



WOMEN AGAINST VIOLENCE EUROPE

WAVE *Step up!* **CAMPAIGN**

**CAMPAIGN ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN
SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE AND THEIR CHILDREN
TO ACCESS SUPPORT AND PROTECTION**

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Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00-17:00

Phone: +43-1-548 27 20 **Fax:** +43-1-544 08 20 24

E-mail: office@wave-network.org **Website:** www.wave-network.org

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WAVE Step up! CAMPAIGN

CAMPAIGN ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE
AND THEIR CHILDREN TO ACCESS SUPPORT AND PROTECTION

About WAVE

Women against Violence Europe (WAVE) was founded in 1994 and is a network composed primarily of European women's non-governmental organisations and networks working in the field of preventing and eliminating violence against women and children.

The Network sets out to promote and strengthen the human rights of women and children in general and to prevent violence against women and children in particular.

WAVE adheres to the aims of the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the European Union and other inter-governmental bodies, stressing the importance of working towards ending all forms of violence against women and children in public and private life in accordance with the Istanbul Convention, The CEDAW Convention, Beijing Platform for Action, the Vienna Declaration, and all other related documents.

Blueprint

The Blueprint was prepared by Rosa Logar with support from Hilary Fisher, Camelia Proca and the WAVE office.

Ideas and goals for the campaign were developed in three meetings with members of the WAVE network.

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I. Introduction

Executive summary

Violence against women and their children is a significant problem in Europe.

According to the survey of the European Union Fundamental Rights agencies 1 in 3 women in the EU has suffered sexual or physical violence at some time in their life since the age of 15. That is over 62 million women. 5% have been raped, which corresponds to some 9 million.¹

According to the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women, the Istanbul Convention, violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between women and men, which have led to domination over, and discrimination against, women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women (Council of Europe 2012:4). The Istanbul Convention postulates “the right for everyone, particularly women, to live free from violence in both the public and the private sphere.” (Council of Europe 2012:6). This includes the right to protection from violence and the right to adequate and specialised support.

Currently, many women and their children are not able to exercise their rights to live free from violence and to access protection and support. While every third woman suffers violence, specialist support services are scarce and disproportionate compared to the existing needs. There are over 47,000 women’s shelter places missing in Europe and only 9 out of the EU member states provide a 24/7 helpline free of charge (WAVE 2016). As a result, many women and their children do not receive appropriate help, which leaves them captive to their abusers and increases the risk of repeat and escalating violence, even to the extent of femicide and homicide.

There is an increasing need for specialised support services for women victims of violence and their children, and the Istanbul Convention as well as the EU Victims Directive require the provision of such services. However, lack of funding as well as insecure and limited funding have a devastating impact on service provision and the right of survivors to protection and support.

The WAVE Step up! Campaign aims at raising awareness about the widespread nature of violence against women and the importance of providing protection and support to the women concerned and their children. It seeks to work together with different stakeholders and improve the provision of adequate specialist support services for women and their children in the EU and in Europe in general.

As the Special Europabarometer on domestic violence against women 2010 reveals, there is strong support for EU involvement in eradicating violence against women, with 87% of EU citizens supporting it (European Commission 2010:10f).

The Blueprint outlines the rationale behind the campaign, the objectives, the key target groups, messages, milestones and actions, to help inform all those who would like to get familiar with the details of the campaign.

II. Definitions and main focus of the campaign

In accordance with the Istanbul Convention, the term “violence against women” in this Blueprint is understood as “a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life” (Council of Europe 2012:6).

As the Istanbul Convention and the EU Victims Directive WAVE acknowledge, these are forms of violence that are gender-based and “directed against a woman because she is a woman or that affect[s] women disproportionately” (ibid).

WAVE recognises that there is de facto no place in society where women and girls are completely safe and that they experience violence against them in every area of society, in the so-called private as well as the public sphere, at the workplace as well as online, in times of peace and in times of armed conflict and war. WAVE also recognizes that all forms of violence are in-

¹ Violence against women across the EU-Abuse at home, work, in public and online. Speech by FRA Director Morten Kjaerum at the Council of the European Union, Brussels, 5 March 2014

terlinked and, as the Istanbul convention states, rooted in the historically unequal power relationship between women and men, which is the cause and at the same time the consequence of violence against women.

However, in order to be effective and to achieve concrete results and improvements, WAVE has decided to concentrate on the problem of domestic and sexual violence against women and their children.

III. Background information on violence against women and their children and on the situation of service provision in Europe

Over the last few decades in Europe, progress has been made in many countries in addressing the widespread problem of violence against women, including domestic violence. Despite all efforts, the scale of the problem is still shockingly high, as stated at the beginning.

62 million women in the EU have experienced violence since the age of 15

- ▶ 1 in 3 women has experienced some form of physical and/or sexual assault since the age of 15, translating into 62 million women throughout the EU
- ▶ About 13 million women in the EU have experienced physical violence in the 12 months prior to the survey interviews, or about 7% of women aged 18-74 in the EU (FRA 2014b:15)
- ▶ About 3.7 million women in the EU have experienced sexual violence in the 12 months prior to the survey interviews, or about 2% of women aged 18-74 in the EU (ibid).

Women experiencing physical and sexual violence by their partner or former partner

- ▶ 1 in 5 (22%) of all women who are or have been in a relationship has experienced physical and/or sexual violence from the partner (FRA 2014b:9f)
- ▶ Of the women who indicate they have been raped by their current partner, about one third (31%) say they have experienced six or more incidents of rape by their partner.

Violence does not stop in pregnancy

- ▶ Pregnant women are especially vulnerable to violence: 42% experienced violence from their previous partner while pregnant (FRA 2014a:22)

Violence continues after separation

- ▶ After breaking up with a violent partner, 1 in 6 women continued to be victimized by their former partner (FRA 2014a:22).
- ▶ 1 in 10 women has been stalked by a former partner (FRA 2014b:12).

Femicide and killing of children

- ▶ It is estimated that of all the women killed in 2012 (93,000 women), 43,600 (47 per cent) were killed by their family members or intimate partners, whereas 20,000 of all male homicide victims (6 per cent) were killed by such perpetrators. Thus, at the global level, more than twice as many women as men are killed by their intimate partners or family members. (UN-ODC 2013:53).
- ▶ In their 2016 *Nineteen Child Homicides*² report, Women's Aid England highlights the tragic stories of 19 children and 2 women in 12 families that were killed by perpetrators of domestic abuse in circumstances related to unsafe child contact within a ten-year period. It is possible that these deaths could have been prevented if the domestic abuse had been considered as an ongoing risk factor (Women's Aid 2016).

Children are always suffering from domestic violence!

Children are always affected by the violence against their mothers and, as has been shown, they can even be killed.

Children suffer physical or sexual violence and experience psychological violence through witnessing the violence against their mother:

- ▶ 73% of mothers who have been victims of physical and /or sexual violence from a partner indicate that at least one of their children has become aware of such violence taking place (FRA 2014b:13).

Children experiencing domestic violence suffer a lot and live in fear and misery. It is of utmost importance that they receive protection and support and that specialist women's support services have the necessary personnel and financial resources to accommodate and counsel the children, in women's shelters as well as in women's centres, as required by the Istanbul

² <https://1q7dqy2unor827bqjls0c4rn-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/Child-First-Nineteen-Child-Homicides-Report.pdf>

Convention (Council of Europe 2012, Article 26 – Protection and support for child witnesses).

Removing barriers to report

The FRA survey shows that many women do not dare to come forward and inform the police or another service about their experience:

- ▶ Only 1 in 3 women victims of partner violence (33%) report their most recent serious incident to the police or some other service (FRA 2014b:10).
- ▶ About 1 in 4 victims of sexual violence did not contact the police or any other organization after the most serious incident because of feelings of shame and embarrassment. (ibid:11)
- ▶ 3 out of 4 stalking cases reported in the survey never come to the attention of the police (ibid:12).

Specialist women's support services, such as women's helplines and rape crisis centers, are of central importance in ensuring women's access to protection and justice. They inform survivors of their rights and accompany and assist them in reporting violence, if they wish to do so.

Specialist support for women survivors of violence and their children is often lacking in Europe!

In many regions in the EU and in Europe in general, specialist women's support services are wholly lacking. Where women's support services do exist, they often do not have the resources to make their services widely known, so that women are often not aware of the existence of such services, as the FRA survey reveals (FRA 2014b:11).

There is a concerning lack of adequate protection and specialist support services in Europe:

- ▶ Only 15 out of 46 European countries (33%) provide a 24/7 helpline free of charge
- ▶ Only 9 of the EU28 Member States provide such a helpline. (WAVE 2016).

More than 47, 000 women's shelter places missing

Sometimes flight is the only way to escape violence. Immediate help and accommodation through specialist women's shelters are crucial services. Unfortunately, such shelters are missing in many regions:

- ▶ According to the recommendation in the explanatory report of the Istanbul Convention, 1 family place should be provided in a women's shelter per 10,000

inhabitants (Council of Europe 2012:81).

- ▶ This amounts to an estimated 83,000 women's shelter places needed in Europe.
- ▶ The WAVE Report indicates that only about 26,700 shelter places exist and that approximately 47,000 (68%) of recommended women's shelter places are still missing in Europe.
- ▶ The situation is especially concerning in new EU countries³ where 72% of the required women's shelters places are missing. (WAVE 2016)

The lack of adequate specialist women's support services represents a concerning problem in preventing violence against women and protecting victims. It has serious impacts for victims, in terms of access to support and to justice and can lead to a situation in which women and children are forced to stay with the violent partner or go back to him.

The right to good quality services

Adequate numbers of services are important, but quantity alone is not enough: good quality services are needed. In the area of shelters, general shelters such as homeless shelters or mother-and-child or family homes are not adequate. It is not enough to have "a roof over one's head" when fleeing from violence. Services which are unsafe and do not provide empowering, human rights based and gender-sensitive support, are not an alternative to violence. We therefore need to step up our efforts to improve the support and protection of survivors.

There is a concerning tendency in some countries to favour general services and services without taking a gender sensitive approach. It needs to be acknowledged that the problem of violence against women and their children, which is gender-based and rooted in the historically unequal power relationship between men and women (Council of Europe 2012:4), cannot be effectively tackled by services which apply a "gender-neutral" approach and neglect to address the root causes of the problem.

Quality standards for service provision in the Istanbul Convention and the EU Victims Directive

The Istanbul Convention clearly states that general services have an important role, but that specialist services need to be provided for women victims of violence and their children:

³ Countries which became members after 2004

General support services (Article 21): *“Ensure that victims have access to health care and social services and that services are adequately resourced and professionals are trained to assist victims and refer them to the appropriate services.”*

Specialist support services (Article 22): *“Provide or arrange for specialist women’s support services to all women victims of violence and their children.”*

The Istanbul Convention requires the following provisions:

- ▶ Specialist women’s support services shall be provided to all women victims of violence and their children, offering “immediate, short- and long-term specialist support services” in an “adequate geographical distribution” (Article 22).
- ▶ Appropriate, easily accessible shelters in sufficient numbers to provide safe accommodation for and reach out pro-actively to victims, especially women and their children” (Article 23)
- ▶ The setting up of “state-wide round-the-clock (24/7) telephone help lines free of charge” (Article 24).

The Convention also requires quality standards, including that services and support for victims shall

- Be based on a gendered understanding of violence against women and domestic violence
- Focus on the human rights and safety of women
- Aim at avoiding secondary victimisation and
- Aim at the empowering and economic independence of women victims of violence (Council of Europe 2012:12).

This shows that general and gender-neutral services are clearly not enough to support women victims of violence and to guarantee their right *“to live free from violence in both the public and the private sphere”*.

The EU Victims Directive also recognizes the need for specialist support:

“Women victims of gender-based violence and their children often require special support and protection because of the high risk of secondary and repeat victimization, of intimidation and of retaliation connected with such violence.” (Para 17)

IV. Objectives of the Campaign

Documents and speeches are very valuable for raising awareness, but words are not enough to save the life, health and freedom of women victims of violence and their children.

To guarantee them a life without violence, we need to take ACTION!

We need to step up our efforts in Europe to stop violence against women and to support and protect survivors.

The issue of gender-based violence needs to be brought high on the agenda of governments across Europe. Provision, quality and funding of specialised support services need to be improved and adequate financial support to be provided for non-governmental organisations supporting victims. Furthermore, the aims of the campaign are to challenge attitudes and beliefs which facilitate or condone violence and discriminate against women and girls.

The WAVE Step up! Campaign sets out to improve protection and support for women victims of violence and their children by campaigning too. To achieve these goals, WAVE will campaign calling on key decision-makers to:

- ▶ Actively support prevention and protection for victims of violence against women and girls
- ▶ Commit to improving access to protection and specialised support services for all women and children, especially groups facing multiple discriminations
- ▶ Increase in the number of specialist women’s support services in Europe (women’s helplines, shelters and centres)
- ▶ Improve the quality of services including a gender-sensitive and women’s rights based approach
- ▶ Improve the access of women and children who face multiple disadvantages and discrimination, including those with disabilities and migrant and asylum-seeking women, especially undocumented migrant women.

Objectives of the campaign are also to address stakeholders on the level of international organisations, including the Council of Europe and the European Union.

- Lobbying for the ratification and effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention are objectives of the campaign.

- The European Union will be addressed concerning the putting into practice of provisions of the Victims Directive, especially in the area of providing specialist support services for women victims of violence.
- In addition, the implementation of the 2014 Council of the European Union Conclusion on violence against women and European Parliament resolution of 25 February 2014 concerning violence against women are campaign goals.

The campaign aims at reaching its objectives by applying the following key principles:

- Give women a voice as survivors of violence and involve the perspective of women as survivors in the planning and carrying out of the campaign activities. WAVE experts emphasize that violence against women and girls is so widespread that all women and girls can be affected or have been affected at some point of their lives. Violence against women is not about “the other women”, it is about ourselves and about our sisters, mothers, nieces, granddaughters, neighbours, and colleagues. Women and girls are “experts by experience.” Empowerment and participation are key factors in overcoming the trauma and regaining control. The campaign will seek to give voice to our stories about our experiences, our rights and needs as survivors.
- Promote and support independent women’s organisations as providers of specialist services. As stated, there is a growing concern about the tendency to favour “gender-neutral” services that do not work from a women’s rights perspective and fail to empower survivors. Good quality support requires independent, gender-sensitive services that put woman’s and children’s human rights at the centre (see also page 7, requirement of the Istanbul Convention and the EU Victims Directive). The recommendation to engage with independent women’s organisations to ensure the provision of services and to support their work will be an important message to governments and other relevant stakeholders.

This recommendation is in line with the Istanbul Convention, which requires that: *“Parties shall recognise, encourage and support, at all levels, the work of relevant non-governmental organisations and of civil society active in combating violence against women and establish effective co-operation with these organisations.”* (Council of Europe 2012:8)

V. Key Campaign messages

GENERAL MESSAGE:

- *“Stand together to end violence against women and children”*

As every third woman at some point experiences physical or sexual violence in the EU countries, many of us are survivors ourselves. Survivors are not “them”, a group out there that is separate from the majority – they are us, our daughters, sisters, lovers and friends. We all need to be taking steps in the same direction when it comes to ending violence against women, as we are all affected one way or another. Stand together is about creating impact for all.

MESSAGE ADDRESSING NATIONAL GOVERNMENTS AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS:

- *“Step up measures to provide specialist support to survivors”*

The Istanbul Convention calls for specialist support services as evidence shows women need quality support in order to overcome violence.

THE BUSINESS AND PHILANTHROPY SECTOR

- *“Step up to support survivors!”*

Violence against women is our collective problem, something that always affects the witnessing children and has ripple effects in the wider society. Tolerance towards violence against women is itself preventing women from stepping out of the violent situation. We are therefore all responsible for ensuring support for women’s being empowered to step out of violence.

VI. Key target groups

The WAVE Step up! Campaign will address many different stakeholders – both those who can influence the campaign and those who have the power to achieve real change for women survivors of violence. We invite everyone to join this campaign in order to be successful in raising awareness and improving protection and support for women survivors of violence and their children.

Primary target groups

At the national level:

- Heads of states and governments in European countries
- Ministers and high-level civil servants of national governments
- Presidents and members of parliaments
- Policy-makers at the national, regional and local levels
- Police and members of the judiciary
- Business and philanthropy sector

At the European level:

- The Council of Europe and its relevant bodies and institutions, including the members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- The European Union, especially the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Council, the Council of the European Union and all relevant EU institutions
- EU agencies, especially EIGE and FRA
- The OSCE, the UN and other relevant intergovernmental organizations
- European and international NGO networks
- European and international media organizations
- The international donor community

Secondary target groups

- Social and health care workers
- Officials from immigration and asylum authorities
- Education officials
- Youth organisations
- Men's groups and organisations committed to working for women's human rights
- Trade Unions and staff council members

Supporters

- Women's groups and organisations
- Survivors of violence as experts for change

VII. Key Campaign Dates

Some of the key opportunities for campaigning will be around the following dates and events:

- 14 February** – One Billion Rising public campaign to end violence against women
- 22 February** – European Day for Victims of Crime
- 8 March** – International Women's Day
- 20 November** – United Nations' Universal Children's Day
- 25 November** – International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women
- 25 November – 10 December** – 16 days of Activism against gender violence
- 10 December** – International Human Rights Day

VIII. Campaign Action Plan

A. Campaign activities

The WAVE campaign will include several activities targeting different stakeholders at the national and the European level. Activities will, for example, include:

ACTIVITIES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

1) Setting up a WAVE campaign group of national campaigners

The first step of the WAVE campaign is to set up a WAVE campaign group with members from at least 20 of the 46 countries in which WAVE has members. The WAVE campaign group will, together with the WAVE office staff, carry out the activities.

2) "More than a roof over one's head" – setting standards for quality support

Within the campaign, a set of quality standards will be developed for specialist women's support services and promoted across Europe, targeting policy makers and services providers. They will contain good practice examples and recommendations for concrete steps and actions to improve services.

Web-seminars will be held for different target groups, including women's support services providers and policy makers and other stakeholders, facilitating training and exchange on quality standards, structures and the funding of specialist women's support services.

ACTIVITIES AT THE (NATIONAL AND) EUROPEAN LEVEL

3) Governments commit to stepping up support and protection for survivors

Governments will be invited to support the campaign and to commit themselves to concrete steps to improve the situation of specialist women's support services, i.e. by removing barriers in access to support or by increasing funding for women's support services.

Governments joining the activity will be presented on the WAVE campaign website as well as at campaign events. They will serve as good practice examples, encouraging and motivating other governments to step up their efforts to provide adequate specialist support to survivors and to join the WAVE campaign. Activities will serve, inter alia, the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, the EU Victims Directive and other international documents.

4) Improve access to protection and support

This activity will focus on improving access to services for groups facing multiple discrimination, with a special focus on two groups:

- Women and child victims with disabilities and
- Undocumented women victims of violence and their children

Concrete action will include the identification of barriers in countries and the stepping up of efforts to remove them. This will be included as a cross-cutting issue in several activities.

5) Video competition and award – Young people advocating for the rights of survivors

An award will be created to encourage young women and men to engage in the campaign. Youth organisations and universities (i.e. media departments) will be invited to join the competition and create a video. The aim of the video is to raise awareness of violence against women, and encourage survivors to seek support. A jury of feminist media experts will be identified to select award winners.

1) Campaign for signing, ratifying and implementing the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention

Campaign activities aim at lobbying European countries to sign, ratify and effectively implement the Istanbul Convention. A main campaign goal is also to lobby the European Union to implement the Istanbul Convention.⁴

2) Lobbying the European Union to step up efforts to combat all forms of violence against women and girls

The activities aim at lobbying EU institutions and member states to take concrete steps for establishing a comprehensive strategy and action plan to address all forms of violence, especially the most common forms of violence against women in Europe, which are rape and sexual violence and intimate partner violence. The European Parliament has repeatedly called for a European Union strategy to counter violence against women, including a legally binding instrument.⁵ Campaign activities support the initiatives of the European Parliament and include lobbying the European Commission to establish a Year for the Elimination of Violence against Women in 2017.

3) Lobbying the European Union and member states for a European Women's Helpline

Women also experience violence when moving to other countries, for work, study, or as tourists. A European women's helpline number, referring victims to the specialist women's helplines in the country where they live, is an important measure to improve women's access to adequate support. The campaign aims at lobbying the European Union and its member states, to establish a European helpline.

⁴ European Commission (2015): (A possible) EU Accession to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention), Brussels. Download: http://ec.europa.eu/smart-regulation/roadmaps/docs/2015_just_010_istanbul_convention_en.pdf, 30 the December 2015.

⁵ European Parliament: Violence against women in the EU – State of play, Briefing November 2015 <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/EPRS/EPRS-Briefing-572786-Violence-against-women-in-EU-FINAL.pdf>, 30 December 2015

B. Campaign materials and media work

The campaign will be supported by social media activities.

It will also invite media professionals at the national and European level, as stakeholders, to join the campaign and to become partners in specific parts of the campaign.

Campaign materials

General campaign materials (in English, to be used at the European level)

- Campaign Blueprint
- Campaign Website
- Electronic posters
- (electronic) Postcards
- Information sheets and briefing papers
- Award-winning video created by young people
- Webinars (web-seminars)

Materials to be used at national level

(translated material that gets distributed in each country joining the campaign)

- Information packages (fact sheets and information materials) on the specialist women's support services, costs of violence, and recommendations for service provision, among others
- Electronic info-graphic and posters/ postcards translated
- Press information

C. Timeframe and duration

The campaign was planned in 2015 within the frame of an EU operation grant.

Activities will be carried out in 2016 and 2017.

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- Theory of Change <http://www.theoryofchange.org/what-is-theory-of-change/>, 30th December 2015

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- WAVE-Network (2006): Bridging Gaps - From good intention to good cooperation, Manual, DAPHNE project Bridging Gaps, Vienna
- WAVE-Network (2008): IMPROVE - Quality Services for Victims' Safety. Training Manual, EU DAPHNE project IMPROVE, Vienna.
- WAVE-Network (2012): Capacity Building in Risk Assessment and Safety Management to Protect High Risk Victims, Learning material produced within the PROTECT II project (EU Daphne project), Vienna
- Download WAVE publications: <http://www.wave-network.org/content/wave-publications>

WAVE Step up! Campaign – Theory of Change*

OVERALL IMPACT

All women survivors of violence and their children have access to protection and support provided by specialized women's support services, enabling them to live free from violence

IMPACTS

All survivors have access to quality specialized support services	Legal and policy frameworks on protection and support are strengthened on the National and European levels, including the Istanbul Convention, the Victims' Directive and the EPOs	Increased quantity of specialized support services, and sustainable funding for such services	The need for autonomous specialized support services for women survivors of violence is recognized in Europe
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OUTCOMES

Specialized support services for women survivors of violence in Europe have started applying standards for service provision, that are gender and human rights-based	European countries, esp. Istanbul Convention parties, have increased funding for specialized services	More European countries have signed and ratified the Istanbul Convention	The EU has made a big push towards addressing VAW, i.e. EU Year on VAW, EU Helpline	A number of European countries have taken steps to improve the quantity of specialized support services, and remove barriers to access	Awareness of specialized services and their importance has increased among target groups (policy-makers, European Institutions, CSOs, general public) on the National and European levels.
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OUTPUTS

A set of quality standards for specialized support services is available and promoted	Good practice examples in specialized service provision is available and promoted	Quality standards for the support of specific groups of women are available and promoted	Countries that have not yet ratified or signed the Istanbul Convention are lobbied on the national level	Factsheets on relevant instruments (Istanbul Convention, EU Victim's Directive and others) are available and promoted across Europe	Detailed research highlighting current gaps in service provision and costs of VAW is used to lobby	Concrete steps by governments are highlighted on the campaign website, and other States invited to follow	Various target groups are actively involved in the campaign	A campaign website supports the goals and activities of the campaign
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ACTIVITIES

Sharing of quality standards for services, and good practices among members, and compilation by the WAVE office	Campaigns to lobby governments to ratify and implement the IC, inspired by successful national campaigns that resulted in countries' ratification	Development of briefing papers on: costs of violence, state of service provision, Istanbul Convention, EU Victims' Directive, and their respective implementation, others	Youth organizations are engaged in a video-making competition, on support services	Joint campaign activities carried out across Europe on Key Dates (ex. 25 November, 16 Days campaign)
Webinars to inform and discuss standards for support services with members, other service provider and policy makers	Webinars on implementation of European legal instruments (particularly the Istanbul Convention and the Victims' Directive) with policy makers, women's NGOs and other stakeholders	Governments are invited to commit to making concrete steps to increase support to specialized services	Building of partnerships with other European organizations and networks, Institutions, charities, other stakeholders	Development of campaign materials, i.e. posters, postcards, others, available in English and national languages

STRATEGIES

Networking within WAVE, but also by with external actors and other European-level organizations is emphasized in activities of public outreach and lobbying, with an important European dimension	Promotion of WAVE definitions of specialized support services, and promotion of the work of local women's organization	Targeted campaigning by WAVE members (led by a campaign coordinator) is based on countries' own needs, while retaining a common WAVE Campaign framework	The media is actively engaged, promotes the WAVE campaign and raise awareness of VAW and the need for specialized support; social media is used as an important tool	Women survivors of violence and their children are actively involved in the campaign activities, and their voices heard	Younger generations of girls and boy are actively engaged in the campaign, and led to become actors of change
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* Theory of Change: <http://www.theoryofchange.org/what-is-theory-of-change/>, 30th December 2015



Step up! **CAMPAIGN**

CAMPAIGN ON THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE AND THEIR CHILDREN TO RECEIVE SUPPORT AND PROTECTION

How can you join the Campaign?

WAVE is committed to ending violence against women and domestic violence and to promoting the establishment of specialist quality support services for women and their children everywhere in Europe.

We cannot reach these goals alone – we need YOUR support!

There are many ways of joining the WAVE campaign.

**Please contact us to discuss how you can get involved.
Email: office@wave-network.org**

We welcome interested persons from all fields – institutions and civil society organizations, governments and women's NGOs, networks, companies, the media and others.

**One way of supporting the WAVE Step up! Campaign
is to make a donation:**

IBAN: AT52 1200 0006 1078 2047 BIC: BKAUATWW

**Thank you for helping us building societies in which women and girls
can live without violence and without fear of violence!**

How to get help and information:

WAVE Database: www.wave-network.org
WAVE Information Center: Monday – Friday 09:00 to 14:00 (CET)
Phone: + 43 (0) 1 548 27 20
Email: office@wave-network.org