

Funded by the
European Union



WAVE NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY THE WAVE NETWORK



DECEMBER 2024

Dear fellow dedicated feminist activists,
we are happy to share the last WAVE Newsletter of the year. Discover what unfolded in and around WAVE in December 2024!

THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER INCLUDES

- **WAVE's 16 Days Highlights: Empowering Voices and Collective Resilience,**
- **WAVE in Action: Highlighting Our External Representation at Key Events,**
- **Join the European Webinar Series: Expert Insights on Addressing Domestic Violence in Healthcare,**
- **New Publication: WAVE Toolkit on Feminist Self-Care for Young Activists and Young Professionals,**
- **New WAVE Magazine Article On Youth-Led Initiatives for Safer Cities,**
- **Celebrating Growth: WAVE Welcomes 182nd Member,**
- WAVE voices on **Safe and Accessible Abortion in the EU.**

This newsletter covers updates from WAVE and our members including political developments from across Europe.



As we approach the end of an extraordinary year, we reflect on **WAVE's 30th anniversary** with immense gratitude. To our network, women's human rights defenders, and feminist activists worldwide: thank you for your relentless commitment to ending violence against women and girls.

We wish you joyful holidays and a wonderful New Year!


♥, the WAVE team


💡 [Contribute to our Solidarity Fund and be a lifeline for WAVE members in crisis. Every donation counts.](#)


WAVE EVENTS


The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence concluded in December, with WAVE's campaign highlighting our shared journey toward **Feminist Collective Liberation and Resilience**. During this time, we amplified powerful voices and actions leading the fight to end violence against women and girls.


Here are our WAVE Highlights:

 Podcast Episode "My Voice, My Choice: Advancing Safe and Accessible Abortion across Europe" ([HERE](#))

 Article "Post #MeToo Rape Culture through the Mazan trial and the need for a consent-based definition of rape" ([HERE](#))

 Podcast Episode "Awareness in Action: Collective Accountability and Change with AWA*" ([HERE](#))

 Article "Obstetric and gynaecological violence in Europe: when healthcare becomes control" ([HERE](#))

 On 10 December, the **International Human Rights Day**, WAVE published a statement affirming the urgent need to protect, advance, and realise women's human rights in both times of peace and conflict. **"In the face of increasing pushback, we must remain vigilant to safeguard the fundamental rights and protections of women and girls from erosion."** Read [HERE](#).

WAVE NEWS

WAVE IN ACTION: HIGHLIGHTING OUR EXTERNAL REPRESENTATION AT KEY EVENTS

Throughout the last months of the year, WAVE has remained actively engaged in key discussions and actions. In both November and December, we participated in significant events that allowed us to contribute to the ongoing work to end violence against women and girls. Below, we provide insights into three notable events where we were present and actively involved.



WAVE's Grant Management Coordinator Szilvia Szabo attended the 29th Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP29) from 19-22 November 2024, invited by WAVE member Gender Hub Azerbaijan.

In her intervention, she emphasised the crucial role of **women's specialist services as first responders in crisis situations**, highlighting the solidarity within our network, supported by the WAVE Solidarity Fund to provide rapid financial assistance during disaster situations.

WAVE members Natalia Batenkova (Unizon, Sweden) and **Cliona Saidléar** (Rape Crisis Network, Ireland) attended the Third Meeting of the EU Network on Prevention of Gender-Based Violence and Domestic Violence from 27-29 November.



On behalf of WAVE, they emphasised the importance of addressing **non-consensual intimate image abuse and cyber hate speech** as forms of violence against women within the **broader continuum of violence**, not as isolated issues. They also highlighted the need for a clearer understanding of consent.



At the Gender Equality Forum 2024 of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE), which took place from 10-11 December, WAVE co-hosted a workshop on **how the EU Directive on Violence against Women and Domestic Violence can drive prevention and improve survivor support** in collaboration with partners International Planned Parenthood Federation - European Network (IPPF EN), the Center for Reproductive Rights, Amnesty International, Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants (PICUM), ILGA Europe, Eurocentralasian Lesbian* Community (EL*C), End FGM European Network, OII Europe and La Strada.

WAVE also led a masterclass on **primary prevention**, featuring insights from Garance and the WAVE Youth Ambassadors program.

VIPROM EUROPEAN WEBINAR SERIES

The EU project **VIPROM - Victim Protection in Medicine** (2023-ongoing) is dedicated to providing sustainable, embedded, and institutionally recognised training to medical professionals on how to effectively respond to domestic violence.

Starting in March 2025, the **European Webinar Series** will feature experts and medical trainers sharing valuable knowledge, skills, and best practices.

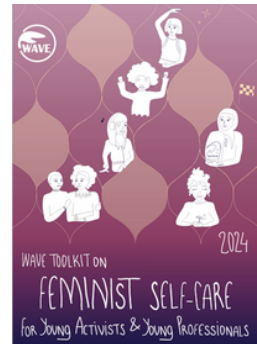
Why attend?

- Learn how to identify and address domestic violence in healthcare settings
- Gain insights from leading experts, including members of the VIPROM consortium and partners
- Participate in live Q&A sessions, clarify concepts, and exchange experiences with peers

💡 [Register HERE](#) for the European Webinar Series!

NEW WAVE YOUTH TOOLKIT

We are thrilled to share the publication of the **WAVE Toolkit on Feminist Self-Care for Young Activists and Young Professionals!** This resource is crafted to support young changemakers in sustaining their mental and physical well-being while engaging in transformative work for gender equality. This publication builds on our [2022 WAVE Campaigning and Advocacy Toolkit for Youth Activists](#), offering a complementary resource tailored to the needs of young activists working for systemic change and a world free from violence against women and girls.



💡 [Delve into the WAVE Toolkit on Feminist Self-Care HERE!](#)

YOUTH VOICES, BIG IMPACT



In our latest online magazine article, the Girls* Advisory Group (G*AG), supported by WAVE member [Juniper](#) (Poland) and PLAN International Poland, share their journey as **youth activists driving change for safer cities**. From online campaigns and advocacy events to international exchanges, G*AG members reflect on their inspiring efforts

Rooted in their personal experiences and guided by the principle of “nothing about us, without us”, they demonstrate the power of **youth-led initiatives in addressing women’s safety in public spaces.**

[Read the Online Article HERE!](#)

WELCOMING NEW WAVE MEMBER



As 2024 slowly comes to a close, we are delighted to announce the final addition to our growing #WAVEofChange this year: our 182nd member, the **International Migrant Women’s Solidarity Association** (Uluslararası Göçmen Kadınlar Dayanışma Derneği) from Türkiye!

This milestone is especially meaningful as it marks another step forward for WAVE in its 30th anniversary year. We therefore want to express our heartfelt thank you to all our members, partners, and supporters for making **2024 a year of meaningful impact and collective growth!**

[Interested in joining us? Learn more and apply for WAVE membership HERE!](#)

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

updates from WAVE Members and political developments

MY VOICE, MY CHOICE

We are so close to making a difference: Can we count on you? Sign the European Citizens’ Initiative My Voice, My Choice for **safe and accessible abortion across the EU**. We need 1 million signatures, and we can only make it happen with your support!

[Sign here: https://eci.ec.europa.eu/044/public/#/screen/home](https://eci.ec.europa.eu/044/public/#/screen/home)

Every signature counts, so please share this with your friends and networks to help us reach our goal!



wave-network.org



[@womenagainstviolenceeurope](https://www.facebook.com/womenagainstviolenceeurope)



[@womenagainstviolenceeurope](https://www.instagram.com/womenagainstviolenceeurope)



[@WAVE_Europe](https://twitter.com/WAVE_Europe)