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vol II

IMPLEMENTING NORMS, CHANGING MINDS

The "2018 Public Perceptions of Gender Equality and Violence against Women" infosheets present the key findings of a baseline survey conducted in selected communities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244), North Macedonia, Serbia and Turkey. The infosheets provide insights of current and dominant attitudes and perceptions (and the factors that influence them) toward gender equality and violence against women at community level. Check out the infosheets [here](#).

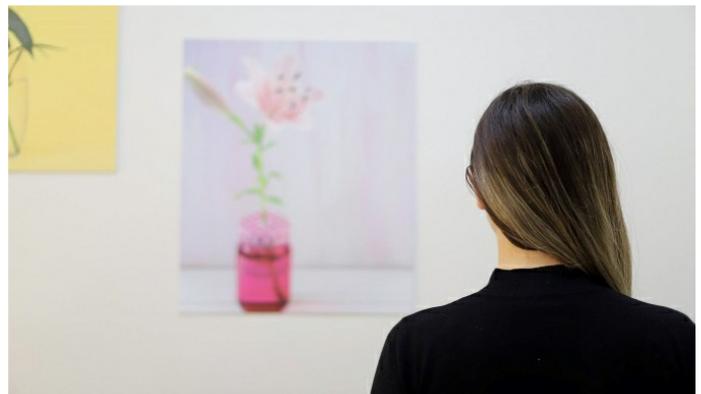
WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

2018 PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS OF GENDER EQUALITY AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



KOSOVO TO START USING AN INTEGRATED DATABASE FOR CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Government institutions dealing with violence against women and girls in Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244) signed a memorandum of understanding on an integrated and unified database for cases of domestic violence. This database will enable the monitoring and prosecution of domestic violence cases in Kosovo, and ensure accountability, by obliging relevant institutions to feed the database with the necessary information from central and local levels. Read more [here](#).



EMERGENCY SHELTERS AND SPECIALIZED SERVICES NEEDED FOR WOMEN SURVIVORS OF VIOLENCE IN ALBANIA

A civil society-led monitoring process focused on reducing gender-based and domestic violence in Albania has identified a lack of emergency shelters for women who have suffered violence. In addition, there is a need to increase the capacities of the judges, especially in enhancing their collaboration with the local coordinators of domestic violence cases. Read more [here](#).

REGIONAL PROGRAMME PARTNERS AWARDED BY THE EU FOR THEIR WORK WITH ROMA COMMUNITIES

Five activists working under the EU-UN Women regional programme on ending violence against women “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds” received the 2019 EU Award for Roma Integration for the Western Balkans and Turkey.

The award aims to highlight the political importance of Roma integration in the EU enlargement process; to enhance the role of key players such as civil society, Roma youth and this year Roma women; and to show the EU’s determination and commitment to enhance social inclusion of Roma people. Check out their video interviews produced by the EU Neighborhood and Enlargement.



Indira Bajramović, Director of Roma Women’s Association Bolja Buducnost, Tuzla.



Fana Delija, Executive Coordinator of the Center for Roma Initiatives.



Ana Sacipovic, Director of the Association of Roma Women “Osvit”.



Slavica Vasic, Chairwoman and co-founder of Bibija’s Roma Women’s Centre.



Shpresa Agushi, Director of the Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women Organizations of Kosovo (NRAEWOK).

“WOMEN ARE AFRAID TO USE PUBLIC SPACES ALONE AND AT NIGHT”

Irena Cvetkovic is the Executive Director of Coalition Margins, an NGO working to promote and protect the human rights of marginalized communities including marginalized women, drug users, sex workers and LGBTI people in North Macedonia. She holds a PhD in Gender Studies and has worked on a number of research projects in the fields of sociology, gender studies, and media. Irena was a researcher for a study on gender-based violence in public spaces in the Municipality of Tetovo conducted within the framework of the regional programme. Read about her work [here](#).



KOSOVO TO AMEND ITS CONSTITUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244) is aiming at amending its Constitution to recognize the Istanbul Convention's direct applicability. The proposed amendment would provide an opportunity to build on achievements and work towards the full implementation of the Convention. Read more [here](#).



NEW LAW IN ALBANIA WILL PROVIDE LOW-COST HOUSING FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Shelter for Abused Women and Girls is part of the Monitoring Network against Gender-Based Violence, a network of 48 civil society organizations across Albania. In 2018, the network played a significant role in advocating for changes to the law "On Measures Against Violence in Family Relations" and in providing inputs to the draft Law on Social Housing. Because of their advocacy, women survivors of domestic violence, victims and possible victims of trafficking, and single mothers are now among the groups to be prioritized for low-cost public housing, under the social housing law approved in May 2018. Read the story [here](#).





“WE WANT TO ENGAGE YOUNG MEN AND BOYS IN THE FIGHT TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS”

Milos Djajic is the Director of the Center for Modern Skills, an NGO working to promote political education, civil participation and social justice in Serbia. In the context of the EU-UN Women regional programme on ending violence against women: “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds”, the Center for Modern Skills is working with young men and boys to prevent violence against women and girls. Through his work, Djajic is contributing towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5 on gender equality and its target on ending violence against women. Read more [here](#).



KOSOVO INCREASES CAPACITIES ON IMPLEMENTING THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

NGO AKTIV, an implementing partner of EU-UN Women regional programme “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds,” funded by the European Union, organized a training on the Istanbul Convention for members of four municipal Domestic Violence Coordination Mechanisms in Kosovo’s northern municipalities (under UNSCR 1244). The members of the coordination mechanisms, as well as other-key service providers, are working towards increasing the quality of services provided to survivors of gender-based and domestic violence as stipulated in the Istanbul Convention. Read more [here](#).



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