



Violence
and Society

NEWSLETTER

March 2026

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XXI ISA WORLD CONGRESS 2027

The International Sociological Association holds its major world congress every four years. The XXI ISA World Congress will take place 4–10 July 2027 in Gwangju, South Korea. The previous Congress was held in Melbourne in 2023.

Important dates:

- *Call for Sessions*: 15 April – 22 June 2026.

This will be a formal invitation to propose a session shortly from the ISA. The main format is for a session (or panel) of a set of papers and will need a proposed title, and abstract, and name(s) of session organiser(s). Other formats are also welcome, such as 'author meets critics'. These proposals will be reviewed by the WG11 Board. Selected sessions will then recruit papers from the call for abstracts.

- *Call for Abstracts*: open from mid-July until 14 October 2026.

More information will be circulated shortly.



XXI ISA WORLD CONGRESS OF SOCIOLOGY **2027**

GWANGJU, KOREA

[XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology](#)



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MEET WG11 MEMBERS!

Elena Chernyak



Elena Chernyak is an Associate Professor of Sociology at Hartwick College (USA). Holding a PhD in Sociology from the University of Windsor (Canada), along with Master's degrees in journalism, social work, and religious studies, she is an internationally engaged scholar whose research focuses on gender, culture, religion, immigration, nationalism, violence, and social inequality, with particular attention to post-socialist and comparative global contexts. Her publications appear in leading peer-reviewed journals and scholarly volumes and contribute to broader debates in sociology, social justice, and human rights. She has presented her work at major international and North American conferences, including the International Sociological Congress, the International Congress of Human Rights, the International Congress on Gender-Based Violence, and meetings of the American and Canadian Sociological Associations. She currently serves as a 2026 Economic and Social Council Delegate to the United

Nations, representing Sociologists for Women in Society. Elena is interested in interdisciplinary collaboration on gender-based violence and on how political, cultural, and religious dynamics shape violence and social inequality across diverse societies.

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If you would like **your profile** to be featured in the next newsletter, send us the following information: short bio, university, email, photo, main research topic and ongoing projects. You could include requests for collaboration!

Send your contribution directly to Martín Hernán Di Marco (m.h.di.marco@fgga.leidenuniv.nl).

PUBLICATIONS

Ordered alphabetically based on the author's first surname.

1. BOOKS

Unforgetting and the Politics of Representation: Voices from Contemporary Bosnia and Herzegovina
(Routledge 2025)

Tatjana Takseva



**UNFORGETTING AND THE
POLITICS OF
REPRESENTATION**

VOICES FROM CONTEMPORARY BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA

Tatjana Takseva



Unforgetting and the Politics of Representation: Voices from Contemporary Bosnia and Herzegovina (Routledge 2025), by Tatjana Takseva, PhD, is a book that examines how survivors of war-related violence narrate their experiences and how these narratives reshape public understandings of harm, justice, and social repair. Centering first-person accounts of women who survived sexualized violence, mothers raising children born of war rape, and young adults negotiating post-conflict identities, the book challenges reductive portrayals of victims as passive or singularly defined by trauma. Instead, it foregrounds survivor agency, embodied knowledge, and the relational dimensions of individual and collective recovery.

At its core, the book argues that violence does not end with the cessation of armed conflict. It persists symbolically, institutionally, and socially through stigmatizing representations, bureaucratic exclusions, and politicized narratives of nationhood. By analyzing how survivor stories interact with legal frameworks, media discourses, and ethno-nationalist politics in post-Dayton Bosnia and Herzegovina, the study reveals the layered and ongoing nature of violence in society. Violence is shown to operate not only as physical harm but also as structural and symbolic force shaping access to justice, healthcare, and civic belonging.

Through a feminist epistemological framework, the book positions storytelling as both a mode of resistance and a form of social intervention in these post-conflict realities. Survivor narratives contest dominant ideologies, expose gaps in institutional accountability, and contribute to alternative visions of community grounded in civic rather than exclusionary identities. In doing so, *Unforgetting* offers an empirically-grounded account of how memory, representation, and voice are central to addressing violence beyond the event—demonstrating that sustainable peace depends not only on legal mechanisms but on transforming the social meanings through which violence is understood and reproduced.

Dr. Takseva is an interdisciplinary scholar, Full Professor and Chair of the Department of English



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Language and Literature at Saint Mary's University and a Professor in the Women and Gender Studies Program (SMU-MSVU).

2. PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

Abraham, M.; Vasil, S. (2025). Special Issue: Persistence and Change: Collaborative, Conceptual, and Contextual Global Understandings of Gender-Based and Intersectional Violence. *International Sociology*, 40(6). <https://doi.org/10.1177/02685809251391812>

The issue includes an Editorial by the Guest Editors, “Persistence and change: Collaborative, conceptual, and contextual global understandings of gender-based and intersectional violence,” and seven original articles: a study on scales of violence in Iranian Kurdistan by Omid Ghaderzadeh and Valentine M. Moghadam; an analysis of the global migration industry and domestic work brokerage in Austria and Sri Lanka by Brigitte Aulenbacher and Wasana Handapangoda; a reflection on negotiating everyday gender-based violence based on fieldwork in India and South Africa by Manali Desai and Kammila Naidoo; a contextual global approach to gender-based and intersectional violence in migration and refugee contexts by Evangelia Tastsoglou and Jane Freedman; an examination of the challenges for evidence syntheses on homicide in a global context by Elizabeth A. Cook; and an analysis of immigrant women, domestic and family violence, and the state in the United States and Australia by Margaret Abraham and Stefani Vasil.

All articles in this Special Issue are published in open access, ensuring their wide dissemination and accessibility.

Dawson, M; Haak, D. (2025). Considering male violence against women and girls as a form of hate: Canada as a case study. *Canadian Journal of Women and the Law*. <https://doi.org/10.3138/cjwl.03.x>

Some incidents of male violence against women and girls (MVAWG) could be recognized as sex-motivated hate crimes. Often, however, crimes of male violence are neither treated as hate crimes nor reported as sex-motivated. This article examines sex-motivated hate, and the violence that results from sex-motivated hate in Canada, to explore its absolute and relative visibility. Sex is included as a targeted social group in hate crime laws in Canada. We consider whether and how sex is reflected in crime reporting data, sentencing, and public discourse. We demonstrate that violence motivated by sex is rarely identified as hate crime by legal actors tasked with enforcing and implementing criminal offence and sentencing provisions. We conclude by providing steps that could be taken to ensure sex-motivated hate, including sex-motivated violence, is recognized as a form of hate like other more commonly recognized targeted groups going forward.

Francis, B. and **Walby, S.** (2026). Conflicting trends in violent crime in England and Wales: Police



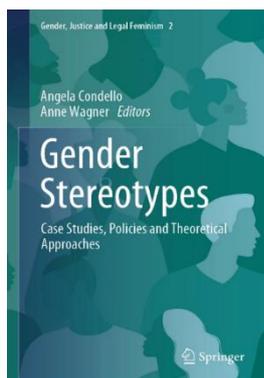
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recorded crime and estimated crime survey crimes since 2010. *PLoS One*, 20(6): e0324272. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0324272>

Police recorded violent crime (PRC) and the Crime Survey of England and Wales (CSEW) show substantially different trends in the rates of violent crime according to the Office of National Statistics (ONS), with rates rising in police data and falling in survey data. Both the PRC and CSEW have suffered periods in which the UK Statistics Authority has withdrawn their quality approval as 'national statistics'. This paper investigates a possible seven reasons for the disparity in the trend and volume of violent crime between the PRC and CSEW, with a focus on the processes of measurement deployed. The paper offers a new way to compare the methods and outcomes of the two data sources, by developing an 'aligned' data set to support comparison of trends in the PRC CSEW data since 2010. It analyses data from the PRC and from different sections of the CSEW, the main face-to-face module, the self-completion module on domestic abuse, and the children's module asked of those aged 10–15 years. We offer new estimates of the volume and discussion on the trend in violent crime since 2010. We estimate that there were 5,164,983 violent crimes in 2022/3. This is significantly higher than the estimate provided by the ONS based on CSEW data. The estimate of the trend is uncertain, but challenges over-confidence in the assumption that it is declining. We conclude that improvements in police accuracy in recording crime explains part of the difference, and the exclusion from sampling of vulnerable groups by the CSEW another part, with the recent reduction in the survey's response rate to 42% giving further quality concerns. We determine that the CSEW has always underestimated violent crime, and this has become visible now that police data has improved.

3. BOOK CHAPTERS

Chernyak, E. (2026). A hen is not a bird, a woman is not a person: Gender stereotypes in contemporary Russia. In A. Condello & A. Wagner (Eds.), *Gender Stereotypes: Case Studies, Policies and Theoretical Approaches. Gender, Justice and Legal Feminism, 2* (pp. 169-185). Springer Nature Switzerland AG: Switzerland. ISBN-10: 3031639049 & ISBN-13: 978-3031639043



Gender stereotypes are deeply ingrained in societies around the world, shaping and influencing individual behaviors, expectations, and opportunities. Historically, Russia's gender roles have been deeply influenced by Orthodox Christian traditions, rural agrarian culture, and egalitarian Soviet ideology. These historical transformations have left a lasting impact on the gender dynamics in contemporary Russia, which is experiencing the reassertion of conservative patriarchal values and norms. This chapter aims to delineate the gender dynamics in Russia, analyze the predetermining factors of gender roles in contemporary Russia, and explore how gender roles and stereotypes have evolved and continue to influence Russian society's social, economic, and political arenas. It is based on autoethnographic and ethnographic studies, content analysis of



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historical documents, religious texts, literature, and media, and a series of interviews with Russian men and women.

4. REPORTS

Dawson, M., A. Zecha, A. Mitchell, and L. Aguiar. 2025. *Preventing Intimate Partner Violence-Related Domestic Homicide in Atlantic Canada: Looking Back to See Our Way Forward*. Ottawa: Women and Gender Equality Canada (87 pages).



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EVENTS, NETWORKS, PROJECTS AND CALLS

1. WG11 Interim Workshop – Between Rabat and Gwangju



FOR MORE INFORMATION, EMAIL MARTIN DI MARCO (M.H.DI.MARCO@FGGA.LEIDENUNIV.NL)

The WG11 Interim Workshop will take place on 16–17 July 2026 at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana. The workshop aims to continue the conversations initiated during the ISA Forum of Sociology 2025 in Rabat and to contribute to preparations for the ISA World Congress of Sociology 2027 in Gwangju.

The event is organised by ISA Working Group 11 ‘Violence and Society’ and co-organised by Jasna Podreka from the Department of Sociology at the Faculty of Arts, University of Ljubljana, and Mojca M. Plesničar from the Institute of Criminology at the Faculty of Law, University of Ljubljana, in collaboration with Tit Albreht, from the National Institute of Public Health of Slovenia.

Participation is intended primarily for members of ISA Working Group 11 Violence and Society, as well as local partners interested in the group’s ongoing discussions.

2. Book launch and seminar – Femicides in Latin America



A book launch and seminar is being organised around the book [Narratives of Femicide Perpetrators in Latin America: Taking Lives](#) (Springer/Palgrave, 2025) by Martín Hernán Di Marco. The event will take place on 26 March 2026, from 16:30 to 18:00, at Domus Juridica, hosted by the Department of Criminology and Sociology of Law (IKRS), University of Oslo.

More information is available [here](#).

Registration [here](#)



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3. New funded project

Dawson, Myrna. 2025. Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Insight Development Grant. Project: The 'Living Victims of Femicide': Who are they and how do we support them?

WG11 AWARDS

To recognise emerging Violence and Society researchers across the globe, these two awards by ISA WG11 Violence and Society are designed to be inclusive of a diverse range of topics connected to the sociological examination of violence and society. **More information** about the specific procedures, deadlines and evaluation process will be circulated shortly.

1. Student Paper Award

The substantive criteria that will be used to judge entries in the Masters and PhD category are as follows:

- It makes a new contribution to the empirical evidence about the causes of, or societal responses to, violence.
- It represents a development in the theoretical understanding of violence.
- It demonstrates clear quality of research, writing and argument development.
- It broadens or reconsiders what we mean by violence.
- Innovation in the measurement of violence.

Eligibility Criteria

- Papers must be sole-authored by students (or co-authored with another student) and represent their original work.
- Papers must conform with a standard citation and bibliography format and the referencing style must be consistent throughout.
- Papers must be no longer than 10,000 words, including references.
- Papers must not be published or approved for publication.
- Students may submit only one paper per year.
- Papers must clearly relate to sociology of violence and society.
- Papers must be submitted by the deadline stipulated. Late papers will not be eligible.
- Papers must be presented during the ISA World Congress of Sociology XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology. July 4-10, 2027 in Gwangju, Korea, 2027.

How to Apply



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- The student must indicate if they are submitting the entry to the Masters or PhD category of the paper competition.
- Papers will undergo blind review. No identifying information should be included in the paper. Name, university affiliation, contact information and/or any other identifiers should be included under separate cover.
- Each student must have their supervisor confirm their student status by email to the address provided below. The student's WG11 membership will also need to be confirmed.

Competition Details/Paper Review

- All eligible papers will be reviewed by the members of the Student Paper Awards Committee.
- Reviewers will not have knowledge of the authors of the papers being considered.
- Papers will not be returned to students nor will comments or feedback be provided.
- Students will be notified at the completion of review if their paper was successful in the award competition.

Award Recipients

- A single paper in each category (MA and PhD) may win the ISA WG 11 Violence & Society Best Student Paper Award.
- Each recipient of this award will receive an Award Certificate acknowledging their receipt of this award and a \$250 cash prize toward ISA registration or toward travel to ISA World Congress. If more co-authored, the prize is to be shared among the authors.
- The awards will be presented at the WG11 Award Session and Reception during ISA World Congress.
- The winners will also be announced through the WG11 website and on social media.

2. Paper Award

The substantive criteria that will be used to judge entries are as follows:

- It makes a new contribution to the empirical evidence about the causes of, or societal responses to, violence.
- It represents a development in the theoretical understanding of violence.
- It demonstrates clear quality of research, writing and argument development.
- It broadens or reconsiders what we mean by violence.
- Innovation in the measurement of violence.

Eligibility Criteria

- Papers can be sole or co-authored and represent their original work.
- Papers must conform with a standard citation and bibliography format and the referencing style must be consistent throughout.



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- Papers must be no longer than 10,000 words, including references.
- Papers must not be published or approved for publication.
- Only one paper submission per competition.
- Papers must clearly relate to sociology of violence and society.
- Papers must be submitted by the stipulated deadline. Late papers will not be eligible. · Paper must be presented during the ISA World Congress of Sociology XXI ISA World Congress of Sociology. July 4-10, 2027 in Gwangju, Korea, 2027.

How to Apply

- Each applicant must be a registered member of WG11 Violence and Society which will be confirmed.
- Papers will undergo blind review. No identifying information should be included in the paper. Name, university affiliation, contact information and/or any other identifiers should be included under separate cover.

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OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Awards & Recognition

Congratulations to **Evangelia Tastsoglou** and **Jane Freedman**! Their article, “*Gender-based and intersectional violence in migration and refugee contexts: A contextual global approach*” published in the recent special issue of *International Sociology*, has been shortlisted for the Best Paper Prize 2025. This prize recognises outstanding papers for originality, innovation, significance, and impact within the field.

The shortlist is available on the ISA website: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/publications/isa-journals/international-sociology/international-sociology-best-paper-pri>.

2. WG11 Statutes Revision – Member Ballot

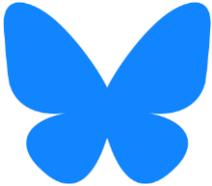
Following a decision by the Board of ISA Working Group 11 – Violence and Society, the group’s statutes are being revised to reflect its current Working Group status (replacing the previous Thematic Group status). In accordance with International Sociological Association procedures, this revision requires approval by at least 51% of WG11 members through an email ballot.

All WG11 members will shortly receive a **separate ballot email** with instructions and a voting link. The voting period will remain open until **28 March 2026 (23:59 CET)**. Members are encouraged to participate in this process. Results will be communicated after the ballot closes.



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COMMUNICATIONS: BLUESKY



WG11 has joined **Bluesky**. Follow us! wg11-sa.bsky.social ([here](#)).

We still have our **X** account: [WG11-ISA](#) ([here](#)).



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MEMBERSHIP FEES

Please remember to pay your membership fee. To apply for membership or renew ISA and/or RC affiliation, please go to <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/login>

- *Regular member*: USD50 for a 4-year period.
- *Discount member* (students up to PhD and members residing in countries classified in category B and C): USD10 for a 4-year period.
- *Life member*: USD10 (available only to ISA Life Members).

To create your user account please use the online form: <https://www.isa-sociology.org/en/sign-up-isa-user-account>.

If you have any questions concerning the membership, please contact Martín Hernán Di Marco (m.h.di.marco@fgga.leidenuniv.nl) or Lynn Rapaport (lr004747@pomona.edu).



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FUTURE NEWSLETTERS

The next newsletter will be distributed on October 15th, 2026. Contributions will be accepted until October 1st. Please send us:

- A presentation of your current project.
- Papers, chapters, books, or reports you have published (within the scope of the TG). These could be in your respective native language.
- General reports about activities in the field of violence research in your institution, university, country, continent.
- Interesting calls for papers for conferences, workshops, summer schools.
- Any other thought or information you would like to share.
- Please send your contributions in Word or rtf formats.

If you would like **your profile** to be featured in the next newsletter, send us the following information: short bio, university, email, main research topic and ongoing projects. You could include requests for collaboration!

Send your contribution directly to Martín Hernán Di Marco (m.h.di.marco@fgga.leidenuniv.nl).