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IMPLEMENTING NORMS, CHANGING MINDS

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

Funded by the European Union and implemented by UN Women, the three-year programme, 'Implementing Norms, Changing Minds', aims at ending gender-based discrimination and violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey. Our newsletter will highlight stories of women leading change to end violence against women in the region as well as news and the latest updates on the development of the programme. Read more [here](#).



WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS PAVE THE WAY FOR CSOS IN TURKEY

Ayça Bulut Bican is the Resident Adviser for the EU-funded Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organizations (TACSO) project in Turkey. She explains how the women's movement has always led the way for civil society organizations in her country. Read her interview [here](#).



DOMESTIC LEGISLATION IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA NEEDS TO BE HARMONIZED WITH THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

Fatima Bećirović is a project coordinator at the Government-managed Gender Centre of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). In conversation with UN Women, she discusses some of the priorities to prevent violence against women in the country. Check her interview [here](#).

IMKAAN LEADS REGIONAL GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERSECTIONAL DISCRIMINATION AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Women are subjected to discrimination based on their sex and gender which is inextricably linked to other identities, factors, and experiences such as a race, ethnicity, location, and poverty.

To address the intersectionality between violence against women and other forms of discrimination, UN Women has signed an agreement with Imkaan, a Black and 'minority ethnic' women's organization to support the establishment of a Regional Expert Working Group (REWG) on intersectional discrimination, in the context of the regional programme on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds.

Imkaan will develop a road map for the establishment of the expert working group informed by the voices of minoritized women leaders working to end violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

With almost two decades of experience working in partnership with, and supporting 'by and for' women's organizations, Imkaan is uniquely placed to provide a strong intersectional analysis on violence against women. The NGO boasts a robust research and policy base utilizing both internal and external expertise, and has demonstrated experience working internationally including the United Nations.



CIVIL SOCIETY HAS THE POTENTIAL TO PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Women's organizations in Albania have traditionally been active in combating violence against women, particularly in influencing legislative processes and providing services to survivors of violence. However, at times, their voice and presence is not as strong as it could be. Agustela Nini-Pavli, technical project analyst at UN Women Albania, explains how the regional programme will contribute to improve the capacity of civil society organizations to fight violence against women. Read more [here](#).

NEWS BRIEF

Check out the latest news, publications and updates from programme partners and the media on ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey.

Download our monthly news brief [here](#).

INFOGRAPHIC SECTION

Gaps in response to violence against women and girls in Montenegro



Only 44% of service providers offer staff training on anti-discrimination and equality.



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