





AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2020

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- 01.

FROM THE EDITORS

Dear VSE members, partners and friends,

This year has been a tough year so far, but we learned a lot. Right now, our victim support community is stronger than ever. We are lending a hand and uplifting each other in new ways. We work together - many of us remotely - to ensure victims and employees in need receive support. We keep managing planned meetings and activities online, we run our projects overcoming the new challenges, we are busy with various awareness-raising efforts and advocacy work! We are grateful to our <u>VSE family</u> for rising to the challenge in these unprecedented times.

This year was also a historic year for the European Commission and EU policy development on the whole: the Commission published two very important strategies: the <u>gender equality strategy</u> and the <u>EU victims' rights strategy</u>, plus, a number of consultations. We welcome those developments and look forward to making those strategies a reality in practice in the years to come.

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VSE NEWS SINCE THE LAST UPDATE

Introducing our new board members!

On 27 August 2020, the VSE Annual General Meeting was held online with delegates representing our member organisations. Among the important agenda topics there was the election/re-election of the



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Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska appointed as the first EU coordinator for victims' rights

On the 22nd September, at a high-level video conference, the Commissioner for Justice, Didier Reynders introduced the Commission's newly appointed Coordinator for Victims' Rights – Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska. We welcome the EU Coordinator Mrs. Janicka-Pawlowska, and we look forward to our cooperation going forward.

With the first-ever EU Victims' Rights strategy, the new EU-wide Victims' Rights Platform and the Coordinator for Victims' Rights, the Commission has shown clear commitment to carry this important work on.



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Our ERASMUS+ KA2 – PROTECT project proposal approved

The project PROTECT aims at promoting the respect of the victims' rights through the implementation of restorative practices paths. In doing this, the project intends to improve the skills and competences of the trainers/operators of the victim's support organisations involved in the project. The objective is to facilitate the implementation of restorative justice paths, spreading the meaning of reparation and promoting the assumption of responsible attitudes towards victims, society, and community rules.

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Our application for the project INFOVICTIMS III was approved by the European Commission

INFOVICTIMS III is the third version of INFOVICTIMS and aims at developing new and updated informative materials for victims of crime and to expand such materials to the other EU Member States besides the MS included in the previous editions. Ultimately, INFOVICTIMS III intends to contribute to increasing the available information for victims of crime on the functioning of the criminal justice system, their rights and ways to exercise them.

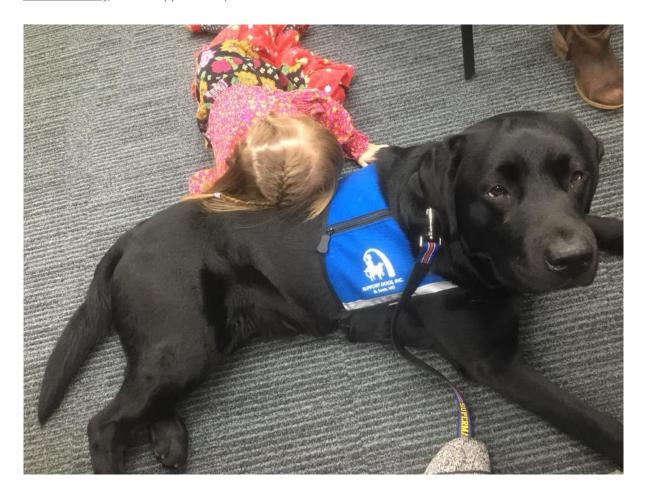
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VSE is leading a new project on facility dogs

The aim of the FYDO Project is to coordinate FYDO (Facility dogs) service for vulnerable victims in three European countries – Belgium, Italy and France and ensure appropriate victim support and satisfaction. Service will be provided in different surroundings – police, fire departments, and victim support organisations, both for victims go through the judicial process and those who need support outside of proceedings. VSE will be the coordinator in this project.

<u>Partners:</u> Canisha (BE); Viaduq 67 (FR); Dog4life Onlus (IT); University College Cork – National University Of Ireland, Cork (IE); Hachiko vzw (BE); Handi'Chiens (FR)

<u>Coordinated by</u> Victim Support Europe.



LATEST PUBLICATIONS



Annual report.

→ DIRECT DOWNLOAD



NEWS FROM VSE MEMBERS

CROATIA: The creation of the Interactive Map of Social Service Providers for Victims of Violence in the Republic of Croatia has been finalised.

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CROATIA: The first training of police officers of the Police Administration of Split-Dalmatia was held as one of the activities of the project "Cross Violence".

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DENMARK: Despite minor local Corona outbreaks, Victim Support Denmark have resumed their activities.

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FINLAND: New record in clients at Victim Support Finland (RIKU).

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FRANCE: Opening of the trial of the terrorist attacks of 7, 8 and 9 January 2015.

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PORTUGAL: The Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV) celebrates 30 years of its existence this year and joins the "STRONG" initiative - a song to raise awareness against violence.

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SCOTLAND: Victim Support Scotland Turns 35.

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SCOTLAND: Victim Support Scotland shows support for new hate crime legislation.

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COMING UP EVENTS

VSE Annual Conference 2020







REGISTER ONLINE

Expand your technical know-how, meet fellow innovators and learn about the latest trends in tech for the benefit of victims of crime from experts in social, justice, police, health, web, social media and more. A day of unexpected gear and approaches, idea exchanges, partnership opportunities and aha-moments!

FULLY ONLINE & FREE!

There are 2 options to participate in our conference:

1. You can join the online event in ZOOM. For this, you will need to register first: https://2020.vse-conference.eu/registration/

This option will give you an opportunity to interact with other conference participants in a conference chat.

2. You can watch our conference live, it will be streamed on VSE's Facebook page and YouTube Channel. No registration required.

Please, check our conference website (https://2020.vse-conference.eu/) for future updates on speakers, topics and social events.

→ REGISTER ONLINE

VSE Annual Conference 2020 - EXCITING SIDE EVENTS



During the conference day a number of side events featuring dozens of speakers are arranged alongside the main conference program.

The side events are working along four thematic lines:

- 1. Software And Hardware For The Benefit Of Victim Support Services
- 2. Self-Help Technologies For Victims Of Crime
- 3. Providing Information To Victims Of Crime In The Web
- **4.** Online Training Tools For The Benefit Of Victims

→ **REGISTER ONLINE**

VSE Annual Conference 2020 – SPEAKERS

Not only are our conference speakers renowned innovators and industry leaders from the world of tech, web and victim support, their sessions are full of actionable insights, designed to aid your professional development.





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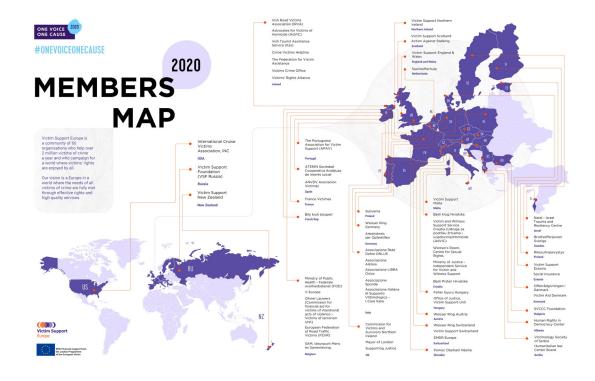
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VSE NEW MEMBERS

We are thrilled to welcome two new members to our victim support family: <u>International Committee on the Rights of Sex Workers in Europe</u> (headquartered in the Netherlands) and <u>'NGO Klaipėdos socialinės ir psichologinės pagalbos centras'</u> (Lithuania).

We look forward to working together with you as we continue to expand our global reach to strengthen the rights and services for all victims of crime in Europe and beyond.





• Editor: Marina Kazakova

About Victim Support Europe

Victim Support Europe is the leading European umbrella organisation advocating on behalf of all victims of crime, no matter what the crime, no matter who the victim is. VSE represents 61 national member organisations, providing support and information services to more than 2 million people affected by crime every year in 31 countries.

• Contact Victim Support Europe:

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