

Violence, trauma and health impacts in the EU

FEPS Panel discussion in the framework of the 12th Barbara Prammer
Symposium

AGENDA

Date: 12 January 2026

Venue: Austrian Parliament, Dr.-Karl-Renner-Ring 3, 1017 Vienna

Room: Parliament, Lokal 2, Elise Richter

Organiser: Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS)

Session title: Panel Discussion '**Violence, Trauma, and Health: Stepping up to Gender-Based Violence in the EU**'

Duration: 2 hours (13:00 - 15:00)

Language: English

Context

Domestic, sexual, and gender-based violence (GBV) leave deep and lasting impacts on survivors' physical, mental, and reproductive health. Yet many individuals continue to face significant barriers when seeking safety, justice, and care. One in three women in the EU have experienced physical and/or sexual violence, one in five women have faced physical or sexual violence from their partner, a relative, and one in eight women have experienced sexual violence in the EU.¹ These are alarming numbers that require improved action on the European level.

This panel, organised by the Foundation for European Progressive Studies (FEPS), brings together policy-makers and experts from health, legal, and social sectors to examine the wide-ranging health consequences of violence and to discuss how preventive strategies, stronger legal systems - including support to access them - and improved mental health and medical care can better protect and work for survivors in the EU. It builds on the extensive work of FEPS in the field of [gender equality](#).

The European Commission acknowledges, based on the findings of the [Gender Equality Index](#), that significant challenges remain in the domains of violence, health, knowledge, power and institutional mechanisms. Accordingly, its post-2025 Gender Equality Strategy includes freedom from gender-based violence and the highest standards of health as part of the long-term policy objectives for upholding and advancing gender equality and human rights. However, substantial and detailed work is still needed. Panellists will explore opportunities for cross-sector collaboration and outline concrete actions to improve prevention, expand survivor-centred services, and ensure long-term healing and wellbeing.

¹ See EU Gender-based Violence Survey | [European Institute for Gender Equality](#).

Panel

- **Ulrike Königsberger-Ludwig**, State Secretary of Austria
- **Nicole Krejci**, Director of the Gewaltschutzzentrum Wien
- **Bettina Pfleiderer**, Associate Professor at the University of Münster, Former President of the World Medical Women's Association
- **Andrea Pető**, Professor in the Department of Gender Studies at Central European University, Vienna, Austria, Research affiliate of the CEU Democracy Institute, Budapest
- **Lina Gálvez Muñoz**, Member of European Parliament (S&D), Chair of the Women's Rights and Gender Equality Committee, Chair of FEPS Scientific Council, FEPS Vice-President

Moderator: Sonja Kato

Event script

12:00	FEPS Lunch
13:00	Introduction & presentation of panellists by Sonja Kato
13:05	Impulse speeches by:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ulrike Königsberger-Ludwig• Nicole Krejci• Bettina Pfleiderer• Andrea Pető• Lina Gálvez Muñoz
13:45	Panel discussion
14:30	Q&A session
14:50	Closing remarks by László Andor
15:00	Coffee break

The Barbara Prammer Symposium starts at 10:00.

You can find more information and the full programme here:

<https://renner-institut.at/veranstaltungen/12-barbara-prammer-symposium>