



VSE NEWSLETTER – WINTER 2019

Making Victims' Rights a Reality



Victim Support Europe
Annual Conference 2019
STRASBOURG 12 - 13 JUNE



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VSE NEWS

Our campaign 'Making Victims' Rights a Reality' has officially kicked off



Victim Support Europe runs a 10-day social media campaign in recognition of #EuropeanDayForVictimsofCrime with the overall aim to make victims' rights a reality on practice. The campaign began on February 11 and runs through February 22: European Day of Victims of Crime. The campaign seeks to mobilise civil society, activists and authorities to improve the access to victim support services in member states and to encourage victims to reach out the support services.

Each of the 10 days of the campaign covers a specific victims' right to illustrate the law and how it works in practice with different types of victims in society.

[Learn more and join the campaign >>](#)

VSE Annual Conference 2019: Pre-Registration is Open!



Victim Support Europe
Annual Conference 2019
STRASBOURG 12 - 13 JUNE



Pre-Registration is Open!

Stay up-to-date on the conference updates including, but not limited to, program updates, social activities and venues, early bird registration, and start planning a fruitful weekend in Strasbourg in June!

**PRE-REGISTER NOW
&
BENEFIT FROM THE EARLY BIRD RATE!**

Start planning a fruitful weekend in Strasbourg in June!

Pre-registering will automatically give you access to the early bird rate for the Conference.

You simply have to put in your email address, and we will send you all the information when you will be able to formally register to the Conference and social events.

[Pre-Register Online](#)

The EU Parliament Elections are coming – WHAT SHOULD WE BE DOING?



Let's take action! Victims support Europe is preparing a pre-election lobbying toolkit which will include:

Model Lobbying Letter to be sent by VSE members to MEP candidates asking them to support putting victims' issues on the agenda at the European Parliament.

Joint Open Letter to be published on VSE website, social media and members' websites addressed to prominent supporters and political parties.

Joint statement on 11 March 2019: The European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism.

It's going to be a much busier couple of months for us, but as always an election provides an excellent opportunity to make the case for the changes we want to see, and to make sure that the voice of victims is heard loud and clear.

Guidance on preparing a memorial event in the aftermath of a terrorist attack

HONOURING VICTIMS OF TERRORISM

Guidance on preparing a memorial event in
the aftermath of a terrorist attack

In preparation for the upcoming European Day of Remembrance of Victims of Terrorism of the VSE has created and published the guidance on preparing a memorial event in the aftermath of a terrorist attack.

[Learn more and download the infographics >>](#)

'Victim Support Europe Netherlands' Accreditation: Getting Started

We started active preparation to the 2019 accreditation of our member Victim Support Netherlands ([Slachtofferhulp Nederland](#)). The accreditation is conducted in accordance with Victim Support Europe Service Standards. The results are planned to be presented at VSE's Annual Autumn Conference 2019 in Brussels.

We are proud of 'Victim Support Netherlands' for setting their sights high and making every effort to help victims in The Netherlands.



Vice President of VSE receives the Silver Medal of the Bavarian Constitution

Helgard van Hüllen, Vice President of the Victim Support Europe, receives the Silver Medal of the Bavarian Constitution at the State Parliament in Munich, Germany, 01 February 2019. The Medal of the Bavarian Constitution was awarded to Mrs. van Hüllen for a life time commitment and work, namely in Weisser Ring Germany, for the well being of the community and public interest. The ceremony took place in the Senate Room (Senatssaal)

of the Bavarian Parliament (Bayerischer Landtag).

A hearty congratulations and best wishes to our Vice President Helgard van Hüllen!



Introduction of Victim Support System in Serbia

On December 18, 2018 the 'Multi Donor Trust Fund for Justice Sector Support in Serbia' organized the conference on victim support in Serbia. The aim of the conference was to present reports and analysis prepared to inform Serbian authorities how to ensure quality of victim support services and role of NGOs in providing victim support, as well as practice of entry points institutions.

[Learn more and download the infographics >>](#)

The VSE's report on 'How to Ensure Quality of Victim Support Services?' is now online

To support Serbian authorities to develop quality standards for victim support services the MDTF JSS in partnership with Victim Support Europe prepared this report. The proposed standards should be acceptable to and seen as valuable by different stakeholders from policy makers to NGOs and the judiciary.

[Read the report online >>](#)

The Partners' Meeting of the VICToRIIA Project

The [VICToRIIA](#) project aims to ensure that victims of crime in Lithuania, Romania, Italy and Portugal have access to and are offered tailored victim support services suited to their needs. The results of the project will be available and transferrable across Europe with that knowledge exchange being supported through VSE's extensive victim support network.

On 21 and 22 January, VSE participated in the second Partners' meeting of the VICToRIIA project 'Best Practices in Victims' Support: Referrals, Information, Individual Assessment' in Lisbon, Portugal. The partners of the project – APAV (Portugal), the Center for Legal Research CLR (Romania), Associazione LIBRA Onlus (Italy), Nusikalstamumo Oreveicijos Lietuvoje Centras NPLC (Lithuania), and VSE – met in APAV's head office to discuss the ongoing research and define the role of each partners in the project.

The 2-day meeting was an opportunity to share ideas and look into existing practices to

best adapt our project to deliver new and useful tools for practitioners and victims support services to use.

VSE EVENTS

VSE's Annual Conference | Strasbourg 12-13 June 2019 (AGM 14 June)



Welcome to [Victim Support Europe Annual Conference in Strasbourg](#) on the 12th-13th of June 2019! The Conference is a major international event bringing together the key players working with victims of crime. Between 200 and 250 participants from victim support organisations as well as practitioners, researchers, experts, academics, government officials and criminal Justice officials attend annually. France Victimes will host the 2019 event in Strasbourg.

This year's Conference "Victim recovery: a road of many routes" will focus on all victims of crimes but during workshops it will also have a specific focus on victims of hate crimes, terrorism, cybercrime, sexual violence, and on emergency and collective events. It will also aim at developing our understanding of vulnerability, developing victim-oriented justice systems and also on developing effective support services.

Learn more on: <http://2019.vse-conference.eu/>

Victim Support Europe supports K[no]wHate Campaign 2019



[KnowHate Art Campaign](#) is a coordinated effort between content creators (poets, artists, musicians and journalists) and independent partners (squats, private venues and NGOs) against hate, violence and discrimination. The aim of the action is to take action against hate speech through alternative narratives. A Series of K[no]wHate events will take place throughout the year 2019 in Belgium (Brussels, Antwerp, Hasselt, Leuven, Genk), in Italy ([14 & 16 March in Turin and Milan](#)) and in France (Montpellier). The results of the campaign will be compiled into the 'Know Hate Online Library' - an online web platform containing all practical outputs of the project.

As a partner, Victim Support Europe participates in cross promotion activities to improve the campaign's online visibility and give wide publicity to the issues concerning victims' of hate crimes.

[Learn more about the campaign >>](#)

VSE FEATURE STORY

YASMINE, Brussels-based victim of hate crime, shares her story

Victim Support Europe runs a campaign in recognition of European Day For Victims of Crime with the overall aim - to make victims' rights a reality on practice. We have been talking to victims of hate crimes and those working in this area to understand where authorities failed to help, where things went well and what needs to be improved.

Yasmine has spoken out about being a victim of a hate crime after she was assaulted in her hometown of Brussels.

[Watch Yasmine's story \(in French with English subtitles\) >>](#)



VSE FEATURE INTERVIEW

What does Victim Support Europe do to make our volunteers happy

The team of Victim Support Europe is working hard to inspire, train and care for our volunteers. Recently, we have developed a brand new volunteering policy to improve the growing relationship with our existing volunteers and to involve more people who care about victims of crime! We will inspire the volunteers! We will share our knowledge with them! We will celebrate their success and recognize dedication! They deserve it!

Today we talk with Léa Meindre-Chautrand, Policy Officer at VSE, who has recently finalised VSE's new volunteering policy.

[Continue Reading >>](#)

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

PORTUGAL: The Portuguese Association for Victim Support (APAV)

[Continue Reading >>](#)

CROATIA: The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, Service for Victim and Witness Support

[Continue Reading >>](#)

SPAIN: EMDR Early Intervention With Survivors In The Aftermath Of The Barcelona Terror Attacks

[Continue Reading >>](#)

ITALY: Rete Dafne

For the European Day For Victims Of Crime Victim Support Europe's member Rete Dafne Italia is organising a 2-day conference on victims rights which will take place in Florence, Italy on the 2-23 February. Together we

[#MakeVictimsRightsaReality!](#)

[See the programme >>](#)

DANMARK: Victim Support Danmark

[Continue Reading >>](#)

FRANCE: France Victimes (in French)

[Continue Reading >>](#)

BELGIUM: Outputs and results of the 'Victims of road traffic offences' project

The aim of the project is to explain which information or support you are entitled to after being victimised by a road traffic offence. On this [webpage](#) you can download the practical tools for road victims of the project 'Victims of road traffic offences' (Participatory videos, Booklet 'What after a crash abroad?', Contact cards, Rights leaflet).

UK: The Mayor of London invests £15m in improved services for victims and witnesses

[Continue Reading >>](#)

MEMBER AND STAKEHOLDER EVENTS

Victim Support Asia 1st International Conference - 24 March 2019, Seoul, South Korea

[Read more >>](#)

Meeting of AMBER Alert Europe's Police Expert Network on Missing Children

Police experts from across Europe had a successful meeting in Prague to save more missing children

[Read more >>](#)

22nd FEB CAMPAIGN VIDEOS WORTH YOUR TIME



[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: YASMINE](#)

[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: Robby Simenon](#)

[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: Philip Adlem](#)

[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: Cathal Delaney](#)

[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: Anna Ropianyk](#)

[The video from Crime Victims Helpline \(Ireland\):](#)

[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: Victimology Society of Serbia \(self-intro\)](#)

[The video from Victim Support Austria - WEISSEN RING \(in German\)](#)

[Making Victims' Rights a Reality: White Circle Croatia \(self-intro\)](#)



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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 29 countries.

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