



WOMEN
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EUROPE

ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2018

Activities and projects from
1st of January to 31st of December 2018

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WAVE ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT 2018

The outlined activities and achievements were made possible through generous funding by the:
Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union
Federal Ministry for women, Families and Youth
Municipality of Vienna, the Department for Women's Affairs (MA57), Austria
OAK Foundation
Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
Philip Morris Austria GmbH
UN Women Europe & Central Asia
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With financial support
from the Rights, Equality
and Citizenship Programme
of the European Union



 **Federal Chancellery**
Federal Minister for Women,
Families and Youth

 **Frauen**
MA57
Stadt Wien

 **UN**
WOMEN

 **OAK**
FOUNDATION



 **PHILIP MORRIS**
AUSTRIA GMBH

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IMPRINT

Publisher: WAVE – Women against Violence Europe, Bacherplatz 10/6, A-1050 Vienna

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Graphic Design: Monika Medvey **Cover Illustration:** Linda Steiner

Place and year of publication: Vienna, February 2019

This publication has been produced with the financial support of the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union. The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Women against Violence Europe (WAVE) and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Commission.



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The WAVE Office team in December 2018

1. Introduction from the Executive Manager

The year 2018 was a challenging but also exciting and fruitful year for the WAVE Network, both in terms of internal capacity building of the WAVE Office and leadership, as well as carrying out projects and activities to start addressing the backlash against women's human rights in Europe.

Over the last two years, WAVE Members all throughout Europe have been witnessing and experiencing an increasingly severe pushback against women's rights. One of the key causes of this backlash is the rise of right wing/conservative political parties, many of which are promoting anti-democratic, anti-feminist agendas, threatening the very core of democracy including human rights and gender equality. These destructive developments have led to increasingly negative repercussions against human rights in general and women's human rights in particular. As a consequence, key legal measures protecting women's human rights such as the Istanbul Convention are now facing frequent attacks by right-wing/conservative political activists, and severe misrepresentation in mainstream media. Additionally, the survival of many women's specialist support services, despite the fact that they save hundreds of thousands of women's and children's lives every year and save European governments and the economy billions annually, are now threatened in many countries due to severe funding cuts.

WAVE is ready to not only fight against this backlash, but also to help build a more positive and empowering future for women and children in Europe. WAVE's vision is a world where all forms of discrimination and violence against women and their children have been eliminated and all women and girls are able to enjoy their human rights. We believe the strength, expertise and passion of our network are key in building this future.

This year we already witnessed how fast and effectively the network can come together to take action in fighting for women's rights/promoting our positive vision for the future: In April 2018, a damaging letter signed by 333 right-wing NGOs from nine countries was sent to the Secretary General to the Council of Europe, demanding changes to the text of the Istanbul Convention. The letter specifically requested a revision of the Convention, so as to enable states 'to provide reservations on parts of the Convention' which may be perceived by them as 'controversial' and to replace 'gender' and related concepts with 'equality between women and men'.

We are proud that within one week, WAVE Members together achieved the collection of signatures from 1,166 NGOs in 44 European countries defending the Istanbul Convention. This was a powerful demonstration of WAVE's potential to mobilize and a testimony to the strength of our growing Network during difficult times. WAVE realised during this time that policymakers and stakeholders are indeed watching and receptive to WAVE efforts. On 14 June, the WAVE Office received a reply from the Secretary General of the Council of



Italian intern, Chiara Paganelli, standing in front of the WAVE Office's wall of historical women

Europe (Thorbjørn Jagland) expressing gratitude for WAVE's support of the Istanbul Convention and indicating continued solidarity between WAVE and the Council of Europe to work towards upholding the human right of women to live a life free from violence.

This year, WAVE also secured a renewed grant from UN Women to continue with the second year of the CSSP (Civil Society Strengthening Platform) project under their programme: "Ending violence against women – Implement Norms, Changing minds". This project continues strengthening the regional cooperation of women's networks and support services, as well as the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in the Western Balkan region and Turkey.

In 2018, we witnessed many examples of the strength of the women's movement when it actively works together. Solidarity between specialist women's support services continues to grow and thrive around Europe, particularly as we strive to become more intersectional and inclusive in our activities. When we protect women's human rights together, we protect the right for everyone to live a life of dignity and free from violence.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the incredibly dedicated WAVE Team and WAVE Board for all their hard work, skills, passion, time and also at times much needed humour, which are all essential to making our work possible and ensuring that WAVE thrives.



The WAVE Office would like to express its sincere gratitude to the following interns who dedicated their time, skills and passion towards making WAVE's work in 2018 a success:

- Sandra Bjarnadottir
- Beverly Mtui
- Elena Floriani
- Teresa Lopez
- Ida Larson
- Chiara Paganelli

On behalf of the WAVE Network I would like to dedicate an especially big Thank You to our funders who continue to make our essential work for women's human rights in Europe possible:

- Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union
- The OAK Foundation
- Federal Ministry for women, Families and Youth
- Municipality of Vienna, the Department for Women's Affairs (MA57) Austria
- UN Women Europe & Central Asia
- Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union
- The Open Society Foundation
- Philip Morris Austria GmbH

Stephanie Futter-Orel



2. Brief Overview of the Network

Since 1994, the WAVE Network has been one of the most influential European-wide feminist networks of women's non-governmental organizations (NGOs) (women's shelters, women's centres and helplines, as well as aid organizations for migrant and refugee women). It aims to establish gender equality by combating gender-based violence (GBV). WAVE is the only European network focusing solely on the elimination of violence against women and children, and its office – which is a legal entity as of 2014 – serves as a linchpin for the whole Network and is governed currently by eight Board Members.

As of December 2018, the WAVE Network is comprised of 141 Members located throughout 49 European countries. This year, WAVE welcomed eleven new Members to the Network: Mor Salkim Women's Solidarity Association (Turkey), Stichting Zijweg (Netherlands), Center for Legal Civic initiatives (Albania), Sexual Assault Crisis Center (Armenia), Federacion de Asociaciones de Mujeres Arena y Laurisilva (Spain), Beverley Gilbert (England), Association for Nonviolent Communication (Slovenia), National Coalition Life Without Violence (Moldova), Kadriye Bakirci (Turkey), Solace Women's Aid (England), and Union of Women Associations of Heraklion (Greece).

The WAVE Network (WAVE Members, together with the online WAVE Database), reaches women's organizations across Europe. Members of WAVE include single organi-

zations, individuals such as academics, as well as entire women's networks for specialist support services. Members serve as regional and national bases to share and exchange information, expertise, and experience.

WAVE Members are responsible for dissemination and collection of information on violence against women in their country. The WAVE Office continually provides Members with relevant information (for instance, exchange of national and international news) and vice versa, good practice examples, international recommendations, policy papers, and legal and policy changes regarding violence against women. While at the same time, Members report on current developments in their respective countries. Members are also primary contacts for inquiries by women affected by violence and regarding research inquiries. Over the years, WAVE has been advised and supported by numerous experts in the field, which affirms the importance of WAVE keeping this expertise within the association.

WAVE Advisory Board Members, considered to be international experts in the field, support the Board in the development, implementation and evaluation of policies and activities of the association. It consists of one delegate and one co-delegate (substitute) from each country. Delegates and co-delegates are appointed by the Member organisations of the respective country for a certain period. WAVE statutes, and information about how to become a Member of the WAVE Network, are available on the WAVE website: www.wave-network.org

3. WAVE Activities 2018

3.1. Advisory Board Meetings

The first Advisory Board Meeting (ABM) took place from 9–11 April at Kolping Haus in Vienna. The meeting gathered 44 participants from 34 European countries (21 EU). The ABM focused on the following topics: WAVE Member developments, WAVE Network development, WAVE external activities, and planning the upcoming WAVE Conference.

Related to Member issues, participants discussed regional and national developments related to GBV and their own work. Commonalities were identified and referred to later for determining the theme of the WAVE Conference. Policy and legislative developments were also covered, particularly concerning issues related to the Istanbul Convention and CEDAW. In terms of WAVE Network development, participants assessed WAVE values, membership and communication, and provided feedback on the WAVE Governance Framework. Other discussions included how to manage conflicts (developing guidelines, process and conflict resolution) as well as how to approach Network cooperation with other networks and organizations. The topics of WAVE external activities include decision-making pertaining to the Operating Grant, European projects, Data Collection Tool development, planning the Step Up! Campaign and WAVE Conference, and presentations of the four thematic working groups.

The fall ABM was held on 24 October and gathered 71 participants from approximately 37 European countries. This half-day meeting began with announcing the results of the WAVE Board elections, which was followed

by an update by the thematic working groups and a discussion of the membership criteria. The meeting ended with a dialogue about possible WAVE Network actions on political challenges and ways to tackle issues impacting Members, such as the backlash against women's rights and misinformation about the key messages of the Istanbul Convention.

3.2. Board Meetings

Throughout the year, 12 Board meetings were held to discuss burning issues (e.g. fundraising, strategic planning, annual work plan, monitoring of vision and strategy, and membership issues) as well as guide Network activities and work plans for upcoming years. Three of these Board meetings were held in person: from 1–2 February for strategic planning, on 8 April prior to the spring ABM in Vienna, and on 21 and 24 October during the WAVE Conference in Valletta, Malta. Since the Board brings together women professionals from different European countries, most of the Board meetings need to be held online over Zoom, with seven online meetings being held throughout the year.

3.3. 3rd WAVE General Assembly

On 23 October, following the second day of the WAVE Conference in Malta, WAVE's General Assembly was held. 80 participants attended the General Assembly, representing Member organizations from 37 countries. Activities of the General Assembly included presenting and approval of the 2018 activity report and financial report, presentation of the budget forecast 2019, discussion of WAVE membership fees, election of the auditors, and election of the new Board members for the next year.



Participants of the spring Advisory Board Meeting in Vienna

3.4. Capacity Building of WAVE Office

WAVE's formalization process has led to structural and organizational improvements, facilitating the monitoring of Network activities. Because of improved policies for increased inclusion, democracy and transparency, Members are more deeply involved in decision-making and are regularly consulted. Hiring more full-time staff has improved the organizational capacity and solidified job descriptions in which staff are assigned roles according to their skills and interests. With organizational and structural improvements, the WAVE Office is better able to plan, set priorities for tasks, improve communication with Members, and strategize for long-term and short-term objectives.

In 2018, WAVE Office staff participated in two strategic team planning activities in Vienna. These meetings were intended to solidify Network values and identify key goals and activities for the next four years.



WAVE Office team strategizing on vision and values of the Network

The first meeting was held on 22 February in the Vienna co-working space Impact Hub and was attended by all staff. Discussions included determining values of the Network, based on input from the Advisory Board and Board. The office also discussed how to close the generational gap which exists in the feminist movement. Furthermore, participants developed the four-year framework of the Step Up! Campaign, including how to improve dissemination via the website and other promotional materials.

The second strategic meeting was held for two days from 10–11 September and took place in the co-working space L'Office in Vienna. The first day focused on defining problems, impact and outcomes using the Theory of Change, and was facilitated by Brian Lamb from the



WAVE Office team taking part in the Strategic Meeting, Vienna

UK. The second day narrowed in on defining outcomes, outputs and audiences. The result of the meeting was the development of a draft Theory of Change map, analysis of some of the key issues in the strategy, some clarity over outputs to achieve the strategy and agreement over next steps to produce the strategy. It was also agreed to integrate training on tools for strategic planning by using them as part of the process.

3.5. Conference Participation

WAVE is frequently called upon to participate at various international conferences and to present on latest developments and research, including WAVE publications, in the field of gender-based violence. In 2018, WAVE attended 32 conferences, events, project meetings and trainings.

10–12 January — Achieving Gender Equality and Female Empowerment: A Collaborative Vision of SDG 5 (Vienna, Austria)

From 10–12 January, the Vienna UN Conference joined Vienna-based organizations, the diplomatic community, civil society, NGOs, academics, business leaders and media representatives to discuss actions, potentials, and challenges linked to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5: 'achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.' Participants shared good practices and explored potential future collaborations in this multi-stakeholder forum, while spotlighting the International Gender Champions–Vienna initiative. In the spirit of SDG 17 (specifically, Target 17.17: 'encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships') an intriguing mix of international stakeholders participated in the 2018 Vienna UN Conference. This Conference was organized by the



Achieving Gender Equality and Female Empowerment: A Collaborative Vision of SDG 5 in Vienna

Vienna Liaison Office of the Academic Council on the United Nations System.

25–26 January — DIS.CO Project Kick Off Meeting (Heraklion, Crete)

DIS.CO is a two-year Erasmus+ project which aims at the development, piloting and dissemination of VET material regarding the enhancement of key competences of psycho-social counselling practitioners in the field of counselling women victims of violence through alternative digital means.

Project partners from Greece, Austria, Northern Ireland, Crete, Estonia and Spain gathered in Heraklion to celebrate the launch of the DIS.CO Project. The two-day event included presentations by partners about the activities to be carried out and what to expect, as well an overview about project monitoring, financial rules, and project management.

25–26 January — CSSP Regional Kick Off Meeting (Belgrade, Serbia)

Regional partners from Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Turkey and Serbia as well as three representatives from the WAVE Office attended the Civil Society Strengthening Platform (CSSP) Kick-Off Meeting at the Human Rights House in Belgrade.

During the first day of the meeting, participants shared ideas on what they would like to get out of the project and how they wanted to continue working. Presentations were made by Stephanie Futter-Orel and Anca Ciupa from the WAVE Office on the one-year project and its goals, project activities and deliverables and partner/lead partner roles and timelines.

Lina Piskernik from the WAVE Office started the second day of the meeting by presenting the CSSP website and



Participants of the CSSP Kick Off Meeting in Belgrade

Social Media Strategy. Participants came up with two hashtags for the project #Strongtogether and #CSSP-againstVAWG. The meeting ended with a discussion on the future sustainability of the project.

14 February — Steering Committee meeting for EU/UN Women Regional Programme: Ending Violence against Women in the Western Balkan countries and Turkey: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds (Brussels, Belgium)

The second programme steering committee meeting took place in Brussels, Belgium, in frame of the UN Women Regional Programme: “Ending Violence against Women in the Western Balkan countries and Turkey: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds”. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss progress in implementation of the EVAW Programme, which is backed by the EU Civil Society Facility and aims to build capacity within local civil society organisations. The first part of the meeting was dedicated to the status of the programme implementation. Aspects such as technical and financial as well the modality of implementation of the overall project have been discussed. The WAVE Office, under the mentioned programme, supports regional civil society organization platforms and advocates for the implementation of laws and policies in line with CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention. Key strategy points have also been discussed and follow-up action points to be further carried out.

1–3 March — WHOSEVA Third Steering Committee Meeting and Training (Vienna, Austria)

Gathering all partners in Vienna, the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting took place from 1-3 March in Barmherzige Brüder Hospital in Vienna. The first day consisted of partners updating each other on the progress made thus far within the project, including key results and sharing



Participants of the CSSP training in Ankara

of experiences. Partners discussed the implementation of the focus groups with survivors of violence, and the Mutual Learning Workshops in hospital settings. Local dissemination conferences were also briefly planned, in which each national partner will host a conference to disseminate project results with key stakeholders and media. The WHOSEFVA Training Manual was also planned, including key deadlines, with the goal of publishing the manual and its translated versions. Furthermore, good practices and challenges were exchanged between all partners in terms of experiences during the trainings, and how these barriers could be overcome for the development of the online course.

29–30 March — CSSP Training on the Istanbul Convention and GREVIO Shadow Reports as tools of advocacy and lobbying for CSOs (Ankara, Turkey)

From 29–30 March, a training was held in Ankara on the Istanbul Convention and GREVIO Shadow Reports as tools of advocacy and lobbying for civil society organizations. The training was organized by Turkish CSSP regional partner Kadın Dayanışma Vakfı – The Foundation for Women’s Solidarity in cooperation with WAVE. The first day was opened by Yolanda Iriarte, Regional Programme Manager/Programme Specialist for UN Women Eastern Europe & Central Asia. This was followed by a presentation by Professor Kadriye Bakırcı of Hacettepe University about the monitoring of the Istanbul Convention.

Professor Feride Acar, President of GREVIO and one of the original authors of the Istanbul Convention, gave an engaging presentation on the monitoring of the Convention and making more efficient use of the GREVIO recommendations as a lobbying tool. The use of the European Court of Human Rights decisions in advocacy work was then discussed by Feray Salman, General Coordinator of the Human Rights Joint Platform.

On the second day three staff members of the WAVE Office spent the morning session giving presentations on using the CSSP case study as a learning tool, the CSSP social media strategy as well as legal tools used for implementing the Istanbul Convention, specifically the **online Council of Europe HELP course** on violence against women and domestic violence. The training concluded on the afternoon of 30 March with two presentations. The first was given by Huriye Karabacak, from the Foundation for Women’s Solidarity, about monitoring of CEDAW reports followed by a presentation by Figen Demir Çıra, of the same organization, about human trafficking from the perspective of CEDAW.

The two-day training gave regional partners an excellent opportunity to come up with new and innovative ways to further network within and without their regions, and better monitor the implementation of the Istanbul and CEDAW Convention.



WWP EN Study Visit participants in Graz

11–13 April — WWP EN Study Visit (Graz, Austria)

From 11–13 April, the European Network for Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (WWP EN) held its 2018 study visit in Graz, in coordination with its member Association for Men's and Gender Issues. The study visit entailed the visiting of several institutions including the probationary counselling center, Neustart, where a presentation on their work with perpetrators and cooperation with victim support organisations was given. This presentation was followed by a quick walk to the Men's Counselling Centre Graz where a presentation on their work and concept was given. During the visit, participants were able to easily connect and network with each other as well as with Austrian professionals in the work with perpetrator field.

15 May — Council of Europe Istanbul Convention Roundtable and Training Seminar on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Podgorica, Montenegro)

The roundtable and training seminar on the Istanbul Convention was held on the 15 May in Podgorica. The training was organized by the Council of Europe, and the target audience was composed of advisers of the Constitutional Court, judges of higher and basic courts, lawyers, NGOs representatives and staff of the Ombudsman. The training was organized in frame of the programme FILL, Horizontal Facility for Western Bal-



Council of Europe Roundtable in Podgorica

kans and Turkey and had the objective to provide participants with an overview of the aims and values of the Istanbul Convention as well as to discuss about access to justice for victims of violence, criminal and civil justice response and risks of mandatory alternative dispute resolutions. Furthermore, the event gave participants the opportunity to exchange on national court practices. Finally, the **Council of Europe HELP course** on violence against women and domestic violence was launched in Montenegro.

9 May – Effective Communication Project: Framing Workshop for European Coalition to end violence against women and girls (Brussels, Belgium)

The workshop on effective and strategic communication in civil society campaigning was held in Brussels and brought together 15 civil society organizations and European institutions (e.g. European Commission) part of the European Coalition to end violence against women and girls. A particular focus of this workshop was how to reach the moveable middle of a population with positive messages about the Istanbul Convention and work preventing violence against women and girls in general. Executive Manger Stephanie Futter-Orel and Campaign Coordinator Katarina Višnar attended this meeting to provide input from a WAVE perspective and learn from the other organizations and institutions present.

14–18 May — 27th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (Vienna, Austria)

The 27th session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ) took place in Vienna between 14–18 May. This year's main theme of the session was criminal justice responses to prevent and counter cybercrime in all its forms. Apart from the discussions in the plenary, a wide range of side events on



27th Session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in Vienna

issues related to crime prevention took place. Many of these events were centred around topics dealing with women's rights and tackling GBV. A side event was dedicated to programmes implemented in Mexico by the UN Office on Drugs and Crime seeking to strengthen equality between men and women and improving specialist support for women and girls affected by violence, such as helplines. Another side event on the issue of data collection and femicide was organized by the European Observatory on Femicide.

The European Observatory on Femicide is hosted within the University of Malta's Department of Gender Studies and was born out of the 2014–2017 European Union funded **COST Action on Femicide** across Europe (IS-1206). Marceline Naudi, Scientific Coordinator of the EOF, Barbara Stelmaszek, Research Officer working for the Observatory, and Ksenia Meshkova, from Humboldt University Berlin, gave a presentation about the aims and data collection efforts that will be undertaken by the Observatory during a side event. The CCPCJ was attended by member state delegations to the United Nations and representatives of NGOs in consultative status with ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council of the United Nations), with around 1,000 participants.

15 May — Migrant and Refugee Women's Integration and Empowerment in Europe – common challenges, good practices and opportunities for improved support (Rome, Italy)

This seminar was delivered as part of the Women's Empowerment, Integration and Participation (WEIP) project, funded by the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund European Commission programme. The Latin American Women's Rights Service, based in the UK, is delivering this project in partnership with Red Acoge in Spain, Differenza Donna in Italy and KARAT Coalition in Poland.

Migrant and refugee women often experience discrimination on the basis of being women, members of an ethnic minority and because of their immigration status.



Stephanie Futter-Orel at the Migrant and Refugee Women's Integration and Empowerment in Europe conference in Rome

In recent years, there has been an alarming increase of negative stereotypes of migrant and refugee women, hate crimes and hostile environment policies across the EU, making it more urgent than ever to strengthen supporting organisations.

The seminar brought together NGOs, migrant and women's rights experts, government representatives and other stakeholders working with migrant and refugee women in the EU. This capacity-building event offered participants the opportunity to share, develop and transfer effective practices, training and knowledge working with migrants and refugees. Stephanie Futter-Orel presented on how women's lived experiences can influence anti-violence against women and girls work at a European level.

29 May — Breakfast Hub: What strategies have worked for the collective empowerment of women and girls (nationally, regionally, globally) and what is still missing? How can global citizenship help? (Vienna, Austria)

This networking event brought together more than 30 participants from Austrian-based interest groups, organizations, and specialists with a shared interest in empowering women and girls locally and worldwide. The newly opened Ban Ki-moon Centre was introduced, and the focus topics of the meeting were the SDGs and global citizenship as frameworks for women's empowerment. This informal breakfast was an opportunity to

network with likeminded women and change-makers and to discover synergies and opportunities for collaboration. The Ban Ki-moon Centre, inaugurated in January 2018, is a quasi-International organization and works within the framework of the UN and the SDGs, focusing its efforts on the empowerment of women and youth.

Key note speakers were: Desiree Schweitzer (President of UN Women Austria and Director of the Dept. for International Development at the Austrian Foreign Ministry), and Lilly Sucharipa (former President of UN Women Austria). A brainstorming session was held between all participants on the topic of: what is currently the most important action for the empowerment of women and girls in your respective field of activity?

6-7 June — CSSP Training on the Istanbul Convention and the implementation process: NGOs shadow Reporting to GREVIO (Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina)

A second training took place in Sarajevo under the programme 'Ending violence against women: Implementing norms, Changing Minds'. The training was organized by WAVE together with WAVE partners from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Foundation United Women Banja Luka. A total of 30 participants representing civil society organizations from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey attended the training. The two-day training offered participants specific knowledge on how to write GREVIO shadow reports, as Bosnia and Herzegovina is due to report to GREVIO by November 2019.

The first day started with an introductory speech by David Saunders, Representative of UN Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina, followed by Ismeta Dervoy, former delegate in the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, who gave an overview of the political system in the country as well as the ratification and implementation process of the Istanbul Convention. GREVIO Member, Biljana Brankovic, delivered an insightful presentation on how to specifically use the tools of the Istanbul Convention to provide improved support for women as well as suggestions in writing the GREVIO shadow report. The first day ended with a presentation from Ines Leskaj, director of AWEN Network, Albania, which offered participants an overview of the Albanian experience in writing the GREVIO shadow report. The second day focused on two presentations, one focusing on the role and importance of organizations representing marginalized categories of women in the process of reporting to international bodies, delivered by Tanja Mandic Dokic from Association of Women with Disabili-



CSSP training in Sarajevo

ties 'Nika'; and an overview of writing the GREVIO shadow report in Montenegro delivered by Nada Koprivica, from SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence Niksic, Montenegro.

2-3 June — OSCE Meeting on Countering Violence against Women - Everyone's Responsibility (Vienna, Austria)

This two-day event hosted by OCSCE included several sessions and side events. One session tackled the topic of countering violence against women in the public space. Zeina Hilal, from Interparliamentary Union Gender Partnership Programme, presented the findings of a survey conducted among women parliamentarians on what form of violence they experience. The session continued with the presentation of journalist Maria D'Amico, from Pangea Onlus organisation, which addressed the poverty and violence women face and empowers women in the public and private spheres. The session ended with Majda's Halivic's presentation from the Atlantic Initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the work the organisation has been conducting in terms of training legal professionals on GBV.



Breakfast Hub networking event in Vienna with Stephanie Futter-Orel (middle)



OSCE Meeting on countering violence against women in Vienna

Another session tackled the topic of protection from violence and empowerment of women at work and at home. The last session opened with a presentation given by Iluta Lace from Marta Centre, Latvia who talked about the emerging issues regarding violence in Latvia such as the attitudes/prejudices towards victims of violence, the legal support offered to victims and the high tolerance the country has towards violence. It then continued with a presentation by Jamilya Kaparova, Head of Ensan Diamon organisation in Kyrgyzstan, who presented the work of her organisation and the importance of women's organisations in the country. The last session ended with the presentation of Luisanna Porcu, from Italian National Association D.i.R.e, who shed a light on the relationship the organisation adopts when working with women victims of violence, treating them as vital actors in leaving the experience behind, working with women and not for women towards self-realization.

27-28 June — Annual European Network on Gender Violence Conference (Bristol, England)

The European Network on Gender Violence Conference is a key event for sharing the latest European research on gender-based violence and has been meeting since the mid-1990s. This was the first time the event was held in Bristol, and the Policy Press hosted a reception to showcase the Journal of Gender Based Violence and the growing list of Policy Press publications related to GBV. The first day of the conference was the Young Scholars Day, allowing presentation and detailed discussion of postgraduate work, chaired by Ksenia Meshkova from Humboldt University Berlin. The following two days saw an intensive programme of sessions, beginning with research and policy in the UK, moving on to research on elder abuse in Germany and the Netherlands; research on children and youth in Denmark and



Gail Dines speaking at the Women's Aid Federation Conference in England

Portugal; legal and organizational contexts in Italy and Finland; and ending with a set of papers on conflict, intervention, and resistance in Syria and Turkey. Professor Carol Hagemann White, University of Osnabruck gave the key note speech, 'Revisiting the cultural construction of gender'; setting the scene for discussion of the important links between gender construction and GBV in local and global contexts.

11 July — Women's Aid Federation Conference: The Rising Tide against Misogyny – Challenging Violence in a Culture which Silences Women (Leicester, England)

As part of a WAVE-organized Study Visit, delegates of the Strengths-based, Needs-led approach working group participated in the Women's Aid Conference in England. During this event, participants had the opportunity to reflect on the latest wave of social media movements, such as #MeToo and Times Up, which have highlighted the abuse of power, sexual harassment and violence in entertainment and other industries. Links with interpersonal violence were explored, looking at how popular culture can promote and legitimise the inequality which underpins women's experiences of abuse and violence. Finally, the conference explored how Women's Aid as a network can best respond to women's broader experience of violence while keeping the voices and needs of survivors at the heart of their work. Keynote speeches were also given from Marai Larasi, the Director of Imkaan, and Gail Dines.

26-27 July — DIS.CO 2nd Transnational Project Meeting (Tartu, Estonia)

DIS.CO project partners met in Tartu to discuss the progress of the project and assess the development of intellectual outputs. During the meeting it was estab-



DIS.CO Project partners at 2nd Transnational Project Meeting in Tartu

lished that the project is on track and that the profile of a counsellor at a distance will be released to the public in early fall. An **informational leaflet** with the target audience of counsellors, academics and trainers was released so that project partners can disseminate information about DIS.CO at events and conferences. The leaflet will be available in all project languages: Estonian, Greek, Spanish, and English as well as Catalan and Russian to improve outreach. A joint staff training entitled “Train the Trainers Workshop” for senior staff of the participating organizations on the topic of Counselling at a Distance will be held by M&M Profuture training in Barcelona at the end of May 2019.

27-29 August — WHOSEFVA Steering Committee Meeting and Final Dissemination Conference (Tallinn, Estonia)

The 4th WHOSEFVA Steering Committee Meeting took place on 27 August in Tallinn with project partners. During this meeting, achievements of the project were discussed, preparations for the Final Dissemination Conference were made, and final project activities were planned, such as the **educational module** and **training manual**.

To celebrate the project’s achievements, a Final Dissemination Conference was hosted in Tallinn from 28-29 August. The first day was hosted in the Social Insurance Board and included opening remarks and introduction to the project, and presentations about the perceptions of elderly and healthcare providers on domestic violence, training health care providers to support elderly victims of violence, best practices for providing support to elderly victims of violence in healthcare settings, and evaluations of the project. The second day was hosted

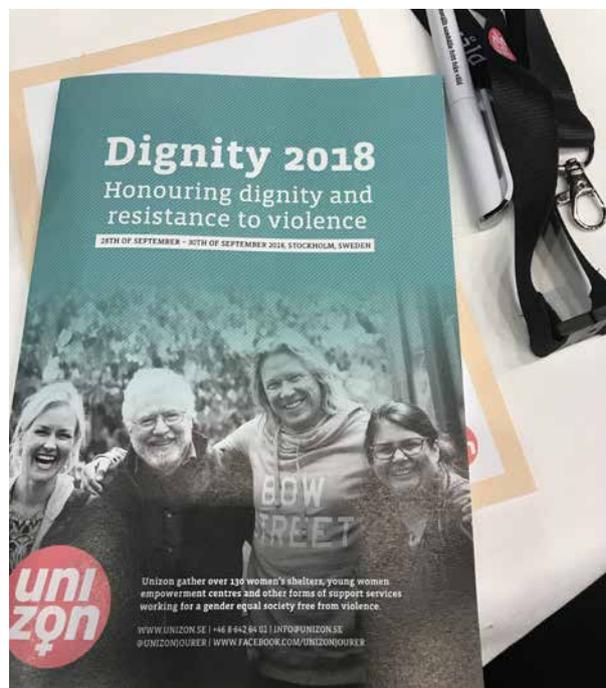


4th WHOSEFVA Steering Committee Meeting

in the Parliament of Estonia and included an overview of the main activities of the project, local and EU level policy recommendations, a description of the Estonian policy environment, and a public discussion about multi-agency cooperation against elderly abuse.

28-30 September — Dignity: Honouring Dignity and Resistance to Violence Conference (Stockholm, Sweden)

The Dignity Conference was hosted in Sweden by WAVE Member Unizon, together with the Centre for Response-Based Practice. The first day of the conference included a panel discussion on indigenous responses to violence and state racism, a keynote speech about Sami and Aboriginal views on conflicts with extractive industries and a keynote speech on the exploitation of the sex industry. Workshops included discussions on the response-based practice model, working with sexually exploited boys and men, and colonial male supremacy in legal and mental health discourse, just to name a few.





Dignity Conference held in Stockholm

The second day explored the issue of state responses to GBV and included a look into West Australia as well as Maori and metis women's responses. A keynote speech by Vikki Reynolds also narrowed in on harm reduction as dignity-driven practice. Three workshop sessions were also held, covering topics such as working for women survivors of trafficking, prostitution and pornography in the organization Talita, the Maori view of attachment, and working with men who use violence. The third and final day began with a keynote speech on the modern history of men's violence against women as seen through the lens of #MeToo, another interesting workshop session, and a keynote speech by Olga Persson and Peter Söderström on sexualized violence and men's accountability.

1 October — Symposium to Celebrate Human Rights of Older Persons on the occasion of the UN International Day of Older Persons (Vienna, Austria)



Symposium to Celebrate Human Rights of Older Persons on the occasion of the UN International Day of Older Persons in Vienna

All around the world, various events were held to celebrate the human rights of older persons for the International Day of Older Persons. The Austrian event was held at the House of the European Union in Vienna. Representatives from international bodies such as the European Commission, European Parliament, UN Programme on Ageing and the International

Federation on Ageing. Austrian representatives also took part in the conversation, such as the NGO Committee on Ageing in Vienna, the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights, and the Commissions for Human rights from the City of Vienna. Engaging topics included: strengthening human rights of older persons from the perspective of governmental and non-governmental organizations, and reports on ongoing and planned research on human rights of older persons.

3-4 October — Working with Perpetrator Programmes European Network Annual Workshop (Prague, Czech Republic)

The workshop explored the complexities which accountability entails. Working together towards responsible perpetrator programmes has been WWP EN's aim and this workshop enabled participants to engage with the topic in-depth. Attending the WWP EN Annual Workshop was open to members of WAVE, as well as other experts and interested parties. Key topics were: the WWP EN European Campaign "Effectively promote perpetrator work"; how to 'do' accountability in individual work; "Perpetrator inside me" (using personal experiences to increase professional effectiveness); accountability for treatment of perpetrators of violence, to their families and to society; practice activities in groups to build accountability; accountability and partnerships: good practice; and engaging with men and boys. WAVE holds a permanent seat on the Board of WWP EN and Stephanie Futter-Orel represented WAVE at this event.

28-31 October — Open Society Foundations New Executive Convening (New York, USA)

This event organized by Open Society Foundations (OSF) carried out trainings and workshops related to Executive Management. This event brought together 48 nominees of the OSF-NEF Grant from the past three years from around the world and offered an opportunity to exchange experiences and support each other through problem-solving in peer-consultancy sessions. Additionally, a range of trainings and workshops were provided by OSF staff or partners e.g. on effective financial management, constructive engagement with the press, monitoring, evaluation, learning mechanisms, and strategic planning. Executive Manager Stephanie Futter-Orel was one of 10 nominees for 2018, to build a learning community among New Executive Fund recipients and connecting them with the work of Open Society Foundations. Outcomes of the event were: building relationships with other executive directors; receiving

and providing input on current challenges; reflecting on the role of leadership and management on organizational health and effectiveness; enhancing professional development and organizational management skills; and connecting with the global OSF network.

7-9 September — NKMV: Talking about gender perspective after #MeToo (Helsinki, Finland)

The theme of this year's Nordic Women's Conference (NKMV) was about the role of the #MeToo movement in the Nordic countries in 2018. Discussions centered around how #MeToo helped to raise awareness about sexual harassment and GBV, and what work is still left to do to achieve equality and respect of women's rights. NKMV was hosted this year by WAVE Member Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters in Helsinki. The conference drew together over 200 participants from Denmark, Faroe Islands, Finland, Greenland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

The first day of the Conference included panel discussions about the roots of silence and shame in GBV, as well as country presentations about the work of organizations in the Nordic countries in terms of preventing and fighting GBV. The second day looked closely at the effects of #MeToo on legislation and the gender perspective in education of children and young people after #MeToo. Throughout the conference, several workshops also took place about numerous topics such as: working with immigrant women in vulnerable situations, porn and prostitution as man's violence against women, digital violence, and the role of boys and men in the gender perspective.



12-14 September — TISOVA Third Project Meeting and Training (Helsinki, Finland)

The location of the third TISOVA Project Meeting took place at the European Commission Representation in Finland building. The goal of this project meeting was to update each other on the progress of the project. An overview of the analytical report of older women in Estonia, Finland and Greece was first provided. The report includes results of interviews with staff/volunteers of elder care homes and assessment of attitudes and beliefs towards domestic violence in the countries based on interviews with elderly people. The next and final step of the report is to incorporate policy recommendations at the national and European level based on the analysis for improved policies towards supporting older women victims of abuse.



TISOVA 3rd Project Coordinating Meeting in Helsinki

The final part of the meeting included a training with partners about the results of the pre and post evaluations, as well as a training about how to carry out effective evaluations for the project (e.g. how to collect data and receive feedback from participants on trainings). Participants of the meeting also visited the Kustaankartano Comprehensive Service Center, to see a good practice example of how care for older people in Finland is structured and can look in practice.

25 September — Vienna FRA Forum: #MeToo – A Global Movement to End Universal Human Rights Violations against Women (Vienna, Austria)

The FRA Forum was co-organized by WAVE in Vienna. Keynote speakers included the UN Special Rapporteur Dubravka Simonvic, Alliane Looijenga (speaker, blogger and founder of the Professionals Against Violence (PAVE) podcast, and Carmen Gheorghe E-Romanji, Association for Promoting Roma Women's Rights, Romania.

The session aimed at linking the main theme of the Forum 'Belonging' to the issues of GBV. The session



Supporters of the #EUToo Campaign at the Vienna FRA Forum, with Stephanie Futter-Orel (second from left) and WAVE Board member Rosa Logar (third from left).

explored ways in which survivors are empowered and can regain agency. It also focused on how institutions can assume responsibility for the protection and support of survivors and their access to justice, how communities can develop their power to create a violence-free society and how the media can contribute to the eradication of the harmful practice of victim-blaming, in order to overcome the human rights violations and restore the sense of belonging.

The target audience were stakeholders from different areas – international organisations, politics, institutions, civil society and the media who are aiming at working together to eliminate GBV. The session links with the EU Victims Directive as well as the Equal Treatment Directive, the Non-Discrimination principles of the Treaty of the Functioning of the EU (in particular Article 19) and the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights. It further connects to the process of the EU acceding to the Istanbul Convention.

The session also linked to SDG,5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls), and specifically to

Participants of the UNFPA-UN Women meeting in Bishkek



5.2 (Eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls). WAVE also emphasized the need for the EU to fully ratify the Istanbul Convention and created the hashtag #EUtoo with which it staged several photo actions.

5-6 November — Turning policies into action: eliminating gender-based violence against women and girls in Central Asia, Sub-regional conference (Bishkek, the Kyrgyz Republic)

The objective of this UNFPA-UN Women meeting was to showcase creative and successful campaigns and partnerships to combat GBV against women and girls. This session presented unique experiences of the UN, civil society, the private sector and young innovators in Europe and Central Asia region in combating GBV. One session began and ended with snapshots of two high-impact campaigns: #NotOnlyonMarch8 (Albania) and Abduction (the Kyrgyz Republic). Stephanie Futter-Orel spoke in session six regarding innovative partnerships and society mobilization. The main aim of her presentation was to showcase the UN Women-CSSP Project collaboration and the overall WAVE Network structure as effective examples of civil society organization collaboration to tackle GBV. There has been interest in potentially creating a regional network of women's organisations similar to WAVE or CSSP in Central Asia.

8 November — Mapping Support Services for Victims of Violence Against Women in Line with The Istanbul Convention Standards (Strasbourg, France)

The seminar presented a tool recently developed by Liz Kelly from the London Metropolitan University. This tool is for mapping support services according to the mini-



Mapping Support Services for victims of violence against women in Line with Istanbul Convention Standards in Strasbourg

imum standards for preventing and combating violence against women enshrined in the Istanbul Convention. The event was attended by member state delegations to the Council of Europe, UN Women, academics, GREVIO experts and civil society. Participants to the training received an insight into how this new tool could be used for mapping purposes and measuring progress towards the effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Participants were also asked to give feedback on the various questionnaires included in the new tool, indicated any unclear questions and suggested relevant additions and amendments.

A representative of GREVIO from Serbia gave an insightful presentation on recent legal developments from ratifying countries in the area of emergency barring orders. It was highlighted that the implementation of emergency barring orders must be coordinated with women's specialist support services. To be more precise, after an emergency barring order is implemented, women and children affected by violence must gain smooth and quick access to support services, otherwise they will not manage to reach a safe place away from the perpetrator and rebuild their lives.

16 November — Migrant and Refugee Women's Integration and Empowerment in Europe: Recognizing and strengthening the agency and power of migrant and refugee women (London, England)

The LAWRS conference took place on 16 November in London. The event began with a video presentation of the Women's Empowerment, Integration and Participation Project (WEIP), in which Stephanie Futter-Orel was also interviewed. Following the video premiere, a panel discussion regarding migrant women leading the change was held where Sodfa Daaji of the European Network of Migrant Women spoke about an intersectional approach to inclusion of migrant women in the decision-making process at national and EU levels. Yagmur Arica touched on the topics of involving young migrant women in grass-roots activism, Eva Jimenez Iamas of the Belgian Confederation of Christian Trade Unions discussed undocumented women working in the care

sector involved in trade unions, and lastly Ornella Ospino of LAWRS expounded upon com-

munity work under hostile environment. The panel was followed by a presentation by Liliana Keith of PICUM on the global compact for safe, orderly and regular migration. Later, conference participants separated into three working groups, in which WAVE contributed to challenges and successful integration practices across the EU working group. WAVE was given the opportunity to discuss its own work as a Network and its aims to become more intersectional. Before the end of the conference, recommendations of the working groups were presented to all conference participants.

27-28 November — Regional Forum on Promoting the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in the Western Balkans and Turkey: Integrated Policies, Inclusive Partnerships (Skopje, Macedonia)

The Government of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, UN Women Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, the European Union, and the Council of Europe, in partnership with European Women's Lobby, convened a regional forum to discuss the progress in implementation of the Istanbul Convention, within the broader commitments on gender equality and ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and



WAVE Executive Manager (right) presenting at the Regional Forum in Skopje

Turkey. The forum aimed to accelerate implementation and facilitate dialogue among key stakeholders in the region.

The two-day forum took place from 28–29 November, and participants of the forum included representatives from government institutions, regional institutions and women’s NGOs from the Western Balkans and Turkey. The WAVE Office participated in the forum, as one of the main partners of the UN Women project ‘Implementing norms, changing minds’. Stephanie Futter-Orel contributed her knowledge on the panel that took place on the 27 November, “Setting the state: Advancement of women’s human rights with a special focus on gendered understanding of violence and discrimination: From the CEDAW Convention to the Istanbul Convention”, together with speakers such as Feride Acar, Chair of GREVIO and Member of CEDAW Committee, and Yakin Etürk, former UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women (2003–2009).

4 December — High-Level Event on Violence Against Women 2018 Ending Violence Against Women – Taking Stock and Next Steps (Brussels, Belgium)

Stephanie Futter-Orel gave an impulse statement on great achievements (particularly of the Daphne programme), persistent issues in this field and on possibilities of more effective collaboration between governments, NGOs, and European institutions in order to tackle GBV. She emphasised the need for sustainable funding for specialist women’s support services and for the EU to fully ratify the Istanbul Convention. She also emphasized the need for prevention work to begin in school as a key part of the educational curriculum and multi-agency work which is survivor-oriented and views women as partners in rebuilding their lives and not hapless victims.



High-level event on violence against women 2018 in Brussels

The panel focused on how to move forward together regarding the EU and GBV. Conference facilitator Bruno Selun reminded the audience of the positive momentum this work has received in the past years due to increased public awareness and debate. This momentum was clearly illustrated by the outline of multitude of measures taken in Malta by Minister Helena Dalli as well as the strong commitment expressed by her to working hard to achieve the ratification of the Istanbul Convention by all countries. This was also echoed by Deputy Minister Zornitsa Roussinova from Bulgaria, who greeted the conference with enthusiasm. She reiterated Bulgaria’s commitment to creating equality for men and women as well as measures to support women who experience violence and explained that much has already been achieved – partly with EU funding.

In answer to the session’s title question, WAVE representative Stephanie Futter-Orel emphasised the value of Daphne funding, stating that it had saved thousands of women’s lives since its beginnings – but urged that tasks such as the training of professionals likely to work with affected women should become part of their standard training rather than remaining a task for NGOs.

10–12 December — 6th International Conference on Survivors of Rape (Helsinki, Finland)

The 6th International Conference on the Survivors of Rape was held in Helsinki and was hosted by the National Institute for Health and Welfare and the Seri Support Center.

On 10 December, a pre-conference was set up to introduce new sexual assault referral centers located in Finland, Belgium and Estonia during which good practices and challenges in supporting victims of acute sexual violence in Europe as well as in establishing sexual



6th International Conference on Survivors of Rape in Helsinki

assault centers were discussed. From 11–12 December, ten plenary sessions were carried out to analyse and discuss medical, forensic and psychosocial support for survivors of rape. More than 150 participants attended the two-day conference. The session concluded with Helinä Häkkänen-Nyholm discussing support during court proceedings and Charlotta von Mentzer highlighting therapists' experiences of working with survivors of sexual abuse and rape. WAVE was represented at the 6th International Conference on the Survivors of Rape by Beverly Mtui, Youth Engagement Consultant.

17–18 December — CSSP Kick-Off Meeting (Belgrade, Serbia)

The Kick-Off Meeting of CSSP for the second UN Women project took place in Belgrade. The meeting welcomed 11 partners from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Turkey and Serbia, and it was organized with the CSSP partner in Serbia, Association Fenomena. The purpose of the meeting was for the partners to officially convene for the second project year, as well as to discuss deliverables and actions for the project and its sustainability beyond the duration of the project. The first day started with a presentation of year two of the project. It then followed with intensive discussions between the partners regarding the one-day training and two-day final project event to organise, how to be more inclusive when it comes to minority/disadvantaged group organisations and the methodology for the assessment and comprehensive report that will be carried out by AWEN Network Albania. The second day focused on the sustainability of the project beyond its remit. Aspects such as identifying project elements that can be carried out with and without funding and taking stock of the positives and challenges of year one was discussed, among others.



CSSP Kick Off Meeting for 2nd year of UN Women project in Belgrade

3.6. Improving Network Structure

With a strong funding base from the European Commission through the Operating Grant, WAVE has focused on diversification of funding. In 2018, WAVE managed to diversify some of its critical core funding by securing a core funding grant by the Oak Foundation for three years. This core funding grant made possible by the Oak Foundation supports not only non-EU countries to actively take part in WAVE activities, but also further supports all WAVE activities as well as operational work. WAVE also continues to receive contributions from Austrian ministries, in addition to continued project funding such as UN Women, to work with the Western Balkan countries and Turkey in implementing the legal framework of the Istanbul Convention. Another exciting partnership is developing between WAVE and Open Society Foundations. Executive Manager Stephanie Futter-Orel was one of ten around the world to receive the New Executive Manager Fund which supports new managers of organizations to succeed in leadership positions. OSF is also consulting with WAVE about new project ideas in the future.

WAVE continued to raise funds through a more effective membership fee structure. This new structure for membership is just one of many examples in which the Network has improved the internal network structure so that Members can benefit from a more democratic and formal system. Clearer procedures and policies, such as a complaint policy and Governance Framework have enabled more sustainable and transparent planning of work and participation by Members. A vision, mission and values were also developed by the Network, which clarifies to not only the membership, but to donors, partners and stakeholders, exactly where WAVE stands. This will also support the Network in future partnerships, to ensure that organizations which WAVE collaborates with also share the same values.

Furthermore, during the General Assembly, WAVE Members have the opportunity to elect new Board members. In 2018, Board member Marceline Naudi and Albena Koycheva stepped down from their roles, and three new Board members were elected. The roles of the Board were also determined, in which a new President and Vice-President were chosen. These changes improved the intergenerational exchange and transfer of knowledge, allowing new and younger members to take part in decision-making. See the WAVE website for more information about the new Board.

An **Informational Leaflet** was also developed. The Leaflet promotes WAVE Members and highlights the

work of WAVE. The goal of the Leaflet is also to attract new Members, provide information on how to become a Member, and explain how to donate to the organization. The Leaflet now showcases 141 WAVE Member organizations throughout 49 European countries.

3.7. Thematic Working Groups

Gender Neutrality in Women's Specialist Services Working Group

The working group (WG) on Gender Neutrality in Women's Specialist Services aims to review recent practice by governments to fund gender neutral over women's specialist services. In 2018, WG lead Baljit Banga created and sent out a questionnaire meant to be exploratory to understand current practices and emerging concerns regarding gender neutral policy and practice.

The questionnaire covered the following areas: definition of gender neutral; overview of the impact such policies have; implementation and enforcement of gender-neutral policy and practice; issues regarding the sustainability of existing provision; key pressures and concerns women's specialist organisations were facing; and priorities to address gender neutral policy and practice.



The WG lead presented the results of the questionnaire at a panel of the 20th WAVE Conference as well as during the workshop. Within the framework of the WG, **a verbal self-defence guide against anti-feminism**, which was written by WG member from Garance in Brussels, was released.

Children's Rights in Custody and Contact Proceedings WG

The WG on children's rights in custody and contact proceedings met twice in person: once during the spring Advisory Board meeting in April, and once during the WAVE Conference in October. The WG also met online over Zoom five times. The purpose of these meetings was to establish the goals of the WG and set up the activities for 2018–2019.

In 2018, the WG focused on two aspects. The first was about the organisation of the workshop 'Best practice examples in supporting victims of violence', for the WAVE Conference 2018. The workshop welcomed three presentations from England, Scotland and the Nether-

land showcasing examples of best practices in these countries when it comes to supporting children during the trial period or in shelters. Some of the outcomes of the workshop highlighted the need to use the available international and national legislation for implementing children's rights. The second aspect that the WG focused on is conducting a mapping exercise. The purpose of the mapping is to collect information on good and bad practices when it comes to how children's rights are handled through court case proceedings regarding custody and contact issues. The questionnaire was further expanded with two extra questions as during the workshop at the WAVE Conference, important aspects such as 'parental alienation' and the issue of 'father's rights movement' arose. The results of the mapping will be analysed in 2019 and comprised into a mapping report. The findings will then be shared within the WAVE Network and will be used for lobbying activities in the year to come.

Strengths-Based, Needs-Led Approach (SBNL) WG

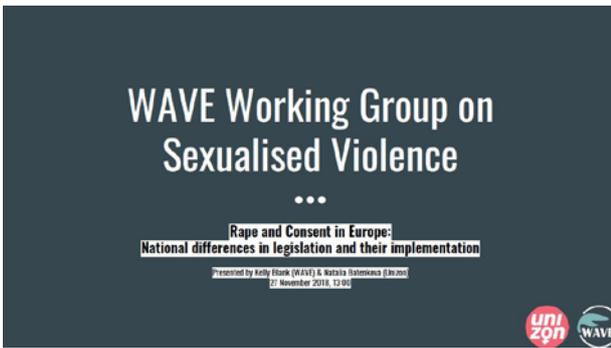
In February, the WG had its first conference call, and established both a mailing list and a Facebook group as their channel of communication. The aim from the beginning of the WG was, first, to provide a useful, operational definition of what the strengths-based, needs-led approach is, and second, to start building a tool-kit and a body of knowledge which could be used to guide research and practice further. Here, it was recognised that an inquiry into which SBNL elements the group members currently already use in their own organisations would offer a good starting point. It was agreed to carry out a pilot study, with the goal of defining key themes and priority issues, and to come up with recommendations on the next steps of developing this work-approach. Members of the group met in person during the spring ABM in Vienna to plan the years' activities and goals. In April, the WG started planning the pilot study, formally known as the **Handbook** titled "The Strengths-Based, Needs-Led Approach as a Tool of Empowerment in Women's Specialist Services Supporting Survivors of Domestic Abuse" which was ultimately published in September.

A Study Visit was carried out in England in July. More information can be read about the study visit in section 3.8 below.

Sexualized Violence WG

The Working Group on Sexualized Violence (WGSV) had an exciting and busy year. The very first activity of the WGSV was to develop a report called "Baseline report on service provision for sexualized violence within the

WAVE Membership". The goal of the activity was to gather data on how WAVE Member organizations define and work with the issue of sexualized violence, what kind of attitudes and priorities they have in their work, and what challenges they face. In other words, this study opens up the possibility for conversation in the WAVE Network and showcases the many different ways sexualized violence is understood and addressed within WAVE. The questionnaire was sent to all WAVE Members and received 33 responses from Member organizations.



The WGSV also held regular meetings online via Skype and Zoom throughout the year and took every opportunity to meet in person such as at the ABM in the spring and the WAVE Conference in the fall. A webinar was also held on 27 November which discussed the results of the report, particularly about rape and consent in the WAVE Member countries. A recording of the webinar can be made available by contacting the WAVE Office.

3.8. Study Visit

The study visit of the WG on the SBNL Approach took place between 10–12 July. The visit was held in the England, since women's services in the country are at the forefront of developing the SBNL approach. The WG first made an informative visit to the London Black Women's Project in East London, visiting both the office and one of their refuges, and they were met by the survivors and staff. The visit further took the group to the city of Leicester, where members attended the Women's Aid Federation annual conference. At the conference, there were workshops dedicated to aspects the SBNL approach. The working group also organised and led their own fringe meeting on strengths-based, needs-led approaches in Europe, where the exchange of good practices and experiences took place, as well as the discussion about methodological specifics of approach. Members of the group also organised group side meetings, dedicated to discussing and working on the SBNL **Handbook**, published in September.

Although not all group members were in a position to



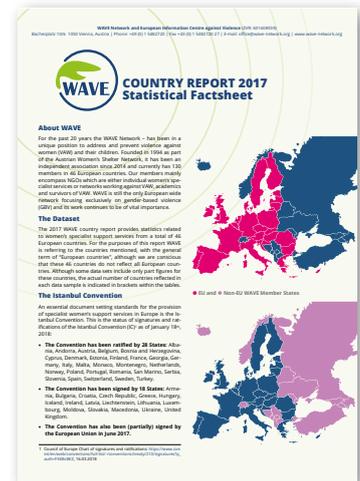
Study Visit participants at the Women's Aid Federation annual conference in England

attend the study visit, due to long and expensive UK visa procedures (which were impractical to go through for some of the members), the study visit confirmed itself as a deeply cooperating and a very informative experience, thus strengthening the group.

3.9. WAVE Statistics

The **WAVE Fact Sheet & Statistics 2017** gathers key information from the WAVE Country Report 2017 regarding women's shelters, national women's helplines, and women's centers.

The compilation also includes key information pertaining to the Istanbul Convention and its monitoring mechanism and highlights the existing gaps and barriers in national legislation and how legal frameworks (or lack thereof) can negatively impact accessible services for women survivors of GBV. Standards and recommendations developed by WAVE are also provided for ensuring quality and sustainable specialist women's support services in Europe. Research demonstrates that 76% of 49 European countries have at least one national

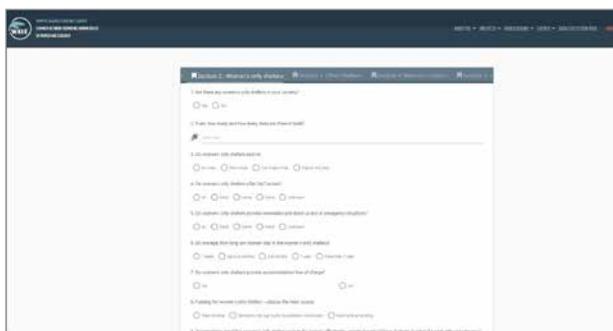


women's helpline, and 69% operate both free of charge and 24/7. For women's shelters, less than a quarter of all women's shelters are located in non-EU countries, showing that women affected by violence living outside of the EU have less opportunities to access a women's shelter. However, 81% of EU member states fail to meet Istanbul Convention standards for women's shelter service provision (which stipulates that one bed space per 10,000 population be made available). WAVE Statistics demonstrate the sense of urgency in service provision throughout Europe, and therefore serve as an important lobbying tool at both a national and European level for supporting access and ensuring sustainable funding for quality specialist women's support services around Europe.

3.10. Data Collection Tool

The WAVE Data Collection Tool (DCT) was further developed in 2018, based on experiences from the previous year. The DCT was piloted in 2017, with the aim of collecting data for the WAVE 2017 Country Report. The 2017 Country Report was published in March 2018. A discussion about the experience of WAVE Delegates and Co-delegates with the new DCT was held at the ABM in April in Vienna. Most Delegates expressed their concerns about the length and breadth of topics related to women's specialist support services in Europe which were addressed by the DCT. More precisely, they asked for the number of sections and questions to be reduced in order to make it more feasible for them to insert the required data and information next time. This was due to limited resources in terms of time, the number of staff who can work on collecting data and insert it into the DCT, as well as the availability of information and data at the country level.

In 2018, the WAVE Office managed to build on the experience from the previous version of the DCT. Feedback from the Network was provided through an online survey on Members' experience with the previous version of the DCT. Their suggestions were implemented when the second, updated version of the DCT was created. This

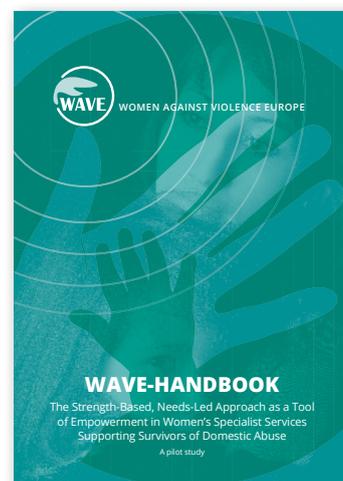


version was streamlined and made more user-friendly by developing a new tool with a different IT support officer, and the number of questions were reduced in order to get more comparable data across sections at the end of the data collection process. The latter is essential for being able to make a comprehensive analysis of women's support services across countries.

The updated tool will be piloted in 2019. Although the number of questions in the second version is still substantial, it was greatly reduced from the previous version. The WAVE Office recognizes that it is a challenge to balance comprehensiveness of the questions with the resources, time and information which WAVE Delegates have at their disposal.

3.11. Handbook on European Standards

As part of the thematic working group, a **Handbook** was developed called "The Strength-Based, Needs-Led Approach as a Tool of Empowerment in Women's Specialist Services Supporting Survivors of Domestic Violence". This Handbook aims to set a milestone, with which to incentivise services to go beyond focusing on the risks a woman experiencing GBV faces and to also explore her strengths and skills together with her, which will serve her as key tools in building a new life. The Handbook, which includes a pilot study, outlines the definition of the SBNL approach, incorporates the use of international legal documents into the analysis of the SBNL approach, and introduces the study which was carried out, followed by main issues, recommendations and survivors' stories.



A persistent issue emerging from the results of the pilot study was the presence of patriarchal traditions, regardless of the country, cultural tradition, and the organisation itself. These can also impact the culture of support services which at times relate to a woman mainly as a "victim to be supported" rather than a survivor with her own strengths and abilities. All of the specialist women's support services which took part in the Handbook discovered that, for their work to show impact in the long run, working from a SBNL approach is much more effective in supporting women than just focusing on risks and a criminal justice led response.



Participants collaborating during the Multidisciplinary Training in Vienna



Multidisciplinary Training in Vienna

3.12. Multidisciplinary Training

From 20–21 September, WAVE hosted a Multidisciplinary Training together with the European Network for Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence. In total, there were 28 participants from 14 European countries. The aim of the training was to bring together key stakeholders from several European countries to share good practices on how effective collaboration between perpetrator programmes and specific women’s support services can look in practice. The training engaged in capacity building for strengthening cooperation between the two sectors, focusing on particular articles of the Istanbul Convention (Articles 16 and 22) and placing the safety of women and women’s organizations at the centre.

Unique about this training was that, for the first time in WAVE, professionals from perpetrator programmes and specialist women’s support services gathered together to exchange information and good practices, and

to develop an information sheet which shares practical guidelines for organizations. The training balanced panel presentations from organizations which shared good practices, as well as working groups which broke the participants down into smaller groups to strategize.

3.13. WAVE Training Institute

The WAVE Training Institute “Implementing the Istanbul Convention at a National and European level” took place from the 20–21 November. The two-day training welcomed a total of 25 participants from 18 countries, including three international experts that fulfilled the role of trainers. The three trainers were represented by Louise Hooper, Barrister at the Garden Court Chambers in the UK and Council of Europe expert on violence against women, Biljana Brankovic, GREVIO Member from Serbia and Karin Heisecke, International expert on violence against women and WAVE Member from Germany.



Participants of the WAVE Training Institute in Vienna



Brainstorming at the WAVE Training Institute in Vienna

The training addressed different areas of the implementation of the Istanbul Convention: pathways to ratification, problems encountered in practice, and application of the Convention in criminal law and practicalities in supporting victims in court. The training also focused on developing awareness-raising campaigns and programmes on violence against women and how to raise awareness of the Convention. Other areas addressed were the importance of submitting NGOs shadow reports to GREVIO, tips for women's NGOs on what to focus and what not to focus on when writing these reports, and problems which can arise in practice when interpreting articles of the Convention. Lastly, participants were introduced to the European Convention of Human Rights and the case law of the European Court of Human Rights. Synergies between the Istanbul Convention and the European Court of Human Rights were identified and tools of the Court, such as important case law when it comes to GBV were presented to participants.

The purpose of the training was to offer a legal perspective to WAVE Members when it comes to the application of the Istanbul Convention, but also to enhance the knowledge of those already working in this field (such as lawyers). The training looked at offering practical tools for women's NGOs in supporting women victims of violence in court proceedings, but also important insights into monitoring the implementation of the Convention by national governments. Participants will be able to further disseminate the knowledge accumulated to other women's NGOs working in the field, as well as in the trainings they are carrying out in their countries with other professionals.



WAVE Training Institute in Vienna

3.14. Step Up! Campaign

The 2018 **Step Up! Campaign** was officially launched again in March with activities related to International Women's Day. Twenty European countries and campaigners nationally carried out the Step Up! Campaign in 2018 and supported exciting European activities.



In May, the **Call for Youth Ambassadors** was launched. This call sought after young and committed visionaries to join a peer group of youth ambassadors for the Campaign, consisting of up to ten young people from the participating campaigning countries. By the deadline in September, the Campaign received around 220 applications for the pioneering roles to become human rights activists on behalf of the Campaign.

The Step Up! Campaign Jury chose 11 young people to become the first generation of the WAVE Youth Ambassadors. The Youth Ambassadors came from Belgium, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Portugal, Serbia and Spain. They successfully took part in the social media campaign during the #16Days of Action engaging in the Twitter and Instagram take-over. Furthermore, campaigners created videos in their native languages to campaign for the sufficient financial support for specialist women's support services. These were shared by WAVE during the #16Days, as well as locally, through campaigners' own media channels.

During the Peace Day Action Week in September, cam-



Step up! CAMPAIGN

BECOME OUR YOUTH AMBASSADOR!



Are you the one who cares?
Are you passionate about creating positive change and actively shaping policies on a higher level?
We want you to become our youth ambassador!

Learn more & apply: bit.ly/call-YA




Finnish Members excited about the new Step Up! Campaign look

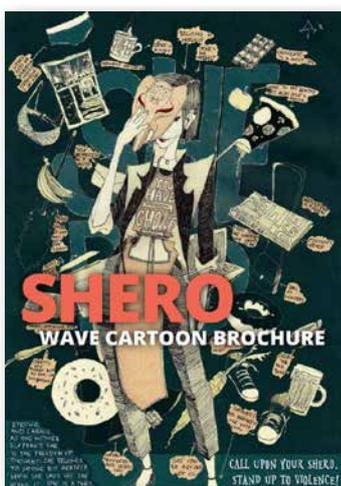
Campaigners met regularly (on a monthly basis) through conference calls to organize and strategize for the upcoming activities and this regular communication will continue in 2019.

ampaigners engaged in street actions (leafleting, protests) as well as in organising events to mobilise for ending GBV. For instance, in Austria, the event was held in the National Opera house.

Another call was carried out in Autumn for young female artists/cartoonists to imagine and present a figure of the SHERO – a heroine supporting women in addressing violence against women. The most inspiring works were collected in an interactive 28-page [brochure](#) which is now available on the WAVE website.

The Step Up! Campaign also successfully redesigned the campaign logo and the web page and created merchandise, such as campaign t-shirts, tote bags and stickers, with the new logo. The new logo was designed by Polonca Strman and artwork for the tote bag was designed by Linda Steiner. For inquiries about this merchandise, please contact the WAVE Office. Merchandise is subject to availability.

The Step Up! Campaign website can be visited at: www.wave-stepup.org



3.15. Policy Work & Lobbying

WAVE continued lobbying and monitoring at the European and international level in 2018, with a strong focus on the backlash towards women's rights and the impact of gender-neutrality on WAVE Members. Most policy work and lobbying centers around promoting the effective ratification and implementation of the Istanbul Convention. This Convention, in addition to other critical international tools such as CEDAW, is deeply embedded within all of WAVE's work and activities, and influenced the following lobbying activities carried out by WAVE in 2018:



This year, WAVE welcomes the European Union's signature of the Istanbul Convention, and celebrates this as a great first step towards the EU demonstrating that ending GBV is a priority for Europe. However, WAVE joined the #EUToo Campaign to ratify the Istanbul Convention as soon as possible and take a clear stance against violence against women and girls.

A **policy paper** was developed in December titled "The Importance of Women's Specialist Support Services in Europe". This paper outlines the importance of sustaining women's specialist support services in Europe, and how promoting service provision for women survivors of GBV is one of the key requirements of the Istanbul Convention. By highlighting the many ways in which women's lives are deeply impacted by violence, as well as the cost which violence against women can have on society, the policy paper provides arguments for how adherence to Istanbul Convention standards can lead to sustainability of organizations providing specialist support. This will in turn allow governments and decision makers to help reduce the human and economic costs associated with the impact of violence against women. The policy paper is available on the WAVE website.

More recently, WAVE has been actively involved in addressing the severe backlash against women's rights

and women's NGOs and the Istanbul Convention across Europe. For instance, in April 2018, a damaging letter signed by 333 organizations from nine countries was sent to the Secretary General to the Council of Europe, demanding changes to the text of the Istanbul Convention. The letter specifically recommended a revision of the Convention to replace 'gender' and related concepts with 'equality between women and men' and to enable states to provide reservations on parts of the Convention which may be 'controversial'. This letter is one consequence of a much larger problem throughout Europe, namely political and social backlash in various countries towards women's human rights in general and specialist women's support services in particular.

Within one week, WAVE **mobilized signatures** from 1,166 organizations in 44 European countries defending the contents of the Convention. This was a strong demonstration of WAVE's potential to mobilize and a testimony to the strength of our growing Network during difficult times. The WAVE Network learned during this time that policymakers and stakeholders are watching and receptive to WAVE efforts. On 14 June, the WAVE Headquarters received a **reply** from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, expressing gratitude for WAVE's support of the Istanbul Convention and indicated continued solidarity between NGOs and the Council of Europe to work towards upholding the basic human right of women to live a life free from violence.

3.16. 20th WAVE Conference

The **20th WAVE Conference** "The importance of women's specialist services in tackling violence against women" took place in Valletta, Malta from the 22–23 October 2018. The conference welcomed a total of 248 participants from 46 European countries. The conference was spread over three days, the first two days being dedicated to the general public, while the last day was strictly for WAVE Advisory Board members. The event started on the 21 October, where participants had the chance to informally meet for the pre-conference welcome drink. It further continued with the first public day, on 22 October, where Maria-Louise Coleiro Preca, the President of the Republic of Malta, officially opened the conference, emphasizing the importance of all women working together to end gender-based violence.

The day further continued with key note speeches from Jelena Milovanovic, UN Women Technical Project Analyst from Serbia, and Christina Olsen from the Council of Europe Secretariat of the monitoring mechanism of the Istanbul Convention. Christina Olsen's speech focused on the human rights-based approach of the Istanbul



Gathering for a photo at the end of the WAVE Conference

Convention and the recognised standard in international law that violence against women is a violation of women's fundamental rights and a form of discrimination. The first day further continued with three sessions, one on 'Protecting women's specialist support services from gender neutral police and practice', the second one on 'Challenges in addressing different forms of sexual violence against women' and the third on 'Supporting migrant women and women seeking asylum affected by gender-based violence'.

The day ended with the closing speech by Helena Dalli, the Minister for European Affairs and Equality of the Republic of Malta. In her speech, the Minister emphasized the importance of universal human rights of women and not allowing them to be rephrased or minimised, as well as the importance of challenging misinformation or false claims about the Istanbul Convention. The first day ended with a fringe meeting for the WAVE Step Up! Campaign, for WAVE campaigners, and an optional event: a guided tour of the St. John's Cathedral in Valletta.



Participants join for the opening of the 20th WAVE Conference in Valletta

The second public day of the conference on 23 October was dedicated to a series of 12 workshops, taking place in three sessions. The first session included four workshops, focusing on 'Challenging gender neutrality', 'Effectively addressing sexual violence in conflict', 'Successful development of a strength-led needs-based approach in women's specialist service provision' and 'Best practice examples in supporting children victims of violence'. The second session tackled workshops on the 'Effective collaboration between women's specialist



Closing speech by Helena Dalli, the Minister for European Affairs and Equality of the Republic of Malta



Natalia Batenkova presenting "Big sporting events as driving forces for prostitution and human trafficking"

services and work with perpetrator programmes', on 'Effectively empowering migrant and refugee women who experience violence against women and girls', on 'European efforts on tackling femicide' and on 'The pivotal role of the health care sector in addressing and preventing violence against women and girls'. The third and last session included also four workshops that highlighted the 'Importance of data collection in effectively fighting violence against women and girls', the 'Intersectional forms of violence against women and girls – how specialist support services can holistically support women', the 'Long term empowerment of survivors of violence against women' and the 'Prevention of violence against women and good practice examples'. The day ended with a presentation of the main outcomes of each workshop as well as the WAVE General Assembly, where all WAVE Members could attend, and a new WAVE Board was elected.

The third day of the conference was specifically dedicated to the WAVE Advisory Board. The half day meeting included topics such as discussing the status of the ongoing working groups in WAVE, WAVE membership criteria and actions of the Network on the current political challenges.

3.17. WAVE Information Center

The WAVE Information Center is an essential key activity of the organization. WAVE staff are available Monday-Friday to provide information on available services for women survivors of violence in 49 European countries, refer individuals to relevant contacts (service providers, experts and academics) in Europe, and support WAVE Members with their inquiries. The Information Center, represented by a dedicated section on the WAVE website, can be reached by email, phone and through social media.

Each month WAVE receives cross-border requests for

support from women survivors of violence, or from family members of the survivors, from women's support services, or from different institutions. The requests are often received when women have not been able to find sufficient support in their own countries, are in dangerous and high-risk situations, are not aware of the support provided in their countries, or the situation is especially complex and requires cross-border assistance. In such cases, WAVE has served both to refer the survivors to appropriate services in the relevant countries, and to provide support to survivors, whenever possible. In 2018, WAVE handled 25 help requests, mostly cross-border cases.

In many cases, situations involve women needing to relocate to other countries to escape the violence as well as to seek support such as shelters or counselling. Therefore, WAVE initiates contacts with relevant women's organizations or authorities to provide the necessary support to women. In some cases, WAVE often remains involved throughout the case to ensure the woman's safety and a positive outcome. The cases in 2018 varied and included women from various countries in Europe and beyond.

The Information Center also responds to requests from experts and academics, women's and other civil society organizations, and from the general public. These include requests for specific information on WAVE's publications and work, internship and partnership requests, and communication with international and European institutions. In 2018, WAVE received nearly 250 information requests from various institutions, including from the European Union, United Nations, academic institutions and journalists. WAVE also provides information for professionals from different organizations who are seeking information for victims, responds to questionnaires and surveys, and contacts colleagues in other countries for cross-country cooperation and exchange. In addition, an important aspect of the work of the Information Center is to provide information and support to the 141 Network Members and to ensure that all are consistently kept updated on the various activities and developments of the Network.

In addition to online support, the WAVE Information Center, in the form of the WAVE Office, also welcomes study visit delegations. From 27–29 November, the WAVE Office coordinated a study visit delegation from Armenia, together with the Council of Europe. A total of 19 representatives from Armenia were police and legal professionals. The delegation attended the WAVE Office in Vienna with the aim to learn and exchange experiences on combating violence against women and domestic



Study Visit delegation from Armenia in the WAVE Office, Vienna

violence with another country. Armenia has adopted their first law on domestic violence in December 2018 and signed the Istanbul Convention this year in 2018.

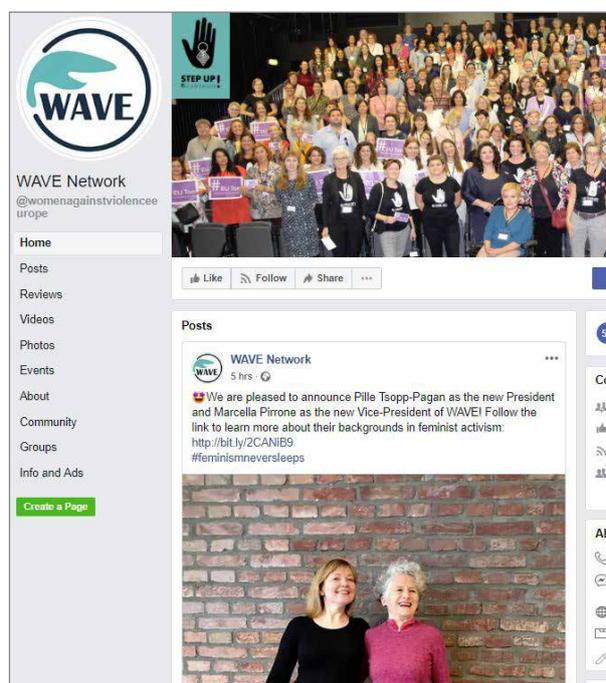
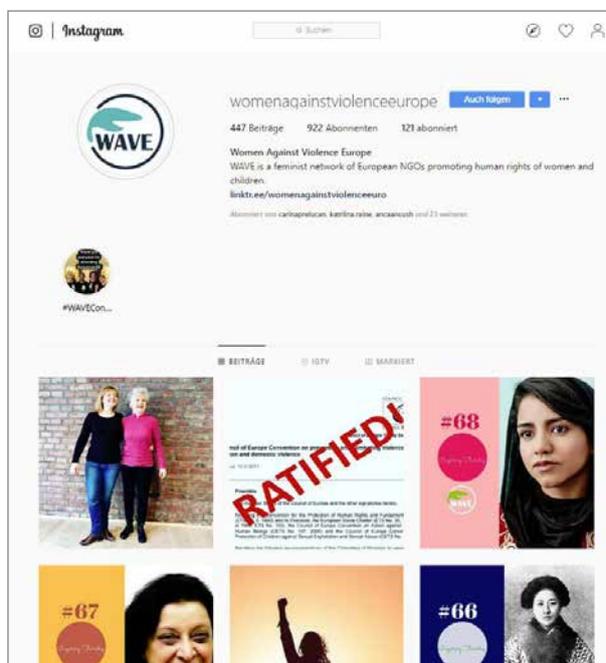
3.18. Database

The **WAVE Database** contains the contact information and details of over 1,500 women's organizations within Europe. The Database lists women's shelters, women's national helplines and women's advocacy centres in 49 European countries. Information such as whether services are 24/7 and free of charge, as well as addresses and other relevant contact information, can be found and used by any visitor who accesses the WAVE website. This information can be accessible online by anyone who accesses the WAVE website. The Database gathers information collected by WAVE Members and is regularly updated.

3.19. Information Dissemination & Awareness-Raising through Social Media

WAVE is active on four social media platforms: **Facebook**, **Twitter**, **Instagram** and YouTube. These platforms have proven vital to disseminating information on GBV to the public, academics, organizations and stakeholders, as well as to display solidarity to all women survivors of violence at a European and international level. Every day new posts are shared on the social media platforms, which promote not only the work and activities of WAVE, but also the activism of WAVE Members and any relevant campaigns and articles on research on GBV.

Since the creation of the Digital & Social Media Coordinator position in the WAVE Office, coordination for social media posts has vastly improved. The number of people reached and interaction via all social media channels has drastically increased, with the WAVE Facebook page reaching over 4,000 likes in 2018, while Twitter attracted 2,088 followers and Instagram had 875



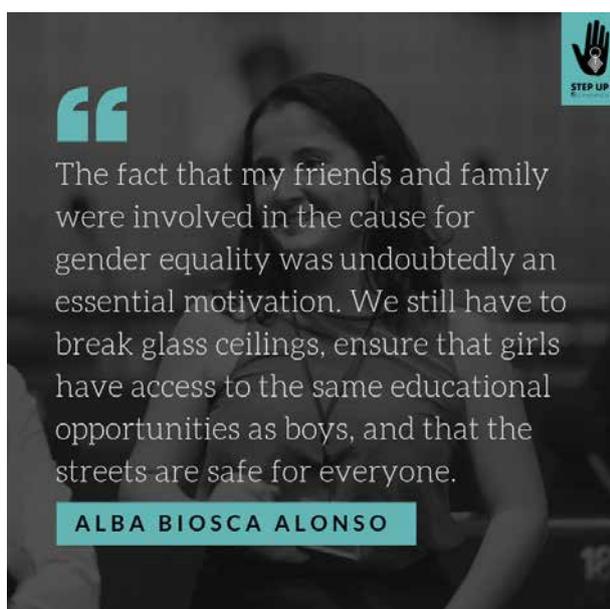
followers. The aim of the Facebook page is to ensure the visibility of the campaign in the digital sphere and strengthen its online presence. The platform is used to inform followers about the ongoing progress of the campaign, disseminate visuals of actions developed and conducted by the campaigners and engage directly with the audience through occasional open calls that allow people from all over the world to participate and be part of the Step Up! Campaign. One of the highlights that contributed to the Step Up! Campaign's social media success was the participation in the 16 Days of Activism.

In October 2018, WAVE elected 11 candidates from 9 different European countries to become WAVE Youth Ambassadors and support the Step Up! Campaign in raising awareness on the importance of fighting for gender



equality and against GBV. The call was launched on the WAVE Blog as well as on the Facebook page of the Step Up! Campaign, and successfully reached more than 200 applicants from all over Europe with even a few applications from outside the continent. In order to formally introduce the WAVE Youth Ambassadors to the public, WAVE decided to coordinate a social media takeover conducted by the ambassadors.

During the 16 Days of Activism, the ambassadors were asked to take over the WAVE Twitter and Instagram account to share their experiences and views on feminism, gender equality and more. For the social media takeover, each of them was given a day during which they had two hours to upload graphics, videos and create stories with a focus on their respective countries to ignite interesting discussions and spark important conversations about GBV. The ambassadors decided to tackle serious

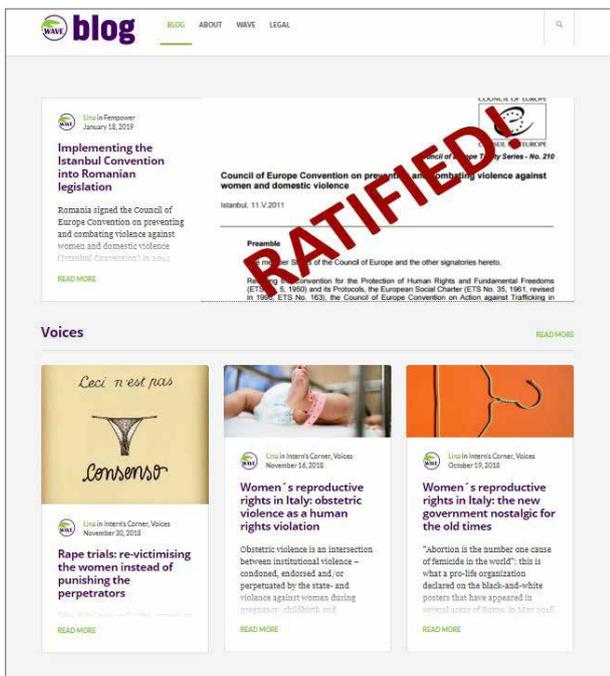


issues including child marriage and human trafficking, and aimed to raise awareness through important, informative and inspirational contributions.

Various organisations regularly contact WAVE to collaborate on social media campaigns and WAVE also seeks out campaigns that are relevant to the cause. For instance, on 31 October WAVE was asked by the Party of European Socialists to support Unequal Pay Day by sharing materials regarding the gender pay gap. WAVE also supported the #MyIssueToo Campaign for the European Female Genital Mutilation Network, #AgeingEqual campaign for AGE Platform Europe, the #Responsible-Together campaign with the European Work with Perpetrators Network, and the European Commission #Say-NoStopVAW campaign.

During the 20th annual WAVE Conference in Valletta, social media captured the opening event and speeches by





the Maltese President as well as politicians. The hashtag #WAVECon20 was used extensively by participants to document their experiences during the three-day event. Participants also took the opportunity of using the group conference photo to support the #EUtoo movement, which encourages the EU to ratify the Istanbul Convention.

WAVE also makes every effort to use International Days in order to promote the agenda of ending violence against women and girls in Europe and the world. This can be illustrated by several social media posts on World Elder Abuse Day and International Day of Older Persons used for the TISOVA and WHOSEFVA projects to share project results. A further example would be the International Day of Rural Women on 15 October, during which the DIS.CO project was promoted, which emphasized the need for women in rural areas to have access to counselling services.

In addition to social media, WAVE also launched the #WAVEBlog on 20 March, which can be found on the WAVE website. The first article written to celebrate the launch was an editorial on the importance of intersectional feminism. The main goal of the WAVE Blog is to promote WAVE's Fempower magazine articles while also giving a space for WAVE Office staff to share editorials on up to date issues in the feminist sphere. The Blog currently has three categories: Voices, Fempower, Intern's Corner, and Inspirational Women.

The Inspirational Women Series was launched in 2017 with the idea to raise public awareness about women who are not mentioned in history books yet have made valuable contributions to society. Every Thursday, a blog detailing the Shero's inspiring life story is posted to the

WAVE Blog which is then posted to all WAVE social media.

3.20. WAVE Newsletter

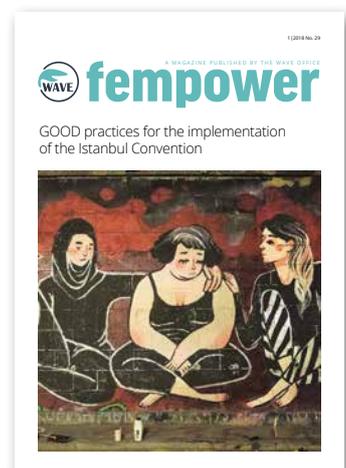
The WAVE Newsletter is disseminated every two months to over 1,000 subscribers on the mailing list. The newsletter is structured around three core sections: news concerning the WAVE Network and office, news concerning the countries of WAVE Members, and international news which is usually about recent developments regarding international organizations such as the United Nations and the EU. The purpose of the newsletter is to share knowledge and information about the activities of the Network (e.g. conferences, trainings, study visits, publications or reports and new campaigns and projects related to preventing and combating violence against women). The newsletter further informs about relevant developments in the field and promotes the WAVE Step Up! Campaign on a global scale.

3.21. Press Releases

WAVE press releases aim to increase the awareness of violence perpetrated against women and to tackle it on the media level, among the general public, relevant institutions and governmental bodies. Press releases are sent to nearly 1,000 important contacts on WAVE's mailing list and are an important lobbying tool intending to provide the media with easy access to accurate information on the scope of violence against women and children. In 2018, WAVE published three press releases. The first was published on 27 February about the achievements of the WHOSEFVA Project after one year of activities; the second press release was on 26 November regarding publications of the DIS.CO Project; while the third press release on 10 December was about the conclusion of the PICUM-WAVE Pledge campaign for undocumented women survivors of violence.

3.22. Fempower Magazine, no.29

This issue of **WAVE Fempower Magazine** highlights the need to implement provisions from the Istanbul Convention in ratifying countries, to ensure that women and children survivors of violence have access to specialist services that will enable them to rebuild their lives. Furthermore, the aim is also



to share experiences between countries about good practices for implementing the Convention, such as legal amendments made within a country, in order to harmonize national law with relevant provisions from the Convention. A total of ten articles were included in this year's issue of Fempower, submitted by various authors from EU countries, and from countries outside of the EU. Each of these articles offers a unique insight into specific improvements brought about by the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in preventing and tackling GBV, but also specific challenges and existing gaps encountered in the implementation process of the Convention.

3.23. Webinar Platform

Three webinars were hosted on the WAVE webinar platform in 2018. Organized by WAVE Office staff, the webinars covered the following topics:

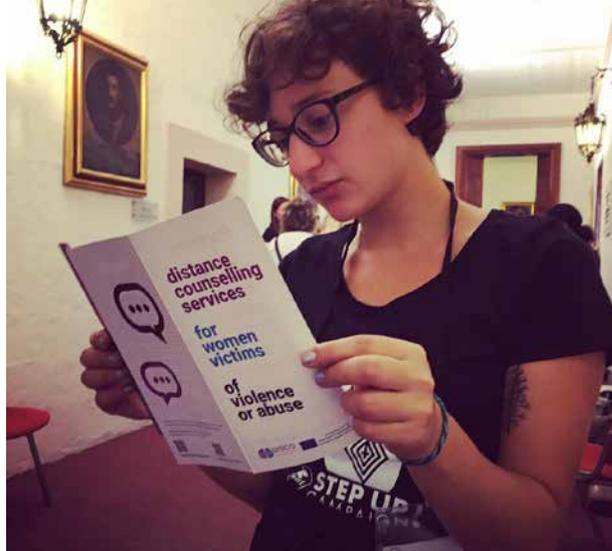
CSSP: The importance of regional cooperation between women's NGOs (30 August) — focused on highlighting the importance and the benefits of regional cooperation between women's NGOs, particularly with regard to the UN Women Project: **Implementing norms, changing minds**. This project included seven countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.

Results of the pilot study on strengths-based, needs-led approach in Europe (3 October) — discussed the concept of the strengths-based, needs-led approach, including definitions and how it is applied in select WAVE Member organizations. The **report** can be visited on the WAVE website.

Rape and Consent in Europe: National Differences in Legislation and their Implementation (27 November) — introduced the Working Group on Sexualized Violence and discussed the **WG report** on baseline information on service provision for sexualized violence within the WAVE membership.

3.24. DIS.CO Project

DIS.CO is a two-year Erasmus+ project which aims to develop, pilot and disseminate VET material regarding the enhancement of key competences of psycho-social counselling practitioners in the field of counselling women victims of violence through alternative digital means. The project aims to provide alternative innovative services and building virtual workplaces. The project will promote innovative digital learning methods (e-learning) accompanied with work-related digital tools



Reading the informational DIS.CO Brochure at the WAVE Conference

(online Safety Planning Application) as well as conventional practical guides.

The project partners are: Union of Women Associations of Heraklion Prefecture (Greece); Queen's University of Belfast – School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work (Northern Ireland); University of Crete – Psychology Department (Greece); University of Tartu – Johan Skytte Institute of Political Studies (Estonia); Women's Support and Information Center (Estonia); Frederick University - Department of Psychology and Social Work (Cyprus); Northern Ireland Rape Crisis Association; M&M Profuture Training, S.L. (Cyprus); and Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE).

In 2018, DIS.CO published two intellectual outputs: a Needs Assessment and a profile of counsellor "at a distance". Both can be downloaded in English, German, Greek & Estonian **online**. Furthermore, two project partner meetings were held in Heraklion and Tartu.

3.25. UN Women Project: Civil Society Strengthening Platform

WAVE, together with ten partners from the Western Balkans and Turkey, carried out from 2017-2018 the first year of the UN Women project 'Support the establishment and strengthening of regional platforms of civil society organisations to advocate for the development and





CSSP Kick Off Meeting in Belgrade

implementation of laws and policies in line with CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention’ part of the three-year programme: ‘Implementing norms, changing minds’ (CSSP). The goal of the one-year project was to strengthen women’s voices and agency, including of women’s organisations working with and representing women from disadvantaged groups, at a regional level. The expected result was to strengthen capacities of women’s organisations’ platforms and/or networks as a vehicle to support women’s civic engagement in CEDAW and Istanbul Convention monitoring and reporting.

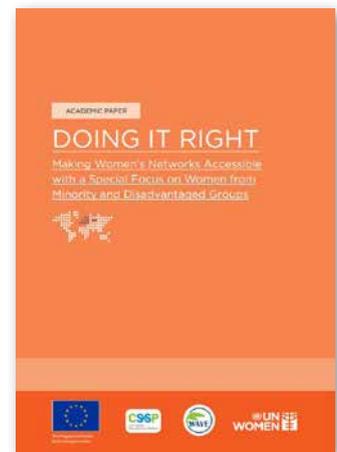
Partners involved in this project are: Albania: AWEN Network, Gender Alliance for Development Centre, Woman to Woman; Bosnia and Herzegovina: Foundation United Women Banja Luka; Kosovo: Women’s Wellness Centre; Macedonia: National Council for Gender Equality, National Network to end Violence against Women and Domestic Violence – Voice against violence; Montenegro: SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence Niksic; Serbia: Association Fenomena; Turkey: Kadin Dayanisma Vakfi – The Foundation for Women’s Solidarity.

Throughout the one-year project many activities have been undertaken, for example: developing a **platform website** that serves as an information-collection and sharing hub for all partners from the seven countries. The purpose of the website is to raise awareness about the project and to share good practice standards and key project outputs as well as information about different events. Other activities organised entailed assessing women’s organisations practices and attitudes towards networking and assessing the barriers preventing women from minority and disadvantaged groups to proactively participate within existing coalitions, networks and platforms at regional level. The assessments were carried out in all seven countries and were compiled into a **comparative report**, titled ‘The Benefits and Challenges of Women’s Networks in the Western Balkans and Turkey’.



David Saunders from UN Women BiH and Ines Leskaj from AWEN Network Albania at the CSSP training in Sarajevo

Furthermore, the CSSP, with the help of AWEN Network Albania, produced a **research report** “Doing it right: Making women’s networks accessible – with a special focus on women from minority and disadvantaged groups” which aims at offering an overview of the current situation in the seven partner countries regarding accessibility of networks and represents an initial attempt to analyse the inclusiveness of women’s networks in the region.



Apart from the published reports, CSSP has also organized two trainings, one in Ankara, Turkey and one in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Both trainings focussed on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention and CEDAW Convention and looked at how to use the legal tools offered by the Conventions, and how to properly implement them in accordance with their scope. The training in Bosnia and Herzegovina also looked into



CSSP training event in Ankara

specific and effective ways on women's NGOs reporting to the GREVIO Committee, writing GREVIO Shadow Reports. National GREVIO shadow reports can be found on the [CSSP website](#).

The CSSP cooperation has bolstered cooperation between the partners and further developed their relationships in the Western Balkans and Turkey. Partners had the chance to learn from each other, gain knowledge on different ways of tackling current problems, but also to support each other as the challenges they face in the region are very similar, especially when it comes to funding. The findings from the reports carried out throughout the year, and the close cooperation of all partners resulted in strengthened links between regional women's NGOs and led to successful joint actions, such as the training in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which offered concrete insights for partners on how to write GREVIO Shadow Reports.

This project currently continues into a second year, 2018–2019, building on the strengthened cooperation between the women's NGOs in the region, by sharing resources and engaging in joint activities which provide further incentive for mutual learning and collaboration. CSSP is an important tool in their cooperation and strengthens the ability of partners in monitoring the effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention and CEDAW in the region.

3.26. TISOVA Project

TISOVA – Training to Identify and Support Older Victims of Abuse – is a European Erasmus+ project launched on 1 September 2017 intended to establish associated and strategic partnerships with senior centers from each of the partner countries: Austria, Estonia, Greece and Finland, in order to counteract any form of violence against elderly, especially women, for the duration of the three years.



TISOVA partners met once in Helsinki at the European Commission Representation in Finland building for the third project meeting and training. The goal of this project meeting was to update each other on the progress of the project. Part of the meeting also took place at the Kustaankartano Comprehensive Service Center, to see a good practice example of how care for older people in Finland is structured and can look in practice.

TISOVA and WAVE also partnered with #AgeingEqual Campaign and [Age Platform Europe](#) to end ageism and promote the human rights of the elderly. Partners of WHOSEFVA contributed articles to the campaign blog specifically regarding elderly abuse and the gendered dimension of violence. One blog post is "[It's Easier to do Nothing](#) – the silence of older women victims of abuse" written by Kelly Blank in the WAVE Office and partner of TISOVA; the second blog post contributed by WAVE was "[Older women: the right to be free from violence](#)", written by Chiara Paganelli.

Further collaboration with AGE Platform Europe resulted in a special invitation for a TISOVA partner to attend a Roundtable on ageism and the ways forward. This was a work meeting marking the end of the #AgeingEqual Campaign and the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, on 6 December in Brussels. TISOVA Finnish partner, Henriikka Laurola from Empowering Old Age Coop VoiVa attended this event on behalf of TISOVA. The meeting brought together approximately 20 professionals with speakers from EU organizations, the UN, Age Platform Europe and the European Youth Parliament. Following the meeting, this [press release](#) was released, and the #AgeingEqual campaign was concluded with a [briefing](#) about what is next to come for the fight against ageism in Europe.

3.27. WHOSEFVA Project

WHOSEFVA – Supporting Elderly Female Victims of Abuse – was a European project which was launched in January 2017 and ended in December 2018. Co-funded by the European Commission, the project aims to address the barriers and gaps which exist in healthcare settings to effectively support elderly victims of abuse. The project's main aim was to increase the capacity of domestic violence organizations to better represent the interests and voices of older women who are victims of abuse in healthcare and healthcare policy, thus helping to better comply with the desires of the EU. WHOSEFVA was implemented in six partner countries: Austria, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Latvia and the UK.



In the project's final year, 2018, WHOSEFVA carried out several activities, including dissemination activities and local advocacy meetings. The third steering committee meeting and training was held in Vienna from 1–3 March, and included a training on how to implement protocols,



WHOSEFVA Project Final Dissemination Conference in Tallinn

as well as a discussion about planning the training manual and feedback on policy recommendations. While the fourth Steering Committee Meeting took place on 27 August.

To celebrate the project's achievements, a Final Dissemination Conference was hosted in Tallinn, Estonia from 28–29 August. The first day was hosted in the Social Insurance Board and included opening remarks and introduction to the project, and presentations about the perceptions of elderly and healthcare providers on domestic violence, training health care providers to support elderly victims of violence in healthcare settings, and evaluations of the project. The second day was hosted in the Parliament of Estonia and included an overview of the main activities of the project, local and EU level policy recommendations, a description of the Estonian policy environment, and a public discussion about multiagency cooperation against elderly abuse.



The **WHOSEFVA Training Manual** was also published at the end of 2018 and aims to support trainers in social and health care and victims' services to address elderly abuse. The manual is divided into several modules which address issues such as the background and history of violence against women and elderly abuse, different forms of violence against older people, risk factors, challenges of pro-

fessional work in effectively addressing the issue, and the role of healthcare providers in identifying and referring victims of abuse, including guidelines for conducting trainings in health care settings, such as communication skills and documentation. Parallel to the Training Manual, an **online training course** (MOOC) called "Five Signs of Elder Abuse" was made available for free on the WHOSEFVA website and is designed to deliver training on the prevention of and response to violence against



older persons and violence against older women.

WHOSEFVA and WAVE also partnered with #AgeingEqual Campaign and Age Platform Europe to end ageism and promote the human rights of the elderly. Partners of WHOSEFVA contributed articles to the campaign blog specifically regarding elderly abuse and the gendered dimension of violence. Information about the campaign can be found here: <https://ageing-equal.org/>

All information about project results and outputs can be found on the WHOSEFVA Project website: www.whosefva-gbv.eu

3.28. Oak Foundation

Thanks to generous core funding from the OAK Foundation, WAVE could continue its core activities and support WAVE Member organizations from outside of the European Union. This included financial support to WAVE Members to attend the WAVE Advisory Board Meeting held in Vienna in April 2018, WAVE Multidisciplinary Training held in Vienna, the 20th WAVE Conference held in Valletta, Malta, and the WAVE Training Institute held in Vienna in November. Additionally, the funding supported WAVE staff participation at various events organized within the context of the WAVE Step Up! Campaign, as well as helped support organizational and structural improvements.

4. Annex

4.1. Board List of CVs from October 2017 – October 2018

Hilary Fisher (Vice-President)

Hilary has many years of experience of working on violence against women and girls nationally and internationally. She has a background in research, policy development, leading exciting campaigns and building coalitions including as Director of the UK End Child Poverty Coalition and leading Amnesty International's global End Violence against Women campaign. Hilary was a member of the Council of Europe Ad Hoc Committee (CAVHIO) 2008 – 2011 that drafted the Istanbul Convention. Previously Hilary was a member and then Chair of the Council of Europe Expert Task Force on Violence against Women 2006–2008, which developed the Blue Print for the Council Europe Campaign on Domestic Violence and recommended a legally binding Convention on violence against women. In 2012 Hilary led the Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) study on support services for women escaping violence for the European Institute of Gender Equality which informed the European Commission's submission to the 57 session of the Commission on the Status of Women in 2013. Hilary authored the WAVE 2011 and co-authored the 2012 Annual Reports on support services for women and children escaping violence. Hilary has recently been re-elected as Vice President of WAVE, a post she previously held since June 2014. Between 2006 and 2009 Hilary was a Co-Chair of the UK Women's Budget Group an independent NGO promoting gender equality through appropriate economic policy.

Albena Koycheva (Secretary)

Albena Koycheva is a practicing lawyer with special interests for women's rights and feminist activism. For more than 20 years she has been litigating cases of violence against women and gender stereotypes at national and international level. Since 2004 she has been a participant, then subsequently a lecturer, coordinator and currently a co-director of the Women's Human Rights Training Institute for young feminist lawyers. In her own country, she has been working with the Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation (BGRF) since 1999 and is a member of its Board since 2014. She took part in the working group for drafting the Law on Protection against Domestic Violence in Bulgaria and lobbying for its adoption. Later she was in the team of experts for the monitoring of its implementation, drafting recommendations and amendments. She has been involved in numerous WGs for other legislative changes related to combating violence against women and abolishing harmful gender stereotypes and inequalities.

Sari Laaksonen (Deputy Treasurer)

Is a development director in the Federation of Mother

and child homes and Shelters, which has 30 member organizations throughout Finland. Previously Sari has worked as the director of the Shelter in Helsinki and in Central Union for Child Welfare. She has been an active member in the Nordic Women Against Violence network since 2009 and WAVE advisory board since 2014. She is also a board member in the Finnish section of The European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN) and chairing the board of Victim Support Finland. As part of her current job she is coordinating the Istanbul Convention shadow report of Finland in co-operation with Women's Line and organizing the Nordic Women Against Violence -conference 2018 in Helsinki. She has also been involved in developing projects on outreach work, violence against the elderly, children of asylum seekers and prisoners as well as generational violence. Sari is an experienced network developer and NGO lobbyist, with a university degree on educational administration, development and research.

Rosa Logar (President)

Rosa Logar is Executive Director of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Centre Vienna, a victim/survivor service that was established with the Domestic Violence Act (1997). She is a lecturer at the University of Applied Sciences/Department of Social Work and member of the Austrian inter-ministerial working ground on the new Domestic Violence Act. Rosa co-founded WAVE in 1994, and participated in selected international activities: member of the UN Expert Group Meeting Good practices in legislation on Violence Against Women in Vienna (2008); member of the Council of Europe Task Force to Combat Violence against Women, including Domestic Violence (2006-2008); from 2008 until 2010 she represented the Austrian Federal Minister for Women in the CoE Ad Hoc Committee which was in charge of drafting the new CoE Convention on preventing and combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence. Since May 2015, Rosa is a member of the GREVIO committee, which monitors the implementation of the Istanbul Convention - in September 2015, she was nominated as first vice-president of the GREVIO.

Marceline Naudi (Board Member)

Dr Marceline Naudi was awarded her doctorate in 2004 from University of Manchester (UK). A social worker by profession, her practice (in England, Ireland and Malta) included work with survivors of domestic violence. She has been lecturing full-time at the University of Malta since 1994, first within the Department of Social Policy and Social Work and more recently within the new Department of Gender Studies, where she also contributes to teaching and supervision of student research within several other University Departments on gender issues, violence against women and other anti-oppressive issues (LGBTIQ, ethnicities, disabilities) at Diploma, Bachelor, Master and Doctoral level. She is active in the issues of gender equality and violence against women, as well as wider human rights issues, and has been invited

as a European expert to convene, chair and present (including key-notes) at many conferences, seminars and meetings, both in Malta and Europe. She represented Malta at the Council of Europe CAHVIO which drafted the Istanbul Convention, and is now an elected member and 1st vice-president of the GREVIO which monitors the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. She has contributed to research and reports for several EU projects and Institutions, such as FRA and EIGE, on the issues of gender and violence against women among others, and continues to support, sit on the boards of management and act as consultant to various NGOs in the field. Continuing on from her involvement in a COST Action on Femicide Across Europe, she is now in the process of setting up a European Observatory on Femicide, which will be based at the University of Malta.

Marcella Pirrone (Deputy Secretary)

Marcella Pirrone is a feminist lawyer who has worked for over thirty years in Italy and at the international level to promote and advocate for the rights of women, specifically women victims of violence. She works as a family and criminal lawyer, public service commissioner for sexual harassment and discrimination and formerly held roles including co-founder and President of a women's shelter, co-founder of D.i.Re (the Italian umbrella association for autonomous women's shelters) and member of its board, and university law professor. At the international level, she has participated in several projects, including an active role in WAVE representing Italy for over 20 years and most recently as a member of its Advisory Board. In collaboration with Elena Biaggioni, and on behalf of D.i.Re and several other Italian women's NGOs, she is coordinating the preparation of the shadow report outlining Italy's response to Istanbul Convention.

Pille Tsopp-Pagan (Treasurer)

Pille Tsopp-Pagan is a founding board member of the Tartu Women's Shelter, founded in 2002, the first domestic violence shelter in Estonia. For the past 7 years, she has served as its Executive Director, working to re-brand the organization as the Women's Support and Information Center (WSIC). She has also worked to make WSIC a more internationally-oriented organization. In WSIC she has been a project manager on national and international levels. Last year, she helped to write the 2007-2014 shadow report on Estonia to UN CEDAW and presented it to the CEDAW Committee in Geneva. Within Estonia, she has advocated for changes to the penal code and worked with policy makers to bring the country in line with the Istanbul Convention. In addition to this, she has over twenty years of experience in financial management of both non-profit and for-profit firms. She has managed the finances for dozens of international projects and for several large and small organizations.

4.2. Women's Helplines in 49 European countries

The following is a table of the national women's helplines available in the 46 European countries. If there is no national helpline, a regional or general helpline is listed (these countries are marked with a *). Women's national helplines are among the most vital services for women's survivors of violence, they are one of the first

places women can turn to receive immediate counseling and advice.

It is important to note that some of the following phone numbers cannot be called from abroad, as they are strictly national helplines and can only be used within the country. In such instances, we invite you to get in touch directly with the WAVE Members in relevant countries.

Country	Name	Phone number
Albania	Counselling Line for Women and Girls	+355 422 33408 0800 4020
Armenia	The National Hotline for Women Victims of Domestic Violence and their Children	+374 105 428 28 0800 80 850
	Hotline for Women Victims of Domestic Violence and their Children	+374 998 878 08
Austria	Women's Helpline Against Violence	0800 222 555
Azerbaijan	Clean World Hotline	+99 412 408 5696 012 5111151; 012 4085686
Belarus*	National Hotline for Survivors of Domestic Violence	8 801 100 8 801
	National Toll-free Children Helpline	8 801 100 16 11
	Hotline for Safe Migration	113
Belgium*	Hotline for all types of violence, domestic (any member of the family) sexual violence, honour related violence, and more, child abuse, elder abuse	1712 (Flemish)
	Ecoutes Violences Conjugales (for marital violence)	0800 30 030 (French)
	SOS Viol (for sexual violence)	+32 2 534 36 36 (French)
	Mon Mariage M'appartient (forced marriage helpline)	0800 90 901 (French)
	Crisis Situation Helpline (for persons in distress)	106 (Flemish) 107 (French) 108 (German)
Bosnia and Herzegovina	SOS Line for Help of Women and Children, victims of domestic violence	1264 (Republika Srpska) 1265 (Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina)
	Medica Zenica's non-geographic helpline (covering all of Bosnia and Herzegovina)	080 022334
Bulgaria	24/7 Hotline for Women, Juveniles and Children	+359 2 981 76 86 +359 0 800 18 676
Croatia*	Autonomous Women's House Zagreb	0800 55 44
	Harbri Telephone (Children's Helpline)	116 111
	SOS Helpline for Victims of Trafficking	0800 77 99
Republic of Cyprus	Emergency Social Services Line (northern area of Cyprus)	183
	Domestic Violence Helpline (other part of the country)	1440
Czech Republic*	DONA Line	+420 251 51 13 13
	Safety Children's Line	116 111
Denmark	LOKK Hotline	+45 70 20 30 82
Estonia	Tugitefon	1492
Finland	Nollalinja/Zeroline (Women's Line)	+358 800 02400
France	Violences Femmes Info	3919
	Viols Femmes Information	0800 05 95 95
	National Women's Helpline	116 006
Georgia	Tbilisi Crisis Centre of 'Sakhli' Advice Centre for Women	+995 5952 32 101
	Consultation Hotline for Victims of Human Trafficking	2 100 229
	Anti-Violence Network of Georgia	2 726 717
	1505 Hotline	112
Germany	National Women's Helpline	08000 116 016
Greece	National Centre for Social Solidarity (E.K.K.A.) (for persons in different crisis situations, including domestic violence)	197
	SOS Hotline	15 900
Hungary	NaNE Helpline for Battered Women and Children	06 80 505 101 +36 30 98 25 469 (for sexual violence)

Country	Name	Phone number
Iceland	Kvennaathvarfið shelter helpline	561 1205
	Women's Shelter Reykjavik	+354 56 11 205
	Rape Emergency Service	543 1000
Ireland	National Freephone Helpline	1800 341 900
Italy	Numero Gratuito Anitviolenza e Antistalking	1522
Kosovo	Direct Line for Victims of Violence	0800 11112
	SOS Linja	+381 39 033 00 98
Latvia*	Centre Marta for Trafficking Victims	800 2012
	Crisis Helpline	67222922 27722292
	Children's Trust Helpline	116 111
Liechtenstein	Women's Helpline Frauenhaus Liechtenstein	+423 380 02 03
Lithuania*	Pagalbos Moterims Linija	8800 66 366
Luxembourg*	Fraentelefon	12 344
Macedonia	National SOS Line	15 700
	National SOS Line – Phone of Trust	15 315
	SOS National Mobile Line	+389 75 141 700 +389 76 141 700 +389 70 141 700
Malta*	Supportline 179	179
Moldova	Trust Line	8008 8008
Montenegro	SOS Helpline for Victims of Violence	080 111 111
Netherlands*	Veilig Thuis (for victims of domestic violence and child abuse)	0800 2000
Norway*	National Helpline for Victims of Incest and Other Sexual Abuse	800 57 000
	National Helpline for Victims of any Criminal Act	800 40 008
	National Helpline for Survivors of Sexual Abuse	800 57 000
	Crisis Situation Helpline	0800 40 008
Poland*	National Emergency Service for Survivors of Family Violence Blue Line	22 668 70 00
	National Emergency Service for Survivors of Family Violence	801 12 00 02
Portugal*	Serviço de Informação às Vítimas de Violência Doméstica	800 202 148
Romania*	National Women's Helpline	0800 500 333
	Bucharest: Sensi Blu Foundation	021 311 46 36
	Bucharest: ADRA	021 25 25 117
	Lasi: CMSC	023 225 29 20
	Targu Mures: IEESR	026 521 16 99
	Sibiu: A.L.E.G.	075 389 35 31
	Biai Mare: Centru Artemis	0262 25 07 70
	Timisoara: APFR	0256 29 3183
Russia	National Helpline for Women Victims of Domestic Violence	08800 700 600
Serbia*	Helpline for victims of domestic violence	0800 100 600
	Network of Women's Hotline in Vojvodina	0800 10 10 10
Slovakia	National Line for Women Surviving Violence	0800 212 212
Slovenia	SOS Helpline for Women and Children – Victims of Violence	080 11 55
Spain	Servicio telefónico de información y de asesoramiento jurídico en material de violencia de género (Telephone information and legal advice on gender violence)	016
Sweden	Terrafem	020 52 1010
	Kvinnofridslinjen	020 50 50 50
Switzerland*	Dargebotene Hand (crisis helpline)	143, 147
Turkey	Hürriyet Emergency Domestic Violence Hotline	+90 212 656 9696 +90 549 656 9696
	Social Service Counseling Line for Family, Women, Children, and the Disabled	183
Ukraine	National Hot Line on Prevention of Domestic Violence, Trafficking and Gender Discrimination	0800 500 335 116123 (for mobiles)
United Kingdom	ENGLAND: National Domestic Violence Helpline ENGLAND: Rape Crisis Helpline	0808 2000 247 0808 802 999
	NORTHERN IRELAND: 24 Hour Domestic and Sexual Violence Helpline	0808 802 1414
	SCOTLAND: Scottish Domestic Abuse Helpline Rape Crisis Scotland Helpline	0800 027 1234 0808 8010 302
	WALES: Live Fear Free Helpline Rape Crisis Helpline	0808 80 10 800 0808 802 9999

4.3. WAVE Members (141 as of 02/2019)

1	Albanian Women Empowerment Network (AWEN)	Albania	37	Estonian Women's Shelters Union	Estonia
2	Center for Legal Civic Initiatives	Albania	38	Tartu Child Support Center	Estonia
3	Counseling Line for Women and Girls	Albania	39	Women's Shelter of Tartu	Estonia
4	Gender Alliance for Development Center (GADC)	Albania	40	Federation of Mother and Child Homes and Shelters	Finland
5	Human Rights in Democracy Center (HRDC)	Albania	41	Women's Line Finland	Finland
6	Women's Association Refleksione	Albania	42	Federation National Solidarite Femmes FNSF	France
7	Woman Forum Elbasan	Albania	43	Anti-Violence Network of Georgia	Georgia
8	Woman to Woman	Albania	44	Cultural-Humanitarian Fund "Sukhumi"	Georgia
9	Sexual Assault Crisis Center	Armenia	45	Sakhli – Advice Center for Women	Georgia
10	Women's Right Center	Armenia	46	Women's Information Center (WIC)	Georgia
11	Women's Support Center	Armenia	47	bff: Bundesverband Frauenberatungsstellen und Frauennotrufe – frauen gegen gewalt e.V.	Germany
12	Austrian Women's Shelter Network – Information Centre against Violence AÖF	Austria	48	BIG e.V. – Berliner Interventionsprojekt gegen häusliche Gewalt	Germany
13	Domestic Abuse intervention Centre Vienna	Austria	49	Frauenhauskoordinierung e.V.	Germany
14	Network of Austrian Counselling Centres for Women and Girls	Austria	50	GESINE-Netzwerk Gesundheit.EN	Germany
15	Clean World Social Union	Azerbaijan	51	KOFRA – Kommunikationszentrum für Frauen zur Arbeits- und Lebenssituation	Germany
16	International Public Association "Gender Perspectives"	Belarus	52	PAPATYA – Kriseneinrichtung für Junge Migrantinnen	Germany
17	Law Initiative – Commission on Women's Rights	Belarus	53	ZIF – Zentrale Informationsstelle der autonomen Frauenhäuser des BRD	Germany
18	Collectif contre les Violences Familiales et l'Exclusion (CVFE)	Belgium	54	European Anti-Violence Network	Greece
19	Department of Health and Welfare, Violence Victims and Policy Coordination – Province of Antwerp	Belgium	55	Union of Women Associations of Heraklion Prefecture	Greece
20	Garance ASBL	Belgium	56	NaNe – Women's Rights Association	Hungary
21	Foundation United Women Banja Luka	Bosnia and Herzegovina	57	Stigamot – Counselling and Information Centre on Sexual Violence	Iceland
22	Medica Zenica Information	Bosnia and Herzegovina	58	Women's Shelter Organization in Iceland	Iceland
23	Alliance for Protection against Gender-Based Violence	Bulgaria	59	Rape Crisis Network Ireland	Iceland
24	Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation	Bulgaria	60	Safe Ireland	Ireland
25	Nadja Centre	Bulgaria	61	Sexual Violence Centre Cork	Ireland
26	Autonomous Women's House Zagreb	Croatia	62	Women's Aid Ireland	Ireland
27	B.a.Be., Be active. Be emancipated	Croatia	63	Associazione Nazionale d.i.re Contro la Violenza	Italy
28	Centre for Women War Victims ROSA	Croatia	64	Associazione Nazionale Volontarie Telefono Rosa-Onlus	Italy
29	Women's Room – Center for Sexual Rights	Croatia	65	Women's Wellness Centre	Kosovo
30	Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family	Cyprus	66	Križu un Konsultāciju Centrs Skalbes	Latvia
31	Association of Women to Support Living (KAYAD)	Cyprus	67	Frauenhaus Liechtenstein	Liechtenstein
32	Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies (MIGS)	Cyprus	68	Vilniaus Moterų namai – Intervention Centre	Lithuania
33	proFem – Central European Consulting Centre	Czech Republic	69	Femmes en Détresse asbl	Luxembourg
34	ROSA – Centre for Battered and Lonely Women	Czech Republic	70	National Council for Gender Equality – NCGE	Macedonia
35	Kvinnuhusid	Denmark	71	National Network to End Violence against Women and Domestic Violence – Voice against Violence	Macedonia
36	L.O.K.K – National Organisation of Women's Shelters in Denmark	Denmark	72	Commission on Domestic Violence	Malta
			73	Network Forum Malta	Malta

74	Association against Violence 'Casa Marioarei'	Moldova
75	Center for Support and Development of Civic Initiatives 'Resonance'	Moldova
76	National Coalition 'Life without Violence'	Moldova
77	Rehabilitation Center for Torture Victims 'Memoria'	Moldova
78	Women's Law Centre	Moldova
79	SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence Niksic	Montenegro
80	Federatie Opvang	Netherlands
81	MOVISIE	Netherlands
82	Stichting Zijweg	Netherlands
83	Secretariat of the Shelter Movement	Norway
84	Autonomy	Poland
85	Centrum Praw Kobiet	Poland
86	A.L.E.G Association for Liberty and Equality of Gender	Romania
87	ANAIS Association	Romania
88	Artemis Counselling Centre against Sexual Abuse	Romania
89	CPE – Center Partnership and Equality	Romania
90	ANNA – National Center for Prevention of Violence	Russia
91	Crisis Centre Ekaterina	Russia
92	Nizhny Novgorod Women Crisis Center	Russia
93	Association Fenomena / SOS Kraljevo	Serbia
94	Autonomous Women's Center (AWC)	Serbia
95	Alliance of Women in Slovakia	Slovakia
96	FENESTRA	Slovakia
97	Association for Nonviolent Communication	Slovenia
98	Association SOS Helpline for Women and Children	Slovenia
99	Asociación de Mujeres Valdés Siglo XXI	Spain
100	Asociación Otro Tiempo	Spain
101	Centro de Asistencia a Víctimas de Agresiones Sexuales – CAVAS	Spain
102	Directorate General for Gender-based Violence, Youth Affairs and Juvenile Crime	Spain
103	Federación de Asociaciones de Mujeres Arena y Laurisilva	Spain
104	Fundación para la Convivencia ASPACIA	Spain
105	Hèlia – Associació de suport a les dones que pateixen violència de gènere	Spain
106	Oficina de gestión, preparación y supervisión de programas europeos. Fundación para la atención e incorporación social (FADAIS). Consejería para la igualdad y bienestar social	Spain
107	Plataforma Unitària contra les Violències de Gènere	Spain
108	ROKS – National Organisation for Women's and Girls' Shelters in Sweden	Sweden
109	UNIZON	Sweden

110	Dachorganisation der Frauenhäuser der Schweiz und Liechtenstein	Switzerland
111	Terre des femmes	Switzerland
112	Violence que faire	Switzerland
113	Kadin Dayanisma Vakfi – The Foundation for Women's Solidarity	Turkey
114	Mor Çati – Women Shelter's Foundation	Turkey
115	Kadriye Bakirci	Turkey
116	International Women's Rights Center La Strada – Ukraine	Ukraine
117	Sumy Local Crisis Center (SLCC)	Ukraine
118	Women's Information Consultative Center	Ukraine
119	IMKAAN	UK
120	Latin American Women's Aid	UK
121	Latin American Women's Rights Service	UK
122	London Black Women's Project	UK
123	NIA Ending Violence	UK
124	REFUGE	UK
125	Scottish Women's Aid	UK
126	Solace Women's Aid	UK
127	Welsh Women's Aid	UK
128	Women's Aid Federation England	UK
129	Women's Aid Federation Northern Ireland	UK
130	WWA- Aberystwyth Women's Aid	UK
131	Zero Tolerance	UK
132	Kadriye Bakirci	Individual Member
133	Shazia Choudhry	Individual Member
134	Renate Egger	Individual Member
135	Beverley Gilbert	Individual Member
136	Karin Heisecke	Individual Member
137	Dr. Melanie McCarry	Individual Member
138	Dr. Marceline Naudi	Individual Member
139	Kathleen Rees	Individual Member
140	Greta Squire	Individual Member
141	Prof. Dr. Carol Hagemann-White	Honorary Member



**WOMEN
AGAINST
VIOLENCE
EUROPE**

Values

Feminism¹, solidarity, intersectionality, equality, respect, transparency and human rights.

Vision

A world where all forms of discrimination and violence against women² and their children have been eliminated and all women and girls are able to enjoy their human rights.

Purpose

The WAVE Network exists for the prevention and elimination of all forms of violence against women and their children, to strengthen the human rights of diverse women and girls and to ensure their right to access all services that help them live their lives free from violence.

Mission

To enable all women and their children to live free from violence, particularly through strengthening and sustaining a European network of specialized support and prevention services, experts and survivors. To share expertise and experience to prevent, challenge, address and ultimately end violence against all women and their children, through an intersectional feminist approach.

1 = WAVE defines the term feminist to mean aiming at de jure and de facto equality between women and men in all areas of society. See WAVE Statutes, page 1 reference 3.

2 = WAVE understands the structural nature of violence against women as gender-based violence and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men