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WAVE NEWSLETTER

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER BY THE WAVE NETWORK




OCTOBER 2024

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

THIS MONTH'S NEWSLETTER INCLUDES

- **Celebrating 30 Years of Collective Strength at the WAVE Conference 2024,**
- **From Celebration to Action: Insights from the WAVE Fall Advisory Board Meeting,**
- **WAVE's Brussels Visits: Building Advocacy and Research Connections,**
- **Strengthening Youth Voices: WAVE at the Beijing+30 Regional Review Meeting,**
- **Global Alliances to End Violence Against Women,**
- **Amplifying Fempower for Violence Prevention: WAVE's Magazine is Published,**
- **Training Medical Professionals to Identify Domestic Violence Via VIPROM Project,**
- **WAVE voices on Femicides in Türkiye, Research on the Price of Safety and Report on the Family Justice Response to Domestic Abuse.**

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


 [Urgent times call for unwavering support!](#)
[Contribute to our Solidarity Fund and be a lifeline for WAVE](#)
[members in crisis. Every donation counts.](#)

WAVE EVENTS



This year's WAVE Conference, "**From emergency support to violence prevention: 30 years of championing women's rights**", took place in Vienna, Austria, from September 30th to October 1st, 2024, and marked a powerful milestone: 30 years of dedicated feminist activism and advocacy. From insightful discussions to dynamic workshops focused on violence prevention, WAVE members' and participants' commitment to advancing women's rights was evident at every step.

We were also thrilled to celebrate this anniversary with all of you!
Thank you for being part of our WAVE of Change! [#30yearsWAVE](#)

 [Watch our special anniversary video in which we reflect on our beginnings, our collective strength, and how we have united across Europe to combat violence against women and girls!](#)

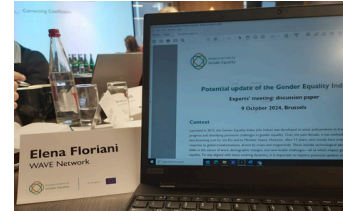
Although the 26th WAVE Conference concluded on October 1, the critical work continued the very next day with the WAVE Fall Advisory Board meeting in Vienna, Austria. Together, we **focused on advocacy, research, and setting priorities for the coming months**. We are eager to see the impact of this meeting unfold throughout 2024 and look forward to paving new paths in 2025.



WAVE NEWS

WAVE'S BRUSSELS VISITS

From October 8-9, WAVE Project & Research Coordinator Elena Floriani participated in an **expert consultation by the European Institute for Gender Equality on the Beijing Platform for Action +30 and the Gender Equality Index update**. Reflecting on her participation, she shares: "It was a privilege to bring the perspectives of civil society organizations advocating for a gender-specific approach to the table."



During the week of October 14, WAVE Executive Director Stephanie Futter-Orel, Senior Manager Anca Ciupa, and Senior Advocacy Advisor Eliana Jimeno **met with MEPs and the European Commission to ensure that gender equality and the prevention of violence against women remain top priorities this legislative term**.

They also discussed the EU's accession to the Istanbul Convention and the crucial role of civil society in its full implementation, **emphasising the importance of women's specialist services in addressing and preventing violence against women and girls**.

BEIJING +30 REGIONAL REVIEW MEETING IN GENEVA

WAVE Project and Youth Ambassador Coordinator Branislava Arađan took part in a panel dedicated to ending violence against women and girls at the **Beijing+30 Regional Review Meeting in Geneva** from October 21-22. She underscored the crucial role young people play in preventing violence against women and girls, drawing on the **impactful work of the WAVE Youth Ambassadors Initiative**.



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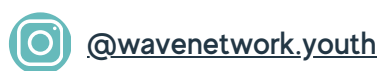
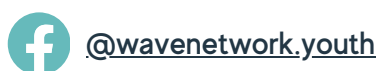
"The reality is, that despite the massive potential young people have to drive change, strong stereotypical biases persist. If we want to overcome these barriers, we need to make engagement simpler, use language that speaks across generations, and fully harness digital platforms to boost youth participation." - Branislava Arađan

Also present as one of the representatives of civil society organizations was **Maryam Majidova, Co-founder and Executive Director of Gender Hub, our newest WAVE member from Azerbaijan.**



Organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) and UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, the interministerial meeting titled “**Reviewing 30 years of Beijing Commitments to Accelerate Gender Equality in the UNECE Region,**” convened ministers, senior officials, UN entities, civil society, youth organizations, and other stakeholders. Participants assessed progress, shared best practices, and built consensus on priority actions to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls in the UNECE region. **The meeting’s goals included evaluating progress over the past five years, addressing challenges, and preparing inputs for the 69th session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2025.**

💡 Interested in the WAVE Youth Ambassadors Initiative? In October, we launched the call for the 4th generation of WAVE Youth Ambassadors, seeking passionate young activists aged 18-27 dedicated to women’s rights, feminism, and ending violence against women and girls. We will soon announce the selected ambassadors, so be sure to follow our youth initiative to stay updated and help us strengthen and amplify youth voices across Europe!



[Click here to explore WAVE’s resource on the power of youth activism in the ‘WAVE Campaigning and Advocacy Toolkit for Young Activists,’ now newly translated into Polish!](#)

BUILDING GLOBAL ALLIANCES

From October 27-28, WAVE Project & Network Coordinator Léa Dudouet attended the **2024 Convening for the A.C.T. to End Violence Against Women (Advocacy, Coalition Building and Transformative Feminist Action) Global and Regional Programme in Cape Town, South Africa.** The convening was organised by the UN Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women in collaboration with UN Women Regional Offices for the Americas and the Caribbean (ACRO), East and Southern Africa (ESARO) and West and Central Africa (WCARO), and UN Women HQ. **Over two days, around 70 women from ACT Programme partners from Latin America and sub-Saharan Africa, along with key feminist allies, had the opportunity to network, establish meaningful connections for learning and exchange, and strategise to advance the movement for ending violence against women and girls.** A key objective of the meeting was to identify opportunities and strategies for collective action around advocacy priorities and emerging threats and challenges to the ending violence against women and girls movement building.

THE WAVE FEMPOWER MAGAZINE 2024 IS HERE



We are thrilled to present this year's Fempower edition, **"From Emergency Support to Violence Prevention: 30 Years of Championing Women's Rights"**. This issue **explores prevention** strategies and highlights the diverse practices of women's specialist services. **Featuring nine insightful articles from our dedicated WAVE members, it offers unique perspectives on preventing violence against women and girls.** We invite you to read these impactful articles and join us in amplifying our collective efforts towards violence prevention.

[💡 Access the WAVE Fempower Magazine 2024 here and be inspired by the incredible work being done across Europe!](#)

VIPROM PROJECT

Domestic violence can profoundly affect victims' physical and mental health. Yet, many medical professionals feel unprepared to identify and support victims effectively. Launched in 2023, the **EU project VIPROM - Victim Protection in Medicine** - aims to bridge this gap by **offering specialised, sustainable training for medical professionals.**

From October 2024 to February 2025, participants in the VIPROM training on domestic violence will gain essential skills to support victims of domestic violence and ensure the highest standard of care.

The training covers how to recognise indicators of violence, communicate sensitively, conduct medical assessments while preserving evidence, and understand risk assessment and safety planning. Participants will also learn about international legal frameworks, interorganisational cooperation, and addressing stereotypes and unconscious bias. This comprehensive training ensures that medical professionals are well-prepared to provide exceptional care and support.

[Find out more on the training modules for the health sector here!](#)

💡 The learning does not stop there - save the date for the "European Webinar Series" from March to July 2025. Running every two weeks, this 10-session series will extend the curriculum to medical professionals across Europe, broadening its reach and impact.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

updates from WAVE Members and political developments

THE FEMINIST STRUGGLE AGAINST SYSTEMIC MALE VIOLENCE

In Türkiye, the fight against femicides is intensifying. Despite growing awareness of gender inequality as the root cause, state efforts fall short, leaving countless cases without justice. In response, WAVE member **Mor Çatı Women's Shelter Foundation** ([Mor Çatı Kadın Sığınağı Vakfı](#)) contributed an article to WAVE's online magazine, illustrating how Türkiye's feminists are reframing femicide as systemic male violence and demanding full recognition of this crisis, along with accountability, prevention, and justice.



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[Read the full article in our online magazine!](#)

Written by **Mor Çatı Women's Shelter Foundation** ([Mor Çatı Kadın Sığınağı Vakfı](#)),
WAVE member in Türkiye

THE PRICE OF SAFETY

The report of WAVE member Women's Aid 'The Price of Safety: The cost of leaving an abuser and rebuilding a safe, independent life' analyses an illustrative case study of a survivor which shows that it costs around £50,000 for survivors to flee abuse and rebuild their life.

This research aims to quantify the costs survivors may face when fleeing a perpetrator and building a new life. It sets these costs within the context of economic abuse, intersectional barriers and the state support available. The findings highlight the deficit many survivors will face and the policy changes which could have the biggest impact in reducing the financial barriers to fleeing. The report makes the case for a social security system that is sufficient, accessible and domestic abuse informed, so that more survivors can access safety.

[The report, and webinar exploring this research, can be accessed here!](#)

Written by [Women's Aid Federation of England](#), WAVE member in the UK

RESEARCH ON FAMILY JUSTICE RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC ABUSE

The report from the three-year project titled **The Family Justice Response to Domestic Abuse: A European Analysis** has been published. Led by **Professor Shazia Choudhry** (University of Oxford, Individual WAVE Member), this empirical study examines the **experiences of survivors, judges, lawyers, and court-appointed experts in family courts across six countries (England and Wales, France, Spain, Italy and Bosnia & Herzegovina), highlighting areas for improvement.** You can access the full report [HERE](#) in English, French, Italian, and Spanish, along with an animation on key findings about human rights in domestic abuse proceedings [HERE](#). The report will soon be available in Bosnian as well.

[More about "The Family Justice Response to Domestic Abuse" here!](#)



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