

FYROM

Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia



Women in decision-making: **1.28/5**
Socio-economic position of women: **1.35/5**
Violence against women: **2/5**

Highlights

32,5%

women in parliament

Legal quota for 1/3 women on electoral lists with effective sanctions

21%

gender gap in full-time employment rates

0.3%

of dependent elderly persons receive formal care

National Action Plan on domestic violence, but with no gender perspective



No formal sexuality education

Abortion is legal but not free of charge

TRENDS:



FYROM in May 2011 signed but has yet to ratify the Council of Europe Convention on violence against women and from 2012 launched a new 3-year strategy on domestic violence, with annual action plans jointly developed by the relevant ministries and civil society.



Local elections in 2009 returned not a single woman mayor, down from 4% in the 2005-2009 term. Political parties placed only 14 women on the electoral lists, as compared to 352 men. In rural municipalities and those with mixed ethnic populations, no women were candidates.

Women's labour market participation has decreased over the last decade. A gendered segregation in employment sectors has also led to the predominance of women in the most vulnerable, least influential and least well-paid professions. An especially vulnerable and unprotected category is that of women working in the textile industry.

UNDERSTANDING FYROM

FYROM has some of the strongest legislation for parity in parliamentary decision-making in Europe: every third place must go to a member of the least represented sex; should this proportion not be respected, the list is considered invalid. There are no legal measures for parity in private sector decision-making. Women are 15% of board members and a comparatively high 20% of the presidents of the largest publicly-listed companies.

FYROM has the highest unemployment rates in Europe, with more than 31% of both women and men registered as unemployed in 2011. Of the remaining population however, only 35.3% of women are employed, as compared to 52.3% of men. When employed, a second gap is evident between the minority of women working full-time (39.3%) and the majority of men in such positions (60.3%).

There is no official data regarding the gender pay gap in FYROM but studies indicate a gap ranging from 15% to 25%.

Care services for children are insufficient: 42.6% of infants under 3 and 57.3% of those between 3 and school-age are in formal childcare. For dependent elderly persons, formal care is in practice inexistent.

The number of declared cases of domestic violence increased by 23.3% between 2010 and 2011. The victims were women in 83.2% of the reported cases in 2010, and 85.5% of the cases in 2011. However, the national strategy to combat domestic violence contains no gender perspective. There are 0.15 places in state-run shelters for women victims of violence per 10,000 inhabitants.