## CRIMINAL LAW MEASURES OF PROTECTION IN CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND LEGAL REGULATIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA

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## ABSTRACT

Domestic violence is a serious legal, sociological and psychological problem of modern societies. It is defined as a pattern of abusive and coercive behaviour that may include physical harm, psychological and sexual abuse, social, physical, financial isolation, extreme jealousy and possessiveness, intimidation and threats committed by someone who has been, is or wants to be in an intimate relationship or a relationship with an adult or adolescent and is aimed at establishing control of one partner over another. Threats can be directed at a partner, his or her family, pets, property, etc. This term also includes children who are used by bullies to intimidate and abuse an adult victim, as well as those who are forced by the abuser to participate in the abuse of an adult victim. The aim of this paper is to present an elementary legal framework for domestic violence in terms of measures of protection and criminal liability in the case of legislation in the Republic of North Macedonia, with the aim of presenting deficiencies in the harmonization of laws with international instruments and making recommendations on the premise of improving it.

**Keywords:** Domestic violence, Protection measures, Criminal justice framework, Republic of North Macedonia.