

THANK YOU!



We thank all of you who attended our Annual Conference in Strasbourg for your active contribution to this fruitful event.
We would be very pleased to welcome you back at VSE Annual Conference 2020 (12–15 May 2020) in Berlin, Germany!

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VSE ACTIVITIES SINCE THE LAST UPDATE

We are pleased to share with you this Summer 2019 edition of the VSE newsletter. The VSE newsletters are issued on a quarterly basis to allow for a strong focus on our work, challenges and successes as well as each of our 54 member organisations. In this packed pre-vacation edition, we focus only on Victim Support Europe's most recent activities. In the next issues we will traditionally feature news from our members and partners and we will try to explore if 3 newsletters per year is enough to highlight the members' updates.

Please, share this newsletter with colleagues and partners who might find the information useful.

VSE remains highly committed and ambitious in terms of the activities we are delivering this year and preparing next year.

2019 promises to be yet another fast-paced year where we will also continue to improve both external and internal procedures. Our aim is to develop not only excellence in policymaking but also in terms of the way we communicate with our members, partners and friends. We recognise this and we are diverting more resources in 2019 to meet your expectations.

We are honoured to have the opportunity to bring Victim Support Europe towards its important 30th anniversary which we celebrate on the 13-15th of May next year in Berlin and look forward to its continued success.

Thanks to all of you for your cooperation without which we couldn't be achieving this success.

Thematic Priorities for the Year	
Cybercrime	On-going priority - we will next produce an international strategy to guide our actions, and will re-engage with social media to develop training relevant to the needs of our members.
Terrorism	We will strengthen our response network, continue engagements with world experts, publish guidance and participate in new counter terrorism projects.
Hate crime	New focus on hate crimes. We will start with understanding better victims issues and the needs of members.
Enforcement of rights	Making rights a reality: we will publicise findings on the implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive, press for implementation by States and will develop a clearer vision on what should constitute national victim services.
Influencing the next 5 years: new Commission and Parliament	We will develop materials to engage potential MEPs and will develop specific calls for the new Commission and Parliament (e.g. Compensation, Helplines across Europe).

VSE at the opening of the 1st International Conference For Victim Support Asia

"The fact that the first conference of Victim Support Asia takes place in Seoul this week is a true testament to the commitment and determination of Mr. Yongwoo Lee and Mr. Hak Seok Kim who have been the driving force behind its creation. It has long been their vision to bring together organisations and institutions working for victims in Asia and around the world", says João Lázaro.



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VSE Regional Workshop in Zagreb

Victim Support Europe ran a Regional Exchange Event in Zagreb, offering a unique opportunity for victim support practitioners that are eager to foster a dialogue between a broader public and get knowledge on how to improve victim support services in their countries! This year, we were focusing on the region with new or aspiring EU Member States, very broadly defined as South-East-Central Europe.

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International Seminar on Victims of Terrorism in Madrid

The Spanish Ministry of Interior organised the international seminar on victims of terrorism on Tuesday 7th May 2019, in Madrid, Spain. Three roundtables featured presentations from different experts in the field of victims of terrorism. Léa Meindre-Chautrand, Policy Officer, and Levent Altan, Executive Director of VSE, attended the conference.



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Conference - The Palermo Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime

The University of Ferrara's Law Department was the stage for a day of presentations and discussions on the effectiveness of the Palermo Convention, on the 15th anniversary of its implementation.

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Victim Support Europe Hosts Delegation of Officials from South Korea for Intensive Training Programme



From 20 to 22 of May Victim Support Europe provided a three-day training programme on European best practices in supporting victims of crime to a delegation of officials from South Korea

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Victim Support Europe Took Part in an Expert Workshop on Victims' Rights Organised by the Office of the

Victims' Rights Advocate in New York

The event took place in the context of United Nations efforts to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse.

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VSE participated in a workshop on the protection of victims of terrorist acts at COE in Strasbourg

A workshop on the protection of victims of terrorist acts was organised on Thursday 20 June in Strasbourg by the Council of Europe's Steering Committee for Human Rights. Its aim was to raise awareness of the Council of Europe [Guidelines](#) (2017) on the protection of victims of terrorism and to share good practices regarding their implementation at national level.

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What a success for the INVICTM International Symposium 2019!

For the third consecutive time, we were honoured to represent victims of terrorism at the INVICTM International Symposium in Strasbourg. The theme of this year's symposium was 'International Cooperation – Working Together to Better Support Victims of Terrorism and Mass Violence'.

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VSE Annual Conference 2019, Post-Conference Press Release

250 people packed the European Parliament in Strasbourg for two days of talks, workshops, interactive plenaries & more

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The European Parliamentary Elections are Over. Time to Turn Up the Heat!

For Victim Support Europe and its members this is a starting point for a discussion with the elected MEPs and parties about the importance of the voice of victims in Europe.

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The European Union has a real power to change lives for the better, to improve the situation of all victims across the Member States and beyond.

EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 2019

How Can the EU Make a Difference?

- Enforce existing European laws in Member States**
- Develop sufficient and coherent EU funding to support the implementation of rights and services**
- Support partnerships and support coordination across policies, European bodies, between States, NGOs, practitioners and victims themselves**
- Deepen and broaden knowledge through data collection and research**
- Directly support capacity building of individuals, organisations, and State authorities to better deliver high quality services and rights in a victim sensitive manner**

LATEST PUBLICATIONS

- [Supporting Victims Of Terrorism Report](#)
- [VICATIS - Victim-centred approach to improving support services - Comparative report](#)
- [VICATIS - INFORMATION FOR EU CITIZENS VICTIMS OF CRIME](#)
- [HANDBOOK FOR OFFICERS: Communicating with Victims of Crime](#)

VSE NEW MEMBERS

An Important Moment for Victims of Crime in Israel
We welcome NATAL, Israel Trauma Center for Victims of Terror and War. The organisation specialises in the field of war and terror related trauma and aims to advance the resiliency of Israeli society through treatment, prevention, public awareness and research.

[We're delighted to welcome our new member Olivier Lauwers from Belgium](#)

VSE UPCOMING CAMPAIGN

We are launching a new awareness-raising campaign "Crime is Crime. Even Online."



The campaign is designed to unite and empower national and local organisations as well as individuals who are active in the implementation of victims rights on the internet.

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VSE UPCOMING EVENTS

Save the date: **VSE Annual Autumn Conference in Brussels**
19-20 November 2019 (TBC)

Save the Date: **VSE 30th Anniversary Annual Conference 2020 in Berlin**
12-15 May 2020

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RELOCATION NOTICE: WE HAVE MOVED!

Our new address is listed below along with the new telephone.

Address: Rue Froissart 123-133, 1040 Brussels, Belgium

Telephone: (+32) 23460455

[SEE THE MAP →](#)



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About Victim Support Europe
Victim Support Europe is an umbrella organisation which currently consists of 54 national and regional victim support organisations in 38 countries.

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