



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



**WOMEN
AGAINST VIOLENCE
EUROPE**

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WAVE – History



- **1994:** Establishment 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



- **120 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

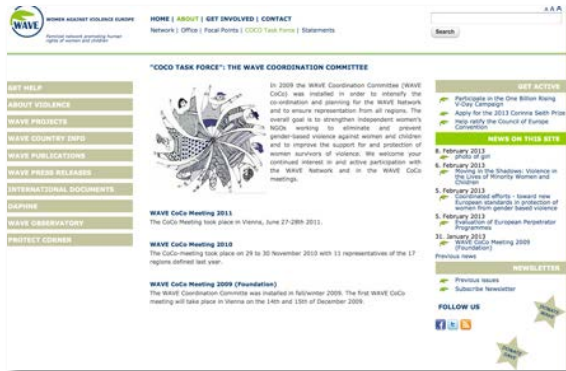


WAVE – Activities



- **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 specialist services for women survivors of violence in Europe,
- Activities and projects taking place at the local, national and European.

Information is disseminated through:

- WAVE Country Reports
- Monthly newsletters;
- 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

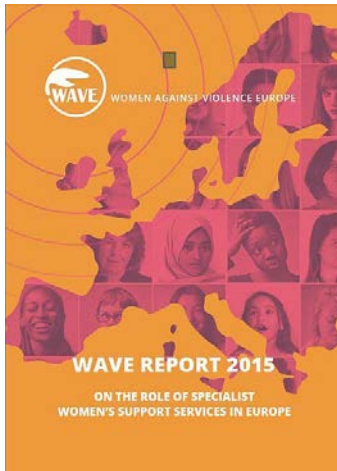


UNFPA/WAVE Resource Package (2014) – Strengthening Health System Responses to Gender-based Violence in Eastern Europe and Central Asia





WAVE REPORT 2015



The WAVE Report 2015 provides up to date information on specialist support services for women victims of gender based violence in 46 European countries including the 28 EU countries.

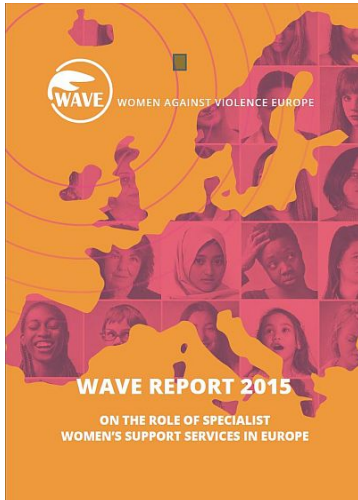
The report 2015 is broader in scope and, in addition to information on national women's helplines and women's shelters, this year includes information on non-residential support services for women who have experienced gender based violence.



WAVE REPORT 2015

Furthermore, information on national women's networks is included for the first time as they play an essential role in developing specialist support services for women and data collection.

Aside from core service provision, the Report includes, for the first time, examples of prevention and training work undertaken by women's non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and makes visible, the fact that women's NGOs are not only providing services to victims but also engage in manifold activities around awareness raising, prevention work and training. The report also attempts to set some base line data on policy, funding, emergency barring orders and collaborations with perpetrator programmes.





- a European-wide campaign launched on 25 May 2016 promoting the rights of women survivors of violence and their children to access support and protection
- It 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

For more information on the campaign, check out the [Step Up! Campaign Blueprint](#).

Check out the [WAVE Step Up! Campaign](#) profile on Facebook, and show your support!



CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES- AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

1. Set up a WAVE campaign group of national campaigners (29)
2. More than a roof over one's head – setting standards for quality support
3. Government's Commit – to stepping up support and protection for survivors
4. Increase access to protection and support
5. Video competition and award – young people advocating the rights of survivors





ACTIVITIES AT THE EUROPEAN LEVEL

- 1. Lobby for signing, ratifying and implementing the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention**
- 2. Lobby the European Union to step up efforts to combat all forms of violence against women and girls**
- 3. Lobby the European Union and member states for a European Women's Helpline**





OBJECTIVES (DECISION-MAKERS)

- Actively support prevention and protection for victims of violence against women and girls
- Commit to improving access to protection and specialist support services for all women and children, especially groups facing multiple discrimination
- Increase in the number of specialist women's support services in Europe
- 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 (disabled, migrant and asylum-seeking women, especially undocumented migrant women)
- Increase the ratification and effective implementation of the Istanbul Convention
- Implement relevant provisions of the Victims Directive