

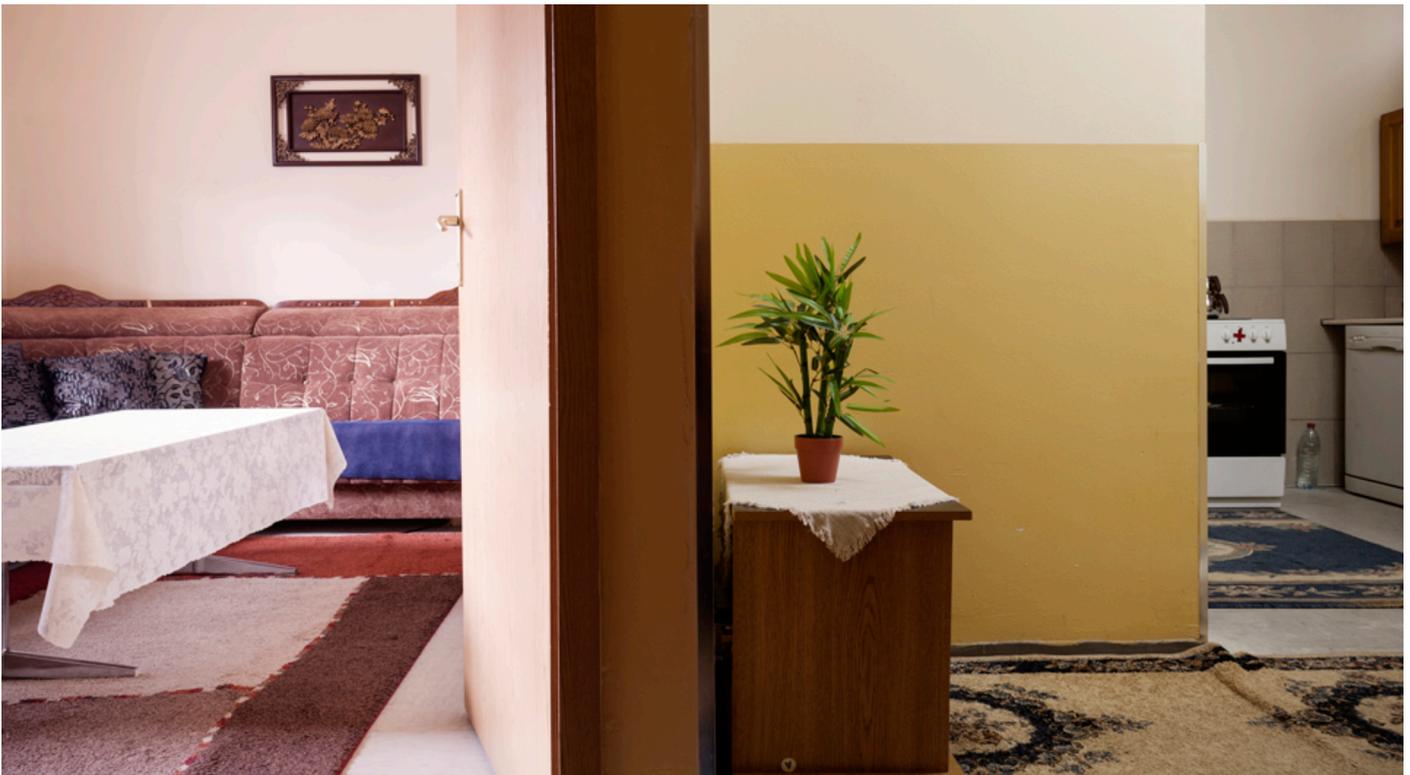


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# IMPLEMENTING NORMS, CHANGING MINDS



## ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR WOMEN SURVIVORS MUST CONTINUE DURING PANDEMIC, AFFIRM PROTECTION AND JUSTICE SECTOR REPRESENTATIVES

Around 100 representatives from institutions involved in the protection systems of the Western Balkans and Turkey discussed how to improve the justice sector's response to violence against women, especially in times of crisis during a two-day high level regional conference "Access to justice for women victims and survivors of violence in the Western Balkans and Turkey in times of COVID-19."

The online regional conference was organized by the Center of Women's Rights from Bosnia and Herzegovina within the regional programme on ending violence against women "Implementing Norms, Changing Minds," funded by the European Union. [Read more.](#)

## DOCUMENTARY SERIES “JUSTICE FOR WOMEN”

The documentary series “Justice for Women” features 14 real stories of women victims and survivors of violence across the Western Balkans and Turkey to whom justice failed, as well as concrete recommendations to avoid such cases of violence to happen again. The stories are drawn from the action-oriented regional research “Is justice failing women survivors of violence: Action-oriented recommendations for effective prevention, protection and prosecution in the Western Balkans and Turkey,” published in May 2020. The documentary series was produced by the Center of Women’s Rights, within the regional programme “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds,” funded by the European Union.



## WOMEN ACTIVISTS FROM THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY DETERMINED TO CHANGE THE WAY THEY PREVENT VIOLENCE AGAINST MIGRANT WOMEN



On the occasion of International Migrants Day, 18 December 2020, over 80 women activists and representatives of line ministries, civil society and academia from the Western Balkans and Turkey came together to discuss ways to prevent and respond to violence against women migrants at the webinar “Intersectional solutions to eliminate violence against migrant women and girls.” Co-organized by the European Union, the Council of Europe, and UN Women, the webinar was the third in the series “A thousand ways to solve our problems: Preventing and responding

to violence against women from an intersectional perspective in the Western Balkans and Turkey,” within the framework of the EU-UN Women programme “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds.”

[Read more.](#)

## WOMEN WITH DISABILITIES AT HIGHER RISK OF VIOLENCE IN PRIVATE AND PUBLIC REALMS

More than 100 women with disabilities, activists and representatives of ministries and civil society from the Western Balkans and Turkey exchanged information and good practices on addressing violence against women with disabilities at the webinar “Intersectional solutions to eliminate violence against women and girls living with disabilities”. The webinar was organized on the occasion of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities on 3 December 2020. [Read more.](#)



## TAKE FIVE: “WE MUST MAKE SURE THE WOMEN AND GIRLS WITH DISABILITIES ARE CONSULTED AND HEARD”

Ana Peláez Narváez is the first woman with disabilities elected as a member of the Committee on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). She also served in the UN Committee for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities for seven years and was its focal point for gender issues. Currently, Ms. Peláez Narváez is the Vice-President of the European Disability Forum, and she has championed women’s rights for more than 20 years. She shared her expertise during the webinar “Intersectional solutions to eliminate violence against women and girls living with disabilities,” organized within the regional UN Women programme, “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds,” funded by the European Union. [Read more.](#)



## WHAT HAPPENED AFTER COVID-19

### GERTJANA HASALLA: “WE CONTINUE TO CREATE THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT FOR RURAL WOMEN TO LIVE A BETTER AND SAFER LIFE”



Gertjana Hasalla works with the Woman Forum Elbasan (WFE) in Albania since April 2014. WFE is working in the Elbasan region in central Albania since 1999 on gender equality issues, including empowering women and girls from disadvantaged communities, increasing capacities of local governmental and non-governmental stakeholders and advocating for the protection of women’s rights. The organization is one of the six civil society partners of UN Women’s regional programme on ending violence against women “[Implementing Norms, Changing Minds,](#)” funded by the European Union. [Read more.](#)

## WOMEN’S RIGHTS ADVOCATES FROM THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY SHINE SPOTLIGHT ON DISPROPORTIONATE RATE OF VIOLENCE AGAINST RURAL WOMEN

Around 100 participants – representatives of ministries and civil society, researchers and activists – from the Western Balkans and Turkey discussed strategies and interventions to reduce violence against women from rural areas within the webinar “Intersectional solutions to eliminate violence against women and girls in rural areas,” on the occasion of the International Day of Rural Women, 15 October 2020. [Read more.](#)



## IN THE WORDS OF AŞKIN ASAN: “WE ARE COMMITTED TO MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN RURAL WOMEN’S LIVES EVERY DAY OF THE YEAR”

Professor Aşkın Asan is a member of the Council of Europe Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO). Previously, Professor Asan was the Deputy Minister of Family and Social Policies in Turkey. She is also the founder of “Women’s Centers,” aimed to empower rural women, and the “University Transfer Program,” designed for women with only a primary school diploma. Professor Asan was a key speaker for the webinar “Intersectional solutions to eliminate violence against women and girls in rural areas,” held on 15 October 2020, on the occasion of the International Day of Rural Women, within the framework of the EU-UN Women regional programme on ending violence against women “[Implementing Norms, Changing Minds.](#)” [Read more.](#)



## WHAT HAPPENED AFTER COVID-19: ALBANIA



Jana Kote and her three children lived with an abusive husband and father for 12 years until they received support from a local organization, Human Rights in Democracy Centre, based in Tirana, the capital of Albania. The organization is one of six civil society organizations partnering with UN Women-EU regional programme “[Implementing Norms, Changing Minds](#)”.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, with support from UN Women and others, the Centre maintained contact with survivors of domestic violence and coordinated with local government

institutions and authorities, such as the police, the court system and health institutions to prevent the disruption of these essential services that survivors of violence rely on. [Read more.](#)

## HAND OVER THE MIC TO: TEODORA STOJILKOVIĆ, SERBIA

Teodora Stojilković, 18, is a student and women’s right activist from Bujanovac, Serbia. She was one of the ambassadors of the “Women Talk” campaign, supported by UN Women, and is currently as a WAVE Youth Ambassador as part of the EU-UN Women regional programme “[Implementing Norms, Changing Minds](#)” that targets changing social norms. After COVID-19 hit, WAVE Youth Ambassadors from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia created videos in their local languages to raise awareness about sexual violence against women and highlight how to access women’s support. [Read more.](#)



## VOICES FROM THE FIELD

### NINA DJUKANOVIĆ BURZANOVIĆ: “WE HAVE BEGUN TO CHANGE THE PERCEPTIONS OF CYBER VIOLENCE”

“With the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, everything – both professional and personal lives – moved online, to the cyberspace. The cyber environment was and continues to be the safest place for protection against the virus. But what if COVID-19 was not the only problem to be fought? This is why, via the “Without A Mask On The Net” campaign, we wanted to shed light on a new type of problem that young women and girls are facing online - cyber violence.



By presenting all forms of cyber violence, our goal is to raise awareness among young women and girls about this phenomenon. We hope to empower them with the tools and knowledge to recognize and respond to various dangers, such as sexual harassment, the boundaries between entertainment and digital violence, sexual blackmail, and the risks of sharing explicit photos of themselves.

Thanks to this campaign, we reached around 140,000 people, 80,000 of them being young women and girls.

We are quite sure that we have begun to change the perceptions of cyber violence. However, there are still challenges ahead when it comes to it as this is a new emerging problem for young women and girls.”

*Nina Djukanović Burzanović, executive coordinator of NGO “Dobar Zivot,” Montenegro*

## RESOURCE CORNER



Read and share the [story](#) of EU-UN Women regional programme on ending violence against women “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds” that was featured in the global “UN Women impact stories series.” The series, updated quarterly, illustrates the human impact of UN Women’s work across the world, highlighting the partnerships that make this work possible.

#changingmindstoEVAW



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