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September-October 2015

WAVE is the only European network focusing solely on the elimination of violence against women and children. We hope that you will join us in supporting our work and take part in advocating for the human rights of women throughout Europe and worldwide!

As of January 2015, the WAVE newsletter has become a bi-monthly edition, published every second month. In this newsletter, you will find WAVE Network news as well as information about events taking place on a European level and new publications in the field of violence against women and gender equality.

Support WAVE's Public Presence and Outreach

In addition to lobbying, attending conference, as well as conducting press work and regularly disseminating information, in the last few years, WAVE has been focusing on social media as a way to get out the message and promote involvement of others in the women's rights movement. If you haven't already done so, please become a friend of WAVE [2] and like our page [3] and spread the word to others! Thank you for your support!

On 24 May 2014, WAVE adopted the new status of formal network, by becoming its own legal entity. We would like to thank all the Focal Points for their wonderful work, and for their support in taking this new important step into the WAVE history!

All the best from the WAVE team in Vienna!





WAVE NEWS

The 17th WAVE Conference and the Third World Conference of Women's Shelters took place in The Hague at the beginning of November!



The 17th WAVE Conference took place on 2 November 2015 in The Hague, the Netherlands, gathering around 100 participants from 60 member organizations, and participants from Rwanda, Israel, the United States and Australia. WAVE President Rosa Logar opened the event with a speech on the collective strength of women's organizations to end violence against women and girls, emphasizing the issue of VAW in war and armed conflicts. The WAVE Conference also welcomed the presence of **UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women Dubravka Simonovic**, who addressed participants on the 'synergies and implementation of global and regional instruments on violence against women: CEDAW and the Istanbul Convention'. The event closed on the **Corinna Seith Award 2015**, jointly attributed to Fiona Vera Gray and Alison Gregory. The **Third World Conference of Women's Shelters (3WCWS) [4]** took place on 3-6 November 2015, organized by the **Foundation of Women's Shelters in the Netherlands [5]** at the request of the **Global Network of Women's Shelters (GNWS) [6]**, and gathered around 1000 participants from about 115 countries.

WAVE Multidisciplinary Trainings in Bucharest and Zagreb, in October 2015

In October 2015, WAVE held two trainings in Romania and Croatia on 'strengthening the capacities for risk assessment and safety management, to protect victims of violence and their children'. The first training took place in **Bucharest, Romania on 8-9 October 2015**. Over 45 participants from various professional backgrounds - criminal justice system, NGOs and child protection services - attended the event, where they exchanged knowledge and information on the various services available in Romania. The second training took place in **Zagreb, Croatia on 26-27 October 2015**. The purpose of the training was to ensure that victims' needs are the priority when risk assessment and safety planning are being carried out, and that their opinions are constantly taken into consideration. Participants working in Zagreb attended the training, during which they exchanged views on this matter, and engaged in practical exercises structured around hypothetical situations involving female victims and their children, simulating how relevant state agencies, entities of the criminal justice and NGOs could cooperate most efficiently in order to support victims in a meaningful way.

The Haven Wolverhampton and the Socio-Economic Development Centre SABR celebrate the achievements of the joint EU IBPP Project in Uzbekistan!

The **Haven Wolverhampton [7]** - WAVE member organization in the United Kingdom - in partnership with **The Socio-Economic Development Centre "SABR" [8]** (Uzbekistan), recently celebrated the achievements of the European Union's Commission 'Institution Building and Partnership Programme' (IBPP) funded project, titled "**Supporting local community development for sustainable livelihoods and the improvement of living standards in rural areas of Uzbekistan**". Through the project, three Local Development Centres were established in the Akdariya and Urgut areas, and Samarkand City, to deliver entrepreneurship and employability training to people from low income/poor households. Over 500 young women and girls received vocational training in the skills of their choice, including sewing, baking, computer literacy, hairdressing and knitting. The project was delivered from August 2013 and September 2015 and it is



estimated that over 10.000 people have benefited directly or indirectly from the activities.

GREVIO elects its first President and two Vice-Presidents!



On the 22nd of September 2015, the Council of Europe's Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) [9] announced the election of its first President and two Vice-Presidents. Elected President of the GREVIO, Professor Feride Acar [10] is a faculty member of the Department of Political Science and Public Administration of Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, and the former Chairperson and current member of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW). WAVE is also happy to share information of the election of two WAVE Board Members, Marceline Naudi [11] and Rosa Logar [12], as Vice-Presidents of the GREVIO. Each will serve a two-year term in office. During its first meeting, GREVIO also adopted the rules of procedure [13]. GREVIO is the independent expert group that will monitor the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, developing evaluation reports on legislative and policy measures taken by the Parties to implement the provisions of the Convention. For more information, connect to the Council of Europe website [14].

"Promotion of Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence Cases" - training offered by Women's Rights Center in Armenia

In October 2015, Women's Rights Center (WRC) [15] - WAVE member in Armenia - has launched the program "**Promotion of Coordinated Response to Domestic Violence Cases**". The programme aims to offer training and bring together professionals, including those working at centers, social workers, school teachers, psychologists, police officers or police academy students. During the training, the *Manual on Domestic Violence* will be reviewed and updated, and will be further disseminated among the participants, but also in libraries, faculties, governmental and non-governmental structures. The Manual contains information on domestic violence, its causes and consequences, signs of domestic violence, ways of preventing it, as well as the role played by the police in such situations. Women's Rights Center works since 1997 to prevent domestic violence against women and their children Armenia, providing psychological assistance, social help, legal counseling and support in courts to victims of domestic violence. They also provide assistance through their National Hot Line in Yerevan, regional Crises Centers and hotlines. Find out more about WRC's activities [16] and publications [17].

Community matters: Domestic violence and violence against women affects us all!

On the 22nd of October 2015, the conference titled "**Community Matters: Domestic violence and violence against women affects us all**" took place in Zürich, Switzerland. Co-organized by the ZHAW Social Work and the Women's Shelter Foundation Zurich [18], the conference addressed issues such as measures to protect and support victims of domestic violence, putting a special focus on the specific situation of Switzerland. The event was organized in frame of the Project "StoP-Stadtteile ohne Partnergewalt" [19] (StoP-Neighborhoods without intimate partner violence), which addresses the issue of violence against women and their children in the European Union as well as in Switzerland. WAVE President Rosa Logar represented the network on this occasion, presenting and highlighting the activities conducted by WAVE in the field of preventing and combating violence against women and their children in Europe.

Marching "Together for the safety of women" in Bucharest, on 24 October 2015!



Taking place on 24 October 2015 in Bucharest, Romania, the march "**Together for the safety of women**", organized by the Network for preventing and combating violence against women, gathered around 150-200 participants, including members of ANAIIS Association [20], WAVE member in Romania. Claims of the March included, among others, proper allocation of public funds for the implementation of an emergency protection order, but also the introduction in school curricula and the teaching of concepts related to GBV, and the establishment of specialized centers for rape victims. Participants marched the streets holding banners stating "Safety is a right, not a privilege", "1 in 4 women has been physically or sexually assaulted by partner", or "together for the safety of women". Important personalities, including Ambassador of the European Commission in Bucharest Ms. Angela Filote, and Minister of Foreign Affairs Mr. Bogdan Aurescu, were also present. The action took place within the project "**Development and strengthening of the Network for the Prevention and Combating Violence against Women**", funded by the EEA Grants 2009-2014. Find out more about the action here [21].

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- [3] <https://www.facebook.com/pages/WAVE-Network/100277033374347?ref=ts&fref=ts>
- [4] <http://www.worldshelterconference.org/>
- [5] <http://www.opvang.nl/>
- [6] <http://gnws.org/en/>
- [7] <http://www.havenrefuge.org.uk/about-us/the-haven-wolverhampton>
- [8] <http://web.archive.org/web/20130804101054/http://www.sabr.uz/en/>
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- [14] <http://www.coe.int/de/web/istanbul-convention/about-the-convention>
- [15] <http://www.wrcorg.am/en/home.htm>
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- [20] <http://www.asociatia-anais.ro/>
- [21] <http://grado.org.ro/en/the-march-together-for-the-safety-of-women/>
- [22] [http://www.wave-network.org/sites/default/files/Summary on the projectresults.pdf](http://www.wave-network.org/sites/default/files/Summary%20on%20the%20projectresults.pdf)
- [23] <http://www.potpisujem.org/eng/1484/monitoring-and-implementation-of-the-istanbul-convention-new-synergies>
- [24] <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Pages/WELCOME.aspx>
- [25] <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Women/SRWomen/Pages/Complaints.aspx>
- [26] <http://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/home>
- [27] <http://gov.ro/en/print?modul=sedinte&link=the-draft-law-on-the-ratification-of-the-istanbul-convention-approved-by-the-executive>
- [28] <http://www.unwomen.org/en>
- [29] <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/platform/>
- [30] <https://trainingcentre.unwomen.org/>
- [31] http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2015/paper_trainingforgenderequality20-b.pdf?v=1&d=20150922T181948
- [32] <https://www.unodc.org/>
- [33] http://www.unwomen.org/~media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2015/gender-related_killing.pdf?v=1&d=20151026T163328
- [34] <http://www.sozialministerium.at/site/>
- [35] <https://www.bmbf.gv.at/>
- [36] <http://www.wien.gv.at/kontakte/ma57/>
- [37] <http://www.oakfnd.org/>
- [38] http://ec.europa.eu/justice/grants1/programmes-2014-2020/rec/index_en.htm
- [39] <http://www.staedtebund.gv.at/>
- [40] <http://wave-network.org/newsletter/women-against-violence-europe-newsletter>