living conditions of Roma women in 11 EU Member States (October 2014) .....	21
Education: the situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States (October 2014).....	21
Poverty and employment: the situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States (October 2014).....	22

## **Data Explorers and tools**

### **Violence against women survey data explorer**

<http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVT/vaw.php>

### **Jewish people's experiences and perceptions of hate crime, discrimination and antisemitism**

<http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVT/as2013.php>

### **EU LGBT survey data explorer**

<http://fra.europa.eu/DVS/DVT/lgbt.php>

### **Roma survey data explorer**

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/survey-data-explorer-results-2011-roma-survey>

### **Indicators on the right to political participation of people with disabilities**

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/comparative-data/political-participation>

### **Mapping victims' rights and support in the EU**

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/comparative-data/victims-support-services>

### **Mapping child protection systems in the EU**

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publications-and-resources/data-and-maps/comparative-data/child-protection>

## Annual reports

### Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2014 - Annual Report 2014 (June 2015)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-annual-report-2014\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-annual-report-2014_en.pdf)

#### 1 Equality and non-discrimination

##### 1.1 Countering discrimination requires strong cooperation between all relevant actors

“FRA, together with a group of national human rights bodies, therefore continued working in 2014 on a pilot online tool named ‘Clarity’ to help victims of discrimination and other fundamental rights violations gain better access to non-judicial remedies. The bodies involved represented Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and the United Kingdom (Northern Ireland).” (p. 29)

##### 1.2. Using the targeted investment of EU funds to foster social inclusion

“Concerning the third conditionality, some Member States have consulted or plan to consult with bodies in charge of protection of rights of persons with disabilities or disabled persons organisations (DPOs). This was the case in Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Spain and Sweden.” (p. 31)

#### 2. Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance

##### 2.1. Implementation of the EU acquis in combating racism, xenophobia and ethnic discrimination

“A number of Member States, including Greece, Latvia and Germany, adopted new laws and initiated criminal code amendments.” (p. 49)

##### 2.2. Racism, xenophobia and ethnic discrimination persist in the EU

“Complaints filed with the national equality bodies in a number of Member States, including Austria, Belgium, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Spain and Sweden, show that race, ethnicity and skin colour remain amongst the most common grounds of reported discrimination. However, complaints data are only the tip of the iceberg.” (p. 50)

##### 2.3. Improving the recording and encouraging the reporting of hate crime

“In Greece, a police circular was adopted which requires police officers to investigate possible racist motivations of a crime, whether as an independent motive or as one of multiple motives, and especially when the alleged offenders admit to a racist motivation or there are indications of racist motivation based on evidence or if the alleged offenders and the victims of the crime belong to different racial, religious or social groups.” (p. 60)

#### 3. Roma integration

##### 3.1. Moving forward with Roma integration

“At the same time, fundamental rights issues affecting Roma continued to make headlines, such as an incident of hate crime against a Roma teenager in France and evictions in Bulgaria and Greece.” (p. 71)

“In **Greece**, the NRCP cooperates with Roma civil society actors and hosts meetings to encourage dialogue.” (p. 74)

## 4. Asylum, borders, immigration and integration

### 4.1. Emergency at borders continues

“Various non-governmental organisations (NGOs) reported instances in which persons were pushed or turned back at various sections of the EU external border, particularly in Bulgaria, **Greece** and Spain.” (p. 87)

### 4.2. Fundamental rights remain central in return policy discussions

“In another five Member States (Bulgaria, Cyprus, **Greece**, Italy and Portugal), the return monitoring system is still in a preparatory phase pending staff, funding, training and/or other action.” (p. 89)

“Effective national monitoring systems are in principle a prerequisite for organising Frontex-coordinated joint return operations. In 2014, however, five Member States (France – until May 30 Germany, **Greece**, Italy and Sweden) that lacked an operational monitoring system carried out by an independent authority (i.e. an authority different from the branch of government responsible for return), according to FRA’s assessment, organised 20 return operations.” (p. 91)

### 4.6. EU Member State measures promoting inclusive societies

“However, turning from policy to practice, fewer Member States adopted and implemented concrete measures, such as training for public officials and civil servants dealing with migrants. Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Germany, **Greece**, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands and Slovenia did so.” (p. 95)

“Twelve EU Member States (Austria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, **Greece**, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, the Netherlands and Slovenia), implement training programmes and capacity building for public administration. They offer these resources to civil servants dealing with migrants.” (p. 95)

### 4.7. Transforming education, reflecting diversity in society

“However, in eight Member States (Belgium, Cyprus, Estonia, France, **Greece**, Hungary, Portugal and Slovakia), there are no such elements [of the study of different cultures] in the national curriculum.” (p. 98)

## 5. Information society, privacy and data protection

### 5.1.4. Role of data protection authorities

“In nine Member States, DPAs have limited powers over NIS [National Intelligence Services]. While DPAs retain the power to issue non-binding recommendations on general matters relating to NIS surveillance, limitations observed vary considerably by Member State. Some limitations are formal and do not really affect the DPAs’ powers; others are more substantive. Formal requirements in Cyprus or **Greece**, for example, state that an on-site inspection can take place only if the head of the DPA is present.” (p. 112)

## 6. Rights of the child

### 6.1. Children living in poverty in Europe

“In Lithuania the proportion of children at risk [of poverty or social exclusion] increased from 31.9 % to 35.4 %, in Austria it rose from 20.9 % to 22.9 %, in **Greece** from 35.4 % to 38.1 %, and in Portugal from 27.8 % to 31.6 %.” (p. 127)

“Croatia, **Greece**, Hungary, Ireland, Latvia and Spain, which have high or very high poverty rates, made good use of EU funds.” (p. 132)

### 6.2. Protection of children, including against violence

“**Greece** has incorporated Directive 2011/93/EU into a law providing for the protection of child victims in criminal investigations and proceedings.” (p. 134)

## 7. Access to justice, including rights of crime victims

### 7.2. EU and Member States progress on the Roadmap on procedural rights in criminal proceedings

“In 2014, several Member States took important preliminary legislative steps to ensure the smooth and timely implementation of this directive [on the right of access to a lawyer and communication]: the Czech Republic, France, **Greece**, Malta, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain.” (p. 149)

### 7.3. Member States’ implementation of victims’ rights

“In some Member States, including **Greece**, Italy, Lithuania and Spain, the obligation to provide information on available support services applies only to victims of specified offences, such as domestic violence.” (p. 151)

## Fundamental rights: challenges and achievements in 2013 - Annual Report 2013 (June 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-annual-report-2013-2\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-annual-report-2013-2_en.pdf)

An EU internal strategic framework for fundamental rights: joining forces to achieve better results

### 12. Establishing national action plans

“EU Member States such as Croatia, Finland, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom (Scotland) have experience with such action plans and a number of other Member States including Austria and **Greece** are considering introducing NAPs.” (p. 14)

#### 1. Asylum, immigration and integration

Member States slow to implement EU law safeguards: the example of effective return - monitoring systems

“Five Member States lack effective monitoring systems: Croatia, France, **Greece**, Italy and Slovenia.” (p. 46)

1.4. Some Member States require excessive or disproportionate fees for residence permits – an example of practical obstacles for migrant integration

“As Figure 1.4 illustrates, most Member States collect not more than €200 for these permits, whereas Finland, Greece and the Netherlands collect considerably higher amounts for some permits.” [Figure shows that Greece collects €500 for such permits] (p. 50)

## 2. Border control and visa policy

“As Figure 2.1 shows, the total number of third- country nationals arriving on Europe’s shores increased substantially in 2013, reaching some 57,000 persons. Increases were particularly visible in Greece and Italy.” [Figure shows nearly 10,000 third country migrants arriving in Greece in 2013] (p. 63)

“Syrian nationals are subject to the short- stay visa requirement to enter the EU. In addition, 10 EU Member States (Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Spain) require Syrian nationals to hold an airport transit visa when passing through the international transit areas of airports situated on their territory.” (p. 69)

## 4. The rights of the child and the protection of children

### 4.2. Europe tackles violence against children

“There were numerous racist incidents involving students but also parents and even teachers against students, as reported by the Greek Ombudsman in September 2013. The majority are related to the ethnic and racial background of the students. Teachers are often seen as tolerating this type of violence.” (p. 111)

### Child poverty and education

“FRA research in 11 EU Member States shows that one out of 10 Roma children of compulsory school age in Greece and Romania are working outside their home. Working conditions are generally unsafe, as their occupation mostly consists of collecting objects for reselling or recycling, or begging on the street for money.” (p. 115)

## 5. Equality and non- discrimination

Evidence from Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Ireland and Sweden shows that ethnic and/or racial discrimination was the most frequently reported type in 2012, particularly in the area of employment.” (p. 129)

### 5.4 Member States adopt measures to counter discrimination

“Croatia and Greece adopted similar action plans [as the United Kingdom], with that of Greece covering human rights globally.” (p. 134)

## 6. Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance

### 6.2 Racism, xenophobia and related intolerance fuel incidents and brutal crimes

“FRA fieldwork in Greece found that Greece has witnessed a steep increase in phenomena of racist violence, discrimination and intolerance, as well as extremism, despite the notable decrease in the overall violent crime rate in the country. Shehzad Luqman, 26, a Pakistani migrant worker, was stabbed to death in Athens, Greece, in January, allegedly by two young Golden Dawn supporters, whose trial started in December.” (p. 151)

“The year 2013 was marked by steady support for political parties with largely xenophobic anti- foreigner, anti- migrant and anti- Muslim agendas in a number of EU Member States including Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Greece, Hungary and the Netherlands.” (p. 152)

### 6.3 Discriminatory ethnic profiling persists

“Discriminatory ethnic profiling is unlawful, yet it persists, thereby contributing to the deterioration of social cohesion and to loss of trust in law enforcement. Evidence of such profiling was found in Austria, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, the Netherlands, Sweden, Spain and the United Kingdom” (p. 155)

“The police in Greece continued its large-scale operation (*Xenios Zeus*) to remove what it referred to as ‘illegal immigrants’ in regions bordering Turkey and in Athens. The operation ran from August 2012 to June 2013. It involved about 4,500 police officers and led to the apprehension of nearly 124,000 third-country nationals, of whom fewer than 7,000 were found to be in the country irregularly. The Greek Ombudsman highlighted the abusive character of transferring people who were not suspected in any way to police stations during the operation for the purpose of identity checks, as evidenced by the low percentage of those who were actually found to be in the country irregularly (5.6 %).” (p. 156)

“The Greek police set up a direct telephone help line (11414) for victims of racist violence in January, together with an online form for reporting racist crime. By September, 214 complaints were registered through the hotline, according to information FRA obtained from the Ombudsperson.” (p. 157)

## 7. Roma integration

[Education] “Greece also targeted Roma school attendance, with programmes including summer classes to help ease the transition to secondary school.” (p. 173-174)

[Employment] “Only a few EU Member States took action to eliminate discrimination in employment. Greece developed a project to combat discrimination in entrepreneurship, with a focus on women and young Roma and Muslim migrants.” (p. 176)

[Housing] “Greece and Slovenia also undertook infrastructural improvements, building access roads and providing electricity and sewerage to Roma settlements.” (p. 176)

[Healthcare] “Croatia, Ireland, Italy and Greece carried out free vaccination campaigns for Roma, particularly for Roma children.” (p. 178)

“Greek efforts to improve healthcare access, an important development for Roma, encountered financial difficulties in 2013. The socio-medical centres, which were operating in municipalities with a high Roma population, ran out of financing because of the country’s economic crisis.” (p. 179)

## 8. Access to justice and judicial cooperation

“Several EU Member States continued to experience excessive delays of over five years in executing the ECtHR’s judgments (Table 8.4). In 2013, as in 2012, Bulgaria, Greece, Italy, Poland and Romania had the largest numbers of pending leading cases, or non-repetitive cases that relate to general or structural problems that only legislation can address.” (p. 197)

## 9. Rights of crime victims

“Greece amended its criminal code in March, transposing Article 4 of the Framework Decision on Racism and Xenophobia which requires that a racist motive for a crime be considered an aggravating circumstance. The amendment provides that, for judicial sentencing, “the commission of an act of hatred caused due to race, colour, religion, descent, national or ethnic origin or sexual orientation or gender identity of the victim constitutes an aggravating circumstance and the sentence is not suspended”. In November, the Ministry of Justice submitted a bill intended to implement Article 1 of the same Framework Decision concerning public incitement to bias crimes. Sexual orientation and gender identity are not included as protected grounds, although all the other grounds covered by the previous amendment of the criminal code are included in the draft bill.” (p. 220)

Compensation was extended to victims of trafficking in several Member States, in line with Directive 2011/36/EU, including Austria, Estonia, Greece, Latvia and Luxembourg.” (p. 222)

## Thematic areas

### Access to justice

Freedom to conduct a business: exploring the dimensions of a fundamental right (August 2015)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra\\_uploads/fra-2015-freedom-conduct-business\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra_uploads/fra-2015-freedom-conduct-business_en.pdf)

“Figure 7: Timeline showing the introduction of the freedom to conduct a business in the constitutional law of EU Member States [Figure shows that Greece introduced it in 1975]” (p. 26)

“Finally, the present Constitution of Greece provides only a vague reference to the right of all persons to “participate in the social, economic and political life of the country”. (p. 27)

“Another very common barrier is linked to difficulties in accessing credit, particularly during an economic crisis. This issue seems to be of serious concern in various EU Member States such as Greece, the Netherlands and Romania, as well as in a number of others, particularly in relation to SMEs.” (p. 37)

“Although available, the alternative dispute resolution methods have very low credibility in Slovakia and are also unpopular and still rather unknown in Lithuania and Greece.” (p. 49)

Severe labour exploitation: workers moving within or into the European Union (June 2015)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-severe-labour-exploitation\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-severe-labour-exploitation_en.pdf)

“In half of EU Member States (Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia and Sweden) slavery, servitude and forced labour are criminalised only in specific contexts.” (p. 36)

“Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta and Slovenia protect *only third-country nationals in irregular situations*.” (p. 38)

“However, in four EU Member States (the Czech Republic, Greece, Latvia, and Luxembourg) the offence of employing a worker in an irregular situation under particularly exploitative working conditions is punishable with a maximum sentence of less than two years. Such a penalty hardly

reflects the gravity of violations of fundamental rights encountered by victims of such offences.” (p. 38)

“[...] labour migration regimes that inhibit regular employment, especially of third-country nationals, contribute to the risk of exploitation and are an important source of vulnerability. Respondents in many countries – Austria, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia and Spain – identified working in an irregular situation as an important risk factor for exploitation.” (p. 44)

“In Greece and Bulgaria, however, corruption is identified as one of the main legal and institutional risk factors.” (p. 45)

“Representatives of employers’ organisations and recruitment or temporary work agencies in Austria, Greece and the United Kingdom pointed out that, if only [recruitment] agencies would act according to the law, they would assist in preventing exploitation and protect workers.” (p. 50)

“Participants in the Greek focus group stated that labour exploitation is not a new phenomenon in Greece, as it existed before the economic crisis. One participant from a workers’ organisation stated that labour exploitation has been always part of the Greek economy, either to boost its development or to help in its survival.” (p. 54)

“In addition to common forms of support services, in a few countries – including Cyprus, Greece and Italy – trade unions play an important role supporting victims and providing legal counselling and legal aid. The development of information material in various languages for people who have moved from another country for work is common across the EU, often as a result of NGO or trade union efforts, sometimes in collaboration with monitoring institutions.” (p. 55)

“Numerous violations of labour law have been detected among cleaning companies in the public sector in Greece. In one instance, a woman from Ghana who complained about working conditions was forced into ‘voluntary retirement’.” (p. 60)

“The lack of comprehensive and effective monitoring of working conditions is arguably one of the most significant findings from the research. Interviewed experts in Bulgaria, Greece, the Netherlands, Slovakia and Spain stressed that these deficiencies are ultimately reflected in the attitudes of exploitative employers, who – as one interviewee expressed it – believe that ‘nothing can happen to them’ (representative of a victim support organisation, Slovakia).” (p. 63)

“As experts interviewed in Germany, Greece, Poland, Slovakia, Spain and the United Kingdom highlighted, the resources available for monitoring and inspection services are limited, with significant understaffing resulting in few inspections. The tourism industry in Greece was mentioned as an example, with some respondents suggesting that in this sector the improbability of being inspected was so widely known that it conveyed a clear message of impunity.” (p. 65)

“The Bulgarian Ministry of Labour and Social Policy has a network of Offices for Labour and Social Affairs in five EU countries – Austria, Germany, Greece, Spain and the United Kingdom. The so-called labour attachés that head these four offices provide labour and social affairs services to Bulgarian citizens in 10 countries. The attaché in the United Kingdom also covers Ireland; the attaché in Austria covers the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Switzerland; and the attaché in Greece also covers Cyprus.” (p. 69)

“As concerns trafficking victims, in 2013 a significant number of residence permits were issued in a third of all EU Member States, namely Belgium (79), the Czech Republic (23), France (38), Germany

(83), Greece (38), the Netherlands (212), Spain (81) and Sweden (19).” (p. 78)

“Desk and field research carried out by FRA indicates that less than half of EU Member States have implemented Article 13 (4) of the Employer Sanctions Directive at the level of legislation; those that have done so include Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.” (p. 79)

“The fear of arrest, detention and deportation or expulsion of migrant victims of crime is seen by experts – for example in Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece and Slovakia – as preventing migrants from reporting crime and accessing assistance and justice.” (p. 79)

“In two thirds of the EU Member States in which fieldwork was carried out (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Spain), experts view victim support services as lacking or ineffective in practice, with very few services dedicated to victims of labour exploitation specifically, and many services outright excluding them unless trafficking or violence is involved (as mentioned by five Austrian interviewees, for example).” (p. 80)

“Overall, resources are, according to respondents – including interviewees in France, Germany, Greece, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain – limited and [victim support] services are not adequately staffed. Additionally, funding of support services is sometimes project-based and therefore not sustainable, as shown in Greece and Slovakia.” (pp. 80-81)

“In Greece, an amount recovered as back payment is deposited in the Deposits and Loans Fund in favour of the beneficiary. Shipping costs may be recovered from the employer in any legal way.” (p. 83)

“Respondents note the lack of and urgent need for *ex officio* investigations in relation to cases of labour exploitation. In many countries – Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Slovakia – investigation and prosecution of severe forms of labour exploitation of workers who have moved within or into the EU does not seem to be in the interest of the state, and it is left to individual complainants to step forward and initiate proceedings.” (p. 84)

“In a significant number of EU Member States – including Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary and Poland – evidence supports the view that, for victims of labour exploitation, the conditions for accessing rights and justice are, at best, precarious.” (p. 84)

“From expert interviews conducted and case studies identified in Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Slovakia and the United Kingdom, it appears that, in trying to access support services and justice, workers often face a lack of sensitivity on the part of authorities.” (p. 84)

“In Austria, Greece and Ireland, trade unions are becoming more actively involved in outreach and assistance to workers who have moved within or into the EU, and are teaming up with civil society organisations to campaign for the rights of workers, including those without work authorisation.” (p. 85)

Victims of crime in the EU: the extent and nature of support for victims (January 2015)  
[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-victims-crime-eu-support\\_en\\_0.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-victims-crime-eu-support_en_0.pdf)

“Eight EU Member States do not, however, currently provide generic victim support services (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania and Slovenia).” (p. 21)

“Figure 2: Year of first national legislation referring to the rights and/or support and protection of victims of crime in EU Member States” [Figure indicates that **Greece** adopted such legislation in the 1970s/1980s.] (p. 23)

“In some of the remaining EU Member States, including **Greece**, Italy, Lithuania, Portugal and Spain, the obligation to provide information on available victim support services is not universal and applies only to victims of specified offences, such as domestic violence.” (p. 50)

“As regards information on the case itself, victims are informed about the place and time of the trial and of the nature of the charges in all EU Member States, although in **Greece**, Ireland, Malta and Poland this is not regulated by law.” (p. 50)

“Victim support services for specific groups of victims may be regionalised in Member States where generic services are centralised. This is the case in **Greece**, where some NGOs provide support to minors in cities other than Athens and Thessaloniki, where centralised generic support services are located.” (p. 66-67)

## Asylum, migration and borders

Please also see references to ‘Severe labour exploitation: workers moving within or into the European Union’ (June 2015) above.

Fundamental rights at land borders: findings from selected European Union border crossing points (November 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-third-country-nationals-land-border-checks\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-third-country-nationals-land-border-checks_en.pdf)

“Kipi is one of three land BCPs on the **Greek**–Turkish land border, which is formed here by the Evros river. It lies on the highway and serves all types of road traffic. With over 850,000 persons entering **Greece** at Kipi in 2013, it is the most popular BCP between the two countries. Irregular migration is an issue at the **Greek**–Turkish border, but not at official BCPs.” (p. 13-14)

“Border guards at the BCP may collaborate with organisations providing humanitarian, legal or social assistance to children. Officers at Kipi, for example, reported being in close contact with the **Greek** NGO Smile of the Child (Hamogelo tou Paidiou), which supports the **Greek** police in matters of missing and abducted children.” (p. 38)

“At the end of the submission process, each adult applicant should be informed in writing about the asylum procedure and the duties and rights of persons who submit an application. In contrast, in **Greece**, an asylum application cannot be lodged at the Kipi BCP, according to shift leaders. It must be done at the border police unit in the nearby town of Feres, to which potential asylum seekers would be handed over.” (p. 44-45)

Addressing forced marriage in the EU: legal provisions and promising practices (October 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-forced-marriage-eu\\_en.pdf.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-forced-marriage-eu_en.pdf.pdf)

“On average, around 16 % of Roma men and women aged 16–17 are legally or traditionally married or cohabiting, according to the research, which was conducted in the 11 Member States where most Roma live: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, **Greece**, Italy, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia and Spain.” (p. 13)

Criminalisation of migrants in an irregular situation and of persons engaging with them (March 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-criminalisation-of-migrants-0\\_en\\_0.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-criminalisation-of-migrants-0_en_0.pdf)

“Legislation in 17 Member States punishes irregular entry with imprisonment and/or a fine.” [This includes Greece.] (p. 4)

“Greece, for instance, plans to facilitate access to justice for migrants in an irregular situation by amending the Immigration Act to grant residence permits to third-country nationals who fall victim to, or are important witnesses of, serious crimes against life, health, physical integrity, property, and personal and sexual freedom.” (p. 7)

“In Greece, facilitation of entry prison terms can be up to 10 years and in the United Kingdom, 14 years for facilitation of entry and stay.” (p. 9)

“When punishment is not limited to acts carried out for profit and no exemption exists for the provision of humanitarian assistance, there is a risk that persons who support migrants in an irregular situation may also be targeted. Although FRA research has shown that authorities do not normally target NGOs for assisting migrants in an irregular situation, it also has revealed that NGOs may be uncertain whether or not they risk punishment when they provide support. At a Council of Europe roundtable in 2012, NGOs active in migrant rights protection in Belgium, France and Greece reported instances of detention, prosecution or lack of protection by national authorities against harassment in the context of their human rights protection activities.” (p. 12)

“As Figure 5 illustrates, five EU Member States (Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Greece and Lithuania) have legislative provisions explicitly punishing landlords for renting accommodation to migrants in an irregular situation, although the sanction in Estonia and Lithuania is a fine only.” (p. 13)

Fundamental rights at Europe’s southern sea borders (March 2013)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fundamental-rights-europes-southern-sea-borders-jul-13\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fundamental-rights-europes-southern-sea-borders-jul-13_en.pdf)

“While Italy and Spain have signed agreements to cooperate with NGOs, in Cyprus, Greece and Malta it is normally up to the coast guards and the police to respond to the humanitarian needs of disembarked persons. Law enforcement officers, however, are not usually trained to act as humanitarian workers.” (p. 72)

“Medical checks in Greece do not seem to be adequate for identifying persons at risk. Indicative of the deficit in pre-screening and initial health checks is the case of a 19-year-old Iraqi girl who had fresh physical wounds and suffered from post-traumatic stress, yet passed all preliminary medical checks and ended up in a police detention facility in the eastern Aegean Islands.” (p. 76)

“When space in detention facilities is lacking, Greece and Italy released migrants with the order to leave the territory.” (p. 84)

“While mechanisms put in place to identify suspected victims of trafficking were found to be weak or non-existent in Greece and Malta, Italy and Spain have introduced some promising initiatives.” (p. 94)

## Gender

See also 'Addressing forced marriage in the EU: legal provisions and promising practices' (October 2014) above.

Violence against women: an EU-wide survey. Main results report (March 2014)  
[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-vaw-survey-main-results-apr14_en.pdf)

**Table 1: Women who have experienced physical and/or sexual violence by a current or previous partner, or by any other person since the age of 15, by EU Member State (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>**

EU Member State	Any partner (current and/or previous) <sup>a</sup>	Non-partner <sup>c</sup>	Any partner and/or non-partner <sup>c</sup>
AT	13	12	20
BE	24	25	36
BG	23	14	28
CY	15	12	22
CZ	21	21	32
DE	22	24	35
DK	32	40	52
EE	20	22	33
EL	19	10	25
ES	13	16	22
FI	30	33	47
FR	26	33	44
HR	13	13	21
HU	21	14	28
IE	15	19	26
IT	19	17	27
LT	24	16	31
LU	22	25	38
LV	32	17	39
MT	15	15	22
NL	25	35	45
PL	13	11	19
PT	19	10	24
RO	24	14	30
SE	28	34	46
SI	13	15	22
SK	23	22	34
UK	29	30	44
<b>EU-28</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>33</b>

Notes: a The results in the first two columns of the Table do not sum up to the results in the third column due to the different computational base of the results (results on partner violence are based on respondents who have or have had a partner, as opposed to all women) and the fact that some respondents have experienced violence by both their partners and non-partners.

b Out of all women who were either married, living together with someone without being married, or involved in a relationship (without living together) at the time of the interview, or at any time in the past (n = 40,192).

c Out of all respondents (N = 42,002).

Source: FRA gender-based violence against women survey data set, 2012

Violence against women: an EU-wide survey – Results at a Glance (2014), p. 19

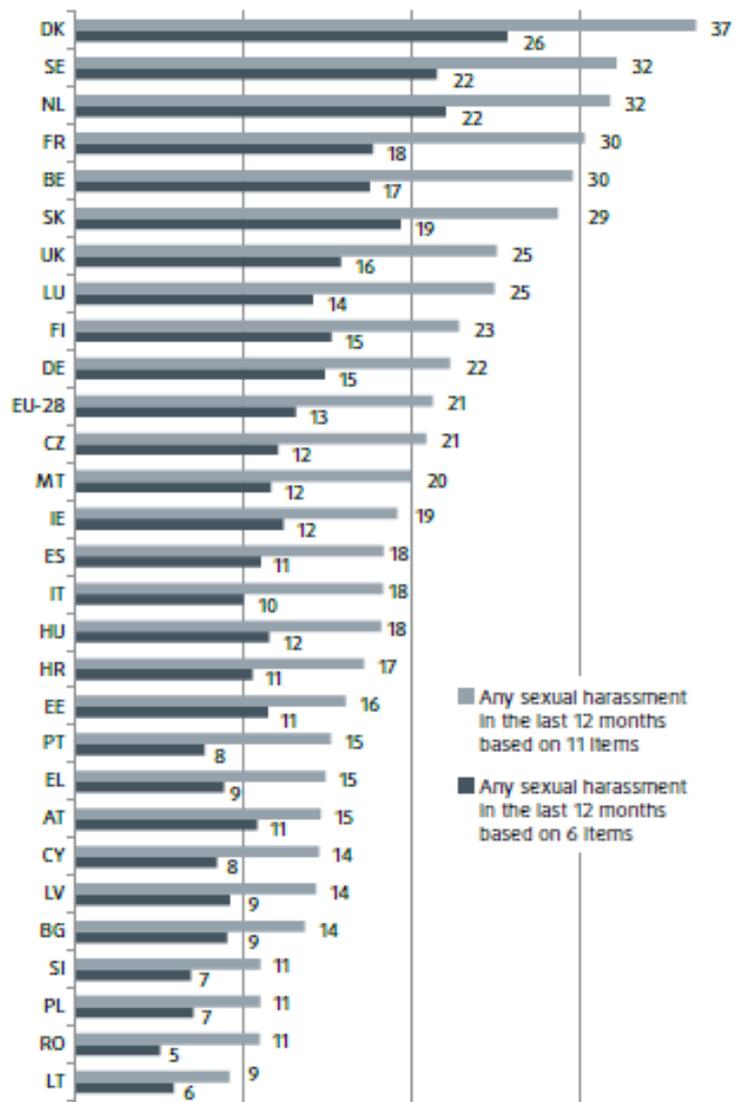
“The rates range from 6 % of women who have a current or previous partner experiencing physical and/or sexual partner (current or previous) violence in the past 12 months in Belgium, Bulgaria,

Greece, Hungary, Italy, Romania and Slovakia, to some 2 % of women with a current or previous partner experiencing such violence in Estonia, Poland, Slovenia and Spain.” (p. 34)

“At the EU Member State level, the results range from 60 % of women in Denmark and Latvia, and 53 % of women in Finland having experienced some form of psychological violence in their relationships, to one in three women in Ireland (31 %), Greece (33 %) and Spain (33 %) having experienced this.” (p. 73)

“However, the majority of women in Romania (74 %), the Czech Republic (75 %), Bulgaria (56 %) and Greece (53 %) have not heard of any of the institutions or services asked about in the questionnaire.” (p. 162)

Figure 4: Prevalence of sexual harassment in the 12 months before the survey, based on full and short sets of items measuring sexual harassment, by EU Member State (%)<sup>a,b,c</sup>



Notes: a Out of all respondents (N = 42,002).

b Full set includes all 11 items used in the questionnaire to measure sexual harassment (see Box 4).

c The short set includes the following six items: “Unwelcome touching, hugging or kissing”, “Sexually suggestive comments or jokes that made you feel offended”, “Somebody indecently exposing themselves to you”, “Sexually explicit emails or SMS messages that offended you”, “Sending or showing sexually explicit pictures, photos or gifts that made you feel offended”, “Someone making you watch or look at pornographic material against your wishes”.

Source: FRA gender-based violence against women survey data set, 2012

Violence against women: an EU-wide survey – Results at a Glance (2014), p. 29

Inequalities and multiple discrimination in access to and quality of healthcare (March 2013)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/inequalities-discrimination-healthcare\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/inequalities-discrimination-healthcare_en.pdf)

“Analysis of SHARE survey data suggests that older immigrants use health services more than native-born individuals with similar health needs in some EU Member States, including Sweden, but not in others, such as Austria and Italy (also Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland).” (p. 42)

## Hate crime

Discrimination and hate crime against Jews in EU Member States: experiences and perceptions of antisemitism (November 2013)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-discrimination-hate-crime-against-jews-eu-member-states-0\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-discrimination-hate-crime-against-jews-eu-member-states-0_en.pdf)

“Around the time when the survey data was collected, news media also covered the terrorist attack on an Israeli tourist group in Bulgaria, the electoral success of the Golden Dawn party in Greece and high levels of support for the National Front in the French presidential elections.” (p. 74)

## Information society, privacy and data protection

Access to data protection remedies in EU Member States (January 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-access-data-protection-remedies\\_en\\_0.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-access-data-protection-remedies_en_0.pdf)

“In Greece and Portugal, fines [imposed by courts for violations of data protection legislation] can be up to €30,000, in Hungary the amount can reach €40,000, and in Ireland individuals can be fined up to €50,000, rising to €250,000 for corporate bodies.” (p. 22)

“In Greece, the Court of First Instance can issue a sentence of up to three years, with the Court of Appeal able to increase this to 10 years.” (p. 23)

“Many respondents from different countries said they lacked trust in the effectiveness of the remedies in the area of data protection or in public institutions in general. Examples are provided by the respondents from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, the Netherlands and Romania.” (p. 30)

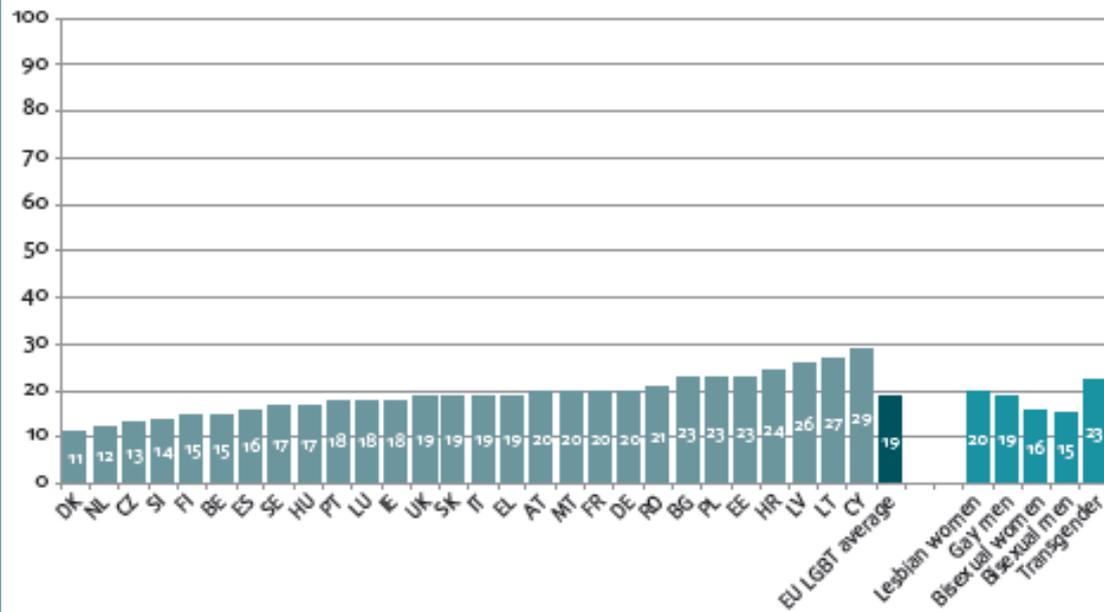
“Judges and practising lawyers in Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Latvia, the Netherlands, Portugal and Romania confirmed that very few complaints concerning data protection were recorded, and, consequently, very few court cases took place.” (p. 50)

## LBGT

EU LGBT survey – European Union lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender survey – Main results (October 2014)

<http://fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2014/eu-lgbt-survey-european-union-lesbian-gay-bisexual-and-transgender-survey-main>

**Figure 7: Respondents who felt discriminated against in the last 12 months when at work because of being LGBT, by country and by LGBT group (%)**



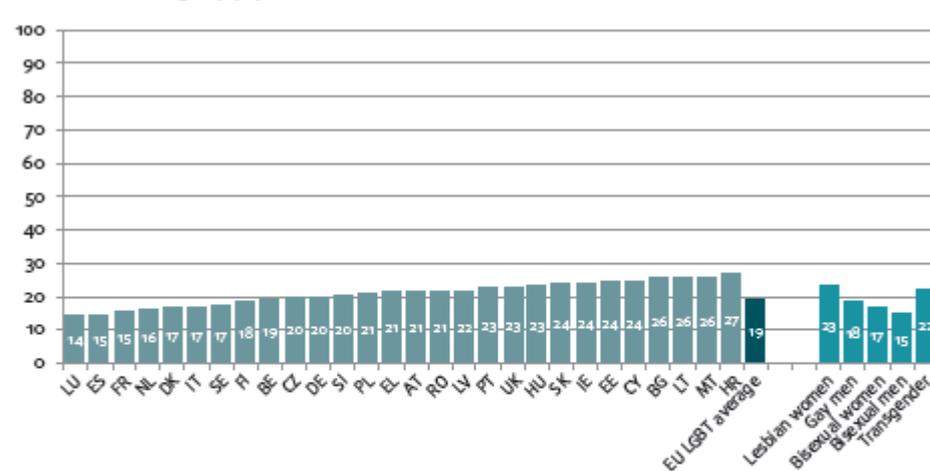
Question: C4. During the last 12 months, have you personally felt discriminated against because of being [category on the basis of A3 or A4] in any of the following situations - Answer: B. At work.

Base: EU LGBT survey respondents who were employed in the past 12 months.

Source: FRA, EU LGBT survey, 2012

EU LGBT survey – European Union lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender survey – Main results, p. 30

**Figure 47: Prevalence of hate-motivated harassment in the preceding 12 months, by country and LGBT group (%)**



Questions: FB1\_2. When did the LAST incident of harassment happen?

FB2\_2. When did the MOST SERIOUS incident of harassment you experienced in the last 5 years happen?

FB1\_5. Do you think the LAST incident of harassment in the past 12 months happened partly or completely because you were perceived to be [category on the basis of A3 or A4]?

FB2\_5. Do you think this incident of harassment happened partly or completely because you were perceived to be [category on the basis of A3 or A4 (self-identification)]?

Note: Categories for self-identification in A3 and A4 included transgender, transsexual, woman with a transsexual past, man with a transsexual past, gender variant, cross dresser, queer, lesbian, gay, bisexual or other.

Base: All EU LGBT survey respondents.

Source: FRA, EU LGBT survey, 2012

EU LGBT survey – European Union lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender survey – Main results, p. 71

Being Trans in the EU - Comparative analysis of the EU LGBT survey data (December 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-being-trans-eu-comparative-0\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-being-trans-eu-comparative-0_en.pdf)

“In countries such as Bulgaria, Croatia, **Greece** and Romania only one third of all trans respondents who were employed during the five years preceding the survey report a positive work atmosphere towards LGBT people...” (p. 32)

“A breakdown by EU Member State shows that respondents from **Greece**, Italy, Portugal, Croatia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, Bulgaria and Romania are the least likely to have experienced a positive LGBT atmosphere at school.” (p. 40)

## Persons with disabilities

Implementing the UN CRPD: An overview of legal reforms in EU Member States (May 2015)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-focus-05-2015-crpd\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2015-focus-05-2015-crpd_en.pdf)

“Several Member States include the rights of people with disabilities in broader action plans to promote fundamental rights. The **Greek** National Action Plan for Human Rights, adopted in March 2014, includes actions focused on social inclusion, employment support, accessibility and inclusive education for people with disabilities.” (p. 3)

“The **Greek** Deputy Minister of Administration Reform and Electronic Governance issued a decision in 2012 requiring public websites to comply with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG), for example. These guidelines set out technical requirements to make websites more accessible.” (p. 9)

The right to political participation for persons with disabilities: human rights indicators (May 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-right-political-participation-persons-disabilities\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-right-political-participation-persons-disabilities_en.pdf)

“Finally, the analysis indicates that in a further four EU Member States, **Greece**, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovenia, there is no national disability action plan or strategy. This does not mean, however, that there are no other policies or activities which aim to increase the political participation of persons with disabilities.” (p. 39)

“A further 15 EU Member States prohibit people with disabilities who have been deprived of their legal capacity from voting. The Member States are Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, **Greece**, Ireland, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Poland, Portugal, Romania and Slovakia.” (p. 41)

“In Belgium, Cyprus, and **Greece**, the analysis indicated that there is no legislation setting out how people living long term in institutions can exercise the right to vote.” (p. 44)

“Data from Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Poland and Slovenia indicate that no political parties produced their manifestos in accessible formats for the last elections.” (p. 80)

Legal capacity of persons with intellectual disabilities and persons with mental health problems (July 2013)

<http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/legal-capacity-intellectual-disabilities-mental-health-problems.pdf>

“Similarly, the Greek legal system provides for several guardianship measures, which differ in intensity: guardianship depriving the person of capacity for some (partial) or all (total) legal transactions; and guardianship whereby legal transactions of the person become valid only when coupled with the guardian’s consent. The court can also opt for a combination of the two regulations.” (p. 30)

“In Italy, Greece and Slovenia the court delivers a single judgment, deciding that the person’s legal capacity is restricted and that he or she will be placed under a protective measure.” (p. 33)

“About half of EU Member States explicitly provide in their national legal frameworks for the person concerned to request a restriction of his or her legal capacity. This is the case in Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.” (p. 35)

“Other Member States without a statutory maximum duration [of a guardianship measure] include Belgium, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Greece, Ireland, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia and Spain.” (p. 38)

See also ‘Inequalities and multiple discrimination in access to and quality of healthcare (March 2013) above

## Racism and related intolerances

Racism, discrimination, intolerance and extremism: learning from experiences in Greece and Hungary (December 2013)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-thematic-situation-report-3\\_en\\_1.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013-thematic-situation-report-3_en_1.pdf)

“During the meetings with all interlocutors in Greece, it became apparent that the existing legal apparatus does not offer sufficient protection against racism, xenophobia and related intolerance. Recently, however, efforts to introduce new legislation to address issues of migration and racism have intensified.” (p. 9)

“Representatives of statutory human rights bodies and civil society organisations with whom FRA met also spoke of a steep increase in racist violence, discrimination, intolerance and extremism in Greek society. However, without diminishing the importance of the influence of the economic crisis, they also claim that the ineffective responses of public authorities over a considerable period of time are a key contributing factor.” (p. 9)

“Nevertheless, Athens has no mosque to serve the needs of a large community of Muslims, whether they are Greek citizens or not.” (p. 17)

See also 'Discrimination and hate crime against Jews in EU Member States: experiences and perceptions of antisemitism' (January 2014)

Antisemitism: Summary overview of the situation in the European Union 2001–2012 (November 2013)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013\\_antisemitism-update-2002-2012\\_web\\_0.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2013_antisemitism-update-2002-2012_web_0.pdf)

"Few prosecutions are initiated per year in **Greece** for crimes covered by Law 927/1979, which refers to acts or activities aiming at racial discrimination, according to data provided by local District Attorneys' Offices to the Ministry of Justice, Transparency and Human Rights, which was communicated to the FRA. Nevertheless, five cases pertaining to antisemitism were recorded in 2010, three in 2011 and one in 2012." (p. 34)

Tackling racism and discrimination in sport - Guide of Promising Practices, Initiatives and Activities (May 2013)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/guide-tackling-racism-in-sport\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/guide-tackling-racism-in-sport_en.pdf)

"As Figure 2 shows, the Roma in **Greece** face a high likelihood of having their homes burgled at least once in a 12-month period (29 %), a rate which drives up the overall burglary rate for the Roma as an aggregate group (10 %)." (p. 9)

## Roma

Discrimination against and living conditions of Roma women in 11 EU Member States (October 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-roma-survey-gender\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-roma-survey-gender_en.pdf)

"Self-declared literacy is lowest in **Greece** both as regards general levels as well as for young Roma: only 65 % of Roma women and men aged 16 to 24 are literate." (p. 11)

"**Greece** has the lowest proportion of both Roma women and men surveyed who say that they continued their education after the age of 16. The gender differences there are also pronounced: only 6 % of Roma women aged 16 to 24 continued their education after the age of 16, compared with 17 % of Roma men in the same age group." (p. 15)

"The highest proportions of Roma women without health insurance are registered in Bulgaria, Romania and **Greece**." (p. 28)

Education: the situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States (October 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014\\_roma-survey\\_education\\_tk0113748enc.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014_roma-survey_education_tk0113748enc.pdf)

"In contrast to 70 %–97 % of non-Roma, only 20 % of Roma aged 6–15 in **Greece**, and less than 50 % in the Czech Republic, Portugal, Slovakia and Spain had ever attended preschool." (p. 11)

"In **Greece** and Romania in particular, as well as in Bulgaria, France and Italy, Roma children of all ages fail to attend compulsory school." (p. 12)

"**Greece** stands out with an exceptionally high rate of non-attendance: 43 % of Roma children of compulsory school age are not attending school." (p. 17)

Poverty and employment: the situation of Roma in 11 EU Member States (October 2014)

[http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-roma-survey-employment\\_en.pdf](http://fra.europa.eu/sites/default/files/fra-2014-roma-survey-employment_en.pdf)

“In Italy and Greece, about half and one third of Roma respondents, 47 % and 30 %, respectively, live in encampments.” (p. 8)

“Only 9 % of the young Roma surveyed are in paid work in Portugal, compared to 33 % in Greece, which has the highest labour market participation among the Roma surveyed.” (p. 18)

“The biggest employment gap between Roma men and Roma women can be found in Greece and France.” (p. 24)