

EUROPEAN HOMICIDE MONITOR

Nucleus Variables

Coding Manual



Universiteit
Leiden

Sven Granath, Marieke Liem, Janne Kivivuori, Nora Markwalder



Coding Manual

WHAT: INCIDENT BASICS				
Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
CASENR	Numeric	Incident identifier	Open variable (numeric)	The serial number starts off with the submitting countries' country code times 10,000. Add one for every new case. Each case number must be unique (only appear on the rows that belong to the same case in the dataset) and by the first digits indicate the country of origin by country code
SERNR	Numeric	Serial number	Open variable (numeric)	The serial number starts off with the submitting countries' country code times 10,000. Add one for every new row. Each number must be unique (only appear on one single row in the dataset) and by the first digits indicate the country of origin by country code.
INCDESC	String	Incident description	Open variable (text)	Write a short description of the incident in English (e.g. "A killed B in a barroom fight in a quarrel over debt").
NRVIC	Numeric	Number of victims	Open variable (numeric) 998 = More than one, exact number unknown 999 = Unknown	State the number of victims involved in the incident. A victim is defined as any person who is a victim of lethal violence. Murder attempts, other forms of violence and other crimes committed against others in the same incident are not to be included.
NRPERP	Numeric	Number of perpetrators	Open variable (numeric) 998 = More than one, exact number unknown 999 = Unknown	State the number of perpetrators involved in the incident. A perpetrator is defined as any person who is suspected of and/or charged with homicide. Perpetrators found not guilty on the later stages of the criminal justice process are therefore included in the data (i.e. if a person is found guilty in the preliminary police investigation but not charged by the prosecutor; or if a person is prosecuted but acquitted by the court s/he is included in the data).

WHERE: LOCATION CHARACTERISTICS				
Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
COUNTR	Numeric	Which country did the crime take place?	[Insert modern country code] 999 = Unknown	Choose the country that has submitted the data (should be the same as the country in which the homicide occurred). The value is the same as the country code (see Appendix B in Granath et al, 2011 for a complete list). For example: 31= Netherlands 41= Switzerland 45 = Denmark 46 = Sweden 358 = Finland 372 = Estonia
NUTS3	String	What is the NUTS3 area, including the name of the town?	[Insert name of NUTS3 area and town]	Indicate in which NUTS 3 region the crime was committed. If unknown, leave blank. See appendix A in Granath et al, 2011 for a list of NUTS 3 regions in SE, FI and NL. See the following website for a full list and further details: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page/portal/nuts_nomenclature/introduction
CRIMESCENE	Numeric	Crime location	-4 = Private home, resident unknown 1 = Private home of victim and perpetrator 2 = Private home of perpetrator 3 = Private home of victim 4 = Private home of other person (not victim or perpetrator) 5 = Institution, dormitory 6 = Hotel or motel 7 = Inside a car or other private vehicle 8 = Park, forest or recreational area 9 = Shop, restaurant or other place of entertainment and amusement (coffee shop, bar, amusement park, etc.) 10 = Street, road, public transportation or other public place 11 = Workplace 12 = Other 999 = Unknown	Indicate where the act of lethal violence took place. This refers to where the crime was committed, not to the place where the body was found. Private home (values -4, 1, 2, 3, 4) means in or around the home, including the attic, basement, staircase, garden etc. If the homicide has taken place in a private home, but it is unclear which of the values 1-3 you should choose, then you should choose -4. Institution, Dormitory (value 5) includes hospitals, prisons, dormitories and homeless shelters. Value 10 also applies to queues, parking lots, on a train or in a school.

WHEN: TIME CHARACTERISTICS				
Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
DATECOM	Date	On what date did the crime take place?	dd.mm.yyyy	Insert the EXACT date (or, if unknown the earliest probable date) at which the violence leading to death took place.
TIME	Numerical	Time the crime was committed	1 = Morning (6.00 to 12.00) 2 = Afternoon (12.00 to 18.00) 3 = Evening (18.00 to 24.00) 4 = Night (00.00 to 6.00) 999 = Unknown	The time of day that the crime was committed. If time of day was committed is not known; choose 999.

HOW: MODUS OPERANDI				
Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
MODUS	Numeric	Modus operandi in the homicide	1 = Poisoning 2 = Exposure to corrosive or hot substances 3 = Hanging/ Strangulation/ Suffocation 4 = Drowning 5 = Firearm 6 = Bomb/explosive 7 = Smoke or fire 8 = Knife or other sharp object/weapon 9 = Blunt object/weapon 10 = Axe 11 = Push or shove (from/in front of something) 12 = Motor Vehicle 13 = Hitting, kicking or other similar physical violence without weapon 14 = Other 999 = Unknown	<p>If multiple methods have been used, choose the method highest up on the list. For example, if the victim has been stabbed (value 8) and kicked (value 13), choose value 8.</p> <p>When multiple sources indicate that different types of violence have caused death, submit the type given in the autopsy first. If there is no autopsy, then you should use in the following order: medical statement, police statement, media statement, your own assessment.</p> <p>The initiators of the EHM have sorted this list according to most violent method (1 is most violent). In case of multiple modi, choose highest in the list</p>

WHO: INDIVIDUAL CHARACTERISTICS

Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
TYPE	Numeric	Is this individual a victim or a perpetrator?	0 = Victim 1 = Perpetrator	Indicate whether the person-row concerns a victim or a perpetrator. <i>In this variable, no missing data are allowed. All cells must have one of the values (0, 1).</i>
PRINCIPAL	Numeric	Is this individual a principal victim or a principal perpetrator in the homicide incident?	0 = No 1 = Yes, principal perpetrator 2 = Yes, principal victim	Indicate whether the row concerns a victim or a perpetrator that can be considered to be a principal individual in the case. The Principal Victim = The victim with the closest relationship to the perpetrator. If the victim and perpetrator are equally as close, or the relationship is unknown, choose the victim that died first. If the relationship is equal or unknown, choose the oldest victim as the principal victim. If all victims are of the same age or if their age is unknown, choose randomly. The principal perpetrator = The perpetrator that has been prosecuted (see variable PROCESS). If more than one perpetrator is prosecuted, then the principal is the one with the most severe sentence. If two or more of the perpetrators have equal sentences, then choose the one with the most severe sanction (see variable 74). If that also is equal, then it is the one with the closest relationship to the victim (see variable 47). If that also is equal, choose randomly. In case there is just a body found and no one knows who the perpetrator is, 12 principal is 'unknown'.
GENDER	Numeric	What is the gender of the person?	1 = Male 2 = Female 999 = Unknown	State the gender of the individual.
AGE	Numeric	How old is the person?	Open variable (numeric) 150 = Unknown, 15 years or over 151 = Unknown, less than 15 years 999 = Unknown	State the age of the individual (at the time of the crime).

BIRTHCOUNTRY	Numeric	In which country was the person born?	<p>0 = Same country the crime took place in</p> <p>[Insert country code, with exceptions:</p> <p>1 = Canada 2 = United states 3 = Puerto Rico]</p> <p>–999 = Unknown –998 = Unknown foreign country –997 = Unknown Europe –996 = Unknown North America –995 = Unknown South America –994 = Unknown Africa –993 = Unknown Asia (west parts) –992 = Unknown Asia (east parts) –991 = Unknown Oceania –990 = Other</p>	<p>Choose the birth country of the individual. Use the official country code for the nation (see appendix B in Granath et al, 2011 for a full list of country codes).</p> <p>Note the different “unknown” values at the bottom of the list.</p> <p>The United States and Puerto Rico have the same country code as Canada (value 1). Therefore, use value 2 for the United States and value 3 for Puerto Rico.</p> <p>If individuals are born in countries that no longer exist, e.g. former Yugoslavia or USSR, and it is unknown in which part they were born according to new values (e.g. Serbia, Bosnia, Belarus, etc.), code them as being born in the biggest new country by population. At present (2011): Yugoslavia = Serbia and USSR = Russia.</p>
IMMIG	Numeric	Immigration background	<p>0 = Not applicable 1 = Work-migrant: low education 2 = Work-migrant: high education 3 = Work migrants: Education level unknown 4 = Family migrant 5 = Asylum migrant 6 = Study migrant 7 = Other 99 = Immigrant, reason unknown 999 = Unknown</p>	<p>State the official reason for the immigration of the individual.</p> <p>If a person was born in the country where the incident took place, code the individual as 0. If unknown where the person was born, code 999.</p> <p>Work migrants are individuals who migrated for work. Differentiate between lower and higher educated individuals.</p> <p>Family migrants are individuals are migrated to form a family (e.g. to live with their partner) or to join their partner or parents in another country.</p> <p>Asylum migrants are individuals who entered the country with a refugee status.</p> <p>Study migrants are individuals who migrated to follow a temporary educational track in another</p>
RESIDENCE	Numeric	Residence status	<p>0 = Nationals 1 = Permanent Residency Status 2= Temporary (short or long) Residency Status 3 = Asylum permit 4= Tourists 5= Illegal stay 999 = Unknown</p>	<p>0 = Nationals from the respective country (cases can be coded as nationals if this is explicitly mentioned or if nationality can be inferred)</p> <p>1: Permanent right to settle for a foreign national without any time restrictions or conditions.</p> <p>2: Temporary right to settle for a specific amount of time for a foreign national (Permit</p>

				<p>will be up for renewal after a certain amount of time).</p> <p>3: Asylum permit (either persons who have applied for asylum or have been granted asylum)</p> <p>4: Persons who enter the country for a short stay or based on a tourist visa</p> <p>5: Persons who are not allowed to enter the country or who have extended their legal stay</p>
PROF	Numeric	What was the profession of the individual? (ISCO-12 main 1-digit class)	<p>0 = Armed forces</p> <p>1 = Managers</p> <p>2 = Professionals</p> <p>3 = Technicians and associated professionals</p> <p>4 = Clerical support workers</p> <p>5 = Services and sales workers</p> <p>6 = Skilled agricultural, forestry and fisher workers</p> <p>7 = Craft and related trades workers</p> <p>8 = Plant and machine operators and assemblers</p> <p>9 = Elementary occupations</p> <p>10 = Students</p> <p>11 = Outlaws, professional criminals and vagrants</p> <p>997 = Minor, no occupation</p> <p>999 = Unknown</p>	<p>Consult the ISCO 2012 coding manual (International Labour Office 2012). Note that ISCO also contains agricultural and even archaic occupations, because it is meant to cover also undeveloped societies in today's world.</p> <p>Values 0–9 are from ISCO. Values 10+ are special to EHM. If the distribution is compared with studies using the standard ISCO, categories 10 and 11 should be coded as missing (not economically active / employed persons)</p>
DRINK	Numeric	Had the individual been drinking alcohol at the time of the crime ?	<p>0 = No, nothing in the incident indicates this</p> <p>1 = Yes, some indications exist</p> <p>2 = Yes, there are sure indications</p> <p>999 = Unknown</p>	<p>Indicate if the individual had been drinking alcohol at the time of the crime.</p> <p>1 Some indications mean that there are circumstances in the incident that suggest that the individual had been drinking alcohol at the time of the crime, e.g. empty bottles or cans or other paraphernalia, the presence of other persons who have been drinking alcohol or a recent history of alcoholism.</p> <p>2 Sure indications mean that there is explicit information about the individual having been drinking alcohol at the time of the crime.</p>

DRUG	Numeric	Had the individual taken drugs at the time of the crime?	<p>0 = No, nothing in the incident indicates this</p> <p>1 = Yes, some indications exist</p> <p>2 = Yes, there are sure indications</p> <p>999 = Unknown</p>	<p>Indicate if the individual had taken any drugs at the time of the crime.</p> <p>1 Some indications mean that there are circumstances in the incident that suggest that the individual had taken drugs at the time of the crime, e.g. drug paraphernalia, the presence of other persons who have been taking drugs or a recent history of drug abuse.</p> <p>2 Sure indications mean that there is explicit information about the individual having been taking drugs at the time of the crime. Drugs refer to the use of "narcotics" (heroin, Morphine etc.), as well as stimulants (cocaine, amphetamine etc.) and hallucinogens (ecstasy, hashish etc.). Excessive use (i.e. more than prescribed) of legally prescribed drugs is also included in the definition.</p>
VIOLENTHISTORY	Numeric	Does the individual have a history of <i>any prior violence?</i>	<p>0 = No</p> <p>1 = Yes</p> <p>999 = Unknown</p>	<p>Indicate if the individual has a history of violence. History of violence is defined as having been reported to the police for violent crimes previous to the homicide occasion.</p>

WHY: MOTIVES

Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
RELAT	Numeric	Relationship between victim and perpetrator	0 = Perpetrator and victim do not know each other 1 = Husband 2 = Ex-husband 3 = Boyfriend 4 = Ex-boyfriend 5 = Wife 6 = Ex-wife 7 = Girlfriend 8 = Ex-girlfriend 9 = Father 10 = Stepfather 11 = Mother 12 = Stepmother 13 = Child 14 = Stepchild 15 = Sibling 16 = Grandparent or great grandparent 17 = Other relative 18 = Housemate or flatmate (previous or present) 19 = Co-worker (previous or present) 20 = Classmate (previous or present) 21 = Teacher (previous or present) 22 = Schoolmate (previous or present) 23 = Patient (previous or present) 24 = Therapist (previous or present) 25 = Prostitute (previous or present) 26 = Purchaser of sexual services (previous or present) 27 = Neighbour 28 = Friend or long-time acquaintance 29 = The perpetrator and victim are slightly known to each other (not friends) 30 = New acquaintance (met in the last 24 hours) 31 = Partner or ex-partner (marital or engagement status unknown) 32 = Partner or ex-partner of the same sex; males (marital or	<p>Enter the value for the relationship that the victim has to the perpetrator (i.e. the victim is the (variable value) of the perpetrator).</p> <p>In cases of “overlapping” relations e. g. when the victim is a neighbour as well as a friend of the perpetrator, use the value that describes the principal (first and/or most important) status of the relationship. If this is not possible, use the value that indicates the most objective circumstance in the relationship. In the case of neighbour and friend, this means that the code for neighbour (value 27) should be used if the victim and perpetrators were neighbours before they were friends and/or because being neighbours is factual while the extent of their friendship is harder to determine.</p> <p>If the victim is a mistress or lover of the perpetrator, code girlfriend (value 7) or boyfriend (value 3). If the victim is the child of the perpetrator’s unmarried partner, code stepchild (value 14). If victim is the parent of the perpetrator’s partner, code other relative (value 17).</p> <p>In cases of partner-relations of the same sex, use the values 1-4 if it is a female-female relationship, and the values 5-8 if it is a male-male relationship. E.g. if a woman is killed by a woman she is married to, the relationship is coded as a 1, and if a man is killed by his ex-boyfriend, the relationship is coded as an 8. In same-sex-relations where the marital or engagement status is unknown, use value 32 or 33.</p> <p>Scored from the victim’s perspective</p>

			<p>engagement status unknown)</p> <p>33 = Partner or ex-partner of the same sex; females (marital or engagement status unknown)</p> <p>34 = Sexual rival</p> <p>35 = Mistaken identity</p> <p>999 = Unknown</p>	
TYPEHOM	Numeric	Type of homicide (in broad terms)	<p>1 = Partner killing</p> <p>2 = Child killing within family</p> <p>3 = Infanticide</p> <p>4 = Other familial killing</p> <p>5 = Criminal milieu (rip deals, narcotics affairs etc.)</p> <p>6 = Robbery killing: commercial business (shop, bank, taxi etc.)</p> <p>7 = Robbery killing: private home</p> <p>8 = Robbery killing: street robbery (civilian victim)</p> <p>9 = Nightlife violence</p> <p>10 = Killing by mentally disturbed person (Non-family)</p> <p>11 = Other in non-criminal milieu</p> <p>12 = Killing by children, not family-related</p> <p>13 = Child killed by adult, not family-related</p> <p>14 = Sexual</p> <p>15 = Other</p> <p>999 = Unknown</p>	<p>Choose the type of homicide that best describes the case in reference to relationship, motive and situation between the perpetrator and the victim. The relationship between the victim and the perpetrator should usually be considered the most important variable when defining the type of homicide. This means there is hierarchy in the order of which TYPEHOM of categories 1 to 14, with the higher being preferred. If for instance, a partner murders and rapes the other, PARTNERKILLNG is score with MOTSEX as motive.</p> <p>Partner killing refers to all homicides that take place between two persons who have, or have had, an intimate relationship.</p> <p>Child killing within family (value 2) refers to children between the age of 1 and 18 years old being killed by a family member.</p> <p>Family members constitute any person with whom the victim has kinship as well as persons adopted by or married to a person with whom the victim has kinship.</p> <p>Infanticide refers to the killing of children up to one year of age.</p> <p>Cases where a grown up (older than 18) son or daughter is the victim or the perpetrator of a homicide involving e.g. their parents are defined as familial killings (value 4).</p> <p>Parent is defined as biological mother or father as well as anyone with whom the victim has or has had an equivalent social or legal relationship.</p> <p>Killing by children, not family-related (value 12) refers only to killings by individuals under the age of 14.</p> <p>Child killed by adult, not family-related (value 13) refers only to killings with victims under the age of 14.</p> <p>Adult is defined as any person over the age of 18.</p>
MOTINFO	Numeric	Does the source contain information about offender motive(s)?	<p>1 = No</p> <p>2 = Yes, motive(s) can be plausibly inferred from the general incident information</p> <p>3 Yes, there is explicit information about the motive(s)</p>	Assess whether the source allows you to code in motive information.

MAINMOT	Numeric	What was the main motive to kill this person?	1 = Defence of, or rivalry over, property 2 = Criminal – economic gain 3 = Drug related motive 4 = Sexual gratification 5 = Criminal – other 6 = Offender paid or induced 7 = Revenge 8 = Opposing state authority 9 = Vigilantism or other illegal social control 10 = Political, religious and other ideological motives 11 = Jealousy 12 = Separation of intimate partner relationship 13 = Sorcery (conducting or counteracting) 14 = Honour 15 = Protection of kin or friend 16 = Sexual control 17 = Hate crime 18 = Self-Defence 19 = Altruism 20 = Mediated influence / copycat 21 = Mental disorder 22 = Other motive	Code only if MOTINFO = 2 or 3. Choose the motive which in your general assessment of the total information given in the source(s), was the offender’s most important motive . If it is not possible to ascertain the main motive, choose the one with the lowest value. See the above TYPEHOM for specifications of the code meanings. Note that this variable does not have a value for “Unknown”, because in the MOTINFO variable (above) you indicated that there is motive information. Sexual control of spouses/partners should be coded as 11. The category 15 is reserved for the control of other persons, such as children, parents or other relatives. The grouping of the variables is not relevant to the coding decision. It roughly reflects the universal classification of violence motives by Felson and Tedeschi (1993) into the clusters “Compliance” (codes 1–6), “Grievance” (codes 7–13) and “Identity” (codes 14–20).
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CONSEQUENCES				
Name	Type	Label	Values	Instructions
SUICIDE	Numeric	Perpetrator’s suicide	0 = No 1 = Yes 2 = Suicide attempt only 99 = Perpetrator unknown 999 = Unknown	Indicate if the perpetrator tried to or did commit suicide 24 hours after having committed the crime. Earlier attempts are not to be included. In incidents with multiple perpetrators, enter the value for each perpetrator on each row. On the row of the victim you should indicate the answer for the principal perpetrator.
PROCESS	Numeric	What is the individual’s procedural stage in the criminal justice system?	0 = Homicide remains unsolved; 1 = Suspect is identified but not arrested; 2 = Suspect has been arrested;	Indicate the final procedural stage of the individual in the criminal justice system. Suspects may not be arrested when the homicide has remained unsolved.

			<p>3 = Suspect has been prosecuted; 4 = Suspect has been sentenced; 5 = Suspect has been sanctioned. 6 = Suspect is deceased.</p>	<p>Suspects may be identified but not arrested because the police is not able to make an arrest.</p> <p>Suspects may not be prosecuted when the suspect is too young.</p> <p>Suspects may not be sentenced when they are not found guilty, when they cannot be held accountable, or for other reasons.</p> <p>Finally, suspects may be sanctioned to prison, psychiatric care, youth prison, institutional treatment, or a combination thereof.</p>
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Institute of Security and Global Affairs
Leiden University
www.universiteitleiden.nl/en

Turfmarkt 99
2511 DP The Hague

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