

ANNUAL REPORT

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CENTRE FOR WOMEN WAR VICTIMS - ROSA

Centre for Women War Victims - ROSA (Center ROSA) is a feminist, anti-militarist organization, founded in 1992 with aims at providing support and assistance to women survivors of war and other forms of violence and discrimination against women; and opposing nationalism, militarism, war, sexism and other forms of oppression.

The objectives of the Center ROSA are: Realization of rights of women to life free of violence, Peace building and dealing with the past by incorporating gender dimension, Promotion of laws and policies and their implementation in the area of women's human rights, Increase of influence of civil society and the feminist movement on social change.

Work of Center ROSA is focused on four main fields of activities: **I.** Help and support to women who have survived various forms of gender-based violence (prostitution, rape, war time rape and other forms of war violence, trafficking in women and girls for sexual exploitation), **II.** Women's peace politics/gender dimension of transitional justice: Development of antimilitarist, antiauthoritarian, non-violent culture and sustainable peace by participating in organization of women's courts and transitional justice initiatives, supporting the work on establishing the truth about war crimes, **III.** Advocacy activities for the promotion of women's rights and position of women and girls in society at national and international level: monitoring legal changes related to violence against women, organizing public panels and conferences, creating analysis of legal situation in Croatia in comparison with international obligations, organizing public actions and campaigns; **IV.** Empowerment of feminist movement and civil society: organizing training and seminars for activists and women's groups, but also representatives of state agencies; work with other feminist organizations in national, regional and EU networks, work with other civil society organizations and supporting other human rights movements.

Political and social context in Croatia and its influence on position of women's human rights

In 2016 right parties achieved electoral success and far-right representatives were included on prominent positions. Conservative opposition won the country's first election since it joined the European Union in 2013. During 2016 Croatia changed three Governments amid a migrant/refugee crisis, stagnant economic growth and growing disillusionment with the European Union.

Right wing parties in coalition won elections on 8 November 2015. The negotiation process leading to its formation was the longest in Croatian history, totaling at a record 76 days. Government cabinet led by Prime Minister Tihomir Orešković was in function from 22 January until 19 October 2016. On 16 June 2016, Orešković's government lost a motion of no confidence in the Parliament. As a result the Orešković cabinet served in an acting capacity until a new government took office after the 2016 election that took place on 11 September 2016. These were the ninth parliamentary elections since the 1990 multi-party elections.

Period from January to June was particularly critical: on 22 January 2016 the vice-president of the Croatian Government, Tomislav Karamarko, president of HDZ and the leader of the ruling coalition in Croatia, has been putting into action his plan, announced during the election campaign, to silence all dissenting voices in the country, in line with his statement that citizens "would be free to think their minds within their own four walls, yet not in the public sphere". At the same occasion he promulgated the concept of national identity to be adhered to by all citizens: "They will have to respect the values on which the Croatian state is founded – Homeland War, our war veterans and all

killed, the political doctrine of Franjo Tuđman and the great deed of Gojko Šušak.” In addition Minister for War Veterans proposed the creation of a register of “national traitors”, while Minister of Culture became a historian Zlatko Hasanbegović who had written articles for an extreme right-wing bulletin and on several occasions praised the World War II Fascist Ustaša movement and trying to resurrect symbols and history of the wartime Independent State of Croatia (NDH), a Nazi-Germany ally which massacred non-Croats. He wrote in several magazine articles in the 1990s, saying NDH fighters - Ustasas - were "heroes and martyrs" and also called for a "Greater Croatia". The NDH's Second World War reach included Bosnia-Herzegovina and parts of Serbia. Therefore activists gathered in front of Croatia's parliament booing and shouting "Goebbels!" He has also called for the annual commemorations at the Jasenovac concentration camp to be ended as he believes they were used to rehabilitate communism. Leading Jewish human rights agency the Simon Wiesenthal Center earlier this year expressed its "shock and indignation" at Mr Hasanbegović's appointment. In a statement, it said: "We urge the Croatian government to replace Mr. Hasanbegovic with a person suitable for the post of Minister of Culture who will bring honor and prestige to the post, rather than embarrass his country before the entire world." Hundreds of thousands of Roma, Jewish people, Serbs and anti-fascists were killed at the camp.

Despite the controversies surrounding him, Hasanbegovic remained in office until the end of this Government's mandate. His interventions in the media and in culture resulted in closing independent media and significantly cutting funds for civil society organizations. Both Prime Minister Orešković and HDZ leader Karamarko have been accused of not condemning Ustaša flags and chants and the Prime Minister said the Croatian Government does not tolerate nationalist extremists.

Finally the parliament's Commission for Conflicts of Interest ruled that Karamarko had been in a conflict of interest over his wife's relations to MOL lobbyist. Karamarko, leader of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), quit after an ethics commission ruled there was a conflict of interest because of his connections to a lobbyist for oil company MOL, in which the Hungarian state has a 24 percent stake, which has been in dispute with the Croatian government over the takeover of a Croatian firm.

With its northern neighbour, Slovenia, Croatia continued to argue over the maritime border in the northern Adriatic. Croatia's relations with Russia also deteriorated. Shortly after the new government assumed office, Plenković visited Ukraine. There he offered Croatia's own experience in peacefully re-integrating rebel-held territory in 1995 as a possible model for Ukraine, parts of which in the east are under the control of pro-Russian rebels. Russia slated both the initiative and Croatia's treatment of its Serbian minority.

All of that resulted with the September elections that were contested by the two largest parties the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ), led by Andrej Plenković, and the Social Democratic Party (SDP) led by Zoran Milanović. The election resulted in a victory of HDZ, same right wing party that lost a motion of no confidence couple of months before.

Some most radical politicians were moved aside but main political course stayed the same. Elections and political instability slowed down process of adopting laws and other strategic documents.

The National Foundation for Civil Society Development, the only public institution providing institutional support to civil society organizations, was threaten with a 70% cut in its funding from lottery sources. In the 2016 budget, the National Foundation's budget was increased by 5% in comparison to the previous year, with projections of significant increases in 2017 and 2018, primarily in relation to expected dynamics of co-financing and bridging funds for CSO projects funded from EU structural funds (ESF).

However, less than a month after the Parliament adopted the State Budget, the Government issued a Proposal of the Regulation for 2016, whereby the percentage earmarked for the National Foundation was cut to only 4,41%. In absolute figures this amounts to 30 million HRK (4 million EUR) less funding. The proposal was prepared and suddenly introduced into procedure without prior consultations at the level of the Government's Council for Civil Society Development – the inter-sectoral body specifically designed for dialogue on civil-society-related policy development. This campaign is spearheaded by the leader of a marginal ultra-conservative party Ladislav Ilčić – a partner in the ruling coalition, and the leader of the homophobic referendum In the Name of Family, Željka Markić, who is also closely related to Minister Hasanbegović. On the basis of ideological differences, they are targeting the National Foundation as it has, among others, also disbursed grants to pro-democratic CSOs. In their attempt to silence those organizations, they are willing to destroy the entire infrastructure for civil society development, including program and institutional funding that is currently disbursed among CSOs supporting vulnerable social groups

Possition of women

The elections brought lowest number of women in the Parliament: 19 women MPs is far from the number that can initiate women's policies and promote issues important for women. Such Parliament is not only non-women but against-women. Among 151 members there is only 12, 6% women, lowest in many years. Although women's quotas are guaranteed by law, political parties were rather willing to pay fines but to nominate women. Only some of the smaller parties acted according to the law that requires 40% of women on candidates lists for the Parliament.

Representatives of "conservative revolution" strongly connected to Catholic Church – church related "family" NGOs become part of political elite and took political positions in different ministries, Parliament and President's Office. Already existing attacks on women's human rights and „gender ideology“ by Catholic Church particularly Catholic organization Opus Dei and related number of newly formatted NGOs have radicalized and got full Governmental support. Their members become part of political elite. They influenced Constitutional Court to start the procedure and decide, after 24 years, on the request for the review of the constitutionality of the Act on Healthcare Measures in the Realization of the Freedom of Right to Decide on Childbirth from 1978, addressed by Croatian Movement for Life and the Family to the Constitutional Court already in 1991. The prohibition of right to safe abortion is openly announced.

Direct attack against NGOs that provide critical analysis of society and mobilize citizens for social engagement is in place. After new Government was established relevant bodies started serious cuttings of funds for civil society organizations. Well informed, critical and active citizens became barrier to current Government which decided to silence them.

In past year and a half with change of Government(s) intolerance and attacks on civil society organizations are increasingly common, conservative Catholic influence is strengthening and women's human rights are publicly attacked, while pressure in public is created to reduce them. The government has significantly slashed funds intended for civil society and human rights activists are often attack in media and in public.

After years of attacking women's sexual and reproductive rights: firstly right for sexuality educations in schools, then medically assisted insemination regulations, and LGBT rights and marriage equality, Catholic Church and related NGOs, now supported by Government, strongly focused on attacks against freedom of abortion.

First Croatian Congress in Forensic Gynaecology and Perinatology was organised from 16–18 September in Topusko. The Congress is being organised under the auspices of the President of the Republic of Croatia as well as Cardinal Josip Bozanić and Bishop Vlado Košić, high-ranking officials

from the Catholic Church in Croatia. Both Božanić and Košić are very vocal opponents of sexual and reproductive health rights, and have been working tirelessly over the past ten years to ensure that women in Croatia have great difficulties in accessing comprehensive health information, family planning support, contraception, on-demand abortion all the while ignoring the everyday routines of Croatian maternity hospitals, lack of informed consent for women accessing maternity services and lack of transparency and accurate patient records. The fact that high-ranking officials of a religious denomination that is so vehemently against women having the (human) right to informed consent about decisions about their bodies casts a very ugly shadow on the entire event, on the professional and scientific integrity of the event organisers, their institutions, and the hundreds of gynaecologists, obstetricians, midwives and nurses whose resounding silence legitimises these facts.

Catholic movement organized first “National Walk for Life” held on 21 May 2017. They changed their discourse to be more acceptable to mainstream citizens and planned to grow into massive protest. Police reports stated that there were 7.000 people at this walk. At the same time together with Women’s Network Croatia and other feminist initiatives we organized protest Defend Your Right to Choose. Faced with aggressive threats to the reproductive rights of women, Centre ROSA is one of the organizations gathering activists, initiatives and organizations to act in public action protecting the right for choice, autonomy and freedom.

Women victims of wartime violence more than 20 years after still suffer from deep trauma. Their perpetrators have not been sanctioned for these crimes, and the impunity surrounding such perpetrators was seen as a further insult to numerous victims.

More than two decades after the war Croatia still needs to address effectively a number of pending issues related to the 1990’ies wars, including the elimination of impunity for serious human rights violations and violations of international humanitarian law, the provision of effective and adequate reparations to all war victims, establishing the truth about missing persons and creating the necessary living and societal conditions for sustainable return of refugees.

Although in last couple of year Croatia made an important step towards recognition of status of women war rape survivors by bringing the new Law on status of victims of sexual violence during war, the new political development endangered the implementation of this ground-breaking legislation.

Centre ROSA was engaged significantly in advocacy activities relating to this Law. The Law was adopted in June 2015 and in October survivors started applying for status of victims. Since the Law was created in a very hostile atmosphere from war veterans organizations acting against previous government before the elections, the Law was finished with some problematic provisions, but we all supported it for the time being so that women can start to get compensation. After government was changed process of awarding the Status of survivor of war time rape was slowed and some of our clients have been waiting for months for the decision of the Ministry of War Veterans in charge for the implementation. The psychological situation and medical conditions deteriorated and anxieties rose. In the meantime some of the women war rape survivors were rejected the status on a very non-transparent and dubious ground. Some suffer discrimination on the ground of their ethnicity. Therefore we are in process to submit the request for constitutionality of the Law.

It is the State’s responsibility to adequately prosecute and ensure effective sanctions against the perpetrators of such crimes. In some instances of prosecution, the perpetrators have managed to flee to neighbouring countries either before, during or after the trials.

Apart from being denied access to justice, women survivors of wartime violence are also unable to exercise the right to reparation.

We analysed the content of the Law, detected its deficiencies and submitted a request for review of the constitutionality of the law to the Constitutional Court.

In area of other forms of violence against women are also facing serious problems. All legislation and National policies are directed towards protection of family and children, whereas women are subject of protection only in Gender Equality Act. That is clearly seen in recent law changes – a new Criminal Code, adopted in 2011, came into force on 1 January 2013 and introduced amendments related to family violence. Women's organizations see this as a deterioration of the position of women who survive male/partner violence. The offence of "violent behaviour" included in the previous Criminal Code was often treated both as misdemeanour and criminal offence, resulting in the application of dual criteria. Through *Maresti v. Croatia*, the European Court of Human Rights stated the unacceptability of such practice. In the new Criminal Code, the "violent behaviour" offence is no longer included as an independent criminal offence but as a qualified (more severe) form of certain criminal offences, such as injuries, severe injuries, extremely severe injuries, threatening, coercion, or mutilation of female sexual organs, thus reinforcing the hierarchy of harm. After almost a year of implementation of new Criminal Code the official data show that the violence against women in family has been much less visible in official statistics. This way the serious treatment of violence against women in family is lost and most of reported cases are and will be processed as misdemeanour offences through Act on protection Against Violence in Family and not as criminal offences. Implementation is serious problem. Police officers tend to assume that domestic violence is a private matter or is a result of alcohol abuse. These results in an ineffective police response, such as the failure to take domestic violence seriously, inform victims of their rights refer them to services or charge the perpetrator. Women's NGOs are particularly worried because of many cases of dual arrests, where both the perpetrator and the victim are arrested and sometimes charged with offences such as disturbing public order. Statistics showed that women constitute up to 35% of the arrest in cases of domestic violence.

Sexuality education in schools: Sex/gender equality and sexually responsible behaviour is just one of four modules within the Health education that started in schoolyear 2012/2013 as experimental program in elementary schools in highschoools. However Health education does not have status of separate subject but all its themes and content are itegrated in existing subjects such as Nature and Society, Biology, Physical and Health Culture and Psychology. Sexuality education as part of Health Education takes only 3-4 school classes annually if being implemented at all. It is not even far enough, and especially Health Education has an aim at adopting skills of healthy life and not only receiving information. Cross-subject implementation should comprise 70% of the content, where as 30% of the curriculum of Health education is integraded into class-teacher's hours which comprise 12 hours per year. Other modules of Health education cover various aspects of health: "Healthy living", "Prevention of violent behaviour" and "Addiction prevention". Since Health education is not a separate subject in school it is very hard to know how it has been implemented and has it been implemented at all. In Croatia there is no supervision of implementation of Health Education. Experiences from the filed have been that in some cities Health education has been well developed, while in some cities not at all. Implementation of Health education is given on disposition to each school. Experiences from the filed show that as long as Health educaton is not obligatory part of school programme there would always be individuals not willing to teach it. Supervision system whould be necessary, but in addition to it teachers should be selected and educated in the field of human sexuality. In majority of schools Health education has not been implemented.

Centre ROSA's activities during 2016

I. Direct support to women survivors of different forms of gender based violence

In 2016 Centre ROSA provided comprehensive support to women survivors of violence based on feminist principles. Most survivors we supported through psychological, legal and other forms of support survived war rape and other forms of war related violence, rape, trafficking in women, and prostitution. Centre for Women War Victims-ROSA is one of only few organizations in Croatia providing legal counselling and representation at courts for women survivors. Women survivors of male violence often suffer from inadequate and discriminative treatment by state agencies, legal procedures are long lasting, demanding and expensive, and hence not accessible to most of survivors. System of free legal aid provided by the State is completely inadequate. We organized self-help groups and network of mutual support between women war survivors, created a confidential and safe space for women, network of support network of feminist activist from Zagreb, Split, Pakrac, Osijek, Poreč that provide coordinated assistance on local and wider level. Many of survivors became activists on local level or regularly join our actions in Zagreb as their act of civic courage and care for other victims.

We provided telephone counselling through Help Line for victims of trafficking, free line 0800 77 99 every day from 10 am to 6 pm, and in person at Women's Counselling Centre. The Help Line has been working since 2002 and is a part of National Referral Mechanism against trafficking in persons. Help line provided advice, support and information for callers, as well as referrals to our Counselling Centre for face-to face counselling, or to other relevant institutions and NGOs. In addition to the Help line accessible 8 hours a day, survivors have contacted us to one mobile and two phone lines, in order to reach us when urgently needed, or in cases they call out of Croatia (toll free lines function only for national calls).

Psychological counselling, legal counselling and representation at courts were provided by: three case workers, two psychologists, four lawyers and psychiatrist. Case workers provided support on daily bases, Helpline worked every day including weekends and holidays, and members of mobile teams were available around a clock 24/7. Help Line received 256 calls related to trafficking in women and other forms of violence against women. Seven cases were reported to police Department of Organized Crime.

Statistics on calls we sent on monthly basis to the Office of Human Rights and the Rights of National Minorities as a coordinator of National Referral Mechanism. All cases of trafficking were referred to the Ministry of Interior immediately after application if client is asked for that. In opposite case we keep confidentiality and do not report to police. Cases of trafficking of women reported to the SOS line or other organizations/institutions were discussed at the monthly meetings of the Operational Team of the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Persons at the Office for Human Rights and National Minorities. In 2016 our representatives participated at all meetings of the Operational Team for Combating Trafficking in Persons which gathers relevant agencies and some NGOs to discuss concrete support to identified victims of trafficking The Operative Team met on 2 February, 21 March, 23 May and 25 October 2016.

Two our members were part of one of four Mobile teams for urgent intervention in cases of trafficking – that provide urgent referrals to medical and legal care and accommodation. Members of MT are on disposition 24/7. MTs are defined according to four regions in Croatia. Centre ROSA's activist are part of Zagreb and Zagreb County Team.

After the Law on Rights of Victims of Sexual Violence During Armed Forces at the Republic of Croatia in Homeland War was adopted in June 2015, during 2016 we continued to provide support to women who survived rape to submit their requests to Ministry of War Veterans to enable them to

obtain status of victim of sexual violence in war and all rights that result from it. The testimonies of the witnesses, participants of the Women's Court, have been considered as documentation for obtaining status. Two counsellors and psychologists have worked together with victims of war violence to provide psychological support and help in compiling the necessary documentation related to their testimonies of perpetration of violence including wider elaboration of consequences of the violence. Women needed additional support and psychological assistance during this period as situation of applying for status caused anxiety and fear that their requests would be approved. For this reason we have organized additional therapeutic sessions.

Support for women survivors has been organized on feminist principles of security, protection and empowerment that included free services, anonymity and confidentiality, trust in women's experiences of violence (opposite of institutions that often doubt their testimonies), encouraging women to take control over their lives and live lives free of violence. We continued to take care of specific needs for psychological support and legal support during the hearing to avoid re-traumatization and protect against hostile cross examination, rights to compensation and reparation from perpetrators. There were problems for survivors as to how to physically get to the court, including the financial cost of travel and lack of knowledge as to what entitlements there are and how to obtain them. There has also been a need to know about and see the court before appearing. Most women had not been into courts at all and found it intimidating.

We have supported 56 women survivors of different forms of male violence through in person support services. Majority of women were from Zagreb and Zagreb County, but also from other cities from Croatia.

We organized support group of women war survivors that was meeting at Women's Counseling Centre facilitated by activist and psychologist. For members of support group we organized therapeutic holidays in House SEKA on island Brač in June and September 2016.

We have distributing information to survivors and public about trafficking in women through web page of PETRA Network for Prevention and Elimination of Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation URL: <http://www.petra-nvo.net/>, and Facebook page SOS Help line for Victims of Trafficking in Human (@SosZaZrtveTrgovanjaLjudima), and about rape and war rape through web page Lila community URL: <http://www.lilazajednica.com.hr/>.

Center for Women Victims of War - ROSA provided legal assistance to women victims of rape in the war. Following are two case studies:

1. Case

In the first case, in 1993 woman was raped in city in Western Slavonia by members of the HVO (Croatian Defence Council). Her request for recognition of status through applying relevant law was rejected because rape according to Commission was not committed in circumstances directly related to aggression on Republic of Croatia, i.e. during war operations and operations.

Due to unlawful finding made by Ministry of Veterans, victim of rape in war filed an administrative complaint with Administrative Court. The Administrative Court dismissed the plaintiff's claim and refused to carry out proposed evidentiary proceedings (hearing of the party). Court reasoned essentially its decision in a way that criminal offense of rape that was undoubtedly found cannot be inferred "circumstances directly linked to the aggression of the Republic of Croatia during action of all armed forces of military, police and paramilitary units and groups" because in this case it is about the "individually motivated character of a criminal offense. Lacking a connection to war-circumstances-operations, or a direct link to the aggression against Republic of Croatia, nor does the area where rape occurred was war zone."

It should be noted that area where criminal offense was committed at the time of offense was affected by pedestrian and artillery conflicts. Armed actions started in April 1992 and since then, until 12 October 1995 lasted for longest period of general danger of general danger recorded in the Republic of Croatia for a full 1363 days. In impossibility of conquering these areas, it was thrown into the area of 45,000 grenades and projectiles from the far-sighted artillery.

Victim is Serbian nationality, and she was eighteen years old when she was raped during the war, in the war-affected area, by HVO members.

In explanation of the final proposal of relevant law, legislator wrote that "the *ratio legis* of the law is to protect victims who have suffered in circumstances directly related to Homeland War and that sexual violence in sense of law is what has been committed by exploiting these war circumstances towards civilian population either politically or as an individual excessive personally motivated character of the work ". Therefore, it was in the spirit of law to protect victim (claimant) and recognize her right and status as a victim of sexual violence as a direct consequence of war situation by a perpetrator who was a member of the HVO who committed crime when he came from the territory of BiH to the Republic of Croatia paying for themselves and their husbands.

The rape victim has appealed to the High Court of Justice of the Republic of Croatia, and case is still in procedure.

2. Case

In the second case, on September 12/13 1991 woman was raped in city in Eastern Slavonia by three JNA (Jugoslav National Army) members. Her application for recognition of the status through relevant law was rejected because the Commission considered that victim's testimony was inconclusive and was not detailed. Women survivor of rape described survived sexual violence in a very detailed way on five and a half pages of densely printed text so that a negative decision of Commission cannot be examined because the reasoning contradicts the documents in the file and the minutes of the statement of party and the supplementary statement of the party. Due to an unlawful solution issued by the Ministry of War Veterans, victim of war rape filed an administrative complaint with the Administrative Court and is expected to schedule a hearing.

2. WOMEN'S PEACE POLICIES / GENDER DIMENSION OF TRANSITIONAL RIGHTS

1/ Women's Court - Feminist Approach to Justice

Activities after organization of Women's Court - Feminist Approach to Justice:

Our organization is one of the founders of this regional initiative, launched in 2010 with the aim of opening up public space for women who survived war violence. The initiative brings together over 200 organizations from countries of former Yugoslavia. Over 20 organizations and 10 individual members joined the initiative in Croatia. The initiative in Croatia was coordinated by Center ROSA and Center for Women's Studies. After Women's Court was held in May 2015 in Sarajevo, we continued to support women who survived various forms of war violence, advocate for improving their position and organizing public presentations in cooperation with Women in Black Belgrade, Cure, Sarajevo and Anima, Kotor. Women in Black continued to be regional coordinator of the activities.

On 17 January 2016 Women in Black and Center ROSA organized meeting with witnesses and organizers of the Women's Court at premises of Centre ROSA. Aim of this meeting was exchanging of information about current situation in which witnesses are the final editing of the statements of Women's Courts witness testimonies for publication in Women's Court book. Four witnesses from Croatia and one from Slovenia and activist from Serbia and two from Croatia participated. On that

occasion witness who finally got her apartment after 15 years of law process invited to her home to celebrate.

From 5-7 February 2016 we participated at meeting of Network of Women in Black in Vrnjačka Banja called Creating an alternative vision of justice and different concept of human security. Our representative participated in panel „Challenges for Activism – past and present (pre-war, war, post-activism - similarities and differences)”. As a start for the discussion the documentary material about the first feminist conference in former Yugoslavia Comerad Woman (“Drug-ca žena”) that took place on 27-31 October 1978 in Belgrade was presented.

From 9-11 September 2016 we participated on the second annual meeting of Women in Black Network called “Creating an alternative vision of justice and a different concept of human security”. Our representative participated in panels: “Civil Society between fear, repression and struggle for survival” and “Civil Revolt – liberation from fear, solidarity, and alternative”.



On 27-29 May 2016 we participated at a regional meeting of Women's Witnesses and Women's Activists in Banja Koviljača, organized by Women in Black from Belgrade (as regional coordinators), Centre ROSA, organization Cure from Sarajevo and Anima from Kotor. A total of 32 participants from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia and Serbia and the United States participated, of whom 21 were women's witnesses (4 from Croatia).





From 16-18 December 2016, we participated at a regional meeting of Women's Court witnesses in Banja Vrujci in Serbia, organized by Women in Black from Belgrade in cooperation with Centre ROSA, Anima from Kotor and Cure from Sarajevo. Witnesses from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia participated, as well as activists and therapists. During this meeting, education was held regarding trials on international and national level, as well as a comparative review of legislation related to war time rape in former Yugoslavia countries.



On 16 October 2016 we participated at the promotion of Women's Court, featuring a film and panel held at Social Center Rog in Ljubljana. We co-organised this event as part of Women's Court coalition with a representative from Women in Black Belgrade, two representatives of Centre ROSA and 4 women witnesses from Women's Court. We agreed the future cooperation with Social Centre Rog and Association the Erased Citizens.



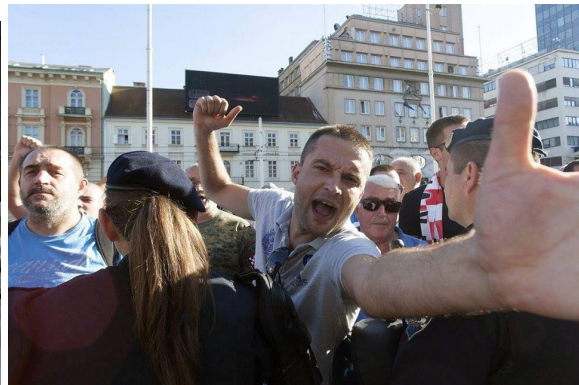
Public protests:

On 31 March 2016 Platform 112 and the Center for Women War Victims-ROSA organized a protest vigil in Zagreb's main square against the ICTY's acquittal of Vojislav Šešelj for crimes committed against civilians in Croatia, Bosnia and Vojvodina. The protest, put on with the support of the group Women in Black from Belgrade, was named "The release of Šešelj - defeat for justice, a disgrace to the court, no justice for the victims!" At the same time, a protest was held in Sarajevo, under the slogan "Solidarity with the civilian victims of war." After a thirteen year trial, Serbian ultra-nationalist politician and self-proclaimed Chetnik leader Vojislav Šešelj was acquitted of all charges, including war crimes and crimes against humanity.



On 4 August 2016 we co-organized a peaceful protest entitled "Anti-War Protest on the occasion of the Celebration of a Victory in War", at the main square in Zagreb, Croatia, the day before the national holiday named Victory and Homeland Thanksgiving Day and the Day of Croatian Defenders.

The organizers of the protest were as follows: Centre for Women War Victims - ROSA (Zagreb), Women in Black (Belgrade), Women's Network of Croatia, Serbian Democratic Forum (Zagreb), Freedom Activists (Zagreb), Centre for Civil Courage (Zagreb), Association for Social Research and Communications - UDIK (Sarajevo).





REPORT on violation against anti-war activists in Croatia

The organizer of the official celebration in 2016, Croatian Government, this year included pro-fascist singer Marko Perković "Thompson" in the official celebration in city of Knin.

The organizers of the protest wanted to express their discontent with the way that the war victory was being celebrated and also wanted to remind the people of the responsibility of the political regimes in time of war : „The responsibility of the Croatian regime lies in its urging Serbs to stay and promising them protection and security, in crimes during and after the operation “Storm” and in the destruction of property as well as the lack of prosecution of persons responsible for the committed crimes. The responsibility of the Serbian regime and its "Krajina” satellites lies in urging people to leave their homes. Finally, the international community is responsible for passively watching the murdering of people, burning of houses and looting of property of exiled Serbian population. War profiteers were celebrated after the war. They were and still are glorified as successful entrepreneurs. They have been provided with a political support and promotion. Nationalist myths are continued or newly created. Streets and squares have been renamed; monuments have been erected after the persons responsible for war crimes.“

This was supposed to be the third year that the peaceful protests has taken place at Zagreb’s central square with the same organizers. The previous two protests went well in general. Although some citizens were verbally aggressive and spitting towards the protesters, others were approving and encouraged them. The police protection was provided a minimal police presence of only several policemen.

This year, however, was very different. Following the first public statement from the 31st of July, several internet portals (such as Dnevno.hr) started a hate-mongering campaign and some organizers received death threats. On the 3rd August 2016 the Ministry of the Interior and the Minister Vlaho Orepić himself banned a peaceful assembly. Because of that the organizers decided to hold another peaceful protest to warn about the fact that this decision of the Ministry was in direct confrontation with the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, as well as the Constitution of the Republic of Croatia. Both documents guarantee the freedom of expression and freedom of assembly. And the Police was informed about this plan in advance in accordance with the law.

Ten people attended the peaceful protest at the Zagreb’s central square on the 4th of August. Participants were attacked by a group of neofascists who hurled threats such as „We will slaughter you“, „Kill a Serb!“, „You Chetnik whores! We will rape you!“, „Gypsies!“, „Faggots!“. Neofascists were constantly chanting “We Croats do not drink wine, but blood of Chetniks from Knin”. They glorified the Nazi Independent State of Croatia, its leader Ante Pavelić and raised hands in the fascist salute. They stormed towards the participants of the peaceful assembly trying to physically attack them. They threw various objects. Five participants were hurt. The attackers took the banner from the hands of one of the participants.

Even though the police didn't allow all of the presented threats to be carried through, the police allowed a significant disruption of the public assembly. It allowed attackers to be in a very close proximity to the participants during the assembly. It allowed attackers to throw objects at participants continuously during the assembly. It allowed attackers to continue throwing objects until the participants reached the police station. The police didn't respond to threats of violence. It also tolerated glorification of the Independent State of Croatia, fascist symbols on the T-shirts of attackers as well as fascist salutes. As far as we know, the police didn't detain offenders who were throwing objects, who clashed with the police and who tried to attack the participants.

Participants were harassed by police officers at the police station. Police officers mockingly addressed the participants of the assembly. Police officers questioned the need for such a public assembly. A police officer asked an activist of Women in Black Belgrade why he is not protesting in Belgrade. A police officer explained to a participant a way how to sit politely. Police officers informed the participants that they don't intend to file criminal charges. Participants were told that they cannot file criminal charges because threats were not personally addressed.

The same day the organizers sent a public statement in which they asked the Municipal State Attorney's Office in Zagreb to initiate criminal proceedings for criminal offenses - making threats, public incitement to violence, public incitement to hatred, violation of the right to public assembly, violation of the right to protest, violent behaviour - all of which are connected with the hate crime.

Evening news on the national Croatian television reported that there were no attacks against the protesters, although the event was filmed by media and activists and video clips were broadcasted on N1 television (an independent broadcaster) and some other channels and social media.

On the 6 August 2016 the organizers pressed a criminal charge to the Municipal State Attorney's Office, and sent a complaint to the Administrative Court in Zagreb against the Minister's decision to ban a protest.

The same day Minister of Interior Vlaho Orepić stated on N1 TV: "The police banned that protest, i.e. I banned it personally because its goal was to vilify the military operation Storm. It is not becoming to hide yourself behind some NGOs or withhold other rights that you claim for yourself". He added that they asked organizers to understand the circumstances and explained that the same protest could be held two days before or after. Minister Orepić concluded: "But the provocations are inadmissible".

Minister's statement clearly positioned the Government against the fundamental rights of human rights defenders and it supported the brutal attacks against them. Media had a role in the way that they did not publish a real purpose and messages of the protest. Hate-mongering on internet portals and death threats to organizers continued after the 4th of August.

On 17 November 2016 we co-signed public Reaction on pro-fascist attempts in Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina, on the occasion of memorizing 25th anniversary of Croatian community Herzeg-Bosnia whose political and military leadership was accused for war crimes at the International Criminal Court for Former Yugoslavia. With this letter we joined organizations from Bosnia and Herzegovina in condemning continuous pro-facisist tendencies and responsibilities of political elites for their proliferation.

We continued to coordinate the FLIPSUR ad-hoc network – Feminist initiative against rape in war in states of former Yugoslavia, to exchange information and to collaborate with feminist activists from countries of former Yugoslavia.

III. Advocacy activities against violence against women on international and national level

We informed relevant international institutions about drastic deterioration of women's human rights and general political context in Croatia during whole of the year 2016 sending them information or at the meetings:

On 19 January with Aaron M. Schwoebel, Frist Secretary of the Embassy and Vladimira Đukić from **US Embassy** on situation of trafficking in persons in Croatia related to Trafficking in Persons State Department Report.

On 9 February 2016 with Dubravka Šimonović, **UN Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women, its causes and consequences**, at our premises in Zagreb.

On 28 April with **Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights** Nils Muižnieks and his team in Zagreb, Hotel Dubrovnik, along with representatives of other NGOs. Commissioner conducted a visit to Croatia from 25 to 29 April 2016. The visit was focus on issues pertaining to transitional justice and social cohesion, the human rights of immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees, and freedom of the media. Commissioner was interested in dialogue with NGOs/civil society and other experts to gain a broad perspective on the current, most pertinent human rights concerns related to issues pertaining to transitional justice and social cohesion. The Commissioner is very concerned at the reported rise in ethnic intolerance, hate speech and other forms of hate crime targeting members of national minorities, in particular ethnic Serbs, members of the Jewish community and Roma. While Croatia has a legislative and institutional framework for the protection of national minorities which may serve as a model, some recent setbacks, including an 11% cut of public funds for the national minority civil society, need to be reversed. After the visit Commissioner issued report on his visit to Croatia. "Social cohesion and pluralism are under threat in Croatia. I urge the authorities to initiate and engage in an open dialogue with all stakeholders in order to protect pluralism and avoid further polarisation in society. Moreover, political leaders need to send an unequivocal message against violence, discrimination and intolerance, in particular against members of national minorities and journalists" Commissioner said at the end of his five-day visit to Croatia.

In his Country visit report published on 5 October 2016 Commissioner stated that "Croatia should eliminate shortcomings in transitional justice, immigration and media freedom". Among other he stated "Whilst welcoming the enactment of the law which provides for reparation for the victims of wartime crimes of sexual violence, the Commissioner urges the authorities to remedy the remaining shortcomings in the law and in its implementation. In particular Croatia is urged to ensure that all victims of war-related crimes and their families are provided with effective access to justice and adequate reparation."

<http://www.coe.int/en/web/commissioner/-/croatia-should-eliminate-shortcomings-in-transitional-justice-immigration-and-media-freedom>

On 30 June 2016 women's organizations met with **Canadian Ambassador** to Croatia Daniel Maksymiuk, at our premises in Zagreb.



On 28 November 2016 our representative met with **Special Rapporteur on the right of everyone to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health** Dainius Pūras, in Hotel Astoria in Zagreb and discussed on deterioration of sexual and reproductive rights as well as violence against women.

Advocacy for rights of women survivors of war time rape: Law on the Rights of Victims of Sexual Violence during Armed Aggression at Republic of Croatia in Homeland War

Women war rape survivors have been among most vulnerable groups in Croatia. Despite the fact that war atrocities against women happened more than 25 years ago until June 2015 when the new Law was adopted there has been little progress in providing effective support to women survivors. Many perpetrators remained unpunished and women have been struggling in their everyday lives with the issues of poverty, unemployment and health problems. They have not been able to get any status as survivors, even as civilian victims of war. The only possibility to reach justice was exclusively connected with criminal procedure against perpetrators, including getting compensation. Social stigma and deep trauma prevented them from speaking out about their experiences.

Centre for Women War Victims – ROSA’s advocacy activities related to the new Law on Rights of Victims of War Rape started in 2010, along with the Women’s Court Initiative. In 2013 Ministry of War Veterans developed the project with UNDP (United Nations Development Program) related to issue of protection and compensation for women survivors of war rape and other forms of sexual violence. This project was developed in 3 directions: preparation of new Act on rights of victims of sexual violence in war, research on number of women raped during war in Croatia¹, and program of psychological counselling for women survivors of war rape². Sociological study organised within the Project (O. Žunec, D. Bagić, B. Galić, L. Bulian, M. Gašpar, I. Ivanković, M. Katavić; K.Pavlović i M. Weisglass, 2013) showed estimates of 1500 to 2200 victims/survivors of sexual violence in Croatia, 157 recorded cases in the evidence of all institutions, 36 cases of court proceedings with 15 convictions. Author’s estimation on expected number of victims/survivors who would demand for their rights is on 120 cases already known in public. In the frame of UNDP project, legal experts’ team drafted a study “Status and rights of civilian victims of sexual violence in the war” (Prof.dr.sc. D. Derenčinović, Doc.dr.sc. M. Munivrana Vajda, As.mr.sc. S. Roksandić Vidlička, 2013) which has suggested *lex specialis* for the legal framework of the new Acts having in mind “inadequacy of existing legislation by which Republic Croatia attempted to address the question of responsibility for the damage appeared during Homeland war and to guarantee the broadest range of reparation to the victims of sexual violence (pg. 25). Experts’ opinion is that *lex specialis* is the only logical solution considering duration of time passed after the war and the fact that existing laws has addressed the rights of other categories. The authors have emphasised potential of *lex specialis* to improve society awareness and to condemn such practices, but in the same time must not cause any damage to the victims. Authors supported expert opinion of legal expert Ms. Rubio-Marin that requirements for achievement of rights has to be proceeded through administrative proceedings based on statement before the expert commission and not on obtaining opinion on invalids’ committees. Legal expert team suggested also “to provide victims with rights for compensation of non-material expenses” (pg.28).

After 18 June 2015, when Law on Rights of Victims of Sexual Violence during armed aggression against Republic of Croatia³ in Homeland War entered into force till the end of 2016 Ministry for War

¹This research was organized as field research conducted by Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb. We were involved in it by providing information about women who we assisted during war and for whom we have information that they survived war rape.

<http://www.hr.undp.org/content/dam/croatia/docs/Research%20and%20publications/socialinclusion/UNDP-HR-SEXUAL%20-VIOLENCE%20-IN%20-CONFLICT-RESEARCH-ENG-2014.pdf>

² Psychologists experts on this matter are engaged to work with women on their trauma in Zagreb and Vukovar. One of the Women’s Court experts was among the therapists.

³ Two related Regulations have also entered into force, enabling conditions for acquiring the status and realization of rights under this Law.

Veterans received total 185 request for gaining the status of victim of sexual violence in war, and all rights related to the status. A Commission for Victims of Sexual Violence was formed during summer 2015 as a body that gives opinion "on the fact that the party is a victim of sexual violence and about form, or consequences of sexual violence", gave opinion about 160 applications, among which in 108 positive and 48 negative opinions. Because of the death of applicants in 4 cases the procedures were stopped. The work on 27 applications remained for 2017. Among 160 applicants there were 127 women and 33 men. Among 108 positive decisions 84 applicants were women while 24 were men. Among 48 negative decisions, 39 applicants were women and 9 were men. Among 4 suspended cases 2 were women while 2 were men. Among 25 remaining applications 17 are women while 7 are men. The Ministry announced that all the remaining cases will be decided upon until end of February 2017, and the work of the Committee will depend on the number of new applications.

Strength of the Law is in proposed administrative proceeding for achievement of victim's rights without obtaining medical opinion at invalid's assessment body. In such approach based on victims/survivor statement and supplementary legal, medical and other documentation, burden of plea procedure is lessened for victims.

Transmission of relevant documentation from other institutions (prosecution office, police records, previous evaluation in legal proceedings to obtain status of war veteran or civilian invalid of the war) contribute to the establishing of the ground for decision making upon status of the victim of sexual violence according to the Law. Decision making is related to the fact if did victim survive sexual violence and to the assessment the consequences of sexual violence. Testimonies given before the psychologist who is commission member are considered as one of the most relevant source of information either for establishing the facts, either to supplement the facts which were established through other documents. The rights are exercised through administrative proceedings and disputes – with minimum administration.

Methodology of Commission work was prescribed by Ordinance of Commission for Victims of Sexual violence and integrate international standards stated in International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigating of Sexual Violence in Conflict (2014) and Istanbul Protocol - Manual on the Effective Investigation and Documenting Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading treatment (1999, 2004).

On the basis of the analysis and following is implementation through cases of women who have turned to us for help Centre ROSA detected shortcomings in the content of the Law, and submitted a Proposal to evaluate the constitutionality of the Law.

Following the changes of the Government in September 2016 the new Minister of War Veterans Tomo Medved, two days before new elections, unexpectedly dismissed six members and five deputy members of the Commission for Victims of Sexual Violence in the Homeland War. By the Law member of the Commission can be dismissed before mandate expires only in three cases: at the personal request, for misconduct or for the inability to perform duties in the Commission for other reasons. Since none of the dismissed members requested that he/she be released on a personal request or for any other obligation, it is concluded that they were Resigned from duty by Minister because of their bad and negligent work, and for that reason, a total of 11 persons - well-respected and experient experts in this area of war victims and rape victims and other forms of violence - feel indignant and disenfranchised. They are backed by the previously published information that the Commission has since filed for a period of time from November 2015 until the end of May 2016 when it was "temporarily" stopped working, from the 146 requests submitted for the realization of the rights of victims of sexual violence during the war, as many as 107 cases.

It is important to point out that:

- Members/ deputies of the Commission have never been officially informed of alleged failures in their work, which is an integral part of any practice and cooperation in the work, neither verbally nor in writing to "warn" and seek corrections.

- Data from Report of the Gender Equality Ombudsperson for 2016, p. 184 speaks of 160 solved requests and 48 negative ones - which indicates an increased number of negative responses of Commission decisions in the first convocation.

On 8 September 2016 Centre ROSA sent a public letter to the Minister for War Veterans related to the dismissal of the members of members of Committee for victims of sexual violence, and informed relevant international institutions on this situation.

During 2016 we were invited to share experiences on implementation of the new Law to other countries:

From 12-20 March 2016 Italian Ara Pacis Initiative organized a training program in Rome, for the Libyan Foundation for victims of rape and sexual violence. Libya has recently, as has Croatia, passed a law in favor of war rape survivors and there were many common issues which need to be faced. Our representative Marijana Senjak and Gorana Mlinarević from Bosnia and Herzegovina participated.

On 9-10 June 2016, Centre ROSA's representative Marijana Senjak participated at the regional South East European launch of the UN Secretary General's Guidance Note on Reparations for Conflict Related Sexual Violence held in Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, organized by office organized by UN Women. The SG's Note was prepared by The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and UN Women following a joint study that included all previous UN-lead reparations work.

The event calls for comprehensive reparations programmes that promote the effective participation of survivors to secure justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence. At the event there has been some progress on setting up reparation schemes in the western Balkans, so participants could share lessons learned, remaining challenges and also inform those working in countries where there are not yet any reparation programs (Cyprus, Ukraine and Turkey). Over 60 participants from Croatia, Kosovo, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Turkey, Cyprus and Ukraine attended the launch in Jahorina. They discussed best practices on reparations for sexual violence in war, ways to implement the Guidance Note and enact domestic laws and policies in South East Europe. They agreed to set up a virtual network to stay in touch. The meeting was particularly relevant given the region's current progress in carrying out reparations. Previously, sexual violence in conflict was largely ignored due to social taboos and stigmatization.

"Conflict related sexual violence is one of history's greatest silences. Undocumented crimes go unheard. Thanks to individuals who listened to survivors' stories and ensured they were not forgotten, the Balkan region is at the forefront of global efforts to secure justice and accountability for these crimes," said Allison Davidian, Policy Specialist for Transitional Justice at UN Women in New York.

Advocacy for ratification of Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence

In 2016 we contributed to the establishment of comprehensive legal and policy solutions for protection against gender-based violence in the Western Balkans through joint activities on international and regional level in partnership with six women's organization and networks from West Balkans region and EU – Autonomous Women's Centre, Belgrade, Serbia, United Women, Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Women Against Violence Europe, Vienna, Austria, Union - National Council for Gender Equality, FYR of Macedonia, Association SOS Helpline for Women and Children Victims of Violence from Ljubljana, Slovenia, European Women's Lobby, Brussels, Belgium. Our activities in Croatia were implemented in partnership with 5 local feminist organizations from Zagreb, Pakrac, Slavonski Brod, Split and Poreč. We aimed at increasing capacities of women's organizations for analyses, monitoring and advocacy in the field of protection of women from gender based male violence, through long-term regional cooperation and learning from EU experience.

Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (CM (2011) 49 final, 7 April 2011) is very important in Croatian context of gender blind national policies because it recognizes that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between women and men, which have led to domination over, and discrimination against, women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women. Also recognizes the structural nature of violence against women as gender - based violence, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men. Convention clearly proscribes importance of protection women from gender based violence and demands from countries to take important steps in that direction.

The Convention is especially important for Croatia at the situation and political context described above. Through our activities (international, national and local round tables and seminars) we lobbied representatives of institutions on local and national level for the ratification and full implementation of CoE Convention and improvement of implementation of existing policies and laws concerning protection women from gender based violence, social inclusion of women survivors of gender based violence and the adoption of positive measures. By ratifying Istanbul Convention, Croatia will be obliged to comply with most needed higher standard of support to women survivors for example Article 25 - Support for victims of sexual violence, stipulates that "Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to provide for the setting up of appropriate, easily accessible rape crisis or sexual violence referral centres for victims in sufficient numbers to provide for medical and forensic examination, trauma support and counselling for victims."

With promotion of Convention and advocacy for its ratification on local level we continued to strengthen local women's organizations, development of dialogue between women's organizations and public authorities in order to realize basic rights of vulnerable groups of women, including their perception of their own needs.

On 22 September 2016, the National Day against Violence against Women, Center for Women War Victims - ROSA organized **international conference dedicated to Istanbul Convention**, in Zagreb, Hotel Dubrovnik. Since Croatia signed the Convention on 22 January 2013, but not yet ratified it with this conference we continued influencing relevant national authorities to ratify Convention as soon as possible and thus contribute to combating all forms of violence against women. At the conference lawyer Sanja Bezbradica Jelavic presented the study "Analysis of the harmonization of Croatian legislation with the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence - repeated analysis for 2016." Former Prime Minister Jadranka Kosor spoke about the role of women in politics in combating violence against women. Kosor pointed out that ratification did not occur because neither in the past nor in one before past government there was not the person that "pushed". Vanja Macanović, representing the European Women's Lobby

presented the work of this organization and the possibility of ratification of the Convention at the EU level and the effects of the ratification of the Member States. Head of the Office for Gender Equality Helena Stimac Radin presented work of the Office in the promotion of the CoE Convention. Tanja Ignjatovic from Autonomous Women's Center Belgrade spoke about situation in Serbia after ratification of the Convention and the possibilities for women's NGOs to use the Convention in their work. Representatives of non-governmental organizations from the Croatian women's groups Neva Tolle and Nela Pamuković presented the experience in practice of functioning of autonomous women's services to help women and their children survivors of violence, experience of implementation of existing laws and importance of maintaining the autonomy of the work of women's NGOs.



On 25 November 2016, International Day against Violence against Women, we participated at the thematic session of Parliamentary Committee for Gender Equality titled „Suppression of partnership violence“. The need to ratify Istanbul Convention was one of the topics of the session. We agreed the meeting with the new chair of the Committee in order to establish cooperation and propose a special session on Istanbul Convention.



On 6 December 2016 we delivered signatures collected during the I Sign campaign to the Government of Croatia, after the street action of collecting signatures.



Advocacy for the improvement of the implementation of legislation related to trafficking in women

In 2016 US State Department Trafficking in Persons Annual Report ranked Croatia to Tier 2, same as every year since 2013 when it was downgraded from Tier 1. Croatia was classified among the countries that have not done enough to combat human trafficking, what demanded more efforts from the Governmental bodies. Croatia was graded from 2010 to 2012 in Tier 1 when approved legal system which was mainly precondition for entering EU, whereas after joining EU did not make needed improvement. In 2016 Police identified 30 trafficking victims (13 forced labor victims, 16 sex trafficking victims, and one victim of both), compared to 38 sex trafficking victims in 2015. Eight victims were foreign victims, 11 victims were children. According to the identified cases Croatia remained to be a destination, source, and transit country for women and children subjected to sex trafficking and men, women, and children subjected to forced labor. Migrants in transit, particularly from Afghanistan and Pakistan, were forced into debt bondage by their smugglers to pay off smuggling fees. Croatian women and girls, some of whom respond to false job offers online, were exploited in sex trafficking within the country and elsewhere in Europe. Economically marginalized Romani children from Croatia are at particular risk of forced begging in Croatia and throughout Europe. In previous years, traffickers target Croatian girls in state institutions and subjected them to sex trafficking. Croatian, Bosnian, and Romanian women and men have been subjected to forced labor in the Croatian agricultural sector. Women and girls from the Balkans and Central Europe are subjected to sex trafficking in Croatia. Croatian judges lacked an understanding of the impact of psychological trauma on victims' ability to consistently and clearly relate the circumstances of their exploitation and inappropriately dismissed as unreliable victim testimony. In 2016 continued the

trend of increase of identified victims of trafficking that started in 2013, in comparison with the period of 2002 – 2012. From 2002, when the National Referral Mechanism was established to 2016 the number of officially identified victims of human trafficking was 252, out of which number there were 207 women and girls, which presents 82,14%. Hence in our advocacy work we've be stressing the need for recognising the gender specific harm experienced by victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation (including forced marriage). EUROPOL Report from February 2016 says that "Sexual exploitation is the most frequently reported form of THB in Europe. The majority of victims of THB for sexual exploitation registered at Europol are EU nationals from Central and Eastern Europe." It continues with the statement that "Trafficking in human beings for sexual exploitation is a gender-specific phenomenon, as the vast majority of victims are women"⁴. Since over 80% of THB victims in Croatia are women and have been trafficked for the purpose of sexual exploitation Government should ensure that all anti-trafficking measures are gender specific and that responses to the needs of these victims are gender specific.

On 23 May 2016 The Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention issued the Recommendation CP(2016)3 on the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings by Croatia, following the second report concerning the implementation of the Convention by Croatia, adopted by GRETA at its 25th meeting (7-11 March 2016), as well as the comments of the Croatian Government received on 15 January 2016. CoE tequests the Government of Croatia to report to the Committee of the Parties on the measures taken to improve the implementation of the Convention in the above-mentioned areas by 23 May 2017. Among others CoE recommended from Croatia to take measures to "to takings steps so that law enforcement officials, social workers, NGOs and other relevant actors adopt a more proactive approach and increase their outreach work to identify victims of human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation;".

Centre ROSA was represented in the National Committee for the Supression of Trafficking in Persons, but due to the changes and instability of the governments National Committee has not met in 2016.

In 2016 the work on the new National Strategy for the Suppression of Trafficking in Persons started, since the previous Strategy was for the period from 2012-2015. Centre ROSA participated at the work group organized by The Government Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities. The Work group met twice (15 and 28 November 2016), but has not been finished in due time because of political changes in 2016 and lacking of the political will to tackle the issue. Centre ROSA contributed to the work group by stressing the need of gender perspective in antitrafficking activities and strategy.

As part of the EU project lead by Croatian Legal Centre titled Developing Capacity of Civil Society Organizations for Human Rights Mainstreaming, we participated at trainings on the Building Capacities of CSOs for Ensuring Effective Implementation of the EU Standards in the Enforcement of Human Rights, particularly in the area of anti-trafficking.

On 18 October 2016 we participated at round table "Human Trafficking and Migration Crisis - the risks and links" organized by Governmental Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities. Our representative had presentation in panel: From public policies to individual support to victims of trafficking and asylum seekers.

⁴ "The most commonly reported form of exploitation by MS to Europol is sexual exploitation, followed by labour exploitation. During 2013-2014, Europol received nearly 6 000 contributions on OCGs involved in THB. Of these, 90% concerned THB for sexual exploitation, 5.6% concerned cases of labour exploitation, 1.9% was on forced sham marriages and 0.3% was on forced criminality and begging. Among all contributions, 1.9% involved trafficked minors, most of whom were young girls forced into prostitution and children forced to beg and commit property crimes."

https://ec.europa.eu/anti-trafficking/sites/antitrafficking/files/situational_report_trafficking_in_human_beings_europol.pdf

On 14 December 2016 in Ministry of Justice we participated at the first meeting of Working Group on preparation of Questionnaire and Procedures for Individual Assessment of Criminal Victims' Need regarding special protection and support measures.

On 19 April 2016 we participated at Women's Voices Forum organized by the European Women's Lobby. This forum was attended by representatives of member states of the EWL Task Force CEBBS and the WILPF, UN Women, Women's Refugee Commission, Assylum Aid and Migration Network who presented issues regarding the status of refugee women in their countries. European Parliament deputy member Mary Honeyball's presented the EP Resolution on Refugee Women and Girls, Biljana Nastovska spoke about violence against women and girls refugees, Marcy Hersh from Women's Refugee Commission presented findings from its mission in several Balkan refugee routes, Debora Singer from Assylum Aid, UK gave a presentation on the EU's asylum policy that loses gender perspective and Sabine Fraser from UN Women presented position of refugee women in visited countries and plans for organization of an event on Sexual Violence in conflict situations.

From 8-9 June 2016 we participated in a meeting of the abolitionist coalition Brussels Call organized by the European Women's Lobby; that was held at the Quaker Council for European Affairs (QCEA). 16 participants exchanged information on the situation in our countries in relation to trafficking in women and prostitution, after which Pierrette Pape, a representative of the European Women's Lobby, presented an advocacy plan for proposing our Common Requirements - Contribution to Consultations on the Strategy Against Trafficking in Human Beings after 2016 / Written Consultation on the Post 2016 Strategy Against Trafficking in Human Beings. We agreed on joint advocacy strategy at the NGO Platform meeting to ensure that our representatives were present at all three working groups and our demands were presented. Joint requests were submitted to the European Commission on 25 May 2016 and at the meeting we discussed the arguments and the ways of presenting the request. The meeting was attended by 16 activists and one activist from various organizations and networks from several European countries.

From 9-10 June 2016 we participated at 7th EU Civil Society Platform against Trafficking in Human Beings organized by the European Commission at the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel in Brisel. Meeting was attended by 84 participants. Meeting was opened by EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator Dr. Myria Vassiliadou, who together with two members of her team held a presentation of the first EU Progress Report on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings (2016) as well as presentation of new post-2016 Strategy against Trafficking in Human Beings. After the introduction and new information on NGO Platforms participants were divided into 3 groups where they discussed post-2016 Strategy. Our representative presented work of Center ROSA, situation regarding trafficking in women in Croatia, and our work in advocating for national antytrafficking strategy aligned with the one agreed within European Women's Lobby. Takin in consideration great interest of organizations to enter the EU Civil Society Trafficking Platform, during August and September 2016, a membership application process was repeated and all interested organizations in EU countries, including the existing members, were supposed to apply. Center ROSA resubmitted application and re-entered the EU Platform. Participation in the EU Platform is of great importance for improving knowledge of our members about this problem and its new forms, and for opportunity to advocate at European level.

On 18 October 2016 our representative gave presentation at the round table that memorized European Day against human trafficking organized by Governmental Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities, in Europe House in Zagreb, titled Human Trafficking and Migrant Crisis – risk factors and connections. The aime of this public panel was to raise awareness on the issue. Our representative stressed the urgent problem of women and separated children being particularly vulnerable to trafficking during refugee/migrant crisis on Balkan route in 2016. We also stressed that National action plan should be gender sensitive and contain indicators, benchmarks, timeframes and specific budgets which can be monitored and evaluated from a gender perspective.

On 5 December 2016 we participated in a meeting of abolitionist coalition Brussels Call organized by European Women's Lobby that took place in the premises of the European Women's Lobby. Eleven participants exchanged information on re-applying for membership in the EU Civil Society Platform, after which Pierrette Pape, a representative of the European Women's Lobby, presented information related to the Anti-Trafficking Strategy after 2016, which has not yet been published in the final proposal. We agreed on joint advocacy strategy at the NGO Platform meeting to ensure that our representatives were present at all three working groups and our demands were presented.

From 6-7 December 2016 we participated at the eighth meeting of NGO Civil Society Platform against Organized Crime organized by the European Commission. Meeting was attended by 103 participants. The meeting was opened by EU Anti-Trafficking Coordinator Dr. Myria Vassiliadou, who together with two members of his team held plenary presentations of the Comprehensive Review of Projects Against Trafficking in Human Beings, Report on Article 23 of Directive 2011/36 / Eu (Transpositional Report) and Report pursuant to Article 23.2 of Directive 2011/36 / EU ("Customer" Report). Thereafter, brief informal meetings of civil society representatives with National Co-ordinators for the Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings were held. Together with colleagues from the Croatian Red Cross and Croatian Legal Center we had meeting with National Co-ordinator for Suppression of Trafficking in Human Beings Branko Sočanec and Maja Kević from the Office of the Government of the Republic of Croatia for Human Rights. After that we were divided into three groups in which we presented work of our organization with regard to the fight against trafficking in human beings in first session; in second session we discussed the topic "Children in a migration crisis"; while in third session we discussed Directive 2004/81 (residence permit for non-EU citizens, period of reflection and its application and the role of our organizations in relation to this Directive).

On 7 December our representative held a lecture on raising awareness on trafficking in human beings, rights of victims - prevention of prostitution legalization and promotion of the Swedish model of prostitution regulation (lecture on the panel organized by Student Gospel Movement - STEP at Faculty of Theology - Matija Vlačić Ilirik).

On 9 December, our representative held a lecture at Faculty of Philosophy in Osijek organized by the Faculty and Women's Association Izvor from Tenja with title Prostitution: The Facts about Violating of Women's Human Rights.

In advocacy for the improvement of support to women survivors of human trafficking during 2016 in the frame of **EU project project Upholding Rights! Early Legal Intervention for victims of trafficking (ELI)** co-organized two conference, one project meeting and on training for decision makers. The project was implemented in cooperation with Immigrant Council of Ireland, AIRE Centre London, LSA Glasgow, AIRE London, MONIKA Finland, BGRF Bulgaria and KSPSC Lithuania.

Upholding Rights! Early Legal Intervention for Victims of Trafficking aimed to establish best practice in securing the protection of victims of trafficking (VoT) through early legal intervention, thus enhancing their social recovery and their role as witnesses. The project built on the existing international consensus that the fight against trafficking must include a rights-based approach to protection of the victims. The EU has strengthened this position by adopting priorities and objectives that clearly outline the legal rights of VoT, and support the prompt collaboration between the State and civil society in upholding these rights. The key aim of the project was to impact on national and EU anti-trafficking responses to enhance the support and protection of victims, incl. for their key role as witnesses and to improve the civil society/state cooperation in upholding the victims' human rights.

An essential component in securing the human rights and dignity of VoT is the provision of understandable correct information on the legal and administrative options available. The concept of Early Legal Intervention (ELI) incorporates the provision of confidential advocacy at the first encounter between victims and authorities, risk assessment of immediate protection needs, decision on the best/most appropriate route for protection by State, ensuring recovery and reflection (R&R)

prior to interviews, assessing criminalisation risks e.g. immigration offences, alternative protection route in case the exploitation is not part of a human trafficking crime, in the full legal term.

On 14 January 2016 the Upholding Rights! ELI International Conference was held in Dublin, successfully hosting more than 120 attendees, including project partners, representatives of the Gardaí and Department of Justice, legal experts, embassy ambassadors, and members of anti-trafficking NGOs. Internationally recognized anti-trafficking advocates presented at the conference, including UK Independent Anti-Slavery Commissioner, Kevin Hyland OBE (pictured above- far left), and Human Rights Barrister and Trafficking in Persons Hero 2015, Parosha Chandran, Siobhan Mullally of the Council of Europe and UCC, former UN special Advisor Asohe Aghatise. Đurđica Kolarec presented the work of this project in Croatia. Two members participated at the conference.

At the meeting held on 15 January in Immigrant Council of Ireland premises, we exchanged on implementation of training for training in all the project countries. Training was organized with Toolkit for trainers. We prepared for the final dissemination conference and training in Brussels in EU Parliament.



On the 26-27 January 2016 project hosted a second advocacy conference titled EU Dissemination Briefing on early legal intervention in the European Parliament in Brussels. Partners attended as well as civil society organisations based in Brussels. Five members of parliament and other parliament staff also attended. It was a great success with positive feedback from attendees. It marked the final dissemination activity of the two year project. Speakers included Martina Anderson, MEP, Brian Killoran, COE of Immigrant Council of Ireland, Zoe Sakelliadou, iz Ureda koordinatrice za suzbijanje trgovanja ljudima, EU, representatives of partner organizations: Catherine Cosgrave, Kirsty Thomsmon, Desislava Kaleova-Nikolova, Đurđica Kolarec, Dalia Puidokiene, Markella Papadouli, end

evaluator of the project Dr Gráinne Healy. Đurđica Kolarec presented advocacy experiences from Croatia. Two members of Centre ROSA participated.

The conference was followed by a training session for decision makers using the ELI toolkit, at the same venue. It was introduced by Nusha Yonkova from Immigrant Council of Ireland, and held by trainers Markella Papadouli from AIRE Centra and Katie Mannion, from Immigrant Council of Ireland.



Advocacy for the improvement of legislation related to prostitution

In Croatia prostitution has been sanctioned in Criminal Code (144/12, 56/15) and misdemeanour Law on Public Peace and Order (adopted in 1977 and transferred into Croatian legislation with minor amendments in 1990). Selling sex constitutes a misdemeanour against public peace and order, while prostitution-related offences are prohibited by the Criminal Code. State authorities have not made any efforts to prevent the exploitation of prostitution and reduce the demand for prostitution.

The Criminal Code's Article 157 titled Prostitution: the basic form of the offence of prostitution comprises instigating or soliciting persons for offering sexual services, as well as organising or abetting prostitution, for which imprisonment from 6 months to 5 years is prescribed. The qualified offence presupposes some form of compulsion (force, threat, deceit, abuse of power), for which 1 to 10 years imprisonment is prescribed. Criminal Code does not prescribe responsibility for a purchasing of sex for a basic form of the act, but only if buyers of sex knew or should have known of the existence of force, threats or other similar circumstances, or if a child/underaged person was used in prostitution. Advertising of sexual services is criminalized.

Law on the Misdemeanours against Public Peace and Order prescribes two offences: allowing for the use of one's premises for prostitution or enabling or helping a person to engage in prostitution (Article 7); and engaging in prostitution (Article 12). The penalties for either offence are a fine or imprisonment (maximum 60 days for Article 7 offence and maximum 30 days for Article 12 offence). In relation to the Article 12 offence, two security measures can be ordered: obligatory treatment of STDs or AIDS if a person is infected, and expulsion from the council in which the offence was committed for a period ranging from 30 days to 6 months.

In 2016 the new Proposal of the Law on Public Order and Peace was sent to parliamentary procedure. It provided provision on misdemeanour offences against prostitutes and buyers. According to the proposal that was sent for public consultation, Article 7 offence (enabling prostitution) is to be deleted as it is included in the Criminal Code, while Article 12 is to be changed so that offering or requesting sexual services for money or other forms of exchange in public is to be criminalised; provision of sexual services (which does not need to be of a repeated nature, as in the current Act) and receiving the services (which does not need to be in public) is to be criminalised. Governmental

Proposal extended criminalisation to the one-time provision of sexual services, as well as simply the offering of services. Moreover, under this proposal, fines are heavier than those currently being imposed. According to recent Zagreb Misdemeanour Court practices, fines usually range from 300 to 500 kunas (44 to 66 Euros), while the new proposals set the following fines: 2,000 to 5,000 kn (267-667 Euros) for proposing and requesting services in public and 3,000 to 7,000 kn (400-935 Euros) or up to 40 days imprisonment for giving and receiving sexual services.

In May and June 2016 Centre ROSA sent the proposals in cooperation with Women's Network of Croatia and PETRA Network requesting change of the Article 12 towards decriminalisation of persons in prostitution and criminalizations of buyers.

Centre ROSA stressed that the results of our the five-year research of case law showed that Croatia has a discriminatory legal framework in relation to prostitution and "effectively" punishes women in prostitution with unconditional prison sentences even though they are in fact victims. At the same time those who enable prostitution are punished in smaller numbers, usually with fines, and users do not outlawed, except in art. 157, paragraph 2. CC. Namely, during the reference period, 841 misdemeanour proceedings were conducted for acts of prostitution, of which 797 procedures were conducted using the application of Article 12 of the Public Order and Peace Act – against people in prostitution. Of the total processed defendants, 97.92% were women, and condemnatory rulings based on admission were made even in 776 cases, with generally unconditional prison sentences to compensate for the time the defendants were deprived of their liberty. In the same period, before the Misdemeanour Court, only 44 proceedings were conducted against persons enabling prostitution, in that in 12 procedures suspended sentences were given, and in 19 procedures sentenced with fines. Fifty procedures for the criminal offense of pandering were conducted before the Municipal Criminal Court in Zagreb, and in 39 cases suspended sentences were given.

With regards to measures of assistance it should be noted that governmental bodies have not developed and put into practice mechanisms that would help women leave prostitution; they have not enabled women access to shelters, counselling, additional schooling, and vocational training nor undertaken any measures for their employment. They have not launched any broad media campaigns to raise awareness among the public about the problem of prostitution, nor organized education and training for those who are obliged to implement the laws and work on preventing prostitution.

After public consultations ended on 6th June 2016 Government has withdrawn the Proposal.

IV. Empowerment of feminist movement and civil society, through networking and education:

17 February we organized education in Antifashist Union in Zagreb, on the provisions of new Family Law for the members of women's groups providing counseling and shelters for women survivors. Our attorney at law Sanja Bezbradica Jelavić provided the education. Education organized in the frame of the project Empowerment of women's CSOs to spread the services of assistance and support to women victims of different forms of gender-based violence.



On 18 February 2016 we organized a final conference of the project Empowerment of women's CSOs to spread the services of assistance and support to women victims of different forms of gender-based violence, for women's groups and representatives of relevant state agencies in European House in Zagreb.



On 29 January 2016 in Europe House in Zagreb in cooperation with Association of Judges for Minors we organized a training on Early Legal Intervention for 35 participants from County Court Zagreb, Municipal Criminal Court Zagreb Centres for social work, County Attorney office, Ministry of Justice, Prison Department, Department for Education, and Independent Department for Support to Victims and Witnesses, Educational Home for Girls, State Attorney's Office of Croatia, City of Zagreb Office for Education, Culture and Sport, Public Ombudsman Office, and Association of barristers. Lecturers were Sanja Bezbradica Jelavić, Đurđica Kolarec and judge Lana Peto Kujundžić.



We participated at 2 seminars (28-29 April and 15-16 November) on evaluation of impacts of public policies on human rights in area of trafficking in human beings within partnership in EU project "Development of the capacity of civil society organizations to integrate human rights into public policies ", lead by Croatian Legal Center. The educator was Mariane Viers.

We gave lectured when invited from various institutions and organizations:

On 25 February our representative held a presentation on role of civil society in combating trafficking in human and support for victims for representatives of Croatian employment services, within the framework of their education regarding Suppression of trafficking in Human.

On 26 February our representative held presentation on early legal intervention on round table "Development of victim and witness testimony support of criminal offenses and misdemeanor offense". Roundtable was held at Human Rights House and organised by Victims and Witnesses Association from Vukovar.

From 5 to 8 July representatives of Center ROSA held a presentation on seminar for representatives of Women's Network against Violence from Serbia organized in SEKA House in Split on Brac.

Within the project "Separated children in court proceedings", 4 expert meetings and 4 partner meetings were held (this project is implemented in partnership with AIRE Center, project coordinator, University Colleague of Cork and Child Circle, Brussels):

From 27 to 29 April expert meeting was held on topic Separated children in court proceedings in London at St. Bridge Foundation. Our representative held one of introductory speeches in presentation of organization and its activities. We also participated in meeting of planning activities and cooperation of partner organizations.

From 29 to 30 September representative of Center ROSA presented work on providing legal aid and representation at court for girls separated from their parents, at London Children's Conference - protection of children's interests in case of relocation and kidnapping of children. We also participated in a joint planning and co-operation meeting.

From 24 to 25 November we organized conference "Separated Children in court proceedings - Asylum seekers and victims of trafficking in human beings" for representatives of Croatian and international institutions and CSOs. Conference was attended by 71 persons. On November 23 we organized a partner meeting.

On May 17 we participated in Welcome Initiative meeting. The meeting was organized on the occasion of closing of Balkans refugee route and refugee camp in Slavonski Brod, and announcement of implementation of decision on reallocation and resettlement of refugees in Croatia in June and July. As a result of stifling of attitudes and prejudices towards refugees, the meeting focused on the necessity of improving co-operation and planning activities on the possibility of activating new routes.

On 27 February 2016 in Prishtina at the University, Faculty of Architecture, we participated at the public event titled Feminist Conversations, History, Memory and Difference. It was organized by ForumZFD, Alter Habitus - Institute for Studies in Society and Culture and University Program for Gender Studies and Research organized the 5th Atelier within the framework of the Memory Mapping Kosova project that explores official but contested memory sites and past events. The event gathered feminist thinkers and activists from the late 80ies and 90ies from the Balkans together included: Igo Rogova, Sevdije Ahmeti, Lepa Mladjenović, Shukrije Gashi, Staša Zajović, Nazlije Bala, Nela Pamuković, Daša Duhacek, and Aferdita Kelmendi it was moderated by Linda Gusia, Nita Luci and Vjollca Krasniqi. A day-long panel discussion with women activists from Kosovo and the region resulted in the narration of and accounts on histories and the memory of women's activism as remembered and interpreted by women activists themselves.

After the event the publication with the same title was published at Forum ZFD, Prishtina, 2016.



On 3 - 6 May 2016 our member was one of lecturers at the feminist spring school for Kosovo and Serbia organized by Alternative Center for Girls Krusevac and Artpolis from Pristina.



12 June 2016 our member participated on public panel in Belgrade titled Prostitution on Continuum of Male Violence, speakers: Ingeborg Kraus as a key speaker, Sanja Pavlović, Nela Pamuković, Jodie Roy.



<https://ukinimoprostituciju.wordpress.com/2016/06/16/prostitucija-je-u-suprotnosti-sa-idejom-o-jednakosti-između-muskaraca-i-zena-ingeborg-kraus/>

During 2016 we have implemented the **EU project Separated Children in Judicial Procedures**. It is a two years project lead by the organization The AIRE Centre (Advice on Individual Rights in Europe - <http://www.airecentre.org>) London, in partnership with Cork College University, Ireland (<http://www.ucc.ie/en>), and Child Circle, Brussels (<http://www.childcircle.eu>) and Centre ROSA. Associate Partner is ICJ – European Institutions (International Commission of Jurists), from Brussels.

This Project's aim is to promote a joined up child-centred approach by legal professionals who work with children separated (or being separated) from their families. It enables legal practitioners to: share their experiences of the situation of separated children in all the different kinds of legal proceedings which affect them, e.g. taking children into care, contact and residence issues in private law disputes, relocation or abduction, the child victims of trafficking or whose parents are such victims, the effects on children of prisoners of sentencing and sentence management decisions, the situation of minor asylum seekers, including both accompanied and unaccompanied minors, the impact of immigration measures on children.

Project enables legal professionals to learn or expand knowledge of how to use, the available European and international remedies, such as the European Court of Human Rights, the European Committee on Social Rights and the third Optional Protocol of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure (OP3), expand their familiarity with the relevant legislation and case law e.g. EU acquis (legislative and jurisprudential), the ECHR jurisprudence and the case law of the ESC relevant to developing child-centred justice for children in situations where they and their parents or siblings are separated or being separated - for example in situations arising from children seeking international protection as asylum seekers or who are victims of trafficking, who have been abducted or whose parents are imprisoned in another jurisdiction.

The approaches to children in different judicial proceedings in these situations will be compared and contrasted. It aims to bring together legal professionals (lawyers, judges or in advice centres, NGOs etc.) from diverse yet overlapping areas of expertise and jurisdictions in order: to build the capacity of legal practitioners and other professionals who work with children in judicial proceedings to become more aware of the need for child-centred justice in all proceedings which involve children who are separated from – or who are being separated from- their families; to discuss how to best put the child at the centre of judicial proceedings which affect them, especially in situations in which they are often not recognised as being central; and to benefit from the exchange of knowledge of comparative law and practice so as to ensure that the conduct and outcomes of such proceedings always take full account of the best interests of the child as a primary consideration.

We warmly welcome input from everyone who has expertise, experience and ideas of ways in which judicial proceedings can be improved in all the fields mentioned. The project's usefulness will depend on the participation and contributions of all the professionals involved.

28-29 April 2016 two our members participate at the Conference on Separated Children in Judicial Proceedings, held in London, St Bride Foundation. The aim of this meeting was to bring together expert practitioners in some of the many areas of law in which matters affecting children are decided by the courts. In two days we cannot of course cover all the relevant areas. We hope to encourage the practice of putting the affected child at the centre of all the proceedings we have selected to examine and for us all to learn from each other the best practices which can be taken from one field and applied in another. We hope as well to learn how to avoid decisions being made which are not in the best interests of the affected children. Our member Nela Pamuković talked at the opening of the conference that gathered legal experts from United Kingdom and Europe including Judge Ledi Bianku from European Court of Human Rights, and Baroness Brenda Hale, Deputy President Supreme Court United Kingdom.



29-30 September 2016, our attorney at law Anja Tolić participated at the conference Putting Children First: Protecting Children's Interest in Relocation and Abduction Cases, held in National Council of Voluntary organizations in London, organized by AIRE Centre in cooperation with project partner organizations.

26-27 October 2016, two our members including attorney at law Tea Dabić participated at the event "Exploring the use and application of European and International Mechanisms for the protection of vulnerable and separated children" the object of which is to build the capacity for legal professionals (including judges) to become more aware of the need for child centred justice in all judicial proceedings involving separated children. The event was hosted by the Committee of the Regions in Brussels. Lecturers included legal experts and officials such as: Bruno Van Obbergen (Flemish Children's Commissioner), Margaret Tuite (European Commission), Nuala Mole (AIRE Centre), Ursula Kilkelly (UCC), Judge Bianku (European Court of Human Rights), Luc Van den Brande (Committee of the Regions), Eric Van der Musselle (Chair of Flemish Youth Lawyer's Association).



The third event in frame of the project Separated Children in Judicial Proceedings was organized by Centre ROSA and AIRE Centre: conference and project meeting were held in Zagreb, 23-25 November 2016. Conference titled Trafficked and/or Asylum Seeking Children was organized in Hotel Dubrovnik. It gathered more than 25 legal experts and officials from state agencies and organizations from Croatia including Prof. Dr. Sc. Elizabeta Ivičević Karas, Associate professor of Criminal Procedural Law, Zagreb Faculty of Law Prof. dr. sc. Davor Derenčinović, Full Professor of Criminal Law, University of Zagreb, Maria Hennessy, Legal Officer, Irish Refugee Council, Nuala Mole, Senior Lawyer and Founder The AIRE Centre, Doc. dr. sc. Ivana Milas Klarić, Ombudswoman for Children, Branka Žigante Živković, Judge at the High Magistrates Court in Zagreb, Martina Tomić Latinac, UNICEF Head of the programme for child protection, Nikica Hamer Vidmar, Head of the Department for Victims and Witnesses Support with the Croatian Ministry of Justice, Mirjana Vergas, UNHCR, and experts from Centre ROSA: Marijana Senjak, Psychologist-psychotherapist, and Sanja Bezbradica, attorney at law.



The project **FIRST – Capacity Building for First Points of Contact for Victims of Domestic and Gender-based Violence** is bringing together partners from four EU countries: ISA institute, Slovenia; The AIRE Centre, United Kingdom; Association Centre Dinamika, Bulgaria; The Association SOS Helpline for Women and Children – Victims of Violence, Slovenia; Centre for Women War Victims – ROSA (Centre ROSA), Croatia; The Association of Centers for Social Work, Slovenia and B2 Ltd., Slovenia, is an international project promoting first action against violence. The main aim of the project is to establish and empower national networks of first points of contact as “safe points” for victims of domestic and other forms of gender-based violence and by that ensure widely available psychosocial and legal support and aid. National networks of first points of contact for victims of domestic and gender based violence would be established in Slovenia, Bulgaria, Croatia and United Kingdom. Each country connects at least 25 different first points of contact in each country (i.e. schools, preschools, universities, different companies, non-governmental organizations, libraries, shops, etc.). Their role is to provide lay psychosocial and legal first aid to victims of domestic and gender-based violence. We will aim to ensure high quality of offered support and aid at first points of contact to victims of violence by providing e-learning, as well as in-person training to persons at first points of contact. The “FIRST” e-toolbox (e-learning training program and e-help tool) will be implemented in combination with the “FIRST” train the trainers’ trainings in 2017, but it was created during 2016 at the partner meeting in London.

20-22 January 2016 two our members participated at the partner meeting in ISA Institute premises in Ljubljana, Sloveia. We planned all the two years activities of the project.



27-28 September 2016 two our members participatd at the workshop for the cration of the e-learning training program and e-help tool, as well as on the partner meeting. We agreed on the content of modules and distributed tasks related to modules text, and dissemination plan. Workshop and training were organized in the premises of the law firm Ashurst, Broadwalk House, London.



Activities in networks

Our representative participated at the 18th WAVE Conference titled Step Up! Europe – Unite to end violence against women and their children held from 19th–21st October 2016 in Berlin, Germany, at City Hall, Berlin / Berliner Rathaus and Stadtmission. Nela Pamuković participated at the workshop Standards for the specialist women’s support services required by the Istanbul Convention with the topic: State funding of women's shelters and other specialist women's support services – challenges to maintaining autonomy of the NGOs. WAVE conference brought together wide range of practitioners, members of the academia, government representatives and EU and UN experts to discuss pressing issues related to violence against women and children across Europe, including effective measures that can prevent this and the situation of refugee women and racism in Europe. The event was attended by approximately 400 participants, coming from several countries and continents, who sought to use this opportunity to engage in ongoing feminist debates, disseminate best practices in the field and exchange views and ideas on the issue of violence against women and provision of specialist support services in Europe. The conference created a platform for discussion and interaction between experts and practitioners from 52 countries. This gave them an opportunity to reinforce their feminist principles, strengthen their commitments, find inspiration and new

approaches in the field of preventing violence against women, and last but not least, engage with new ideas and give and receive mutual support.



On 14 January 2016 we visited Dublin Rape Crisis Centre, one of long term trainers of the Centre for Women War Victims - ROSA, on our work with sexual trauma survivors during 90ties. We learned on DRC's current work - counselling and training, and talked about situation with war rape survivors in Croatia.



Women's Network of Croatia

Centre ROSA continued to take an active role in Women's Network of Croatia, in leadership (2 Centres' members are part of the coordination team) and organization of actions.

On 8th of March 2016 the action named "Ženama je dosta/It is enough for women" was organized. About 200 participants from 30 organizations of Women's Network Croatia and other organisations, initiatives together with joined us and participated in the protest.



General Assembly of Women's Network Croatia in Zagreb



From 29 April – 1 May 2016 with Mediteranian Women's Fund we suorganized the third Croatian women's organizations strategic reflection meeting in Zagreb, Hotel Dubrovnik, with 22 activist from

18 women's organizations represented, almost all of them members of the Women Network of Croatia, and 3 representatives of MWF. Feminist activist during these three meetings defined priority issues after deep reflection on the challenges and needs of women and the women's movement in Croatia, deepened their analysis and decided on collective actions on sexual and reproductive health issues and religious influence on politics.

A first strategic reflection meeting gathered in November 2013, 18 women's organizations represented. A second strategic reflection meeting was organized a year later, in November 2014, where 22 women activists representing 16 women's organizations from Croatia were present.



Women's Network participated in a wide coalition of civil society organizations in organizing 1st of May, Labor Day March in Zagreb, and at the Labor Day March organized the same day by Trade Unions.

Majority of activities of Women's Network of Croatia were focused on public protests against threats for fundamental women's rights – sexual and reproductive rights that were under the attack of religious NGOs and Catholic Church.

On 21 May 2016 we participated at the protest against "March for Life" organized by ad hoc coalition of women's organizations "Defend the Freedom of Choice" initiated by Women's Network of Croatia. Protest aimed at defending women's fundamental rights, titled "Defend the Freedom of Choice: We will not stand aside and watch our rights been taken away" took place at Strossmayer Square in Zagreb. Approximately 500 people gathered at the protest as reaction to organized march of neoconservative initiatives 'Walk for Life'. (<https://www.facebook.com/obranipravo/>)

Zagreb, 21 May 2016

Faced with aggressive attacks on women's reproductive rights, various feminist activists, initiatives and organisations from the cities across Croatia have joined forces to organize a protest „In defence of freedom of choice“, which was initiated by Women’s Network of Croatia. Protest was held today in Zagreb's downtown, gathering around 500 protesters, as a reaction to the so called first national „March for life“ that was announced as “celebration of life, family and Croatia” with the main aim at criminalisation of abortion. The counter protest was organized in the park next to the street where marchers were passing by. Approximately 7.000 participants, family members of all generations, attended this march which is a part of the global movement of radical catholic conservatives and fundamentalist that gathered 80.000 participants in Slovakia and 30.000 participants in Italy last year. Today’s March imposed the false picture of happy and perfect Croatian Catholic family and state while its real purpose was to drastically restrict fundamental women’s rights.

Željka Markić, organizer of the first referendum against marriage equality in Croatia (2013) was one of the organizers of this march financially supported by the City of Zagreb and mobilized by Catholic Church. The spouse of the new Croatian Prime Minister Sanja Orešković also participated in the first rows of the march against Croatian law on free abortion right. She stated that "any reasonable person should support initiative March for life, and choose life against death”.

The most dramatic event was a moment when the marchers were passing by the counter protest and two women counter protesters stood in front of the March, after which they were quickly attacked physically by the members of the march and arrested by the police. As a reaction 30 protesters stood in front of the police station for two hours, until painter Dunja Janković and musician Dunja Ercegović (Lovely Quinces) were released without any charges pressed against them. Dunja Ercegović stated that she reacted instinctively because she couldn’t just stand and whistled against pro-fascist tendencies in the society. Dunja Ercegović said that she came to the counter protest to defend her right to decide about her own body.

Two women protesters were exposed to violence from March security and police while the attackers from “March for life” that violently acted against them have not even been asked for their names of questioned whatsoever. This kind of police reaction is illustrative for current antidemocratic tendencies in Croatia. Media reported about incident against peaceful walk for life, and organizers of this March stated in their press release that these two women where evidently distraught, and possible alcoholised, which was absolutely not the case.

The protest was a follow-up on many feminist actions against attempts to stop the right on abortion in Croatia since 1991, and most recently action of Women’s Network of Croatia under the title „We do not want to go back to the illegal abortion!“ which was held on the 29th of December 2015, shortly after a new right-wing coalition government was formed.



18 June 2016, organized action in front of the Polish Embassy in Zagreb Legal and safe abortion on request, Support to March of Dignity held in Warsaw.



27 July 2016, as part of Women's Network we participated at the celebration of anti-fascist day of the uprising against fascism during the Second World War in our country that took place in Srb, Croatia.

On 22 August 2016 Women's Network issued a public statement related to text of professor of fundamental theology Ivica Raguž in very influential Church magazine Glas Koncila, from 12 August 2016 titled Maria's Obedience and Women Today. WNC calls for the stronger reaction of the Ombudswoman for Gender Equality against such statements that call for the obedience of women to men and discriminate women on the ground of Biblical texts. Raguž stated that 'desobedience means that women have been tempted to build their lives without God, and not wanting to have "head" (Jesus Christ, Church, men) to whom she has to be obedient.



On 16 September 2016, WNC participated at the press conference related to the First Croatian Congress in Forensic Gynaecology and Perinatology organised from 16–18 September in Topusko under the auspices of high-ranking Catholic Church officials. Gynecologist Jasenka Grujić from the Initiative of doctors for the regulation of conscientious objection, Bojana Genov from Women's Network of Croatia Ženske mreže Hrvatske, Marijana Bijelić from The Protagora association, which protects and promotes the rights of irreligious persons, strongly opposed such a coalition between state and Catholic institutions in joined organization of such congress.

I. HRVATSKI KONGRES FORENZIČNE GINEKOLOGIJE I PERINATOLOGIJE S MEĐUNARODNIM SUĐELOVANJEM

Topusko, 16.-18. rujna 2016.

VISOKO POKROVITELJSTVO KONGRESA
Uzorni gospodarin kardinal Josip Bozanić, nadbiskup zagrebački
Predsjednica Republike Hrvatske Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović

POKROVITELJSTVO KONGRESA
Biskup biskop stolni Vlado Kožić
Hrvatska liječnička komora
Hrvatska komora primanja

Predsjednik organizacijskog odbora:
Dubravko Fabek
Potpredsjednik organizacijskog odbora:
Ingrid Martinić
Marta Fika
Ana Tiskova Lučić

PROGRAM:

Petak, 16. 9. 2016.
OPĆI HISTORIJSKI, DEONTOLOŠKI I ETIČKI DIO

Subota, 17. 9. 2016.
FORENZIČNA PERINATOLOGIJA

Nedjelja, 18. 9. 2016.
FORENZIČNA GINEKOLOGIJA I SLOBODNA PODOBNA

Kongres će biti bodovan od Hrvatske
liječničke komore i Hrvatske komore
primanja.

ORGANIZATORI I SUORGANIZATORI:

Hrvatska katolička crkva u Zagrebu
Odbor za ginekologiju i perinatologiju Hrvatske biskupske konferencije "Sveti Duh"
i Zagrebu
Hrvatska mreža ženskih organizacija Hrvatske
Liječnički i primarni
Hrvatska komora za ginekologiju i perinatologiju
Hrvatsko društvo za medicinsku psihologiju Hrvatske liječničke komore
Hrvatsko društvo za ginekologiju i perinatologiju Hrvatske liječničke komore
Hrvatsko društvo za perinatalnu medicinu Hrvatske liječničke komore
Hrvatsko društvo za etiku u ginekologiji i perinatologiji Hrvatske liječničke komore
Hrvatsko društvo za medicinsku etiku i deontologiju Hrvatske liječničke komore
Hrvatska strukovna udruženja obdijelitelja i nadležnih tijela
Hrvatska udruženja bolnica i klinika
Hrvatska bolnica za materničnu i jajničku operaciju "Sveti Vrhunac"
Zagreb

Informacije o kongresu:
maja.preljuzniak.com
dubavko@amcath.hr
ingrid.martini@amcath.hr

Informacije o smještaju:
Licebita Topusko: 041/586-032
www.prijeluzniak.com



www.amcath.hr



Day after the press conference on 17 September 2016 several members of WNC organized the peaceful protest in Topusko at the venue of the congress against the auspices of Catholic church high officials under the Forensic gynaecological congress. The banner Equality is Possible Only in Secular State warning public on discriminatory and degrading relation of Catholic Church towards women and their and reproductive rights.

<http://www.jutarnji.hr/vijesti/hrvatska/zenska-mreza-prosvjeduje-zbog-ginekoloskog-kongresa-u-topuskom/4701128/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHnCcvoxk7I>

<https://dnevnik.hr/vijesti/hrvatska/zenska-mreza-hrvatske-organizirala-prosvjed-protiv-kongresa-forenzicne-ginekologije-i-perinatologije---450465.html>



On 3 October 2016 Women's Network of Croatia organized a protest in Support to Polish Women: Poland's Medieval New Abortion Law – Black Protest/Czarny Protest
<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/oct/02/women-to-go-on-strike-in-poland-abortion-law>



In December 2016 WNC in the frame of Platform: Feminist Solidarity for Fundamental Rights published a new brochure *Myths and Facts on Abortion* as part of the Platform Feminist solidarity for Fundamental Rights.

<http://zenstud.hr/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Istine-i-la%C5%BEi-o-poba%C4%8Daju.pdf>



6 October 2016 reacted to the new violations of women's rights from the Praying Initiative "40 Days for Life". Namely this Initiative published a call on their Facebook page of the inviting their activists to gather in big numbers in front of Vukovar hospital because they found out that a woman would come to hospital for the abortion, so they wanted to demonstrate to "help that woman to chose a life".

WNC also reacted against the same Praying initiative that entered the Hospital Sestre milosrdnice in Zagreb and put their stands with materials against abortion, as well as standing with banners inside the hospital yard loudly praying. It has been a continuation of two years of pressure towards women patints and gynaecologists in hospitals in different cities in Croatia. WNC asked for immediate action against such gatherings in front of hospitals that violate constitutional rights and freedoms of women, and asked for the responsibility of relevant authorities. WNC also demanded responsibility from employee of the Vukovar hospital who violated obligation of keeping confidentiality that requires health care providers to keep a patient's personal health information private. Not only that the confidential information about the patient was provided to the members of Praying initiative but the employees of the hospitals were standing in front of the hospitals together with members of Praying initiative holding banners.

During 2016 we have continued to work as part of the Platform: Feminist Solidarity for Fundamental Rights, in partnership with organizations Domine, Split; Women's Network of Croatia, Autonomous Women's House Zagreb, Center for Healthy Growth "Idem i ja" and Lesbian group Kontra (although funds have been reduced).

Work within other networks on Regional (Women's Court) and International level (European Observatory for Monitoring Violence against Women, NGO Civil Society Platform against Trafficking in Persons, EWL Task Force for Central and Eastern European, Baltic and Balkan Countries - we have analyzed situation in countries in relation to new circumstances of attack on so-called "gender ideology" and developed a common action strategy for this region, CATW - Coalition against Trafficking in Women and Coalition Brussels Call - within which we acted against policy for legalization of exploitation of persons in prostitution proposed by Amnesty International; and WAVE - Women of Europe against Violence against Women, within which we distributed information on activities of women's organizations in Croatia.

Participation of Women's Network of Croatia in European Women's Lobby

Women's Network of Croatia became a member of European Women's Lobby (EWL) in 2006. Centre ROSA has been active in activities of EWL since the beginning of WNC membership.

From 3-5 June 2016 our representative on behalf of Women's Network of Croatia participated at the Annual Assembly and Board Meetings of European Women's Lobby in Brussels. Mandates in European Observatory on Violence against Women (after 10 years) and mandate at the Board (after 4 years) finished for Nela Pamuković. New Observatory member became Valentina Andrašek and new Board member Mirjana Kučer, and as her alternate Nikolina Zec.



From March – June 2017 Women's Network of Croatia participated at the European Women's Lobby project titled "Mapping research on sexuality education in Europe from a feminist perspective": the

analysis of the sexuality education in Croatia. Mapping was used at different levels (European, regional, national...), to identify the strategies and actions to be undertaken as part of EWL general campaign on sexuality education. The mapping showed key trends and challenges in Europe and helped us develop our collective vision of what sexuality education means from a feminist perspective. Thanks to the mapping, each of the feminist networks in Europe now has a clearer vision of the situation in their country and is able to take action.

EWL CEEBS (Central Eastern Europe, Balkan and Baltic States) Task Force was established on the Board meeting after General Assembly of EWL in October 2014 as a means to share information, identify common challenges and common strategies for action in the region of Central Europe, the Balkans and the Baltic States in order to promote gender equality and a context sensitive women's rights agenda. The Task Force highlights that women's rights in the CEEBS region are constrained by limited state resources, a general reluctance to recognize gender equality as a democratic value and a fundamental human right, armed conflicts in the neighboring countries and post-conflict transition, a strong religious anti-women's human rights lobby as well as by the rise of right wing populist politics. During 2016 our representative participated at Skype CEEBS meeting on 4th April 2016.

<http://www.womenlobby.org/EWL-members-establish-Central-and-Eastern-Task-Force?lang=en>

On 18 April 2016 Nela Pamuković as member of the EWL Task Force CEEBS participated at a meeting held in Brussels, at Amazone Centre, on Gendering EU Enlargement: exploring joint opportunities for Women's Rights Organisations in Central Europe, the Baltic and Western Balkan States, organized by the European Women's Lobby and Kvinna till Kvinna from Sweden. At the meeting participated representatives of the European Commission - Karolina Vrethem, Policy Officer Gender Equality, DG Neighborhood Policy and European Parliament - Jasenko Selimovic, Swedish Parliament Representative, and Ulrike Lunachek, Austria's Representative in the European Parliament, as well as representative's of non-governmental organizations Jana Smiggels Kavkova, Czech Women's lobby, and Maja Raičević, Center for Women's Rights from Montenegro. Meeting was chaired by Joanna Maycock and Lena Ag, head of the European Women's Lobby and Kvinna till Kvinne.

On 19 April 2016 our representative participated at Forum on Violence Against Refugee Women and Girls - Women's Voices, organized by EWL in European Foundation Centre, Brussels. Apart from members of Task Force CEEBS at this event participated WILPF; UN Women, Women's Refugee Commission, Assylum Aid, and European Migrant Women's Network. Presnetatons included Catriona Gray, assistant to the Member of the European Parliament (EP) Mary Honeyball, on the EP resolution on the situation of refugee women and girls, which highlights the need for gender-sensitive policies in asylum policies; Dooa, who told us about her personal journey as a refugee woman in Belgium, and the impact of the lack of gender-sensitivity of the asylum procedures and staff; Biljana Nastovska on the reality of violence against refugee women and girls in Macedonia; Marcy Hersh, from the Women's Refugee Commission, presented the outcomes of their three field assessments in Europe in terms of protection risks for refugee women and girls; Debora Singer, from Assylum Aid UK, presented a case to explain what engendering the asylum procedures means; Sabine Fraser from UN Women presented the situation of women refugees in countries she visited. <http://www.womenlobby.org/Inspiring-and-fruitful-womensvoices-Forum-on-violence-against-refugee-women-and?lang=en>



Coordination of Women's Groups - SEKA:

SEKA was established by five women's organizations in 1996, and started the work of House SEKA in village Splitska on island Brač in 1997. During 2016 Centre ROSA in cooperation with Autonomous Women's House, Centre for Women's Studies and Women's Group Split coordinated activities in House SEKA - house for therapeutical holidays for women survivors and activists, as well as meetings, and seminars. From May to November 8 group of women survivors and activists participated at seminars, meeting and retreats organized in cooperation with PETRA Network for the prevention and elimination of trafficking in women for sexual exploitation, Croatia, Autonomous Women's Center Belgrade, Impuls, Tutin, Network of Women Against Violence, Autonomous Women's House Zagreb, Dominoes, Women's Group Split, Pešćanik and Centre for Girls from Krusevac. Some seminars were combined with retreats. Topics of seminars: Collective Integrative Security, Networking towards Change. Feminist activists from the Balkans used the retreat possibility for the exchange on the situation of the movement, and planning of cooperation. Centre ROSA took care of the organization of the programme, maintenance, fundraising, and administrative support, collection of donations in kind, while Centre for Women's Studies took care of the financial management.

Coordination of the PETRA Network of women's NGOs for the Prevention and Elimination of Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation: Coordination of PETRA Network enabled regular exchange of information on work of 13 members, membership of new members, empowerment of members to combat trafficking in women in their communities, organization of actions to raise public awareness of this problem, giving opinions on international reporting on trafficking in women situation (GRETA, US State Department), contribution to annual report created by Governmental Office for Human Rights and Rights of National Minorities.

More Information about activities of Centre ROSA are available on web sites:

Center for Women Victims of War - ROSA

URL: <http://www.czzzr.hr/>

Women War Memory

URL: <http://www.women-war-memory.org/index.php/hr/>

I sign Convention on violence against women

URL: <http://www.potpisujem.org/>

Upholding Rights! Early Legal Intervention

URL: <http://www.earlylegalintervention.eu/>

First points of contact for support for survivors of gender based violence

<http://www.firstaction.eu/?lang=hr>

Lila community

URL: <http://www.lilazajednica.com.hr/>

Women's Network Croatia

URL: <http://www.zenska-mreza.hr/>

PETRA Network for Prevention and Elimination of Trafficking in Women for Sexual Exploitation

URL: <http://www.petra-nvo.net/>

Facebook:

I Sign Campaign (@ISignCampaign)

SOS Help line for Victims of Trafficking in Human (@SosZaZrtveTrgovanjaLjudima)

YouTube:

I Sign Campaign

FINANCIAL REPORT 2016

1 EUR = 7,5294 KN

	KN	EUR
INCOME	1.023.036	135.872
European Union	513.327	68.176
State budget	33.041	4.388
Local Government budget	30.000	3.984
International foundations	176.152	23.395
Companies including National Foundation for Civil Society	265.141	35.214
Private donations	5.000	664
EXPENSES	1.035.458	137.522
Expences for Employees	464.658	61.705
Material expences	464.604	61.705
Amortization	6.379	847
Financial expences	7.826	1.039
Transfers to other NGOs	91.991	12.218

Total income in 2016 was 1.023.036 KN / 135.872 EUR, total expences in 2016 were 1.035.458 KN / 137.522 EUR.

Funding available for next year: 44.368,00 KN / 5.893 EUR. Balance sheet on 31 December 2016 - 1.890.141 KN / 251.035 EUR.

Detailed Financial Report is available on web site of Ministry of Finances in the Register of Non-Profit Organizations (<https://banovac.mfin.hr/rnoprt/Pretraga.aspx>).

Projects and sources of funding in 2016:

- Separated Children in Judicial Proceedings, European Union JUST/2014/RCHI/AG/PROF/7047/ and Governmental Office for NGOs
- Coordinated efforts - Toward new European standards in protection of women from gender based violence, European Union, Europe Aid/132438/C/ACT/Multi, Contract number: 2014/351-409 and Governmental Office for NGOs
- Upholding Rights! Early Legal Intervention, European Union HOME/2012/ISEC/AG/4000004353/ and Governmental Office for NGOs/City of Zagreb
- FIRST - Capacity Building for First Points of Contact for Victims of Domestic and Gender-based Violence, Grant Agreement No. JUST/2014/RDAP/AG/VICT/7450, co-funded by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme of the European Union and Governmental Office for NGOs
- Developing Capacity of CSOs for Human Rights Mainstreaming 2012-01-35-010212/Grant Contract – External Actions of the European Union, No 2012-01-35-010212/ IPA 2012

- Empowerment of women's CSOs to spread the services of assistance and support to women victims of different forms of gender-based violence, European Social Fund and Governmental Office for NGOs/National Foundation for Civil Society Development
- General Support, Global Fund for Women
- General Support, Heart and Hand Fund
- General Support, Mediterranean Women's Fund
- Institutional support, National Foundation for Civil Society Development
- EWL Mapping on sexuality education, European Women's Lobby
- Support to Women War Rape Survivors, Urgent Action Fund for Women's Human Rights
- Support to women who survived sexual and other forms of violence in the war, HEP – Croatian electricity company
- Program of Support for women survivors of gender-based violence - trafficking in women, rape, rape, prostitution, City of Zagreb, City Office for Social Welfare and Persons with Disabilities
- Program of Support for women survivors of gender-based violence - trafficking in women, rape, rape, prostitution; Zagrebačka County
- Platform: Feminist Solidarity for Fundamental Rights, National Foundation for Civil Society Development

Zagreb, April 2017