
Comparative Analysis of National Entry Points Bulgaria



1. Table

	<i>Institutions</i>			
	Police	Prosecutor's Office	Health and social authorities	NGOs
	<i>Identification of victims</i>			
<i>Who identifies the victim</i>	Police officer, victim himself/herself	Prosecutors	Doctors/social workers	Consultants with social work/psychological background
<i>When</i>	During first reception, upon receiving a written complaint, upon arriving on a crime/violence scene, through the 112 emergency line	Upon directly receiving a written complaint or duty prosecutors receiving victims	Upon receiving people with injuries/making visits to people's homes or to social institutions	When receiving people for consultation, often first point of contact for victims due to distrust in institutions
<i>Where</i>	Police departments, crime/violence scenes, Centres for Prevention of Violence and Crime	Prosecutor's offices	Hospitals/doctor's offices/people's homes, social institutions	NGO offices
<i>Procedure</i>	Yes, subject of internal regulations/oral interview recorded when part of criminal process/background data on family, friend, etc. Informing victims about rights!	Subject to provisions of Criminal Procedure Code	Medical examination/social evaluation under different guidelines/co-ordination mechanisms	Interviews with victims with internally agreed structure; reports, but not recordings
<i>Personal characteristics</i>	Oral self-declaration/part of interview/background data; age, gender and mental state taken into account	Age and mental state – subject to expert opinions	Discovered through medical examination/social interview with victim and relatives/neighbours	Age, gender, mental state, trauma, exploitation suffered
<i>Features of the crime</i>	Collection of evidence subject to Criminal Procedure Code	Identified under the provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code	No relation to elements of crime – just injuries to be treated and certified/elements of the risk the victim is in	No exploration of the features of the crime, just the victim's trauma to which NGO consultants can testify in court
<i>Special groups of victims</i>	Children (interviewed in 'blue rooms'), women, foreigners, people with disabilities, elderly people, victims of trafficking	Children, foreigners, victims of trafficking	Children – social authorities think they are mainly responsible for them, not	Children, women, elderly, victims of trafficking



Institutions

Police

Prosecutor's Office

Health and social authorities

NGOs

Involvement	Victim main source of evidence on the crime and perpetrator; information elicited depends on experience of police officer	Victim main source of evidence on the crime and perpetrator; his/her active stance in the criminal proceedings is required to use rights	adults!, women, elderly, people with disabilities Victim is bound to reveal the crime/injury he/she sustained, depends on the skills of doctor/social worker; data on the current risk for the victim!	Efforts are made to restore victim's well being
Results	Information and evidence is collected to open and conduct criminal proceedings.	Collection of evidence to bring charges and indict perpetrator	Injuries treated and documented for police and judicial bodies/social services accorded or referred to. Social services think identification is a police task!	Victim referred to appropriate services
<i>Individualised assessment of needs</i>				
<i>Existence of procedure</i>	No specific procedure, just risk assessment	No procedure, as it is not part of prosecutorial functions under current law	No specific procedure for doctors/internal guidelines, interinstitutional and co-ordination mechanisms for social workers	Internal organizational guidelines
<i>Who conducts the assessment</i>	Police officer	Prosecutor	Doctors/social workers	NGO consultants
<i>Details on procedure</i>	No exact guidelines, police officers act in accordance with the concrete case	Children and victims of crimes like murder threats and coercion are assessed	Doctors testify in court about the injuries they have certified/social workers prepare individual action plan	Individual assessment, action plan and security plan; social assistance directorates take part in cases of people with disabilities, child protection departments in cases of children
Decision making criteria	Victim's gender, the possession of a weapon, etc. are taken into account	Whether children are fit to be witnesses and victims' mental state is established	Victims' needs	Victims' needs and own psychological resources



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<i>Special protection needs</i>	Identified as part of police work on the case	Identified as part of prosecutorial work	Social workers assess victim's needs regarding health, education, nourishment, supportive environment, relations and conflict situations	Psychological care needs, risk of repeat victimization, security risks
Special protection measures	Police protection of children, 24-hour detention of the perpetrator – to be continued within criminal proceedings	Witness protection measures, witness protection under the Criminal Procedure Code	Individual action plan with: timetable for meeting a psychologist, help by social protection directorates, medical help, etc.	Support for social reintegration, psychological consultation, assistance in finding accommodation or job, changing walking routes, constant contact with police
<i>Personal characteristics</i>	Gender, age, risk of repeat victimisation	Age, risk of repeat victimisation	Age, gender, risk of repeat victimization	Age, gender, disability
<i>Special groups of victims</i>	Victims of gender-based violence, children (interinstitutional mechanisms), victims of trafficking	Children (minimization of interviews!)	Children (interinstitutional mechanism)	Children, victims of trafficking, victims of domestic violence
<i>Involvement</i>	By providing details about risks of repeat victimisation	n/a	Social intervention not possible without the co-operation of the victim	Source of information and feelings whether he/she will be victimized again
<i>Update of individual assessment procedures</i>	Rarely, only in smaller cities and villages	n/a	Social cases are observed within one year.	Constant
<i>Assessment</i>	Risk assessment tools to be further developed	Individual assessment of needs to be introduced in Criminal Procedure Code	Better co-operation with law enforcement and prosecution needed.	Better co-operation with institutions
<i>Existence, procedure and effectiveness of referral mechanisms</i>				
<i>Existence of procedure</i>	Only for victims of trafficking and for victims of domestic violence (in draft)	Only for victims of trafficking and for victims of domestic violence (in draft)	Only for victims of trafficking and for victims of domestic violence (in draft)	Only for victims of trafficking and for victims of domestic violence (in draft)
<i>Who makes referral</i>	Police refers to health services, crisis centres, social protection directorates, legal aid/attorneys	Prosecutors only point victims to proper service and call on specialists only to give expert opinions.	Doctors refer to police, more rarely to NGOs; social services refer to court to ask	NGOs are referred to as social service providers



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			for domestic violence protection measures, to doctors and to social service providers	
<i>When</i>	During police work on the case of crime/violence whenever need is established	n/a	During social work with victims of crime and violence	Throughout police and social work
<i>Communication of data</i>	Rather informal, police just sends/accompanies victim	n/a	Social services refer by social report and referral note	Via social report
<i>Special protection needs</i>	Medical and social needs	n/a	Health, social, education, financial needs	Health, social and psychological needs
<i>Special protection measures</i>	Medical care by health providers and social care by social service providers	n/a	Various social services	Healthcare, social support and psychological consultation
<i>Involvement</i>	Consent needed for adults	n/a	Consent by adults	Victim to testify to his/her trauma
<i>Assessment</i>	Good relations between social service providers and police crucial	No role in referral	Problems in co-ordination of institutions; scarcity of human resources	Allegedly social services refer to NGOs without first performing fully their functions

