

VSE NEWSLETTER #1 2015 - 31 MARCH 2015



### **From the Editor**

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*This year marks both Victim Support Europe's and the Portuguese Association for Victim Support's (APAV) 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we are therefore particularly looking forward to an exciting [Annual Conference and AGM on 13-15 May in Lisbon](#). The focus of the conference will be on the EU Directive on victims' rights which needs to be implemented by 15 November. We hope to see you all in Lisbon for this important event!*

*In this Newsletter you will find many interesting reports from our national members but also a lot of information about ongoing projects. Many thanks to all members who sent us their contribution!*

*Looking forward to seeing you in Lisbon,*

*Helgard van Hüllen  
Vice President of Victim Support Europe*

## **RECENT DEVELOPMENTS AND ACTIVITIES**

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### **Levent Altan, VSE newly appointed Executive Director**

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We are delighted to announce that Levent Altan was appointed as Executive Director of Victim Support Europe since 24 November 2014.

Before joining Victim Support Europe, he worked as Principal Legal Advisor at Milieu Ltd, a multi-disciplinary consultancy specialising in providing legal and policy services for public sector clients.

From 2009 to 2012, he was Criminal Justice Legislative Officer at the European Commission

where he was responsible for victims' rights. During that time he was in particular responsible for drafting and negotiating the EU Directive establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime. He also worked in the European Commission from 2003-2005 on a wide range of criminal justice matters.

Levent had been working for several years as a civil servant for the UK Ministry of Justice, Cabinet Office and Home Office before being seconded as a National Expert to the European Commission.

*"It is an exciting time to join VSE as we are planning to deliver more and better services for our members and to increase the impact and effectiveness of VSE actions over the next three years. Capacity building, cross-border collaboration, training and the development of an accreditation system for victim support organisations belong to our core objectives for 2015-2017. There is much to do but I am confident that with a strong team, a committed Board and with of course all the help from our members, we will be able to deliver much already in 2015. I am happy and proud to be part of such a dynamic and important organisation!" Levent*



## **VSE now on Twitter and YouTube**

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It is now possible to follow Victim Support Europe on Twitter (@VictimSupportEu) and on our [YouTube](#) channel where we are collecting useful information on victims related issues as well as publicizing events.



## **VSE statement on European Day for Victims of terrorism: Remember, Support, Act**

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On 11 March, VSE released a statement on the 11<sup>th</sup> European Day of Remembrance for Victims of Terrorism.

Please read the statement [here](#).



## **All victims recognised, no victim forgotten: Joint statement for European Day for Victims of Crime, 22 February 2015**

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VSE coordinated a joint statement together with 30 international and national organisations for the European Day for Victims of Crime on 22 February. Please read the joint statement [here](#).

On this occasion VSE also put the spotlight on specific groups of victims and provided short information and statements on those groups in collaboration with a range of EU organisations working with specific groups which may face particular forms of victimisation and which often have specific needs following a crime. Please read more [here](#).



## **VSE statement on the terrorist attacks in Paris**

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On 7 January 2015 Victim Support Europe released a statement strongly condemning the horrific terrorist attacks that took place in Paris.

Please read the English and French versions of the statement [here](#).



## **VSE talks victims rights with BBC Radio Oxford**

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With the EU Directive on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime coming into force later this year, BBC Radio Oxford interviewed Victim Support Europe's Executive Director, Levent Altan on 2 January 2015, on the problems faced by victims and the changes the new legislation will bring.

The full interview can be heard [here](#).

## NEEDS ASSESSMENT

### Workshop on victims' needs assessment

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On 5 December VSE in collaboration with its member organization INAVEM organized a workshop in Paris to provide practical information and suggestions to victim support national representatives on how to implement article 22 of EU Directive 2012/29/UE. This was the opportunity to present European projects on the needs assessment of victims and to discuss what the needs assessment tool brings to the victims and victim support groups.

Participants also learned about the implementation process of the directive in France thanks to the participation of representatives from the French Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Interior. VSE members from Austria, Croatia, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal and England and Wales were represented.

Our members are able to consult the programme and presentations made at the workshop on the intranet of VSE website. Please first log in and insert the following link in your

browser: <http://victimsupporteurope.eu/intranet/workshop-needs-assessment/>



### Seminar on procedural rights

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On 19-21 November VSE arranged for its members a study visit on procedural rights to Slachtofferhulp Nederland in Utrecht, enabling victim support organisations to learn how Slachtofferhulp operates with a particular focus on supporting victims to access their procedural rights.

Speakers included representatives from the Dutch Ministry of Justice. VSE members from Portugal, Belgium, Denmark and Spain were represented.

Our members are able to consult the programme and presentations made at the workshop on the intranet of VSE website. Please first log in and insert the following link in your browser:

<http://victimsupporteurope.eu/intranet/seminar-on-procedural-rights/>



## VSE Awareness Raising Event in the EP

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On 18 November 2014 Victim Support Europe organized a conference “Victims of Crime Beyond 2015” in the European Parliament in Brussels. The event was hosted by Ana Gomes, MEP. Speakers included Claude Moreas, MEP, Chair of the LIBE Committee, Iratxe García Pérez, MEP, Chair of the FEMM Committee, Olivier Tell, Head of Unit "Procedural criminal law" (DG Justice, EC), Olimpia Monaco, Representative of the Italian EU Presidency and Inga Melnace, Representative of the upcoming Latvian EU Presidency.

Please find more information [here](#).

## NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

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### WEISSER RING

#### Austria

##### Weisser Ring

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On the occasion of the European Day for Victims of Crime [WEISSER RING Austria](#) held a series of events. For the fifth time the Ministry of the Interior and WEISSER RING Austria arranged a conference on 20th February 2015 in Vienna. The focus was on young people and their view on violence in public space and the consequences.

Udo Jesionek, head of the WEISSER RING Österreich highlighted the importance of the European Day for Victims of Crime. Minister of Justice Wolfgang Brandstetter, Minister of Social Affairs Rudolf Hundstorfer, Minister for Education and Women's Affairs Gabriele Heinisch-Hosek, Minister of Family Affairs and Youth Sophie Karmasin presented their projects on juveniles.

In preparation for the conference WEISSER RING staff held lectures in school classes and developed ideas on that theme in cooperation with pupils and students. Result of the workshop was that pupils

think the word "victim" is a swearword, they feel helpless and powerless. The outcomes were presented at the conference which was moderated by two pupils.

The theme was peer-reviewed by multidisciplinary professionals from the Ombudsman for Children and Juveniles, Support for Men Vienna, the Police prevention department and WEISSER RING.



## **Czech Republic**

### **Bily Kruh Bezpeci**

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[Bily kruh bezpeci](#) (BKB) introduced the new national helpline 116006 for victims of crime at a press conference on February 20, 2015.

Bily kruh bezpeci is the 7<sup>th</sup> victim support organization operating the European phone number for victims of crime in the EU. The helpline is free of charge for all callers and it operates 24/7.

The national campaign promoting 116006 helpline for victims of crime started on February 17, 2015 (TV / radio / internet spots, billboards, advertising in magazines and newspapers). Currently BKB is organizing roundtables and seminars for helping professionals all around the country.

Please find more information [here](#).

## **Croatia**

### **Croatian Victim and Witness Support Service**

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[Victim and Witness Support Service Croatia](#) is currently focused on informing citizens of Croatia on the services of the victim support helpline with a free standardized European number 116-006 called the National Call Center for Victims of Crime and Misdemeanors. By establishing a free 116-006 helpline in the first days of Croatia's EU membership in July 2013, Croatia became the 5th member of the European 116-006 family which today counts 7 members (Germany, Ireland, Austria, Netherlands, Croatia, Denmark and the

Czech Republic).

The National Call Center for Victims of Crime and Misdemeanors has, since its opening in July 2013, received over 3000 calls from victims, witnesses and families of victims. The support was provided by 90 trained volunteers who generously give their time, knowledge and effort to victims and witnesses without any compensation.

We are continuously working with our helpline volunteers on improvement of the quality of service we provide to victims and witnesses and we will continue with intensive volunteer education in the following months.



## Croatia

### Bijeli Krug Hrvatske (White Circle Croatia)

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The association [White Circle Croatia](#) is continuing the public awareness campaign that started on the European Day for Victims of Crime (22nd February 2015) with roundtables on victims' rights.

The brochure 'Guide for victims of violence' was presented at one of the roundtables. It shows the process of the criminal procedure, promotes victims' rights and ways of realization of their rights.

White Circle Croatia also announced a Facebook application 'Report the violence!' and the establishment of an online support group on web forums of White Circle Croatia association.



## Denmark

### Offerrådgivningen

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#### Victim Support Denmark expands

[Victim Support Denmark](#) has received 10 million Danish kroner (about 1,4 Euro) extra for the next three years from the Danish Victim Fund.

The money will be used to train 300 volunteer

advisors, to educate the new special Mentors for victims and to increase Victim Support Denmark's visibility.

Victim Support Denmark was established in 1997 and offers help to victims who need information and advice about for example how to find professional help and how to get compensation. The main task of the advisers is however to listen when there is a need for it.

Therefore, it will now soon be possible to get a Mentor, who can follow the victim closely in corporation with an advisor. The Mentor program will be the first of its kind in Europe. 25 Mentors will start their training this month. The trained Mentors will be operating from 1<sup>st</sup> June. They were all selected from the organization where they were already working as volunteers.

The objective for Victim Support Denmark is to train and assign up to three Mentors from each Victim Support in the 12 Police areas.

The secretariat of Victim Support Denmark currently has four full-time employees: 1 project manager for education of new advisors, 1 project manager for Mentor education and 2 secretaries.



## **Finland**

### **Rikosuhrapäivystys Suomessa**

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#### **New law on victim fee**

In March 2015 the Finnish Parliament approved a law which will introduce a victim fee system in Finland. Offenders will have to pay a fee of 40 up to 80 euros for crimes where the maximum sentence is imprisonment. The law will enter into force in 2016 but due to IT-system changes the fee system will actually be implemented later during the year. According to the law, the funds raised from the fee will be allocated to crime victim support services. It is expected that starting from 2016 also [Victim Support Finland](#) will receive funding from the



collected fees but this has not been confirmed yet.

### **Istanbul Convention ratified**

The Finnish Parliament ratified the Istanbul Convention in March 2015. This will have concrete impacts on the support system for victims of violence against women and domestic violence. For example, the Convention requires that a 24/7 helpline is established for this target group. NGOs working with these victims, including Victim Support Finland, have joined forces in order to establish the new helpline in 2016.

### **Two reports on the implementation of the EU directive on victims' rights**

In March-April two governmental committees will release their reports on the implementation of the EU directive on victims' rights in Finland. Victim Support Finland has participated in the work of both committees. The first which started working mid-2013 focused on victim support services and good practices as well as on the impacts of the ratification of the Istanbul Convention. The second committee which started its work last November concentrated on the legal impacts of the directive resulting in suggestions for several legal changes. A government bill proposing these legal changes is expected next autumn.

### **Victim Support Finland developing its work on trafficking**

VS Finland has recently started a 3-year programme in order to develop the role of Finnish victim support organisations and other NGOs to assist victims of human trafficking. VS Finland already has experience in working with victims of trafficking. The challenge is that these crime victims often have more complex issues to deal with and fear getting into criminal proceedings. Also issues such as migration control make their situation difficult. A coordinator has been employed to implement this programme, which is financed by Finland's Slot Machine Association.



## Germany

### Weisser Ring

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#### 3<sup>rd</sup> victims' rights reform act

In order to transpose the Directive 2012/29/EU establishing minimum standards on the rights, support and protection of victims of crime the German federal government has introduced a third draft victims' rights reform act to be submitted to the legislative process.

The draft law contains many improvements, for example a new provision transposing information requirements and regulations concerning interpretation services. At the same time new regulations are planned to introduce a psycho-social process support into law.

The draft law contains no regulation about victim support services as this is the responsibility of the “Länder”, the 16 constituent states.

#### German Day of Crime Victims

On the occasion of the German Day of Crime Victims (22nd March) [WEISSER RING](#) emphasized the importance to enlarge the application scope of the crime victims compensation law in Germany.

Roswitha Müller-Piepenkötter (former Minister of State and WEISSER RING chairwoman) asked the Government to extend the scope of the crime victims compensation law to cases of psychological violence and stalking.

To raise the awareness about the crime victims compensation law WEISSER RING is organizing seminars for its volunteers. By 2016 more than 200 volunteers will have been trained.



## Hungary

### Fehér Gyűrű Közhasznú - White Ring Hungary

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On 12 December 2014, VSE Vice President Helgard van Hüllen was delighted to attend and speak at a [conference and anniversary photo exhibition](#) organized by [White Ring Hungary](#) in Budapest on the occasion of their 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

VSE would like to warmly congratulate White Ring Hungary for their hard work to support victims of crime over the past 25 years!



## Ireland

### AdVIC - Advocates for Victims of Homicide

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#### Meeting the Irish Minister for Justice, Equality & Law Reform

[AdVIC](#) has been very active in engaging with various agencies of the criminal justice system, including meeting with the Minister for Justice to discuss the needs of families of homicide victims.

AdVIC has also engaged with various conferences and seminars to promote the needs of families of homicide victims.

AdVIC continues to work with [Victims Rights Alliance](#) (VRA) to ensure the effective implementation of the EU Directive in Ireland

#### Irish Police – Victim Developments

Ahead of the Directive, An Garda Síochána (the Irish Police Force) began piloting a service for victims of crime some time ago. It began as a Victim Service Centre in one location and following the success of the project, will now be extended over the coming months to 25 other locations nationwide. It will provide a dedicated office in these locations to provide a service to victims of all crimes. Victims will be contacted by phone within 48 hours of the crime taking place and will be

provided with information and guidance, as well as links to support services. Consultations will be held in a private setting. Staff involved in the project will receive training. This is a very welcome development and will benefit victims of crime, apart from homicide.

### **Family Liaison Officer (FLO)**

Families of homicide victims are already provided with a dedicated Family Liaison Officer (FLO). However, they will now be able to make contact with the new Victim Service Centre office, if their experience with their FLO is unsatisfactory. This is especially welcome for families of homicide victims, who in the past had nowhere to go if their needs were not met by their FLO.

The aim of the service is to provide a dedicated service hub for victims to receive a quality assured support process. It also aims to engage in a collaborative process with all stakeholders, as well as build loyalty and trust in the Garda and create a safe and secure community at a difficult time.



### **Italy**

#### **Associazione LIBRA Onlus**

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#### **VSE Handbook for Implementation of Legislation and Best Practice now available in Italian!**

[LIBRA](#) has translated Victim Support Europe “Handbook for Implementation of Legislation and Best Practice for Victims of Crime in Europe” into Italian.

Please find the Italian version [here](#).

### **The Netherlands**

#### **Slachtofferhulp Nederland**

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Since 1st January 2015, [Slachtofferhulp Nederland](#)



has been supporting a new group of victims of crime. In criminal cases where the suspect confesses that he has committed the crime, the police and the public prosecution follow a special procedure, called As Soon As Possible (ASAP). In this procedure the suspect will hear his penalty within 6 hours, three or seven days, depending on the nature of the case.

When the case is brought to the table, the public prosecutor asks the probation office to gather information on the offender and the representative of Slachtofferhulp Nederland to gather information on the victim. Our staff will try to reach the victim immediately and three things will happen. We will inform the victim of their rights, offer them psychosocial or practical support from Slachtofferhulp Nederland and ask them what consequences (financial or other) the crime has had. If the victim needs our support, it will be organised right away. We will write down the financial and other consequences in a document for the public prosecutor, together with our advice how to handle the case. Our advice could be as simple as "the victim wants the offender to pay the damages of the burglary, please handle this case through the asap-procedure". Or our advice could be "the victim suffers from a number of fractures due to the violent crime, it's not yet clear what the medical and psychological consequences will be, please handle this case through a regular criminal court procedure". The public prosecutor will use this advice for his decision. He may for example decide to give the offender a fine and have him pay on the spot the damages of the victim. Or he might decide to bring the case to court.

Slachtofferhulp Nederland will support each year about 100.000 victims through this new special procedure.



## Sweden

### Brottsofferjourenas Riksförbund

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#### Actions against hate crimes

The Swedish government has announced increased actions against hate crimes and extremism. The terror attacks in Copenhagen in February, reports on increased anti-Semitism and a widely-spread fear among Swedish Jews stresses the urgency to stand up for an open society where everyone can feel safe. [Brottsofferjourenas Riksförbund](#) (Victim Support Sweden) has written a letter to the Swedish Prime Minister and other representatives of the Swedish government to stress that the organization can be an important resource in the actions. Victim Support Sweden operates a national Call Centre where victims can get assistance in 30 different languages. We encounter victims of hate crimes and know that they often have a great need of support and help.

#### Swedish documentary on domestic violence

*My life my lesson* is a raw yet tender documentary that follows 16-year-old Felicia over the course of two years as she is attempting to live a normal teenage-life, having been brought up witnessing her stepfather beating her mother. The documentary is made by filmmakers Åsa Ekman, Oscar Hedin and Anders Teigen (Film and Tell) in collaboration with Victim Support Sweden and other Swedish NGOs. Our purpose with *My life my lesson* is not only to present a film that will capture the audience but to open up for a discussion on the subject of children growing up in and witnessing domestic violence.

The film was released in Sweden on March 13 and has received good reviews. For more information please visit the [film website](#).



## USA - UK

### International Cruise Victims Association

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#### Cruise Ship Crime - Captain Michael Lloyd, Senior Vice President of [International Cruise Victims UK](#)

Too often, Masters of Cruise ships do not have in their possession the common laws of the Flag state of their ship to which they could refer, and do not have any training in dealing with criminal investigations or the preservation of evidence and in particular training in dealing with sexual offences.

Around the world, Officers and even crews are detained and even imprisoned illegally again by Flag States ignoring any international resolutions or regulations and then their arrest and detention ignored by the ship's flag state.

The situation on the cruise and hotel ships is appalling with over 200 persons claimed to have fallen over the side in the last 10 years, most of them female, many without any proper investigation, reports or correct procedures being followed by the Master and his staff on board.

Flag State responsibilities cannot be followed because of the limited resources of many of these States who, while signing their agreement to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), have registered ships knowing of their inability to comply with their required commitment. Some 60 per cent of cruise ships are now registered in Panama, Liberia and the Bahamas.

Captain Michael Lloyd, Senior Vice President of International Cruise Victims UK is highlighting how this situation needs to be tackled. Please read his contribution [here](#).

## UPDATES ON ONGOING PROJECTS

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### **Project IVOR | Implementing Victim-Oriented Reform of the Criminal Justice System in the European Union**

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Project [IVOR](#) promoted by VSE member [APAV](#) and co-financed by the Criminal Justice Programme of the European Union arose from the idea of providing a full overview of current research into and with victims' rights and services, identifying lacunas in the knowledge base and of offering a model which can serve to connect experience and research in one area to another.

Domestic national experience shows that improving the plight of victims of crime can only to a limited degree be entrusted upon changes in the 'letter of the law'. Instead success is in large part contingent upon the practice at street-level: the extent to which rights are supported by sufficient services. Moreover, the impact of the EU Directive on victims of crime and on the actual experience of crime victims across Europe largely depends on the way and the extent to which the Directive articles will be successful in reorienting victim policy in EU Member States.

Midway through its implementation period and having outlined the global victim assistance model, it is now time to hear the perspectives of key actors in the criminal justice system and victim support from all EU Member States. To this end and in order to assess both legal and social reality of the victims in the different countries, the partnership of **Project IVOR is now contacting and interviewing policy and victim support experts throughout Europe.**

**It would be an honour and an absolute added value to the Project if Victim Support Europe Members could participate and give their**



**perspective on this.** The partnership very much welcomes your participation! If you are interested, please contact [Mafalda Valerio](#).

Project IVOR is being promoted in partnership with the International Victimology Institute Tilburg (INTERVICT, the Netherlands), the University of Leuven (Belgium) and Victim Support Europe. The project started on 3 February 2014 and will end on 2 January 2016.



### **Project BRISEIS | Fight Against Trafficking for Forced Labour**

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Promoted by VSE member [APAV](#) and co-financed by the European Commission under the Programme Prevention and Fight Against Crime Project [BRISEIS](#)' main goal is to **contribute to raise the awareness about potential victims of trafficking in Human Beings (THB) for forced labour, encouraging consumers to buy responsibly and providing employers with the necessary knowledge and tools to identify situations of THB.**

During the first year of implementation of the Project, the partnership was highly engaged in the development of the Handbook "Identification of Victims of Trafficking in Human Beings for means of Labour Exploitation: strategies for professionals", that gathers information and strategies for different professionals to identify and refer potential victims of THB for means of labour exploitation. In addition, the International Labour Organisation's manual "Combating Forced Labour: a handbook for employers and business" was translated and adapted. This handbook is dedicated to the engagement of the private sector on the prevention and fight of THB and with focus on labour exploitation.

Another important highlight was the development of the first phase of the awareness raising campaign. The campaign with the slogan "No to Traffic" counted with numerous materials, such as posters, flyers, the website [www.naoaotrafico.pt/en/#](http://www.naoaotrafico.pt/en/#) and a

widely publicized video in the social media.

Project BRISEIS is being promoted in partnership with the Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority (Sweden), the Soros Foundation (Romania), the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations (UK). The project started on 1st September 2013 and will end on 31st August 2015.



## **VIS Network project**

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### **Final conference**

VSE member [LIBRA Association](#) participated as a project partner and as a speaker in the final conference of the European Project “[Vis Network. Victim Supporting Project: a network to support and aid crime victims](#)”. The conference “For the victims and with the victims: institutions, laws and practices in a European framework” was organized at Pisa University on 16th March 2015.

Speakers included representatives from Pisa University, Province of Livorno and Victim Support Europe as well as from other project partners.

### **Activities**

As part of the activities of the VIS Network project LIBRA's professionals, together with project partners, visited some national support centres for victims: Casalecchio di Reno Centre for Victims of Crime and Disaster, SVSeD and CIPM (Italian Centre for Promoting Mediation, Service for Social and Legal Mediation) in Milan, Rete Dafne in Turin, Centro Maree and Sportello ASTRA in Rome, Centre for Women in Distress of the Municipality of Sassuolo (MODENA), Rete Centri Antiviolenza Syracuse, Centro Antiviolenza City of Turin.

### **Project Form a Chain to Safeguard Children**

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VSE Hungarian member [Office of Justice](#) is a partner in an EU project called “Form a Chain to Safeguard Children” which is funded by the European Commission under the programme for



Prevention of and Fight against Crime. The general objective of this project is to support a more effective European joint approach to safeguard families and especially children by law enforcement officers and other agencies.

Domestic violence is an issue with which many services and organisations are confronted. This makes the approach to child abuse and domestic violence a multidisciplinary matter. This project offers guidance on how to collaborate effectively to safeguard children, offers a training that will equip law enforcement officers and other agencies with the necessary knowledge and skills, and offers an online environment as a platform of practice and for information sharing and case management.

The project is being implemented in close collaboration with various experts from organisations based in Belgium, Cyprus, Hungary (the Office of Justice), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain.

The project developed a blended training course, which can be followed anytime, as a group or as an individual.

Under this project, Office of Justice is planning to coordinate and give a 2 day pilot training on violence and abuse on a basic or advanced level, and a training on how to successfully collaborate. Target groups are police officers, prosecutors, judges, victim support officers, child protection workers. Estimated timing of the blended training is early April.

## **LIST OF ONGOING PROJECTS**

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- [Infovictims II](#), promoted by APAV (Portugal); partners: Victim Support Scotland, Subvenia Victima (Poland), Weisser Ring Austria, Weisser Ring Germany, Victim Support Europe

- [IVOR](#) - *Implementing Victim-Oriented Reform of the criminal justice system in the European Union*, promoted by APAV (Portugal); partners: Tilburg

University (The Netherlands), Leuven University (Belgium), Victim Support Europe

- [BRISEIS](#) - *Fight Against Trafficking for Forced Labour*, promoted by APAV (Portugal); partners: the Crime Victim Compensation and Support Authority (Sweden), the Soros Foundation (Romania), the Tavistock Institute of Human Relations (UK)

- *Form a chain to safeguard children*, partners: Belgium, Cyprus, Hungary (the Office of Justice), Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Poland and Spain

- [PROTEUS](#), promoted by APAV (Portugal); partners: General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police (Romania), Pärnus Center of Gender Based Violence (Estonia), Spanish Public Prosecution Office (Spain), Portuguese Public Prosecution Office (Portugal), Portuguese Judiciary Police (Portugal)

- [Vis Network. Victim Supporting Project: a network to support and aid crime victims](#), promoted by the Province of Livorno (Italy); LIBRA Association (Italy) involved as a partner

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Victim Support Europe's Annual Conference and AGM 2015 ***Rights of Victims of Crime in Europe: the future is now!*** will take place in Lisbon, Portugal, from **13 to 15 May 2015**. [Visit conference website](#)

- The **15th International Symposium of the World Society of Victimology** will be held in **Perth**, Western Australia at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on the **5-9 July 2015**.

[Visit conference website](#)

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**Editor:** Helgard van Hüllen

**Contributor:** Hélène Heinrichs

[About Victim Support Europe](#)

Victim Support Europe is an umbrella organisation which currently consists of 38 national and regional victim support organisations in 25 countries.

**Contact to Victim Support Europe:**

+32 2 231 01 12 | [info@victimsupporteurope.eu](mailto:info@victimsupporteurope.eu)

[www.victimsupporteurope.eu](http://www.victimsupporteurope.eu)

