



## WAVE Newsletter May-June 2018

### WAVE News

#### Registrations for the WAVE Conference 2018 are now open!



Do not miss out on this exciting event! The WAVE Conference 2018 will take place in Valetta, Malta. Registrations for the 2018 conference have opened. For more information visit the [WAVE website](#).

#### WAVE Call for Youth Ambassadors

In accordance with the Step Up! Campaign strategy 2018 - 2021, The WAVE Network launched its call for youth ambassadors in 20 countries, participating in the campaign this year. The goal of the activity is to establish an ambitious international group of young people to contribute to stopping violence against women through awareness-raising activities among their peers. The call is open until 21 September 2018 and is available [here](#).

#### CSSP training in Sarajevo on GREVIO Shadow Reports



On the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of June 2018, the third training for the Civil Society Strengthening Platform (CSSP) took place in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. 30 participants representing CSOs from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey shared specific knowledge on how to write GREVIO Shadow Reports, as Bosnia and Herzegovina is going to report to GREVIO by November 2019.

GREVIO member Biljana Brankovic explained how to use the tools of the Istanbul Convention and offered advice about strategies on how to write a report. Participants from Albania and Montenegro, who already submitted a shadow report, offered an overview of their experience. Moreover, the importance of organisations representing marginalized groups of women in reporting to international bodies was emphasized.

The training, organised by WAVE together with regional partners and financially supported by the EU and UN Women, was a great opportunity to trade ideas about Bosnia and Herzegovina's upcoming GREVIO report while also to network. Stay up to date about this by visiting [the CSSP website](#).

## DIS.CO Project Dissemination



On May 9th, Europe Day, the [DIS.CO facebook page](#) went live, posting several informational graphics on gender-based violence and the importance of long-distance counselling in the fight against this. Make sure to follow the official DIS.CO hashtags: #DISCOagainstVAW #endVAWlongdistance. The first of several biannual newsletters was sent out at the beginning of June. Access the newsletter [here](#) and don't miss out

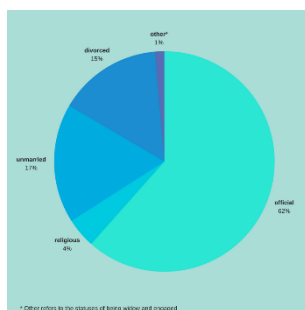
the next one by signing up [here](#).

## International News

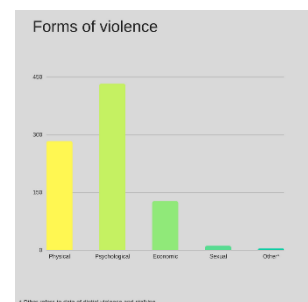
### Greece and Macedonia ratified the Istanbul Convention

The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) has been ratified by 32 countries. The Istanbul Convention is the first binding treaty specifically devoted to the protection of women and girls from gender-based violence, and WAVE welcomes the new ratifications of this landmark convention. On 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2018, the Permanent Representative of Macedonia to the Council of Europe deposited the instrument of ratification of the Istanbul Convention, which enters into force in Macedonia the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2018. On Monday 18th of June 2018, the Permanent Representative of Greece to the Council of Europe deposited the instrument of ratification. The Istanbul Convention will enter into force in Greece on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2018.

### Report on “Data on Violence Against Women in Turkey”



Between March 2016 – May 2018, Mor Çatı Women’s Shelter Foundation implemented a project entitled “A Significant Beginning in Preventing Violence Against Women: Developing and Spreading a Model of Collecting Data” supported by EU Delegation to Turkey. Within the scope of the project, Mor Çatı have designed a model to facilitate the collection and processing of data for women’s solidarity center and shelter work and established an electronic data management and application monitoring system. The information shared in the report about the activities of Mor Çatı have also been collected with the use of this software.



According to report:

- Throughout 2017, 1001 women and children applied to the Solidarity Center of Mor Çatı.



- 781 of the applicants provided information about perpetrators. Most of the perpetrators were husbands, ex-husbands, partners, ex-partners, fiancées, fathers etc. which were individuals known, trusted by and had a connection to women and children. In 2017, once again, women were subjected to violence mostly by their husbands. 491 women stated that they had been subjected to violence by their husbands.
- Throughout 2017, psychological violence has been the most common form of violence that women and children supported by Mor Çatı had experienced.

For the full report, you may contact [morcati@morcati.org.tr](mailto:morcati@morcati.org.tr).

### **The European Observatory on Femicide will soon kickstart its data collection efforts**



The European Observatory on Femicide (EOF) 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). Dr Marceline Naudi, Scientific Coordinator of the EOF, Barbara Stelmaszek, Research Officer working for the EOF, and Ksenia Meshkova, from Humboldt University Berlin, gave a presentation about the aims and data collection efforts that will be undertaken in the near future by the Observatory during a side event organised on the occasion of the [27<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice](#).

### **Join us at Safe World Summit this October 22nd and 23rd 2018**

The Safe World Summit 2018 taking place this October in Dublin is one of the most important events on trauma and domestic violence to take place this year. You are invited to join this global gathering of thought leaders, innovators, change makers and status quo disrupters from across industry, politics, social causes and diverse life experiences to share your ideas and views on how we can transform the way we respond to violence and trauma. Speakers include: Dr. Riane Eisler, Gender Equality Pioneer and Systems Scientist; Dr. Edith Eger, Holocaust Survivor, Clinical Psychologist and Author of 'The Choice: Embrace the Possible'; Professor Robert Jensen, Author of 'The End of Patriarchy: Radical Feminism for Men'. Plus [many more](#). The focus will be on revolutionising thinking on matters such as gender, inclusion, diversity, equality, peace, justice, safety, well-being and courageous leadership. The Safe World Summit will inform, inspire and invigorate you and your work. It will be an opportunity to reflect on your practice and learn new and innovative approaches. The Safe World Summit 2018 will bring many international delegates together in Dublin. Early bird tickets are available until 31st of July. Get yours [here](#). For more details click [here](#).

### **The National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence for 2018-2023 was Approved by the Government of the Republic of Moldova.**

On April 3th 2018, the Government of the Republic of Moldova approved the National Strategy for Preventing and Combating Domestic Violence for 2018- 2023. This unique document for the Republic of Moldova is based on the four pillars of the Istanbul Convention: prevention, protection, prosecution and



integrated policies. The Strategy focuses on informing the public about the seriousness of the phenomenon, promoting zero tolerance to all forms of violence, fighting gender stereotypes and preconceptions, improving the legal and regulatory framework by aligning them to the international standards, implementing relevant best practices and increasing the efficiency of stakeholders working with domestic violence issues. The Women's Law Centre coordinated the process of drafting and writing the Strategy, involving at different stages of consultations representatives of the civil society, the Ministry of Health, Labor and Social Protection, subject-matter experts and survivors of domestic violence. The Strategy will be implemented via two action plans (2018- 2020 and 2021-2023) and will involve central, local authorities and civil society institutions.

### **Welsh Women's Aid involvement in PROCESSIONS 2018**

This June, Welsh Women's Aid took part in a once-in-a-lifetime mass participation artwork to celebrate one hundred years of votes for women. On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> of June, thousands of women came together on the streets of Cardiff, Belfast, Edinburgh and London to mark this historic moment in a living, moving portrait of women in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. *How were Welsh Women's Aid involved?* Welsh Women's Aid hosted three banner making workshops at their offices in Cardiff, inviting survivors, staff, friends and stakeholders to come together and get creative. These banner- making workshops were led by Hexxx, a female art collective who worked with the participants in developing ideas for the banner, which would then be taken to the PROCESSION march. The first two workshops were focused on Slogans, Aesthetics and Editing and developing a collective design for the banner. The final workshop was an opportunity for the participants to see the reveal of the banner, created by Hexxx, and plan for the event on the following day.

On Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June, the survivors, staff, friends and families came together to take part in the PROCESSION in Cardiff. It was a great success, the women absolutely loved the banner and the experience and Welsh Women's Aid looks forward to using the banner in future projects! Go to the Welsh Women's Aid [social media platforms](#) for more information about the events and to see photos from the day.

### **Women's Aid England publishes two new reports: *What about my right not to be abused? : Domestic abuse, human rights and the family courts & Nowhere To Turn 2018: Findings from the second year of the No Woman Turned Away Project***

[The first report](#) analyses domestic abuse and child contact proceedings through the lens of human rights and uncovers a big gender gap in the way rights are used by applicants. Examples of family courts prioritising the rights of perpetrators of domestic abuse are occurring and women and mothers are often victims of discrimination. This research also highlights a lack of understanding of the dynamics of domestic abuse along with wrong interpretations of human rights. [The second report](#) explores the complexity and range of support needs that the women supported by the caseworkers have, as well as the intensity of support required from the caseworkers. The report emphasizes the need to ensure there is sufficient funding for women's refuges, so as to ensure that no woman is turned away, and that all women are able to access a space with the appropriate support to meet her needs.



## Ireland enacts New Domestic Violence Act

[A new Domestic Violence Act was enacted last May in Ireland](#), which greatly improves protection for victims of domestic violence. The Act is the culmination of many years of collaboration between national and local domestic violence organisations and all parties and members in the Dáil and the Seanad. [The legislation](#) greatly extends eligibility for Safety and Protection orders, so that partners in intimate relationships with no cohabitation will finally be able to apply for said orders. This extension of eligibility was won after a lengthy campaign by Women's Aid highlighting dating abuse against young women and is extremely welcome. Other improvements include the introduction of factors the Court will have to consider when granting or refusing orders, the introduction of Special Sittings of the Courts to provide for orders after hours in emergency situations and a number of measures to support women during court proceedings. The Act also impacts on relevant criminal legislation by creating a new offence of coercive control, a new offence of forced marriage and the recognition of an intimate relationship between the perpetrator and the victim as an aggravating factor in many offences such as assault, threats and sexual offences. While gaps remain in Irish legislation, in relation to eligibility for Barring Orders and to protection of children living with domestic violence, this is a great step forward.

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