



Justice for Victims of Violence

Testimony for House File 113

January 28, 2021

Uniform Recognition and Enforcement of Canadian Domestic Violence Protection Orders Act

- Global Rights for Women (GRW) works with leaders around the world to advance women and girls' human right to be free from violence through legal reform and institutional and social change. www.globalrightsforwomen.org
- Minnesota is internationally recognized for its' powerful history of leadership in law and policy to address violence against women. One example is the [world wide recognition of the Duluth Model of Coordinated Community Response](#) to respond to domestic violence. With HF 113, Minnesota has an opportunity to continue to be a role model in the global effort to end violence against women and girls.
- According to the [World Health Organization](#), 35 percent of women worldwide have experienced physical violence and 30 percent of women who have been in a relationship report that they have experience some form of physical and/or sexual violence inflicted by their intimate partner.
- According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes' (UNODC) most recent global study, 50,000 women around the world were killed by partners and family members in 2017. That is 137 women per day. [Global Study on Homicide: Gender Related Killings of Women and Girls \(UNODC 2019\)](#)
- Violence against women and girls has been called the human rights issue of our time by numerous national and global leaders. The [World Bank](#) calls violence against women and girls a "global pandemic" and notes "that it knows no social or economic boundaries and affects women and girls of all socio-economic backgrounds: this issue needs to be addressed in both developing and developed countries."

- Femicide (gender related killing of women and girls) is on the rise internationally; Secretary General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres recently [called for an end to violence against women and girls](#) and encouraged policy makers to show “greater solidarity with survivors, advocates and women’s rights defenders.”
- Policy makers globally are embracing the need for cross border cooperation to end violence against women and girls. One example is the [European Protection Order \(EPO\)](#) which allows persons who benefit from a protection order issued in one member State of the European Union to be recognized and enforced in another member State.

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