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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

# GENDER-RELATED KILLINGS OF WOMEN AND GIRLS (FEMICIDE/FEMINICIDE)

Towards a common statistical framework

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“The different frameworks, definitions and classifications used in the conceptualization of femicide often complicate the collection of data from different sources and could lead to documentation that may not be comparable across communities or regions.”

Rashida Manjoo, Special rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences. 2012

# CONTEXT

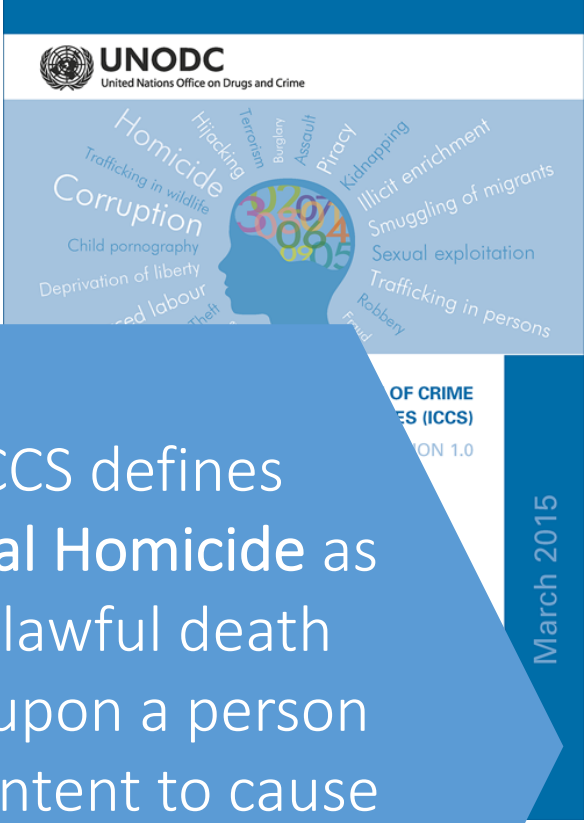
- United Nations Statistical Commission - 50<sup>th</sup> Session: Report on crime and criminal justice statistics (E/CN.3/2019/19).
- ↓
- Pledge for the development of a *statistical framework on gender-sensitive crime statistics, with a focus on the gender-related killing of women and girls (femicide/feminicide)*, based on the ICCS
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- UN Women, UNODC and other Int. agencies have discussed the key elements to build a **common UN approach** on gender-related killings of women and girls (femicide/feminicide) **for statistical purposes**

# PROBLEM

- The concept of “femicide/feminicide” can have very different connotations, in some countries it is even considered as a specific criminal offence.
- The current discussion at the international level is about a **comprehensive definition** of the concept of gender-related killing of women and girls (femicide/feminicide) for statistical purposes only.
- Objective is to **identify** specific types of killings that have a policy-relevance from a gender perspective and have objective features such that they can be measured

# STARTING POINT

- The current international standard for crime statistics is the **International Classification of Crimes for Statistical Purposes (ICCS)**.
- Countries are still in the process of **fully adopting** the ICCS and produce **disaggregated data** in line with its various variables.
- The ICCS offers various opportunities to identify **gender motivation of crime** and the **gender-related context**, though more operational guidance is needed.



The ICCS defines **Intentional Homicide** as the “Unlawful death inflicted upon a person with the intent to cause death or serious injury”. Femicide/ Feminicide falls into this category.

# Towards a common approach

- 33 gender-related criteria (and related disaggregating variables and categories) have been identified to have an open discussion with data producers, practitioners and substantive experts
- Criteria grouped by themes:

Victim

Perpetrator

Modus  
Operandi

Gender-biased  
context

Conflict-related  
context

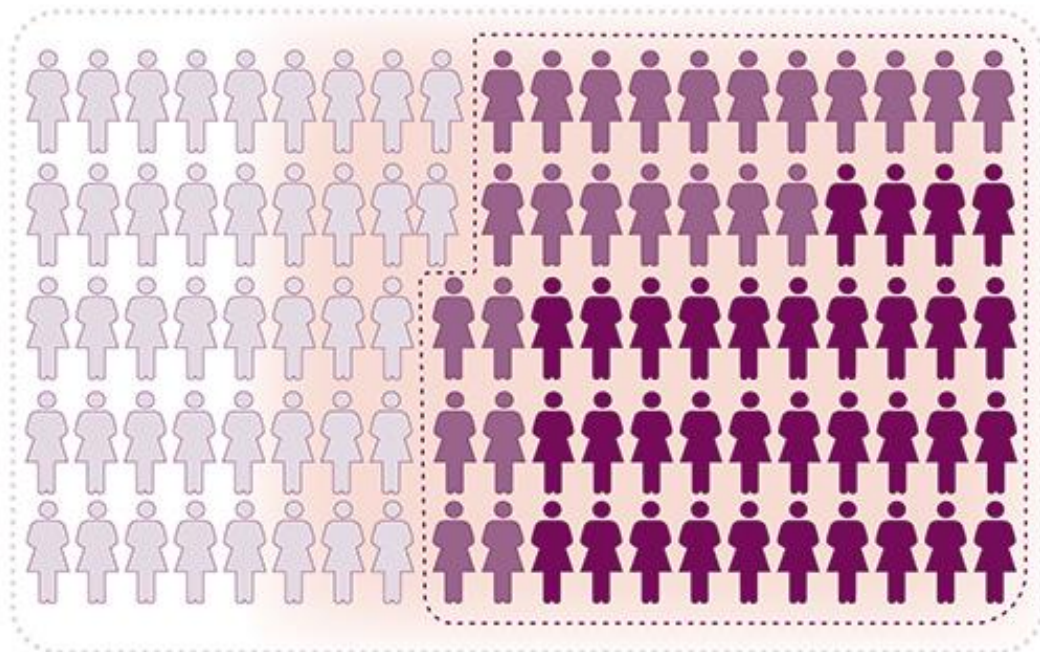


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# HOMICIDE DISAGGREGATION

- An initial approximation to the gender-related killing of women and girls (femicide/feminicide) is the measurement of killings by intimate partner/family member. But this is only a subset of the whole phenomenon, further disaggregation is needed.



All female homicides



Homicides by intimate partner or family members



Homicides by intimate partner



Homicides by family member

*Gender-related killings of women and girls*

UNODC, Global Study on Homicide 2019

# CRITERION EXAMPLE "A"

Killing  
involving  
sexual  
violence



# PROPOSED DATA COLLECTION

Killing  
involving  
sexual  
violence

ICCS Section  
03 Injurious  
acts of a  
sexual nature



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# ICCS CRIME CATEGORIES

Killing  
involving  
sexual  
violence

ICCS Section 03 Injurious acts of a sexual nature	0301 Sexual Violence	03011 Rape	030111 Rape with force
			030112 Rape without force
			030113 Statutory rape
			030119 Other rape
	03012 Sexual assault	030121 Physical sexual assault	
		030122 Non-physical sexual assault	
		030129 Other sexual assault not elsewhere classified	
03019 Other acts of sexual violence			

# CRITERION EXAMPLE "A"

Authority  
and/or care  
relationship  
between the  
victim and the  
perpetrator

# ICCS DISAGGREGATING VARIABLE

Authority  
and/or care  
relationship  
between the  
victim and the  
perpetrator

Relationship  
between  
victim and  
perpetrator of  
intentional  
homicide

# ICCS CATEGORIES

Authority  
and/or care  
relationship  
between the  
victim and the  
perpetrator

Relationship  
between  
victim and  
perpetrator of  
intentional  
homicide

Authority/  
care  
relationship  
(doctor/  
nurse/  
teacher/  
police/ public  
official, clergy,  
etc.)



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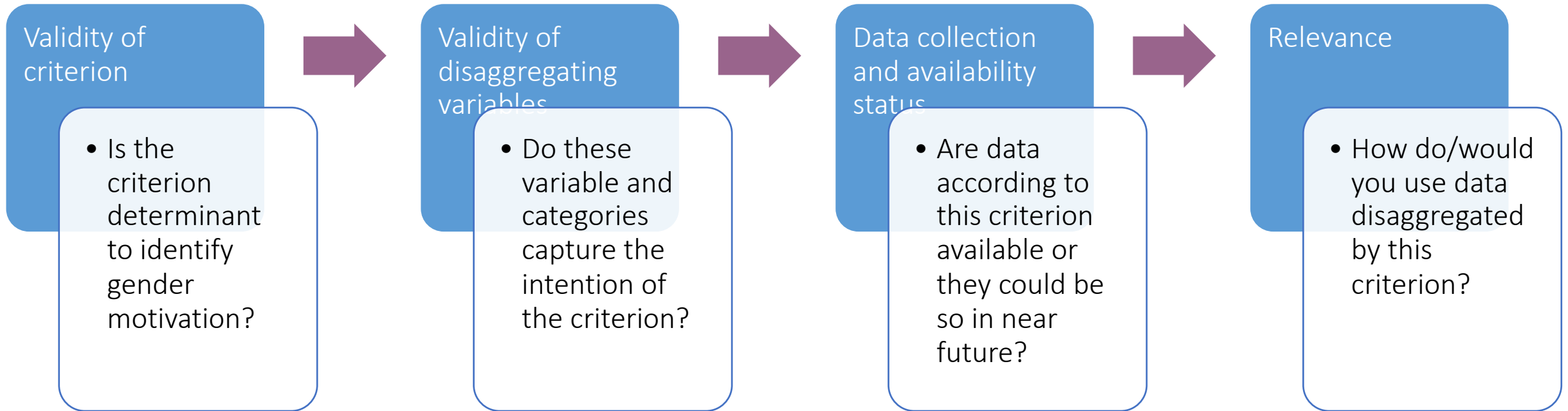
# PROPOSED ADDITIONAL CATEGORIES

Authority and/or care relationship between the victim and the perpetrator

Relationship between victim and perpetrator of intentional homicide	Authority/ care relationship (doctor/ nurse/ teacher/ police/ public official, clergy, etc.)	Healthcare provider	Doctor/ physician
			Psychologist/ psychiatrist
			Nurse
			Other healthcare provider
		Education authority	Teacher
			Other education authority
		Safety and security provider	Police officer
			Firefighter
			Military officer
			Other safety and security provider
Public official/clergy (non-health, education or security-related)			
Other authority/ care relationship			

# CONSULTATION

- Global outreach to National Statistical Offices, Gender equality/Women Empowerment Institutions, Law enforcement and Criminal Justice institutions asking to review the criteria taking into account:



# NEXT STEPS

- **Consultation launch:** Finalise questionnaire/platform and descriptive document.

Ongoing

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- **Feedback:** Receive responses from national institutions/experts

Early 2021

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- **Assessment:** Analysis of feedback

Q1 2021

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- **Development:** prepare draft statistical framework

Q1-Q2 2021

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- **Refinement:** final consultation on the proposed framework

Q2 2021

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- **Submission:** Framework is sent to UNSC for its endorsement in its 53<sup>rd</sup> session

Q3 2021



# Questions

- Do you think that data on gender-related killings, at national and international level, can be a valid instrument to monitor and analyse VAW (as a complement to survey-based data)?
- Any suggestion/question on the elements of the framework?
- Any suggestion/question on the consultation process?



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## THANK YOU

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