• 45 percent of women in Europe have suffered from men’s violence (Written declaration of the European Parliament 22 April 2009 on the “say no to violence against women” campaign)

• In Europe, seven women die every day from male domestic violence (Psytel, Estimation de la mortalité liée aux violences conjugales en Europe, Programme Daphne III)

• One in five women in Europe have been subject to domestic violence (European Women’s Lobby, Unveiling the hidden data on domestic violence in the EU, 1999)

• One in four female students on UK campuses have been subject to an unwanted sexual experience at University or College (National Union of Students, 2010)

• Domestic violence alone costs €16 million every year in Europe. The annual EU member states’ budgets for prevention programmes are 1000 times less (Psytel, Estimation du coût des violences conjugales en Europe, 2006)

• A European Women’s Lobby and Oxfam study shows that economic recession aggravates the unequal power relations between women and men and leads to an increase of domestic/intimate relationship violence, trafficking in women for sexual exploitation and a rise in prostitution and attacks on prostituted women (European Women’s Lobby and Oxfam, “Women’s poverty and social exclusion in the European)

• In Europe only nine member states in the EU have integrated action plans on violence against women and 14 have national plans on some forms of violence against women, primarily on domestic violence. (Professor Liz Kelly, keynote speech at European Women’s Lobby Conference, June 2011)

• 80,000 women experience rape or attempted rape in the UK every year (www.endviolenceagainstwomen.org.uk/pages/rape_sexual_violence.html)

• 40-50 percent of women in the EU have experienced sexual harassment in the workplace (European Commission, Sexual Harassment in the Workplace in the European Union, 1998)

• Every year in the EU, 180,000 girls living in the EU are at risk of female genital mutilation and 500,000 women and girls in the EU already live with female genital mutilation (European Parliament resolution of 24 March 2009 on combating FMG in the EU, 2008/2071(INI))

• Only five EU member states comply with the requirement of one place in a safe shelter per 7,500 inhabitants (PACE, Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, Parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women, 2008)