

[Dear Members and Friends of WWP EN,](#)

as we approach the end of 2016, we can say that a very turbulent year is coming to an end. In some parts the world seems to be upside down. Nevertheless there are also some positive news in our end-of-the-year review: We had a fantastic [Annual Workshop in Cracow](#), an inspiring french speaking Regional Meeting in Antwerp, a wonderful [Study Visit in Florence](#) and, last but not least, [meetings of our working groups](#) full of energy and new ideas. Furthermore our members elected and re-elected the board members during the Annual Workshop. A warm welcome to all new and re-elected board members! [Find here](#) presentations with short CV's of all board members. Within this newsletter, we present a very interesting project of our members organisation M21: the development of a [mobile game for young and future fathers](#). Furthermore we congratulate [Elli Scambor](#) from our Austrian member organisation VMG - Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark, who received the Käthe Leichter-Preis.

It was a pleasure meeting so many WWP EN members at the annual WAVE conference in Berlin. As a result, WWP EN joined the WAVE StepUp! Campaign during the 16 days of Activism Against Gender Violence and will officially join the WAVE StepUp! Campaign next year. Have a look at the [website](#) for more information.

Good news are coming from the UK on the Istanbul Convention: have a [closer look](#) at Thangam Debbonaires speech in parliament.

The Graduate Journal of Social Science published a themed issue on 'Men, Masculinities, and Violence' with a very interesting article of Maja Loncarevic and Roland Reisewitz about perpetrator counseling in Western Balkan countries. [Read more](#) about this article and other recent publications.

[Read more](#) about upcoming conferences below.

And last but not least it's time again to evaluate our online-tools. Now it's your turn: we kindly ask you to answer the questions in [our survey](#).

Merry Christmas and a happy holiday season from the WWP EN Team

Kind regards

Paula

Communication and Membership Manager, WWP EN

The next WWP EN newsletter will be published approximately in March 2017.

Your news are part of our news

You've got important news about programs or projects, conference announcements, recent research or latest publications to share with our members and friends? Please don't hesitate to send an Email to paula.heinrich@work-with-perpetrators.eu

[Members' section](#)

[M21 and "The Papa Journal": Mobile Game for Young and Future Fathers](#)

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The development of the web application is a joint project of our member organization M21 and "The Papa Journal" - the special edition for men interested in fatherhood, active participation in education and care of children of all age and during the prenatal period. The website of the magazine <http://papinjournal.ru/>, was created with support of SIDA. The website is in Russian, but through the general design and the shown photos you receive a clear idea of the project.

The magazine has currently an edition of 10.000 copies per 8 times a year. The Internet version of the magazine is visited by 35.000 people. The number of participants at Facebook is 5.000.

The general idea of the project is to activate fathers in the family life and to lower thereby the level of violence in families. The development and implementation of the mobile interactive app for men, who are about to have a baby (future and young fathers), with free public access, will help to solve the problem of father's passive participation in family life and will lower the level of violence in families.

For historical reasons the father's role in families is associated with such characteristics as "breadwinner" and "protector". Men melt looking at a newborn baby but can't see a way to take part in its life. They might think "In a year or two, it will be grown older and then we can do together..." But the experience tells, that "then" is already too late to build bridges.

Statistically the biggest amount of divorces and crises happens during the first year of a child's life. This period is especially hard for a young family because of the total change of the established way of life. The mobile app helps to re-educate fathers in a simple and interactive (game) form and gives them the information about hormonal and psychological processes happening with future and young mothers.

This understanding helps men more consciously and carefully treat women and opens

new sources for the active participation in family life.

The project was planned to develop materials for three levels of fatherhood until the end of 2017:

1. "Are You ready To Become a Father?"
2. "The Future Father" (for those, who are expecting a baby)
3. "The Course for Young Fathers" (for fathers with newborn babies)

The development of the first level "Are You ready To Become a Father?" was realized in 2015. It is addressed to men, who are preparing to have a baby. Its aim is to show the men, how to take this process more consciously, as well as to think about their own health and the health of the future mothers. It opens the door to the world of exciting fatherhood that doesn't separate them from family life, but enriches the family and introduces new possibilities.

In 2015 the general game concept, the design and prototype of the first level of the game - like a quiz - were realised. By answering questions, men gain points and receive an award, that assesses their level of readiness to become a father. The prototype was published at the website of "The Papa Journal" and in social networks. In 2015, 52 subscribers played the game and wrote comments. Furthermore the game is played on events held by "The Papa Journal", for example at the annual Father's Day celebration in St. Petersburg.

Unfortunately, the project had to stop after the first year for funding reasons and is still waiting for its finalisation. M21 and "The Papa Journal" are waiting for an opportunity to continue this work.

For more information see the website of M21: <http://men21.ru/>

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[Käthe-Leichter-Preis](#)

We are happy to congratulate Elli Scambor from our Austrian member organisation VMG - Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark, who received the Käthe Leichter-Preis of women's studies, gender studies and gender equality in the world of employment. More information: <http://vmg-steiermark.at/.../.../kaethe-leichter-preisverleihung>

<https://www.bmb.gv.at/frauen/preise/klp.html>

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[WWP EN Annual Workshop 2016](#)

The event started on Wednesday October 12th and ended on Friday October 14th. These three days were filled with hard work and excellent atmosphere of friendliness, cooperation, mutual support and respect. This time together can be surely considered fulfilling and rewarding. Agenda was demanding: very tight and busy, still we managed to keep it efficient and stick to the working plan.

Annual Workshop agenda included 12 workshops altogether, carefully planned and delivered for small working groups (not larger than of 20 people). Every participant could submit their own workshop proposal, subsequently validated by the AW 2016 program board. Participants could choose to take one workshop per day out of 4 proposals. We have also had 2 thematic panel discussions and a keyword speech conducted for the general audience. First panel discussion was on 'Partnership between specialised women's support and perpetrators sectors and partner support work', and disputants presenting the topic were Natalia Batenkova, Rosa Logar and Atila Uligaj. The second panel discussion referred to Istanbul Convention with the following speakers: Marianne Hester, Alessandra Pauncz and Olga Persson. Keynot speech (on working with perpetrators practices in Norway) this year was delivered by Ingunn Askeland. During the Annual Meeting General Assembly took place; we've introduced some changes to the statute of our organisation and new board members were elected.

We had 80 participants from member organizations and independent participants from non-member organisations from 21 countries. Hope to meet you all again next year! Thank you all for coming!

[Read here](#) the full version of the report with photos

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[WWP EN Board Members](#)

NEIL BLACKLOCK (Chair)

Neil feels it is a privilege to have had the opportunity to contribute to WWP EN. He brings to the WWP EN his 25 years' experience of delivering and designing interventions with those who use intimate partner violence. He is committed to addressing the institutional barriers to effective responses to gender based violence, whether that is in the community, or the criminal justice system or through child protection agencies. He wants WWP EN to be an organisation that works to address violence against women and a place where people can explore the multiple ways to achieve this.

ROSA LOGAR (Vice Chair)

is Executive Director of the Domestic Violence Intervention Program Vienna; the Center is running an Anti-Violence Program for perpetrators since 1999, together with the Men's Center; Rosa is President of the European Network WAVE (Women Against Violence Europe, 1994) and since June 2015 a member of the Council of Europe expert committee GREVIO monitoring the implementation of the Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention).

ALESSANDRA PAUNCZ (Secretary)

strongly believes and is committed to a European Network of Work on Perpetration because she believes it is a fundamental opportunity for all members to evolve. She has greatly benefited from the European Network in setting up the first Perpetrator programmes that started to run in Italy in 2009. She thinks her commitment and experience can foster the process of setting up the European Association in many ways. First she is a member of the southern states of Europe where there exists still a very strong influence of macho culture and Catholic tradition, second she represents a very successful start up practice, third she is the President of the emerging Italian National Network (Relive) and she thinks her contribution to WWP EN will help address the needs of new National networks.

HEINRICH GELDSCHLÄGER (Treasurer)

Heinrich is a German psychologist and psychotherapist and father of two boys (of 10 and 4) and has been living and working in Barcelona for the last 20 years, currently as research manager at Conexus association. Since the year 2000, he has been active in the field of interventions for men who use violence, working directly with men, coordinating services, delivering presentations and trainings on this work and researching it. He has been involved in Daphne projects WWP and IMPACT and has been a member of WWP EN since 2009. He is currently a member of the board (and the treasurer) working for the sustainable growth of the network, creating a transparent, democratic and participative organisation offering useful services to the different needs of member organisations.

ATILA ULIGAJ

started working as a field coordinator in the organization Woman to Woman in 2002. In that period of time the status of women in Albania was undermined by patriarchal attitudes, gender inequality and the unequal development rates of the society. During her work experience she had the opportunity to work closely with community groups especially in the villages, what confronted her with the difficult and severe living realities of women and girls in the northern rural areas of Albania. This work helped her to enhance her knowledge on women's human

rights and gender equality and develop activities which would contribute to the development of the social status and the protection of the rights of women and girls in these areas. From 2005 and on she has continued work in this organisation being engaged in administrative and management issues.

During 2014 – 2015 she has been engaged in the establishment of the first service for Perpetrator Counselling, in Shkodra Municipality, which was a pioneering and challenging intervention in the North of Albania. The membership in WWP EN contributed enormously to the development and enhancement of knowledge and work in this direction. Recently, she is leading work for the establishment of the referral mechanisms against domestic violence in four Municipalities in the Northern Region.

DEAN AJDUKOVIC

Ph.D., is a Professor of Psychology at the Department of Psychology, University of Zagreb, Croatia. His research interests include recovery from trauma, post-conflict community social reconstruction, development and evaluation of psychosocial interventions, prevention of violence in adolescent relationships, treatment of perpetrators of gender based violence. Over past 18 years he led development of Croatia's first perpetrator program, provided individual and group treatment to perpetrators and victims, helped design the training program for the providers who work with perpetrators and delivered training in Croatia, Bosnia Herzegovina and Macedonia. He consulted national law makers regarding inclusion of work with perpetrator into Croatian laws, contributed to writing several national strategies to combat GBV with emphasis on work with perpetrators, and authored the national standards for work with perpetrators. He was member of the interim board of the newly founded WWP EN and helped develop the organization's statutes and other documents.

He has directed over 30 research and intervention projects and served as co-principal investigator in several EU funded projects, published over 150 papers in peer reviewed journals and books and continues to serve as reviewer for a number of professional journals. He served as consultant and trainer in Bosnia Herzegovina, Serbia, Kosovo, Albania, Russia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Ingushetia. He organized several major European professional conferences and served on their program committees. He served as president (1993-2013) of the Society for Psychological Assistance (SPA), member of the Council of the International Society for Health and Human Rights (ISHHR, 1998-2011); president (2003-2005) and board member (1997-2007, 2015-2018) of the European Society for Traumatic Stress Studies (ESTSS). Currently he is president of the Croatian Society for Traumatic Stress (CSTS). In 2011 he received the European award Walter de Loos for Excellence in European

Trauma Work.

JOHN DOYLE

For 11 years John has been the Coordinator of MEND (men ending domestic abuse). He is responsible for managing the 5 Domestic Violence Intervention Programmes. His background is in body-oriented psychotherapy. He was the first representative from the Intervention Programmes on the National Steering Committee on Violence against Women in Ireland and is currently on the Monitoring Committee for the 2nd National Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence in Ireland. In 2013 MEND were chosen to represent Ireland in the European Crime Protection Awards (EUPA).

John sought nomination to the WWP EN Board to support the development of work with perpetrators that is grounded in up-to-date research on behavior change for men who use violence/abuse in intimate relationships. While recognizing the important role that gender plays in the issue of domestic violence and violence against women in general, to be effective, treatment programmes for men who have been violent or abusive within their intimate partner relationships, need also to respond to the impact of early childhood trauma (including exposure to domestic violence) insecure attachment and loss, on subsequent violent behaviour within adult intimate relationships. Significant research has been done recently in this area.

MARIANNE HESTER

is Professor of Gender, Violence and International Policy at the University of Bristol. She has been a member of the WWP EN Board since April 2014 and her research expertise has added positively to the Board's development and work. She has many years experience of managing teams and researching violence against women and children, including key research on perpetrators (e.g. gender and perpetrators, 2009, 2012, 2013; perpetrator needs and help-seeking, 2007; three planet model, 1996, 2006, 2011; IMPACT, 2014; PROVIDE, 2015). She is currently involved in research on: men, domestic violence and the health service; Victim perspectives on justice; and high risk domestic violence perpetrator programmes. She has worked closely with government departments and NGOs in the UK, Australia and Europe, and is Patron of South Tyneside Women's Aid and Devon Rape Crisis.

MARIUS RAAKIL

is the executive director of Alternative to Violence (ATV) in Norway. ATV is the oldest European treatment centre for men who use violence in intimate relationships. The organisation was founded in 1987. Today ATV is offering treatment and support services to all members of the family. ATV is also

engaging in research projects on perpetrators, therapeutic processes and treatment outcome. Mr. Råkil is educated as a specialist in clinical psychology. He has 25 years experience in treating men battering their partners. In addition, he works as lecturer and speaker both nationally and internationally. He has published articles or book chapters in Sweden, Italy, England and USA, and edited a Norwegian textbook on men's violence against women. He has worked as a researcher and been member of governmental committees on men, equality and violence.

OLGA PERSSON

is Secretary General at Unizon. Unizon is the Swedish association for 130 women's shelters, young women's empowerment centres and other support services, which work together for a gender equal society free from violence.

Olga is a political scientist and has great expertise and experience in the fields of men's violence against women, violence prevention, rape and sexual abuse of children, both from the civil society movements and from the state official level. As Secretary-General of Unizon she works with advocacy on a national and international level, training of the judicial and legal system, as well as capacity building of the 130 member organizations around Sweden. Unizon believes in a holistic view of violence, and are strong advocates for working with perpetrators with feminist approach. Accountability to the women's movement and the shelter movement are key principles for this work. Olga is specialized in issues concerning violence prevention and masculinities, rape, sexual abuse and prostitution as a form of men's violence against women. Olga has also worked several years at a front line service, directly with victims of rape.

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Study Visit 2016: CAM Italy

The last study visit has just ended. The study visit was organized by Centro di Ascolto Uomini Maltrattanti – (CAM), in Florence, on 7-9 th November 2016. The Association Centro di Ascolto Uomini Maltrattanti (C.A.M.) works in the field of domestic abuse for 7 years, and is the first center founded in Italy. Its principle activities are in the area of social assistance, social and health related issues, in the area of training and in the promotion of civil rights.

The study visit group included eight participants from seven countries all of whom work for organisations which are members of WWP-EN: Woman to Woman (WtW), Gruaja tek Gruaja, Albany, University of Jyväskylä, Department of Psychology, Finland, BAG Täterarbeit, Germany, Anti-Violence Network of Georgia, Georgia, OPNA Nacionalna mreža za tretman počinitelaca nasilja u

porodici, Serbia, Conexus, Spain, Respect, UK.

[Read here](#) the full version of the report with photos

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[**Balkan Initiative for Work with Perpetrators \(BIWWP\) working group Meeting**](#)

The first face to face meeting of the Balkan Initiative for Work with Perpetrators (BIWWP) working group was held on 16 - 18 December 2016 in Berlin, Germany. The main purpose of the meeting was the finalization of the strategic document of BIWWP profile. Important action points were discussed and agreed on the vision and mission of BIWWP, to specify the scope of activities, and to establish the BIWWP boundaries and relationship with other organizations working in the field of the domestic violence and gender based violence.

The brainstorming sessions and the fruitful discussions helped to clarify not only the BIWWP main goals and initiatives but also the BIWWP vision and mission.

The BIWWP's vision is to contribute to a violence free Balkan environment by developing and promoting a coordinated response to end gender based violence.

The mission of the BIWWP is to act as a focal point for the promotion of regional cooperation in order to achieve its main goals, which are the following: capacity building and best practice exchange, awareness raising initiatives and advocacy and lobbying.

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[**Good news from the UK on the Istanbul convention:**](#)

Thangam Debbonaire MP for Bristol West (L) spoke in parliament in favour of ratifying the Istanbul Convention. Thangam was the Research Manager at our member organisation [Respect](#). She has 26 years of experience working in the domestic violence sector. [Here is the link](#) to watch Thangam's speech.

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[**Reports and Publications**](#)

Maja Loncarevic and Roland Reisewitz: Introducing perpetrator counseling in Western Balkan countries: The challenge of gender-transformative action in a patriarchal society.

Abstract

In cooperation with two locally based NGO initiatives in the strongly patriarchal contexts of Bosnia-Herzegovina and Albania, professional psychosocial counseling of perpetrators has been introduced. Through targeted skills development with professionals from psychosocial working fields and opening of two men's counseling services, a foundation has been laid for future system-integrated perpetrator treatment programs. Key lessons learned address the necessary basic prerequisites for successful perpetrator counseling.

Experience shows that standardized training programs and proceedings for psychosocial perpetrator counseling are not sufficient to promote sustainable changes in the gender-related value and norm system of perpetrators of violence. For the counselors themselves, a personal reflection of their own experiences and socialization with gender, masculinity and violence is an important gender-transformative learning process that forms an important basis for empathic, competent and sustainable anti-violence counseling of perpetrators. The attentive consideration of intercultural dynamics combined with a clear human rights based approach are further relevant factors contributing to successful counseling.

You can access/download the full issue of the Graduate Journal of Social Science on 'Men, Masculinities, and Violence' and individual articles [here](#).

More publications

- Carol Hagemann-White, Bianca Grafe (eds.): Experiences of Interventions Against Violence: available as print edition or for free as [pdf-download](#).
- The alternative CEDAW shadow report for Germany was published in German and English. Links: [English Version](#) and [German Version](#)
- Report on Batterer Intervention Programs from the Advocates for Human Rights, available [here](#).
- The new WAVE [#Fempower](#) Magazine about the situation of women's specialist support services in [Europe is out](#).
- Good Practice Responding to Sexual Violence. [Guidelines for 'mainstream' sexual violence crisis support services. Round 2'](#)

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[Conferences and workshops](#)

- The Sexual Violence Research Initiative Forum 2017 is open for applications. [More information](#)
- Interpersonal Violence Interventions - Social and Cultural Perspectives, International conference, 14.-16.6.2017, University of Jyväskylä, Jyväskylä, Finland. [More Information.](#)
- 2017 conference of the European Network on Gender & Violence, May 24-26 2017, Milan, Italy is open for contributions.

More information [here.](#)

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[Online-Tools Evaluation](#)

It's time again to evaluate our online-tools. Now it's your turn: we kindly ask you to answer the questions in our survey.

To start the survey, please use the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PWDSPNP>

There are 2 ways you can complete this survey - you can complete it online OR let us know your ideas and thoughts by email to Paula: paula.heinrich@work-with-perpetrators.eu

The survey should take you 2 minutes.

The deadline for all information to get to us is **the end of the year.**

Thank you for filling out our survey. We really appreciate it. It is important for us to know what your thoughts are to improve our online tools.

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