

***FAMILY-ORIENTED PRIORITIES, POLICIES AND  
PROGRAMMES  
IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
2030 AGENDA FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT  
AS REPORTED IN THE VOLUNTARY NATIONAL  
REVIEWS OF  
2016, 2017, 2018 AND 2019***

**Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA)**

Division for Inclusive Social Development (DISD)

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# Introduction

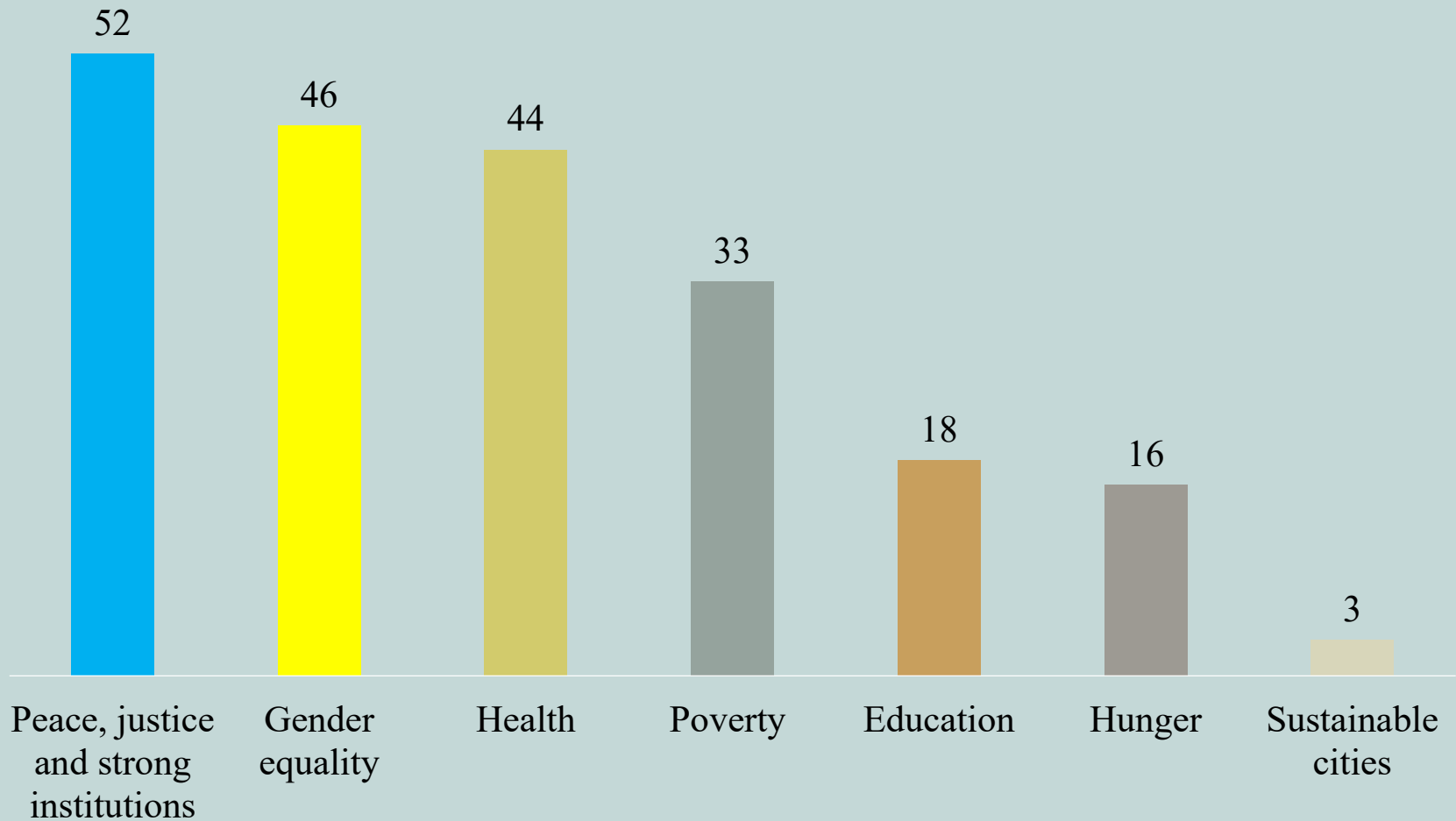
- Analysis of 127 Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) submitted by 114 countries.
- Close to 90% of Member States made specific references to family.
- Governments consider family policies useful for these goals: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11 & 16.



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## Member States reporting family-oriented policies



# SDG 1: NO POVERTY



Out of the 95 Member States reporting on poverty, 33 are developing sound family-oriented policies to combat it.

Two contexts:

- With robust institutional WS: families regarded as active agents
- In challenging institutional contexts: families provided on ad hoc basis

Programmes:

- Work closely with targeted families
- Working with families as co-managers
- Involve parents



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# SDG 2: ZERO HUNGER



## 1.- Family farming programmes in two contexts:

- In developed WS, as a tool to reinforce big chains of production-consumption to boost agriculture and integrate vulnerable families.
- In countries with major institutional challenges and resulting from hunger, primarily to support vulnerable families

2.- Few MS have developed educational and health efforts aimed at changing parental behaviours to improve children's nutrition



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## SDG 3: GOOD HEALTH AND WELLBEING

3 GOOD HEALTH  
AND WELL-BEING



- Progress in maternal, neonatal and infant mortality rates is addressed primarily through a medical and clinical lens, but insufficient to achieve targets.
- Adolescent pregnancy and the use of contraceptive methods are underreported or a cause of concern. Family policies fall behind
- Gender-bias values are an important obstacle.



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# SDG 4: QUALITY EDUCATION

4 QUALITY  
EDUCATION



1.- Several countries have early childhood education.

- Only 11 have programmes engaging parents and families as collaborative agents.
- Some MS extend this to primary education.

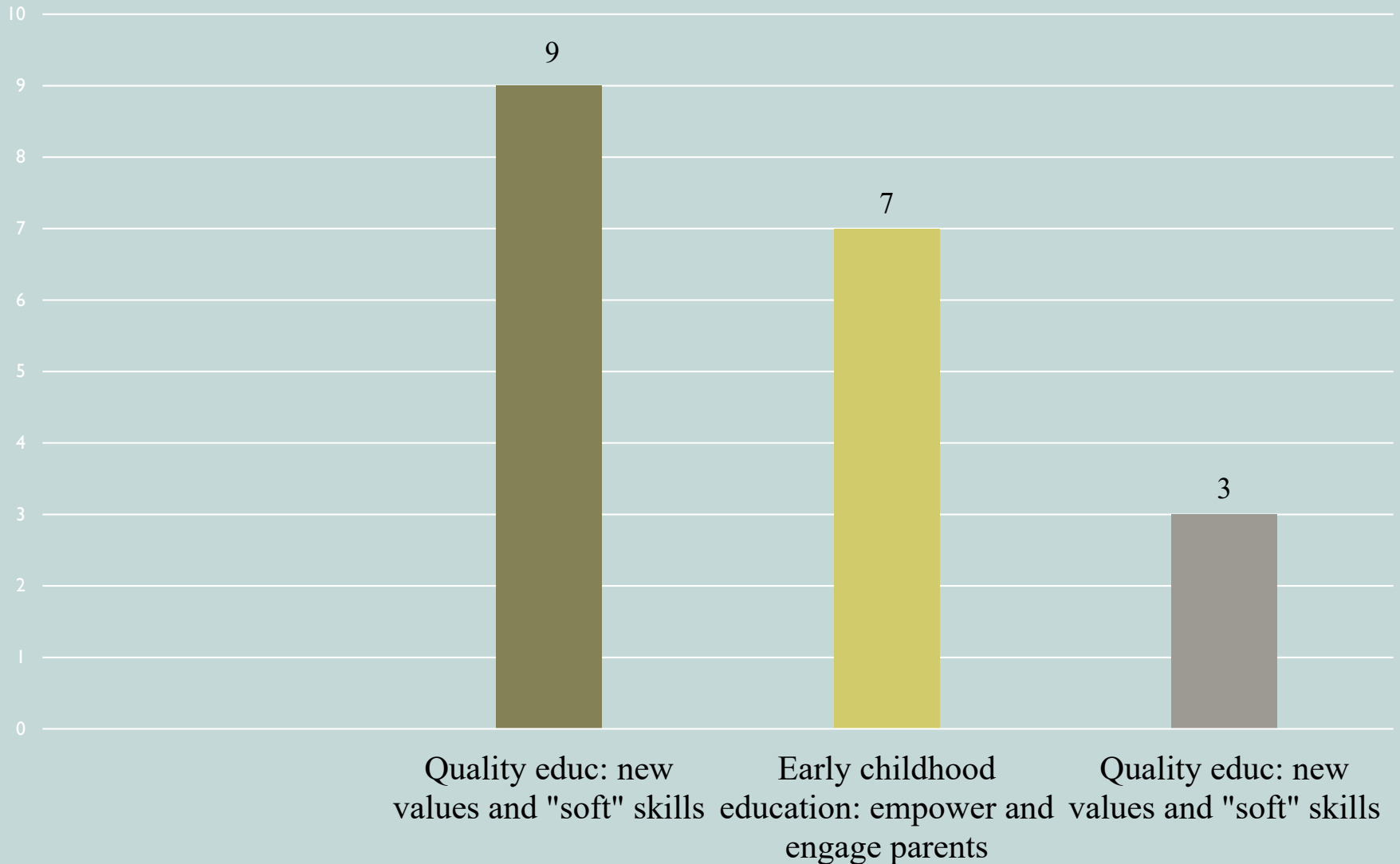
2.- New values and soft skills are introduced into the curricula by a few MS, but families not as intergenerational agents.



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# Member States implementing family-oriented policies to ensure quality education





# SDG 5: GENDER EQUALITY



Gender inequality is a great concern.

1.- All MS incorporate Gender Equality concerns through legislation.

But deep sociocultural barriers grounded in prevailing traditional gender values.

2.- Family work balance programmes are the most effective family policies.

- 12 MS implementing different, coordinated and comprehensive schemes to improve it.

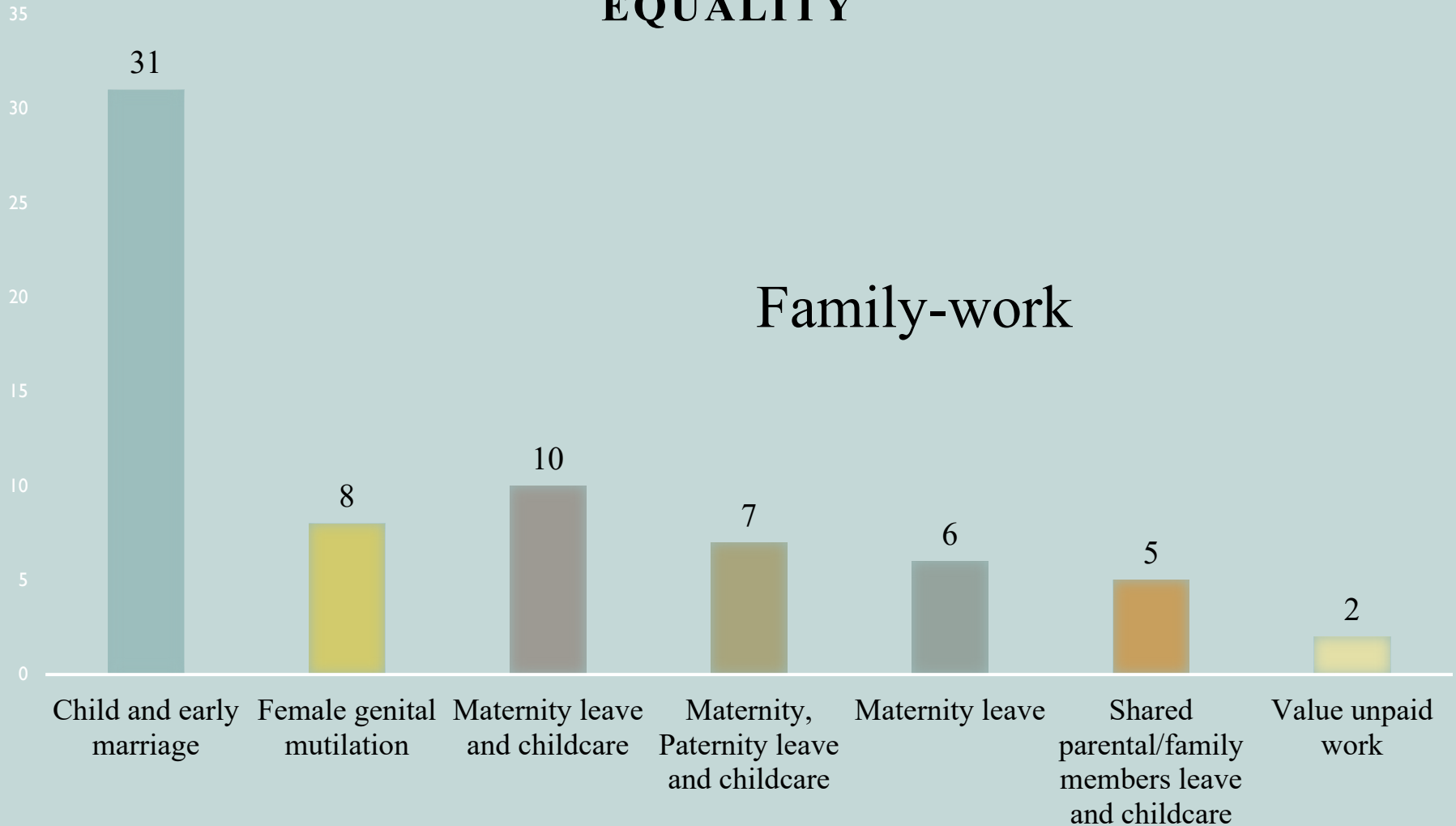
- Different schemes of leave, flexible work, childcare facilities



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# MEMBER STATES REPORTING ON FAMILY-ORIENTED POLICIES TO ENSURE GENDER EQUALITY



# SDG 11: SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES



24 MS reported progress with respect to inclusive and accessible green and open public areas.

Only 3 involve families, through legislations or programmes,

Example:

Residents deciding where new homes, green spaces and other facilities should go



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# SDG 16: PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



1.- Violence against children and women are serious challenges in several MS

- Strategies focus on victim support and legislative measures.
- Comprehensive, family-oriented policies are either lacking or fragile.

2.- Violence against children by caregivers

- Reported as a result of domestic violence, rather than harsh parenting practices.
- Only three MS implement positive parenting programmes.

3.- Violence against women (by age 18)

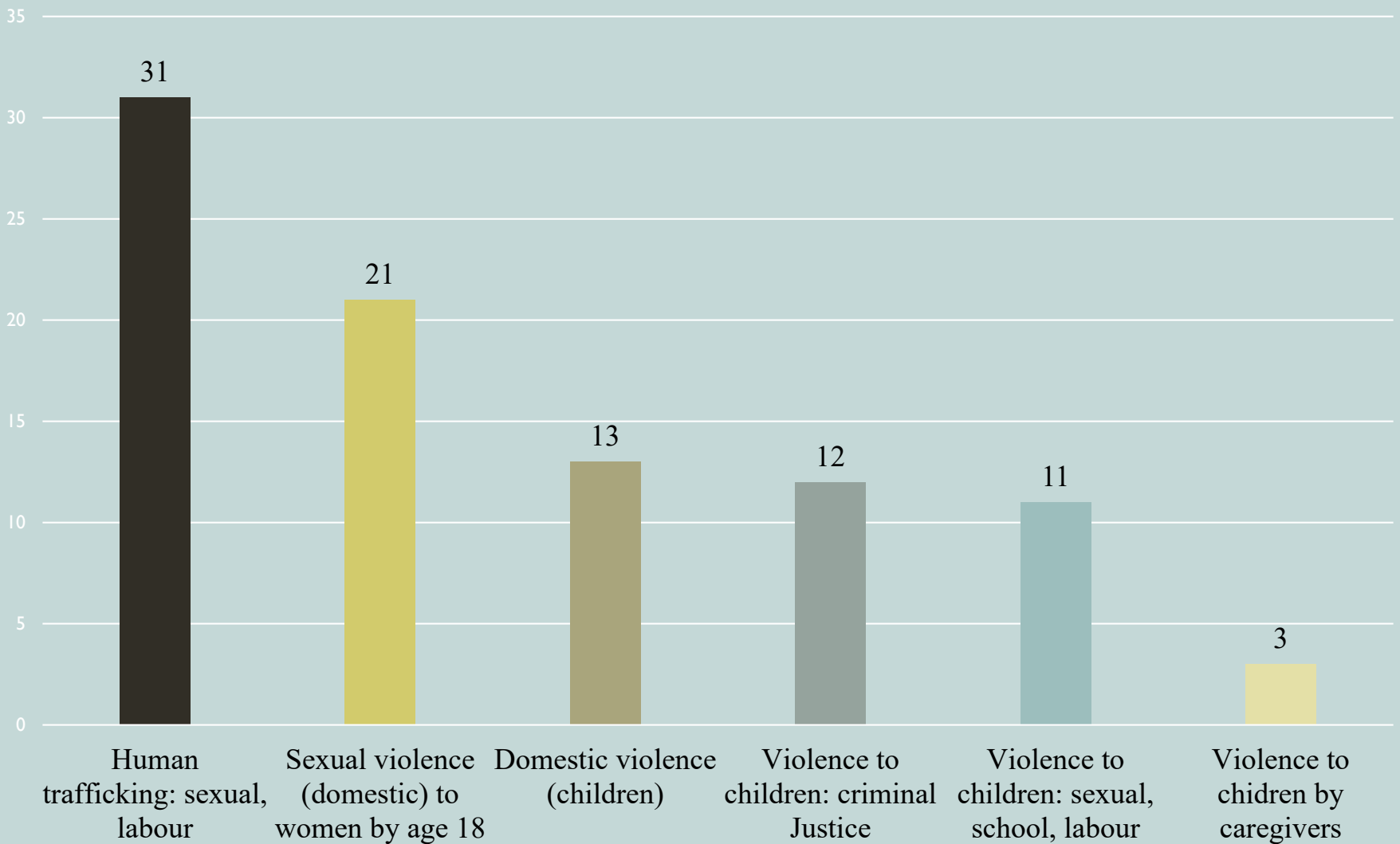
- Exerted primarily by intimate partners
- Noted as an issue of domestic rather than gender- based violence.



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## Member States reporting on family-oriented policies to ensure peace, justice and strong institutions



# KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

- To accelerate progress towards SDGs, family-oriented policies should be integrated into overall socio-economic policymaking
- Multidimensional perspectives in policy design, including the role of families, must be reinforced
- Health policies must work at the sociocultural level and in coordination with medical programmes to extend the reach of family-oriented policies
- It is necessary to go beyond legislative measures and address socio-cultural barriers to tackle violence against women and children, adolescent pregnancy, child and early marriage and other relevant issues



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## KEY MESSAGES

- Family-oriented policies and priorities are still absent in most national plans and sustainable development strategies.
- Several Member States address families as beneficiaries but the potential of families as agents of development remains underutilized.
- The integrative nature of the 2030 Agenda demands multisectoral and comprehensive actions and the recognition of spill-over effects between SDGs.
- Many VNRs show a transitional trend towards assuming such approaches but a few Governments have undertaken a family lens approach to combat poverty, hunger; overcome education and healthcare challenges as well as gender inequality and violence against children and women.



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Thank you;