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### Holiday Greetings from VSE

Dear VSE members, partners and friends,

As 2023 comes to a close, it's difficult to believe it passed by so hastily. We hope that this year was positive for you all and that you were able to overcome

challenges productively.

Like each year before it, 2023 brought its own set of unique challenges for the victim support community. The effects of war and terrorism still touch us all, along with an ever more divided political atmosphere. We applaud each and every one of you for staying resilient in these testing times.

For Victim Support Europe, 2023 was certainly impressive: we achieved operating grant milestones, [spearheaded new EU projects](#), [welcomed new members](#), [held our successful annual conference](#), [released three policy papers](#) and developed innovative methods of promotion, such as the [model provisions paper microwebsite](#). Our VSE team also grew considerably, with the addition of new staff in late 2023 rendering us stronger than ever.

### **So, what are our hopes for 2024?**

As the EU elections will take place, 2024 will hold a crucial opportunity for us to affect real change at European level. We must seize this opportunity and elect government officials who are committed to advancing the rights of all victims - no matter the victim, no matter the crime.

A key aspect of our campaigning work next year will [relate victim support to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals \(SDG's\)](#). We hope to highlight the fact that without robust and comprehensive systems of support, many of the SDG's will remain only a well-intentioned fantasy. Victim support must be at the forefront for a just, healthy and sustainable society. You can learn more about our 2024 campaign on our website [here](#).

We wish you all a happy, healthy and safe holiday period and hope that 2024 will be as fruitful as years past.

Best wishes from all of us at Victim Support Europe

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## **VSE's General Meeting 2023: Conclusions & Election Results**

**The virtual gathering of Victim Support Europe's General Meeting on December 1st marked a pivotal moment for the organisation. With our**

**members, we reflected on the challenges of the past year and looked to our future.**

In her opening address, President Jansen spotlighted Victim Support Europe's remarkable expansion. The organisation not only welcomed new team members but also saw a surge in membership with five esteemed organisations — [Victim Support Foundation Poland](#), [Medical Innovative Interventions](#) (Cameroon), [Opferhilfe Berlin](#) (Germany), [The Smile of the Child](#) (Greece), and [Victim Support Morocco](#) — joining the cause.

A crucial highlight of the meeting was the re-election of Silvia Taravan from [Rete Dafne Italia](#) as an executive board member, with unanimous support from all 15 voting members. The financial transparency of VSE was a key focus, with President Jansen, Treasurer Carmen Rasquete, and Executive Director Levent Altan providing a detailed overview of the organisation's finances and projections for 2024.



Congratulations on re-election!

**SILVIA TARAVAN**  
Executive Board Member

Celebrating the achievements of 2023, including the publication of three impactful policy papers, membership growth, leadership in EU projects, and successful events, the meeting culminated in discussions about upcoming campaigns. The European Day for Victims of Crime event on February 22nd and plans for the annual conference in Zagreb, Croatia, were outlined, emphasising the organisation's commitment to addressing victim support in the context of sustainable development goals.

As the meeting concluded, President Jansen, Levent Altan, and Vice President Petra Klein shared words of encouragement, expressing gratitude to members for their unwavering support. Victim Support Europe looks ahead with optimism, buoyed by the collective dedication of its members.

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## VSE's Latest Updates

**VSE Engages in Key Talks on Enhanced Victims' Rights Directive at European Parliament**



In a series of influential meetings held at the European Parliament on 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November, Victim Support Europe (VSE) was given the opportunity to participate in crucial discussions on the revision of the [2012 Victims' Rights Directive](#).

[→ READ MORE](#)

## Victim Support Europe Stands Up for Women: #NoWomanLeftBehind



On the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women (November 25th), Victim Support Europe stands beside every woman who has suffered from violence. Every woman matters, and none should be overlooked or brushed aside.

[→ READ MORE](#)

## AREV Final Project Conference Report is Out!



The Final Conference of the [Advancing Rights of Estonian Victims \(AREV\)](#) project took place on 19 September 2023 in Narva (Estonia); it was hosted by Victim Support Europe and the [Ministry of Justice Estonia](#).

[→ READ MORE](#)

## Launch of Model Provisions Microwebsite



In an attempt to further promote the content of our Model Provisions Paper (MPP), Victim Support Europe have released the first version of the MPP microwebsite ([mpp.victim-support.eu](http://mpp.victim-support.eu)).

[→ READ MORE](#)

## 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 78 national member organisations, providing support and information services to more than 3 million people affected by crime every year in 36 countries.

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