



WAVE Newsletter November-December 2018

FGM is [#OurIssueToo](#)

“More than 200 million girls and women alive today have undergone female genital mutilation” ([WHO](#)), and “more than half of these live in just three countries: Indonesia, Egypt and Ethiopia” ([UNICEF](#)). However, the World Health Organisation states that numerous women and girls have “undergone or may be at risk of being subjected to female genital mutilation in Europe, Australia and North America” due to growing migration. FGM is thus prevalent all over the world, and it is crucial to develop strategies as well as take initiatives to end this practice. Therefore, the WAVE Network supports the annual campaign of the [End FGM European Network](#) to highlight the ubiquity of FGM, a global issue that must concern everyone.



FGM is #MyIssueToo



The 16 Days of Activism

WAVE Youth Ambassador social media takeover

In October 2018, we elected 11 candidates from 9 different European countries as WAVE Youth Ambassadors to support the Step Up! Campaign in raising awareness on the importance of fighting gender-based violence. During the 16 Days of Activism, the WAVE Youth Ambassadors took over our Instagram and Twitter account to create graphics and videos, and let their voices be heard. The aim of the social media takeover was to provide our Ambassadors with a platform to tackle serious issues such as child marriage and human trafficking. We thank the WAVE Youth Ambassadors for their important, informative and inspirational contributions and making the 16 Days of Activism a success for the Step Up! Campaign as well as the WAVE Network.



A.L.E.G. launches new website for women's empowerment

On 25 November, the Romanian association A.L.E.G. launched the web platform [Sieureusesc](#) that seeks to empower women survivors of intimate partner violence. Survivors are invited to anonymously share positive examples of how they have overcome violence by sending written, audio or video testimonials. Optionally, survivors can sign up to become a resource person in a local survivors' support group and be part of a survivors' community to share information and offer practical support. Support groups are already functioning in Sibiu, Brasov and Bucharest, and there are currently good prospects for Cluj -Napoca and Satu Mare. Sieureusesc receives technical and financial support from Techsoup Europe, AVON as well as the support of Ashoka Romania & Design Thinking Society, Chapter 4 Romania, DoR, Recorder, Luthelo.



SAFE AT HOME project to train housing providers in identifying domestic violence

The [SAFE AT HOME project](#) aims to include housing providers in identifying domestic violence directly where it occurs – at home. Housing provider staff can come in close contact with residents, such as maintenance staff, housing officers and caretakers. Therefore, they



are in a unique position to identify signs of domestic violence. The project provided policy recommendations, a guideline for Dutch Housing providers, and trained 1320 front line staff workers from 25 housing providers (10 in the UK, and 15 in the Netherlands). The SAFE AT HOME project (Jan. 2017-Dec. 2018) is led by Kadera (NL) in partnership with FEANTSA (EU/BE), Peabody (UK) and Standing Together against Domestic Violence (UK). The project is funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union.

Suggestions from the Round Table on sub-legal draft acts on risk assessment and the Order for precautionary measures of immediate protection (OPMIP) in Albania

The organizations from the Monitoring Network Against Gender-Based Violence discussed the projects that have been prepared so far for the sub-legal acts in implementation of the Law "On measures against violence in family relations", on the Risk Assessment and the Order for precautionary measures of immediate protection in Tirana (Albania) on 6 December 2018. Organisations involved were Human Rights in Democracy" Centre (HRDC), Albanian Center for Population and Development (ACPD), "Different & Equal" (D&E), "The Voice of the Children Calls Us" Association, Community Development Center "Today for the Future", Mary Ward Loreto Foundation, Center for Legal Civic Initiatives (CLCI). Some opinions and suggestions for the Working Group of the two ministries were provided.

Work With Perpetrators European Network - "Responsible Together" Perpetrator Work Campaign

The 2018 WWP EN "Responsible Together" Perpetrator Work Campaign served as a symbol and a promise to continue the support of gender equality and non-violence through responsible perpetrator work based on safety, accountability and cooperation. Throughout the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, 18 member organisations from 11 countries provided information on perpetrator work, and identified, clarified and worked toward eliminating misconceptions about perpetrator programmes through activities such as workshops, conferences, concerts, photoshoots and marches. Find more information on the campaign here: <https://www.work-with-perpetrators.eu/events/campaign.html>



Publication of the 3rd Femicide Census Report

The third Femicide Census Report published by Karen Ingala Smith in Partnership with Women's Aid (England) analyses the deaths of 139 women killed by men in the UK in 2017. Key findings include:

- 42% of femicides involved "overkill": the gratuitous use of violence greater than that required to kill.
- 46% of femicides were committed by Current or ex-partners.
- 59% of femicides occurred at home (woman's or perpetrator's).



- 17% were killed by other men known to them.
- 7% were killed by sons.
- 30 women were killed by strangers (including 21 killed in terror attacks).
- 47% of femicides were committed by men using a sharp instrument.

These figures highlight that femicides are not the isolated incidents that they are often described as by police and media but show patterns and trends that taken together provide useful information to prevent such killing. The report is available at:

<http://www.niaendingviolence.org.uk/perch/resources/1545034942femicidecensus2017findings.pdf>

Women's Law Center organized an awareness raising exhibition aiming to combat stereotypes related to sexual violence

On 10 December 2018, Women's Law Center launched the exhibition "It's not about what you wear". It presented reconstructed clothes from nine women and adolescent girls from the Republic of Moldova who were sexually abused or harassed. The goal of the exhibition was to combat stereotypes related to sexual violence. The focus was particularly placed on the erroneous perception that women's clothing justifies sexual violence. The event was organized at the Faculty of Law of the Moldova State University. The launch of the exhibition was followed by a public lesson, where, together with a psychologist and a lawyer, the students discussed issues of gender-based violence.

More details: <http://cdf.md/eng/news/an-exhibition-presenting-the-clothes-of-women-who-survived-sexual-violence-was-lau>



Conference "Parent-Child Contacts after the End of a Relationship Where Violence Occurred" in Slovenia

During 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, the Association for Nonviolent Communication and partners organized a conference titled "Parent-Child Contacts after the End of a Relationship Where Violence Occurred" with almost 200 participants. There were two plenary lectures along with more than ten short presentations by professionals from different organizations and institutions. One plenary lecture was from the dean of the University for Social Work, Prof. Dr. Vesna

Leskošek who talked about the lack of scientific foundations for Gardner's theory about Parental Alienation Syndrome. The second one was held by a guest from the University of Malta, Mag. Aleksandar Dimitrijević whose focus was on the fathers' rights movement and its anti-feminism.

DIS.CO: Profile of Counsellor „at a distance“ (IO2) is published

The second intellectual output of the DIS.CO project (Development of „at a Distance“ Counselling Skills for professionals in the field of Counselling Women Victims of Violence of Abuse) has just been published. The profile of counsellor „at a distance“ is an analysis of the necessary competences for counselling at a distance so that the profile of such a counsellor working with women



New
Intellectual
Outputs
published!



victims of domestic and sexual violence and abuse may be established. To download the profile in English, German, Spanish, Estonian or Greek, click here: <http://bit.ly/DISCO2>
To learn more about DIS.CO, make sure to sign up for the [DIS.CO newsletter](#), download the [brochure](#) and to follow the [official Facebook page](#).

MIGS Launches It Stops Now!

On the final day of the 2018 16 Days of Activism, the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS) was proud to launch the It Stops Now! campaign in Cyprus. It Stops Now! is a media campaign that is part of an EU project called Ending Sexual Harassment and Violence in Third Level Education (ESHTE). The aim of the project is to build a culture of zero tolerance in third-level institutes across Europe. It Stops Now has been designed to



encourage the participation of people who care about ending sexual harassment on college and university campuses. Visit the It Stops Now [campaign page](#) to access the forthcoming toolkit. Follow the campaign on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), and watch the [video](#) produced with the project partners.

A journey for freedom: The new welcoming project for migrant women and asylum seekers in the territory of the metropolitan city of Milan thought by Casa di Accoglienza delle Donne Maltrattate (CADMI)

This project is the result of considerations on the particular experiences of migrant women regarding violence suffered and traumas experienced during their travel to Italy, crossing them with the methodology and practices of Women's shelter. CADMI is founder and member of DiRe - Women's Network against Violence. The project aims to empower women to achieve complete and fundamental autonomies for their, and their children, future lives.

Emotional autonomy: a safe house, with experienced professionals, educators, psychologists (experts on trauma management will offer psychological support individual and group)

Economic independence: supported by CADMI's Work Desk and thanks to various training possibilities

Autonomy of living: each woman's project will be the achievement of living independently for a true integration in society

New Italian Government law cancels migrant rights

The Italian Government has introduced a new security decree, 'Decreto Salvini', which restricts the right to asylum in Italy and abolishes rights to a residence permit for humanitarian reasons. Without the opportunity to apply for this permit, women victims of trafficking or other forms of violence and single mothers with small children have no rights, and will be submitted to further violence if forced to return to their home country. D.i.Re, the Italian network of women's shelters, and Non una di meno, the feminist movement, have already reported the dramatic consequences of this law; the most visible examples being the forced removal of asylum seekers from reception centres and migrant women forced to remain with their abusive partners.



Let us live! Freely, self-determined and without violence!

The Austrian Alliance For A Life Free From Violence built a living memorial in Vienna, Austria for women and girls who have died as a result of gender-based violence during the 16 Days of Activism. In an action of living resistance, a tree in the district where a 15-year-old girl who was killed in September 2017 by her brother lived was dedicated to murdered women and girls. Colourful bands, printed with supportive messages and demands were wrapped around the tree's trunk and branches. The tree is supposed to represent the women's will to lead a self-determined life free from violence. Information on violent protection, shelters and specialist support services were also placed on the tree, to be picked off by passers-by.

"ACT NOW" CAMPAIGN

In the framework of the 16 Days of Activism, the [Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family](#) in Cyprus started the "ACT NOW 2018" campaign. The campaign began on 26 November and ended on 15 December. Volunteers of the association designed and printed the material as well as implemented the campaign along with staff members of the association. Several restaurants and bars supported this campaign by giving the opportunity to inform and promote the existing services of the association and the new program for perpetrators (starting January 2019). The campaign is strengthened by workshops, seminars and lectures at Universities, public spaces and professional bodies. Find the association on [Facebook](#).



We Speak Violence by Male Language!

Every year, the Turkish association [Mor Salkim](#) Women's Solidarity Association organizes a panel called "We Speak Violence by Male Language" as part of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women on 25 November. The aim of the event is to provide awareness raising messages about violence against women in national and international areas. In this context, violence against women was discussed through a male perspective with well-known people, business people, academics and psychologists. Thus, new perspectives about violence against women were developed with professional people from different fields. Find Mor Salkim on [Instagram](#).

More info: <http://www.hurriyet.com.tr/yazarlar/sibel-bagci-uzun/kadinlar-icin-bu-kez-erkekler-konustu-41042048?fbclid=IwAR2crhzbJjyIN8BTP7QRYdtb7yyFTE6uU-KgNJ3qpybueWNCMPH7FgSRM>





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