



European
Network

NATIONAL REPORT GUIDELINE

Country: France

Focal Point name, affiliation, contact data: Fédération Nationale des Associations et des Centres de prise en charge d'Auteurs de Violences conjugales et familiales (F.N.A.C.A.V.)

1) Organisation/programme (max 3000 characters)

The Federation aims to promote the creation or the development of structures of intervention for the perpetrators of domestic violence. It is a complement to the action of the justice. So the Federation doesn't conduct itself programmes for the perpetrators of domestic violence but the members of the Federation do. Effectively, to be a member of the Federation the organizations have to work with the perpetrators of Domestic violence. Today, the Federation is composed of 30 organizations working in this field.

The Federation has as activities the transfer of knowledge to the members, the development of practical tools to help the members to evaluate their programmes and the organization of trainings. Moreover, the Federation promotes the exchange of experiences and organize debate between the different members that can expose their approach.

In the last 4 years, the federation have conducted additionally to its yearly activities (mentioned in the last paragraph) various projects. In 2009, the Federation was consulted by the committee of the National Assembly in charge of the evaluation of the policy of prevention and fight against violence against women. This committee publish a rapport of information in July 2009 based on the information given by the Federation and other organizations. It also organized two days of study on the 22nd and 23rd of October 2013 the topic of these days was „ the work with perpetrators of domestic violence, to articulate law and practice”. These two days were open to the member organizations as well as the organizations interested to become a member. 400 participants

attended these two days that have been rich of debates and that allowed to highlight the different approaches that exist in the work with perpetrators.

During this conference different problems and obstacles have been raised by the participants, the difficulty for example to articulate the men mandated by the Justice and the men that are volunteers to come. Another concern of the participant was on the evaluation of the results of the programmes. So the Federation decided to work on a common frame of references to help the organizations to evaluate their programmes.

This conference has been essential for the development of the Federation.

2)Country (max 1800 characters)

We can notice few changes in the law in the last years. First of all, in 2007, the obligation of treatment and the judicial follow-up of the perpetrators have been introduced in the French legislation. Few years later in 2010, a specific law on the violence against women, domestic violence and the consequences of this violence on the children have been developed. This law creates a protection order for the victims, the misdemeanour of moral harassment inside the couple and the possibility of the attribution of a tele-protection for the victim or an electronic device for the perpetrator.

Furthermore, the third national plan to fight VAW has been developed for the period 2011-2013 with the goals to maintain the collective vigilance and to treat new questions and with three priorities: protection, the prevention, and the solidarity. A part of this plan is especially dedicated to the Domestic violence. This part is divided in 8 different directions as such as the development of the knowledge on the Domestic violence, the improving of the training of the professionals of the field or the promotion of the action of awareness. The direction 8 is the most interested for our field, it concerns the amelioration of the work with perpetrators of DV. Their idea is to establish a typology of the approaches that exist in the work with perpetrators in order to elaborate a guideline with good practices and to establish an "anti-rapprochement" electronic device. A new national plan has been presented few days ago for the period 2014-2016 and it is composed of 3 directions: the organization of the public action around the principal of share action, an effective protection for the victims and the mobilization of all the society. Inside, it's planned to develop the trainings for the perpetrators. In this optic, a mapping of all the existing programmes will take place in 2014

There are around 40 structures that work with the perpetrators in France and around 30 are members of the federation as le tremplin, Juvenys, ANPAA 61, ALTHEA, Parentheses a la Violence, Association de reponses educatives et sociaux dans le champ judiciaire, Centre d'Information sur le Droit des Femmes et des Familles, Association Rosannie Soleil, Association de Réinsertion Sociale du Limousin, la Durance , Association Espoir, APEX , Solidarité Femmes, AVAC, CAAAV, A.N.N.E, Association SOS Violences en privé, , SPES service provençal d'encouragement et de soutien, PAJE, Association de Lutte Contre les Violences, Pégase Processus, Resonances 53, Accord 68, Ligue française de la santé mentale, Association Terres a vivre, GAPS, ASFAD, AEMF, Association Passible, Via Voltaire, AREL, Cheval bleu, Athoba, Centre Jenny Aubry, Contexte et réseaux

Best practices (max 1800 characters)

Since few years, an obligation of treatment or of follow up has been introduced in the French in case of domestic violence. The idea is that the conviction of the perpetrators is not enough and sometimes is even counter-productive. This obligation of treatment is important because some perpetrators have resistances in front of the idea of integrate programmes but once they are in the group discussion they benefit from it. We can also underline the effort of the government to fight against DV with the development of national plans.

It's possible to find different approaches in France some programmes have more an educative approach, some others more a socio-educative approach or some others a systemic one.

The other good practice that we can find in France is the multi-agency work. For example the association Voltaire works with the social services, the police, the justice system, the hospitals and organizations for the victims in order to have a collective answer to the domestic violence. Moreover the organizations of a big part of the organizations in a Federation ensure the dialogue between the different actors. They can share their experience and find solutions in commons. This collective work is essential because the perpetrator programmes are a part of the global system that fight against the domestic violence.

These good practices can be implemented in the other countries. First of all the organizations can lobby for the integration in their legislation of the obligation of treatment. Moreover the organizations working with the perpetrators in other countries can maybe start to organize meeting all together to exchange. They can maybe at the beginning organize an informal network. These organizations can also go to see the social workers, the police officers, and the professionals from the justice system and from organization of victims in order to start collaboration.

1)Needs and recommendations (max 1800 characters)

The main problem face by the programme is the lack of resources. It's a lack of financial and human resources. The State has introduced the obligation of treatment/of follow up of the perpetrators but it doesn't give to the organizations the funds to face the wave of new participants to the programmes. Moreover, today not enough professionals are trained to work with the perpetrators. That why the federation has started few years ago to offer training to professionals.

Furthermore, the obligation of treatment is not automatically decide by the judge in case of domestic violence but it should be automatic. Then, it's important that the judge remind the law to the perpetrators before any sentence that is not always the case

For the president of the Federation is important to lobby for the development of prevention campaigns addressed to the men. The idea is to act before they commit their first act of violence. For the moment the prevention campaigns are more often addressed to women. Prevention programmes for school should be developed also.

Finally, if we can stressed the efforts of the government to developed new plans of actions we can regret that all the actions planned are not effectively implemented.