


EU-MIDIS at a glance

Introduction to the FRA's EU-wide discrimination survey

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

| | |
|----------|---|
| 20 09 | EU-MIDIS |
| | European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey |
| | English |
| |  |

EU-MIDIS at a glance
Introduction to the FRA's EU-wide discrimination survey

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Introducing the FRA and EU-MIDIS

The EU's population is highly diverse and is becoming increasingly so. Alongside established minorities, such as the Roma and national minorities, immigration from outside the EU has played a significant role in recent years in shaping the ethnic and cultural diversity of the Union. At the same time, population movement within the EU – as a reflection of enlargement in 2004 and 2007, and the principle of freedom of movement of EU citizens – adds to the reality of a dynamic and increasingly diverse population in many Member States.

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) - Activities in a nutshell

Research, data collection and analysis:

- Collect, analyse and disseminate objective, reliable and comparable information on the development of fundamental rights in the EU;
- Develop methods and standards to improve the quality and comparability of data at EU level;
- Conduct and encourage scientific research and surveys.

Advice to EU institutions and Member States:

- Formulate and publish conclusions and opinions to the EU institutions and Member States when implementing Community law;
- Publish an annual report on fundamental rights in the EU, and thematic reports based on its research and surveys, also highlighting examples of good practice regarding fundamental rights.

Awareness-raising and co-operation with civil society:

- Raise public awareness of fundamental rights;
- Promote dialogue with civil society;
- Establish and coordinate a Fundamental Rights Platform to exchange information and pool knowledge.

EU-MIDIS aims to provide evidence-based information that can help policy-makers and other key stakeholders address discriminatory, racist practices, and improve support structures for victims of discrimination and racially motivated crime.

EU-MIDIS in a nutshell

- **EU-MIDIS stands for the 'European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey'**
- **It is the first survey of its kind to systematically interview minorities in all EU Member States** about their experiences of discriminatory treatment, awareness of rights and where to complain about discrimination, being a victim of racially motivated crime, and experiences of law enforcement and border control.
- **Using the same standardised questionnaire in all countries**, EU-MIDIS allows for comparisons of results between the different groups surveyed.
- **23,500 immigrant and ethnic minority people were surveyed face-to-face in all 27 EU Member States during 2008.**
- 5,000 people from the majority population living in the same areas as minorities were interviewed in ten Member States to allow for comparison of results concerning some key questions.
- **The questionnaire consisted of 150 questions and 300 variables**, taking into account all the possible answers people could give for each question. In addition, the results can be analysed with respect to respondent characteristics, such as gender and age, which were anonymously collected for statistical purposes.
- **Each interview lasted between 20 minutes and one hour**, depending on the level of discrimination and victimisation experienced by each interviewee.

Why We Need a Survey

While the composition of Member States' populations is becoming increasingly diverse, the Agency's reports have consistently shown that there is a severe lack of data on minorities in many countries. Data is needed to measure minorities' integration into European societies, as well as the extent of discriminatory treatment and criminal victimisation, including racially motivated crime, experienced by minorities. This picture holds true for ethnic minorities, immigrants, national minorities and EU citizens as they move into and around the EU.

Efforts are underway in some Member States and at Community level to try and rectify the current lack of hard data on minorities' experiences of discrimination and victimisation. This data can also be used as

indicators of social inclusion or marginalisation. However, data collection across the EU continues to focus on the experiences of the majority population, with existing sampling approaches in survey research – such as Eurobarometer and the European Social Survey – only able to capture a handful of minority respondents. As a result, policy-makers remain ill-informed about how minorities themselves experience everyday life in the Union's Member States. This continued lack of data, and, importantly, comparable data, makes it difficult for policy-makers at national and EU level to develop and target interventions to combat discrimination and victimisation against minorities.

This situation prompted the FRA, with the support of its key stakeholders, to launch an EU-wide survey in the 27 Member States on selected immigrant and ethnic minority groups' experiences of discrimination and criminal victimisation, including experiences of racially motivated crime and discriminatory law enforcement.

What Did the Survey Ask?

The bulk of survey questions in EU-MIDIS covered the following themes:

- Questions on perceptions of different types of discrimination in the country where they live, as well as questions about awareness of their rights and where to make complaints about discriminatory treatment;
- Questions about respondents' experiences of discrimination because of their minority background in nine different areas of everyday life, and whether they reported discrimination;
- Questions about respondents' experiences of being a victim of crime in five areas, including whether they considered their victimisation happened partly or completely because of their minority background, and whether they reported victimisation to the police;
- Questions on encounters with law enforcement, customs and border control, and whether respondents considered they were victims of discriminatory ethnic profiling practices.

| Member State | Abbreviation Code |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Belgium | BE |
| Bulgaria | BG |
| Czech Republic | CZ |
| Denmark | DK |
| Germany | DE |
| Estonia | EE |
| Ireland | IE |
| Greece | EL |
| Spain | ES |
| France | FR |
| Italy | IT |
| Cyprus | CY |
| Latvia | LV |
| Lithuania | LT |
| Luxembourg | LU |
| Hungary | HU |
| Malta | MT |
| Netherlands | NL |
| Austria | AT |
| Poland | PL |
| Portugal | PT |
| Romania | RO |
| Slovenia | SI |
| Slovakia | SK |
| Finland | FI |
| Sweden | SE |
| United Kingdom | UK |
| Central and East European | CEE |
| Former Yugoslavia | Ex-YU |

Respondents were asked about their experiences of discrimination and victimisation in the last five years and in the previous 12 months.

What Will EU-MIDIS Show?

Some examples from the survey

- The full dataset from the survey will offer a comprehensive and wide-ranging source of information on different minority groups' experiences of discrimination and victimisation in each of the EU's 27 Member States.
- What follows is simply a 'taster' of what the complete data set will show and how the findings can be looked at in a variety of ways.

Perceptions of discrimination

Respondents were asked to indicate whether they considered discrimination to be very widespread, fairly widespread, fairly rare, very rare or non-existent.

Before being asked questions about 'discrimination', respondents were introduced to the idea of discrimination by interviewers with the example of someone who is treated less favourably than others because of a specific personal feature such as their ethnic or minority background.

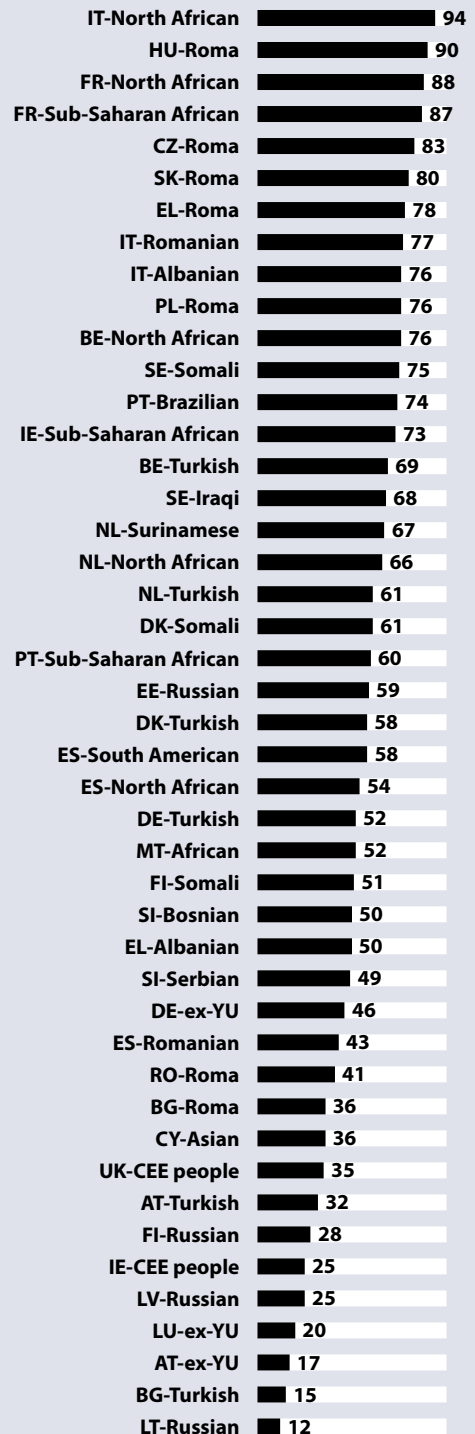
Figure 1 shows the percentage of respondents in each group surveyed who considered that discrimination on the basis of 'ethnic or immigrant origin' was very or fairly widespread in their country.

These results must be interpreted cautiously as they illustrate findings for very different groups. Bearing this in mind – what they do show is that the mainstay of minority groups surveyed in EU-MIDIS considered that discrimination on the basis of ethnic or immigrant origin is widespread in the Member State where they were interviewed.

This finding presents a picture of the extent to which minorities in the EU either feel vulnerable themselves to discrimination on the basis of their ethnic or immigrant background, or else perceive this kind of discrimination to be widespread with respect to others.

Looking at the results there are some notable differences in responses between groups with the

Figure 1
Percentage of respondents who think discrimination based on ethnic or immigrant origin is widespread in the country



EU-MIDIS, question A1A

same background. For example, in the case of the Roma, only a minority of respondents in Romania and Bulgaria (respectively 41% and 36%) considered that discrimination on the basis of ethnic or immigrant origin is widespread; in comparison, Roma respondents in the five other Member States where Roma were surveyed gave a response ranging from 76% in Poland through to 90% in Hungary.

The survey's first 'Data in Focus' report on the Roma (published in April 2009) shows that *experiences* of discrimination in different areas, over the previous 12 months, remain consistently lower for Roma in Bulgaria and Romania in comparison with Roma in other Member States. In this regard it would appear that *perceptions* of discrimination on the basis of ethnic or immigrant origin, as reported here, are reflected in *experiences* of discrimination by Roma respondents; with a consistent pattern between perceptions and experiences of discrimination.

In comparison, 59% of Russians in Estonia thought that discrimination on ethnic and immigrant grounds was fairly or very widespread, but when asked specific questions about their own experiences of discrimination over the previous 12 months only 17% could recall an incident. In this case, there would appear to be a mismatch between perceptions of discrimination and experience, but explanations for this apparent disparity can also be sought in the history and context of Russians in Estonia.

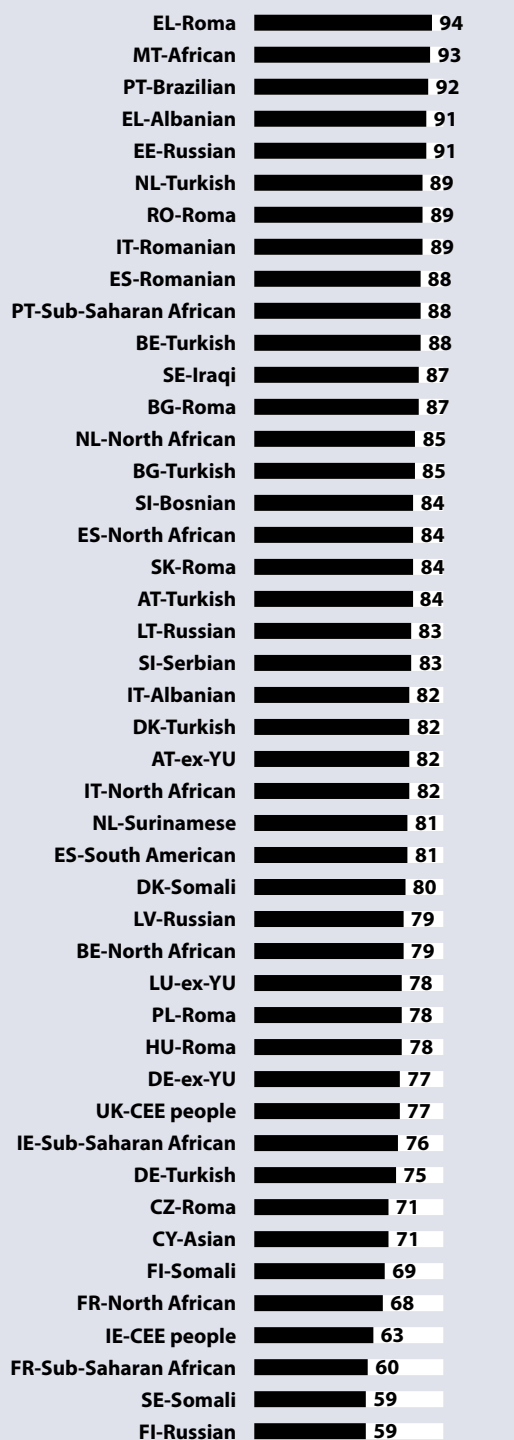
Knowledge of organisations offering support and advice

Respondents were asked if they knew of any organisation in their Member State that could offer support or advice to people who have been discriminated against – for whatever reason.

The results in figure 2 indicate that the majority of respondents in all groups – ranging from Roma in Greece and Africans in Malta, through to Somalis in Sweden and Russians in Finland – did not know of any organisation offering support or advice to people who have been discriminated against.

This finding presents worrying evidence of the extent to which groups who are most vulnerable to discrimination in the EU are uninformed about where to turn to for assistance if they have been

Figure 2
Percentage of respondents who do not know of any organisation offering support and advice to people who have been discriminated against



EU-MIDIS, question A3

discriminated against. At the same time, this result could reflect a real absence of support services in many Member States.

Preliminary findings from EU-MIDIS about respondents’ awareness of organisations that can offer support and advice to people who have been discriminated against suggest the following:

EU-MIDIS indicates a lack of awareness about and engagement with services providing support and advice - ‘access to justice’ - for minorities who are vulnerable to discrimination.

First - resources need to be invested to make those who are vulnerable to discrimination aware of where they can turn to for support and advice.

Second - resources need to be allocated for the creation and/or maintenance of organisations that are tasked with offering assistance to people who have been discriminated against.

Third – those who are discriminated against need to be encouraged to and should feel able to report their experiences to a competent organisation or at the place where discrimination occurs in the knowledge that their complaints will be taken seriously.

Discrimination Experiences

The results reported here focus on people’s experiences in the previous 12 months.

The survey’s respondents were asked about their experiences of discriminatory treatment, on the basis of their immigrant or ethnic minority background, in nine areas of everyday life (see box 1).

If they indicated that they had been discriminated against in the last 12 months, they were asked follow-up questions for each area of discrimination:

- How many times had each type of discrimination occurred in the last 12 months?
- Whether they or anyone else had reported the last incident, of each type of discrimination, to an office or organisation where complaints can be made, or at the place where the discrimination occurred?
- If discrimination was not reported to an organisation or at the place where it happened, interviewees

were asked to explain why, with interviewers coding up to ten possible reasons on the basis of what respondents said: this ranged from ‘fear of intimidation from perpetrators if reported discrimination’ through to ‘nothing would happen/change if reported discrimination’.

Roma respondents indicated the most discrimination – every second Roma said they were discriminated against in the last 12 months.

Figure 3 shows the mean (average) discrimination rate for the seven aggregate groups surveyed – that is, for those respondents who indicated they were discriminated against at least once in the past 12 months in any of the nine areas of discrimination they were asked about.

Box 1
Discrimination areas

EU-MIDIS asked respondents about discrimination they had experienced, in the past 12 months or in the past 5 years, on the basis of their immigrant or ethnic minority background, in nine areas:

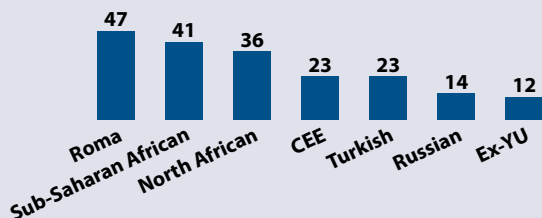
- 1) when looking for work
- 2) at work
- 3) when looking for a house or an apartment to rent or buy
- 4) by healthcare personnel
- 5) by social service personnel
- 6) by school personnel
- 7) at a café, restaurant or bar
- 8) when entering or in a shop
- 9) when trying to open a bank account or get a loan

High levels of discrimination were also mentioned by respondents from Sub-Saharan Africa (41%) and North Africa (36%).

Of those who indicated they were discriminated against, **the survey showed that the overwhelming majority did not report their experiences of discrimination to an organisation or at the place where it occurred.** For example, on average, only 20% of Sub-Saharan interviewees reported their last experience of discrimination. For other aggregate groups, reporting to an organisation or the place where the discrimination occurred ranged from 21% among the Roma through to 12% of respondents from Central and Eastern Europe.

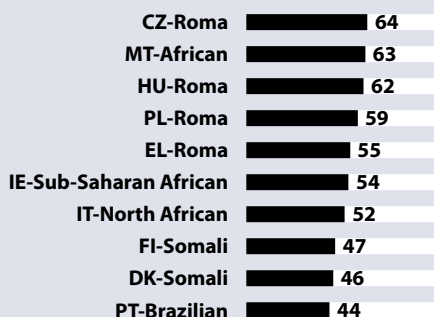
Figure 3
Percentage discriminated against in at least one of the nine areas

In the past 12 months



Ten groups with the highest discrimination rates, nine areas (%)

In the past 12 months



EU-MIDIS, questions CA2-C12

As figure 4 indicates, respondents' main reason for not reporting their most recent experience of discrimination is that nothing would happen or change by reporting the incident. At the same time, 36% didn't know how to go about reporting or where to report discrimination. The everyday nature of discrimination is underlined by the fact that 40% considered their last experience as trivial and not worth reporting because 'it's normal, happens all the time'.

Taking two responses together for non-reporting – 'concerned about negative consequences' and 'fear of intimidation from perpetrators' – 40% of respondents gave these as reasons for non-reporting, which is indicative of the fact that discrimination cannot be considered as a minor event for all respondents.

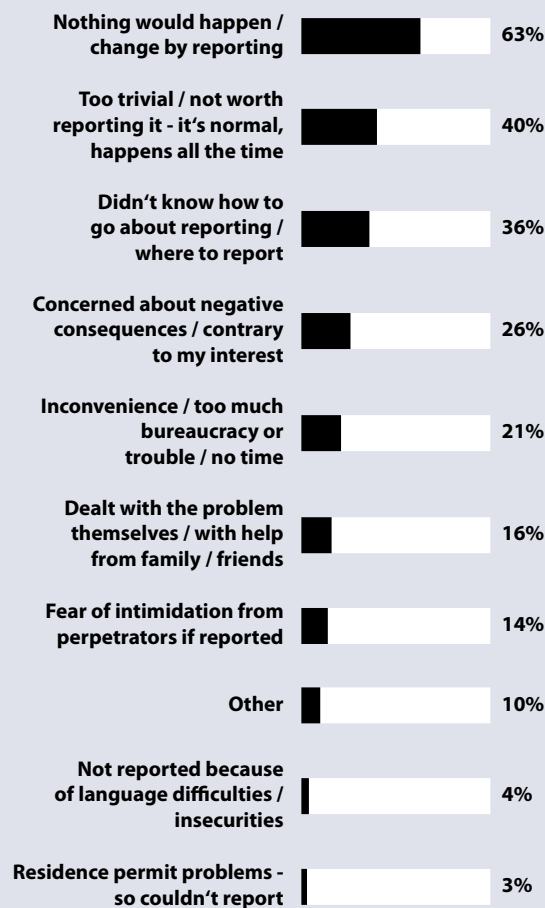
EXAMPLE: DISCRIMINATION BY PRIVATE SERVICES

Extent of discrimination by private services

By taking one area of discrimination – private services (incorporating results for discrimination at a café,

Figure 4
Reasons for not reporting the most recent incident of discrimination

In the past 12 months, all respondents



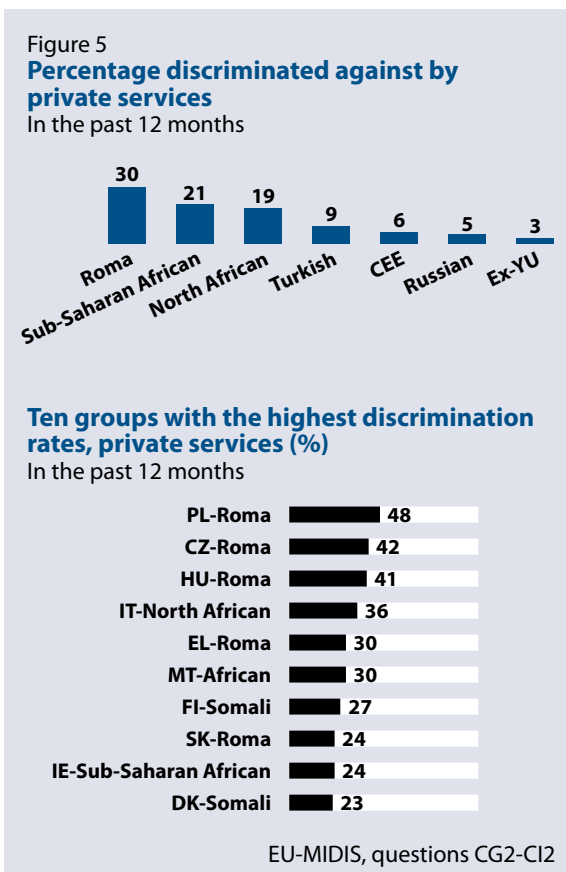
EU-MIDIS, questions CA5-C15

restaurant or bar, when entering or in a shop, and when trying to open a bank account or loan) – figure 5 shows that patterns of general discrimination by aggregate groups persist in the area of private services. Again, the Roma indicate they are most discriminated against, followed by Sub-Saharan Africans and North Africans.

Looking at the ten individual groups with the highest reported rates of discrimination by private services, of all groups surveyed in EU-MIDIS, Roma occupy the top three. In sum, it is either respondents from the African continent or Roma who indicate the highest levels of discrimination.

Reporting discrimination in private services

If we look at the number of those who were discriminated against by private services and went on to report their discrimination to a competent



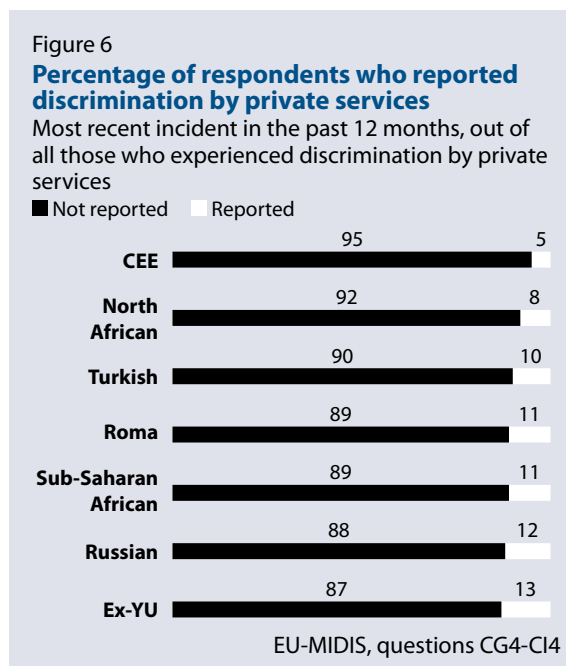
organisation or at the place where it occurred, figure 6 shows that the majority of all respondents in all groups surveyed did not report discrimination. Reporting was highest among ex-Yugoslavians, with 13% reporting. Central and East Europeans were least likely to report, with only 5% having done so.

Racist Crime

EU-MIDIS asked respondents a series of questions about their experiences of five crime types in the last 12 months (see box 2). If respondents indicated that they had been the victim of a particular crime in the last 12 months they were then asked follow-up questions about the nature of the crime, and, in particular, whether they considered it to be racially motivated.

For those respondents who indicated they had been the victim of assault and threat, or harassment of a serious nature, in the last 12 months – what is referred to by EU-MIDIS as ‘in-person’ crime – the interviewer asked detailed questions about the nature of the last incident. These questions included the following:

- How many times it happened in the last 12 months;



- Whether the incident was thought to be racially motivated, and, in the case of women, whether they thought it happened because they were a woman;
- Whether there was a single perpetrator or more;
- Who were the perpetrators – for example, someone known or unknown to the victim, a member of a racist gang etc.
- If the perpetrators were from the same minority background, a different minority background or the majority population;
- Whether racist or religiously offensive language was used by the perpetrators;

Box 2

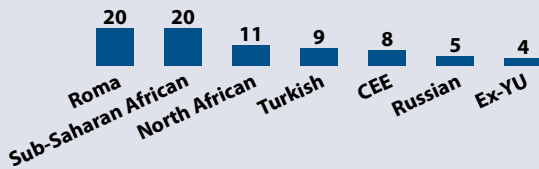
Victimisation areas

EU-MIDIS asked respondents about victimisation they had experienced, in the past 12 months or in the past 5 years, in five areas:

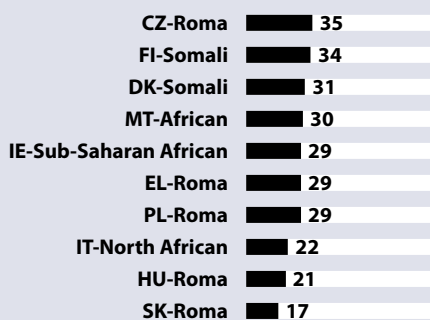
- 1) theft of or from a vehicle
- 2) burglary or attempted burglary
- 3) theft of personal property not involving force or threat
- 4) assault and threat
- 5) harassment of a serious nature

If respondents indicated they were a victim of crime, they were then asked a series of detailed questions, including whether they considered their victimisation to be racially motivated.

Figure 7
Racist crime victimisation rate, five crimes (%)
 In the past 12 months



Ten groups with the highest racist crime victimisation rates, five crimes (%)
 In the past 12 months



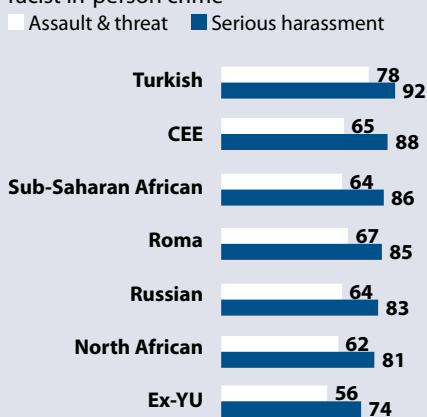
EU-MIDIS, questions DA3-DC3, DD4, DE5

- Whether the incident was reported to the police; if not interviewees were asked to explain why, with interviewers coding up to eleven reasons on the basis of what respondents said: this ranged from 'fear of intimidation from perpetrators if reported incident' through to 'not confident the police would be able to do anything'.
- How serious was the incident for the interviewee.

This level of detailed information will be presented in a future EU-MIDIS 'Data in Focus' report on criminal victimisation. It will provide information about the nature of incidents, and in particular unreported racist crime, which can greatly assist law enforcement and crime prevention initiatives that seek to understand more about this type of crime. These findings should also be of use to victim support organisations and NGOs that work with minorities that are vulnerable to victimisation.

Figure 7 shows the racist crime victimisation rate for the seven aggregate groups surveyed – that is, those respondents who indicated they were a victim of racist crime at least once in the past 12 months in any of the five crime areas they were asked about.

Figure 8
Percentage of unreported racist crime by type (assault and threat, or serious harassment)
 In the past 12 months, out of all victims of racist in-person crime



EU-MIDIS, questions DD4 & DD11 and DE5 & DE10

As with discrimination, the picture that emerges from EU-MIDIS with respect to vulnerability to racist victimisation is one where Roma and Sub-Saharan Africans report more negative experiences in the survey.

Reporting racist victimisation

Figure 8 shows the percentage of respondents who indicated they were victims of racially motivated crime and did not report their victimisation to the police.

For each aggregate group surveyed – with respect to assault and threat, and serious harassment – the majority of respondents did not report their experience of victimisation to the police.

1 in 2 respondents who were victims of racist assault and threat, and serious harassment, indicated that they didn't report their most recent incident because they were not confident that the police would be able to do anything.

Evidence presented in the Agency's Annual Report on the situation of racism and xenophobia in the Member States indicates often very low levels of officially recorded racist crime or no officially recorded racist crime in a number of Member States. If we took the numbers of racist incidents recorded in EU-MIDIS and extrapolated them for the minority

Sub-Saharan and Roma respondents reported the most racist victimisation – 1 in 5 indicated that they were the victim of a ‘racially motivated’ crime in the last 12 months.

population or populations surveyed in each Member State, the results would indicate thousands of cases of racist victimisation that are not being reported to the police and, therefore, are not being captured by official criminal justice data collection mechanisms.

Avoiding Certain Places for Fear of Being a Victim of Hate Crime

Alongside questions about respondents’ experiences of being a victim of crime, and whether they considered these experiences to be racially motivated, the survey asked people if they avoided certain places for fear of being assaulted, threatened or harassed because of their immigrant or minority background.

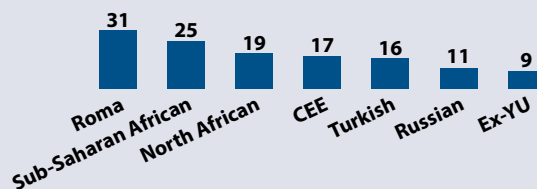
The results in figure 9 show that on average 31% of Roma and 1 in 4 Sub-Saharan Africans employ avoidance behaviour for fear of being a victim of ‘racist’ crime. In turn, 1 in 5 North Africans also employ the same behaviour, as do a similar number of respondents from Central and East European countries – hence indicating that fear of victimisation on the basis of immigrant or ethnic minority background is not something that is limited to the colour of people’s skin, but is something that can also affect groups who seemingly ‘look like’ the majority population in many EU Member States.

As with discrimination, the survey’s findings on racist crime indicate a severe undercount in official statistics with respect to the real extent of the problem.

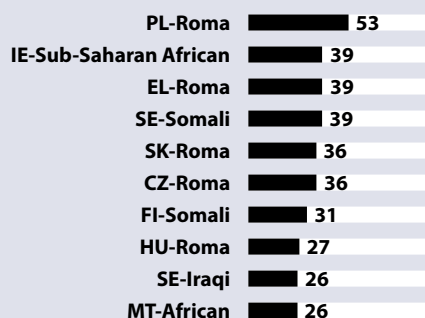
If we turn to the ten groups with the highest reported avoidance behaviours, figure 9 shows that Roma dominate – with every second Roma respondent in Poland employing this behaviour to avoid becoming a victim of hate crime. Groups from the African continent and, notably, Iraqis in Sweden also indicate that they employ similar avoidance behaviour.

This avoidance behaviour probably serves to reduce the number of hate crimes experienced by vulnerable minorities. At the same time, these results also indicate

Figure 9
Percentage of respondents who avoid certain places for fear of being assaulted, threatened or seriously harassed because of their immigrant or ethnic minority background
In the past 12 months



Ten groups with the highest percentage of respondents who avoid certain places for fear of being assaulted, threatened or seriously harassed because of their immigrant or ethnic minority background



EU-MIDIS, question DF1

a degree of social marginalisation experienced by various minority groups in the EU, which is made worse by behaviour they feel they have to employ in order to avoid becoming a victim of hate crime.

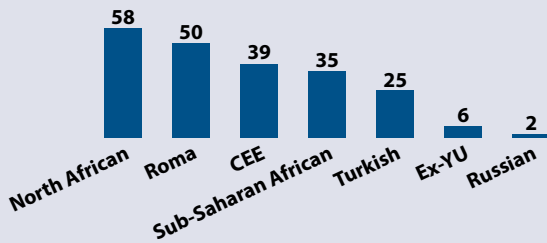
Non-Discriminatory Law Enforcement and Police Stops

With a view to looking at the policing of minority communities in the framework of community integration and equal treatment, EU-MIDIS asked respondents a range of questions about their encounters with law enforcement.

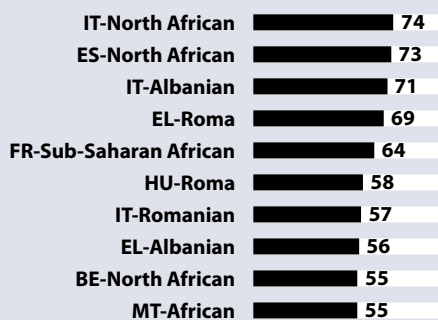
Respondents were asked the following:

- When they reported their experiences of victimisation to the police – how did the police treat them?
- What were their reasons for not reporting victimisation to the police?

Figure 10
Percentage of respondents who considered that police stopped them because of their immigrant or ethnic minority background
 Out of all those stopped in the past 12 months



Ten groups with the highest perception of police stopping them because of their immigrant or ethnic minority background
 Out of all those stopped in the past 12 months



EU-MIDIS, question F5

- How many times had they been stopped by the police in the past 12 months, and did they consider that they were stopped specifically because of their ethnic or immigrant background?
- In their other contacts with the police, how were they treated?

Figure 10 shows results for those respondents who were stopped by the police and considered that they were *specifically* stopped because of their ethnic or immigrant background.

In consideration of the average of responses for aggregate groups:

- 6 out of 10 or 58% of North African respondents who were stopped by the police consider that they were stopped because of their ethnic or immigrant background.
- One in two Roma, and 4 out of 10 Central and East Europeans consider that they were stopped by the police on the basis of their ethnicity or immigrant background.
- When looking at the figures for individual groups it is clear that the high figure for discriminatory police stops for the aggregate group of 'Central and East Europeans' is the result of the high number of stops of Albanians in Italy and Greece, and Romanians in Italy.

These results show that some ethnic minority and immigrant groups experience high levels of what they perceive as discriminatory police treatment, and that some Member States heavily police minority communities. The full dataset will allow for an analysis of the number of stops, and specifically stops that were perceived as discriminatory, according to aggregate and individual respondent groups in all Member States over a 12 month period. In this regard the results will reveal a lot about 'who' is policed the most, and can explore results further according to respondent characteristics such as gender, age and religion. In addition, the complete dataset will be able to present information about whether respondents were on foot or in a vehicle at the time of the stop, and what happened to them during the stop – for example, whether they were asked for ID papers, given a warning or a fine, or arrested.

For ten Member States EU-MIDIS collected data on the volume and frequency of police stops for 500 randomly sampled majority population respondents living in the same areas as minorities. In total, 5,000 majority population interviews were generated. These findings will be analysed in a future EU-MIDIS 'Data in Focus' report that explores the survey's results in detail with respect to law enforcement and, in addition, border control encounters.

HOW CAN THE SURVEY'S RESULTS BE USEFUL TO POLICY MAKERS?

The results point to a number of issues for policy makers and practitioners that need to be addressed regarding the situation of different minorities at national and Community level, and which will be explored further in forthcoming reports from EU-MIDIS after a full analysis of the dataset.

- What policies and action plans exist at Community and Member State level to raise awareness amongst vulnerable minorities about their rights in the context of EC and national laws? How can these be successfully targeted to reach different groups?
- How might a rights-based and service-centred culture be developed that would encourage and make it easier for vulnerable minorities to report their experiences of discrimination?
- How can minorities be ensured that their complaints will be taken seriously and followed-up by the responsible organisations and public authorities?
- What is the impact of policies and action plans currently operating at Community and Member State level to address discrimination against minorities? Are there examples of good practices in place, which both in the short and long-term have been shown to improve the situation of different minority groups?
- Which social policies (employment, housing, health care, social services, education) are targeted most with funding to address discrimination against minorities? Are social policies funded where they are most needed, and are they being targeted at the right minority groups and/or groups within minority communities – such as women or the elderly?
- What can be done to address minorities' experiences as victims of racially motivated crime? What can be done to ensure that racist victimisation is prioritised as an area for law enforcement intervention?
- What specifically needs to be done to encourage victims to report their experiences of racist victimisation to the police? How can different groups be encouraged to report?

- How does ethnic profiling by law enforcement impact on different minorities and different people within minority groups – such as young men? What might be the impact of profiling practices that are perceived as discriminatory by minorities?

Some examples of specific findings from EU-MIDIS that can lead to policy questions and concrete actions:

Example 1:

The number of incidents of discrimination and criminal victimisation reported in the survey:

- EU-MIDIS will reveal the extent of discrimination and racist victimisation experienced among those interviewed over a period of 12 months.
- These results can be compared in each Member State with official government data on discrimination and victimisation (in the form of reported incidents, recorded crimes, and court cases), and in comparison with figures from unofficial sources such as NGOs.
- The scale of potentially unreported discrimination and racist victimisation can be gauged in each Member State with respect to the minority group or groups surveyed, and the findings can lead to a critique of existing policies or absence of policies in recognition of and in response to discrimination and racist victimisation.

Example 2:

Reasons for non-reporting discrimination and victimisation:

- All respondents who indicated they had been discriminated against or were victims of crime in the last 12 months were asked, in consideration of the last incident, whether they or someone else reported it – either, in the case of discrimination, to an organisation, office, or at the place where the discrimination occurred, or to the police in the case of criminal victimisation – and, if it wasn't reported, 'why?'
- The full survey dataset will be able to provide a detailed breakdown of the reasons for non-reporting for different groups. What these results

will offer is an insight into non-reporting behaviour that allows policy makers to better understand and, therefore, address the causes of non-reporting with the goal of encouraging reporting in the future.

Example 3:

The frequency of incidents of discrimination and racist victimisation in a 12 month period:

- The full survey dataset will show how often in the past 12 months respondents experienced each type of discrimination and each type of crime.
- This data will be a rich source of information for those looking to understand and combat discrimination and racist crime, as it will show which groups, and which individuals within groups (according to, for example, gender and age), are repeatedly discriminated against or victimised in a 12 month period.

- Armed with this kind of data, policy makers and law enforcement can do a number of things; for example: they can target resources at those most often affected by discrimination and victimisation within a group, and they can address those public and private services where discrimination against particular groups appears to be most frequent.

For more information and future EU-MIDIS reports, see:

www.fra.europa.eu/eu-midis

Gallup Europe undertook the fieldwork for EU-MIDIS under the supervision of FRA staff who took part in interviewer training sessions and observed fieldwork in selected Member States.

Groups Surveyed

Groups were selected for interviewing in each Member State on the basis of the following:

- In consideration of information supplied to the FRA by its Racism and Xenophobia Network (RAXEN) of 27 National Focal Points (NFPs), which provide the Agency with detailed national annual reports on different minorities' vulnerability to discrimination and victimisation in each Member State;
- In consideration of being the largest minority group or groups for surveying in each country, which had to reach a minimum overall size of 5% to be sufficient for random sampling in specific areas;
- In consideration of preference for groups that could be surveyed in more than one Member State, which allowed for the creation of 'aggregate' groups – such as 'North Africans' – for comparison of results.

EU-MIDIS surveyed between one and three immigrant, ethnic minority or national minority groups in each Member State of the EU, with a minimum of 500 people interviewed per group in each country.

From these wide-ranging target populations the survey identified a number of 'aggregate groups' with respect to populations that share a certain nationality or nationalities, as well as national minorities such as the Roma.

EU-MIDIS - Groups Surveyed

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Austria | Turkish former Yugoslavs ¹ |
| Belgium | North Africans ² Turkish |
| Bulgaria | Roma Turkish |
| Czech Rep. | Roma |
| Cyprus | Asians ³ |
| Denmark | Turkish Somalis |
| Germany | Turkish former Yugoslavs |
| Greece | Albanians Roma |
| Estonia | Russians |
| Finland | Russians Somalis |
| France | North Africans Sub-Saharan Africans ⁴ |
| Hungary | Roma |
| Ireland | Central and East Europeans ⁵ Sub-Saharan Africans |
| Italy | Albanians North Africans Romanians |
| Latvia | Russians |
| Lithuania | Russians |
| Luxembourg | former Yugoslavs |
| Malta | Immigrants from Africa (North and Sub-Saharan) |
| Netherlands | North Africans Turkish Surinamese |
| Poland | Roma |
| Portugal | Brazilians Sub-Saharan Africans |
| Romania | Roma |
| Slovakia | Roma |
| Slovenia | Serbians Bosnians |
| Spain | North Africans South Americans Romanians |
| Sweden | Iraqis Somalis |
| UK | Central and East Europeans |

1 Those from any of the successor states of the former Yugoslavia

2 Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Sudan, Tunisia, Western Sahara

3 Indian sub-continent and South-East Asia

4 All other African countries not listed as North African – including Surinamese respondents of Sub-Saharan African origin.

5 Any of the 12 new Member States of the EU, apart from Cyprus and Malta, abbreviated as CEE

Survey Locations

As immigration is primarily concentrated in urban areas, EU-MIDIS set out to interview groups in urban and semi-urban locations; focusing on capital cities and one or two other urban centres with a high concentration of the selected minority or minorities for interviewing in each Member State.

Creation of aggregate groups allows for comparison of results between Member States where similar groups were surveyed; for example:

- **Respondents with a Roma background** were interviewed in seven Member States: Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.
- **Respondents with a Turkish background** were interviewed in six Member States: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany and the Netherlands.
- The full data set will provide a detailed breakdown of respondents by country of origin, and will allow for a more focused analysis of results.

People interviewed

The survey sampled men and women aged 16 years old and older who:

- Self-identified themselves as belonging to one of the immigrant, national minority or ethnic minority groups selected for sampling in each Member State.
- Had been living in the Member State at least 12 months.
- Had sufficient command of (one of) the national language(s) of the Member State being surveyed to lead a simple conversation with the interviewer (translations of questionnaires were made available in other languages, and in some countries interviewers were recruited from the same minority background as interviewees to assist the interview process).

However, in order to provide sufficient coverage for predominantly rural national minorities, or where there were no real separate, distinct urban areas (for

EU-MIDIS Coverage Area

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Austria | Vienna |
| Belgium | Brussels |
| | Antwerp |
| Bulgaria | nationwide ⁶ |
| Czech Rep. | nationwide |
| Cyprus | nationwide |
| Denmark | Copenhagen |
| | Odense |
| Germany | Berlin |
| | Frankfurt |
| | Munich |
| Greece | Athens |
| | Thessaloniki |
| Estonia | Tallinn |
| Finland | Helsinki metro area |
| France | Paris metro area |
| | Marseille |
| | Lyon |
| Hungary | Budapest |
| | Miskolc |
| Ireland | Dublin metro area |
| Italy | Rome |
| | Milan |
| | Bari |
| Latvia | Riga |
| | Daugavpils |
| Lithuania | Vilnius |
| | Visaginas |
| Luxembourg | nationwide |
| Netherlands | Amsterdam |
| | Rotterdam |
| | The Hague |
| | Utrecht |
| Poland | nationwide |
| Portugal | Lisbon metro area |
| | Setubal |
| Romania | nationwide |
| Slovakia | nationwide |
| Slovenia | Ljubljana |
| | Jesenice |
| Spain | Madrid |
| | Barcelona |
| Sweden | Stockholm |
| | Malmö |
| UK | London metro area |

6 Corresponding to the location of relevant target groups

example in the case of Cyprus and Malta), the survey adopted an ‘at location’ sampling approach that surveyed minorities where they were located, which can be characterised as ‘nationwide’.

In sum, fieldwork for EU-MIDIS was carried out in two distinct survey locations:

- Capital cities and other urban centres - in 19 Member States
- Nationwide ‘at location’ - in 8 Member States

The survey results represent the opinions and experiences of people living in those locations that were surveyed in each Member State.

How People Were Surveyed

The survey employed the principles of random sampling to ensure that the results are as representative as possible for the groups surveyed in the locations where they were interviewed.

The complex nature of the survey’s target population – different ‘difficult to sample’ groups across the 27 Member States of the EU – was reflected in a similarly complex sampling design that utilised a number of approaches; all of which, with the exception of one, network sampling, were based on probability random sampling.

In 6 of the 27 Member States minorities were identified through network sampling – which is sometimes called ‘convenience’ sampling. This approach generates interviews by sampling members of the target group through organisations, such as NGOs working with minorities, or at locations where particular minorities tend to gather, such as places of worship or shops that cater for specific minorities.

Network sampling was only used as a last resort by EU-MIDIS in Member States where random sampling failed to generate enough interviews over a period of weeks. This type of ‘convenience’ sampling was rejected as the main sampling approach for the survey because it tends to produce results that are not representative of the minority population in general, but only of those members of minority groups that are connected to each other by association (usually friendship or work-based). In comparison, random sampling produces results that are more

EU-MIDIS Sampling Approach

The following random sampling approaches were used in the survey:

- Registry-based sampling in those Member States where lists identifying people by nationality/citizenship could be accessed for the creation of a random sample.
- Standard random route sampling, using primary sampling units for the allocation of interview numbers across different locations (on the basis of the best available population data).
- Focused enumeration and in-house Kish-grid sampling based on the ‘last birthday’ principle.

For detailed information about the sampling see the online EU-MIDIS Technical Report: www.fra.europa.eu/eu-midis

representative of the population being surveyed, and therefore offer a better basis on which to build policy initiatives for a wide community rather than select members.

Reporting the Results

EU-MIDIS allows for comparisons of results in a variety of ways:

- Between Member States that have similar minority populations; for example, between countries where Turkish respondents were interviewed, or between countries where North Africans were interviewed;
- Between different minority groups within each Member State (where more than one group was surveyed in a Member State).
- According to a range of different respondent characteristics, such as: gender, age, level of education, employment status, religion, and mother tongue(s), through to details such as the number of children in the household and whether the interview took place in a predominantly minority neighbourhood.
- Between minority and majority groups surveyed using the same questions with respect to: (1) questions in EU-MIDIS on experiences of law enforcement that were asked of minority and majority populations living in the same areas in ten Member States; (2) the results generated from

this survey and those generated from the same questions used in other surveys conducted on Member States' majority populations – including questions taken from Eurobarometer.

- And, as the results refer to the experiences of, predominantly, the largest minority groups in the EU that are vulnerable to discrimination and victimisation, general comparisons can be drawn from the survey with respect to the different groups surveyed. However, when making such comparisons due consideration must be given to the very different backgrounds and context of each group in each Member State.

The following publications will be released from the survey, and will analyse the research findings in a variety of ways:

- **A full Technical Report** (April 2009)
- **A full Results Report** (end of 2009)
- **A series of up to 9 'Data in Focus' reports** (during 2009 and 2010), which will present key findings from the survey. **Data in Focus 1 explores results relating to the Roma** (April 2009)

Once all 'Data in Focus' reports from the survey are published, the Agency plans to make the survey's data set available in the public domain so that further analysis of the results can be undertaken by any interested party – including governments, NGOs and researchers.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE INTERVIEWED GROUPS

EU-MIDIS collected information about each respondent's personal characteristics; including: gender, age, mother tongue, citizenship, country of birth, length of residence in the country, employment status, household income, years of education, as well as religion or belief. All results from the survey are made anonymous for aggregate statistical purposes so that no individual can be identified. All information was given on a voluntary basis.

In addition – interviewers themselves filled out background information about the neighbourhood where each interview was conducted, and about the circumstances of the interview; for example, was the interviewee alone or not throughout the interview.

Findings on respondents' characteristics and interviewer-generated information will be made available in future through the Agency's website for further analysis by any interested party.

Origins

Almost all Roma respondents were born in the same country where they were interviewed. This was also common for Russian and Turkish respondents, out of which only 10% had stayed in the country less than ten years. Nevertheless, 41% of Russians and 35% of Turkish respondents are not citizens of their country of residence.

In contrast with established groups, the majority of Central and East Europeans had arrived in the Member State where they lived in the past five years (and therefore had not acquired the citizenship of their new country of residence; only 7% having done so). North African and Sub-Saharan African groups are the most mixed in terms of time spent in the country of residence, and these groups comprise of recent immigrants as well as those who have spent 20 years or more in the country.

Socio-demographic and economic data

Women and men are in the case of most groups equally represented among the respondents, but there are somewhat more men among North African

respondents, and more women among Russian respondents. As for other notable exceptions, almost all of the African immigrants in Malta were men, which reflects the particular type of migration affecting Malta. Women were most represented among Asian respondents in Cyprus.

The Roma stand out from among the other groups surveyed, in that 30% of Roma respondents in the sample have gone to school for five years or less. On the other hand, 50% of Russian respondents, and 40-45% of Central and East Europeans, and North Africans, have stayed in school for over 14 years.

Unemployment is high among the Roma (23% on average), but also among Sub-Saharan Africans (18%). The employment rate is highest among Central and East Europeans (80% of the respondents); work being the main reason behind their decision to emigrate. Among North Africans, the Roma, and the Turkish, the unemployment figures could be higher if it were not for a high share of women choosing to stay at home to care for the household (30-40% of female respondents).

Religious and cultural background

Over 95% of North Africans and Turkish respondents were Muslims, and an almost equal percentage of Roma and Russian respondents identified themselves as Christians. Amongst all the groups surveyed, other religions, as well as absence of religion, were rare. Over 90% of Sub-Saharan Africans and North Africans reported that religion is very or fairly important in their lives. The share of respondents who said that religion is not very important for them was the highest among Russians (48%) and Ex-Yugoslavians (40%).

20-30% of Sub-Saharan Africans, North Africans and Turkish respondents indicated that they wear some type of traditional or religious clothing when out in public. In all these groups it is much more common for women than men to wear such clothing.

European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

**EU-MIDIS at a glance
Introduction to the FRA's EU-wide discrimination survey**

Design: red hot 'n' cool, Vienna
Printer: Elanders Hungary Kft., Budapest

2009 - 24 pp, - 21 x 29.7 cm

ISBN-13: 978-92-9192-349-6
TK-78-09-587-EN-C

A great deal of information on the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights is available on the Internet. It can be accessed through the FRA website (<http://fra.europa.eu>).

© European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2009
Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged.

ISBN 978-92-9192-349-6



789291 923496

TK-78-09-587-EN-C

