



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND THE LIMITATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS: JUST A MATTER OF RIGHTS?

Violence against women has been described as a “universal phenomenon in time and space”. Despite all the efforts made by States and the international community, the phenomenon is far from being eradicated. The aim of this paper is to verify how the international Conventions that protect women’s rights have dealt with the issue of violence against women. The analysis will focus on the CEDAW, within the UN context, and the Istanbul Convention, within the framework of the Council of Europe. The interpretation of their rules by the CEDAW Committee and the ECtHR will also be investigated. Starting from the current Italian situation, the findings of this study will help to better understand whether the current system of multi-level protection is adequate to tackle this complex phenomenon, or whether, and how, it needs to be improved.