



EUROPEAN
ALTERNATIVES



TRANSEUROPA
CARAVANS

THE ROADS TO EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY

THE UTOPIA OF EQUALITY AND HOSPITALITY: THE DEMOCRATIC POWER OF FEMINISM

Our Utopian Vision

By 2030, we imagine a Europe in which:

- there is no gender violence
- every woman has access to safe legal abortion and high quality reproductive health
- women are paid the same as men for the same work
- paid parental leave is shared equally
- there is quality education on gender issues



The current situation

Violence against women - definition

"all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life"

Source: Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, Council of Europe, 2011.

The current situation

The biggest survey on violence against women at EU level – based on interviews with 42 000 women in all 28 EU Member States in 2014 showed that:

- 1 woman in 3 has experienced some form of physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15.
- 1 in 10 women has experienced some form of sexual violence since the age of 15.
- 1 in 20 has been raped.
- Just over 1 in 5 women has experienced physical and/or sexual violence from either a current or previous partner.
- 43% of women have experienced some form of psychologically abusive and/or controlling behaviour when in a relationship.

Source: European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

The current situation

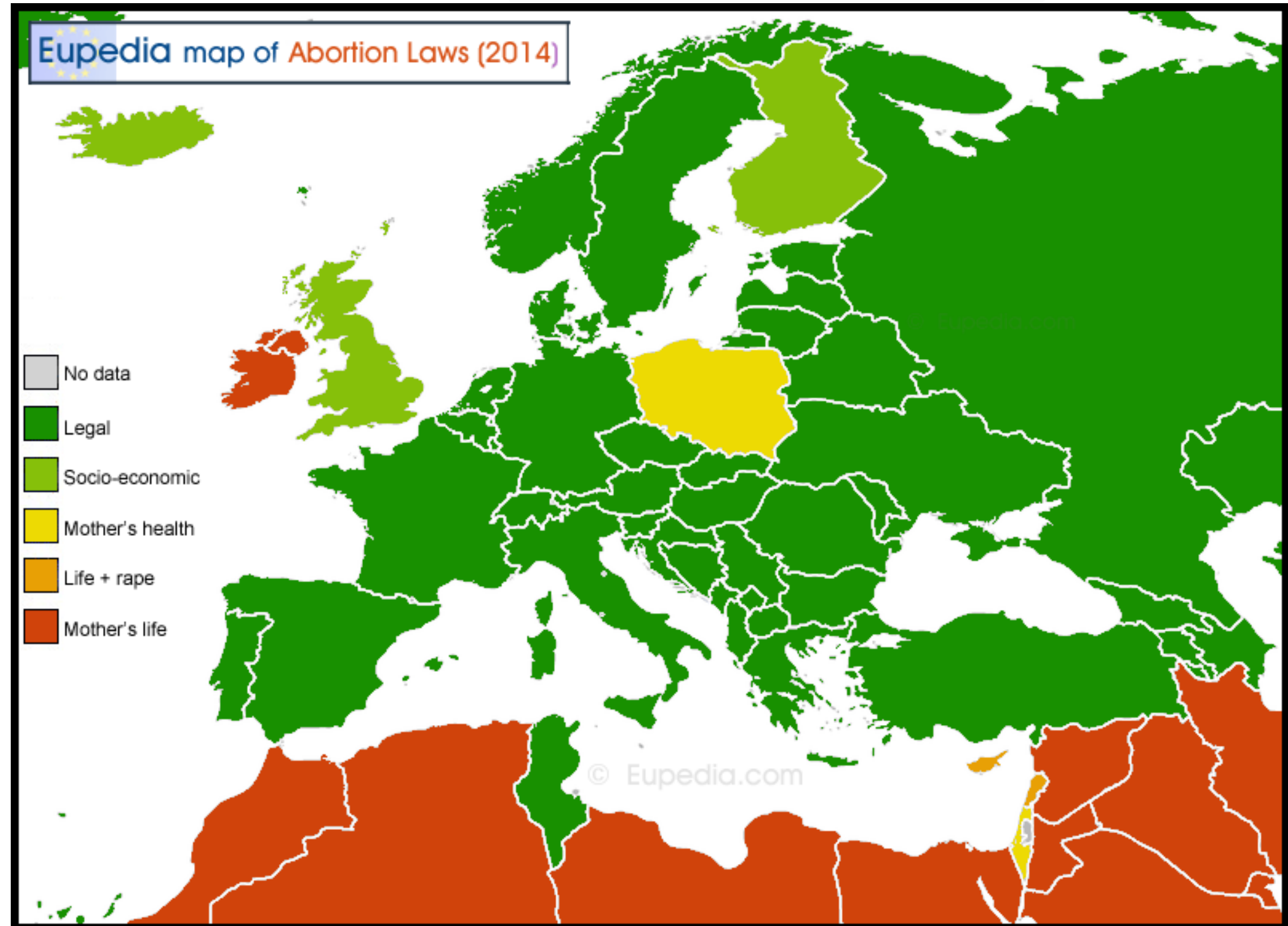
Access to abortion

Malta is the only country in Europe where abortion is illegal in all circumstances. In Poland, abortion is allowed only in cases of risk to the life or health of the woman, when the pregnancy is a result of a criminal act (the criminal act has to be confirmed by a prosecutor), or when the fetus is seriously malformed - and even then doctors have the right to refuse to perform it under the conscience clause.

This means around 20 mln women in Europe still don't have access to safe legal abortion.

The current situation

Access to abortion



The current situation

Economic inequality

The gender pay gap in the EU still averages around 16%.

There are considerable differences between EU countries, with the gender pay gap ranging from less than 8% in Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, Romania, and Slovenia to more than 20% in Austria, the Czech Republic, Germany, Estonia and United Kingdom. Map below.

The current situation

Maternity, paternity and parental leave in the European Union

All EU countries currently provide parental leave. The average length of parental leave in the EU is 87 weeks, but there is wide variation between countries, from 18 weeks in Cyprus to two years per parent in Greece.

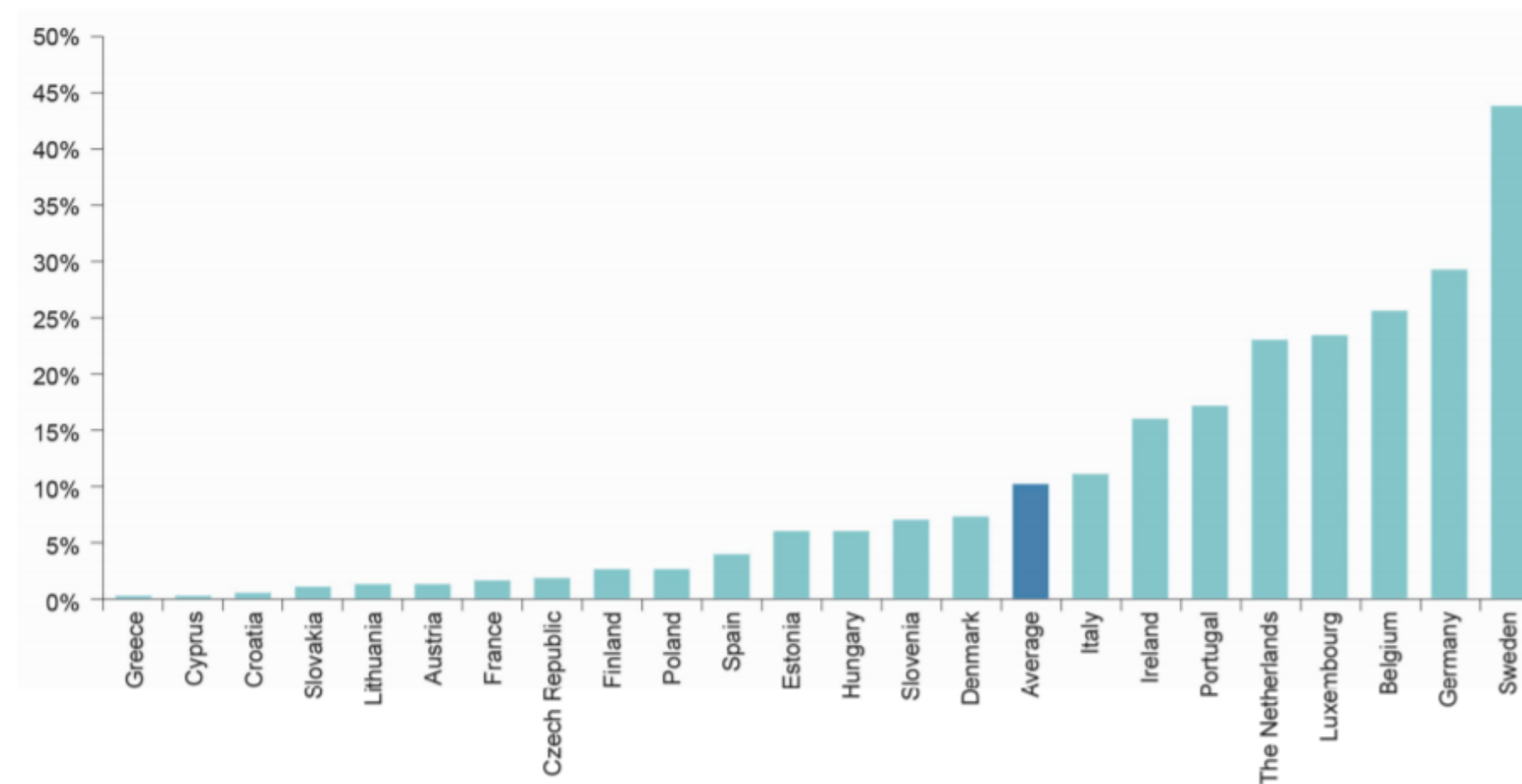


Figure 4: Take-up of parental leave by fathers in 23 member states as percentages of the available leave. Adapted from European Parliament 2015b.

The current situation

Gender education

Education on sex and/or relationships is mandatory at school in 20 of the 28 member states - but it often focuses purely on biological issues like STIs and pregnancy, and doesn't address sexism, consent or LGBTQI+ issues.

The right to comprehensive education about sex and gender is under attack - from Viktor Orban banning gender studies at universities, to controversies around LGBTQI+ education in many countries such as Poland and the UK (where some schools decided not to teach it after parents' protests in Birmingham).

Source: <https://www.euractiv.com/section/health-consumers/opinion/europe-needs-better-sex-ed-to-tackle-violence-against-women/>

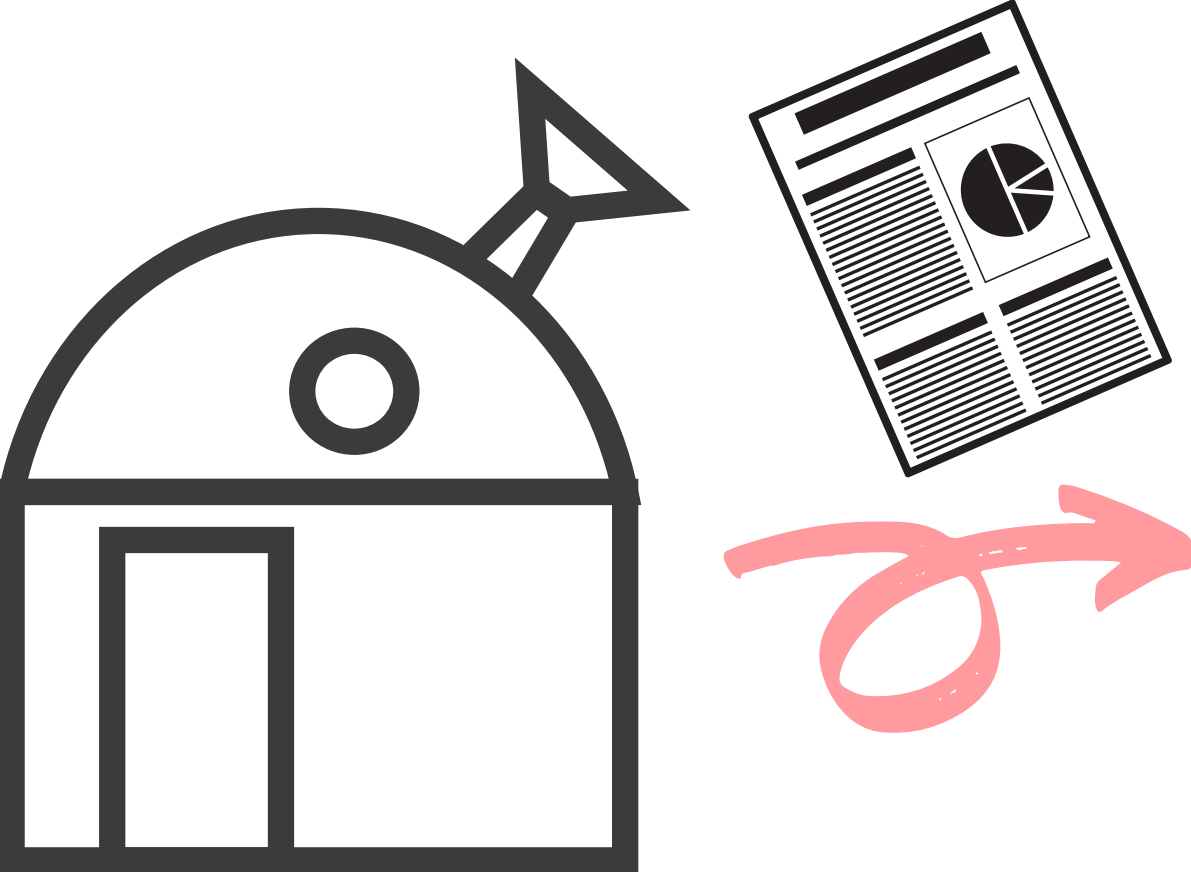
Our Mechanism

*A European observatory
of women's rights and gender equality*

It would observe the situation in the different countries and make recommendations based on indicators for each of the elements of the utopian vision.

A European Commissioner responsible for women's rights and gender equality is responsible for conducting dialogues with member states and civil society organisations on these recommendations and ensuring that progress is made towards the objectives.

Our Mechanism



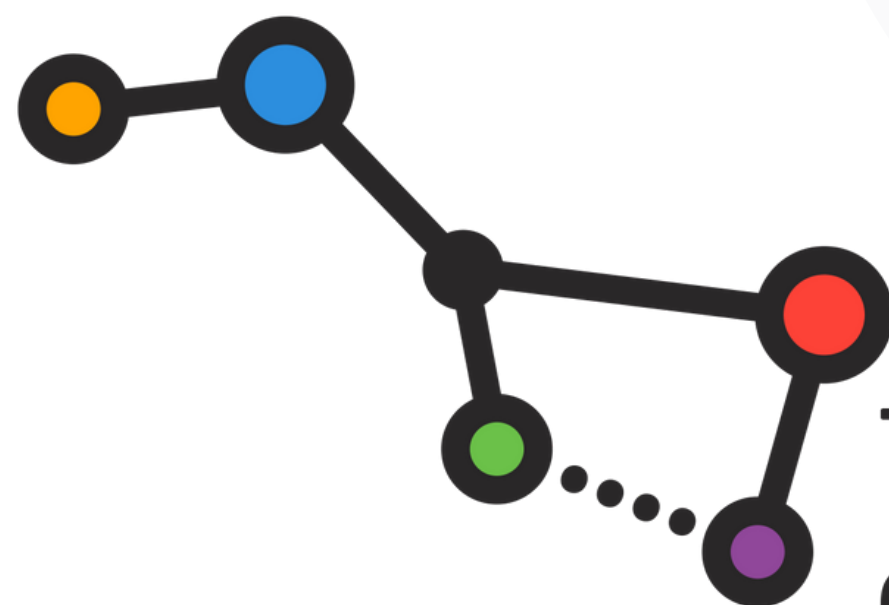
Observatory



Commissioner



Member states



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