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**UNECE Standing Working Group on Ageing  
Policy Dialogue on  
Peaceful societies for all ages:  
preventing and addressing violence against older persons  
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Regional SDG Forum**

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# Research of violence against older women and development of training

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## Project “Empowerment of older women: Prevention of violence through changing social norms in Serbia (EmPreV)” (2019-2021)

- **Research:**
  - **Desk research** of applicable legislation in the Republic of Serbia
  - **Quantitative study** on gender-based violence targeting older women in Serbia, using the results of the OSCE-led Survey on the Well-being and Safety of Women from 2018.
  - **Qualitative study:** 18 focus groups with 157 women from three different generations
- **Advocacy** based on the research results, targeting appropriate decision and policy makers
- Development of different **training** curricula

# Training

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Based on the research results, several different training curricula were developed:

- **Training for older women:** information about their rights; practical guidelines about reporting violence and seeking support
- **Training for Red Cross volunteers and staff** on recognising indicators of potential elder abuse and safe ways to report suspected violence and ask for support
- **Training for gerontocareers** on recognising different forms of elder abuse and safe ways to report suspected violence and seek support
- **Training for Social workers** “Prevention of violence against older women”, a two-day curriculum accredited for use in the continuous education of social workers

# Further training and research

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## Further development:

- Support to the Georgian Red Cross in conducting the first national qualitative study on the abuse and violence against older women (**“Violence Prevention Research in Georgia”, 2022**)
- Delivering training for employees and volunteers from the headquarters and local organizations of the **Georgian Red Cross (2022)**
- The same training curriculum is used in training for employees and volunteers from the headquarters and local branches of the Kyrgyz Red Crescent, as well as social workers working in the Ministry of Social Affairs of the **Republic of Kyrgyzstan (2023)**.
- The research study **“Exploring violence against older women in the Western Balkans, Moldova and Ukraine”** based on the OSCE-led Survey on the Well-being and Safety of Women published in 2022 with UNFPA support and participation of Prof. Marija Babovic, professor of sociology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Serbia and Prof. Patricia Brownell, professor emerita, Fordham University, New York, USA

# THANK YOU

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