

# SAFE REPORTING

## JUSTICE, SAFETY AND PROTECTION FOR ALL

### CRIMINALISING UNDOCUMENTED PEOPLE DECREASES THEIR SAFETY AND PROMOTES EXPLOITATION



This increases their risk of abuse and exploitation



Individuals, their families and communities are left feeling unsafe, unprotected

Going to the police can trigger deportation for a person without papers – so they often avoid seeking help at all

The people who mistreat them (their employer, landlord, spouse) do so without fear of consequences

### WHAT IS SAFE REPORTING?

Safe reporting prioritises justice, safety and protection for victims with insecure status

1

#### UNCONDITIONAL ACCESS TO HOLISTIC SUPPORT SERVICES AND PROTECTION

Ensuring that all undocumented victims of crime can access available support services and protection (including special permits for victims of crime) without limitation based on the type of crime committed or their willingness to cooperate with authorities in a criminal investigation.



2

#### ACCOUNTABILITY AND RECOGNITION OF HARM

Adopting an approach to access to justice that promotes accountability and recognition of harm through the criminal justice system or other processes, including restorative justice and community-based approaches centred on the interests of the person who has been victimised.

3

#### PROTECTION FROM DEPORTATION

Establishing measures (“firewalls”) that remove the risk of undocumented victims facing deportation if they interact with law enforcement or other actors within the criminal justice system, through structural changes and by working with trusted, independent specialist organisations that can act as intermediaries and whose interest is solely in the welfare of the victim.

### WHY DO WE NEED SAFE REPORTING?

Safe reporting is the foundation of a victim-centred response that promotes justice, protection and safety for people who have been victimised, regardless of residence status.



Trust in public institutions



Safe communities



More accountability for harms committed



More efficient use of resources



Support and referrals for victims of crime



Public safety prioritised

### EU LAW PROTECTS ALL VICTIMS

Under the **Victims' Rights Directive**, every victim of crime has the right to:



Report crime without fear



Free, confidential assistance



Receive information in a way they understand



Protection from further victimisation



Be treated respectfully

Under the **General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)**, no victim or witness should fear that personal data revealed when seeking support and justice will be used against them for immigration enforcement purposes.

For more information, visit [www.picum.org](http://www.picum.org)