



Victim Support Europe
Annual Conference 2019
STRASBOURG 12 - 13 JUNE



MEDIA ADVISORY

- WHO** Victim Support Europe, France Victimes
- WHAT** Victim Support Europe and France Victimes are organising a conference “Victim Recovery: A Road of Many Routes”, hosted by France Victimes at the European Parliament in Strasbourg.
- WHEN** 12-13 June 2019 from 9:00 am to 17.00 pm
- WHERE** The European Parliament in Strasbourg, address: 1 Avenue du Président Robert Schuman, 67000 Strasbourg, France
- WHY** The Conference is a major international event bringing together the key players working with victims of crime. Between 200 and 250 participants from victim support organisations as well as practitioners, researchers, experts, academics, government officials and criminal Justice officials attend annually.

The theme of this year’s event is an opportunity to discuss the different routes victims can take to reach recovery and resilience. Innovative ways have been developed for victims to get justice, and numerous paths can be followed by the victim to reach support and recovery. This event will be the occasion to exchange best practices and experiences related to the many forms support that exist and how it is provided to victims.

This year’s Conference will focus on all victims of crimes. During workshops it will also have a specific focus on victims of hate crimes, terrorism, cybercrime, sexual violence, and on emergency and victims of collective events. It will also aim at developing our understanding of victims’ vulnerability, developing victim-oriented justice systems and also on developing effective support services.

Plenary I – Discussion panel: New approaches to Justice
Plenary II: What are the routes to support?
Plenary III: What are the routes to recovery?
Plenary IV - Interactive plenary: Achieving a high quality of support

- Speakers** **João Lázaro:** President, Victim Support Europe
Available for interview

Levent Altan: Executive Director, Victim Support Europe
Available for interview

Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska – European Commission DG Justice

Joëlle Milquet – Special Adviser to the President of the European Commission for the compensation of victims of crime

Chantal Cutajar – Deputy Mayor of Strasbourg

Tom O'Malley, barrister

Elisabeth Pelsez, Inter-ministerial delegate for victim support (France)

Frédéric Almendros, prosecutor

Ellen O'Neill-Stephens – Courthouse Dogs Foundation

Stéphanie Tomé, expert psychologist at SDIS 68, National Federation of France's Fire-fighters (France)

Mafalda Valério, Project Manager – APAV

Richard Olszewski – Vice-President of Victim Support Europe and Vice-President of France Victimes

Albin Dearing – European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights

Bruno Brito, Psychologist, Manager of RAFAVHVT, APAV

Thierry Baubet, French National Resources and Resilience Centre

Héloïse Squelbut, Coordinator of the North-East branch of the French Institute for Restorative Justice (France)

Ruth Shrimpling, Policy Officer – Victim Support Europe

Jérôme Bertin, Executive Director of France Victimes

Alain Boulay - APEV, Support for Parents of Missing Children

Pierre-Etienne Denis - FENVAC, National Federation of Victims of Catastrophes

Guillaume Denoix de Saint Marc - AFVT, French Association of Victims of Terrorism

About Victim Support Europe

Victim Support Europe is an umbrella organisation of 56 national and regional victim support organisations in 27 countries. It promotes the establishment and development of victim rights and services throughout Europe. The organisation aims to ensure that every victim in Europe is able to access information and support services in the aftermath of crime, regardless of where the victim lives or where the crime took place. Victim Support Europe also works to ensure that people affected by crime are respected, have access to strong rights and are able to make their voice heard throughout the criminal justice process.

France Victimes

France Victimes (former Inavem), created in 1986, is the national Federation of victim support associations in France (mainland and ultramarine). The Federation's goal is to promote and develop support and assistance to victims, mediation and any other measure contributing to improve victims' recognition.

France Victimes carries the Federation's activities and victim support services, directed to victims of personal offences (violence, rape, harassment, threats...) and property offences

(robbery, swindling...), traffic incident, collective events (terrorist attacks, sanitary or medical issues...) or natural disasters.

France Victimes hosts a national helpline, opened 7 days a week, in order to listen and support every victim of any offence. The Federation has also been a training organisation since 1993 and plans training sessions for the professionals and volunteers of its associations.

FRANCE VICTIMES's network represents:

- Over 130 local France Victimes associations,
- 800 reception centres, in particular within tribunals at victims of crimes support offices,
- Support for 300 000 victims per year.

The goal of France Victimes' associations is to support globally and on a multidisciplinary level every person considering being a victim of any offence, in France or abroad. Victim support associations are available to everyone, they are all free of charge and confidential. France Victimes is a founding member of Victim Support Europe and, as such, has been working with its European counterparts to promote and develop rights and support to victims within the European Union.

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