

Background Information

In light of the revision the ongoing VSE Strategy, and the coming release of the new organisational document – for 2026-2030 – that will govern the strategic orientation and business development of VSE. This work will be conducted through the policy and advocacy work, implementation of projects, research analysis and development, forging of networking and liaison with stakeholders, capacity building at the national and local level, building of partnerships and overall growth, we warmly invite our members to conceive and shape a plan together.

This 5-year plan will guide our daily activities and pave the way for our long-term vision. It will be an expression of our collective ambition and act as a supporting document to assist us in living up to our common goals, keeping the growth of our long-lasting positive impact on the European and international victim support community at its' epicentre. The main target group for which we wish to achieve policy and legislative change is victims of crime, no matter who the victim is and what type of crime is perpetrated.

The 2026-2030 VSE strategy will include both overarching and specific objectives. Overarching objectives are cross-cutting changes that need to be achieved in order to mainstream victims' rights in the EU, regional, national and international agenda, whereas specific objectives target sub-groups of victims and refer to ongoing projects and thematic priorities (e.g. terrorism). Sub-objectives or short-term outcomes will point out to policy changes that need to be achieved in order to reach the main objective, and long-term outcomes will indicate the final benefits on the target group.

To define the objectives, the Head Office team will analyse the results of a series of Board and member consultation, and discussions with victims' rights advocates and partners and victims' voices. Then, a problem and a solution tree will be created, with desired solutions for the problems being identified; the draft will be circulated for a consultative process. The findings will become the desired outcome and the main guidance for the development of the new VSE strategy. VSE believes in working in collaboration with and through our community of members, stakeholders, policy makers, practitioners and victims.

The aim of this preliminary consultation is for you to reflect on your expectations for VSE in the coming years and share your vision for the growth and development of our network. The suggested set of questions will support in the brainstorming process and your ideas and suggestions will be appraised and taken into account in the preparation of the work plan, the drafting and approval of our new Strategy. The latter will be a product of active engagement and participation, showcasing VSE's ambitions, inclusion, service and impact.

Throughout 2025, the Head Office will invite diverse constituents, members, partners, and victim-advocates for ideas to help shape the collective path for the next 5 years - a roadmap that will help us build on achievements of the past 35 years and guide us towards our fourth decade of services' delivery. The final draft will be circulated within our Board and membership, and strategy will be presented and discussed in a General Meeting.

Kindly see below a set of questions to self-reflect prior to the participation in the breakout rooms during the VSE General Meeting (November 22), and provide us with inputs to continually push the limits and to ensure that opportunities are attainable:

- Do you think it is worth reviewing the VSE Mission and the VSE Values, or are you satisfied with the approach already provided?
- In the coming five-year period, should we change the geographical focus and target only Europe?
- With regards to the new Strategy preparation, how would you like to be consulted to ensure your engagement and enhance your active participation (e.g. series of in person meetings, setting up a targeted Working Group, face-to-face workshops, online consultations etc.)?
- Should young victims be part of the consultation process, in light of the launch of the pertinent Working Group? And how can we ensure youth victims' participation?
- Do you think that we should be topic focused and target sub-groups of victims and refer to ongoing projects and thematic priorities, instead of having a general overarching objective(s) in order to mainstream victims' rights in the EU, regional, national and international agenda and a set of? Shall we also include key performance indicators and sub-objectives or short-term outcomes that will point out to policy changes that need to be achieved in order to reach the main objective, and long-term outcomes that will indicate the final benefits on the target group?
- From your perspective, are there any thematic areas to be addressed or are identified as a priority focus for specific groups of victims?

Kindly join us in this interactive effort to give our collective best, to continuously improve VSE's and our network's planning, processes, people, and performance and to promote the uplifting of our diverse communities by re-shaping our commitment to victims!

Further Reading

- [VSE 2021-2025 Strategy](#), on page 5, the Mission and the Values of VSE can be found.