FGC is not only an AFRICAN SSUE

A LOOK AT THE PREVALENCE OF FGC IN NON-AFRICAN COUNTRIES

Female genital cutting is known to be practised by diaspora groups worldwide. Communities migrate, bringing their traditions with them. Those customs which they perceive as part of their cultural identity are most likely to be upheld.

It is hard to estimate the prevalence of FGC within these immigrant communities, as it is offen considered a private affair. In many countries FGC is illegal, and therefore it may be carried out in secret. Alternatively, children are sometimes taken back to their parents' native countries for the procedure - often known as 'holiday cutting'.



500,000 is the estimated number of girls and women are living with FGC in Europe alone





was the year Sweden became the first non-practising state to officially ban FGC



180,000 girls are estimated to be at risk of being subjected to FGC in Europe

CANADA FGC and 'holiday cutting' are illegal here, and are considered a form of child abuse. In 2012, the Society of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists of Canada pushed to ensure doctors and social workers consider it a human rights violation.

USA There is a federal law against

carrying FGC out on minors, and a

cutting' illegal. In 2000, the African

Women's Health Center at Brigham

and Women's Hospital estimated

that 227,887 women and girls had

been at risk of being subjected to

more recent 2010 law was

introduced to make 'holiday

UNITED KINGDOM Illegal since 1985, and falls most recently under the Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003. An estimated 66,000 women in the UK are thought to have been cut, and up to 20,000 girls are at risk.

FRANCE More people have been prosecuted here for cutting than anywhere else. France has also been known to offer asylum to those in danger of being cut. Up to 65,000 women are estimated to be living with FGC, with up to 20,000 more at risk.

PORTUGAL FGC was banned in 2007, and 'holiday cutting' is also illegal. Over 10% of healthcare workers interviewed said they had come across cases of FGC.

NORWAY FGC has been illegal here since 1995, and Norway has granted asylum to girls at risk of FGM. Recently a girl's parents were detained after having taken their daughter to Gambia to be cut.

> **GERMANY** approximately 21,000 women live with FGC in Germany, and 5,500 more are at risk. A law specifically prohibiting FGC is in the process of being made, but teachers and social workers are obliged to report any cases they may come across.

SPAIN An estimated 10,000 girls at risk of FGC. It has been illegal since 2003, and some people were prosecuted under general law before the specific law was passed.

ITALY Up to 30,000 women and girls living in Italy are victims of FGC. There are a number of campaigns against the illegal practice.

AUSTRALIA The law prohibits FGC in most territories, but in 2010 the Melbourne Women's hospital has reported seeing over 700 cases of FGC.





FGC in the U.S. that year.