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# IMPLEMENTING NORMS, CHANGING MINDS

## “PATRIARCHAL CULTURE IS ONE OF THE BIGGEST BARRIERS IN ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN”

Zita Gurmai is a Member of the Hungarian National Assembly and a strong supporter of women's rights. She recently participated in the regional forum on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention in the Western Balkans and Turkey. Check out her interview [here](#).



## SURVIVING VIOLENCE, HELPING OTHERS TO ACCESS JUSTICE

36-year-old Günçe Çetin, a successful lawyer from Ankara, Turkey, suffered the trauma of intimate partner violence for several months. She is now using her personal and professional experience to help other women survivors of violence. [Read the story.](#)



## “SUPPORTING ROMA WOMEN TO CLAIM THEIR RIGHTS”

Slavica Vasić is the chair and co-founder of Bibija's Roma Women's Centre, which is currently working under the regional programme to strengthen the capacity of Roma women's organizations to monitor and advocate for the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Read her interview [here](#).



## “INDESTRUCTIBLE”: MONTENEGRO’S ANTHEM TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Established in 1999, NGO Women’s Safe House is recognized across Montenegro for their public activism to end violence against women.

One of their most successful campaigns in 2018 focused on the song “NESALOMIVA” (Indestructible) by the Montenegrin women musicians The Voices and KIC POP choir. The song is dedicated to all women who have experienced violence in one form or another. The campaign is conducted within the framework of the [EU-UN Women Regional Programme on Ending Violence against Women](#) “Implementing Norms, Changing

Minds”, implemented by UNDP in Montenegro.

Pop songs are creative and effective ways to reach the general public with messages on gender equality and ending violence against women. The video, launched during last year’s 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence, has been seen by more than 200,000 people on social media, which represents about a third of the total Montenegrin population.

“With this video, we are sending the message to all the women out there that they are strong, brave, and smart, and hence should not suffer,” said Ljiljana Raičević, President of Women’s Safe House, during the launch of the campaign in Podgorica. Watch the video [here](#).



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## REGIONAL FORUM: PROMOTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

“INTEGRATED POLICIES, INCLUSIVE PARTNERSHIPS”

SKOPJE, 27-28 NOVEMBER 2018

## REPORT: REGIONAL FORUM PROMOTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

Convened by the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia, UN Women, the European Union, and the Council of Europe (CoE), in partnership with European Women’s Lobby, the regional forum reviewed progress in fulfillment of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, known as the Istanbul Convention. The forum took place within the framework of the EU-UN Women regional programme “Implementing Norms, Changing Minds”.

This report presents a summary of the discussions held during the Forum. Read the report [here](#).





## “WE PRIORITIZE THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE MOST MARGINALIZED GROUPS”

Activist Tatjana Stoimenovska from North Macedonia is currently leading a project aimed at building the capacity of civil society organizations to claim women's rights using human rights-compliant mechanisms, implemented under the EU-UN Women Regional Programme. Read more about her work [here](#).



## VIDEO: REGIONAL FORUM ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

Did you miss the regional forum on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention? Check out the video summarizing some of the key interventions and ideas discussed by the participants during the event. Watch the [video](#).

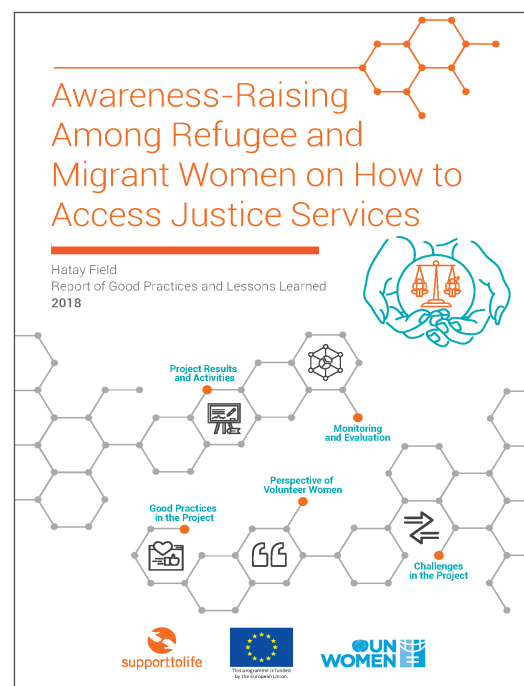
## AWARENESS-RAISING AMONG REFUGEE AND MIGRANT WOMEN ON HOW TO ACCESS JUSTICE SERVICES

Prepared by Turkish NGO Support to Life within the context of the Regional Programme, this report summarizes lessons learned and best practices on awareness-raising initiatives on how to access justice services among refugee and migrant women.

The lessons learned compiled by the report include:

- Training materials and methods should be specifically tailored for different age groups.
- Local public authorities should be closely involved in project activities.
- Women-only trainings were beneficial in providing participants with a safe space to discuss their experiences.
- Future trainings can include sessions on sexual and reproductive health and early marriages.

Read the report [here](#).



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