



# IMPRODOVA

Improving Frontline Responses  
to High Impact Domestic Violence

## The IMPRODOVA project

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[www.improdova.eu](http://www.improdova.eu)

# Istanbul Convention (2013)

- Aim is to provide protection and assistance to victims and to strengthen international cooperation
- Domestic violence = **“a violation of human rights..., a form of discrimination against women..., physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women...”** (Article 1 Sec. 3)
- Urge to alter traditional behavioural patterns and stereotypical roles for women and men, and eradicate the idea of women's **inferiority** (see Art. 12 Sec. 1)

# Several claims regarding multi-agency collaboration are made by the Istanbul Convention (2013)



A “holistic response to violence against women” should be offered in a “way of **effective co-operation among all relevant agencies**, institutions and organisations” (Art. 7 Sec. 2)



Stakeholders = “all relevant state agencies, including the judiciary, public prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, local and regional authorities as well as non-governmental organisations and other relevant organisations and entities, in protecting and supporting victims and witnesses of all forms of violence...” (Art. 18 Sec. 2)



Coordinated approach should target victims and perpetrators, children and the wider social environment (Art. 18 Sec. 3)



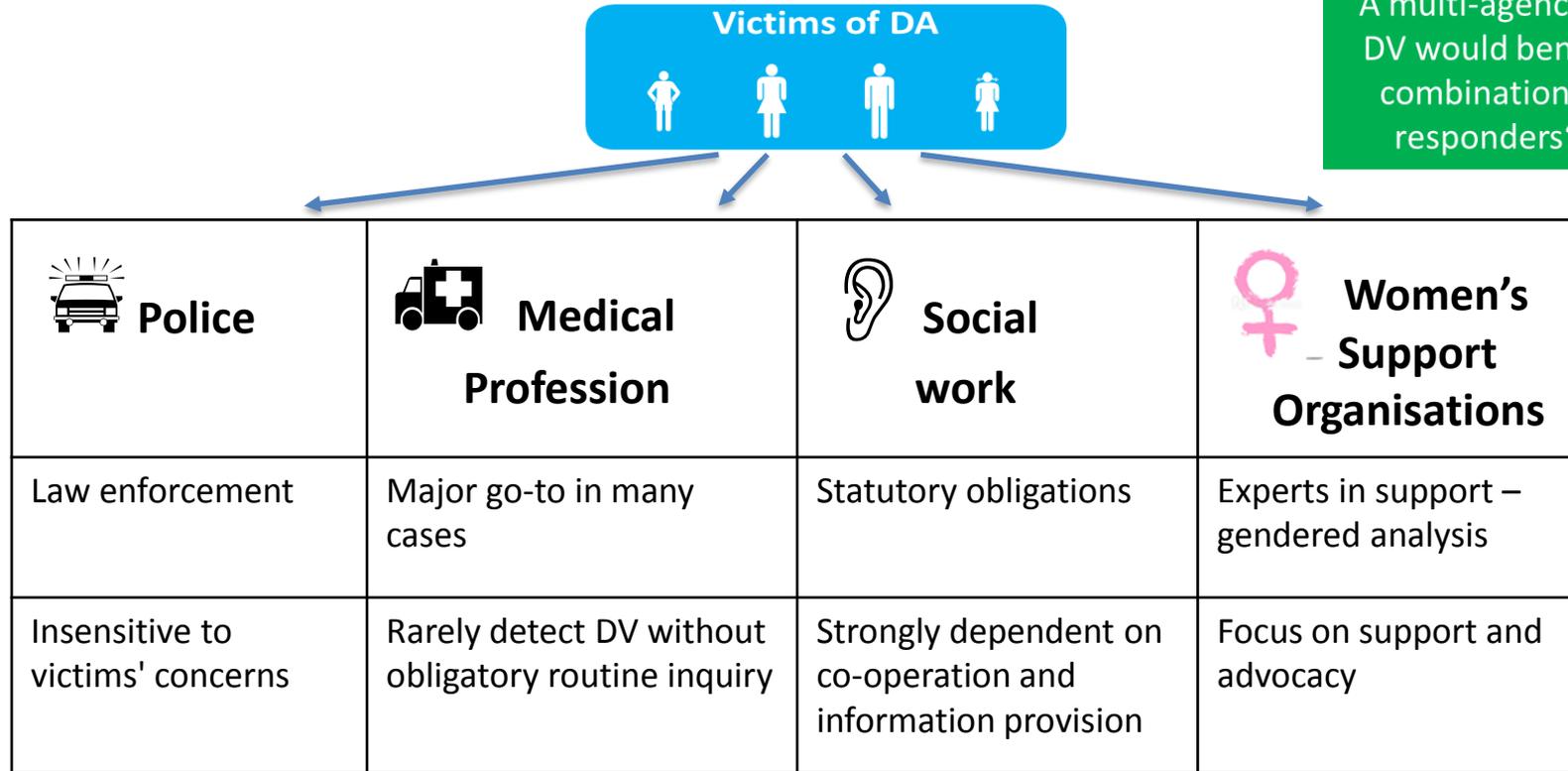
In an ideal setting, protection and **support services would be under one roof** (Art. 18 Sec. 3)



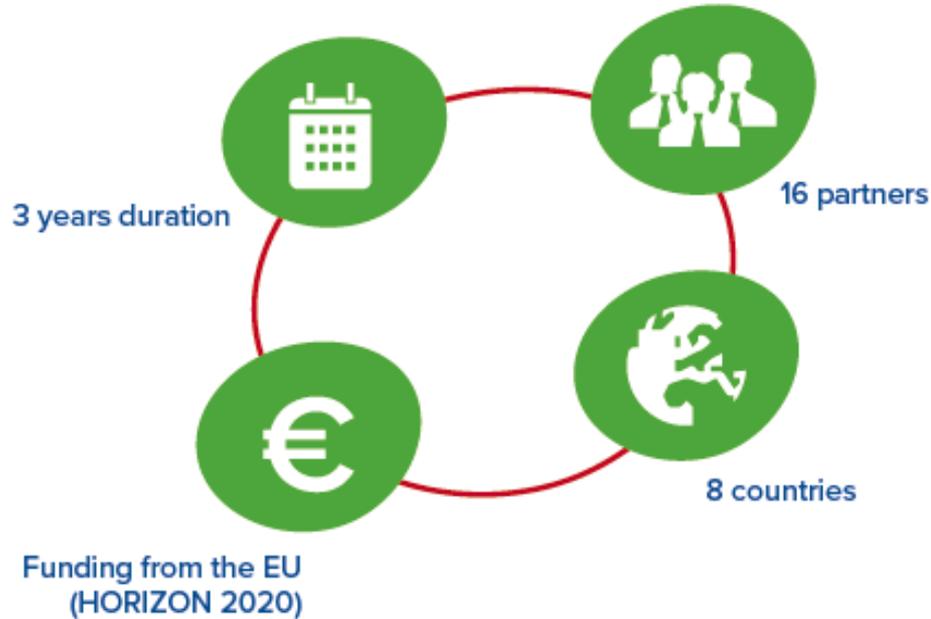
Involved parties should receive **professional training on how to cooperate within a coordinated multi-agency approach** (Art. 15 Sec. 2)

# Organisations' individual responses to DV

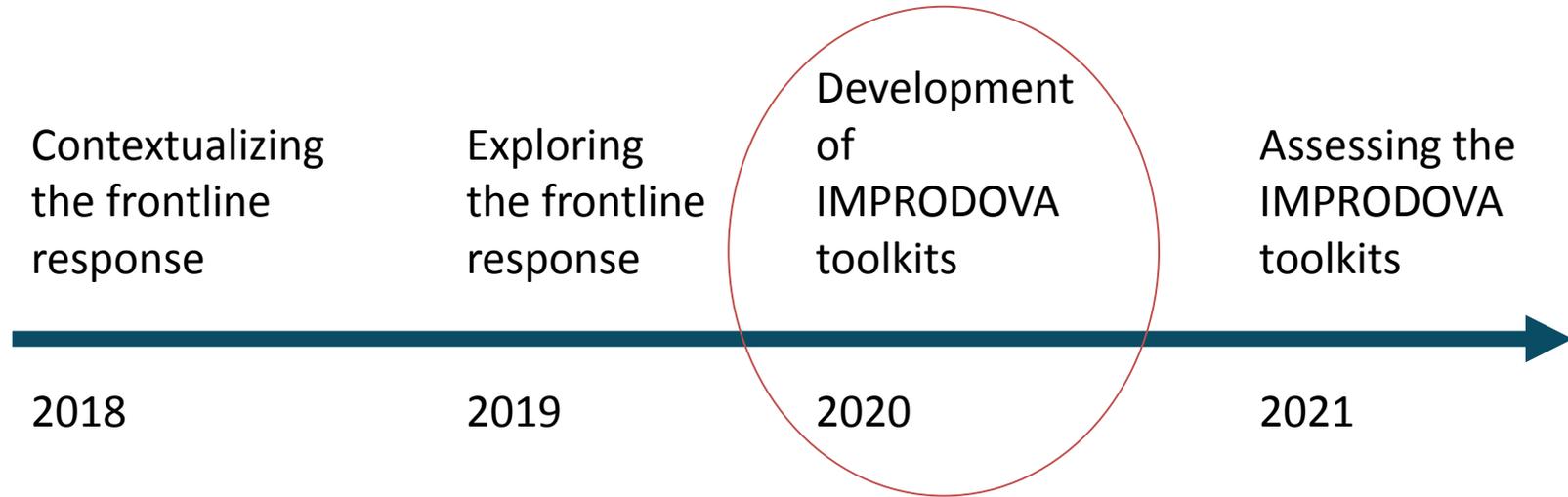
A multi-agency response to DV would benefit from the combination of frontline responders' strengths!



# Improving Responses to High Impact Domestic Violence (IMPRODOVA project)



# Structure of the IMPRODOVA project



# Research questions + methods

- Legal requirements
- Data on domestic violence
- DV risk assessment
- DV-related training of professionals



Interviews



Documentary  
analysis

**What human factors influence coordinated frontline responses to domestic violence?**

# Emerging findings

- **Legal requirements:** Variance in the translation of the Istanbul convention into national legislation
- **Data on domestic violence:** definitions define the data collection process = makes comparisons a complex issue
- **DV risk assessment:** tools vs. gut feeling of professionals
- **DV-related training of professionals:** generalists vs. specialists
- **Human factors:** multi-agency cooperation needs champions who advocate for effective responses, inc. robust forms of communication

# IMPRODOVA output e.g., ...

All material  
is open  
source



Website, Blog and Newsletter: [www.improdova.eu](http://www.improdova.eu)



Twitter: [@improdova](https://twitter.com/improdova)



YouTube video: **Why people mistakenly assume that DV is not a major problem in our society?** (March 2020)



**Trainings** and material for multi-agency cooperation (Aug. 2020)



Online **platform** for inter-agency communication  
(pilot ready to go by Nov. 2020)

# Thank you!



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