



ROMÂNIA
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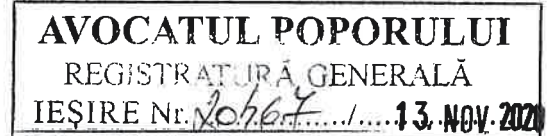
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**United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
National Institutions and Regional Mechanisms Section (NIRMS)**

vaw@ohchr.org

Ref.: Call for femicide related data and information

Dear Sir, Dear Madam,



Regarding your request, having as object the provision of data on *femicide and gender related killings of women*, we inform you that the **People's Advocate institution does not have information about existence of such a phenomenon in Romania.**

Moreover, according to the provisions of Law no. 35/1997 on *the organization and functioning of the People's Advocate institution*, republished, the role of the People's Advocate is to defend the rights and freedoms of individuals *in their relations with public authorities*. Therefore, the institution does not have competences regarding the cases of gender related killings of women, moreover, the *murder* (killing of a person) being, in fact, a crime provided in the Romanian Criminal Code (Art. 188), and punished by law regardless of whether the victim was a woman or a man.

Regarding *domestic violence*, after the state of emergency was established on the territory of Romania (March 16 - May 14, 2020), **the People's Advocate institution proceeded ex officio regarding the possible violation of the provisions of Art. 22 and Art. 34 of the Romanian Constitution, on the right to life and physical and mental integrity, as well as the right to health care**, in the context in which there were media reports stating that *women forced to stay in isolation with their aggressor could become hidden victims of the pandemic*.

However, according to the information communicated by the relevant institutions, respectively the National Agency for Equal Opportunities between Women and Men (ANES), the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police, Bucharest City Hall, *there was no increase in the number of victims of domestic violence during the state of emergency*, by reference to similar periods of the previous year.

Best regards,
Deputy Ombudsperson
Zolt MÖLNÁR

Bucharest, November 11, 2020