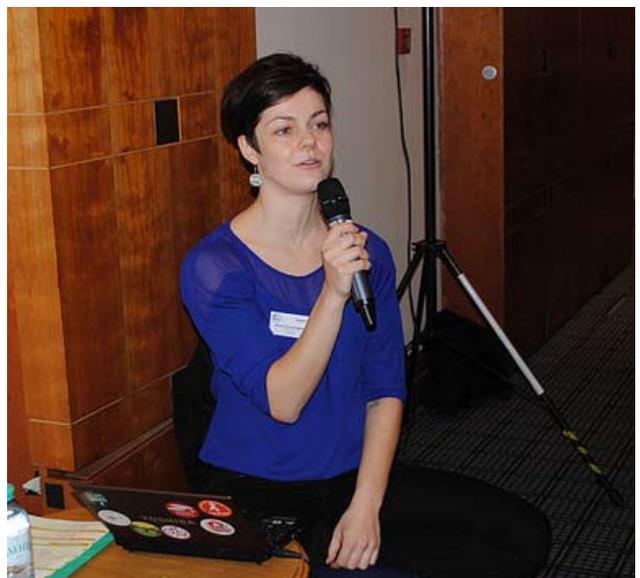




WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE EUROPE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2012

ACTIVITIES AND PROJECTS FROM  
1<sup>ST</sup> OF JANUARY 2012 – 31<sup>ST</sup> OF DECEMBER 2012



The outlined activities and achievements were made possible through generous funding by the European Commission - DAPHNE Programme, Federal Ministry of Austria for Women's Affairs and Public Administration, Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection, Federal Ministry of Economic, Family and Youth, City of Vienna - Department of Women's Affairs, MA 57, City of Vienna - Department of Diversity and Migration, MA 7, The Global Fund for Women, EIGE - European Institute for Gender Equality, UNFPA - United Nations Populations Fund

In 2012, WAVE was funded by:



EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION



BUNDESKANZLERAMT  ÖSTERREICH  
BUNDESMINISTERIN  
FÜR FRAUEN UND ÖFFENTLICHEN DIENST



**bmask.gv.at**



Frauen <sup>MA57</sup>  
Stadt+Wien



And donated by:

The Austrian Lotteries and Mintz Levin



**MINTZ LEVIN**  
Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC

We would like to express our warmest thanks to our supporters and donors, who made it possible to carry out our work.

## PUBLISHER

WAVE - Women Against Violence Europe  
A-1050 Wien, Bacherplatz 10/4  
Tel: +43/1/544 08 20, Fax: +43/1/544 08 20-24  
Email: office@wave-network.org  
Office hours: Monday - Friday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Website: www.wave-network.org  
Coordinated by Maria Rösslhumer, Executive Director  
and Iris Golden, Project Coordinator  
Layout: Leocadia Rump | www.paneecamice.com

## Place and year of Publication

Vienna, January 2013



**INDEX**

PREFACE	05
I. OVERVIEW OF ALL WAVE ACTIVITIES	06
II. INFORMATION ABOUT WAVE	09
III. DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT ALL WAVE ACTIVITIES 2012	10
1. WAVE Delegations and Study Visits	10
2. The 14th WAVE-Conference 2012	11
3. WAVE CoCo Taskforce Meetings 2012	12
4. WAVE Training Institute 2012	12
5. WAVE Country Report 2012	12
6. WAVE Magazine Fempower 2012	13
7. WAVE monthly Newsletters 2012	13
8. WAVE Website and Database 2012	13
9. WAVE Focal Points 2012	14
10. WAVE Observatory 2012	14
11. WAVE Press Releases 2012	14
12. WAVE's lobbying activities on the Council of Europe and the European Union levels	15
13. WAVE social media outreach: Facebook and Twitter	15
14. WAVE participation at European Conferences, Workshops and Meetings	15
15. Daphne Project PROTECT II - Capacity Building in Risk Assessment and Safety Management to Protect High Risk Victims	17
16. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) – Project and Activities	18
17. WAVE Study on Services for the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)	19



## PREFACE

The current activity report covers the period from January to December 2012. It was a very productive and successful year for WAVE. The overall focus of WAVE's work was on promoting the European measures for combating Violence against Women, especially the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and Domestic Violence (in the following: Istanbul Convention), on supporting our network's women's organisations, working in the field of Violence against Women on migrant women, on health sector responses to violence against women and on the quality of service provision.

One of the main focuses was the work on the Study on Services for the European Institute for Gender Equality, EIGE, which was presented at the Cyprus EU Presidency in November 2012.

Due to the financial support from the European Commission within the scope of the Daphne Operating Grant 2012, as well as the Co-financing from the Austrian Federal Ministry for Women and Public Administration, the Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Consumer Protection as well as from the Women's Department of the Municipality of Vienna (MA57) and for the specific project funding from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), The European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and the Global Fund for Women, all our plans, activities could be carried out and our goals achieved.

We would like to express our warmest thanks to all our donors and supporters and also all our Focal Points and experts for supporting the team of the WAVE office.

WAVE, the European Network and the Information Centre against Violence, which has its seat in Vienna, connects 46 countries and 102 Focal Points – comprising women's organisations active in the prevention of violence against women and their children at all levels.

The activities of WAVE in 2012 were manifold and comprehensive. For example, besides the current service providing activities for the WAVE-partner organisations and all interested persons, WAVE organized the WAVE Conference 2012 in London together with our WAVE partners in the UK. The Conference was attended by about 360 participants from 38 countries. On this occasion, representatives from the EU and from the Council of Europe were invited. WAVE would like to express its heartfelt thanks to our colleagues at Women's Aid and IMKAAN (UK) for the excellent cooperation with WAVE in organizing this successful and enthusiastically received conference.

In December 2012, the second WAVE Training Institute, an intense one-week-training for a group of 19 experts working in the field of violence against women, was organized in Vienna. Beside the continuous update of the website and the preparation of a new website and the comprehensive database, comprising 4000 addresses, WAVE again published two new editions of our specialised magazine Fempower, with a focus on health sector responses to Violence against women in the first issue, and a focus on violence against older women in the second issue.

Like last year, WAVE participated in many national and international conferences, such as the 56th CSW- Meeting in New York, as well as in Council of Europe and EU Meetings. As of 2011 WAVE was granted the United Nations ECOSOC consultative status. Moreover, WAVE is member of the Fundamental Rights Platform of the Fundamental Rights Agency since 2011 and participated at the Meeting of the Platform in April 2012.

The WAVE office team would like to express its heartfelt thanks to all our Focal Points, cooperation partners working with us this year. A special thank goes to our interns for their valuable work and their support of the WAVE team.

In 2013, WAVE wants to focus, together with our partner-organisations, on gender based violence and the health sector, on undocumented migrant women's access to services, on unifying gender theories and practices and the promotion and funding of gender specific services and supporting European and international measures on combating violence against women and their children.

THE WAVE-OFFICE TEAM



## I. OVERVIEW OF ALL WAVE ACTIVITIES

In the following, a short overview of all WAVE activities in the year 2012 is offered. For detailed information on all WAVE activities, please refer to section III.

### 1. WAVE DELEGATIONS AND STUDY VISITS

In 2012, WAVE invited the following **two delegations** and **two study visit groups** for an exchange of experiences and expertise, and to visit the WAVE office and local politicians and organisations involved with women's rights to live a life free of violence:

#### 1.1. Turkish Delegation, 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> of January 2012

The delegation was composed of **19 participants** and included officials from the Municipality of Izmir, the Social Services Directorate of Izmir, the Ministry of Family and Social Politics, the Municipalities of Aliaga, Karsiyaka and Buka, representatives from the Izmir Women's Shelter and from women's rights NGOs.

#### 1.2. Russian Delegation, 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> of April 2012

The delegation was composed of **14 participants** from CENTER ANNA, the WAVE Focal Point in Moscow, and the Network of women's shelters and women's NGO in Russia. The visit in Vienna was part of the common project "Children's right to live free of violence".

#### 1.3. Study Visit from Romania, 28<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup> of October 2012

The visiting group was composed of **9 participants** from various Romanian institutions such as the legislative and executive branches as well as staff from women NGOs and the media.

#### 1.4. Study Visit from Belgium, November 4<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> 2012

The visiting group was composed of **9 participants** from various Belgian institutions in Leuven, working to end violence against women. The members of the group are all part of a new and very interesting multi-agency-cooperation model to prevent domestic violence, which they presented to the Team of the WAVE office.

### 2. The 14<sup>th</sup> WAVE Conference 2012

The 14<sup>th</sup> WAVE Conference 2012 entitled "*STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN - Whose voices? Whose needs? Whose decisions?*" took place in **London/UK from 17<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> of October** and was attended by about **360 participants from 38 Countries** including Mexico, the USA and Nigeria.

### 3. WAVE CoCo-Taskforce Meetings 2012

This year, WAVE organized two CoCo-Taskforce Meetings: The First meeting took place in Vienna from **25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 in Vienna** with **25 participants from 15 countries**. The second CoCo-Taskforce Meeting of the year 2012 took place at the beginning of the 14<sup>th</sup> WAVE Conference in London, in the afternoon of the **17<sup>th</sup> of October 2012**. About **32 participants from 16 countries** were attending that second meeting.

### 4. WAVE Training Institute 2012

WAVE organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> WAVE Training-Institute "Skill Building in Risk Assessment and Safety management – Strengthening capacities to protect women and their children in high risk situations" from **10<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> of December 2012 in Vienna for 19 participants from 15 Countries**.

### 5. WAVE Country Report 2012

The 2012 Country Report focuses largely on statistics available in the area of domestic violence and/or intimate partner violence in **46 European countries**. The section on statistics includes data on prevalence studies, police and court statistics, as well as data collected in the healthcare system. Mapping of services available to women survivors of domestic violence and/or intimate partner violence has been the main theme of all WAVE Country Reports and will continue to be a theme in the WAVE Country Report 2012. Since the first WAVE Country Report 2008 on of the main focus in every Country Report on the specific services for female victims and their children: women's helplines, women's shelters, women's counseling centers and centers to support survivors of sexual violence.

## 6. WAVE Magazine Fempower 2012

WAVE published 2 issues of the bi-annual Fempower Magazine for the WAVE Network and Partners: Issue 1/2012 with the Focus on responses of the Health sector to violence against women and issue 2/2012 with the focus of Violence against elderly women.

## 7. WAVE monthly Newsletters 2012

WAVE published 11 Newsletters (October and November are published together) for the WAVE Network and partners. All WAVE Focal points and all cooperation partners of WAVE and interested people get the Newsletter via mailing lists.

## 8. WAVE Website and Database 2012

The WAVE website and database is one of the most important instruments for our comprehensive WAVE Network. It facilitates the exchange of expertise and information materials on topics such as best practices in preventing domestic violence, results and reports of various projects to strengthen women's and children's rights and, and most importantly, information on support services like shelters, helplines and counselling centres throughout Europe. As a result of our organisation's growth and increased outreach, WAVE continuously updated the Database and the current website, and spent time in 2012 designing a new website as means to improve victims' access to services and facilitate a more effective exchange of information. This is of great importance as the website is visited several thousand times monthly by unique visitors. Providing news updates and maintaining the database requires extensive work to keep all information current.

## 9. WAVE Focal Points 2012

In 2012 WAVE has extended the Network with seven new Focal points.

As of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012, WAVE has 102 Focal Points in 46 European Countries:

For details about the Focal Points and the list of all names and organisations, please refer to our WAVE-website:

[www.wave-network.org](http://www.wave-network.org).

## 10. WAVE Press Releases 2012

The Observatory is a tool for lobbying for all women's NGO and specific services on Violence against women and their children and for the documentation of positive and critical developments in the field of Violence against Women in all European countries. WAVE promoted the WAVE Observatory and the possibility to send relevant information to be published or the possibility for Focal Points ask WAVE for assistance in lobbying in a concrete issue (e.g. with lobbying papers or petitions) at the major WAVE events (WAVE conference, Study Visits, CoCo Meeting...) and via email. Via petitions or lobbying paper, press releases WAVE will support the organisations, who are in a financial crisis situation or who need support in different topics and issues.

## 11. WAVE Press Releases 2012

In 2012, WAVE published **6 Press releases** on various important topics.

## 12. WAVE's lobbying activities at the Council of Europe the European Union levels

WAVE promoted and supported the following measures of the Council of Europe and the European Union through campaigning and/or through direct information at conferences or through dissemination:

### 12.1. Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women (Istanbul Convention)

WAVE and the Global Fund for Women promoted a campaign to promote the signature and ratification of the Istanbul Convention in Strasbourg on **4<sup>th</sup> of October 2012**. WAVE and the Global Fund for Women consigned a petition of **10.000 signatures** in support of the Istanbul Convention to the Council of Europe.

### 12.2. Directive on the European Protection Order

In a move that WAVE has strongly supported over the years, the European Parliament and the Council adopted the Directive 2011/99/EU on the European Protection Order on 13<sup>th</sup> of December 2011.

### 12.3. Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime (victim's directive)

WAVE also greatly appreciates that the victim's directive was adopted on 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2012 and entered into force on 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2012. As with the Directive on the European Protection Order, WAVE lobbied for the inclusion of the gender perspective and the special needs of women and their children having become victims of a crime throughout the drafting process.



### 13. WAVE social media outreach: Facebook and Twitter

WAVE at the End of 2012 had **330 followers** on **Facebook** and is connected to all Focal Points and associated institutions which so far established social media accounts of their own. **Twitter** offers suitable means to quickly spread information throughout the WAVE network and beyond on very recent issues, such as outcomes of conferences.

### 14. WAVE participation at European Conferences, Workshops and Meetings

- **2<sup>th</sup> World Women's Shelter Network Conference**, Washington DC from **27<sup>th</sup> February - 1<sup>st</sup> March 2012** with **1,468 people** from **80 countries**
- **56<sup>th</sup> CSW Meeting in New York/USA** **27<sup>th</sup> February -9<sup>th</sup> of March 2012**
- **Workshop on CEDAW** as a tool for combating Violence Against Women – Austria Experiences on **29<sup>th</sup> March 2012** in **Bratislava/Slovakia**, with the Association Freedom of Choice, **approximately 30 women attended.5<sup>th</sup> Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) meeting** of the European Union Agency For Fundamental Rights (FRA), Vienna, **19-20 April 2012, Vienna**
- **European Women's Lawyer Association, EWLA – Congress: Empowering Women in Times of Crisis**, Prague, **18<sup>th</sup> of May 2012**
- **PICUM Workshop** "Using Legal Strategies to Enforce Undocumented Migrant's Human Rights, **15<sup>th</sup> of June 2012, Brussels**
- **Final Conference** of the common "Children's rights project" in Ghelenzik/Russia in frame of the EuropeAid: **19-21 June 2012, with 50 participants**
- **Joint Workshop on Women's Shelters** and prevention on Violence against Women and their Children. in Chisinau Moldova, **3<sup>rd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> of July 2012** together with the OSCE Mission to Moldova and the Austrian Attaché of Labour and Social affairs at the Austrian Embassy.
- **EESC Conference** on "Eradicating domestic violence" – Brussels, **21<sup>st</sup> of September.2012**
- **Regional Conference on the Prevention on the Prevention and Combat of Violence against Women, Council of Europe** and Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Femme, de la Famille et du Développement Social, Royaume du **Maroc, Rabat/Morocco, 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2012**
- **PICUM Working Group on Access to Justice for Undocumented Women**, Brussels, **4<sup>th</sup> of October 2012**
- **Workshop on "Minimal quality Standards for Women's Shelters** and counselling for Women victims of violence from **15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> of November** in Daruvar/Croatia with 30 participants from Croatia, hosted by Women's House Croatia

### 15. Daphne Project PROTECT II – Capacity Building in Risk Assessment and Safety Management to Protect High Risk Victims

In 2012 Protect II aims at building the capacity of practitioners in the law enforcement, judicial and para-legal fields, forensic doctors and practitioners from women's services in multi-agency work, risk assessment and risk management. The project included the following activities:

- Producing and publishing of Learning Materials in **11 Languages**
- European Train the Trainer Seminar in Sweden from **20<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> of May 2012** with **31 participants** from **6 countries**.
- **4 regional multi agency trainings in four different countries:**
  - **1<sup>st</sup> regional Training Seminar** in Prague/Czech Republic from **2<sup>nd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> September 2012** with **22 participants**
  - **2<sup>nd</sup> regional Training Seminar** in Sofia/Bulgaria: **17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> of September 2012** with **28 participants**
  - **3<sup>rd</sup> regional Training Seminar** in Murcia/Spain: **1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> of October 2012** with **50 participants**
  - **4<sup>th</sup> regional Training Seminar** in Paris/France: **10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> of October 2012** with **75 participants**
- **Final Conference 2012** in Vienna from **14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> of November 2012** with **127 participants on the first day**, and **85 participants on the second day**.
- **Press Conference** on **14<sup>th</sup> of November** in the frame of the Final Conference, where WAVE sent out a press release.

### 16. United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) – Project and Activities

Since 2011 WAVE and UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (EECARO), in cooperation with WAVE focal point Center ANNA (Moscow) have been partnering to strengthen the capacity of health systems to respond to gender-based violence (GBV) in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

In 2013, this project included the following activities:

- Regional UNFPA Meeting, Istanbul/Turkey on **28<sup>th</sup> February 2012 with approx. 50 participants** of UNFPA regional officers.
- UNFPA Training on gender based violence and the health sector in Istanbul, **27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 for 24 participants** (government officials, NGO Staff members, medical doctors, UN staff members and university researchers) from 11 countries

### **17. WAVE Study on services for the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE)**

WAVE was commissioned to produce a major study by order of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) analyzing the progress of EU Member States and Croatia in the provision of support services for women victims of intimate partner violence to meet their commitments to the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) in the area of violence against women. **The Study started on 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 and ended on 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2012.**

- Wave produced **three reports** for the study: an Inception report in January 2011 outlining the methodology and timeframe, a Midterm report in April detailing progress and initial findings, and a Final report in June, together with a Summary and Abstract and the online questionnaires.

WAVE attended the following meetings in the frame of this project:

- Planning Meeting of the WAVE Study on services with the Project experts of EIGE, in **Vilnius/ Lithuania, on 10<sup>th</sup> of January 2012**
- First internal expert Meeting in frame of the WAVE Study on services on **20<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>th</sup> of February 2012 in London/UK**
- Presentation of the interim report and progress-evaluation - Meeting with members of EIGE in Vilnius/Lithuania, **19<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2012**
- EIGE – Network meeting in Barcelona/Spain, **27<sup>th</sup> of March 2012**
- Consultation meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, **27<sup>th</sup> of September 2012**
- European Conference held by the Cyprus Presidency on Combating Domestic Violence against Women in the EU, **8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> of November 2012**

## **II. INFORMATION ABOUT WAVE**

The WAVE Network is one of the main and most influential European-wide feminist networks of women's NGOs (women's shelters, counseling centers, intervention centers and helplines, aid organisations for migrant and refugee women) established in 1994 in Vienna/Austria. It aims to establish gender equality by eliminating all forms of domestic violence against women. WAVE is the only European network focusing solely on the elimination of domestic violence against women and children. Its office is located in the Austrian Women's Shelter Network, AÖF, in Vienna. The WAVE office serves as a linchpin for the whole network of WAVE.

### **1. WAVE – STRUCTURE AND WAVE – FOCAL POINTS**

The Women against Violence Europe (WAVE) Network comprises at the end of December 2012 **102 member organisations** located in **46 European countries** where members act as "Focal Points" in their respective countries. As WAVE Focal Points, our members serve as regional and national bases to share and exchange information, expertise and experience. Through these Focal Points, together with the extensive WAVE online database, the network reaches out to more than 4,000 women's organisations across Europe.

The WAVE Focal Points are the primary source of information for WAVE at national and regional level. They are national networks, most of which are specialised in combating and preventing gender based violence, in particular domestic violence against women. Focal Points are responsible for dissemination and collection of information. The WAVE office continually provides the Focal Points with relevant information (i.e. exchange of national and international news) and vice versa, good practice examples, international recommendations, policy papers, legal and policy changes in regards to domestic violence), while at the same time the Focal Points report on current developments in their respective countries.

Through the Focal Points, WAVE reaches out to more than **4,000 women's organisations** across Europe. The Focal Points are also the primary contact partners for inquiries by women affected by violence and in regard to research inquiries.

### **2. WAVE – MISSION AND PURPOSE**

- **The WAVE Network** believes in the importance of feminist organisations as alternative and independent actors working in the area of promoting women's rights and combating domestic violence against women. Values of social justice, empowerment and participation of women need to be protected and extended within all of society and Europe. This necessitates a strong focus on migrant and refugee women's rights in all aspects of our work.

- **The WAVE Network** contributes to this objective by strengthening the organisational and lobbying capacity of women's organisations,



in particular by analysing and disseminating information on European and global trends and supporting the institutional development of the sector as a whole, which is reached through a multi-stakeholder approach including all people engaged in defending women's rights and combating domestic violence against women in order to establish true gender equality. The WAVE Network connects women's organisations throughout all of Europe with experts, policy-makers and other stakeholders including the governmental as well as the business sector.

- **The WAVE Network** actively fosters and seeks information and knowledge exchange as well as the sharing of experiences between different European countries and regions, with a particular focus on sharing East-West experiences.
- **The WAVE Network** manages a user-friendly, extensive online database on relevant information on domestic violence against women, including an address section of some 4,000 women's support organisations and institutions. **During 2012 WAVE recorded around 160,000 to 200,000 visits per month.** The Address section is specially designed to support women affected by domestic violence as well as other women's support organisations. It contains a list of addresses of all support organisations classified by country, town, and nature of support and service specialisation. It is a valuable source for practitioners, researchers and policymakers alike. Overall, the WAVE Network supports and strengthens women's organisations across Europe as well as experts, researchers, practitioners and policymakers by: **providing information on domestic violence** through the extensive online database and online literature documentation, a monthly newsletter, a periodical magazine FEMPOWER; **fostering the exchange of knowledge, experience and good practice** in the field of eliminating all forms of domestic violence against women and their children through the website, seminars and the annual WAVE conferences, improving organisational performance through capacity building programmes and training workshops, including written handbooks and manuals as well as toolkits to improve quality standards in service delivery.

### III. DETAILED INFORMATION ABOUT ALL WAVE ACTIVITIES 2012

#### 1. WAVE Delegations and Study Visits

Almost every year, WAVE welcomes delegations and study visit groups from all over Europe. Delegation members are often network members, but they can also be state actors or members of women's NGOs who are not yet members of the network.. The study visits are funded by WAVE or by the visiting group. The general topic of the visit is chosen according to the needs of the visitors. To this end, WAVE in 2012 called for applications to assess which delegation would profit most from a study visit and whose needs could be met best by WAVE's expertise.

A visit at the WAVE office and a presentation of the WAVEs activities and projects are an integral part of every study visit. Depending on already existing knowledge about the WAVE Network, a general introduction to our activities, aims, principles and structure takes place. Being introduced to good practices is crucial to women's organisations in order to improve their work. Thus, the aim of every study visit is the exchange, reflection and transfer of knowledge, to generate ideas for new projects and to find strategies to influence national policies. 2012 WAVE invited two delegations and two study visits from four different countries.

##### 1.1. Turkish Delegation - 16<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> of January 2012

The overall title of the study visit was **"Innovative approaches to giving better services for the victims of domestic violence."** The delegation was composed of 19 participants. They were officials from the Municipality of Izmir, the Social Services Directorate of Izmir, the Ministry of Family and Social Politics, the Municipalities of Aliaga, Karsiyaka and Buka, as well as representatives from the Izmir Women's Shelter and from Women's Rights NGOs. The visit was initiated by the Izmir Provincial Directorate of Social Services, with the aim to improve the services in the area of domestic violence and to foster professional initiatives, learn about new approaches in dealing with survivors of domestic violence. The five day long visit included the presentation of the WAVE Network, of the Domestic Abuse Intervention Center, visits to the Austrian Ministry of the Interior, the Women's Department of the Municipality of Vienna, as well as Women's counselling organisations.

##### 1.2. Russian Delegation from Center ANNA - 22<sup>nd</sup> -25<sup>th</sup> of April 2012

**14 Activists** from Center ANNA in Russia visited the WAVE office in Vienna. The visit took place in the context of a project on the rights of children to live a life free from violence and to build capacity and strengthen networks. The project's overall objectives are to promote and ensure human rights of children victims of different forms of violence and to raise awareness of the issue of child abuse in order to highlight its consequences for local communities and for the society. Through visits to several support facilities for women and children victims of violence as well as Austrian ministries, partnerships and co-operations between Russian and European organisations and institutions focusing on protecting children from violence were established and strengthened.

##### 1.3. Study visit from Romania – 28<sup>th</sup> -31<sup>st</sup> of October 2012

From 28<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>, of October, **9 delegates from Romania** visited Vienna to take part in a study visit hosted by the WAVE office. Delegates came from various Romanian institutions such as the legislative and executive branches as well as staff from women

NGOs and the media. A special focus was put on the effective implementation of legislation to prevent domestic violence and punish perpetrators as well as awareness-raising in the media and general public. Several visits to women support institutions such as the Viennese women shelter network and the men's counselling centre were paid and complemented by in-depth discussions with WAVE staff and experts on mentioned topics and the current obstacles faced in Romania.

#### **1.4. Study visit from Belgium – 4<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> of November 2012**

From 4<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> of November, WAVE welcomed **9 delegates** from different Belgian institutions based in Leuven working to end violence against women. A focus was put on best practice models of multi agency co-operations to tackle domestic violence. Delegates belonged to various institutions such as women's shelters, the police, the justice system and the ministry for women affairs. The delegation also presented a project in which all members of the delegations are part of, namely, the "CO3" project. This multi-agency cooperation aims at preventing domestic violence by means of creating support facilities which offer different services for perpetrators as well as victims and their children under one roof. Hence a special focus was put on introducing different models of institutional cooperation like the United Kingdom's MARACS and WAVE's expertise from different European countries to the delegations' members.

## **2. THE 14<sup>TH</sup> WAVE-CONFERENCE 2012**

The **14<sup>th</sup> WAVE Conference took place in UK/London**, at the Holiday Inn Bloomsbury, from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2012 and focused, as the title suggests, on the needs of women and girls who have experienced violence and the services that support them. The title of the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual WAVE conference, organized by WAVE (Women against Violence Europe) and two Wave Focal Points in the United Kingdom, Imkaan and the Women's Aid Federation was STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN Whose voices? Whose needs? Whose decisions?. The Conference brought together about **360 participants coming from 38 countries** throughout Europe, as well as Mexico, Nigeria and the USA, and representatives from the Council of Europe and the European Union. The attendance included experts in the field, academics, NGO professionals and government officials.

**The afternoon of October 17<sup>th</sup>** was dedicated to the 6<sup>th</sup> WAVE CoCo Taskforce meeting with WAVE CoCo-Delegates and, later that day, to a presentation of the book "Violence against Women and Ethnicity: Commonalities and Differences across Europe" by **Ravi Thiara, Stephanie Condon and Rosa Logar**.

### **The first day of the conference**

The first day of the conference (**18<sup>th</sup> of October**) offered panels on European developments in the field, including presentations on the need for gender-specific approaches to combating violence as well as ensuring the minimization of the negative impact of the economic crisis on the work of women's organisations, including services for women and children that are critical and life-saving. In the evening a social gathering in the main hotel room with bar and DJs was organized.

### **The second day of the conference**

The second day of the conference (**19<sup>th</sup> of October**) started with two panels in the morning, one on strategies to address Violence against Women and Girls within a financial crisis and the other on sexual violence. During the afternoon, in total **16 workshops** were held, dealing with a broad range of topics, including undocumented women' access to services, legal issues, the participation of survivors of violence, coalitions with the private sector, connecting pioneers and young feminist, primary prevention, coordinated community responses to protect women from violence, working with men, health sector responses to VaW, sexual exploitation, social media as a tool for campaigning and awareness-raising, challenges of public procurement, as well as child custody issues. Additionally, a discussion space on feminist and lesbian identity was offered.

### **The third day of the conference**

At the third and last day of the conference (**20<sup>th</sup> of October**) the Corinna Seith Award was launched, and the workshops recommendations were presented. The programme of this day included also the report of the WAVE CoCo Chairs report about the activities of the WAVE CoCo Taskforce, the presentation of the WAVE Country Report 2011 and the planning of joined future activities. Also, the workshop "Body and Soul - , Self Defense for women" was offered in parallel to the other activities.

*The Programme of the 14<sup>th</sup> WAVE Conference can be seen on the WAVE Website: [www.wave-network.org](http://www.wave-network.org)*



### 3. WAVE COCO-TASK FORCE MEETINGS 2012

In order to strengthen the WAVE Network and to facilitate the coordination and effective planning of its activities, and in order to gather information on the situation of women's services in all the countries where WAVE Focal points are active, a "WAVE CoCo Taskforce" was founded in 2009. The 46 WAVE member countries were divided into 17 regions, and each region was asked to vote for a delegate to report for the taskforce once a year and to take over certain tasks for the network.

In 2012, WAVE organized two CoCo-Taskforce Meetings: The First meeting in 2012 took place in Vienna from **25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of June 2012 with 25 participants from 15 countries** (among these, 13 regional delegates, 3 representatives of WAVE Focal points and 9 members of the WAVE Team). Among the main topics discussed at this meeting was the situation of the women's services in the CoCo regions, the most recent developments in EU and CoE legislation relevant to Violence against Women, possible strategies and measures of lobbying. Also, two delegates from Imkaan (UK) were invited as thematic experts to lead a workshop on the right of migrant and minority ethnic women to a life free from violence.

Further, the CoCo Taskforce Meeting pursued last year's work in renewing the structure of WAVE. A working group on structure was established. Among others, the CoCo voted for two Co-Chairs, elected for the period of one year, whose tasks will be to coordinate the CoCo together with the WAVE office.

The second CoCo-Taskforce Meeting of the year 2012 took place at the beginning of the **14<sup>th</sup> WAVE Conference in London** in the afternoon of the **17<sup>th</sup> of October 2012**. Among the **32 participants from 16 countries** were CoCo Delegates representing their regions (from the UK, Finland, the Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Romania, Bosnia, Poland, Slovakia, Armenia and Turkey) and about **20 representatives of WAVE Focal Points** from various countries, (e.g.: Ireland, Georgia, Sweden, Malta and Hungary). The meeting offered the opportunity for a short follow up of the work done by the working group on structure, as well as the discussion of the issue of joint custody in the context of violence against women cases.

### 4. WAVE TRAINING INSTITUTE 2012

The WAVE Training-Institute aims at uniting and strengthening the capacity of experts working at women's support services and establishing common quality standards for the support of survivors in Europe. Over the last 18 years, WAVE has continuously developed quality standards for women's support services, developed learning materials and carried out trainings. With the introduction of a comprehensive annual Training Institute in 2011, WAVE aims at further improving service provision in Europe and at ensuring that women survivors of violence and their children receive knowledge and human rights-based support of high quality.

From Monday, **10<sup>th</sup> of December till Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2012**, the **2<sup>nd</sup> WAVE Training Institute 2012** with the title "**Skill Building in Risk Assessment and Safety management – Strengthening capacities to protect women and their children in high risk situations**" was held in Vienna, at the Kolping Haus Wien Zentral, the WAVE office and the Domestic Abuse Intervention Center. This year, the Training Institute focused on women and their children who are in high risk situations and in danger of suffering severe violence, such as femicide/homicide, severe injuries, repeated violence, rape or severe forms of stalking. The focus lied on systematic risk assessment and safety management, as well as on methods of partnership work and multi-agency cooperation to prevent violence and reduce harm. The Training Institute welcomed a group of **19 professionals from 15 European countries** working with women's support services and offered the opportunity for all participants to exchange experiences and knowledge, to gain new skills and to establish or deepen the basis for networking and co-operation.

### 5. WAVE COUNTRY REPORT 2012

The 2012 Country Report focuses largely on statistics available in the area of domestic violence and/or intimate partner violence in **46 European countries. Reliable statistics on the existence of violence against women are not always available; statistics are not gender disaggregated, and do not distinguish between domestic violence and intimate partner violence. Prevalence studies, police and court statistics, not only provide an important overview of the level of violence against women in a given country, but may also indirectly point to the effectiveness of state institutions in dealing with the phenomenon, as in the rate of reporting to the police in comparison to prevalence rates, or the conviction rates in comparison to reported rates.** Low reporting rates may point to the need to evaluate the role of the police in dealing with domestic violence or intimate partner violence, or determine if the victims' willingness to report the crime contribute to low reporting rates, and what the causes of victims' reluctance may be. The research conducted is in the area of national prevalence studies, national criminal (police) and criminal justice statistics (court), in addition to data collection in the healthcare system. This includes providing estimated rates of violence against women, recorded rates of violence against women, cases brought to court as well as attrition rates. Another area addressed is the response of the national healthcare system to domestic violence and/or intimate partner violence, in recognition of the fact that a healthcare institution may sometimes be the only place where a women has a chance to either disclose violence or be given advice, including referrals to other services, or where violence may be detected by a medical professional. Services available to women survivors of DV/

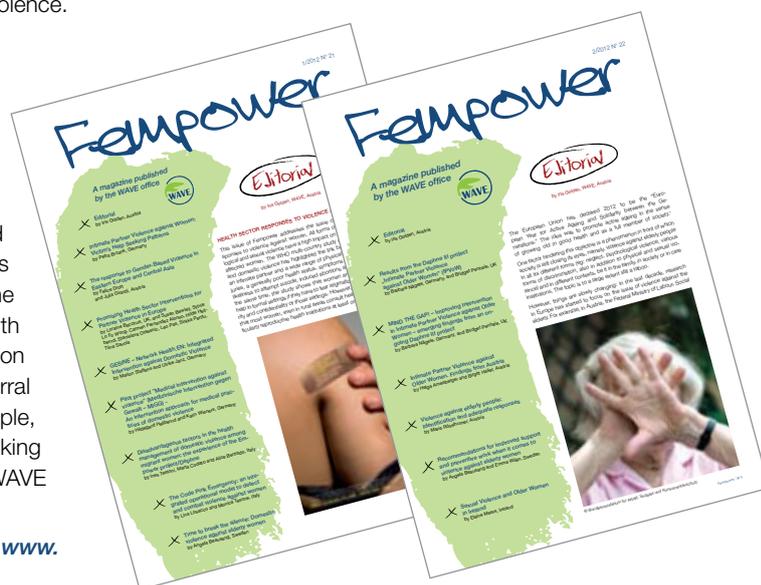
IPV have been the main theme of all WAVE Country Reports and will continue to be a theme in the WAVE Country Report 2012. The focus is on the following services: national women's helplines and regional helplines, women's shelters, counselling centres and centres to support survivors of sexual violence.

## 6. WAVE MAGAZINE FEMPOWER 2012

### 6.1. Fempower 1/2012

The **first issue of the bi-annual WAVE magazine Fempower (1/2012 Nr. 21)** published in spring focused on **health sector responses to Violence against Women**. The issue included eight articles, as well as an editorial from WAVE staff member Iris Golden. The articles of this issue presented various aspects of the linkage between the health sector (doctors, hospital staff, health services...) and the early detection, prevention and prosecution of violence against women, in particular, ways in which referral systems could work efficiently. The articles include, for example, the presentation of an academic study on victim's health-seeking patterns, as well as information on a variety of projects by WAVE network partners and other Daphne-funded projects.

*A pdf version of this issue is available on the WAVE website: [www.wave-network.org](http://www.wave-network.org)*



### 6.2. Fempower 2/2012

The aim of the **second issue of Fempower (2/2012)** published in fall 2012 was **to break the taboo around the topic of violence against elderly women**, and to inform about current and past research projects, seminars and good practices on that matter. The issue contains six articles by academics and WAVE network partners, and an editorial written by WAVE staff member Iris Golden. The contributions to this issue were explaining some examples of good practice and/or scientific studies, aiming at identifying specific needs and peculiarities of this vulnerable group of women.

*A pdf version of this issue is available on the WAVE website: [www.wave-network.org](http://www.wave-network.org)*

## 7. WAVE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER 2012

For many years WAVE has published a monthly newsletter reflecting WAVE's and the network's activities, international developments in the realm of violence against women and children as well as the links between such diverse topics as poverty, governance and multi-agency cooperation and gender-based violence. Sections of the newsletter include WAVE and network news, international news, and information on research documents. Newsletters are not only sent out to subscribers, members and associated individuals and organisations but can also be accessed via WAVE's comprehensive website. WAVE's Focal Points provide regular inputs on recent developments in their geographical areas. Additionally, we ask WAVE Focal Points to further disseminate the newsletter to other relevant sources. In 2012, **11 newsletter issues** were published. Since October and November 2012 were very busy months at the WAVE office, both months were covered in a joint newsletter. Currently, at the end of 2012, there are about **500 individual subscribers** (in addition to the WAVE Focal Points) to the newsletter. In 2013, subscriptions to the newsletter will be automated through the newly-designed WAVE website.

## 8. WAVE-WEBSITE AND DATABASE 2012

### 8.1. Database

The database and directory of services for women and children victims of domestic violence in all EU member states comprises over 4,000 entries covering information on women support services such as women's shelters, national women's helplines, support centers and women NGOs as well as information on domestic violence legislation, on prevention, on health care and therapy and international documents. The directory serves as an important information tool for victims of violence, family members, counsellors for victims, researchers, politicians, academics and NGOs. Entries are regularly revised, added and updated. Through a map, an alphabetical sequenced country list and a list marked by national flags the database provides fast and easy access to contact details of women help services and to all **102 WAVE Focal Points in 46 European countries**. WAVE Focal Points are regularly involved in providing accurate data on women's support services as well as relevant country information on legislation, National Action Plans, women networks and other relevant information. The database is embedded in and complemented by the website.



## 8.2. WAVE Website

In 2012, WAVE staff worked on designing, filling, restructuring and revising **a new homepage for its network. The WAVE-website is one of the most important instruments to raise awareness on the topic of violence against women and to disseminate information.** In order to provide quality resources and services, the WAVE database and the whole WAVE website saw a complete and thorough overhaul. As WAVE's network and resources are expanding, the website has to keep up and meet recent standards for usability and accessibility. The new website will meet the latest technological standards. Important changes were implemented with regard to an easier management of disseminating newsletters and press releases as well as subscriptions. The overall design was improved and made accessible for people with disabilities. The new website offers direct links to WAVE's social media accounts, sponsors and contact information of Focal Points.

Furthermore, WAVE's website was continually updated with recent information on and changes in legislation and developments with regard to tackling gender-based violence in Europe. The WAVE website receives around 200,000 visits per month. Several thousand unique users visit the webpage each month. WAVE's training materials and Country Reports are in especially high demand and available for [free download](#).

## 9. WAVE FOCAL POINTS 2012

In 2012, WAVE improved its method of accepting Focal Points into the network and streamlined its acceptance procedures as means of developing a more efficient process of becoming a Focal Point, so that active organisations that complement the activities of WAVE join the Network. During the year, WAVE involved Focal Points in majority of its activities, including the WAVE 2012 Conference in London, Study Visits, Training Institute in Vienna, CoCo Meetings, Fempower Magazine, and other projects such as the European Institute for Gender Equality commissioned study on Implementation of Area D of the Beijing Platform for Action in the European Union and Croatia, and project PROTECT II. The cooperation between WAVE and the Focal Points was successful and involved extensive exchange of information and ideas, as well as planning for the future of WAVE as an organisation. WAVE greatly appreciates the work and the motivation of the Focal Points that make WAVE a dynamic and active Network.

## 10. WAVE OBSERVATORY 2012

WAVE's central task is to support women's NGOs in their work wherever possible. The Network offers their members to assist them in their lobbying activities, promotes networking and contributes to awareness-raising for positive, missing or inadequate measures concerning violence against women and children. The WAVE Observatory has been introduced in order to show the positive as well as the backwards developments, lobby stronger and support the work of our partner organisations.

For that purpose, a call has been sent to all the Focal Points early in 2012 to remind them the existence of the Observatory and to invite them to send information they would like to have published and/or supported by WAVE. The Observatory has also been presented on all major WAVE events, for instance, the CoCo meeting in June 2012, during some Workshops at the WAVE Conference in London, as well as during Study Visits.

Events highlighted in 2012 include successful case law on gender based violence before the European Court of Human Rights (the case of B.S. vs. Spain from 24.7.2012) and before the CEDAW Committee (Isatou Jallow vs. Bulgaria, 27. July 2012), both by lawyers working with WAVE Focal Points, as well as campaign started by the Spanish Focal Point ASPACIA on sexual violence as gender based violence.

## 11. WAVE PRESS RELEASES 2012

WAVE's press releases aim to increase the awareness of violence against women and means to tackle it on media level and among the general public as well as concerned institutions and governance bodies. Like WAVE's policy papers, press releases are an important lobbying tool and intend to give the media easy access to accurate information on the scope of violence against women and children. WAVE also supports journalists and researchers in their efforts to raise awareness on the topic.

In 2012, WAVE sent out 6 press releases on various topics, among them announcements of the WAVE conference, the Istanbul Convention, The International Day on the Elimination of Violence against Women as well as WAVE projects and publications. All WAVE press releases are not only sent out to subscribers, Focal Points, affiliated institutions and the media but can also be accessed via [WAVE's website www.wave-network.org](http://www.wave-network.org).

## **12. WAVE'S LOBBYING ACTIVITIES ON THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND EUROPEAN UNION LEVELS**

### **12.1. The Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women (Istanbul Convention)**

On 11 May 2011, the Council of Europe (CoE) Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention) was opened for signature. To date of December 2012 **17 countries have signed the treaty and only Turkey and Portugal have so far ratified it**. WAVE has been represented in the Ad Hoc Committee on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (CAHVIO). WAVE will continue its lobbying actions by urging all governments to rapidly sign, ratify and implement the CoE treaty and to show its commitment towards the elimination of violence against women by, among others, ensuring stable and adequate financing of women's shelters. WAVE's Country Reports offer a solid basis to assess the need for and scope of further support facilities for women victims of violence. An important step in promoting the Istanbul Convention was a media and networking event held in **Strasbourg on Thursday October 4<sup>th</sup> 2012**. Elizabeth Schaffer of the **Global Fund for Women** and Miriam Freudenberg of WAVE **delivered 10,000 signatures in support of Istanbul Convention to the CoE's Secretary General Thorbjorn Jagland** and discussed future measures to support the ratification of the Convention. WAVE continues its efforts to promote the convention and regularly updates information on it via its [website](#).

### **12.2. Directive on the European Protection Order**

In a move that WAVE has strongly supported over the years, the European Parliament and the Council adopted the Directive 2011/99/EU on the European Protection Order (in the following: European Protection Order Directive) on 13th of December 2011. The Directive is in force since 11th of January 2012 and EU Member states need to transpose it into their national legislation by 11th of January 2015. The protection of a woman or a child against a criminal act which may endanger their life, physical or psychological integrity, dignity, personal liberty or sexual integrity in a EU Member State other than the one which adopted an initial protection measure requires a dynamic and effective mechanism significantly reducing the bureaucratic obstacles which would stand in the way of an effective response being adopted as swiftly as possible in the executing state. WAVE aims to work closely with its Focal Points in 2013 to assist them in monitoring the transposition process under due consideration of the women's rights perspective.

### **12.3. Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime (victim's directive)**

WAVE also highly appreciates that victim's directive has been adopted on 25<sup>th</sup> of October 2012 and entered into force on 26<sup>th</sup> of October 2012. As with the Directive on the European Protection Order, WAVE was lobbying for the inclusion of the gender perspective and the special needs of women and their children having become victims of a crime throughout the drafting process. Member States must implement this directive into their domestic law by 16th of November 2015. WAVE will closely work with its Focal Points in 2013 to assist them in monitoring the implementation process under due consideration of the women's rights perspective.

## **13. WAVE SOCIAL MEDIA OUTREACH: FACEBOOK AND TWITTER**

Additionally to European-wide joint actions coordinated by WAVE and WAVE focal points, press releases, statements, conference attendances and position papers, our social media accounts strengthen the public presence of WAVE. WAVE currently has **330 followers** on [Facebook](#) and is connected to all Focal Points and associated institutions which have so far established social media accounts of their own. WAVE will continue to merge its established list of supporters and emerging social media networks. Linked footers in every sent email as well as buttons on the website facilitate these efforts. The aim is to introduce the topic of preventing violence against women to diverse audiences, especially youth and younger people. [Twitter](#) offers suitable means to quickly spread information throughout the WAVE network and beyond on very recent issues, such as outcomes of conferences. Within its network, WAVE also encourages women's NGOs to use new information technologies, which are free of charge and easy to access.

## **14. WAVE PARTICIPATION AT EUROPEAN CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS**

- **27<sup>th</sup> of February – 1<sup>st</sup> of –March: 2012 1,468 people from 80 countries gathered in Washington, DC for the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Conference of Women's Shelters.**

The U.S. National Network to End Domestic Violence was selected by the Global Network of Women's Shelters to host this second global event. Many delegates from Europe participated in the weeklong event, with large delegations attending from Sweden, Denmark, the Netherlands, and UK. The delegates were pleased to hear from their sisters from across the world and several notable speakers including Her Royal Highness, the Crown Princess Mary of Denmark, Former President Bill Clinton, and actor Reese Witherspoon. Several sessions were presented by WAVE delegates including a plenary session "International Conventions on Eliminating Violence against Women" that made delegates familiar with major international and regional human rights instruments and mechanisms to prevent and eliminate all forms of violence against women and to inform them about their role, activities and achievements in preventing violence against women. The session also informed delegates from women's shelters and women's support organisations how they can address and make use of these instruments. There was also a Regional Roundtable for all delegates from Europe to ng to support



discuss emerging issues affecting European programs and shelters. Another excellent session “Critical Exam of Children’s Custody Regulations in DV Cases” compared research in Italy, Austria, and Australia regarding children’s custody in cases with a particular focus on the protection of children and their mothers who are facing “custody rights” by violent fathers/partners.

- **56<sup>th</sup> UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 27<sup>th</sup> of February- 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2012 in New York City, USA**

The European women’s rights network WAVE (Women against Violence Europe) sent Julia Girardi to New York in order to sensitize and lobby for prevention, protection and prosecution of violence against women.

The main activity of WAVE during the 56th CSW was the organisation and the presentation of the NGO **Side Event with the title: “Ensuring the endurance of services for women survivors of violence in Europe despite the crisis”**. The side event took place on the 27th of February 2012 from 10.30 am-12.00 pm in the Church Center, 777 UN Plaza, NYC. Together with the WAVE Partner organisations “The Haven Wolverhampton” from the UK and “Women’s Information Consultative Center” from the Ukraine, presentations on the situation of services for women survivors of violence in Europe were given, followed by a lively discussion. **Approximately 70 participants** discussed the importance of sufficient legislation and implementation in order to end violence against women in across all borders.

Moreover Julia Girardi participated in a meeting with the Austrian Minister for Women’s Affairs, Ms. Heinsch-Hosek und Ms. Margot Wallström, Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) on Sexual Violence in Conflict. This meeting took place on 27th of February, 3-4 pm on the premises of the UN. During this meeting, Ms. Girardi stressed the importance of sufficient protection services for women in conflict areas, as well as a restricted access only for women to women’s shelters.

Julia Girardi represented WAVE at numerous official and unofficial meetings of various missions (Austria, UK, EU etc.), as well as official events, for example, the Austrian delegation’s event on gender budgeting on 28th of February 2012 or the UN Women preparatory event for the preparation of the next Commission on the status of women on the topic of violence against women.

- **Workshop on CEDAW as a tool for combating Violence Against Women – Austria Experiences on 29th March 2012 in Bratislava/Slovakia, with the Association Freedom of Choice**

Maria Rösslhuber was invited on 29<sup>th</sup> of March by the Association Freedom of Choice in Bratislava/Slovakia to inform women’s NGOs about the Austrian CEDAW cases of and their consequences for the state and state institutions. Approximately 30 women attended.

- **5<sup>th</sup> Fundamental Rights Platform (FRP) meeting of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), 19-20 April 2012 Vienna**

As a member of the Fundamental Rights Platform of the FRA, WAVE was able to participate at the 5<sup>th</sup> Fundamental Rights Platform meeting, taking place from **19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of April 2012** in Vienna, along with delegates from about **180 civil society organisations**. The aim of the event was to encourage networking and the exchange of good practices and to pursue the debate on ways and means to improve the implementation of fundamental rights in the European Union. The special focus of this year’s meeting were: the cooperation between national human rights institutions, equality bodies and civil society protecting victim’s rights and addressing under-reporting and multiple discrimination: mainstreaming intersectionality into fundamental rights work. The programme offered open panels, as well as workshops led by FRA specialists and workshops under the heading “The floor is yours”, led by some of the NGO delegates. Many of the workshops were of special interest for WAVE, in particular, presentation of the Study of the FRA on violence against women (presented by Sami Nevala, Monica Gutierrez, Albin Dearing and Massimo Toschi), as well as the presentation of the “Freedom Programme – working with women and girls survivors of domestic violence (presented by the Women’s Networking Hub, UK), and the workshop entitled “when non-discrimination legislation discriminates”. The WAVE delegate also participated at the election of the new Advisory Panel of the platform.

- **European Women’s Lawyer Association Congress: EWLA, Prague , 18<sup>th</sup> May 2012: Empowering Women in Times of Crisis - Workshop Domestic violence**

Rosa Logar designed the Austrian solution which allows the police to make “orders to go”, so the perpetrator can be put out of the house for 10 days immediately without going to court (the same solution exists in different countries, so as well in Switzerland) and she spoke also about the work for the Istanbul Convention in the Task Force she was member of. She pointed out that despite big discussions the Istanbul Convention has a clear gender focus. She explained that in Vienna they have developed a so called indicator showing the numbers of police intervention per 1000 inhabitants which is a measure for the degree of implementation of the law. She thinks that this indicator should be used in all countries to be able to compare the implementation of the Istanbul Convention on an international level.

- **PICUM Workshop “Using Legal Strategies to Enforce Undocumented Migrant’s Human Rights, 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2012, Brussels**

Rosa Logar chaired a workshop for about 20 participants with a focus on building a case on Gender Based Violence Against

Undocumented Women. The interactive workshop explored the evidence gathering potential of front-line service providers working to support undocumented women experiencing violence. It recognized the essential role of civil society organisations as a source of contact and confidence among undocumented women, and the challenges facing legal professionals to prove cases involving violence against them in court. The workshop identified practical steps, strategies and approaches through which NGOs can improve their evidence gathering.

- **Final Conference of the common “Children’s rights project” in Ghelenzik/Russia in frame of the EuropeAid: 19-21 June 2012, with 50 participants**

Maria Rösslhumer and Renate Stieb-Kaneletz, a female police officer from Vienna were invited by our WAVE Focal Point Center ANNA – the Russian network organisation for Women’s NGOs in Russia – to talk about prevention work in schools in Austria and about legislation and protection orders and the practice of the police. Approximately 60 women took part.

- **Joint Workshop of OSCE Mission to Moldova and the Office of the Austrian Attaché of Labour and Social Affairs at the Austrian Embassy Chisinau, 3-4 July 2012**

Maria Rösslhumer was one of two lecturers at the first workshop in the frame of a two-workshop series for Moldovan officials from the Ministry of Labour, Social Protection and Family, Ministry of Justice Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Education, the Police and Representatives of Women’s Shelters in Moldova (together with Barbara Prettner from the Women’s Shelter in Neunkirchen, Lower Austria). The workshop’s aim was to provide information and knowledge about Austrian approaches and the system of Women’s Shelters, with legislative basis, structures, approaches and practical procedures to combat violence against women. Participants were taught about the necessity, main goals and challenges of a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach in dealing with victims and perpetrators of domestic violence. Preceding the workshops, the Austrian lecturers visited Moldovan officials as well as Women’s shelters in order to exchange ideas and experiences with local experts and get a direct insight into the ongoing projects and its challenges on the ground. About 30 people participated in this first workshop.

- **Regional Conference on the Prevention on the Prevention and Combat of Violence against Women, Council of Europe and Ministère de la Solidarité, de la Femme, de la Famille et du Développement Social, Royaume du Maroc, Rabat/Morocco, 24<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2012**

Rosa Logar, WAVEs founder and international women’s rights advocate, spoke at the Council of Europe and Moroccan Ministry of Social Solidarity on the 24<sup>th</sup> of September, 2012 in Rabat. She spoke on behalf of the WAVE network about “Services for female victims of violence: good practices and challenges - an international perspective of civil society”.

- **PICUM Working Group on Access to Justice for Undocumented Women, 4<sup>th</sup> of October 2012, Brussels**

The Platform of International cooperation on undocumented Migrants (PICUM) hosted a working session on undocumented women, which sought to respond to a request made by PICUM Members for a joint campaign on improving access to shelters for undocumented women in Europe. Participants were invited to discuss aims, objectives and methodology for such a campaign, and identify possible themes and methods. Rosa Logar attended the event on behalf of WAVE, and she chaired the session entitled, “Campaign on Access to Women’s Shelters: Identifying Key Problems”.

- **Workshop on “Minimal quality Standards for Women’s Shelters and counselling for Women victims of violence from the 15<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> of November, in Daruvar, Croatia, hosted by Women’s House Croatia**

Maria Rösslhumer was invited to participate at the Workshop on minimal quality standards for Women’s Shelters and counselling for Women victims of violence, together with about **30 Croatian participants** working in various women’s organisations concerned with the fight against violence against women. She reported on the standards of Women’s shelters in Europe and also about the Work of WAVE and the Women’s Helpline.

## **15. DAPHNE- PROJECT PROTECT II – CAPACITY BUILDING IN RISK ASSESSMENT AND SAFETY MANAGEMENT TO PROTECT HIGH RISK VICTIMS**

PROTECT II aimed to the capacity of practitioners in law enforcement, judicial and paralegal fields, forensic doctors and practitioners from women’s services in multi-agency work, risk assessment and risk management. It follows the work of PROTECT I that evaluated a number of risk assessment tools used by various agencies to help gauge victim’s risk and help protect them from re-assault and escalating harm.

WAVE and the Protect II Author Group finalized the Learning Material in January 2012. **The Learning Material was translated from the authorial language, English, into 10 European languages** (Bulgarian, Czech, Estonian, French, German, Italian, Polish,



Slovakian, Spanish, Swedish). These were finished in May 2012 and all versions were subsequently uploaded to the Protect corner of the website in June, 2012. An additional stream of the project, the Guidance Report on Gendered Statistics in the EU (GenderStat), part of PROTECT II, was also finalized in June and published online.

WAVE the National Organisation for Women's and Girl's shelters in Sweden (ROKS) held **the European Train the Trainer Seminar (ETTS) in Stockholm from 20-25 May, 2012**. The training was conducted wholly in English and divided into two groups. The first group comprised **15 participants** from Slovakia, Poland and Sweden, the second **16 participants** from Italy, German, Estonia and Sweden. From non-Swedish participant countries listed, our project partners brought two "champions" from decision-making levels and practitioners from police victim units, government representatives from multi-agency workgroups, women's shelters and right's organisations and government social and welfare departments.

All **four Regional Multi Agency Trainings on Capacity Building (Regional Trainings) took place in 2012. First, the regional training in Prague, Czech Republic (22 participants), Second, the regional training in Sofia/Bulgaria (28 participants), Third, the regional training in Murcia, Spain (50 participants, including 20 officials on day 1), Fourth, the regional training in Paris, France (75 participants, including 50 officials on Day 1)**. In all trainings, participants learnt in their own language with simultaneous interpretation on awareness of common risk factors and more effective systems (tools) for risk assessment; the benefits for effective safety management; the important role of NGOs; and the woman-centred approach; and to work towards plans for the better coordination of services between partner organisations delivering interventions to women victims of Gender Based Violence.

Regional Training participants were rewarded for filling out the evaluation questionnaire with an exclusive green WAVE USB stick that contains all of the PROTECT II Learning Resource translated into 10 languages plus all of the translated powerpoints used by the trainers, as well as a number of other research and policy documents related to violence against women. All four Regional Trainings have been evaluated by one of the Protect II Advisory Board Members.

**The PROTECT II Final dissemination conference was held in Vienna on 14-15 November 2012 (127 participants on the first day and 85 on the second day)** and discussed new directions of research on sexual violence, multi agency working and interventions in Europe. The Press Conference took place in the morning of the 14th of November. The speaker summaries are available on <http://www.wave-network.org/start.asp?ID=23506> will be automated through the newly designed WAVE website. The monthly Newsletters in PDF form can be found online: <http://www.wave-network.org/start.asp?ID=186>

## 16. UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND (UNFPA) – PROJECT AND ACTIVITIES:

Since 2011 WAVE and UNFPA Eastern Europe and Central Asia Regional Office (EECARO), in cooperation with WAVE focal point Centre ANNA (Moscow) have been partnering to strengthen the capacity of health systems to respond to gender-based violence (GBV) in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

It is widely recognized that health services offer an effective way to identify and respond to GBV. While important progress has been made in the last decades in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to identify the problem of GBV and take steps to prevent and respond to the issue, GBV remains characterized as a law enforcement concern, rather than an issue to be addressed within public health. The links between GBV and reproductive health have to a great extent not been translated into concrete policy actions, and the opportunity to prevent and respond to the issue within reproductive health services has not been taken. To address this shortcoming, WAVE and UNFPA are partnering to facilitate transfer of know-how within and across the regions of Western Europe, Eastern Europe, the South Caucasus and Central Asia.

At the centre of the project has been the development of the **website [www.respondgbveeca.org](http://www.respondgbveeca.org)**, which is available in English and Russian. This website offers health professionals, other service providers and policy makers a programmatic package with background information and practical tools, in the following areas:

1. Programming for integrating GBV within Health System,,
2. Training programme for health care providers,
3. Creating referral pathways integrated into health care,
4. Monitoring and evaluation of health sector initiatives in the context of GBV.

In 2012, the project continued over a period of nine months (April-December). **From 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2012**, WAVE and UNFPA



EECARO organized a **3-day training seminar** in Istanbul, convening **24 participants** from eleven countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Macedonia, Tajikistan, and Turkey. The group was composed by professional groups as follows: eight government officials, six NGO staff members, four medical doctors, two UN staff members and two university researchers. The main aim of the training was to test the training materials developed in 2011. The application process was also used as an opportunity to obtain user feedback on the project website through requesting applicants to fill in a **validation questionnaire**.

Based on the analysis of the questionnaire data (**52 responses from 14 countries**) and the feedback received from training participants, the **website was adapted** to make it more user-friendly and relevant. Further, a fourth **website module on monitoring and evaluation** was prepared and uploaded.

In the future, WAVE and EECARO plan to further develop the website, facilitate a community of practice and to provide cutting-edge capacity development for practitioners in the region. A major focus will be on identifying opportunities for joint initiatives and synergies with other projects.

### **17. WAVE STUDY ON SERVICES FOR THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE FOR GENDER EQUALITY (EIGE)**

WAVE produced a major study by order of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) analyzing the progress of EU Member States and Croatia in the provision of support services for women victims of intimate partner violence to meet their commitments to the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) in the area of violence against women. **The Study started on the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2011 and ended on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June 2012.**

The six month project was carried out by the WAVE research team led by Hilary Fisher, with Professor Carol Hagemann-White, Dr. Marceline Naudi, Dr. Monika Schröttle, Bianca Grafe, Ute Rösemann, Barbara Stelmaszek, and Rosa Logar. Professor Liz Kelly and Professor Sylvia Walby contributed with technical expertise. Maria Rösslhuber provided financial management for the project and WAVE Focal Points provided country support.

**WAVE attended meetings with members of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) in Lithuania on 10<sup>th</sup> January to plan the study, and from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of April to discuss its progress.** The initial findings were presented by WAVE to the European Union Working Group on the Beijing Indicators in Lithuania in April. WAVE produced three reports for the study: an Inception report in January 2011 outlining the methodology and timeframe a Midterm report in April detailing progress and initial findings and a Final report in June, together with a Summary and Abstract and the online questionnaires. From 20<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> February we had an internal Expert Meeting in London.

The Experts and Stakeholders Consultation Meeting on Domestic Violence took place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2012 at Artis Centrum Hotels in Vilnius, Lithuania. The purpose of the meeting was for government, NGO and other experts to provide input on a study being conducted on Good Practices in Preventing Domestic Violence. Three workshops were set up to discuss best practices in the fields of training, awareness-raising and services. Barbara Stelmaszek took part in the Thematic Workshop on DV Services: Practices with Potential. The group of participants was asked to assess 10 practices that were presented and described, from which the group was tasked to choose six for further evaluation. The final six practices were chosen based on the decision that their inclusion for further assessment would be most beneficial to the research project and hence would maximize the desired effect of the project by providing as diverse as possible example of good practices to potentially serve as knowledge basis for practices to be implemented in other countries in the future.

The WAVE study included a literature overview of legal and policy measures by the EU and EU Member States and Croatia primarily from secondary sources and an analysis of prevalence surveys and crime statistics on intimate partner violence. Primary data on the range, number, extent and actual use of support options for women experiencing intimate partner violence was obtained at the national level from country experts, including government officials, representatives from non-governmental organisations and academics using an online questionnaire.

The study gives an overview of the situation of women survivors of intimate partner violence and details of the support services available in EU countries and Croatia. While noting the progress that has been made the study highlights the disparity of service provision between countries, the lack of sufficient specialised services in many countries and the absence of sustainable funding to support service provision. The study notes that limitations on the availability of good quality data on support services make the comparison of data across the EU a challenge.

The WAVE study formed the basis of the EIGE report reviewing the Implementation of the BPfA by EU Member states in of Area D BPfA on Violence against women, victim support.<sup>1</sup> On the basis of the EIGE report, the Cyprus Presidency prepared Conclusions on *“Combating violence against women, and the provision of support services for victims of domestic violence.”* The EIGE report was



presented at the **European Conference held by the Cyprus Presidency on Combating Domestic Violence against Women in the EU in November attended by WAVE. On the 6th December 2012, the Employment and Social Policy Council adopted the Conclusions.**<sup>2</sup> The conclusions call on member states to introduce a range of measures to improve service provision, training for relevant professionals and data collection. They also call on the Council of the EU to consider signing and ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against women and domestic violence and designating 2015 as the “the European Year on Zero Tolerance for Violence against Women”.

### Endnotes

- <sup>1</sup> See <http://www.eige.europa.eu/content/document/violence-against-women-victim-support-report>
- <sup>2</sup> See [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_data/docs/pressdata/en/lsa/134081.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/lsa/134081.pdf)





**WAVE Network & European Info Centre Against Violence**

Bacherplatz 10 / 4, 1050 Vienna, Austria

phone: +43-(0)1-5482720

fax: +43-(0)1-5482720-27

ZVR:187612774

**Office hours: Monday, Tuesday and Thursday: from 10 a.m to 3 p.m**

e-mail: [office@wave-network.org](mailto:office@wave-network.org)

[www.wave-network.org](http://www.wave-network.org)