



Feminist network promoting the human rights of women and children - Network action to combat violence against women and children in Europe



**WOMEN
AGAINST
VIOLENCE EUROPE**

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WAVE – History



- **1994:** Foundation of the informal network Women against Violence Europe, in Vienna, Austria. Since May 2014 WAVE is a legal entity and a formal network.
- Inspired by the 1993 World Conference on Human Rights and the Vienna Declaration – „Gender-based violence and all forms of sexual harassment and exploitation, including those resulting from cultural prejudice and international trafficking, are incompatible with the dignity and worth of the human person, and must be eliminated.”
- **Aim:** promote the Human Rights of Women, including their right to live lives free from all forms of violence („Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of a person“ – Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Art.3)





WAVE – Main Task



- **Raise awareness** of Violence against Women, and Domestic Violence throughout Europe
- **Promote the work of women's NGOs** , and empower their work wherever possible.
In particular, WAVE aims to support the work of women's organizations working to provide services to women survivors of violence, and their children.
- **Lobby** to State governments and relevant institutions at the European and EU level





WAVE – Members



- **107 Members in 46 European Countries** (including EU28)
- WAVE Members are Women's organizations working in the field of combating Violence against Women and Children, and protecting survivors of violence
- WAVE Members are **key actors**:
 - ❖ Sources of information about VAW in their country
 - ❖ Facilitate the exchange of ideas and information throughout Europe
 - ❖ Actively contribute to the development of the Network
 - ❖ Participate in WAVE Conferences, projects and activities



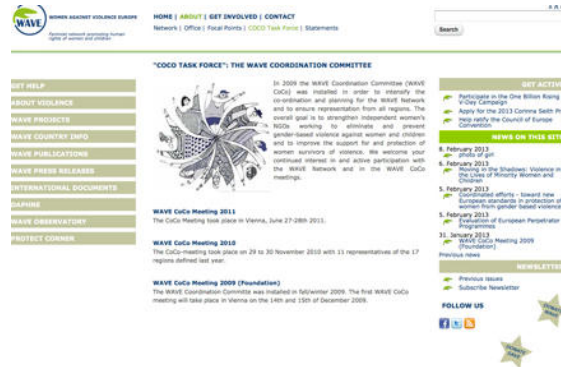
WAVE – Activities



- **Advocacy** – Influence policy makers to promote, protect and strengthen the Human Rights of Women through:
 - improved legislation to address violence against women
 - sustained funding for specialized services for women survivors of violence
 - signing and ratification of important International and European Instruments, i.e. CoE Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
- **Capacity Building** – Building the capacity of the Network, and involving the Members in all WAVE activities including:
 - Annual Conference
 - Annual WAVE Country Report and other WAVE publications
 - Research projects
 - Training Institutes
 - Study Visits



WAVE – Activities



- **Exchange of Information** – sharing of up-to-date information with the Network on:
 - VAW and GBV
 - Available specialized services for women survivors of violence in Europe,
 - Activities and projects taking place at the local, national and European.

Information is disseminated through:

- Annual WAVE Country Report
- Monthly newsletter;
- Bi-annual *FEMPOWER* magazine
- WAVE website
- Social media
- Press Releases

- **Networking** – Platform for exchange of ideas and further collaboration between all stakeholders working at combating violence against women and their children in Europe, including
 - Women's NGOs and other civil society organizations
 - Academic experts
 - Government officials
 - Representatives from European and International institutions

WAVE – Activities



- **Research/Publications** – WAVE has done extensive work in the area of mapping of women’s services (women’s shelters, centers, national helplines, rape crisis centers), primarily through the WAVE Country Report. Publications also include training manuals, as well as research projects conducted with other women’s organizations, and institutes



The annual WAVE Report
Research on specialized Women’s Support Services and New Tools for Combating Gender-based Violence in 46 European Countries.



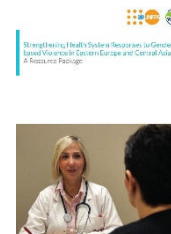
Away From Violence (2004) – Guidelines for Setting-up and Running a Women’s Refuge



Bridging Gaps (2004) – Manual for Effective Multi-agency Cooperation to Tackling Domestic Violence



Protect II (2012) – Capacity Building in Risk Assessment and Safety Management to Protect High-Risk Victims



UNFPA/WAVE Resource Package (2014) – Strengthening Health System Responses to Gender-based Violence in Eastern Europe and Central Asia



Achievement



**Implementation of the
Council of Europe
Convention on Preventing
and Combating Violence
against Women, and
Domestic Violence (2011)
– Istanbul Convention**