

## **2. Políticas, instituições e cidadania**

OC - (22935) - VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES IN PORTUGAL: WHAT CAN BE IMPROVED? THE VIEWS AND PERSPECTIVES OF WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES AND PROFESSIONALS

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Although women with disabilities are more likely to face any form of gender-based violence than other women this topic remains understudied in Portugal. The victim support services, and the resources available to make a complaint and ask for help have the accommodations needed by these women? Are they fully accessible? To better understand which are the barriers and challenges faced by victims of violence with disabilities, in Portugal, we conducted semi-structured interviews with women with disabilities (N=6) and focus groups (N=3) with victim support services, professionals in the field of justice and security, and disability organisations. The data collected is part of a research project which is currently underway in five European countries which aims to understand how to improve prevention, detection, reporting and responses to violence against women and children with psychosocial and/or intellectual disabilities. Thematic analysis will be used to analyse the interviews and focus groups. In the analysis special attention will be paid on how to prevent violence faced by women with disabilities within institutions and community-based services. The preliminary results about the views and perspectives of the different social actors in the Portuguese context regarding the barriers faced by women with disabilities who are victims of violence will be presented. Suggestions on how to improve the available responses will be discussed.

**Palavras-chave : prevention of violence; women with disabilities**