



Victim Support
Europe



ANNUAL REPORT 2022



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WHO WE ARE

Victim Support Europe (VSE) is the leading European umbrella organisation that advocates on behalf of all victims of crime, no matter what the crime, no matter who the victim.

VSE represents 70 national member organisations, providing support and information services to more than 3 million people affected by crime every year in 34 countries.

Since its foundation in 1990, VSE has worked on behalf of all European – and global – victims to ensure their rights and services, whether they have reported a crime or not.

We work through advocacy to achieve our mission of improving EU and international laws related to victims' rights, using research, knowledge development, and capacity building at the national and local level.

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01.

FROM THE PRESIDENT



First of all, I would like to sincerely thank you all for your confidence in the organisation I represent, Victim Support Europe (VSE), and in my person, as VSE President for the next three years. Allow me just to say that I am very conscious that, as our reputation and the results of our work have significantly increased our visibility, thanks to the efforts of former presidents and board members with the efficient support of our head office team and the Executive Director, my task has become more demanding; I am called on to maintain and improve what is already impressive work.

As we enter the next chapter of our proud 33-year history, I've been listening to you, to our partners and employees, and I am excited for the future we all share – building upon strong foundations to expand our impact, increase our reach, and accelerate the speed at which we carry out our tasks.

Looking back on 2022, I take pride in our collective achievements which have reinforced the foundations of our diverse and resilient victim support community. We focused on VSE's long-term strategy: the implementation and strengthening of victims' rights; facilitating full access to support for victims within a national framework; working towards victim-centered justice systems; and growing VSE's activities within the EU and beyond. While advancing victims' rights and services, we also completed several strategic objectives and delivered on our financial targets.

This year was an important milestone in Victim Support Europe's growth. We delivered an impressive number of activities under the Operating Grant, won an astounding number of new EU projects, welcomed a number of new members, started important conversations on the establishment of 'Victim Support Americas' and 'Victim Support Morocco', and – finally – we were able to exchange knowledge, in-person, during the 2022 annual conference in Malta.

With these successes behind us, we are looking forward to a new year of challenges and opportunities. In this third year of our strategic cycle, we will continue our journey by moving forward with a well aligned strategy to optimise our organisational activities and leverage our scale and scope.

2023 is a crucial year for victims’ rights; it is now 10 years since the adoption of the 2012 Victims’ Rights Directive (VRD). However, VSE’s current research has highlighted the many problems victims still face in the way they are treated when seeking justice and accessing support; victims repeatedly testify that their experiences, when reporting a crime or during criminal proceedings, were terrible. Therefore, and despite much progress, a revision of the Directive is sorely needed. This year, we hope to see the European Commission propose improvements to the VRD; we await the publication of that Directive with great impatience!

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who supported us throughout the year. I am grateful to our members for trusting in us and to our board for providing invaluable guidance. I also wish to express my appreciation to our head office staff who have delivered successful outcomes across all departments.

I look forward to the year ahead and am excited to see what we can achieve together.

Thank you again for your trust!



02.

VSE 2022 IN PICTURES



AREV INA training event



Victim Support Europe Staff Exchange



Victim Support Europe Annual Conference



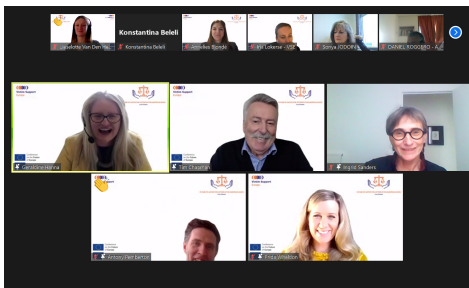
FYDO Project Final Conference



Infovictims III Final Conference



Victim Support Europe Annual General Meeting



Future of Justice for Victims in the European Union
22 February Webinar



Centre of Excellence - 116 006 - Stockholm



Vision for a Revised Victims' Rights Directive - VSE Event



Victim Support Europe Annual Conference



Infovictims III Final Conference



International Congress on Victims of Terrorism



Victim Support Europe Annual Conference



United Nations Global Congress on Victims of Terrorism

03.

OVERVIEW OF 2022

VSE 2022 objectives:

1. Advance improvements in laws and policies
2. Pursue compliance with existing laws and policies
3. Raise awareness of victims' issues
4. Enable improvements in the quality and accessibility of services
5. Support coordination and delivery of cross-border services
6. Strengthen VSE's collective capability
7. Develop VSE's operational capacity
8. Enhance financial resilience

Thematic Priorities for the Year

Advancing laws and policies

VSE continued to play a supportive role in EU policy development as well as in the evaluation and implementation of EU legislation related to victimisation. VSE actively supported the European Commission in its work for the revision of the EU Victims' Rights Directive. VSE was also involved in advocacy activities with regards to the Commission's proposal for a Directive on Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence.

VSE supports the enforcement of the Victims' Rights Directive and the EU Victims' Rights Strategy through evidence-based means as well as encouraging compliance by collecting and exchanging information, advice, and good practices.

National Framework for Victim Support

VSE's activities focused on the development of knowledge and policy advice related to the concept of a national framework for victim support. The framework will help States wishing to set up a comprehensive system of victim support across different sectors by coordinating the collaboration of public services, private sector entities, and civil society.

116 006 Helpline for victims of crime

Activities focused on the continuous exchange of knowledge and good practices between VSE members who run a 116 006 helpline. Additionally, VSE actively advocated for the implementation of the helpline in all EU Member States and pushed the European Commission to strengthen the Victims' Rights Directive obligations on this matter.

Safe Justice

VSE continued to work on the concept of Safe Justice with the aim to create a more victim-sensitive justice system that focuses on ensuring better outcomes: from the point of view of the state apparatus and from the inclusion of the victims' perspectives.

Terrorism and cross border victimisation

VSE continued to advocate for stronger rights for victims of terrorism. VSE continues to lead the EUCVT project, via its online hub, with the organisation of discussion groups and webinars. VSE also continued to improve its Terrorism Response Network and cross-border referral system to ensure that all victims have access to timely and appropriate information and support.



Our Work for Victims

This year, time was spent on improving information for victims and on connecting victims with national support organisations.

Information provision for specific types of victims using awareness-raising campaigns

An animated film, from a series prepared for the Victims' Rights "You won't believe it, but it exists" campaign, was released. The film shows how Wendy Knaepen, a victim of sexual abuse, coped with trauma when there was no support available. The film provides information on victims' rights, on identifying and reporting a crime, on seeking assistance and receiving appropriate support after a crime.

Victim Engagement

On the European Day for Victims of Crime, live testimony from Nina Fuchs opened a debate on the "Future of Justice for Victims in the European Union" which showcased the structural and systematic discrimination experienced by victims of sexualized violence from members of the judiciary.

Colm Smyth, a survivor of the Loughinisland Massacre, opened VSE's Annual Conference 2022 and spoke about building self-resilience in the aftermath of a crime.

Colm Smyth also contributed to VSE's new Opinion Section with his article on the topic of re-traumatisation.

Our Work with Members

In 2022, we aimed to improve our communication to and engagement with members, and to strengthen our member-centric events programme.

Hub

VSE continued to develop its new Victim Support Hub, to improve information-sharing and networking with our members. The Hub offers a platform where VSE members can stimulate dialogue and spread awareness of critical victims' issues: from justice, advocacy and policy making to information, education and support.

Events

VSE Annual Conference Campaign 'The Age of resilience'

"Future of Justice For Victims in the EU" live debate on the European Day for Victims of Crime.

Victims' Rights Communicators Network

In March 2022, Victim Support Europe (VSE) launched the Victims' Rights Communicators Network (VRComNet) to explore approaches on advancing a positive victims' rights narrative

in Europe. It brings together communication experts, from VSE's members and partner organisations, working on victims' rights. VRComNet aims to support communicators by sharing best practices, lessons learned, and acquired know-how.

To achieve this, VRComNet:

- offers an opportunity for the collaborative exchange of ideas, resources, best practices, and strategies in effective communication;
- assists in the dissemination of consistent communication messages to target audiences;
- enables victims' rights communicators to coordinate their actions at both national and EU-levels, and ensures the growth of support for our mission and for victims' rights campaigns

Centre of Excellence online meetings

The VSE Centre of Excellence held 3 online meetings to discuss advocacy priorities for 116 006 helplines and the future of the Centre of Excellence. It was agreed that VSE and Centre members would work together to develop quality helpline and distance support standards. The work on standards began in early 2023.

National Meetings

4 national meetings were organised in 2022.

On 23 June 2022, VSE supported its member, the Belgian Ministry of Public Health, in the delivery of a national meeting on cross-border victims. There were 31 attendees, including victim support service staff, and public prosecutor and government representatives.

On 13 July 2022, VSE organised an online meeting for Irish stakeholders and Croatian members. The goal was to provide our Irish members with an example of a victim support network, such as is available in Croatia. The meeting was attended by 9 people from different victim support organisations.

On 21-22 October, VSE, along with its Italian members Associazione Libra, Dafne Mantova Network and Dafne National Network, organised an event which focused not only on support to victims of crime, but also on the minimum standards for rights, assistance and protection of victims. The right to appropriate information was highlighted.

On 26 October 2022, VSE supported the organisation of a Croatian national meeting in Zagreb. Participants met to discuss the current implementation of victims' rights and to update each other on any developments following a meeting held in May 2022.

Workshops & Webinars

On 22 February 2022, VSE organised a live debate on the Future of Justice for Victims in the European Union in honour of the European Day for Victims of Crime.

- On 1 March 2022, VSE and ARQ co-organised a VSE Hub webinar: Watchful Waiting, Screening and Early Interventions after Traumatic Events. The webinar aimed to share information on the concept of watchful waiting in policy, law and practice with organisations that offer victims' services.
- On 29th April 2022, a VSE webinar allowed its members to exchange ideas and coordinate a response to the Commission's public impact assessment consultation on the revision of the Victims' Rights Directive.
- Three online meetings were organised for the newly established Communicators Network.

- Two workshops were organised for the VSE Board on policy papers and the revision of the Victims Rights Directive.
- A workshop was organised in the margins of the Annual Conference on Restorative Justice.
- An in-person workshop was organised, in Brussels, for members interested in creating national 116006 helplines to support victims of crime.
- During the World Society of Victimology Symposium, in San Sebastian, Spain, VSE organised a workshop.
- Finally, along with MEP, Saskia Bricmont, VSE co-organised an in-person event at the European Economic and Social Committee to launch its National Framework for Comprehensive Victims Support policy paper.

Training

VSE was invited by diverse national and European bodies, including CEPOL, EJTN, ERA, KEMEA, to deliver training, throughout 2022, to audiences from the judiciary, civil society and law enforcement on victims' issues. Training focused on topics related to victims' rights in the EU, compensation law, hate crime victims, needs of victims of cybercrime, protection of irregular migrant workers, individual needs assessments, etc. Participants included judges, police officers, and victim support workers

The list of training courses delivered by VSE in 2022:

- Victim Protection Course: Introduction to victimisation, EU Compensation law and effective communication. CEPOL, Athens, Greece
- Victims' rights in prison and probation. CJPE, online.
- Online Hate Crimes: Protecting citizens against racism, xenophobia, homophobia, sexism. EJTN, online.
- Individual needs assessment. Victims and Witness Support Service of Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia
- Online Protection of Migrant Workers in Irregular Situation in Europe. ERA Summer School, online.
- Victims' Rights in the EU. ERA Summer School.
- Victims of Cybercrime. Cyberpeace Institute, online.
- Victims' Protection. CEPOL, Pila, Poland.
- Online Victims of Crime - The restitution of Criminal Assets - Offenders' compensation and state compensation. EJTN – ERA, online.
- Hate crime. CEPOL, Heraklion, Greece.
- Individual needs assessment: European best practices. Victims and Witness Support Service of Croatia, Zagreb, Croatia.

- Victims' Rights in the EU and in practice: violence against women and children. EJTN, Stockholm, Sweden.

Communications and Campaigns

Information campaign to promote VSE advocacy activities

In 2022, VSE focused its communication efforts on promoting its policy and advocacy work. The aim of the campaign was to increase VSE's digital footprint of activities related to mainstreaming the milestones and results of its policy and advocacy work. Campaign content:

1. Promote the call for implementation and funding of 116 006 helplines in all EU countries
2. Promote VSE's response to the European Commission's proposal on combating violence against women and domestic violence
3. Promote the 'National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support' policy paper
4. Promote VSE submissions to EU consultations and surveys: a. VSE Contribution – 2022 EU Justice scoreboard; b. VSE Contribution – Modernising judicial cooperation between EU countries – use of digital technology.

Our campaign achieved a total reach of 1 401 860 people. Most results were accomplished by using various touchpoints and channels to connect with a broad audience. VSE was able to provide its target audience with an optimal experience of delivering its messages to the right prospects at the right time and place. The campaign's success is thanks to the Twitter Grant for Non-Profits and "The Brussels Times" publicity. The campaign to increase awareness of VSE's 2022 advocacy efforts hoped to reach more than 100K people. In reality, the audience reach was almost 1,5 million people during the campaign period, proving the efficacy of the chosen strategy.

Information campaigns to promote VSE events in 2022

VSE ran two information campaigns related to the following events: 22 February European Day for Victims of Crime and the VSE Annual Conference 2022. The campaign results are represented by a total reach of 1 262 708 people. Again, most of the results were achieved by using various touchpoints and channels to connect with a broad audience and VSE was able to deliver its target audience's messages to the right prospects at the right time and place. The campaign's success is due to Twitter's Grant for Non-Profits.

Information campaign to promote VSE projects

VSE focused its communication efforts on promoting a selection of projects. The campaign aimed to increase VSE's digital footprint in its endeavours related to mainstreaming the milestones and intermediary results of the FYDO, BENEVICT and INFOVICTIMS III projects. While additional communication efforts successfully promoted other VSE-led projects, the aforementioned projects were prioritised as VSE's Communication Team was wholly responsible for developing and delivering the projects' dissemination strategies. The campaigns achieved a total reach of 1 543 034 people and its success is due to publicity via the Twitter Grant for Non-Profits.

Marking important victims' rights related dates

- 22 February: European Day for Victims of Crime
- 11 March: European Day of Remembrance of the Victims of Terrorism
- 22 July: European Day for Victims of Hate Crimes
- 21 August: International Day for Victims of Terrorism
- 25 November: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

Multimedia work

25 Videos and 142 visuals (36 visuals for project-related information campaign, 106 visuals for advocacy- and events-related information campaigns). All videos and visuals are available on VSE's social media channels.

New social media followers

New followers: Facebook – 242, Instagram – 224, Twitter – 92.

New communications tools

2022 saw the launch of the following new communication tools:

- The Victims' Rights Communicators Network: a working group of victim support communication experts exploring knowledge exchange and development. <https://victim-support.eu/news/victims-rights-communicators-network/>
- New VSE advocacy activities webpage: to better inform members on advocacy strategies. <https://victim-support.eu/what-we-do/advocacy-work/>
- New 'Opinion' section on the VSE website: to increase exposure of members' expertise. <https://victim-support.eu/opinions/>
- VSE joined the Together EU platform for communications experts. <https://together.europarl.europa.eu/partners#transnational>
- Unified and upgraded project page content on the VSE website: easy and reader-friendly access to project information. <https://victim-support.eu/what-we-do/our-projects/ongoing/>

04.

VSE 2022 FACT-BOX

VSE Victims Statistics 2022

Victim Support Europe's 2022 statistics tell a numerical story. However, behind the numbers are human experiences; every number represents a person, a family, a community. VSE hopes that governments, victim support services, health providers, civil society organisations, the media and others will use these numbers to promote victims' rights, to develop comprehensive victim support systems, to keep communities safe, and to protect the vulnerable.

This report involves 72 global victim support services and indicates the number of crime victims in receipt of organisational support. While its findings do not demonstrate how the victims affected by crime were able to access help, it shows that it is NGO staff who encourage victims to report crime, find help, and make their voices heard.

Victims supported by VSE members in 2022:

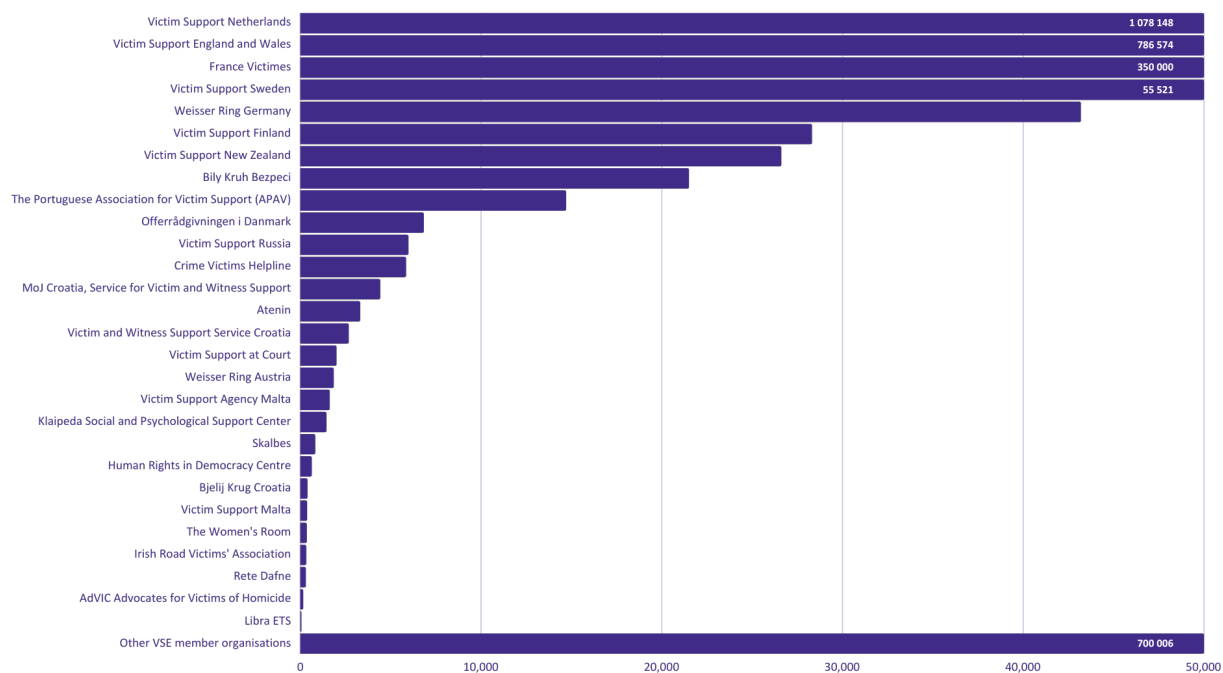
The number of victims reaching support services has been rising for many years. In 2022, the number of victims supported by Victim Support Europe's members reached more than 3 143 459 victims of crime.

Out of which:

- 1,078,148 victims of crime supported by Victim Support The Netherlands
- 786,574 victims of crime supported by Victim Support England and Wales
- 350,000 victims of crime supported by France Victimes
- 55,521 victims of crime, witnesses and their next-of-kin by Victim Support Sweden
- 43,185 victims of crime supported by Weisser Ring Germany
- 28,300 victims of crime supported by Victim Support Finland
- 26,601 victims of crime supported by Victim Support New Zealand
- 21,488 victims of crime supported by Bily Kruh Bezpeci
- 14,688 victims of crime supported by The Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV)
- 6,808 victims of crime supported by Offerrådgivningen i Danmark
- 5,960 victims of crime supported by Victim Support Russia
- 5,828 victims of crime supported by Crime Victims Helpline
- 4,397 victims of crime supported by Ministry of Justice and Public Administration - Croatia, Service for Victim and Witness Support
- 3,287 victims of crime supported by Atenin
- 2,655 victims of crime supported by Victim and Witness Support Service Croatia
- 1,977 victims of crime supported by Victim Support at Court
- 1,824 victims of crime supported by Weisser Ring Austria
- 1,601 victims of crime supported by Victim Support Agency Malta
- 1,418 victims of crime supported by Klaipeda Social and Psychological Support Center
- 800 victims of crime supported by Skalbes
- 609 victims of crime supported by Human Rights in Democracy Centre
- 369 victims of crime supported by Bjelij Krug Croatia
- 350 victims of crime supported by Victim Support Malta
- 332 victims of crime supported by The Women's Room

- 300 victims of crime supported by IRVA
- 280 victims of crime supported by Rete Dafne
- 133 victims of crime supported by AdVIC Advocates for Victims of Homicide
- 20 victims of crime supported by Libra ETS
- 700,006 victims of crimes supported by the rest of VSE members

Country Breakdown for Victims of Crime (VoC) Supported



VSE Publications and Events 2022

VSE produced the following publications:

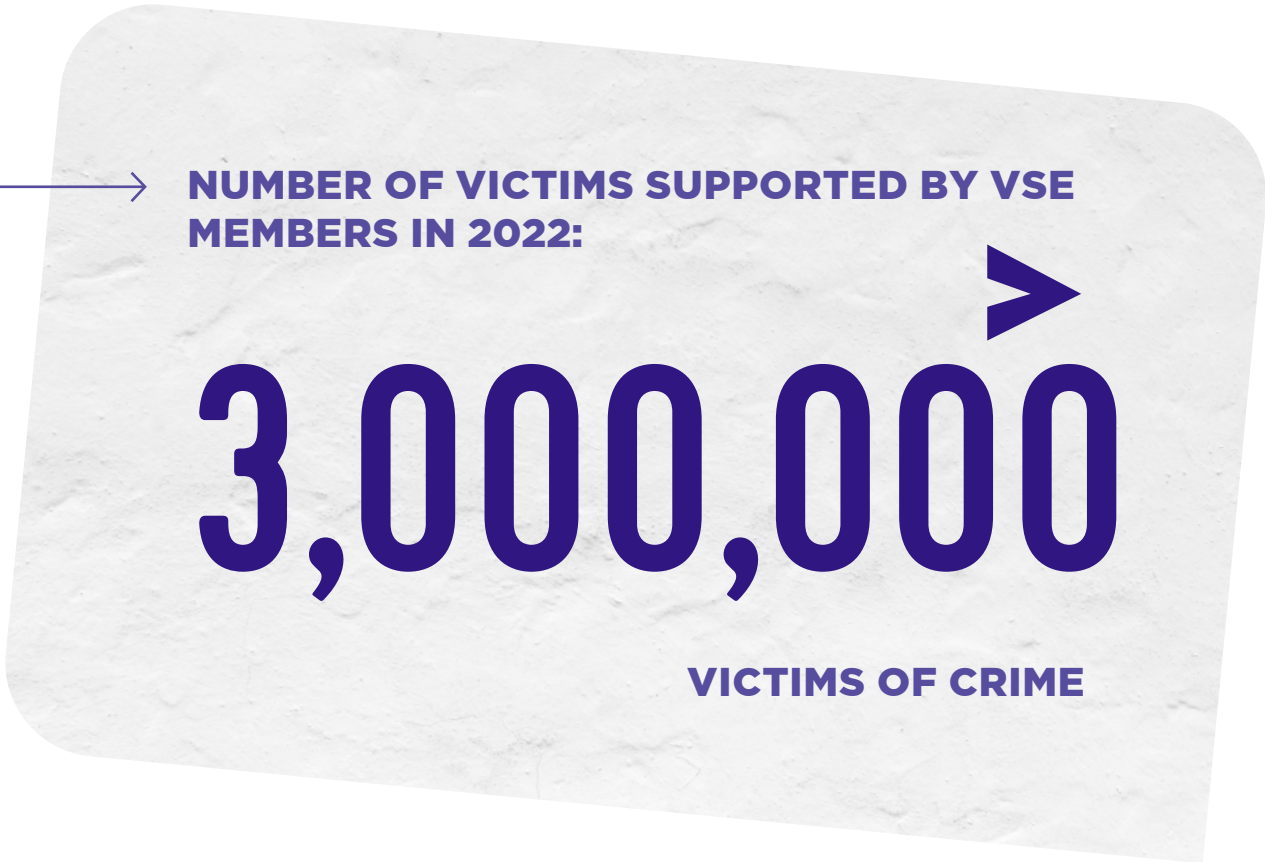
- From work conducted in 2021, VSE finalised and published its policy paper on the National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support. The paper offers a comprehensive overview of how States should approach the creation a comprehensive system of victim support across different sectors by coordinating the collaboration of public services, private sector entities, and civil society.
- ECJ/ECHR case law report 2022

VSE responded to 6 consultations, published by the European Commission, on topics related

to victims' rights; pre-trial detention, the racial equality directive, the transfer of criminal proceedings, and the revision of the Victims Rights Directive.

VSE held the following events:

- VSE Annual Conference
- Online EU NGO Roundtable
- 1 event to launch the National Support Framework paper
- 6 webinars
- 12 training sessions
- 6 workshops
- 3 Centre of Excellence online meetings
- 4 national meetings
- 4 Executive Board meetings
- 4 Management Team meetings



05. OVERVIEW OF VICTIM SUPPORT EUROPE ACTIVITIES 2022

The needs of both victims of crime and our members are central to everything VSE does. We offer various activities to encourage the work carried out by the victim support community. These activities form part of our strategic plan which is developed in collaboration with our membership (currently 72 organisations in 34 countries).

Main 2022 activities included, but were not limited to:

- Exchange of best practices
- Organisation of online conferences and other networking opportunities
- Development of policy including consultations, policy briefs and papers, and position papers
- Advocacy and lobbying on behalf of victims' rights at the international and European levels
- Dissemination of information
- Management of the VSE network
- Ensuring responsible governance and operating structures

5.1 Developing knowledge, collaboration and partnership

5.1.1 Developing knowledge

National framework for comprehensive victim support

The report outlines the various sectors that have a positive impact on victims' lives and the organisational approaches that can bring them together to form a coherent support system; a system which continually improves itself and delivers high quality services. It aims to change the way we perceive victim engagement and actions, moving from a silo approach – where each organisation operates with a single perspective in single sphere – to one where each entity coming into contact with victims has a victim-centred perspective. The national framework focuses on several major themes: building resilience in individuals, ensuring victims' social network can support them, ensuring the provision of national professional support services, and ensuring any support system is actively coordinated within a national strategy.

ECJ/ECHR case law reports

VSE regularly monitors CJEU and ECHR case law for judgments in the field of victims' rights. In 2022, VSE identified several ECHR and ECJ judgements of interest to our advocacy work and to the work of our members. These included cases involving including revictimisation, sexual abuse, domestic violence, and victims with disabilities.

5.1.2 Developing collaboration and partnership.

I. Working with EU institutions:

VSE works with European and international institutions to influence their laws and policies on victims' rights. We regularly conduct advocacy activities towards the EU institutions, the Council of Europe, the UN, and other international organisations and institutions; we also engage with national and other governmental, and non-governmental, entities.

VSE monitors the implementation of EU legislation to ensure that the rights established for victims are applied in practice. We gather information on existing or proposed victims' rights legislation and policies from our network of members and experts, during workshops and conferences, and in meetings with governments. We provide our members and other stakeholders with advice on compliance with national and EU laws, and we collect and share best practices with them.

In 2022, at the national and European level, VSE continued to develop evidence-based research and policy recommendations on victims' rights and needs, while strengthening its capacity for advocacy. VSE actively supported the European Commission's work for the Victims' Rights Directive revision. Staff regularly gave feedback to DG Justice and Consumers; specifically, by

offering recommendations and writing briefs to key officials. VSE worked with its members to develop draft model provisions for a future iteration of the Victims' Rights Directive.

VSE was actively involved in work by the European Commission and the European Parliament on the Proposal for a Directive combating violence against women and domestic violence. VSE organised a series of meetings with Commission officials and MEPs to present its recommendations and suggestions for the text. VSE stresses the importance of adopting both this proposal and a revised Victims' Rights Directive to ensure that all victims of all crime benefit from the rights and protections enshrined in EU laws. VSE continued to monitor other victims' issues, such as the revision of the Anti-Trafficking Directive and the Directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography.

VSE attended all the meetings organised by the Victims' Rights Platform and responded to six consultations published by the European Commission on topics related to victims' rights, including pre-trial detention, the racial equality directive, the transfer of criminal proceedings, and the revision of the Victims' Rights Directive.

Throughout the year, VSE also monitored European Parliamentary committee and plenary session debates. On several occasions, Members of the European Parliament asked VSE for input on their draft reports, and on issues, related to victims' rights and needs.

II. International engagements

VSE's work not only focuses on EU Member institutions, but also on global entities.

The United Nations

VSE continued to cooperate closely with the United Nations, in particular with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism, to promote the rights of all victims and to support policies related to victims of terrorism. In 2022, VSE participated in the following UN-led events:

- High-Level International Conference on Human Rights, Civil Society and Counter-Terrorism, UNOCT
- Conference "Improving response to trafficking in persons for sexual exploitation, especially women and girls, through addressing demand in South-Eastern Europe", UNODC High-Level Conference on Parliamentary Support to Victims of Terrorism
- UN Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism, New York
- Thematic discussions of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (CCPCJ), UNODC
- Consultation with the NGOs in Consultative Status with ECOSOC

Council of Europe

VSE regularly works with the Council of Europe thanks to our participatory status. VSE actively engages in different activities, including the INGO Conference.

Victim Support Asia (VSA)

Following the establishment of Victim Support Asia in 2018, VSE has helped VSA bring together organisations and institutions working for victims across Asia. In 2022, VSE participated in VSA's board meetings and assisted with the preparations for VSA's 2022 Annual Conference.

INVICTM – International Network Supporting Victims of Terrorism and Mass Violence and Leadership in Counterterrorism Alumni Association (LinCT-AA)

VSE remains an active member of INVICTM and participates in monthly online conference calls with this informal group of experts.

Previously, INVICTM organised its annual symposium within the margins of the VSE Annual Conference; however, this was not the case in 2022. Instead, VSE's Executive Director was invited to attend the 21st Annual Remembrance Symposium, organised by the Voices Center for Resilience in partnership with the Leadership in Counterterrorism Alumni Association (LinCT-AA) and the International Network Supporting Victims of Terrorism and Mass Violence (INVICTM).

VSE Terrorism Response Network

As a result of the 2015 terrorist attacks in Paris and other attacks in Europe, and elsewhere, Victim Support Europe and its members came together to ensure that all victims of terrorism are offered the support they need, and that governments and international institutions better understand their needs and how best to respond to them. Since 2015, VSE's Terrorism Response Network has reacted to more than 20 attacks in countries which include France, Germany, Spain, UK, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Turkey, USA, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh. VSE responds to large scale attacks within or outside of Europe whenever European citizens may be involved.

In 2022, VSE maintained good contacts with network members.

III. Collaboration with European NGOs

EU NGO Round Table

For several years now, VSE has organised regular roundtable discussions with other EU NGOs advocating on behalf of vulnerable groups. While in the past meetings were hosted by the European Commission, VSE has now begun to host its own discussion groups.

In January 2022, VSE organised an online EU NGO Roundtable which was attended by representatives from 17 European NGOs advocating for the most vulnerable in society. The meeting allowed participants to discuss not only common advocacy activities and priorities but also future cooperation on the revision of the Victims' Rights Directive and other EU legislative proposals.

A further in-person roundtable was co-organised with the Validity Foundation; recommendations on the rights of victims with disabilities in the upcoming Victims' Rights Directive were the focus of this discussion.

Regular email exchanges kept the EU NGOs informed on each other's work, events, and joint actions.

Joint Efforts

In conjunction with our EU NGO partners, we have developed both a common advocacy language and a set of resources, which include joint events, statements, and campaigns-in-collaboration, to:

- 1) raise awareness on EU victims' rights priorities by highlighting critical omissions
- 2) provide data on the impact of the practical implementation of victims' rights in all EU member States.

2022 saw VSE develop stronger links with other European NGOs and organisations. VSE was invited to several webinars and conference organised by non-partner EU NGOs and networks: the Criminal Justice Platform, Civil Rights Defenders Nordic Forum, Child Friendly Justice European Network, and the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, etc.

To improve collaboration between victim support services and restorative justice services, VSE has worked closely with the European Forum for Restorative Justice and has organised several meetings on common priorities and joint standards for service delivery. The success of this collaboration resulted in the delivery of a workshop on restorative justice during the VSE Annual Conference 2023 in Berlin.

5.2 Enhancing the quality of victim support services.

5.2.1 Workshops and Training

When it comes to advocating for victims' rights, VSE and its network bring a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the table.

VSE's overall objectives are to achieve change and to strengthen its members and partners'

organisational capacity, as well as that of external organisations and individuals who interact with victims. To achieve these objectives, VSE supports the development of knowledge and exchange of best practices by delivering training courses, workshops, lectures, and presentations both at its own events and at those organised by others.

Throughout 2022, several national and European bodies, including CEPOL, EJTN, ERA, KEMEA invited VSE to deliver training on victims' issues. Training on topics such as EU victims' rights, compensation law, hate crime victims, cybercrime victims' needs, protection of irregular migrant workers, individual needs assessment, etc. was delivered to judges, police officers, victim support workers, and others.

The full list of training sessions delivered by VSE in 2022 can be found on page 7 of this report.

Additionally, VSE was very active in developing new online tools for its members and partners. The VSE Hub, launched in 2021, gives VSE members, victim support organisations, civil society representatives, and individual experts the opportunity to exchange knowledge and experiences related to the rights and needs of victims. In doing so, the Hub aims to connect stakeholders and facilitate virtual discussions and networking across borders.

While access was initially restricted to VSE's own members, it is envisaged that in 2023 the Hub will gradually open to friends of VSE as well as to experts participating in VSE working groups. At a later stage, the Hub will accept applications from anyone interested in advancing the rights of all victims of crime.

As an integral element of the Hub, VSE launched its Training Academy. The Academy offers training resources on all matters related to victims of crime. The Academy's mission is to share knowledge, skills and best practices, and to ensure excellence in the delivery of victim support services. The Academy will offer a variety of learning opportunities that will include national, European and global events, e-Learning activities, themed group activities, and regular webinar discussions to address topics on victims' needs and rights.

Several other workshops were also organised, including the Centre of Excellence workshop on 116 006 helplines and distance support, a workshop on creating 116 006 helplines in Member States without one, a webinar for professionals working with Ukrainian refugees, a Safe Justice workshop to feed research for a related discussion paper, and a webinar on the EU Public Consultation evaluating the Victims' Rights Directive.

5.2.2 Setting Standards

Experience has shown that our accreditation approach, as piloted in 2018, is unsuitable for our larger member organisations. Therefore, a decision has been taken to allow members to self-accredit. Self-accreditation will conserve, rather than stretch, resources which would have been involved in the external verification process. In 2023, VSE will commence implementation of a self-accreditation system, for full members, based on our quality standards.

5.2.3 Developing centres of excellence across the EU

VSE continues to support member organisations running a 116 006 helpline for victims of crime and/or who provide online distance support to victims. VSE's Centre of Excellence has 15 members representing organisations in Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Latvia, the Netherlands, Northern Ireland, Portugal and Sweden. With members located across so many countries and in contact with different victim groups, the Centre offers them a platform where they can share their 116 helpline and distance support knowledge and experiences.

Members met online three times during the course of 2022, they discussed their work priorities and common areas of interest as well as the future of the Centre.

The 2022 Centre of Excellence Workshop, on 116 006 helplines and support at a distance, was organised by VSE and held in Stockholm, Sweden on 29 and 30 September (with one participant attending remotely). The workshop brought together 20 participants from 15 different organisations (including 2 VSE staff members and 2 external speakers). The in-person event allowed participants to share their knowledge and expertise on GDPR, data protection and secondary victimization, as well as the use of modern technologies to advance victim support services.

5.2.4 Enhancing VSE's membership services.

Over the course of 2022, we worked on increasing the quality and accessibility of member-oriented services. VSE members can now access a range of benefits designed to enhance knowledge exchange, visibility, networking, and information sharing.

The Victim Support Hub allows members to share information and to network. The Hub provides members with a platform designed to stimulate dialogue and spread awareness of critical victims' issues; ranging from advocacy, policy and justice to information, education and support.

As mentioned above, the Hub is currently available to executives and single points of contacts designated by VSE's member organisations, and to certain senior staff members and partner EU organisations. VSE intends for the Hub to be accessed by the general public, including staff and volunteers working for VSE members (with their agreement).

We believe that members benefit from the Hub by:

- finding and connecting with other Hub users as a means of supporting their (organisational) activities;
- developing knowledge & expertise on victims' rights and needs;
- promoting their (organisational) activities to other Hub users.

5.2.5 Development of victim support in EU member states.

Throughout 2022, VSE continued to support its member organisations by utilising the newly developed membership management system (MMS). This system has allowed us to streamline the membership application process and to keep track of our engagement with members, ensuring that we serve them better.

National Meetings

VSE, in collaboration with its members and partners, organises annual national meetings in order to share ideas and views on the implementation of the 2012 EU Directive (Victims' Rights Directive). These meetings provide members with an opportunity to work together and to participate in frank, open, and constructive dialogues aimed at better protecting and supporting victims of crime in various national contexts.

This year, VSE supported the organisation and delivery of four national events.

23 June 2022: VSE and the Belgian Ministry of Public Health organised a national meeting on cross-border victims. The event was attended by 31 people, including representatives of victim support services, public prosecutor, and government.

13 July 2022: VSE organised an online meeting for Irish stakeholders and its Croatian members. The goal was to showcase the Croatian victim support network to our Irish members. 9 people from different victim support organisations attended the event.

21-22 October 2022: VSE in conjunction with its Italian members Associazione Libra, Dafne Mantova Network and Dafne National Network organised an event on supporting victims of crime and the application of which focused not only on support to victims of crime, but also on the minimum standards for rights, assistance and protection of victims. The right to appropriate information was also highlighted.

On 26 October 2022, VSE supported the organization of a Croatian national meeting in Zagreb. Participants met to discuss the current situation of the implementation of victims' rights in Croatia and to update each other on the developments since the meeting in May 2022.

5.3 Advance improvements in laws and policies

VSE actively engages in and influences the development of European and international public policy to highlight the needs of victims and those affected by crime as well as to strengthen victims' rights and protection in the aftermath of crime. We aim to ensure that new legislation and policies consider the needs of victims and others affected by crime, and that their wishes and priorities are reflected and adhered to.

We work with the major European Union institutions (the European Commission, European Parliament, and the Council of European Union) as well as with the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and the United Nations. We have a formal consultative status with the UN's ECOSOC Committee and the Council of Europe and work closely with various EU Agencies such as the Fundamental Rights Agency, CEPOL, EIGE, etc.

In 2022, VSE continued to play a supportive role in EU policy development as well as in the evaluation and implementation of EU legislation. VSE supported the evaluation and revision process of the Victims' Rights Directive and the EU Victims' Rights Strategy across the EU. At the national level, VSE supports enforcement of the Directive through evidence-based means as well as encouraging compliance by collecting and exchanging information, advice, and good practices.

VSE was also actively involved in the work of the European Commission and the European Parliament on the Proposal for a Directive combating violence against women and domestic violence. VSE organised a series of meetings with Commission officials and MEPs to present its recommendations and revisions to the text. VSE highlights the importance of having both this proposal and a revised Victims' Rights Directive adopted in the coming years to ensure that all victims of all crime can benefit from the rights and protection enshrined in EU laws. VSE continues to monitor other files related to victims' issues such as the revision of the Anti-Trafficking Directive and the Directive on combating the sexual abuse and sexual exploitation of children and child pornography.

VSE ensured the delivery of activities on the EU acquis of rights related to victims of crime and formulated recommendations for EU actions to improve the rights of all European victims. Other VSE activities included involvement in 6 EU Commission consultations and other surveys:

- Pre-trial detention
- Human trafficking
- Modernization of judicial cooperation
- Transfer of criminal proceedings
- Victims' Rights Directive call for evidence
- Victims' Rights Directive evaluation

VSE also organised several advocacy meetings with key EU officials, including DG Justice, DG HOME, and a number of Members of Parliament. The aim of these meetings was to advance victims' rights and to lobby on behalf of various VSE recommendations, including calling for the full and effective implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive and ensuring a comprehensive victim support framework in all EU Member States.

VSE actively participated in meetings of the Victims' Rights Platform on Victims of War and on the revision of the Victims' Rights Directive.

At the international level, VSE continued to cooperate closely with the United Nations, in particular with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, to promote the rights of all victims and support policies related to victims of terrorism.

VSE also worked closely with the Council of Europe and in particular the INGO Conference to advance the rights and services of victims of crime.

5.4 Raising awareness of victims' issues.

All 2022 communications activities were developed in line with VSE's Communications Strategy 2021 – 2025 which highlights the following goals:

- Raising awareness on victims' issues
- Sharing knowledge with national organisations
- Strengthening VSE's collective capability (developing partnerships, organising networking events, membership recruitment).

To support VSE in expanding its visibility, strengthening the capacity of its staff and membership network, increasing the number of projects it leads, the policy papers it develops, and the advocacy activities it is involved in, innovative methods and tools were used for the delivery of an ever-increasing number of communication activities in 2022.

These new communication tools included:

Social hub – offering two-way communication with VSE members: <https://victimsupporthub.eu/>

Victims' Rights Communicators Network – providing knowledge exchange and development for victim support communications experts: <https://victim-support.eu/news/victims-rights-communicators-network/>

New advocacy activities webpage - informing members of VSE's advocacy strategies: <https://victim-support.eu/what-we-do/advocacy-work/>

New 'Opinion' section to increase exposure of members' expertise: <https://victim-support.eu/opinions/>

Membership of the Together EU platform for communications experts: <https://together.europarl.europa.eu/partners#transnational>

Unified and upgraded project page content – easier and reader-friendly access to VSE's project information: <https://victim-support.eu/what-we-do/our-projects/ongoing/>

Our approach to developing VSE's communication workplan has evolved from only having a single proposal for all Operating Grant activities to the diversification of our efforts; separate plans now exist for: (1) policy/advocacy communications, (2) project communications, (3) event communications.

Our target audiences were the victim support community (VSE members and partners), policymakers and institutions working with victims of crime at the EU-level, and the public. In

2022, VSE:

- Implemented its 2022 communication strategy.
- Launched and maintained new communication tools (as above).

Maintained existing victims' information page: <https://victim-support.eu/help-for-victims/>

Maintained online VSE membership support services map: <https://victim-support.eu/interactive-map-of-vse-members/>

Designed and published online 2021 annual report 2021: <https://victim-support.eu/publications/annual-report-2021/>

Conducted 3 advocacy/project/event information campaigns.

Delivered 4 electronic newsletters, each containing some 30 articles to around 1150 subscribers: <https://victim-support.eu/media-center/vse-newsletters/>

Increased, developed, and maintained Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube activity.

Interviewed 4 victims of crime whose testimonials were included in VSE social media campaigns and at VSE events;

Created 25 Videos and 142 visuals (36 project-related information campaign visuals, 106 advocacy- and event-related information campaign visuals). These can be found on VSE's social media channels.

Produced Annual Conference website: <https://2022.vse-conference.eu/>

Created 22 February campaign webpage: <https://victim-support.eu/media-center/campaigns/future-of-justice-for-victims-in-the-european-union/>

The above actions resulted in:

- 1 401 860 people reached by the advocacy-related campaign.
- 1 543 034 people reached by the project-related campaign .
- 1 262 708 people reached by the events-related campaign.
- 558 new social media followers: Facebook – 242, Instagram – 224, Twitter – 92.

Events and representation

- Knowledge exchange at VSE's 'Victims' Rights Communicators Network' events
- Knowledge exchange at VSE's Annual Conference 2022 and 22 February Online Event 'Safe Justice for Victims of Crime' within the Conference on the Future of Europe
- Membership exposure during VSE's Safe Justice awareness-raising week, linked to the European Day for Victims of Crime
- Membership contributions to an information campaign on VSE's Public Response to

Violence against Women (VAW) Directive proposal (event, social media, network, the Brussel Times article)

- Membership exposure during an information campaign launching VSE's 'National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support' policy paper (event, social media, network, the Brussel Times article)
- Membership participation in mapping upcoming VSE's 2024-2030 Annual Conferences
- Membership participation in and contributions to the VSE Annual Conference 2023 workshop programme.

5.5 Projects

Throughout 2022, VSE continued working on a variety of projects, focusing on strategic priorities to improve services and rights for victims of crime. We value collaboration with our members and external project partners who contribute to our success.

INFOVICTIMS III

As the third project of the series, INFOVICTIMS III aims to develop and update more readily accessible information for victims of crime and to extend the project to even more EU countries. Ultimately, INFOVICTIMS III hopes to provide the public with information on Member State criminal justice systems, the rights of victims of crime, and how victims can exercise their rights.

VSE's role is to help develop information materials for victims of crime; to conduct research and develop recommendations on information rights and their implementation; and to raise public and EU-level awareness of the rights of victims to access information. As the leading European network of victim support organisations, VSE is best placed to take responsibility for disseminating the project at the EU level, and for bringing together its members in the field of victim support and its European and international networks of experts.

Partner organisations in 9 different EU countries are developing easy to read, comprehensive information tools for victims of crime that will explain their rights and how to exercise them. The core tools include a website, a brochure, and a mobile app, to be launched by early 2023. Additionally, VSE's materials will include country factsheets, providing information on the victim support services available in each partner country, and a policy paper entitled "Transforming how we communicate with victims" (to be published in 2023).

AREV project - Advancing Rights of Estonian Victims

The AREV project's main goal is to enhance the rights of Estonian victims by improving processes related to protection and support for victims of crime. To achieve this goal, VSE is working closely with the Estonian Ministry of Justice, the Police and Guard Board, the Social Insurance Board, the healthcare sector, and other key stakeholders to develop, deliver, and test tools that will deliver information, assess individual needs and refer victims.

The projects main 2022 activities included the development and completion of the tools, training users on the tools and then launching and piloting their use in the Viru Region, North-Eastern Estonia. Project and pilot results will be collated and analysed in 2023.

CREST- Fighting Crime and TerroriSm with an IoT-enabled Autonomous Platform based on an Ecosystem of Advanced IntelligEnce, Operations, and InveStigation Technologies

The CREST project encompasses topics on terrorism prevention, investigation, and awareness raising. Its overall objective is to improve the efficacy of Law Enforcement Agencies' (LEAs) intelligence, operational, and investigative capabilities. The project, which takes place in 8 different member states, aims to provide LEAs with the tools for automated detection, identification, assessment, fusion, and correlation of evidence acquired from heterogeneous multimodal data streams. Such data streams include (but are not limited to) Surface/Deep/Dark Web and social media sources and interactions, IoT-enabled devices (including wearable sensors), surveillance cameras (static, wearable, or mounted on UxVs), and seized devices and hard disks.

PROTECT – Exchanging good practices on restorative justice and the protection of victims' rights

The PROTECT project focuses on the exchange of good practices in restorative justice and on respecting victims' rights when implementing restorative practices. Its objective is to facilitate the implementation of restorative justice paths, highlight the meaning of reparation, and promote responsible attitudes towards victims, society, and community rules. The project takes place in Portugal, Italy, Denmark and Spain. Its implementation will improve the skills and competences of trainers/operators within the partner victim support organisations and, ultimately, will strengthen the protection of victims' rights in restorative justice processes.

FYDO – Facility Dogs in Europe

The FYDO project ran from January 2021 to December 2022.

Building on existing efforts in the US and in Europe, the FYDO project aimed to look into the ways dogs – trained by certified dog assistance schools and handled by victim support professionals – can be employed to mitigate the trauma experienced by victims of crime.

Throughout the project, 6 FYDO dogs have been trained and placed to work with victim support professionals, to accompany victims in their journey to access justice and their recovery in Belgium, France and Italy.

- Orphée was trained by Handi'Chiens and placed to work with Viaduc67, the local victim support association member of Federation France Victimes in Strasbourg, France
- Fluf was trained by Canisha and Hachiko and placed to work with the Ghent Police in Belgium.
- Sam was trained by Canisha and Hachiko and placed to work with Emmaus, a youth institution in Antwerp
- Brio, Love and Ophelia were trained and handled by Dog4Life to provide support to women and children victims of domestic violence in shelters in the Tuscany region.

More than 350 victims received support from FYDO dogs in the three partner countries.

The project was conducted through four distinct work streams: dog training and placement, dog handling and provision of support, data collection, research and policy development and

dissemination activities. This resulted in the delivery of a unique manual for training FYDO dogs in Europe. Partners also created a manual intended to assist victim support providers in the development of FYDO service.

The project's wider impact on justice systems and victim support services is highlighted by the convention signed by the French Ministry of Justice with Handi'Chiens, France Victimes (of which Viaduc 67 is a part) and the Animal Protection Society in February 2023, which aims to support vulnerable people by placing a FYDO dog in each French jurisdiction.

Breaking Barriers

The aim of the Breaking Barriers project is to develop a victim-centric approach to the Canadian Ontario Provincial Police's (OPP's) response to and engagement with victims and survivors of human trafficking. To achieve this goal, the project focuses on identifying and achieving a better understanding of the needs of trafficked victims and supporting better access to wraparound community supports. This pilot project is implemented in each one of Ontario's five regions: North East, North West, East, West and Central.

The project's main 2022 activities included the development and delivery of OPP officer training, and the development of a victims' needs assessment for trafficked victims which is to be used by frontline police officers. The training programme's focus was on understanding the victims' needs and developing effective victim-centric communication skills in empathy and active listening.

EUCVT - EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism

In January 2020, the EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism was launched by the European Commission with the aim of offering (national authorities and victim support organisations) expertise, guidance, and support on better responding to the needs of victims of terrorism. Victim Support Europe led the consortium, which ran the pilot project in 2020 and 2021, on behalf of the European Commission.

Since the end of this initial two-year pilot project and throughout 2022, the European Commission has continued to entrust Victim Support Europe with the running of the EUCVT Hub. The Hub has become a space where regular engagement with expert members has been organised. VSE has encouraged Hub members to come together by organising and delivering webinars, by creating topical discussion boards, by uploading relevant documents and by publishing short articles for the Hub's blog. A total of 13 webinars on a selection of topics have been offered by the Hub¹.

The true power of the Centre lies in establishing links between various professional experts from across the EU and beyond. Law enforcement officers and first responders, members of the judiciary and governmental experts, victim advocates, staff from victim support organisations and compensation authorities, as well as other professionals, have shared their expertise on victimisation resulting from acts of terrorism.

Looking to the future, the European Commission has decided to continue with the EU Centre of Expertise for Victims of Terrorism. A new edition of the EUCVT Hub, connected to the upcoming EUCVT-Demos project, will be announced in early 2023.

¹ Topics of the webinars: The place of victims in the criminal justice process; Long-term support for victims of terrorism in France: access to compensation and clinical research involving paediatric victims; Traumatic grief following terrorist attacks; Places to remember – How to pay tribute collectively and individually; Acute response protocols after a terrorist attack; Trauma-Informed Care for Victims of Terrorism; Victim Assistance Centres; Evaluation of Directive on Combating terrorism; Roundtable: Victims Voices – Remembrance Day; Victim Registration Systems; Recovery and Returning of Victims' Possessions/Personal Property; webinar Shaping the rights of terrorism victims at EU and national level

BeneVict – Benefits of full implementation of the Victims’ Rights Directive

The BeneVict project aims to support the EU and MSs in their common value actions and in the implementation of the EU Victims’ Rights Strategy; to support MSs in the development of their national strategies; to support VSE and our EU-based members, partners and collaborators in advancing victims’ rights; to deliver methodological tools for future shared initiatives, including implementation assessments, data collection etc.; and to develop arguments for the benefits of victim support and to justify investment in further services.

The project has a specific European dimension; all EU-26 participating Member States are partners and BeneVict links together several previous projects advancing the rights of European victims. BeneVict aims to collect evidence on the practical implementation of the Victims’ Rights Directive across the EU and hopes, for the first time in the EU, to identify both the cost of victimisation and the benefits of victim support in Estonia, the Netherlands, Portugal and Spain. The project results will enable partners to advance the rights of victims in their countries.

COVIS – Court-based victim and witness support services

Started in September 2022, the COVIS (court-based support services for victims and witnesses of crime) project aims to build knowledge and to provide tools to establish and deliver quality court-based support services which meet the needs and rights of all victims and/or witnesses participating in criminal proceedings.

The project is led by Victim Support Sweden in partnership with the Portuguese Association for Victim Support (Associação Portuguesa de Apoio à Vítima, APAV), Victim Support at Court (V-Sac Ireland), Victim Support Finland, and Victim Support Europe (VSE).

Activities include research to identify the current availability and practical set-up of support services across the EU as well as to identify best practices in organising and delivering court-based victims/witness support services; measuring the impact of court-based support services on victims and on the criminal justice system; and awareness-raising activities.

CHAT for Victims – Changing the Accessibility of Tools for Victims

Begun in 2022, the CHAT for Victims project aims to improve access to information and support for persons with disabilities who become victims of crime. The project will achieve this goal by developing a live-chat service adapted to the communication needs of persons with disabilities, with emphasis on persons with voice, hearing, intellectual and psychosocial impairments/disabilities. The live-chat service will be implemented within the services of support organisations in Croatia and Slovenia.

Activities will include research on the communication needs of persons with disabilities and on solutions and good practices for developing a live-chat service adapted to those needs; development of training programmes for support providers and for capacity building; and awareness-raising activities.

ENABLE – Early Network-based Action Against Violent Behaviours to Leverage Victim Empowerment

Project ENABLE is a 2-year project based in various Italian regions that aims to: prevent domestic violence (DV)/gender-based violence (GBV); protect victims; and launch and formalise integrated interventions. ENABLE hopes to capitalise on best practices resulting

from the 2018 Milan-based ZEUS Protocol, which ensures an early, multi-level, multi-agency integrated response to GBV, and replicate them in a further 8 Italian cities. Moreover, it seeks to connect with an increased number of GBV victims to enhance their awareness of warnings on stalking and DV, their knowledge of the ZEUS Protocol and its benefits, and to connect them with local women's/victim support organisations. ENABLE will 'enable' culprits to change by coming to terms with their violent behaviours, encourage victims to speak out and to access support, and ensure early intervention to prevent the escalation of violence.

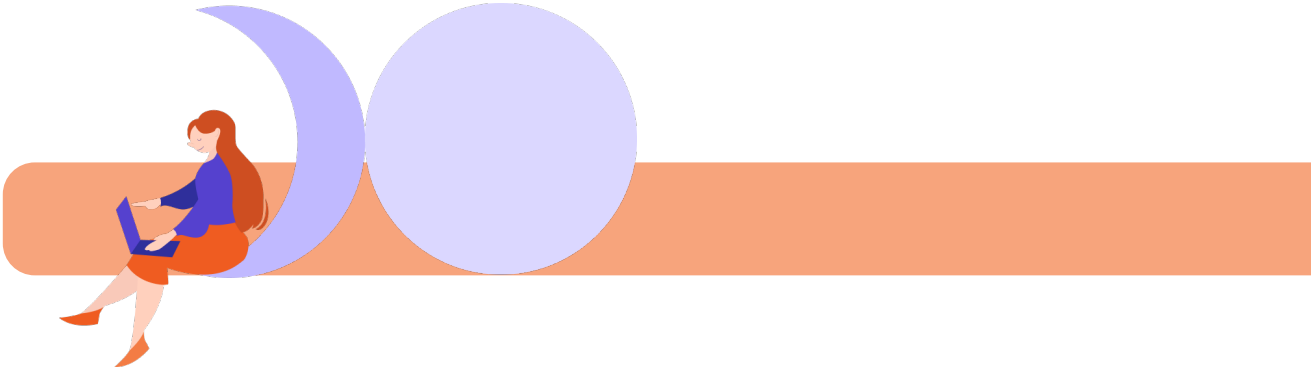
ICF Awareness raising campaign

This request for an awareness-raising campaign on victims' rights by DG JUST is part of the EC's new Strategy on Victims' Rights. Raising awareness about victims' rights is indispensable to creating a safer environment for victims; to making them feel safe, understood and supported; to feeling they are treated with fairness, dignity, and respect; to making their voices heard; and ultimately to supporting their healing and recovery process.

This EU awareness-raising campaign has two main objectives: (1) raise awareness of victims' rights, the availability of professional support services, and the options for reporting crime in 10 EU MSs, and (2) to inform all Europeans that the EU guarantees their rights, no matter where they live in the EU.

ICF Impact Assessment of the Victims' Rights Directive

This study aims to support the impact assessment on the revision of Directive 2012/29/EU of 25 October 2012, establishing minimum standards on the rights, support, and protection of victims of crime. The study will collate data from 15 Member States (AT, BE, BG, CY, FI, FR, HR, HU, IE, IT, LT, MT, NL, PL, PT) on topics such as the victims' right to information, protection of victims, victim support, access to justice, and access to compensation, etc.



06. NEW MEMBERS & MEMBERS MAP

New VSE Members 2022

Finn Nørgaard Association – Denmark

Law and Internet Foundation – Bulgaria

Center for Legal Civic Initiatives – Albania

Over the course of 2022, VSE extended its membership as 3 new groups joined the network, bringing our total membership to 70 organisations across 34 countries; this compares with just 42 members in 2015. The yearly increase in new members is a result of VSE's continuous efforts to improve its services to attract, and retain, existing and potential members.

MEMBERS MAP

2022

Albania

- Child Rights Centre Albania (CRCA)
- Human Rights in Democracy Center
- Center for Legal Civic Initiatives

Austria

- Weisser Ring Austria

Belgium

- SAM VZW
- CAW Groep
- Ministry of Public Health - Federale overheidsdienst (FOD) Volksgezondheid, Veiligheid van de Voedselketen en Leefmilieu
- Olivier Lauwers
- V-Europe
- FEVR -European federation of Road traffic victims
- Louise Lacour

Bulgaria

- Law and Internet Foundation

Croatia

- Bijeli krug Hrvatske (White Circle Croatia)
- Croatian Victim and Witness Support Service
- Woman`s Room -Center for Sexual Rights
- Ministry of Justice - Independent Service for Victim and Witness Support

Cyprus

- Association for the Prevention and Handling of Violence in the Family (APHVF/SPAVO)

Czech Republic

- Bily Kruh Bezpeci

Denmark

- Finn Nørgaard Association
- Victim Aid Denmark (Hjælp Voldsofre)

Estonia

- Social Insurance Board
- Ohvriabi (Victim Support Estonia)

Finland

- Rikosuhripaivystys (RIKU)

France

- France Victimes
- Manus Legis

Georgia

- Restorative Justice and Rehabilitation Center- RJRC

Germany

- Arbeitskreis der Opferhilfen
- Weisser Ring Germany

Hungary

- Fehér Gyűrű Közhasznú Egyesület
- Office of Justice, Victim Support Unit

Ireland

- Advocates for Victims of Homicide (AdvIC)
- Crime Victims Helpline
- Irish Road Victims Association (IRVA)
- Irish Tourist Assistance Service (ITAS)
- Victims of Crime Office
- Federation for Victim Assistance
- V-Sac-Victim Support at Court

Israel

- Natal -Israel Trauma and Resiliency Center

Italy

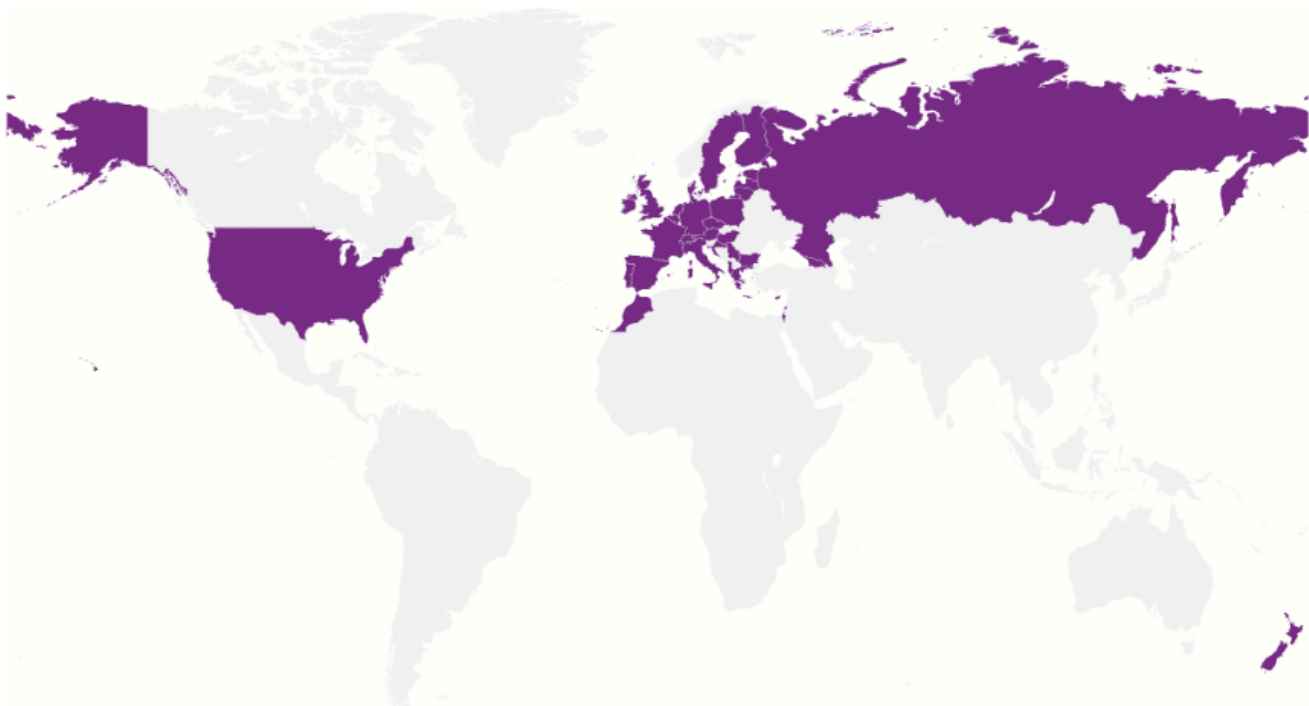
- Associazione Aleteia
- LIBRA ETS
- Associazione Rete Dafne ONLUS
- I-CARE – Associazione Italiana di Supporto Vittimologico
- Associazione Spondé

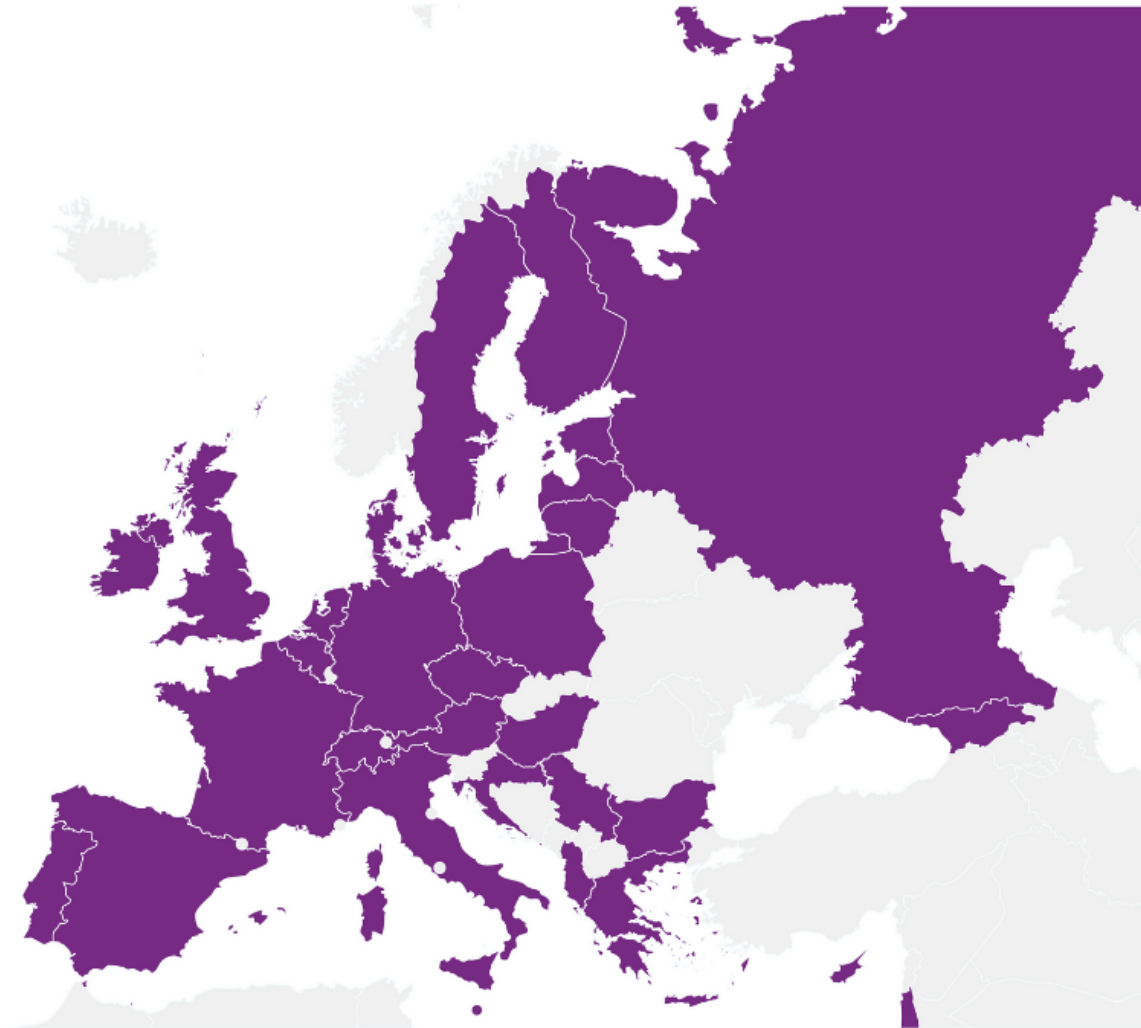
Latvia

- Crisis and counseling Centre -Skalbes

Lithuania

- Klaipeda Social and Psychological Support Centre





Malta

- Victim Support Malta
- Victim Support Agency Malta

Netherlands

- Slachtofferhulp Nederland
- European Sex Workers' Rights Alliance

New Zealand

- Victim Support New Zealand

Poland

- Subvenia Victima

Portugal

- APAV

Russian Federation

- Victim Support Foundation (VSF Russia)

Serbia

- Victimology Society of Serbia
- Humanitarian Law Center

Spain

- A.N.V.D.V. Asociación Víctimas
- ATENIN Sociedad Cooperativa Andaluza de interés social

Sweden

- Brottsofferjouren Sverige

Switzerland

- Victim Support Switzerland

United Kingdom

- Victim Support England & Wales
- Victim Support Northern Ireland
- Victim Support Scotland
- Action Against stalking
- Commission for victims and survivors Northern Ireland
- Mayor of London
- Supporting Justice

United States of America

- International Cruise Victims Association, INC

07.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS

Executive Board members of Victim Support Europe at December 31, 2022



President

Rosa Jansen

President of the Board of Directors of Victim Support the Netherlands and the Foundation Restorative Justice



Vice-President

Petra Klein

Chief Executive, Victim Support Weisser Ring Germany



Vice President

Jérôme Moreau

France Victimes, France



Treasurer

Carmen Rasquete

Chief Executive, Victim Support Secretary General, Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV)



Frida Wheldon

Director for Legal Affairs,
Victim Support Sweden



Livija Plancic

President of White Circle Croatia



Gábor Veisz

Member of Fehér Gyuru Közhasznú
Egyesület/White Ring Association



Tobias Koertner

Team leader for victim support at
Weisser Ring Austria



Silvia Taravan

President of Rete Dafne Italia



Julianne Grima

President of Rete Dafne Italia

08.

HEAD OFFICE



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Executive Director



Aleksandra Ivankovic

Deputy Director



Antonio De Martin

Project Manager



Mazen Alsiufi

Finance Officer



Cristina Ana

Policy Manager



Marina Kazakova

Communications Officer



Ruth Mary Shrimpling

Policy Officer



Léa Meindre-Chautrand

Policy Officer



Inês Nunes de Freitas

Project Officer



Annelies Blondé

Junior Policy Officer



Iris Lokerse

Policy Assistant



Solène Baudouin-Naneix

Policy Assistant



Lieselotte Van Den Heuvel

Communication Assistant (Internship)



Ruben Dos Santos

Communication Assistant (Internship)



Keti Varoschlija Botterman

Junior Administrative Officer



Sara Savoini

Executive Assistant



Maria Georgiou

Senior Project Officer



Kristina Marfeldt

Project Officer



Krista Tabone Urso

Membership and Capacity Building Advisor



Oleksandra (Sasha) Boychenko

Researcher



An Verelst

Volunteer



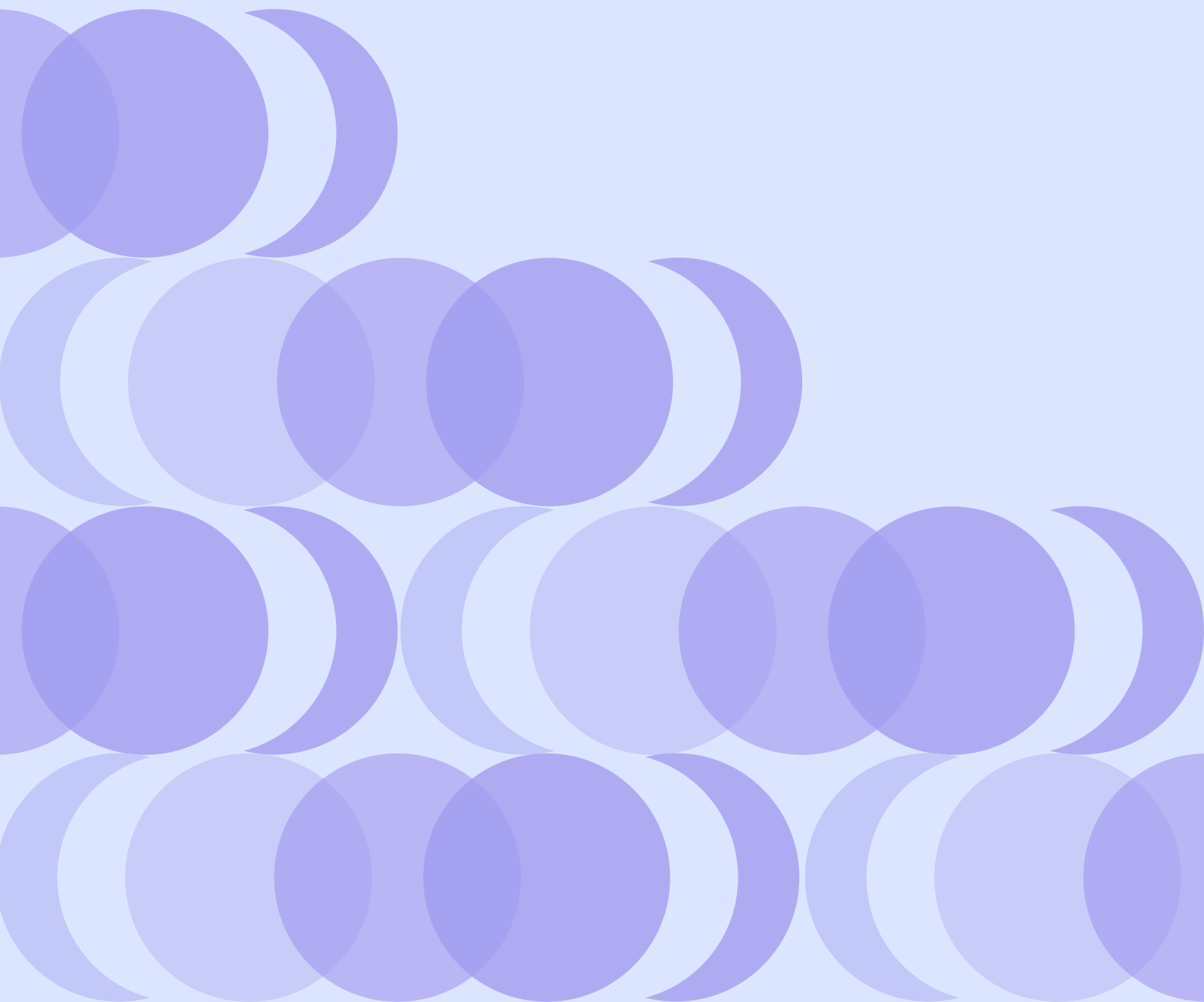
Pamela Dalby

Volunteer



Sigal Haimov

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