



Welcome to the Autumn 2024 edition of Victims' Voice, Victim Support Europe's newsletter! For more regular updates on our work, make sure to follow us on [Instagram](#), [X](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

01 - VICTIM SUPPORT NEWS IN 120 SECONDS - EPISODE #3

In a rush but want to hear the latest development in victims' rights across Europe? Watch the newest episode of victim support news in just 120 seconds!



LATEST NEWS

VSE Hosts Side

Event at UNTOC

02 - VSE PROJECT NEWS

Conference in
Vienna, Austria

Final Conference
Marks Culmination of
the COVIS Project

Levent Altan of VSE
Leads Panel on
NGOs Bridging
Research Gaps in
Crime and Terrorism
at CERIS Event



2GETHER4VICTIMS: On the 26th of September, the Advisory Board for 2G4V met online for the second time to discuss the project's progress and gather experts' feedback on the research report and the first drafts of the Individual Needs Assessment (INA) and Organisational Self-Assessment (OSA) tools that Women's Room and APAV have been working on, in close collaboration with the partnership.

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BENEVICT: On 15 October, VSE presented key findings from project BeneVict in a webinar hosted by Spanish partner ATENIN with the title "I Jornadas sobre Victimoasistencia: De Víctima a Protagonista." The findings focused on common challenges in the practical implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive in the 26 EU Member States represented in the project. Moreover, VSE is developing a Victims Rights Index methodology and is finalising the report on the assessment of the practical implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive which will be available by the end of 2024.

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IMPACT

IMPACT: On Thursday, September 19th, the kick-off meeting for project IMPACT occurred. Taking place at the Permanent Representation of Malta to the European Union, this inaugural meeting brought together key stakeholders from Estonia, Malta, and Portugal, as well as stakeholders from the Directorate-General for Structural Reform Support (DG REFORM) of the European Commission.

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DISRUPT: The DISRUPT project recently held its first-ever intensive training at the European Parliament in Brussels, bringing together law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judicial authorities, and legal practitioners from across Europe to tackle human trafficking through innovative digital means. This two-day training, held on October 16 and 17, focused on advancing the use of digital evidence in investigating and prosecuting trafficking cases, particularly those involving child victims.

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03 - VSE LAUNCHES 2025 CAMPAIGN IN BRUSSELS TIMES ARTICLE



Check out our latest article in The Brussels Times highlighting the inspiring launch of VSE's 2025 campaign - 'The Year of Victims' Rights'! In 2025, VSE will spearhead this pivotal initiative, marking

a significant milestone in the advocacy for victims of crime across Europe. This year-long endeavour, driven by VSE and its 80 member organisations, aims at advancing the cause of victims' rights through three core objectives: universality, progress, and engagement.

With your support, we can build a brighter future for all victims of crime. Don't miss out on how you can get involved and make a difference—read the full article now!

[READ MORE](#)

04 - SAVE THE DATE FOR VSE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2025



Victim Support Europe (VSE) and the Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV) are delighted to announce the Victim Support Europe 2025 Annual Conference – “35 Years of Victim Support in Europe – Transforming Lives Today, Inspiring a Brighter Tomorrow”.

VSE Annual Conference 2025 will take place in Lisbon from 22 – 23 May 2025. It will be a hybrid conference, and we hope to welcome victim support community and affiliated professionals from around the world both on-site, at the spectacular premises of Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, and digitally.

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05 - POLICY NEWS



Victim Support Europe's policy and advocacy team has been working tirelessly to further bring victims' rights to the fore. Learn more about:

- **The Inter-institutional State of Play on the VRD**
- **Meetings with Justice and Home Affairs Counsellors**
- **MEP Briefing**
- **CRAG Membership**

and more! [Read further on our website.](#)

06 - NEWS FROM VSE MEMBERS



IRELAND: Victim Support at Court (V-SAC) is now a fully national service, and its volunteers provide support for victims of crime in every county of the Republic of Ireland. The official opening of V-SAC's new office in Cork City completes this last phase of its national expansion.

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ALBANIA: The Executive Director of CRCA/ECPAT Albania, Mr. Altin Hazizaj, was welcomed a meeting, with vice Prime Minister of Albania, Mrs. Belinda Balluku. The meeting was organized following CRCA Albania's effort to



stimulate discussions and engagement of public institutions, policy makers, civil society and the Internet industry, to establish a new architecture for the safety and protection of children in digital space.

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NEW ZEALAND: Victim Support in New Zealand has recently wrapped up its most ambitious campaign yet, addressing a deeply rooted problem: victim blaming. The advocacy campaign addressed an enduring cultural issue highlighted in their latest [research](#). It discovered that victim blaming has a profound impact on both victims of crime and the social fabric of New Zealand. Some research participants even said that victim blaming was worse than the crime itself.

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CROATIA: White Circle Croatia highlights the Final Conference held in Zagreb entitled 'Victims' Rights: Where are we today?' as the final part of the project 'Survive, Overcome and Support Victims of Crime' - 'S.O.S. for victims', an extremely important event. It marks the culmination of a two-year project funded by the European Commission. Throughout the past few months, White Circle Croatia continuously provided social services to their users. There is a noticeable growth of as much as 30% of users seeking psychosocial support compared to last year.

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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 80 national member organisations, providing support and information services to more than 3 million people affected by crime every year in over 35 countries.



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