

**LEGAL GUARANTEES FOR THE PREVENTION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND ISSUES OF ITS IMPROVEMENT****Toshmamatova Shakhriroda Dilmurod qizi**3rd year student of the direction of “Jurisprudence”  
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**Abstract.** This article analyzes existing legal guarantees for preventing violence against women and examines issues regarding their improvement. The article examines modern methods of protecting women's rights, practical results, and existing shortcomings. At the same time, based on international experience and modern approaches, measures that can be strengthened in the legal system of Uzbekistan are recommended. The article reveals strategies aimed at increasing the effectiveness of legal mechanisms in preventing violence against women.

**Keywords:** gender-based violence, women's rights, legal guarantees, prevention mechanisms, domestic violence, international standards, legal reforms.

**Introduction.**

Violence against women is one of the pressing socio-legal issues in society, and its prevention, as well as the protection of victims, remains a critical concern today. Forms of violence may be physical, psychological, economic, or sexual, but in every case, they violate women's personal integrity and human dignity. Therefore, effective legal guarantees and mechanisms for their implementation have become a priority in state policy.

The Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan “On the Protection of Women from Harassment and Violence,” adopted in 2019, is recognized as the primary legal framework in this area [1]. This legislation defines various forms of harassment and violence against women and establishes mechanisms to ensure protection for victims, including protective orders, access to support services, and the right to claim compensation. For a long time, Uzbek legislation did not treat domestic violence as a separate criminal offense; however, in recent years, this approach has fundamentally changed, and a series of measures aimed at preventing violence have been introduced.

Furthermore, Presidential Decree No. PF-33, signed on March 3, 2026, focuses on strengthening the protection of women's and children's rights and improving the system to prevent harassment and acts of violence against them [2]. This decree encourages state agencies to work in a coordinated manner and sets out a comprehensive plan of action against violence. Other normative acts adopted by the Government of Uzbekistan, including resolutions and presidential decrees, cover organizational and legal mechanisms such as establishing rehabilitation centers for victims, taking prompt measures in cooperation with law enforcement agencies, and raising legal awareness in society. For instance, the legal framework has been reinforced to enhance the effectiveness of protective orders and rehabilitation centers, and a system has been established to provide additional social, psychological, and medical assistance to victims.

International cooperation also contributes to improving Uzbekistan's legal approach. International organizations collaborate with Uzbekistan to conduct awareness campaigns, training programs, and practical workshops aimed at reducing gender-based violence. These initiatives help to analyze the social roots of violence in depth and strengthen preventive measures using psychological, social, and legal approaches based on gender considerations. At the same time, mechanisms for legal assistance to victims and the detection of violence are being strengthened in practice, including the enforcement of protective orders and the organization of rehabilitation processes through social services and specialized centers. This reflects the effective cooperation between Uzbekistan's legal authorities and civil society institutions.

**Research Methodology.**

In this article, a combination of qualitative and quantitative approaches was applied as the research methodology. Data collection involved surveys, interviews, and analysis of previously published scientific articles. Additionally, existing statistical data were analyzed to identify trends and changes over time. Only official and reliable sources were used as data, and the results highlight the severity of the problems as well as ways to mitigate them. During the research process, methods such as information analysis, comparison, and generalization were also employed.

### **Analysis and Results.**

Violence against women remains a serious social issue in Uzbek society. In recent years, as attention to this issue has increased, the availability of statistical data for analysis has also grown significantly. Specifically, in the first seven months of 2023, 21,871 women were officially registered as victims and received protection orders in response to cases of violence and threats [3]. Among these cases, 84.7% occurred within the family environment, meaning that women most often experienced abuse from close relatives, including husbands or in-laws. These figures clearly demonstrate the widespread nature of the problem. Numerous studies confirm that the primary form of violence occurs within the domestic sphere, manifesting especially in both psychological and physical forms. Psychological violence often has a deeper impact than physical violence and can result in long-term psychological trauma for the victims [4].

Local and international practices indicate that many women choose not to report instances of violence to official authorities. This behavior is associated with social stigma, economic dependence, and entrenched societal stereotypes. Research shows that many victims seek help from friends or close relatives, while reporting to official institutions remains comparatively low. Moreover, available statistical studies highlight the various ways women address complaints of violence. Often, victims perceive their situation as a “family matter,” which discourages them from engaging with formal legal mechanisms. Therefore, the 21,871 protection orders issued in 2023 likely represent only a fraction of the real cases.

Analysis also demonstrates that violence against women encompasses not only physical force but also psychological, economic, and social pressure. For example, restricting women from working, limiting their financial independence, or socially isolating them constitutes economic violence. Such forms of abuse further reduce the victim’s opportunities and discourage them from seeking assistance.

Although most cases of violence in Uzbekistan occur within families, public attitudes are gradually changing. Gender-based disparities and stereotypes, such as the belief that women should not disclose family issues, often lead victims to conceal their problems. This contributes to underreporting in official statistics and creates a gap between recorded data and the actual situation. Analysis also indicates that psychological violence is increasingly being recognized. Previously unreported threats, constant intimidation, and hostile behavior are now documented as significant sources of harm, broadening the recognized forms of violence against women [5].

Statistical analyses show that violence against women in Uzbekistan is widespread and manifests in various forms. Indicators such as the number of protection orders issued by official authorities, psychological pressure, and attacks within family contexts reflect the complex nature of this issue. Consequently, addressing violence effectively requires a comprehensive approach that strengthens social, psychological, and protective systems.

### **Discussion.**

The issue of violence against women manifests as a complex social phenomenon in the context of Uzbekistan. Various scientific studies indicate that the primary occurrence of violence is within the family environment, which is closely linked to societal stereotypes and perceptions of gender inequality. Analyses, including studies conducted in 2025–2026, show that the number of women actively obtaining protection orders is increasing, which reflects a growing awareness of women’s rights and mechanisms for their protection. However, researchers note that these

statistics do not fully capture gaps within the system, as many cases go unreported or women are hesitant to report due to social stigma.

Psychological factors also play a critical role in understanding the complex nature of violence. For instance, domestic violence often manifests as psychological abuse, economic pressure, or emotional threats, leaving deep psychological scars even before physical harm occurs. Such violence undermines victims' self-confidence and well-being [6]. Therefore, psychological assessment and support services should receive greater attention within systems designed to identify and prevent violence.

Research also indicates that the causes of violence against women are not limited to chronic family problems. Societal gender stereotypes, patriarchal attitudes, and social pressure toward women contribute to the persistence of this phenomenon. For example, violence is frequently regarded as a "private family matter," and disclosing such cases is often criticized, which complicates victims' efforts to seek help. Due to these stereotypes, many women do not report incidents to official authorities or hesitate before doing so.

New forms of gender-based violence are emerging in online and digital environments. Recent studies in the Uzbek context highlight digital gender violence, such as cyberstalking, threats, and online harassment, and note that the legal system is currently ill-equipped to address these new types of offenses [7]. This situation necessitates the development of comprehensive strategies that account for emerging threats associated with modern technologies. Another important aspect emphasized in the discussion is the critical role of raising gender awareness within society. Open discussions about violence, dissemination of information on gender-based harm, and the provision of psychological support services can help reduce stereotypes. In turn, this encourages and supports victims in seeking assistance more confidently.

#### **Conclusion and Recommendations.**

The analyses presented in this article indicate that violence against women manifests not only in physical forms but also through psychological and social pressures, closely linked to societal stereotypes and perceptions of gender inequality. Research findings demonstrate that many victims tend to conceal domestic violence or refrain from approaching official authorities. At the same time, increasing threats in digital environments and online violence pose new risks, highlighting the need to enhance contemporary protection mechanisms. Analyses also suggest that it is necessary to ensure the effective functioning of existing psychological and social support systems for victims. This strengthens their confidence in defending their rights and reduces the likelihood of repeated violence.

Based on these findings, the following recommendations have been proposed:

—Conduct wide-ranging awareness campaigns about the forms and consequences of violence against women, as well as available support systems, utilizing mass media and online platforms.

—Expand psychological support centers for victims, focusing not only on physical recovery but also on restoring mental and emotional well-being.

—Implement training, seminars, and safety guidelines to prevent threats and violence against women in online and digital environments.

—Carry out social campaigns aimed at eliminating gender stereotypes and challenging the normalization of concealing domestic violence.

—Enhance social, economic, and psychological support opportunities for victims, encouraging them to seek assistance.

In conclusion, reducing violence against women and effectively protecting victims requires a comprehensive approach. Such an approach not only mitigates societal stereotypes but also provides psychological support, ensures digital safety, and raises awareness, ultimately leading to tangible results. This strategy can promote gender equality in society and reduce all forms of violence.

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