



WAVE OFFICE PRESS RELEASE

Step Up! - Young people changing social attitudes towards violence against women

BRUSSELS, 27 February 2017 – With the Award Ceremony taking place in the European Parliament tonight, the WAVE Step Up! Youth Video Award came to its finale.

The official jury-selected Step Up! Youth Video Award winner is **"Porta Mi Via"** by Italy's **Luciana Trulio**, while the Audience Award Winner (with the most accumulated YouTube views within a one-month period) is **"Atitude em movimento"** by Portugal's **Joana do Mar Ferreira Machado**. The Portuguese video was the clear winner of the Audience Participation Award with almost 6,000 views accumulated within one month.

WAVE congratulates the European winners and all national winners.

The pan-European Youth Video Award was created in order to bring more youth involvement to the campaign. Young people (18-25 years old), youth organizations, (film-) schools and media departments of universities were encouraged to participate actively with their original video work. Step Up! Is a European-wide campaign promoting the rights of women survivors of violence and their children to access support and protection led by Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE Network) and encompassing 46 countries. This Campaign aims to step up efforts in Europe to stop violence against women, raise awareness of the problem, and protect survivors through activities which target different stakeholders and decision-makers. Six countries took part in the Video Awards: **Austria, Italy, Finland, Macedonia, Portugal and Serbia.**

On 27 February 2017, WAVE celebrated the Step Up! Video Award Ceremony in the European Parliament in Brussels together with the Greens/EFS. **Ulrike Lunacek**, Vice-President of the European Parliament (The Greens/EFA, Austria) opened the ceremony with a speech, followed by **Monika Vana** (The Greens/EFA and MEP for Austria), **Terry Reintke** (The Greens/EFA and the MEP for Germany) and **Rosa Logar**, WAVE President, who gave a speech about WAVE Network as well as the Step Up! Campaign.

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Notes:

Youth Video Award national winners: http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLiySrOeGbRYa-KOHlr_W0VjXpEqsp4ldN

Violence against women in Europe is a widespread, but under-reported, phenomenon. The WAVE Step Up! Campaign Blueprint is [available online](#).

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