



It starts  
with screams  
and must never  
end in silence

12% to 15% of European women over 16 suffer domestic abuse in a relationship – too many have died. Many more continue to suffer physical and sexual violence from former partners even after the break-up. It's time to find a way out!

**Stop domestic  
violence  
against women**

**“**Violence against women is the result of an imbalance of power between women and men, leading to serious discrimination against women, both within society and the family. Violence in the family or domestic unit occurs in every Council of Europe member state despite positive developments in law, policies and practices. Violence against women is a violation of human rights, the very nature of which deprives women of their ability to enjoy fundamental freedoms. It often leaves women vulnerable to further abuse and is a major obstacle to overcoming inequality between women and men in society. **Violence against women damages peace, security and democracy in Europe.”**

[www.coe.int/stopviolence](http://www.coe.int/stopviolence)



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