



BRIDGE

Building Relationships through Innovative
Development of Gender Based Violence
Awareness in Europe



MIGRANT CHILDREN'S PERCEPTION OF GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



INFOGRAPHY





CONTEXTUAL FRAMEWORK

The main objective of the BRIDGE project is to **strengthen the response to Gender based violence (GBV) against children and youth on the move.**

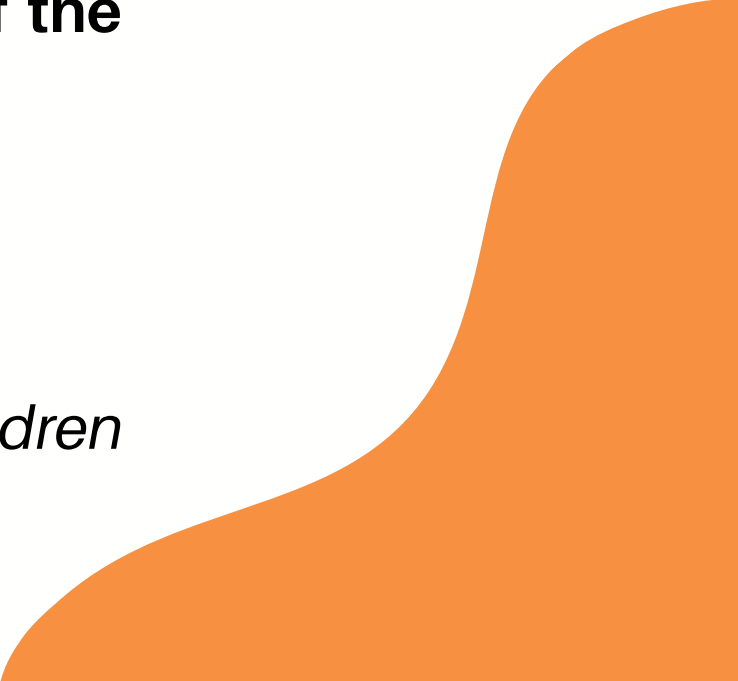
One of the concrete objectives being to “enhance the availability of reliable data on GBV against migrant children”. To increase the availability of accurate data on the extent of GBV against children and youth on the move in Belgium, **children and young migrants have been voluntarily answering to a multiple-choice questionnaire** on a mobile device.

A report has been issued, highlighting the general tendencies on the level of conceptual knowledge about GBV in both of these groups; the perception and attitudes towards GBV; and the main practices towards GBV.

The following infographics summarise **the results of this questionnaire for all phases of the data** collection, conducted by the end of 2019 and beginning of 2020.

It is written in a **child-friendly manner.**

For more information and/or to get the full report, please contact Defence for Children International Belgium (contact info at the end).



QUESTIONS?



WRITE TO
EMMANUELLE.VACHER
@DEFENSEDESENFANTS.BE

BRIDGE

Fight against gender-based violence affecting migrant children and youth

WHY?



Understand migrant children's needs



Adults working with migrant children **often feel helpless when they have to help victims** of gender-based violence



Support migrant children, inform and help them



HOW?



We **meet with young migrants** to talk about their experiences



We also ask **adults to answer a few questions**



We **organize trainings for professionals** working with migrant children about gender-based violence

FOR WHAT PURPOSE?

1

For the **professionals to feel able to help** children victims

2

For migrant children **to know their rights and be able to protect** their friends

WHAT IS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?



What is gender?

Gender is the perception we have of what is being a boy, a girl, etc.



Society, family or religion (for example) expect different things from boys and girls. These expectations can create inequalities and, sometimes, violence.



These violences can for example be

- 
Child and forced marriage
- 
Sexual violence
- 
Prostitution
- 
Harassment
- 
Physical violence
- 
Genital mutilation



- Most girls and boys who migrated suffered at least one of these forms of violence.
- Children who leave their countries to come to Europe are very affected by violence.
- Violence can happen in their country of origin, on the migratory route and also in the country where they arrive.
- Even if they are affected in different ways, both girls and boys can suffer gender-based violences.

WHO ARE THE MIGRANT CHILDREN WE TALKED TO?

We had a discussion with **41** young migrants to ask what were their thoughts on **gender-based violence**

How?



50 questions on a digital tablet
Several choices of answers

16 girls



25 boys



between 11
and 18 years old



56 % are with their parents



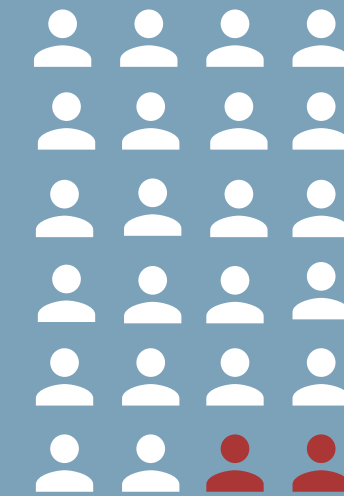
34 % are unaccompanied



10% are with at least one member of their family

22%

have been separated from their family during the journey



More than
90%
go to school

With their friends,
they enjoy



Sports

Play and laugh



Going out, spend time together

Going to the cinema or other artistic activities



HOW DO THEY REACT TO GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE?



A boy at school cries because he has received a bad grade. His classmates start making fun of him and tell him mockingly: only girls cry!

It is ok for a boy to cry in this situation

54%

The boy should ask for the teacher's support

51%

I agree with the classmates

5%

"We all have the same heart"

Boy, 17



Some boys at the centre/school laugh calling a girl a bad word

63%

The girl should ask for teacher's support

"It is not fair"

51%

The girl should ask for friend's support

Boy, 17



At home, your aunt shouts angrily at your uncle because he dropped a cup.

46%

It is a form of violence

It is just a private issue, it has nothing to do with me

27%

It is a harmless situation

22%

Suppose you are in a relationship and your partner is very jealous and he/she beats you.

48%

It is a form of violence

32%

It means that he/she loves me

24%

I am probably responsible

"If I did nothing to deserve it, I beat her as well."

Boy, 16

In the street, you see a husband beating his wife.

63%

It is a form of violence

20%

She probably deserves it

It can happen sometimes

20%

It is a private issue

29%

"She deserves it if she did something wrong"

Girl, 16



In the center, you witness a boy trying to touch a girl who says "No".

28%

I prefer to do nothing

40%

I would talk to a care professional about it

8%

I would talk to my friends about it

49% Other

I intervene

I talk to the boy

I do nothing if the boy is my friend



If someone tries to touch or kiss you but you do not want to, what do you do?

No problem, it's a normal thing.

Boy, 17

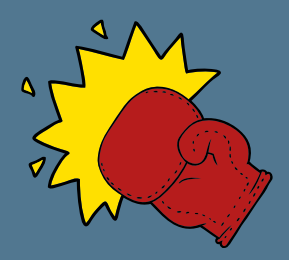


64% Other



I leave the centre

I talk to the person



I defend myself

I start talking to the person. Except if it's man, then I get mad.

Boy, 16

WHO CAN HELP?



Violence is never tolerable! If you need advice or support, there are several options:



In your center you can trust the **workers**. Do not hesitate to talk to them, they can help you.



If you are unaccompanied, you must be assigned a **tutor**. This person will advice and support you.



If you are not familiar with English or French, you have a right to a free **interpreter**.



If you seek legal support, you have the right to a **free lawyer** (www.avocats.be/fr/bureaux-daide-baj). You can also contact a **justice house** (www.maisondejustice.be or 02/557.50.50).



The police are here to protect you if you are in danger or threatened, regardless of your nationality. You can call 101 or 112.

If there is anything else you would like to talk about, many organisations may help you for free. You can contact the **Plate-forme mineurs en exil** (www.mineursenexil.be or 02/210.94.91), the **Service droit des jeunes** (www.sdj.be), the **Ombudsman for children** (dgde@cfwb.be or 02/223.36.45), the **Children's Listening Service** (www.103ecoute.be or 103), the **suicide prevention centre** (www.preventionsuicide.be or 0800.32.123).

If you go to school, your school also probably has a **psycho-socio-medical centre (PMS)**. It is a place where you can discuss your concerns with specialists.



CHILDREN'S WORDS

We asked children if they wished to tell us something more.
This is what they had to say:

"I feel good here"

16 years old

"I AM SCARED OF THE FUTURE"

16 YEARS OLD

"I feel good here but there are too many noises and fights"

17 YEARS OLD

"We always have to wait, we don't know"

16 years old

"I don't like being here, I would like to be in a house. Many things happen in the centre, I don't like being here and not getting help with my papers".

18 years old

"MY MIND AND MY HEART ARE NOT HERE. I THINK OF MY FAMILY. MY DREAM IS THAT MY FAMILY COMES HERE"

17 YEARS OLD

THANK YOU



THANK YOU TO ALL OF THESE YOUNG PEOPLE FOR SHARING THEIR EXPERIENCE AND OPINIONS WITH US!





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