



## NEWSLETTER #3

October 23<sup>th</sup> 2020

### Focus Groups' Outcomes: Preparing the Qualification Profile for the Role of the Coordinator of Domestic Violence

Thanks to the response of Domestic Violence (DV) and Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) professionals, focus groups in Greece, Latvia, Romania & England contributed majorly in the development of the profile and occupational role of the Coordinator of Domestic Violence (CDV). In total 327 professionals participated in the focus groups, that is 25 in Greece through Apostoli, 241 in Romania through Catharsis, 20 in Latvia through Diakonija, 41 in England through Standing Together & the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea.

Participants were professionals working on community centers, governmental and local institutions, specialized non-governmental organizations etc. Their everyday work covers domestic violence interventions and supporting the victims of violence in different perspectives. In Greece, Apostoli worked with health and mental health service workers, psychologists, nurses, social workers, in Romania Catharsis worked with teachers, psychologists, anger managers, in Latvia Diaconija with government and Local Authority officers, social workers, educators, psychologists and pastoral consultants. Moreover, Standing Together & the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea in England worked with DV & VAWG specialists, Local Authority officers, housing officers, national health service employees in England.



It has been clear that domestic violence (DV) and violence against women and girls (VAWG) is a global pandemic affecting not only its victims but also entire societies and countries. This complex and persisting situation is radically impacting upon the role of professionals working not only directly on DV and VAWG interventions, but also to relevant areas (Mental Health, Community Centers etc.), giving rise to an emerging occupational role of the **Coordinator of Domestic Violence (DVC)** - a professional who works in DV and VAWG aspects. This occupational role extends beyond, for instance, social workers, psychologists, lawyers, health care professionals etc. Furthermore, there is a common need to many EU member states to develop a certification scheme for the role of DV Coordinator.

Focus groups provided concise description of the role of DVC with specialist skills and competences in leading and coordinating community responses to DV and VAWG.

## Preparing Training for Coordinators of Domestic Violence (CDV)

A modular training curriculum is being developed for the Coordinator of Domestic Violence (DVC) to reach level 5 of the EQF in terms of knowledge, skills and capacity. The European CQ4DVCI Core Curriculum is designed so that the potential DVC to be able to acquire the competences needed to facilitate strategic interventions.

The training curriculum will cover all the necessary knowledge and skills that DVC needs to adopt and further develop. The aim of the modular training curriculum is to describe the capacity needed to live up to the role and tasks of the DVC profile. Curriculum is designed not only to provide a qualified vocational training course, which will end with certification, but also to enable upskilling of professionals, who already have some experience in this field but need to broaden and update their knowledge and use those in order to support interventions against DV and VAWG.

Training material will include at least 5 regular and interactive presentations; teamwork, individual and group work, role play, practical application, case studies & simulation/practical scenarios, individual and group projects, facilitated group discussion, action plan, brainstorming, filmed simulations, viewing simulations and feedback.



Shortly CQ4DVCI's partners will invite future trainees to express their interest in joining the training and end up taking the European certification as qualified Coordinators of domestic Violence.

## NEWS

### Beijing +25 Policy Brief: Area D - Violence Against Women: Response and Eradication

The European Institute of Gender Equality (EIGE) has published the latest report on the fifth review on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the EU Member States, the Beijing 25+, signaling twenty-five years after the ratification of the Beijing PfA. The report addresses several specialized areas connected with women's issues such as *Area D on Violence against Women* and *Area L: The Girl Child*, offering an update on the situation of women 25 years after the BPfA establishment. Moreover, it is expanded as to include new challenges related to women, such as migration, climate change, digitalization and horizontal factors causing the increase of gender inequality.

### Preventing Violence Against Women during the pandemic by WHO

On March 2021, the World Health Organization (WHO) published a short document with regard to VAG called *COVID-19 and Violence Against Women. What the Health Sector/System Can Do*. In acknowledgement of the severeness of violence against women as an escalating global public health and women's health danger during emergencies, the document provides key information about what the health sector and individuals can do to prevent and address violence against women during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/covid-19-and-violence-against-women>



## Nobel Laureate Nadia Murad Denounces Lack of Will to End Sexual Violence as a War Tactic

Given the fact that one in three women around the world are affected by gender-based violence, Ms. Murad said that VAWG escalates more than 200 percent in conflict settings, and that the international institutions “have failed to provide the resources needed to create meaningful change for traumatized communities.”

<https://news.un.org>

## COVID-19 Could Lead to Million Cases of Gender-Based Violence According to a New UN-Backed Data

It is estimated that approximately 31 million cases of gender-based violence will take place during the pandemic while an additional 15 million additional cases are expected for every three months, should lockdown continue.

<https://news.un.org>

## Contact Us

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