

Violence against women in Europe

Our response





Violence against women in Europe

Our response

Gender-based violence cuts across all levels of society in every European country, at huge social and financial cost. According to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, an estimated 13 million women in the EU have experienced physical violence within the previous year, while some 3.7 million women have experienced sexual violence. One in 20 women over the age of 15 has been raped.

Through the EEA and Norway Grants, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway are contributing close to €25 million to prevent and tackle violence against women and girls. Combating domestic and gender-based violence is included as a specific area of support under the EEA and Norway Grants in almost all beneficiary countries for the funding period 2009-2014. Funding supports initiatives tackling both the causes and consequences of violence.

This booklet provides information about the support provided by Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway to tackle gender-based violence.

Bulgaria

In Bulgaria, the Grants provide funds to strengthen victim support. Measures range from improvements in the legal framework to the establishment of support services.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme:

Domestic and Gender-based Violence

The programme includes:

- Improved support services for 1 100 victims of domestic violence
- The establishment of a women's shelter or crisis centre
- A research study on gender-based violence in Bulgaria
- Five information campaigns to help change public perceptions on gender-based violence
- Five information activities on domestic violence to be carried out in areas predominantly populated by Roma

In addition, a project to help bring the Bulgarian legal framework in line with Council of Europe standards and strengthen the capacity of competent institutions involved in domestic and gender-based violence includes:

- Increasing the efficiency of the law enforcement authorities and social workers' capacity to respond to cases of domestic violence, and render support to victims through training of 550 professionals
- Ensuring compliance with Council of Europe (CoE) standards. CoE is a partner in the programme

Programme Operator: Ministry of Interior

Grant amount: €2 000 000

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/BG12/PA29>

Cyprus

With support from the Grants, a new purpose-built shelter is set to more than double the existing shelter capacity for victims of domestic abuse in Cyprus.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme:

Domestic and gender-based violence

Through support from Norway, a shelter for victims of domestic violence will be established by The Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family:

- The new purpose-built shelter is to temporarily accommodate up to 24 women and children experiencing abuse
- A domestic violence crisis centre will be established in the same building as the shelter, providing a range of specialised services for both women and men, including counselling services and psychological support
- Seventy persons are to be trained to provide support services for adults and children experiencing violence

- The shelter will reach out to women and children experiencing domestic violence in both the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot communities

The Norwegian Secretariat of the Shelter Movement is involved as a partner, providing advice and guidance based on its extensive experience in victim support services in Norway.

NGO programme

The Cypriot NGO programme has gender equality and gender-based violence as one of its four core areas of support. The programme supports networks and coalitions engaging in policy and decision-making processes, adopting and applying Council of Europe quality standards of services for women victims of violence.

Fund Operator: Directorate for Structural Funds and the Cohesion Fund, Directorate General for European Programmes, Coordination and Development

Grant amount: €742 000 (for gender-based violence relevant measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/CY04/PA38>

Fund Operator: Pricewaterhouse Coopers Ltd

Grant amount: €1 320 750 (amount for gender-based violence relevant measures amount to be decided)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/CY03/PA10>

Czech Republic

In the Czech Republic, the Grants are supporting two programmes tackling domestic and gender-based violence by improving support for victims, raise awareness and strengthen research. In addition, the NGO programme provides funding to smaller-scale initiatives.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme: Gender Equality,
Domestic and Gender-based Violence

Through calls for proposals with a total allocation of €3 million, Norway is supporting:

- Forty new or broadened support services for victims of domestic and gender-based violence, including telephone hotlines, crisis and advice centres
- Fifteen new research studies on domestic violence in the Czech Republic
- The preparation of training modules for schools to raise awareness of gender-based violence
- Creation of partnerships and strengthening of the cooperation between relevant stakeholders in tackling gender-based violence
- Treatment and counselling programmes for offenders

Programme Operator: Open Society Fund Prague

Grant Amount: €2 997 813 (for gender-based violence relevant measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/CZ12/PA29>

Programme: Gender Equality,
Domestic and Gender-based Violence

The Gender Equality Unit of the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs carries out a number of activities to address the issue of domestic violence in the Czech Republic through a number of specific project activities. The project is executed in cooperation with the Norwegian organisation "Alternative to Violence" and measures include:

- A TV and billboard campaign focused on prevention of domestic violence
- An evaluation of the implementation of the national action plan on domestic violence
- An analysis of the economic impacts of domestic violence in the Czech Republic
- Conferences on various themes related to domestic violence, from the economic impacts to the issue of social and legal protection of children
- An awareness survey on the harmful effects of domestic violence, to be followed by a media campaign

Programme Operator:

Ministry of Finance

Grant Amount: €428 052 (for gender-based violence relevant measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/CZ13/PA29>

NGO programme

One of the priority areas in the NGO programme is gender equality. The main focus is on empowering women and increasing their participation in decision making, and promoting preventive and follow-up services for women endangered by violence.

Programme Operator: Civil Society Development Foundation

Grant Amount: €9 810 000 (amount for gender-based violence relevant measures to be decided)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/CZ03/PA10>

Estonia

Raising awareness, improving quality of support services and funding much-needed research in the field are among the supported activities.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme:

Domestic and Gender-based Violence

Funded measures include:

- Improving support services for 170 victims of violence yearly
- Raising awareness about domestic violence among the general population
- Increasing the efficiency of law enforcement authorities to respond to cases of domestic violence, and render support to victims through training of 150 professionals

The Norwegian Directorate of Health is a partner in the programme.

A project to be implemented in cooperation with the Resource Centre on Violence, Traumatic Stress and Suicide Prevention, Western Norway (RVTS Vest) focuses on developing a uniform system to prevent violence from partner or spouse in Estonia, through the following;

- Demonstrating the financial cost of violence from partner or spouse
- Integrating all parties dealing with violence from partner or spouse

- Awareness-raising among the risk groups, general public, specialists and legislators.

The project receives €260 000 in support.

In addition, the NGO Estonian Women's Shelters Union, in partnership with the Norwegian Centre of Violence and Traumatic Stress Studies, is currently improving support services.. The project includes:

- Free hotline service for victims and specialists of gender-based violence is available 24/7
- Ensuring legal and psychological counselling at all shelters
- Providing training and supervision for shelter and hotline staff
- Ensuring uniform standards at all shelters
- Organising regional network trainings for professionals in fields related to gender-based violence
- The annual conference "Men talking about violence against women"
- Informing victims of whom they can contact for help by making this information accessible online

The total allocation for this project is €900 000.

The NGO Eluliin is supporting victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation through improving the services provided to them. The project includes:

- Research on the needs of trafficking victims
- Making self-help groups available
- Establishing a support programme for victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation who have children
- Raising awareness and skills of specialists
- Refurbishing a shelter and a rehabilitation centre

The project receives €250 000 in support.

The NGO Living for Tomorrow is working with the Norwegian Secretariat for the Shelter Movement on a project aiming to prevent labour trafficking and supporting victims through developing further anti-trafficking hotline services. The project includes:

- Helping at least 2 500 persons via anti-trafficking hotline service
- Directing at least 15 victims to shelter and rehabilitation services
- Improving prevention and victim support
- Disseminating information
- Raising awareness of trafficking among Estonian youth

The project receives €170 000 in support.

Programme Operator: Ministry of Social Affairs

Grant amount: €2 000 000

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/EE11/PA29>

Hungary

The Grants contribute to the fight against gender-based violence in Hungary through projects supported under the Hungarian NGO programme.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

NGO programme

The Carbon Cicle Club runs the project "Men for Women". It includes activities such as a campaign promoting non-violence and appreciation of women in response to recent violent crimes in Hungary. The campaign includes producing a short film and posters using known football players. The project receives €8 615 in support.

The Drug Prevention Association runs the project "Liberty, equality, relationship – youth health promotion program in Pécs and its Outskirts". The main goal is to run a preventive and promotional campaign to combat prostitution among young people. The project receives €9 597 in support.

The Patent Association Against Patriarchy runs the project "Court Watch of Intimate Partner Violence Cases". The project aims to help women victims exercise their rights, make court cases more open to the public and encourage public debates. The project receives €9 547 in support.

The Birth House Association runs the project "Diversity in Maternity Care", which focuses on the issue of disadvantaged women's birth rights.

The project highlights the needs of disadvantaged women, examines the system of care and works towards further research and networking through information campaigns, conferences and workshops. The project receives €1 095 in support.

The Association of Hungarian Sex Workers runs the project "Inclusion of Sex workers - Nothing about us without us!". The project aims at providing opportunities for marginalised sex workers to advocate for their own interests, contributing to changing the present stigmatizing public opinion and initiating conciliation talks with public authorities to follow up on the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (UN CEDAW) recommendations on sex work. The project receives €9 911 in support.

The NANE Women's Rights Association runs the project "Together for battered women and children – Human Rights Based Empowerment of NGOs Providing Services and Advocacy for Victims of Violence Against Women". The main aim of the project is to advocate for the rights of violated women through NGOs and to provide professional help and information to victims about their rights. The project receives €118 279 in support.

Fund Operator: Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation

Grant amount: €178 000 (for gender-based violence related measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/HU05/PA10>

Latvia

In Latvia, the Grants are providing funding to tackle gender-based violence through small-scale initiatives implemented by non-governmental organisations.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

NGO programme

Tackling gender-based violence is one of the priorities under the NGO programme in Latvia. This far, the programme supports four projects:

“Dardedze for society against abuse” is a project aiming after at

- Protecting children from violence through encouraging amendments to human safety legislation
- Promoting human safety policy in municipalities, childcare institutions, universities and healthcare
- Organising anti-bullying campaigns and other attitude improving activities

The project has an allocation of €57 000 and is run by the NGO Establishment Center Dardedze.

The same NGO also receives €95 000 in funding for the project “Promoting child safe and friendly family environment in municipalities in Latvia”. This project covers three different regions and includes:

- Creating a broad approach to violence prevention, child protection and promotion of welfare
- Establishing a pilot project on how to prevent gender-based violence within the family
- Training professionals working with gender-based violence related issues

Programme Operator: Society Integration Foundation

Grant amount NGO Programme: €255 856 (for gender-based violence related measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/LV03/PA10>

Latvia

“Shelter Safe House” is a project aiming at:

- Supporting existing activities in a shelter for trafficking victims, including the development of a 24/7 hotline and the organisation of awareness raising activities
- Facilitating the development of a common national approach for NGOs for reducing human trafficking
- Strengthening the capacity of NGOs working with issues related to gender-based violence

The project is run by the Association Shelter Safe House and receives €57 000 from the Grants.

The Association Family Support Center “Atvērtība” runs the project “Establishment of family support system to reduce violence problem in Kraslava district”. Activities include:

- Establishing family support groups to improve family conditions and reduce violence problems
- Carrying out crisis centre activities and improving professional competence

The project receives €47 000 in support.

Programme Operator: Society Integration Foundation

Grant amount NGO Programme: €255 856 (for gender-based violence related measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/LV03/PA10>

Lithuania

With support from the Grants, Lithuanian and Norwegian police are sharing experiences and good practices. Through the NGO programme, small-scale projects to address gender-based violence are also being supported.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme: Capacity Building and Institutional Cooperation

In Lithuania, Norwegian and Lithuanian police are cooperating to address the issue of domestic violence through the following measures:

- Developing a training programme for police officers working directly with domestic violence
- Training of some 500 Lithuanian police officers to better handle domestic violence cases
- Developing and publishing recommendations to police officers on how to handle investigation of domestic violence cases

- Purchasing and setting up Lithuania's first alarm system for victims of domestic violence
- Raising awareness of domestic violence through an educational film

The Norwegian Police Directorate (POD) is actively participating in the implementation of this project.

Programme Operator: Ministry of the Interior

Grant amount: €1 000 000

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/LT10/PA25>

Lithuania

NGO programme

The Lithuanian NGO Programme puts great emphasis on the issue of gender-based violence, and makes available funding for three projects in this field:

The “Women initiative against violence” project run by Kaunas Women Society provides specialist training in the district of Kaunas on how to prevent violence against women. The project is developed in close cooperation with the KUN Centre for Gender Equality in Norway and receives €140 000.

The project “Lithuanian society against trafficking in persons: the model of systematic approach” run by Caritas Lithuania aims at developing a best practice national model for how to provide support to victims of trafficking. Teams composed of trafficking experts from NGOs, local

police officers, prosecutors, social workers and municipalities will work together in this project.

The Norwegian NGO partner ROSA and the Oslo Police are partners in the implementation of the project. Funding for the project is €114 000.

The Centre for Equality Advancement carries out the project “Global Rights, Local Actions” on women’s rights advocacy skills and competences of Lithuanian NGOs. One of the core activities of the project is preparing and presenting a response to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, focusing on development of women’s rights advocacy skills and competences of Lithuanian NGOs. The Norwegian partner KUN Centre for Gender Equality contributes with know-how and experience. The project funding is €112 000.

Programme Operator: Human Rights Monitoring Institute

Grant amount: €366, 000 (for gender-based violence relevant measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/LTo4/PA10>

Malta

Tackling gender-based violence is a key priority under the NGO programme in Malta, where two projects addressing the issue are supported.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

NGO Programme

The following two projects are supported:

The project “IRENE – Women involved in street prostitution, outreach and basic services” focuses on combatting poverty, social exclusion and sexual exploitation of vulnerable women. Interviews among affected women to define their needs have been done and a drop-in centre for the women has been established. The women will be offered counselling, sexual health education, hot meals and other services during the project, which receives €25 000 in support.

Through the project “And they Lived Happily Ever After”, three popular and traditional fairy tales are being retold as cartoons, dealing with issues related to social and human rights, inequality, poverty and exclusion. The goal is to promote gender equality and raise awareness of issues including gender-based violence among a young audience. The project receives €25 000 in support.

Programme Operator: Solidarity Overseas Service Malta

Grant amount: €50 102 (amount for gender-based violence relevant activities to be decided)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/MT03/PA10>

Poland

With Grants support, a Polish programme aims to tackle domestic and gender-based violence through research, awareness raising, training and improved interagency cooperation.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme:

Domestic and Gender-based Violence

The direct aim of the programme is to prevent acts of violence by creating a platform for cooperation between central authorities, local governments and NGOs working within this field.

Concrete actions presented in three projects with a total grant amount of around €2 400 000 include:

- Initial research on domestic and gender-based violence in Poland
- National media awareness raising campaigns
- Training of some 3 000 professionals engaged in counteracting domestic violence
- Improving the quality of support services provided for 1 700 victims of domestic violence
- Corrective and educational programmes for some 1 200 perpetrators of violence

- Improvement of facilities providing services for victims of domestic violence

The Council of Europe contributes with expert advice to enhance competences in one of the projects.

In addition, € 600 000 is made available to support smaller local government and NGO projects to tackle domestic and gender-based violence.

NGO Programme

The NGO programme supports efforts in the fields of combating discrimination and counteracting exclusion, under which projects to tackle domestic and gender based violence will be funded.

Programme Operator: Ministry of Labour and Social Policy

Grant amount: €3 000 000

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/PL14/PA29>

Programme Operator: Stefan Batory Foundation

Grant amount: €37 000 000 (amount for gender-based violence relevant measures to be decided)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/PL05/PA10>

Portugal

The Grants provide funding to a nation-wide survey on sexual harassment, alongside smaller initiatives carried out by non-governmental organisations.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme:

Mainstreaming gender equality and promoting work-life balance

Gender-based violence is tackled indirectly through promoting work-life balance in a project developed and implemented in cooperation with the Norwegian Association of Local and Regional Authorities (KS). The project will result in:

- A study comparing sexual harassment in the current Portuguese labour market with the situation in 1994
- Sharing of knowledge and experiences between Norway and Portugal
- Providing training on harassment in the labour market for labour inspectors, judges, municipalities and companies

The project receives €400 000 in support.

Programme Operator: Commission for Citizenship and Gender Equality (CIG)

Grant amount: €400 000 (for gender-based violence related measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/PT07/PA14>

NGO programme

Tackling gender-based violence is one of the priorities under the NGO programme in Portugal which supports two small and one large project.

The “Rights and Duties for Dignity” project aims to promote the rights of victims of domestic violence, improve victims’ access to judicial services as well as to advocate for public policies in this field. The project receives €22 000 in support.

The project “New Faces” focuses on awareness raising activities in Portel County, a rural area in Alentejo, and the establishment of a permanent victim support office. The project receives €21 000 in support

The project “New Challenges in combating Sexual Violence” focuses on the implementation of legal policies in the field of domestic and gender-based violence and includes:

- Awareness-raising activities
- Establishing a victims support office

Fund Operator:

Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation

Grant amount: €156 000 (for gender-based violence related measures)

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/PT05/PA10>

Romania

In Romania, the Grants are providing support to tackle domestic violence and trafficking. Efforts include improving support services for victims, raising awareness and improving law enforcement and prosecution response.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme:

Domestic and Gender-based Violence

More than two million euros is set aside for various projects, including:

- Establishing at least one shelter or counselling centre for victims of domestic violence
- Supporting existing shelters and counselling centres for victims of domestic violence
- Establishing or supporting at least one counselling centre for perpetrators
- Raising awareness among the Romanian population, including the Roma population, of the existence of the law on domestic violence
- Training at least 250 professionals on issues related to domestic violence

In addition, the project “Joint action against domestic violence” provides training for 300 judicial authorities including law enforcement, prosecutors and judges in Romania.

The goal is to improve how cases of domestic violence and discrimination are handled in the judicial system. The project receives €500 000 in support.

In Bucharest, a specialised shelter for victims of trafficking is being established under the project “Best practice model on assistance for victims of trafficking in human beings”. The project aims to provide shelter for 100 victims, and provide information to girls and women at risk about the trafficking industry. The project receives €1.4 million in support, and the Norwegian Police Directorate and the Council of Europe are involved as partners.

Programme Operator: Ministry of Justice

Grant amount: €4 000 000

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/RO20/PA29>

Slovakia

Increased access to support services for victims all over Slovakia is the main focus of support. New shelters and counselling centres are established.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme: Domestic and Gender-based Violence

The programme includes:

- Setting up 15 new counselling centres
- Establishing 204 new places in women's shelters
- Continued support for existing support services for victims

In addition, a €2.2 million project establishes a Coordinating Methodical Centre for the prevention and elimination of violence against women and domestic violence. This is done in line with recommendations in the Council of Europe Istanbul Convention. The project, implemented in partnership with the Council of Europe and the Norwegian Directorate of Health, includes:

- Establishing a national system to prevent and combat all forms of violence against women

- Developing a guide for prevention
- Launching national awareness-raising campaigns
- Training professionals

NGO Programme

Gender-based violence is a central area of support under the NGO programme in Slovakia. This far, four projects have received funding from the Grants:

The NGO Fenestra runs the project "Increasing availability and quality of specialized protection, help and support of women experiencing gender-based violence" aiming at increasing accessibility of specialized services and improving the quality of protection, help and support for women. Measures include counselling, evaluation of service provision from the Council of Europe minimum standards perspective; analysis of data and case studies; workshops for employees of relevant institutions and consultations in individual cases. The project receives €121 221 in support.

Programme operator: Government Office of the Slovak Republic

Grant amount: €8 235 294

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/SK09/PA29>

Slovakia

The NGO Možnosť voľby runs the project “Advocating towards the ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence.” To support and make the process of ratification easier, the NGO is disseminating information on the Convention and its impact to public, ministries and public institutions and creating working groups and coalitions supporting the convention. The project receives €97 455 in support.

The NGO OZ Woman in distress runs the project “Love ≠ Violence” in the Turčiansky region. This project is specifically designed for women victims who need specific advice, support, relevant information and a safe area because they live in a violent relationship. The project receives €65 163 in support.

The NGO QUO VADIS, o.z. runs the project “When traditions hurt”. The project addresses gender inequality in Roma communities and discrimination of Roma women specifically, and aims at empowering Roma women’s NGOs and contributing to positive changes with regard to gender-based violence. The project receives €56 000 in support.

Programme operator: Open Society Foundation (amount for gender-based violence relevant measures to be decided)

Grant amount: €3 701 500

More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/SK03/PA10>

Spain

Through the Grants, support is provided to translate progressive legislation on gender-based violence into concrete measures.

WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Programme: Gender equality and Work-Life after Balance

- Six regional Spanish Authorities are given funding to improve support to victims of gender-based violence, through improving coordination between the relevant public authorities and ensuring services provided to victims are provided in a uniform way across the country. The funding of €1 million will be supporting various projects within the field.
- A study comparing legislation and public policies on gender-based violence in Spain, Norway and Iceland has been prepared. The study will be followed by a report on best practices in the field of tackling gender-based violence. The €37 000 project is coordinated by the Spanish Government Delegation on Gender-based Violence in cooperation with the Norwegian Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud (LDO).
- Small-scale funding is available for non-profit and non-governmental organisations working with women belonging to the most vulnerable

groups in Spain, including victims of gender-based violence. Supported activities include awareness raising, advocacy work and support to resource centres for victims.

- In October 2013, the Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality and the Government Delegation on Gender-based Violence organised a seminar on good practices in the field of gender-based violence. The seminar focused on improved coordination and the introduction of a “one-stop-shop” service for victims. The conference gathered experts from Norway, Iceland, US, UK and Spain.

NGO Programme

Gender-based violence is one of the core areas of support under the Spanish NGO programme. The programme will support NGO networks and coalitions influencing policy and decision-making processes, adopting and applying Council of Europe quality standards for services for women victims of violence.

Programme Operator: Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality
Grant amount: €2 220 663 (for gender-based violence relevant measures)
More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/ES04/PA14>

Programme Operator: The NGO Platform of Social Action
Grant amount: €4 585 000 (amount for gender-based violence relevant measures to be decided.)
More information: <http://eeagrants.org/programme/view/ES03/PA10>



ABOUT THE EEA AND NORWAY GRANTS

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide funding to:



reduce
disparities
in Europe



strengthen
bilateral
relations

AREAS OF SUPPORT

Environmental management

Climate change

Civil society

Cultural heritage and diversity

Human and social development

Green industry innovation

Justice and home affairs

Research and scholarships

Decent work and social dialogue

€1.8 billion
in funding*

16
beneficiary
countries

* EEA Grants €993.5 million (Norway 94%, Iceland 5%, Liechtenstein 1%) – Norway Grants €804.6 million, financed by Norway alone

