

Eliminating Domestic Violence in Europe: *Implementing Strategies for Protection and Prevention*



Tuesday 17th September 2013

The Silken Berlaymont Hotel
Brussels



Eliminating Domestic Violence in Europe: Implementing Strategies for Protection and Prevention

Overview

Currently, 9 out of 10 victims of domestic violence within the European Union are women. Furthermore, between 12 and 35 percent of women, depending on the member state, are victims of intimate partner violence. These figures clearly delineate the gender dimension of this serious and persistent issue in Europe.

A new regulation has been passed within the European Union, which will increase the protection of victims of violence across internal borders. Whilst this is a positive step forward, the inequality of protection services in different member states remains vast. The regulation is particularly directed towards the protection of female victims of violence and so does recognise the importance of a gender-based approach. However, more action is needed to ensure the comprehensive protection of victims of gender-based violence and to move towards its eradication in the EU.

The European Commission's *Daphne Programme* also provides essential funding for a wide range of important projects. They are focused on reaching out to children and women who experience domestic violence within the family dynamic. Whilst some positive developments have taken place in the form of recognition of children as victims of domestic violence, adolescents do not currently receive the same consideration. Some country-specific small scale studies have taken place and have identified girls from disadvantaged backgrounds to be at particularly high-risk, but further investigation and exposure of these issues is required.

The nature of intimate partner violence has been shaped alongside the development and increased use of new technologies such as the internet. The potential for new kinds of abuse, through the use of the internet in particular, represents a considerable challenge for authorities. However, the medium of the internet also provides an important opportunity to provide support and to reach out to victims of intimate partner violence. Projects have already been developed to harness the potential that the internet and computer technologies have to offer, but there is still a large deal of potential that remains to be unlocked.

This timely International Symposium will analyse the existing challenges in shaping a truly comprehensive and holistic strategy and toolkits for tackling the gender dimension of intimate partner violence. The Symposium will examine the role of organisations at all levels, and of society in general, in moving to eliminate all form of domestic and gender-based violence.

The Symposium will support the exchange of ideas and encourage delegates to engage in thought-provoking topical debate with local and regional practitioners and policymakers at EU level.

“ An estimated 1 in 5 women in Europe suffer some kind of violence at least once in their lives. Sadly, the most common form of physical violence is inflicted by someone close to the woman, usually an intimate partner.”

- Vice-President Viviane Reding, EU Justice Commissioner, May 2013

“ The continuity of specialist support services to victims of gender-based violence and specialist training for officials likely to deal with cases of violence against women is an important part of the protection.”

- Antonya Parvanova, Member of the European Parliament, March 2013

Venue and Accommodation

**The Silken Berlaymont Hotel,
11-19, Boulevard Charlemagne
1000 Brussels - Belgium**

In the heart of the European district you will find the Silken Berlaymont Brussels. It offers warm hospitality and an exclusive setting, combining fine architecture with comfort and elegance.



Why Attend?


- ✓ **Examine the current strategy and framework for tackling domestic abuse and gender-based violence and explore future policy developments**
- ✓ **Understand the challenges and typologies of all forms of domestic violence and abuse, and explore potential solutions and prevention scenarios**
- ✓ **Exchange good practices from cross-border projects and analyse comparative knowledge of shaping the use of technology in the field of intimate partner violence**
- ✓ **Utilise the added value of major stakeholders, international and regional organisations in delineating holistic strategies for empowering and protecting victims of domestic and gender-based violence**

Who Should Attend?

- Women Refugees and Advice Centres
- Domestic Violence Co-ordinators
- Housing Officers
- Family Courts
- Police Service, Police Authorities and Fire Services
- Probation Officers
- Child Protection Agencies
- Families Services Officers
- Family Advice Centres
- Health Service Professionals
- Child Welfare Research Centres
- Victim Support Representatives
- Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships
- Community Safety Teams
- LGBT Rights Associations
- Neighbourhood Policing Teams
- Anti-Social Behaviour Coordinators
- Drug and Alcohol Action Teams
- Youth Offending Teams
- Community Support Officers
- Children and Youth Services
- Housing Associations
- Social Workers and Social Services Officers
- Local Education Welfare Authorities
- Teachers and Head Teachers
- Criminal Justice Practitioners
- Judges and Magistrates
- Legal Professionals
- Local Authority Officers and Councillors
- Central Government Departments and Agencies
- Equality and Diversity Practitioners
- Academics and Researchers
- Women's Networks
- Trade Unions
- Employers' Associations
- Equal Opportunity Agencies
- Women's Lobbyist Groups
- Women's Councils
- Women's NGOs Networks
- National Ministries and Institutes
- Confederations of Women's Organisations
- Joint Committees on Women
- National Coordinators on Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities
- Social Exclusion Officers
- Human Rights Groups
- Disability Forums and Associations
- Women in Legal Careers Associations and Bodies
- Medical Women Associations
- Social Care Professionals

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Programme

09:15	Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:00	Chair's Welcome and Opening Remarks
10:10	Protecting and Supporting Victims of Domestic Violence in the EU <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessing Current Protection for Victims in Europe• Ensuring Implementation of the EU Directive• Europe as the Key Driver for International Standards• Policy Recommendations
10:40	First Round of Discussions
11:10	Morning Coffee Break
11:30	Analysing the Role of Society to Eliminate All Forms of Gender-based Violence in Europe <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Determining the True Extent of Gender-based Violence• Reducing the Societal and Economic Cost of Violence• Reaffirming Perspectives on the Role of Society and Violence• Future Actions and Recommendations
12:00	Second Round of Discussions
12:30	Networking Lunch
13:30	The Impact of Intimate-Partner Violence on Children and Young People <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing Young People and Children with Coping Mechanisms and Support• Raising Awareness of Teenage Relationship Abuse and its Consequences• Examples of Existing Prevention Programmes in Europe• Recommendations for Future Actions
14:00	Third Round of Discussions
14:30	Afternoon Coffee Break
14:50	Targeting Perpetrators and the Gender Dimension of Domestic Violence <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Identifying Perpetrators and Assessing High Risk Situations More Effectively• Joint Cooperation and Coordination at Local, National and European Levels• Targeting the Gender Inequality Roots of Domestic Violence• Future Recommendations and Actions
15:20	Fourth Round of Discussions
15:50	Chair's Summary and Closing Comments
16:00	Networking Reception
16:30	Close

Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice

Event Details

Date: Tuesday 17th September 2013
Time: 10:00am – 4:30pm
Venue: The Silken Berlaymont Hotel, Brussels



Forthcoming Events

Young People and Sexual Health: Reducing Risky Behaviour through Education and Engagement

4th September 2013

The EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020: Combating Illicit Trafficking and Substance Misuse

18th September 2013

Supporting Inclusive Entrepreneurship in Europe: Creating Sustainable Employment and Growth

24th September 2013

A European Strategy for Gender Equality: Tackling Discrimination in the Workplace and Beyond

9th October 2013

Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.


For further information please contact:

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