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| **Eliminating Violence against Women and Girls (EVAWG)** |

## QUESTIONNAIRE ON ELIMINATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

Dear Members of Civil Society Organisations,

We need your help on **Eliminating Violence against Women and Girls (EVAWG)** for the **UN Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Beijing +25 Regional Review.**

In preparation for the **Beijing +25 CSO Forum** which will be held on **28th October 2019 in Geneva**, we have been asked to produce a one page fact sheet on EVAWG in the UNECE region. This will be the basis for discussion during the CSO Forum and will go on to inform the Inter-Governmental Beijing + 25 UNECE Review and other UN events. This is an important opportunity for CSOs to engage directly with governments and have our voices heard. To strengthen our advocacy, we are asking you to answer the questions below related to EVAWG in your country. By completing these survey questions, you are helping ensure that our fact sheet is an accurate representation of the many and diverse aspects of EVAWG throughout the UNECE region and contributing to a historic celebration of women’s rights around the world.

A link to the Beijing Platform for Action is provided as background information:<https://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/beijing/pdf/BDPfA%20E.pdf>

Please complete this short questionnaire which has been sent to you by Mohinder Watson and Susan O' Malley, the Co-convenors of the CSO Beijing + 25 VAWG Working Group, **by 28th August.**

Thank you for your time and consideration.

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### 1. Which country are you reporting on?

Italy

#### 2. What are the structural barriers in your country (e.g. socio-economic, cultural, access to healthcare, access to justice, etc) to implementing VAWG policies within the framework of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPFA) ?

1. Sexist and misogynist culture of Italian society at all levels
2. Lack of education in schools and professional training on VAW
3. Lack/inadequate resources for women run Ngos

#### 3. What changes in legislation are required to eliminate violence against women and girls in your country?

* amend the civil code in order to have VAW expressly cited as a cause for ruling against shared custody and witness violence as a cause of forfeiture or limitation of parental responsibility, in compliance with art. 31 Istanbul Convention;
* rule out any attempts at mediation and/or conciliation, within and outside the process in cases of VAW;
* amend free legal aid regulations in order to guarantee fair remuneration of lawyer and other professional involved in judicial proceedings (ie: psychologists)

#### 4. Which aspects of EVAWG are the main priorities/challenges in your country?

* contrast gender stereotypes and discrimination against women in all areas (political, socio-economic, etc);
* raise the issue of VAW to a political priority and provide the institutional machinery devoted to implement the NAP with adequate resources;
* secure adequate funding to women shelters and women specialized services

#### 5. Can you share any examples of positive or harmful practices in your country related to eliminating violence against women and girls?

1. Good and experienced training programmes for professionals of all sectors (police, health, social, education) by women shelters experts (positive)

2. Free legal aid for women victim of violence, irrespective of individual income (positive)

3. Possibility of short-term paid leave from work for women victim of violence, with guarantee of confidentiality (positive)

4. Lack of effective protection of victims of VAW, even in cases of criminal reports (negative)

5. Lack of communication between criminal and civil justice systems, and unexisting risk assessment practices (negative)

6. Increasing attitude by courts and services to dismiss or even deny VAW as relevant factor to be considered in custody decisions (negative).

#### 6. How does the BPFA link to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (in particular, Goals 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 16.2 and 10.3)? <https://www.unssc.org/sites/unssc.org/files/2030_agenda_for_sustainable_development_kcsd_primer_en.pdf>

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#### 7. What are your country’s recommendations for eliminating violence against women and girls?

https://www.direcontrolaviolenza.it/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/GREVIO.Report-inglese-finale.pdf

#### 8. Demographic Information - optional

#### Organization/CSO: D.i.Re Donne in rete contro la violenza

Country: Italy

Email Address

#### Any other comments? Please use the text box below.