



Support for victims ▶ Actions for awareness, balance of resources and new tools for the future

## Equality attends to more new cases of gender violence this 2022

A total of 286 women have gone through the service, of which 135 have done it for the first time

The Government is launching a campaign focused on young people and interactions in nightlife spaces



SFGA / JAVILADOT



**Mireia Porras**

POLICIES OF EQUALITY MANAGER

«You might think that gender-based violence is decreasing, but it continues to exist. You have to keep working hard»

208 cases, and 43 cases have been referred to a Social Affairs lawyer. On the other hand, 124 women have received psychological care, care that has also been enjoyed by 13 sons and daughters of the victims - in all they have 363, of which 243 are minors. In addition, nearly 142,000 euros have also been allocated to 59 families in the form of financial benefits, which have served to cover basic needs, pay for extracurricular activities and recovery therapies, and to guarantee health coverage. At the same time, 10 families have been occupying the five refugee flats in the country at different times.

«DON'T BE MISTAKEN, IT'S VIOLENCE» // During the event, Pallarés and Porras made public the actions promoted by the Government in the framework of 25N. The main novelty this year is a campaign to promote consensual and respectful relationships, especially aimed at young people and in the nightlife environment. And the fact is that two brochures have been distributed in the form of stickers to the various night party establishments in the Principality, one aimed at girls and one at boys, with behaviors that are indicative of violence. For this reason, the closing slogan of these actions is Don't be mistaken, it's violence.

On the other hand, there have been repeated initiatives such as the use of the Mobility panels to post two messages around 25N or MoraBanc's pink and purple equipment to publicize the day (which were shown last Friday against the ICG Força Lleida), the sale of which will make it possible to raise funds in favor of feminist organizations in the country. ≡

▶▶ Judith Pallarés and Mireia Porras, with the images of the new campaign in the framework of nightlife.

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The Care Service for Victims of Gender Violence (Savvg) this year, in the period from January to October, helped 286 women. This was announced last Friday by the Minister of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality, Judith Pallarés, and the Head of Equality Policies, Mireia Porras, at the press conference organized to coincide with the International Day for the elimination of violence against women, during which they also reported on the new communication campaign to encourage healthy interactions in the framework of nightlife, and especially aimed at young people.

Firstly, Porras regretted that more new cases have been received at the service this year. In other words, despite the fact that in the same period last year, care was given to mo-

re women (289), the number of victims this year has been higher. Specifically, this 2022, 135 new cases have been addressed to the Savvg, while last year there were 117 until October. «The reading we do is that we have closed more cases this year, and on the contrary, more new cases have entered», indicated Porras, who pointed out that «it is not that the violence itself has increased, but that there is more detection».

Regarding the different characteristics of the women treated, the Government reported that 36% were in the age range between 40 and 51, 30% between 28 and 39, and 14% between 18 and 27. «The fact that the youngest group is in third place tells us that we need to continue working a lot», said the head of the area, adding that «you can think that gender violence is decreasing, but it continues to exist». In relation to marital status, 34% are single, 29% are separated and 28%

are married; and on their employment status, it follows that 71% are active. Also, regarding the most frequent parish of residence, it coincides with the most populated: Andorra la Vella (34% of cases). On the

### the figures

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**161** women have suffered physical attacks, and all were victims of psychological abuse.

**142,000** euros allocated to 59 families in the form of financial benefits.

other hand, it should be emphasized that half of the women went to the service on their own initiative, which means that the population is aware of this service. Regarding the abuse they suffered, all the victims suffered psychological abuse, since according to Porras «it's always a woman, because it's the way to weaken the victim and access other more visible abuse». Thus, 161 women have suffered physical abuse, 139 economic abuse, 139 social abuse, 98 environmental abuse and 62 sexual abuse. Regarding the latter, the head of area considered that it is a «biased» data, since it is the abuse that «is more difficult for women to identify». Finally, it should be emphasized that despite the fact that 71% of the women treated decided to end the relationship with their aggressor, only 38% decided to report it.

With regard to the aid offered, the Savvg has given legal support to

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►► An assistant at the rally for International Women's Day, in 2021.

## The Executive creates a plan against secondary victimization

The Andorra Women's Institute will appoint the members this year

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The Government has drawn up the Comprehensive Plan on secondary victimization, a good practice document aimed at all professionals involved in the care of gender violence. Taking advantage of the press conference to coincide with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, the Minister of Social Affairs, Youth and Equality, Judith Pallarés, and the Head of Equality Policies, Mireia Porras, presented this plan, which also extends to the intervention of situations involving other vulnerable groups such as people with disabilities, newcomers to the Principality, children, adolescents, the elderly, or those who are Lgtbiq+.

The purpose of this guide is, as detailed by Porras, «to avoid the bad practices that can occur due to a lack of knowledge in the different departments, and which causes a victim, in addition to suffering gen-

der-based violence, to find that the institutions just didn't do it well». The text will now be sent to the various agents involved in these cases so that, from next year, «specific training» can begin with the departments concerned. In a similar vein, Pallarés also explained that the ministry that heads it is just preparing a guide of good practices aimed at the media. In this case, the aim of the appeal is that the treatment of the news that has to do with gender victims is done «with the utmost respect».

This document emanates from Law 6/2022, of March 31st, for the effective application of the right to equal treatment and opportunities and non-discrimination between women and men. But in the sa-

me law the creation of the Andorra Women's Institute (IAD) is included, «with the fundamental mission of promoting the participation of women in political, cultural, economic and social life under equal conditions and opportunities than men, as well as preventing and eliminating discrimination based on sex.» Regarding the same, Pallarés shared last Friday that, for the rest of the year, «the executive committee» of the IAD must be declared. «We are working so that the appointments are made quickly and to have it completed before the end of the year, so that the Andorra Women's Institute is a reality», the minister confirmed. The people who make up the executive committee of the IAD must be appointed: one by the General Council, one by the head of government, one by the seven municipalities, and one by the country's feminist organizations.

In fact, the head of Equality indicated that 98,000 euros have already been set aside for this institution in the 2023 budget, which will be used for the IAD to have its own location - as an independent body from public institutions which it must be - as well as having the financial capacity to be able to access the necessary resources. ≡

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**JUDITH PALLARÉS**  
MINISTER OF EQUALITY

«We are working so that the appointments are made before the end of the year, so that the Andorra Women's Institute is a reality»

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