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IMPLEMENTING NORMS CHANGING MINDS

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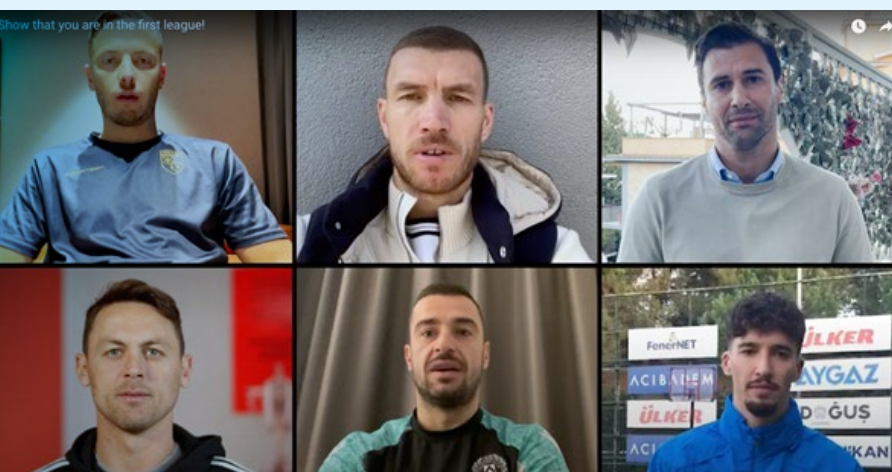


WOMEN FROM DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES IN ALBANIA ARE NOW ONE CLICK AWAY FROM LEGAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING

70 women from disadvantaged groups in Albania, including women with disabilities, Roma women and women from LGBTQI+ community, were provided with smartphones and internet packages to report about violence if needed and access services. The Vodafone Albania Foundation in collaboration with Albanian Disability Rights Foundation (ADRF) provided the smartphones, which are equipped with a mobile application to report violence called BrightSky, which was launched last year by Vodafone and available for download nationally in Albania. A key aim of this effort is to boost safety among women with disabilities, Roma and Egyptian women as well as LGBTI persons and to boost their technology literacy.

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CAMPAIGN AGAINST TOXIC MASCULINITY YIELDS SUCCESS IN SERBIA



Under the headline “Show that you are in the first league!”, a media campaign in Serbia against toxic masculinity and harmful gender stereotypes has reached over seven million women and men, girls and boys. The campaign resulted in 21 media reports and was broadcast for a two-month span in over 280 betting shops of the country’s largest betting company.

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INTERVIEW: “FEMICIDE IS A DIRECT RESULT OF SOCIAL INEQUALITY, AND THE STATE SHOULD TAKE COMPREHENSIVE EFFORTS TO PREVENT IT”

Ekaterine Skhiladze was appointed as a deputy public defender of Georgia in June 2016. Since 2007, she has been actively involved in processes aimed at protecting women’s rights and gender equality in Georgia. In 2016, the deputy public defender was awarded the Kato Mikeladze prize in recognition of her work and achievements in supporting women’s rights and gender equality in the country. In this interview, Skhiladze speaks to UN Women about how Georgia has paved the way in establishing a femicide watch in the country, and why it is crucial for the state to develop and enforce an effective, comprehensive system to prevent femicide (the killing of a woman because of their sex or gender).


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POLICE, SOCIAL WORKERS, PUBLIC PROSECUTORS AND CSOS BOLSTER COOPERATION TO BETTER PROTECT WOMEN WHO EXPERIENCE VIOLENCE IN SERBIA

More than 80 police officers and representatives of public prosecutors’ offices, centers for social welfare and civil society organizations that work with women who experience violence in 22 cities across Serbia improved their skills on

working with women survivors of violence and implementing international standards on victim support and protection. The training was organized by the Victimology Society of Serbia under the UN Women programme on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds,” funded by the European Union.

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WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES FROM MONTENEGRO EMPOWERED TO RECOGNIZE AND REPORT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Women living with disabilities remain marginalized and often invisible within the system of preventing and responding to VAW. And, even when seen, women living with disabilities who experience violence frequently encounter barriers in accessing support and protection and face multifaceted prejudices and discrimination by the institutions

meant to help them. In Montenegro, workshops organized by CSO IKRE reached nearly 200 women in five months to start a dialogue about violence against women living with disabilities and educate them about their rights.

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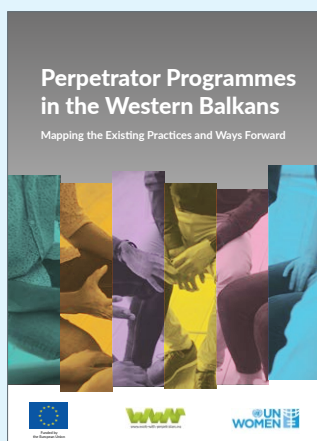

INTERVIEW: “WE NEED TO STRENGTHEN UNDERSTANDING OF THE ROOTS OF FEMICIDE AND DESIGN POLICIES THAT SPECIFICALLY TACKLE THEM”

Alejandra Mora Mora is a Costa Rican jurist, feminist, researcher, academic and politician recognized for her activism on the human rights of women and girls. Former Minister for Women in Costa Rica, as well as former Ombudsperson, she has held the position of Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) at the Organization of American States (OAS) since 2019. In this interview for UN Women, Mora Mora explains how the Inter-American Model Law to Prevent, Sanction and Eradicate Violent Death of Women on Gender Reasons can be used as a tool to advance the prevention and response to violence against women and why all the states need to strengthen their understanding of the roots of femicide and design policies that specifically tackle them.

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INTERVIEW: “DATA COLLECTION IS ESSENTIAL FOR INFORMING WORK TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”

Lirie Dina is a lawyer at the Center for Civic Legal Initiatives (CCLI), an Albanian organization that provides free psycho-social and legal services to women survivors of violence and advocates for improving legislation in the field of violence against women and gender equality. Since 2020, Dina has provided free primary and secondary legal aid to vulnerable groups in society, particularly women who have experienced violence. She has also been engaged in monitoring the implementation of the law on measures against violence in family relations and the law on legal aid guaranteed by the state. In this interview, Lirie Dina highlights the crucial importance of data collection for advocating to end violence against women.

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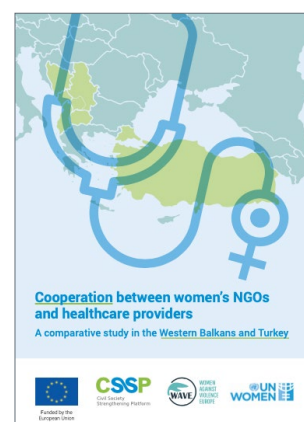
NEW REPORT: “PERPETRATOR PROGRAMMES IN THE WESTERN BALKANS: MAPPING THE EXISTING PRACTICES AND WAYS FORWARD”

Perpetrator programmes for perpetrators of VAW, as outlined in Article 16 of the Istanbul Convention, are one of the key elements in preventing violence against women and ensuring the safety and wellbeing of survivors. This new report focuses on the mapping and analysis of existing perpetrator programmes in the Western Balkans, the status of the implementation of Article 16 of the Istanbul Convention and the key recommendations for improvements at the regional and country level, within the scope of Article 16.

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NEW PUBLICATION: “COOPERATION BETWEEN WOMEN’S NGOS AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS: A COMPARATIVE STUDY IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY”

As healthcare providers are an essential, life-saving link between women experiencing violence and women’s specialist services, the regional assessment aims to analyze cooperation between women’s civil society organizations and healthcare providers in the Western Balkans and Turkey, including the challenges arising from the pandemic. The research also explores and illustrates various aspects of such cooperation, including referral pathways, cooperation with mental healthcare professionals, standardized forms to document injuries, guidelines or protocols in place for healthcare providers, and promising practices and shortcomings of such cooperation, among others.

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