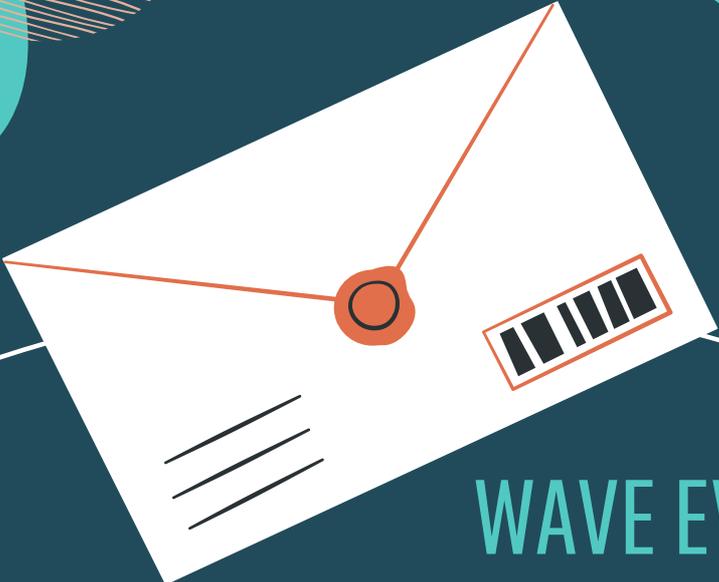


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WAVE NEWSLETTER

BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY THE WAVE NETWORK



WAVE NEWS

WAVE EVENTS

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

JULY-AUGUST 2022

WAVE EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE: 24th WAVE Conference

Women's specialist services as pillars of peace in times of crisis and beyond

10-11 October 2022 | Prague, Czech Republic

Registration is now open. Please register [here](#) until 30 September.

This year's conference, organised by the WAVE office together with WAVE members ROSA Center for Women and proFEM – Center for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence, is dedicated to the importance of women's specialist services (WSS) and their overall contribution towards society by navigating different contexts and building resilience and capacity in times of crisis and beyond. Women's specialist services, such as shelters, centres, helplines and prevention services are essential in times of crisis and in times of peace to ensure that violence against women and girls is effectively tackled and prevented.



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The main aim of the conference is to (re)focus attention on the invaluable role women's specialist services play as key actors in preventing and combating VAWG in times of crisis and beyond.

Day 1 is open to the general public and WAVE members.

Day 2 is only open to WAVE members.

For more information, click [here](#).

WAVE YOUTH AMBASSADORS' TWO DAY TRAINING ON CIVIL COURAGE

From **16-17 July**, **WAVE Youth Ambassadors** met in Vienna to attend a **civil courage** online training, funded by Magistrat der Stadt Wien, MA 57 - Advancement of women and coordination of women's issues, which was delivered by a trainer from Mauthausen Committee Austria. Four ambassadors had the opportunity to **increase sensitivity to actions of civil courage** on the Internet and to gain specific skills in tackling the deprivation of human and women's rights in public spaces on different levels. The young activists also had a chance to meet a member of Catcallsof.vienna, an inspiring feminist collective reclaiming public spaces through raising awareness of sexual harassment on the street. Through discussions and partaking in a chalking action on the street, they learned more about how to show civil courage when witnessing sexual harassment. The youth group was enriched with the presence and support of current WAVE interns.



Stop the Abuse and Start the Action

For more inspiration on civil courage and actions done by the WAVE Youth Ambassadors, click [here](#).

WAVE NEWS

NEW WAVE MEMBERS: WELCOME TO THE NETWORK



Meet WAVE member **Ninlil**
from Austria.



Meet WAVE member **PATENT**
Association from Hungary.



Meet WAVE member **Women's Support**
Project from Scotland.



Meet WAVE member **Women's Shelter**
Jamtland County from Sweden.

We look forward to working with you!



Women's organisations from all over Europe are encouraged to apply for membership of the WAVE Network. How to become a WAVE member? Click [here](#) to find out.

NEW METHODOLOGY TO SUPPORT CSOS IN ADVOCATING FOR THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

In order to support civil society organisations (CSOs) in promoting the principles, objectives, and provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) Network together with the Council of Europe's Gender Equality Division and UN Women have developed a **methodology with pertinent advocacy resources and tools**.



Illustration & Design by
Dorothee Post

This methodology will **assist CSOs in running national communication and advocacy campaigns on the Istanbul Convention**. The Istanbul Convention will be the subject of **positive narratives** produced by CSOs using this methodology, which will also help **debunk myths and false information** about the convention. **Both ratifying the Istanbul Convention and improving the standard of its implementation are possible goals of the campaigns. Click [here](#) for more information.**

WAVE MEMBER GENOVEVA TISHEVA RE-ELECTED AS A MEMBER OF CEDAW

Congratulations to **Genoveva Tisheva** of the Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation for being **elected for a second consecutive term as a member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW)**. The CEDAW Committee consists of 23 members whose main task is to monitor the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Genoveva Tisheva's term will run until 2026.

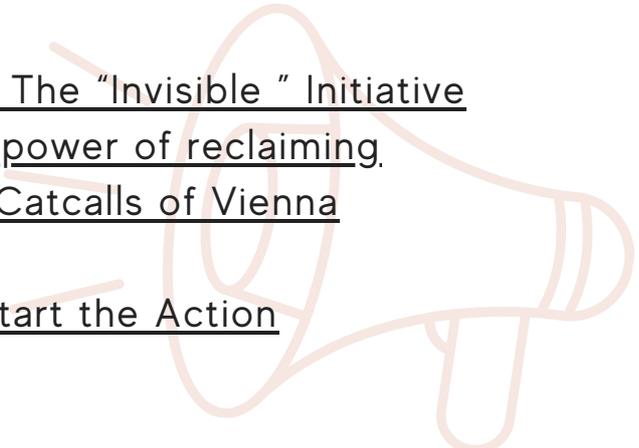


YOUTH SPEAK OUT: ENDING SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

In a two-week social media campaign, the **WAVE Youth Ambassadors and youth activists from the Western Balkans and Türkiye raised their voices against sexual violence** within the Civil Society Strengthening Platform. They disseminated country-specific resources and produced three informative and engaging videos based on the recommendations identified in the policy paper 'Promising Practices of establishing and providing specialist support services for women experiencing sexual violence. A legal and practical overview for women's NGOs and policy makers in the Western Balkans and Turkey' addressing sexual violence. The overall aim of this collaboration was to **provide youth with a better understanding of violence against women including sexual violence**, and the current legislation and structures in place to prevent such violence in the region of the Western Balkans and Türkiye. Furthermore, the WAVE Youth Ambassadors and youth activists aimed at **highlighting the presence and importance of specialist services** for women and girls who are survivors of sexual violence. **More [here](#)**.

PUBLICATION NEWS

The WAVE Fempower online Magazine includes empowering publications that range from **highlighting the societal contributions of women and feminist activists against violence against women and girls**, to the **efforts, work and achievements of women's specialists services**, and input on **youth inclusion** inside and outside the WAVE realm.

- Making Sexualised Violence Visible - The "Invisible " Initiative
 - From slut-shaming to Slutwalk - the power of reclaiming
 - Reclaiming public space with chalk- Catcalls of Vienna
 - Youth against sexual violence
 - Civil Courage: Stop the Abuse and Start the Action
- 

NEW WAVE OFFICE INTERNS: WELCOME TO THE NETWORK



Meet our **wonderful new interns Charlotte Cramer** (left) **and Laetitia Hohwieler** (right) who will both support us until the end of the year.

WAVE VACANCY

WAVE is looking for an experienced, proactive and enthusiastic **Grant Development and Monitoring Evaluation Coordinator*** to ensure effective resource mobilization for WAVE, management of funder relationships and effective recording as well as demonstrating of WAVE's work and its impact. **For more information on the job vacancy, click [here](#).**

*study leave cover from October 2022 - September 2023.

Be a part of our **WAVE of change today!** Here you can find more information on how your organisation can [become a member](#). If you are interested in a study visit [click here](#). Want to work with us? Here you can find [open job vacancies](#) and [internships](#) at WAVE and within the Network. To make a donation, click [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

updates from WAVE Members and political developments



WAVE MEMBER: ASSOCIATION "MARTA CENTRE"



Young people deserve spaces where, in the event of any incident (bullying, violence, or discrimination), the staff in charge of the project or activity (youth exchange, seminar, camp, workshop, etc.) can act in an effective and efficient manner that restores a suitable environment for learning and personal growth, and where all the people involved in the incident receive the necessary support and advice to resolve it positively or, at least, with the least negative impact. Therefore, the **ID-PRO Guidebook for making mobilities more inclusive and the Guidebook for inclusive communication** have been created with the collaboration of **MARTA Centre** partner organisations from Spain, Italy, and Scotland. More information about the **project and both guidebooks can be accessed [here](#).**



WAVE MEMBER: WOMEN'S RIGHTS CENTER (WRC)



Currently, the **Women's Rights Center (WRC)** broadcasts **series on "Domestic violence against women and its legal regulations"**, aimed to raise public awareness on the issue in one of the top TV channels in Armenia.

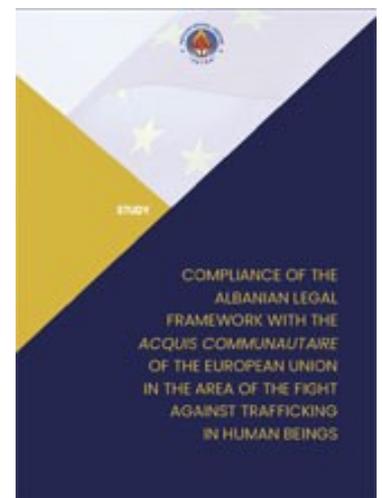
Each program presents and conveys comprehensive knowledge on the topic, seeking to inform the larger audience on domestic violence, its causes, consequences, impact on the family and other members of the society.

The program also includes legal perspectives, which cover local and international legislation existing in Armenia, to protect women survivors and their children from domestic violence and contribute to a new life free of violence. As a result WRC hopes to have an increased number of informed citizens, which contribute to the elimination of domestic violence.



WAVE MEMBER: PSYCHO-SOCIAL CENTRE "VATRA"

Psycho-Social Centre "Vatra" conducted the study on **"Compliance of the Albanian legal framework with the Acquis Communautaire of the European Union in the area of the fight against Trafficking in Human Beings"**. The purpose of this study is to contribute, through its results, to the strengthening of the protection system for victims of trafficking in Albania, specifically with regard to improving the Albanian legislation on the protection of victims' rights.

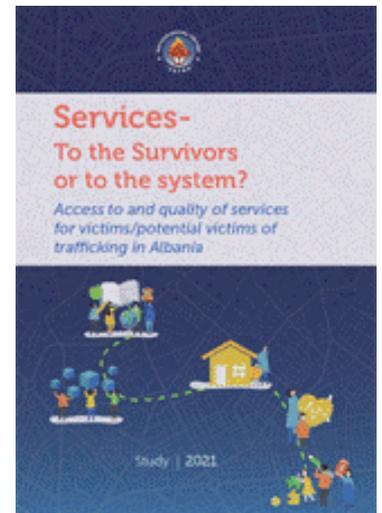


The study is divided into five chapters: in the first two chapters, the study provides the legal acts of the EU acquis, related to the area of the fight against human trafficking, followed by the regulatory mechanisms of the Albanian legal framework in the fight against this phenomenon. The basic part of the study addressed in the third and fourth chapters provides an analysis of the compliance between the existing legal standards with those of the EU, both in the area of THB and the rights of victims. The fifth chapter provides recommendations to harmonize the legislation in cases of lack of compliance.

In addition to this, **Psycho-Social Centre "Vatra"** conducted another study on **"Services to the survivors or to the system? Access to and quality of services for victims/potential victims of tracking in Albania"**.

The study analyzes the current situation regarding the provision of services to survivors of human trafficking and has gathered recommendations on the “future” of services, aiming to assist and improve the work of agencies and institutions tasked with protecting victims and their supporters.

The study is composed of 12 chapters, which provide findings regarding the necessary services for survivors of human trafficking; reintegration practices; information on traffickers, and the importance of such information; victims’ participation in the provision of assistance; service costs; experts providing assistance; maintenance of confidentiality; referral to services; the role of services in preventing trafficking and in the criminal prosecution of traffickers; attracting victims towards services; services monitoring; reporting services in the media.



The study has provided different recommendations for service improvement for legislators, policymakers, service providers, donors, for coordinating and monitoring structures and media.



WAVE MEMBER:
WOMEN'S SUPPORT CENTER (WSC)

Women's Support Center (WSC) supporting survivors of violence against women and girls in post-war Armenia. The 2020 Nagorno-Karabakh war caused a humanitarian crisis in Armenia. An estimated half of the region's population, approximately 90,000 people, mainly women, and children, were displaced. Internally displaced women and girls face a heightened risk of violence, including domestic violence, due to the uncertainties and lack of access to services associated with displacement. In response, the Women's Support Center **began a project in 2021 to support women and girl survivors of violence, especially those who are displaced or otherwise marginalized.**

WSC offered immediate material support, including shelter and psychological services for displaced women and children, and led awareness-raising workshops with internally displaced women and girls about domestic violence and available services. Since the project began in April 2021, it has reached almost 800 women and girls, 450 of them internally displaced, from several regions, and has offered five of them shelter.

A displaced woman referred to the Center said: “I have seen a lot of changes in myself thanks to the Center and to the specialists. I learned that a woman isn’t just born to take on chores or made to feel guilty about everything. Rather a woman is also a person who has rights and who should be protected.”

To learn **more about this project** carried out with support from the United Nations Trust Fund, click [here](#).

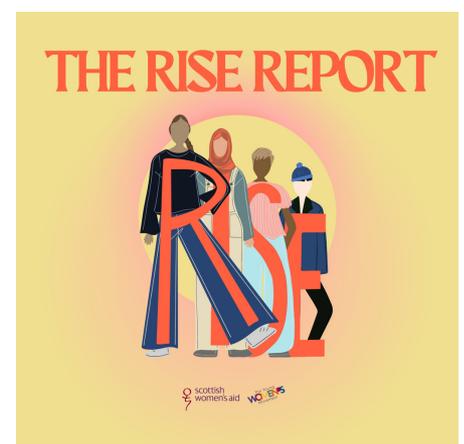


Women's Support Center social worker Narine Manukyan leads small group sessions with survivors



WAVE MEMBER:
SCOTTISH WOMEN'S AID

Scottish Women's Aid and YWCA Scotland launched a jointly created participative piece of research all about young women's and girls' (aged 12 to 25) experience and understanding of domestic abuse within their own relationships. The Rise report looks at what young women see as healthy and unhealthy relationship behaviours, where they would seek support, and how they would like to be supported by agencies. Its aim is to help service providers across Scotland increase service accessibility to young women and girls. For more information, click [here](#).



"IF YOU ARE OLD ENOUGH TO ASK QUESTIONS YOU CAN BE TAUGHT, IT HELPS YOU TO LEARN YOUNGER BECAUSE YOU FEEL MORE COMFORTABLE TALKING ABOUT IT, IF YOU GROW UP WITH IT IT'S MORE NORMAL."

– ANONYMOUS



"START YOUNG! YOU CAN BE A BABY TO LEARN ABOUT CONSENT, LIKE THAT IT'S OKAY TO SAY NO TO BEING HUGGED... KIDS ARE NEVER TOO YOUNG TO KNOW HOW THEY SHOULD BE TREATED, BRING THEM UP CONFIDENT."

– ANONYMOUS



WAVE MEMBER: WOMEN'S AID IRELAND

#TooIntoYou: One in Five young women aged 18-25 in Ireland are subjected to abuse by a current or former male partner. **Women's Aid Ireland** runs the **#TooIntoYou** campaign to raise awareness of intimate relationship abuse amongst young people, in particular young women, aged 18-25 in Ireland. On the #TooIntoYou website, young people can find support and information on intimate relationship abuse. The campaign can also be followed on Twitter and Instagram.

Women's Aid Ireland, in collaboration with RedC, published the findings of two nationally representative studies of young women and men in Ireland (aged 18-25) on intimate relationship abuse: **Women's Aid Research on Intimate Relationship Abuse and Young People aged 18 to 25 in Ireland**.

This research found that:

- Intimate relationship abuse is a highly gendered issue. 1 in 5 young women in Ireland are subjected to intimate relationship abuse by a current or former male partner.
- 51% of young women affected first experienced the abuse under the age of 18.
- 33% of young women never spoke to anyone about the abuse they experienced.

Women's Aid Ireland also published the report **Yes It's Abuse: Young people's understanding of & attitudes to intimate relationship abuse**. Based on the findings of this report, they launched the **Help a Friend tool** to help young people check on friends they are worried might be experiencing abuse.



WAVE MEMBER: AUTONOMOUS WOMEN'S CENTRE

The COVID-19 pandemic and the work in altered circumstances marked the year 2021 as well, including the actions in the protection against domestic violence (DV) in Serbia. The **Autonomous Women's Centre tenth report** on implementation of the Law on the Prevention of Domestic Violence **shows that the growing trend in the number of reports of DV events has been interrupted**. The number of police emergency orders was quite similar to that in the previous year; however, there was a significant decrease in the issuance of both emergency measures and significantly fewer temporary eviction measures. Followed by a worrying increase in the number of perpetrators who had repeated acts of domestic violence, which is certainly an indicator of the ineffectiveness of emergency and extended measures, to which additional attention should be paid. Victims were rarely present at group meetings, and it remains unclear how much the individual protection and support plans met their real (complex) needs, but also who informed them about the content of the plans. It seems that the resources of the system were exhausted for emergency protection, so long-term protection measures, criminal procedures, and individualized support plans for victims of violence were lacking. As in previous years, it is clear that **in order to improve the implementation of the Law, it would be necessary to conduct a series of targeted qualitative analyses of the actions of all key actors**.



WAVE MEMBER: ASSOCIATION SOS HELP-LINE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

Association SOS Help-line for Women and Children - Victims of Violence started offering legal counseling for survivors of VAW, in cooperation with the Association of young lawyers, Association Pravo za vse. Survivors of VAW can **contact SOS Help-line** any time for legal questions regarding VAW, domestic violence, child custody or legal proceedings in general, such as how to get free legal aid to which victims of violence are entitled to or how to get court-ordered child support to be actually paid. Furthermore, they can call the **free SOS Helpline 080 11 55** every second Thursday to discuss legal concerns and receive useful advice. Besides this provision of much-needed free legal support that survivors of VAW usually need, cooperation between the two organizations is an example of good practice in Slovenia, as survivors of VAW need support; from society as well as the NGO sector as a whole.

CONGRATULATIONS

to **Kateryna Cherepakha** from **WAVE** member **La Strada** for **receiving the 2022 TIP Report Heroes Awards**. The awards are a recognition of the activities, expertise, and achievements of civil society organizations in the field of combating human trafficking.



Kateryna Cherepakha
Ukraine

Trafficking in Persons Report
2022
HERO



**CLICK THE DONATE BUTTON
TO SUPPORT WOMEN AND
WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS
DEFENDERS IN THE UKRAINE
AND IN NEIGHBOURING
COUNTRIES!**