



MYTHS AND FACTS

- ❌ "If there is no physical contact, it's not harassment."
- ✅ Yes, it is. The law includes verbal and online harassment.
- ❌ "You must have evidence."
- ✅ Police and prosecution can initiate the case without material evidence.
- ❌ "Institutions don't do anything."
- ✅ They are legally obliged to act — but reporting is essential.
- ❌ "It's better to stay silent."
- ✅ Silence protects the perpetrator, not the victim.

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WHERE CAN YOU REPORT SEXUAL HARASSMENT AND GBV?



Kosovo Police – 192
Reports can be anonymous.

National SOS line – 0800 11112
24/7, free and anonymous.

Center for Social Work
Obligated to provide immediate protection.

Prosecution / Courts
Initiate proceedings and impose protection measures.

Ombudsperson
For institutional negligence and discrimination.

Free Legal Aid Agency (FLAAK)
Free legal assistance for victims.

Your right to protection:

BREAK THE SILENCE, STOP THE VIOLENCE



How to recognize and report sexual harassment and GBV?



WHAT IS SEXUAL HARASSMENT?

According to the Criminal Code of Kosovo (Article 183):

Sexual harassment is any form of unwanted behavior of a sexual nature, including:

- unwanted comments, jokes, or “catcalling”
- sending messages with sexual content
- unwanted invitations, pressure, or blackmail
- touching, gestures, physical contact
- online sexual harassment

Penalties under the law:

- fines and imprisonment of up to 3 years
- harsher penalties if the victim is a minor

WHAT IS GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)?

Gender-based violence includes any act of violence directed at a person because of their sex or gender. This includes:

- physical violence
- psychological violence
- economic violence
- sexual violence
- stalking and harassment
- control, blackmail, and isolation



The Law on Protection from Domestic Violence (03/L-182) obliges institutions to act immediately and protect the victim.

YOUR RIGHTS – WHAT CAN YOU DO IF YOU ARE A VICTIM?

- ✓ report violence without fear
- ✓ receive immediate police protection
- ✓ request an emergency protection order
- ✓ receive free legal aid
- ✓ receive psychological support
- ✓ receive medical assistance at no cost

All victim support services in Kosovo are free of charge.



HOW DOES THE REPORTING PROCESS WORK?

- Call the police (192)
- Police issue emergency protection measures
- The Prosecution opens an investigation
- The victim receives:
 - psychological support
 - free legal aid
 - medical examination
- The court may issue:
 - a restraining order
 - removal of the perpetrator from the home
 - other protection measures

Reporting is possible even without family, a lawyer, or witnesses.

WHY ARE CASES OFTEN NOT REPORTED?

Based on local experience:

- fear of retaliation
- low trust in institutions
- stigma and community pressure
- lack of knowledge about laws and procedures
- interethnic tensions — especially in North Mitrovica
- lack of confidential reporting mechanisms