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VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

Partnering to prevent and respond to sexual violence

*Ending Violence against Women in the Western Balkans and Turkey
"Implementing Norms, Changing Minds"*

DRAFT AGENDA

Date: 10 March 2022

Time: 10:00 – 12:00 GMT+1 (Western Balkans time)/12:00 – 14:00 GMT+3 (Turkey time)

Registration link: <https://bit.ly/3oR8ax0>

The conference aims to examine critical policy recommendations to prevent and respond to sexual violence in the region and outline key actions to accelerate their implementation. The conference builds on research, advocacy and long-standing partnerships with national institutions and civil society organizations throughout the region.

Master of Ceremony: Afşin Yurdakul

9:50 – 10:00	Technical check-up
10:00 – 10:15	<p>OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE</p> <p><i>Welcome remarks by</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chloe Laurens-Dinsdale, DG NEAR Equality Coordinator, Team Leader Human Rights and Civil Society, European Commission ▪ Alia El-Yassir, Regional Director, UN Women Europe and Central Asia Regional Office ▪ Stephanie Futter-Orel, Executive Manager, WAVE Network
10:15 – 10:30	<p>GUEST SPEAKERS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elif Shafak, Writer, Academic, Public Speaker and Women's Rights Activist ▪ Rumena Bužarovska, Writer, Professor, and Women's Rights Activist ▪ Lana Bastašić, Writer and Novelist
10:30 – 10:40	<p>KEYNOTE SPEECH</p> <p>Reem Alsalem, United Nations Special Rapporteur on violence against women, its causes and consequences</p>

The virtual conference "Partnering to prevent and respond to sexual violence" is organized by UN Women and WAVE Network, within the regional programme on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey 'Implementing Norms, Changing Minds,' funded by the European Union.

10:40 – 11:00	<p>ACTING TO PREVENT AND RESPOND TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY by Biljana Branković, Independent Researcher/External Evaluator and co-author of the policy paper "Promising practices of establishing and providing specialist support services for women experiencing sexual violence: A legal and practical overview for women's NGOs and policymakers in the Western Balkans and Turkey"</p> <p>WHAT DO WE HAVE TO LEARN FROM THE IRISH MODEL FOR RAPE CRISIS CENTRES by Cliona Saidléar, Executive Director, Rape Crisis Network Ireland</p>
11:00 – 11:55	<p>MODERATED PANEL DISCUSSION: COMMITTING TO ELIMINATE SEXUAL VIOLENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Denada Seferi, Deputy Minister of Health and Social Protection, Albania ▪ Samra Filipović Hadžiabdić, Director of Agency for Gender Equality, Bosnia and Herzegovina ▪ Elena Grozdanova, State Counsellor on Equal Opportunities, Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, North Macedonia ▪ H.E. Ms. Gordana Čomić, Minister for Human and Minority Rights and Social Dialogue, Serbia ▪ Biljana Pejović, Head of the Division for Gender Equality, Ministry of Justice, Human, and Minority Rights, Montenegro ▪ Nazlie Bala, Advisor, Deputy Minister of Justice and National Coordinator against Domestic Violence, Ministry of Justice, Kosovo* ▪ Ayşegül Arslan Kuşku, Coordinator of Women's Centre in Istanbul, Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality, Turkey
11:55 – 12:05	<p>YOUTH TACKLING SEXUAL VIOLENCE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dejana Dexi Stošić, WAVE Youth Ambassador, Serbia ▪ Stefan Petrovski, WAVE Youth Ambassador, North Macedonia
12:05	Closing remarks

* For the European Union, this designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence. For UN Women, references to Kosovo shall be understood to be in the context of UN Security Council Resolution 1244 (1999).