

## VSE Newsletter #1 2018

Dear VSE supporters, our first newsletter in 2018 is brought to you on this European Day for Victims of Crime. In this edition, you can see what VSE has been doing in the past three months, learn about our network's upcoming events and find out about efforts and initiatives from our members' across Europe.



### *The main story*

**VSE building capacities and sharing knowledge to strengthen victim support services across Europe**

Victim Support Europe as the leading European network of organisations is offering support to victims of crime across the EU. VSE's members are



Capacity building efforts of the past years were elaborated and diversified in 2017. Centres of Excellence were set up to allow VSE members to

supporting over 2 million victims across Europe every year.

Whilst since the implementation deadline of the EU Victims' Rights Directive many Member States have stepped up to improve victim support services across Europe, others are lagging behind. The diversity of national victim support system is represented in our rich and diverse membership. Victim Support Europe works with its members to strengthen victim support services across Europe and support civil society and governments to set up national victim support services where there are none.

Victim Support Europe's approach to capacity building is a comprehensive one where training, capacity building, knowledge sharing platforms and standards are combined to amplify organisations' strengths and support further developments.

share expertise, good practices and strategies on issues they prioritised.

The first ever Winter Training was held responding to the need of VSE members to increase their knowledge and skills on supporting victims of terrorism. Capacity Building activities were continued in countries where generic national victim support services do not exist yet such as Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Romania and Bulgaria. These visits and continuous contacts aimed to support victim support organisations as well as government actors to build victim support services in their countries. Other VSE Members had the chance to visit France Victimes – our French member – to learn about their work and country context. [Read more](#) about our capacity building and knowledge sharing activities.

**VSE Annual  
Conference**  
2018

**REACHING OUT  
TO VICTIMS**

**Stockholm**  
23–24 May

Victim Support  
Europe

With Financial Support from  
the Justice Programme  
of the European Union

Hosted by:  
**DRICHTSOFFER  
JOURN**  
0200-21 2019

## *Save the date: VSE Annual Conference 2018*

We're proud to officially announce that the VSE's Annual conference, hosted jointly by Victim Support Sweden, will be held on **23-24 May in Stockholm, Sweden**. You can find full details at <http://www.vse2018.eu/>.

You can already **pre-register** at <http://www.vse2018.eu/registration/> and this will **secure you early bird rates**. Full registration will open in the coming weeks once all workshops and events are finalised.

The aim of the conference this year is to look at the **barriers which prevent victims from coming forward and what solutions have been developed** to give victims better access to their rights. As part of this theme, we will focus on **groups that are particularly vulnerable or find it especially hard to come forward**.

As always, the Conference will include an exciting programme of speakers,

workshops and social events. As part of this, **we have now launched the call for papers for workshops which will focus on:**

- Reaching the vulnerable victims and specific groups of victims
- Getting support to victims
- Working through partnerships and community to reach and support victims
- Information, awareness raising and training

The workshops are a great opportunity to highlight the work you are doing whether front line support work, research, individual projects or other related work. **If you're interested, please submit your proposals by 12 March 2018 to [vse2018@boj.se](mailto:vse2018@boj.se)**

Around the conference there are also other events like International Symposium on Victim of terrorism, Joint VSE/EU Commission Seminar on Compensation of victims of crime and VSE Annual General Meeting.

More details about the conference you can find [here](#) and on conference [web site](#)



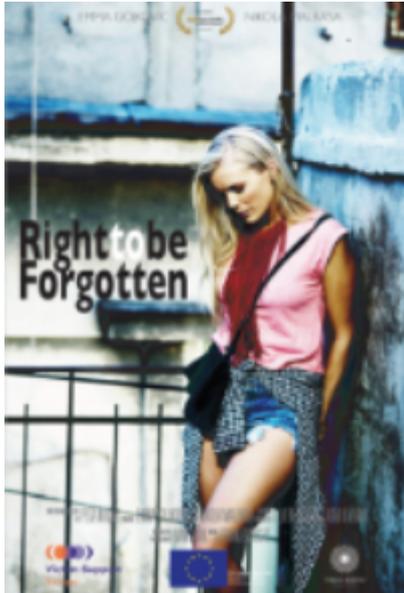
## Conference: Supporting victims of Cybercrime

On Friday 8 December 2017 in partnership with [European Economic and Social Committee \(EESC\)](#), VSE organised a conference **“Supporting victims of Cybercrime”**

The Conference provided an unique opportunity to address the most active issues related to cybercrime. Recognising that the focus is primarily on prevention, security and pursuit of criminals, the conference placed a spotlight on what happens to victims after the crime, what they need and how to support them.

Detailed overview on the conference you can find on our [web site](#)

Photos from the conference are available in our [gallery](#).



### **Best Indie Filmmaker award for #RightToBeForgotten**

VSE is proud to announce that our newest short film on revenge porn #RightToBeForgotten won the award for Best Indie Filmmaker at the [Top Shorts Film Festival](#). Top Shorts is an IMDb qualifying festival, and was recently ranked 8th Best Reviewed Festival out of over 4,000 of the world's best film festivals. It is the world's leading online film festival, separated into two parts: Monthly competition and Annual Film Festival.



#RightToBeForgotten received the award in the monthly competition part.

The movie is created to help broaden access and awareness of support to victims of cybercrime. Movie is produced in collaboration between [Transcendent Media Capital](#) and **Victim Support Europe** with support of **European Commission/DG Justice** and it is part of our broader campaign for support to victims of cybercrime in 2018.

The plot involves Justine who discovers naked photos of herself posted online and finds herself the subject of secondary victimisation.

Full movie [#RightToBeForgotten](#) is available online [here](#).



## **VSE welcomes two new associate members**

In December 2017 VSE Executive Board approved two new membership applications. Since then our network counts 50 members and VSE network spreading over 27 different countries.

Our new members are [Women`s Room – Center for Sexual Righths](#) from Croatia and [Irish Road Victims Association \(IRVA\)](#) from Ireland.

### **Women`s Room – Center for Sexual Rights**

The Women`s Room – Center for Sexual Rights is a non-governmental, feminist, non-profit organization established with the aim of empowerment of women and raising awareness of institutions and general public about women`s sexuality and sexual rights through education, research, advocacy and public work. The Women`s Room provides direct and indirect assistance and support to persons who survived sexual violence. The vision of the Women`s Room is a society free from patriarchy, discrimination, misogyny and gender-based violence, where individual choice is the fundamental value.

### **Irish Road Victims Association (IRVA)**

The Irish Road Victims Association is a NGO that supports those bereaved or injured by road collisions and campaigns for justice, rights and recognition for Road Crash Victims.

It works with all Stakeholders whose common aim to prevent road deaths and injuries, to improve road crash investigations and to improve support services for Road Victims and bereaved families.

It campaigns for a fairer justice system, with more transparent investigations, prosecutions and Coroner`s inquests. It seeks improved support and recognition for Road Victims together with timely accurate information provided for those affected by road deaths and injuries, without excessive fees being applied.

More details about our new members can be found [here](#) and on our [member pages](#)



## **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*

- [VIII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia](#)
  - [Victim Support NI – GM and other activities](#)
  - [News from White Circle Croatia](#)
  - [Changes in Steunpunt Algemeen Welzijnswerk](#)
  - [Update from Bílý kruh bezpečí](#)
  - [News from independent Service for Victim and Witness Support Croatia](#)
  - [Italian update from I-Care](#)
  - [Libra Onlus project: “Game Over – You Win”](#)
  - [Victim and Witness Support Service Croatia – projects and activities](#)
  - [Victimology Society of Serbia – 20th anniversary](#)
  - [Supporting Justice awarded their first Quality Mark](#)
  - [Update on activities from White Circle Croatia](#)
  - [OID 20th anniversary 2018 and other updates](#)
  - [News from Rete Dafne Association](#)
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[About Victim Support Europe](#)

Victim Support Europe is an umbrella organisation which currently consists of 50 national and regional victim support organisations in 27 countries.

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<http://victimsupport.eu/>

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