

## VSE Newsletter #3 2017

Dear VSE supporters, we are bringing you our 3rd newsletter this year. Summer break didn't decrease the intensity of the activities and it remained the same in the field of Victim Support after the holidays as well. Here you can find an overview of variety of VSE activities as well as interesting developments and initiatives among our members all around the Europe.



### *The main story*

#### **Victim Support Europe prepares study on victims of terrorism for the European Parliament**

At the request of the European Parliament, Victim Support Europe partnered with the [European Institute of Public Administration](#) (EIPA) to contribute its expertise and knowledge and prepare a study on the needs of victims of terrorism.

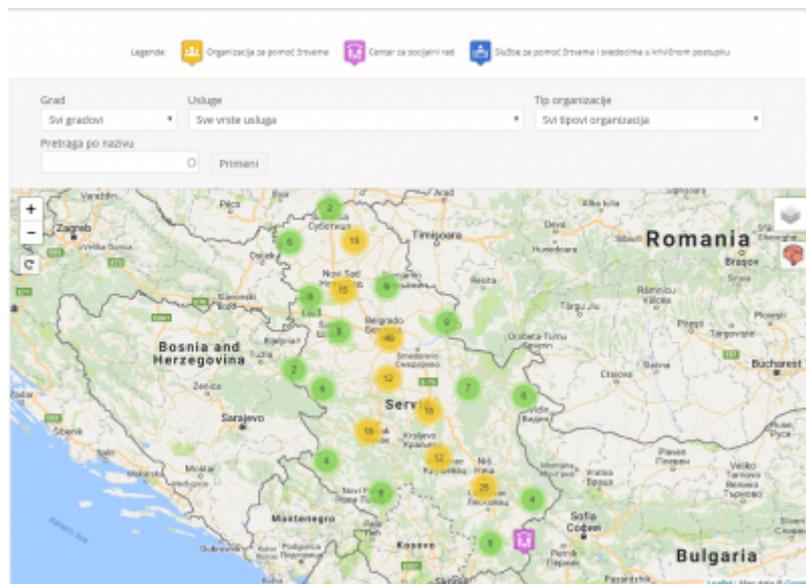
The research and findings focus on the two main EU instruments in this field: the Victims' Rights Directive and the Directive on Combating Terrorism. Based on the

Together with some of its members Victim Support Europe analysed the needs of victims of terrorism and the response in a selected number of Member States. The study is based on the research conducted on legislation and policy responses to the needs of victims of terrorism in Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Spain and the United Kingdom.

Thanks to the contributions of [France Victimes](#) (France), [A.N.V.D.V.](#) (Spain), [Supporting Justice](#) (UK), [Steunpunt Algemeen Welzijnswerk](#) (BE), [Commission for Victims and Survivors Northern Ireland](#) (NI), and [Weisser Ring](#)(DE) this study includes an up to date analysis of the legal and practical initiatives taken in those Member States for Victims of Terrorism in the past few years.

This study will provide you with an elaborate overview of the specific needs of victims of terrorism and the initiatives that can be taken by governments to meet those needs.

findings of adequacy of response to the victims' needs, the study proposes a set of recommendations for the EU and the Member States legislative and policy response to better ensure the needs of victims of terrorism are well taken care of. Against the background of the discussed Member States recommendations and good practices are formulated for governments in Europe to improve the rights and services for victims of terrorism.



### *Development of Victim Support Services in Serbia*

Victim Support Europe in partnership with The World Bank and support of The Multi Donor Trust Fund for Justice Sector Support (MDTF-JSS) is implementing a number of activities aimed to assist Serbian Government in strengthening victim support services in Serbia. Those activities resulted with a series of reports that are launched in September towards ensuring full implementation of the EU Victims rights

directive in Serbia.

### **Overview of existing victim support services in Serbia**

The aim of this activity was to map all victim support services in Serbia and to collect basic information about each service, including: the available forms of assistance and support provided; which type of victims are supported; how victims are informed about services; the ways in which victims can get proper assistance and support; capacity of service providers; the use of paid and volunteer staff and what kind of training they receive and how services are financed. Full report is available [here](#). Along with the report we produced an [interactive map of existing services](#).

### **Analysis and detailed description of organizational structures of existing victim support networks**

The Report looks into how two European victim support networks function in Finland and France. Full report is available [here](#)

### **Analysis of funding mechanisms for victim support services**

The analysis looks into the funding mechanisms in France, The UK and Finland observed whilst also taking stock of the situation in Serbia. In doing so, it identifies potential problems when seeking to implement a funding solution. Recognizing that scarce resources must be divided between many equally important priorities, the Report aims to identify alternative sources or methods for funding that are already in place in Serbia to direct them towards victim support services. Full report is available [here](#).

### **Assessment of alignment of Serbian Police Legislation with the EU 2012/29 Victim Support Directive**

The purpose of this assessment is to identify level of alignment of the Law on Police and other relevant legislation that governs work of the police with the EU 2012/29 Directive. Document can be used as a baseline tool for the amendments of national legislation in the process of its harmonization the EU acquis, especially Law on Police, Criminal Procedure Code and relevant bylaws. The Assessment can be accessed [here](#)



## UPCOMING EVENTS & RECENT ACTIVITIES

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **VSE Members Meeting and General Meeting**, 7 December 2017, Brussels
- **VSE Conference in partnership with EESC**, 8 December 2017, Brussels
- **Study visit to France Victimes and Workshop**, 30-31 October 2017, Paris
- **116 006 Workshop | European Victim Support Helplines**, 19 October 2017, Lisbon
- **Regional workshops on development of the Victim Support services**, 25-27 October 2017, Serbia

### RECENT ACTIVITIES & DEVELOPMENTS:

- [VSE provides training with EIPA on the EU and Domestic Violence at the Judicial Academy of the Republic of Serbia](#)
- [Strong collaboration results in guide on Hate Crime](#)
- [Conference on Victim Support in Serbia and launch of the reports](#)
  - [Operating networks for victim support services](#)
  - [Analysis of funding of victim support services](#)
  - [Overview of existing Victim Support services in Serbia](#)
  - [Assessment of alignment of Serbian Police Legislation with the EU 2012/29 Victim Support Directive](#)
- [VSE visits Victim experts and NATAL in Israel](#)
- [VIII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia](#)

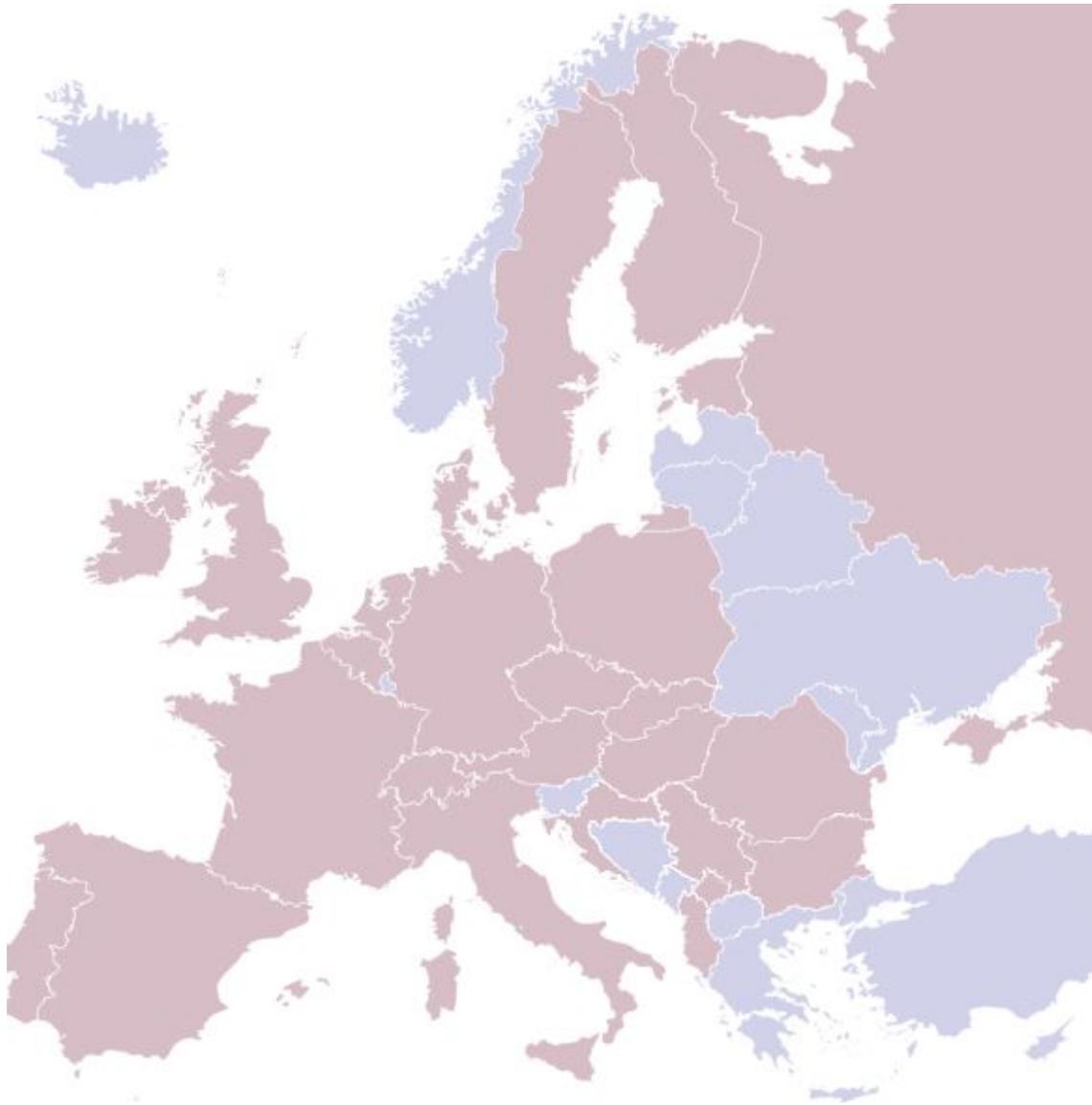
## ***NEWS FROM MEMBERS***

*Our members have always been very active on Victim Support, capacity building, reporting, research and many other issues. Victim Support*

Europe congratulate all our members on their amazing work and thank them for their important & valuable contribution to VSE activities. If you are interested in VSE membership, please consult our [become a member](#) pages.

Here are the most recent updates about the activities of VSE members

- [Results of the research about the experiences of volunteering in the victim and witness support offices at courts in Croatiae](#)
- [Victim Support Finland – activities on Terrorism directive and Nordic cooperation](#)
- [France Victimes support the victims of Hurricanes](#)
- [Short update from The Czech Republic](#)
- [Busy quarter for Supporting Justice in the UK](#)
- [ICV goes to Washington](#)
- [News from Offerraadgivningen i Danmark](#)
- [Good practices: terrorist Cataluña attack and others emergency experiences](#)
- [News from White Circle Croatia](#)
- [VICTIMS' CHARITY PROTESTS AGAINST 'MONSTROUS' RAPE CLAUSE](#)



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[About Victim Support Europe](#)

Victim Support Europe is an umbrella organisation which currently consists of 46 national and regional victim support organisations in 27 countries.

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With financial support from  
the Justice Programme  
of the European Union

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