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SHERO

WAVE CARTOON BROCHURE

STRONG AND CARING AS THE MOTHER ELEPHANT SHE IS THE FREEDOM OF THOUGHT. SHE BELONGS TO NOONE BUT HERSELF. WHEN SHE SAYS NO SHE MEANS IT. SHE IS A PART OF US ALL AND HER NAME IS SHERO.

CALL UPON YOUR SHERO. STAND UP TO VIOLENCE!




SHERO – WAVE CARTOON BROCHURE

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Office hours: Monday–Thursday, 9:00–17:00

Phone: +43-1-548 27 20

E-mail: office@wave-network.org

Website: www.wave-network.org

Editor: Katarina Višnar

Graphic design: Monika Medvey

Cover illustration: Danica Jevđović

Thank you to: Katriina Raine, Johanna Storck, Alice degl'innocenti, Silvia Menecali, Ljupka Trajanovska, Slađana Luković, Virginia Gil, Estefania Sanchez

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SHERO

WAVE CARTOON BROCHURE

Raising awareness about
domestic violence through
inspirational cartoons

We need better stories, and we need new heroines

Every culture and every society has stories. These are shared between people to entertain and educate, to preserve culture, or to instil moral values. Sometimes, the stories are about the past and the present, and, sometimes, they are about the future.

But let's pause for a moment and think about, what the popular narratives from our culture tell us about women and girls. Or about patriarchy. Or about who is allowed to be strong – an agent; and who needs to be submissive and comply with the rules.

We need better stories. We need different stories. We need stories for a new era; and we need new heroines for this new era. If there are none - we need to create them.

We need role models for new generations.

The task of the artists who took part in the WAVE Call for female artists – cartoonists (which ran from September to November 2018) was to imagine and present their vision and interpretation of an inspirational role model, the character of a Shero – a female hero, a role model who is an agent of positive change in society. The story of the cartoon needed to be related to the issue of domestic, psychological and/or sexual violence as it is defined in the Istanbul Convention. The artists had to imagine a day in the life of the Shero whose work is all about preventing and stopping violence against women. What would Shero do if she witnessed violence? Or experienced it? What does she need in order to tackle violence against women?

We were looking for artists' visions of an inspirational cartoon figure capable of taking on the challenge while supporting women and girls who need assistance. The call was open to female artists, who had to send their cartoons to local campaigning organisations whose jury selected up to three artists per campaigning country for publication. We are delighted that the works we received turned out to be very diverse.

Although our Shero, in her colourful alterations, is a work of fiction, our goal is to bring this little publication into real life situations. Here, we need your help. We would like to invite you to make use of this brochure in your discussions, workshops, storytelling and other events where your goal will be to explain and address the omnipresence of violence against women and the ways to rise against it. Whenever you do organise or take part in such an event, please share your experience with us! Send us an email (to the address provided at the back of the brochure) and tag us in your social media posts.

Thank you!

The Campaigning Team of the WAVE Step Up! Campaign



The Step Up! Campaign is a European-wide project of the WAVE Network which aims to increase efforts to stop violence against women, to raise awareness of the issue and to protect women survivors of violence.

From the news

"An average of **137 women** across the world are killed by a partner or family member every day, according to new data released by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

They say it makes 'the home the most likely place for a woman to be killed'.

More than half of the 87,000 women killed in 2017 were reported as dying at the hands of those closest to them.

Of that figure, approximately 30,000 women were killed by an intimate partner and another 20,000 by a relative."

Source: www.bbc.com/news/world-46292919
(25 November 2018)

my notes...

FINLAND 1 Nea Runne and Vilma Kinnunen

For the Solidarity

Sign: SUPPORT GROUP
Shero: "Nobody has to do this alone!"

For the will to help

Sign: Police
Shero: "I'll come with you to file the report"

For education and awareness

Sign: How to recognise a toxic relationship
Shero: "Everyone has the right to set their personal boundaries!"

For demolishing the structural violence

Sign: petition #suostumus2018 (a petition to change the sexual violence law in Finland.
Rape is rape if there is no consent)
Shero: "I'll sign this!"

For one's dignity

Shero: "I'm worthy and good enough just the way I am"
"Every woman deserves to be treated with respect"

...That equals... SHERO!!

Anyone can be a shero!
Let's create a safe future for everyone!





Finland 2 Maria Laakso	Shero has a back ache. Demolishing structural violence is sometimes tiring.	Sometimes it would be tempting to stay in bed. But not today. Sheron has a superior sense of hearing and she hears...
	SILENCE!	There's no time to waste.
	Luckily, the basic equipment of a supershero includes 12 kilos of megaphones.	Society changes only after we are able to speak about violence and harassment against women.



"But I disagree!!" "And you have the right to disagree. Remember that you do not have to answer hate with hatred."	SHERO ...and the journey to change	"When the conversation hits a wall, it is time to seek support!"
"You do not have to be alone with these things."	NO to violence!	"We are all equally precious! Everyone has a place in our group!"
"Everyone has the right to their own bodies. Nobody has the right to touch you unless you want to."	"The world changes..." "...When we support each other!"	"Excuse me... but that kind of talk is extremely disrespectful!"

About "Shero and the journey to change":
"Where does the violence come from?"

As human beings capable of empathy, I believe no individual acts violently without underlying reasons. Some structures in our society create ideal conditions or violence to develop, whereas sometimes violent behaviour is a result of unaddressed hard experiences in the individual's life.

To fight violence, we need to find its roots, and Sheron – our mighty hero against violence – is not afraid to step

up. More than anything she finds it important to teach empathy and respect to the children; our new generations and hope; to create a better tomorrow. She is ready to change old ways and attitudes into something new, and she reminds no victim of violence should be left alone, unnoticed. We cannot turn a blind eye to the violence, and it is time to open our eyes for a change. Less violent world is better for everyone – for women, for men; for us, for humans.

It's Shero time."

In its Preamble, the **Istanbul Convention** emphasises, among other things:

- the realisation of de jure and de facto equality between women and men is a key element in the prevention of violence against women
- that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between women and men, which have led to domination over, and discrimination against, women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women
- the structural nature of violence against women as gender-based violence, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men
- that women and girls are often exposed to serious forms of violence such as domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape, forced marriage, crimes committed in the name of so-called "honour" and genital mutilation, which constitute a serious violation of the human rights of women and girls and a major obstacle to the achievement of equality between women and men

Learn more:

The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (The Istanbul Convention) www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/text-of-the-convention

my notes...

ITALY 1 Beatrice Candreva, Title: "Rise of forgotten Sheroes"

About: "My Shero is a tribute to all women who forgot that they are heroines. She is the woman who faces many types of violence during her trip through Africa and Europe. In Europe, she realises many women are facing abuse and silence, while others are working to give strength to each other and build the life they deserve together. She finds out that one needs courage to ask for help."



The Fundamental Rights Agency survey on violence against women in 2014, based on interviews with 42,000 women across the 28 Member States of the European Union, demonstrated that one out of three women have experienced physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15. This amounts to **62 million women in Europe**, according to FRA Survey (WAVE also collaborated with FRA on this report).

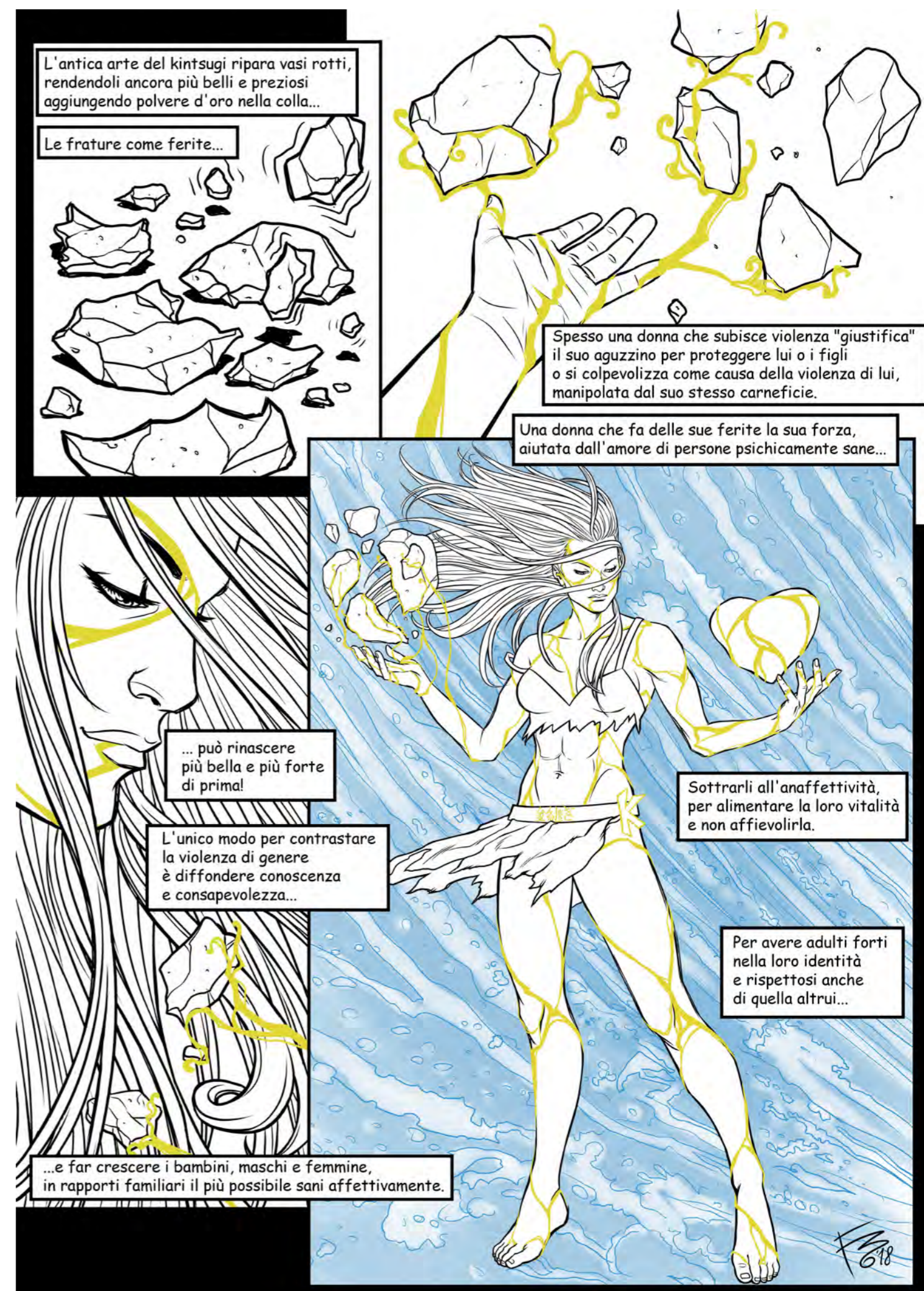
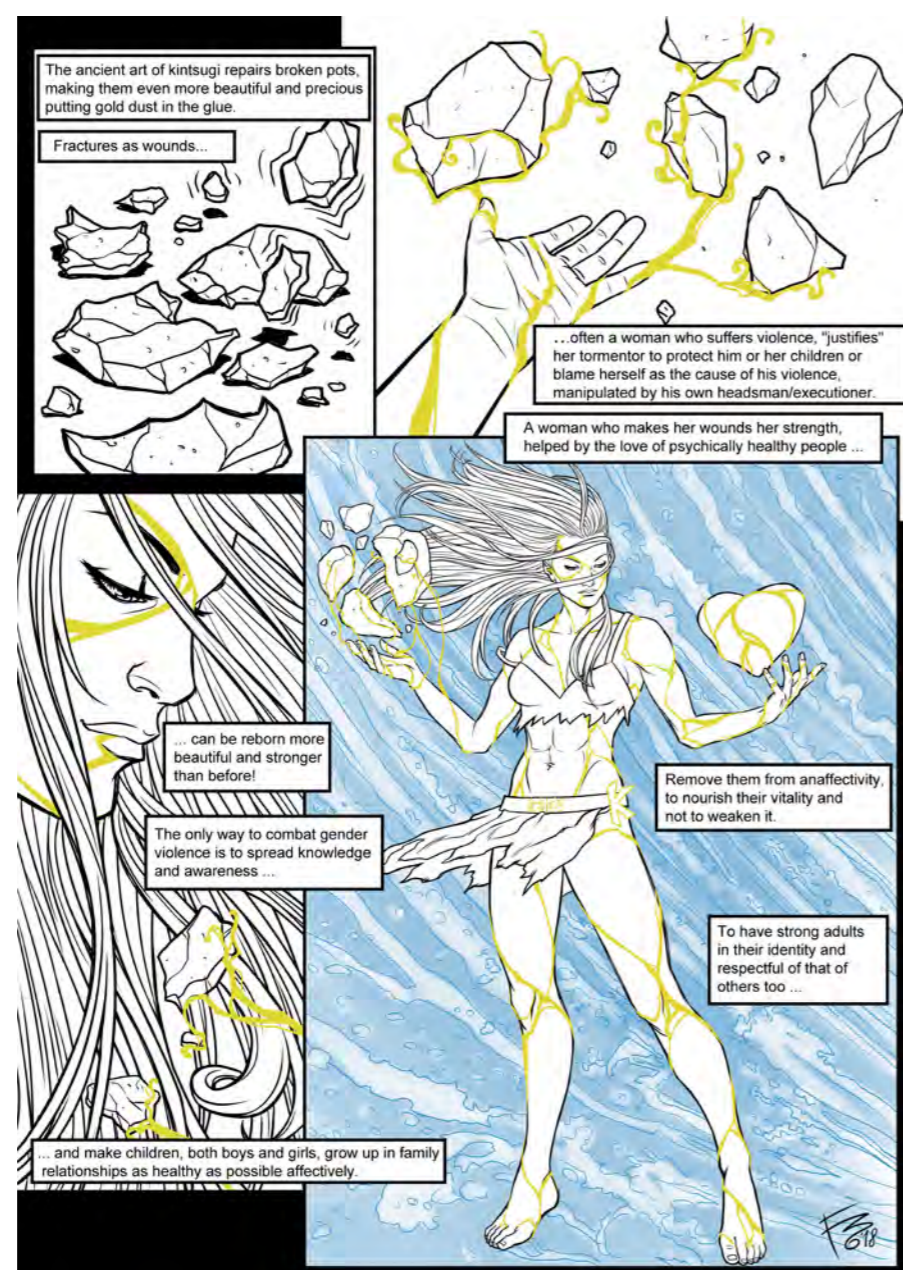
Learn more:
fra.europa.eu/en/publication/2014/violence-against-women-eu-wide-survey-main-results-report

ITALY 2

Federica Manfredi

About:

"My Shero is the woman wounded since childhood by her parents, who were not able to present her with a healthy relationship. She suffered emotional and sometimes physical violence. She struggled to discover her true self, learn to love herself, and recognize people to love and who could really love her. During her trip to Japan, she saves a woman who was about to be raped by a man, using her kung fu skills. To thank our Shero, the woman gives her a special gift: a super power with which she is now capable of repairing objects (in the tradition of kintsugi art) with telekinesis. Given her level of consciousness, she evolves this power into the ability to repair hearts of people. The wave on the water symbolizes the rebirth and the WAVE Network."





1



2



3

When Giorgio is back from work, mum tells me to go play with Pippo. But I don't want to.

Mum turns red.

Because when I go to my bedroom, everything turns red.

I hate red. My favourite colour is blue.

Blue like the postcard from Sardinia that Marta gave us.

Blue like the ribbon that mum bought for me.

Giorgio loves red, especially when mum doesn't do her grocery shopping, or hasn't cooked dinner yet, or wears a skirt when she goes to the movies with her girlfriends. Mum doesn't like red either.

Every night, mum gives me and Pippo a kiss and whispers to me that she will take us away, that we will go to see the sea. She does it every night, and I pretend to be asleep.

I like her voice tickling my ear.

Tonight, Giorgio is shouting loud, and I hear mum crying.

But now, everything is yellow.

Yellow is a beautiful colour. I like it. It reminds me of flowers in the springtime.

Mum enters my room and picks me and Pippo up in her arms. We are going to see the sea.

While we are leaving, I can clearly hear Giorgio snorting loudly as a boar. I'm laughing and mum's laughing too as we walk to the car.

I hug her closely and it seems like we are flying.

About "We are going to see the sea":
My Shero is a mother who, like many others in the world, is a victim of domestic violence by her partner, who in my story goes by the name of Giorgio. With the help of support groups, helplines, volunteers, friends and the love for her daughter, she finds the strength to end the violent relationship and the courage to run away from home with her little one. The story is told from the daughter's point of view, who doesn't really understand what's happening at home. She narrates in her own words about the violence to which her mother is subjected. My Shero is therefore not a heroine with superpowers. She is an ordinary woman who, by having the courage and strength to change her life, becomes extra-ordinary. Her true superpower might be defined as her resilience, her will to get the control over her life back, as well as the trust in herself and in healthy relationships which bring true love.

Worldwide **one in every three** women is affected by domestic violence and women aged 15–44 are more at risk from rape and domestic violence than from cancer, car accidents, war and malaria combined, according to World Bank data.

Learn more:
www.worldbank.org/en/topic/socialdevelopment/brief/violence-against-women-and-girls



my notes...

MACEDONIA 1

Dragana Simonovska



my notes...

MACEDONIA 2
Dragana Simonovska





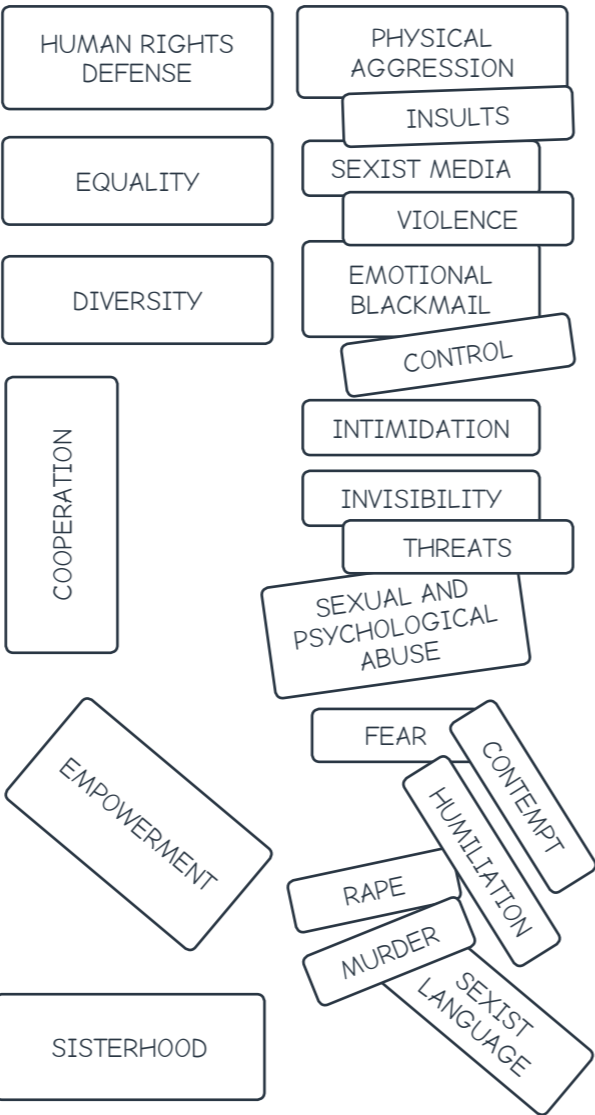
The Istanbul Convention definition

Violence against women is understood as a violation of human rights and a form of discrimination against women and shall mean all acts of gender-based violence that result in, or are likely to result in, physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life

Domestic violence shall mean all acts of physical, sexual, psychological or economic violence that occur within the family or domestic unit or between former or current spouses or partners, whether or not the perpetrator shares or has shared the same residence with the victim

Learn more: The Istanbul Convention – Questions and Answers
rm.coe.int/prems-122418-gbr-2574-brochure-questions-istanbul-convention-web-16x16/16808f0b80

SPAIN Silvia Barringo Serrano



my notes...

Artists' biographies and contact information



Nea Runne and Vilma Kinnunen (Finland)

Nea Runne and Vilma Kinnunen are a Finnish artist-writer duo with a passion for human rights. Nea is a freelance illustrator and a comic artist, while Vilma, alongside comic scripts, focuses on writing books as well. With this comic, they wanted to send an encouraging message to women of all kinds and remind them that they are not alone.

[@nea_r](#)
[@koo.vilma](#)



Maria Laakso (Finland)

In the daytime, Maria Laakso is a decent and boring literature scholar and works as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Tampere Finland. However, when the night falls, she changes her clothes into a cool superhero costume and tries to save the world by drawing comics and writing poetry.

[maria.s.laakso](#)



Noora Sassali (Finland)

I am a 25-year old mariner. Art is a fundamental part of my life and I enjoy exploring its traditional means to express myself. My art varies from watercolour paintings to sketches and drawings; from illustrations to inked comic strips and digital comics. Besides traditional works, I enjoy conceptual thought processes in contemporary art and get excited about cleverly designed logos and packages.



Beatrice Candreva (Italy)

Beatrice studied editorial graphics at the Academy of Fine Arts in Rome. Instead of graduating, she decided to practice the creation of comics as an autodidact. Her first comic story was "I am not bad", which had a social theme: violence in contemporary society. She participated in several independent comics festivals in Italy, and published her work in the publication "Quant'è bella giovinezza" by the Collective Interiors, where she reinterpreted a famous poem by Lorenzo De'Medici. Beatrice is also a graffiti artist.

[beatrice.candreva@hotmail.it](#)



Federica Manfredi (Italy)

Federica was born and lives in Rome. From the mid-1990s to 2004, she worked with Italian publishers, such as Editrice Universo, Star Comix, Indy Press, Liberty, Scarabeo. Since 2004, her portfolio includes work for the publishers from the USA (Devil's Due, Marvel, Tokyopop, IDW, Amazons Studios, Dark Horse, Take Two Interactive).

[federicamanfredi.blogspot.com](#)
[federicamanfrediart](#)
[@FaithEffemme](#)
[federicafaithmanfredi](#)

Francesca Rosa (Italy)

Francesca graduated from the Milan Comic School. Since 2016, she has been working as a freelance illustrator. Her main focus are illustrations for children and for newspapers. She loves to experiment with new techniques. Francesca also works as a graphic designer for a fashion studio based in Milan, loves painting pottery, embroidery and daydreaming.

[www.francescarosaillustrator.com](#)
[francesca-rosa@live.it](#)
[francescarosa.illustrator](#)
[frarous](#)



Dragana Simonovska (Macedonia)

Dragana was born in Skopje. She studied at the European University in Skopje and has an MA in Marketing and Management. She is also Adobe Certified Associate for graphic design and illustrations. She works as a freelance graphic designer, illustrator and digital marketing manager. Drawing is her hobby and she received many awards for her work. Dragana links her knowledge of the basics of marketing and creative thinking and expression, and successfully develops web ads as well as promotional materials for print.

[dande_m@hotmail.com](#)



Danica Jevđović (Serbia)

Danica is an academic painter (graduated in class of prof. Dragan Matić) and received her MA from graphic communication (mentor: prof. Ivica Stevanović), both at the Academy of Art in Novi Sad (Serbia). She is a member of the artistic group SUEuKI, as well as the Association of the visual artists of Užice (UVUU). Danica has exhibited her work both solo and as a group member in Serbia and internationally. She lives in Užice.

"Through my work and winding roads of life I had an opportunity to meet and work with all sorts of people among which were a few SHERO ladies, my personal heroes. The fascination with illustration, animation, fairy tales and short stories is as long as my memory and could be seen and felt in all of my art, regardless of the theme."

[danicajevdjovic.weebly.com](#)
[dana_danche](#)



Silvia Baringo Serrano (Spain)

Silvia has a diploma in advertising and also creates textile art.

In her cartoon, the character of Astrid represents all women who defend women's and human rights. She is serene in her features and firm in her posture. She uses neither the physical force nor weapons. Conviction is her superpower.

[defamasyronopios](#)
[defamasyronopios](#)



WAVE Information Centre

The WAVE Information Centre provides direct support to persons seeking information and help, to survivors as well as to other persons. Violence against women and their children are not crimes that stop at borders. Migration and the growing mobility of people in European countries have increased the number of cases of violence against women with cross-border dimensions.

The WAVE Information Centre also provides information to persons from different organizations and institutions seeking contacts to organizations in other countries for cross-border cooperation and exchange. Additionally, the Centre answers requests from governments, academics, the media, and the general public.

Opening hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 to 14:00 (CET)
Phone: +43 (0) 1 548 2720 | Fax: +43 (0) 1 548 272 027
Email: office@wave-network.org

How to donate to WAVE?

If you wish to support WAVE's work by making a donation, there are two possibilities:

By credit card:

If you have a credit card, you can transfer the donation via Paypal on the WAVE Website:
www.wave-network.org/content/donate

By bank transfer to:

Bank account name: Association WAVE
(Women Against Violence Europe)
Bank: Bank Austria
IBAN: AT75 1200 0006 1078 2021
BIC/Swift Code: BKAUATWW

How to become a WAVE Member

Non-governmental women's organizations, women's network organizations, and individual experts on violence against women from around Europe have the possibility to become a WAVE Member. If you are interested in becoming a Member of the WAVE Network, please contact our office:
office@wave-network.org

My vision of the Shero



Stand with us!

Join us and support the
Step Up! Campaign

 www.wave-stepup.org

 office@wave-network.org

 [wavestepup](https://www.facebook.com/wavestepup)

 [womenagainstviolenceeurope](https://www.instagram.com/womenagainstviolenceeurope)