
WE ARE
RESPONSIBLE
TOGETHER

*to end sexualised violence
against women*



#ResponsibleTogether #16Days #orangetheworld

WWP EN Newsletter

December 2019

From 25 November to 10 December 2019, we used our voices to shine a light on an overlooked issue in domestic abuse interventions: men's sexualised violence against their partners. Our #ResponsibleTogether Campaign might be finished, but this December newsletter continues to #OrangeTheWorld. In it, we share some of the campaign highlights, but also take a look beyond our campaign to explore such things as an interview with our annual conference keynote speaker Rus Ervin Funk, recent project developments and two brilliant new webinars now available online.

The WWP EN Team wishes all of you happy holidays & we look forward to stopping violence against women and holding perpetrators accountable with you in 2020!

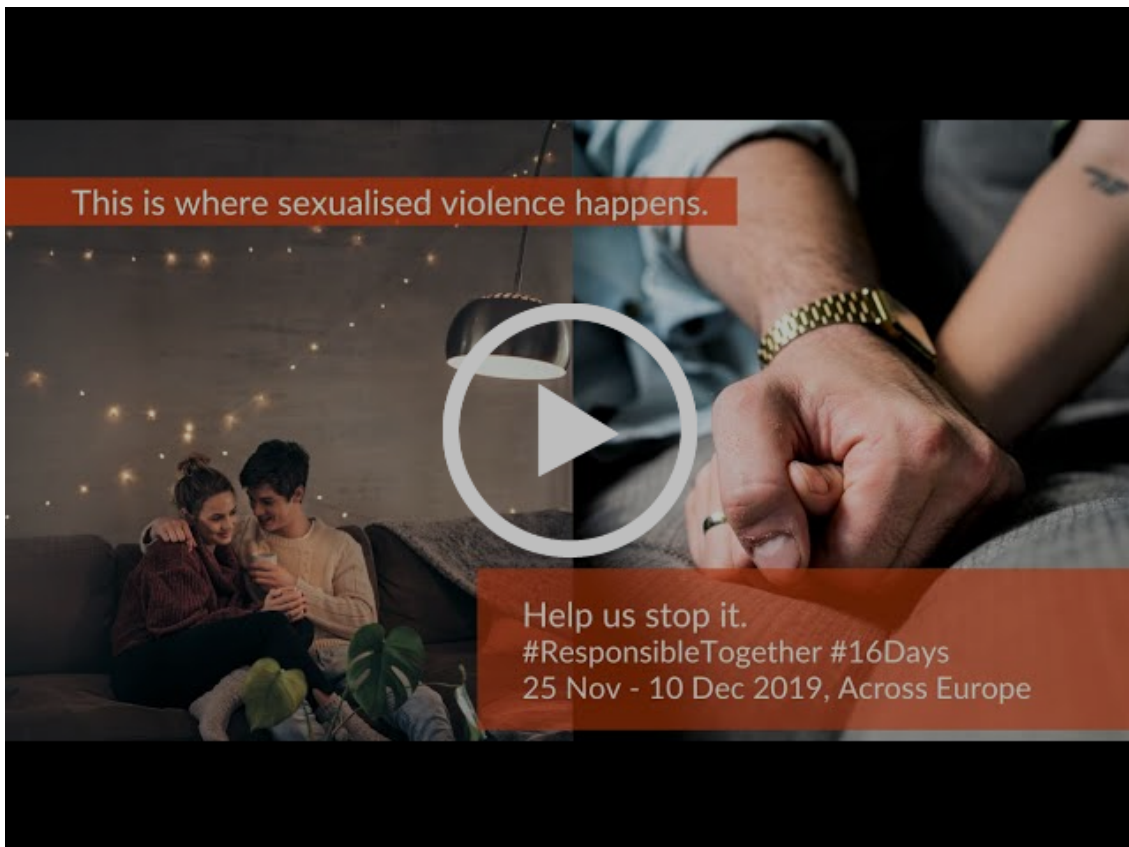
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[2019 #ResponsibleTogether Campaign](#)

Throughout the [16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence](#), member organisations from Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Italy and Spain organised activities to address men's sexualised violence against their partners.



- **64% of European women** who experienced sexualised violence [since the age of 15](#), experienced this violence from a current or ex-partner.
- **Prosecution rates** for rape are still abysmally low in almost all European countries
- Victims of intimate partner sexual assault sustain **more severe genital injuries**
- Perpetrators are more likely to use **several types of violence**, e.g. strangulation or beatings, to subdue their partners – leading to serious and potentially [life-threatening harm](#)
- Women who experience intimate partner sexualised violence are **less likely to go to the hospital**, putting them at a [higher risk for infection with](#)

[sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV](#)

What can we do?

Men must start holding each other accountable for their violence. It has become clear that women's voices and experiences are not taken seriously enough to change the current situation - men must increasingly step up and take responsibility for

- publicly and consistently challenging and changing sexist attitudes,
- addressing the harm caused by pornography use, as well as
- believing survivors and respecting their stories.

We must work to make perpetrators visible, in the language that we use, but also in the crime statistics. Governments must take the necessary steps to ensure that survivors receive support and perpetrators are held accountable. The [Istanbul Convention](#) contains important regulations support and protection of survivors of sexualised violence, as well as articles on addressing men's violence against women. It is crucial that countries sign, ratify and **effectively** implement the Convention.

Click here to learn more about the issue and what you can do

[Meet the Campaigners](#)

Hear directly from the frontlines of our campaign!



"We hope that our street action on sexualised violence helped dispel the myth that this is a topic we cannot discuss in public.

This year, the attitude towards sexualised violence in Bosnia&Herzegovina and our small community was tested strongly and we passed the test, but not with a very good grade...

There is still much work ahead and we are proud to be part of the fight against gender-based violence and the Responsible Together Campaign!"

- Dajana Ilic, Buducnost Modrica



"This year we involved university students in our campaign. It was really interesting to see their discussions on how common sexualised violence is among young couples and how important initiatives such as our campaign are for prevention."

- Letizia Baroncelli, CAM Firenze

We believe that it is also men' responsibility to end gender-based violence. And this year, for the first time in Cyprus, APHVF engaged men directly in the campaign. The results were mixed, but we will continue framing violence against women as a men's issue - because it is!

- Panayiota Gregoriou,
APHVF



[Click here to see more of the campaign](#)

[Interview with Rus Ervin Funk](#)

In this interview, Rus Ervin Funk shares insights from decades of experience working with men who perpetrate sexualised violence, his view on pornography and thoughts on overcoming one's fears of addressing sexualised violence.

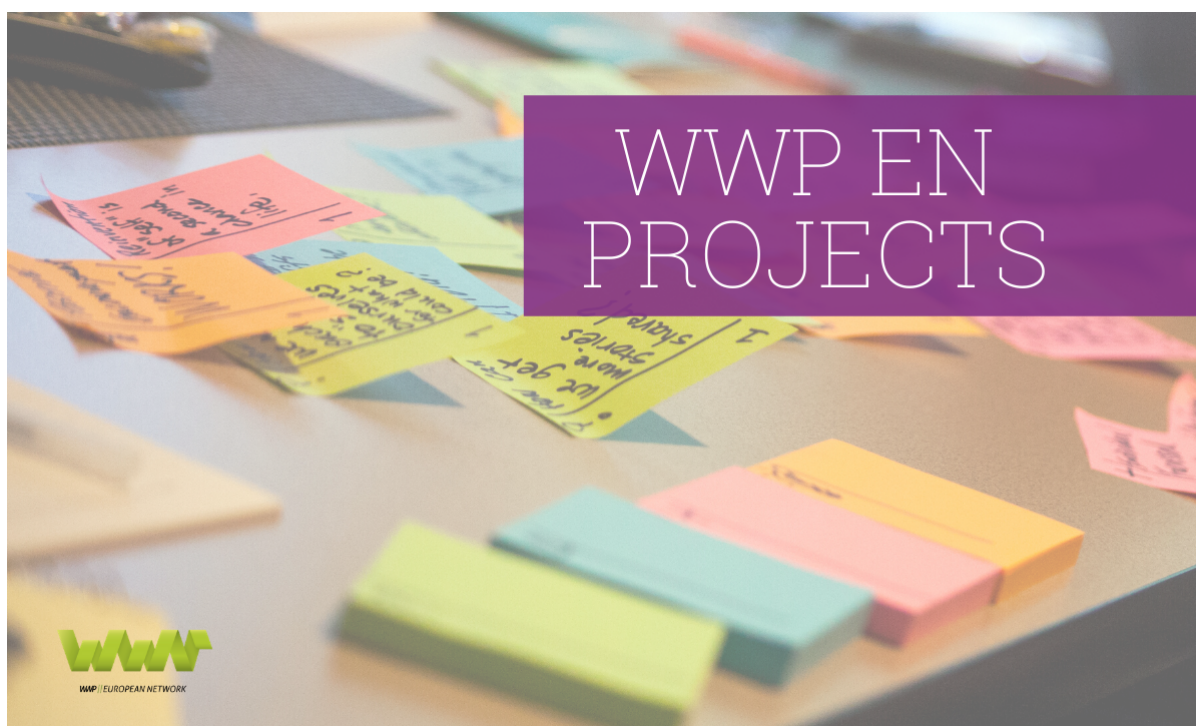
"I think the most common and pervasive misconception is that sexualised violence is perpetrated by "sick" men and that the solution is within them."



[Read the full interview!](#)

[WWP EN Projects Update](#)

Find out about ongoing and new projects!



FOMEN (violence prevention with migrant men)

After the FOMEN kick-off meeting in Graz at the start of October, work has officially started on the project and expert workshops are being held by partners across Europe. The first of these in Berlin, ran by Daliah Vakili, took place at the beginning of December and was a great success. Participants had valuable discussions on masculinity, migration and violence prevention. Similarly, the other expert workshops were extremely helpful in gathering best practices in relation to violence prevention. If you want to follow the project, we're excited to announce that the [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) social media pages (@fomenproject) are up and running and will be updated with new developments.

MARVOW (violence against elderly women)

At the end of November, we attended the MARVOW kick-off meeting in Vienna. Important planning-related discussions took place and next year will see the first training sessions held across the partner countries in Austria, Estonia and Greece.

MiC (promoting caring masculinities)

The very first [MiC newsletter](#) was sent out with information from the project. An in-depth article on paternity leave in Spain was published for this newsletter, and is [available to read](#) on the MiC website. Make sure you sign up if you're interested in receiving the next instalment of the newsletter.

ENGAGE (training frontline professionals)

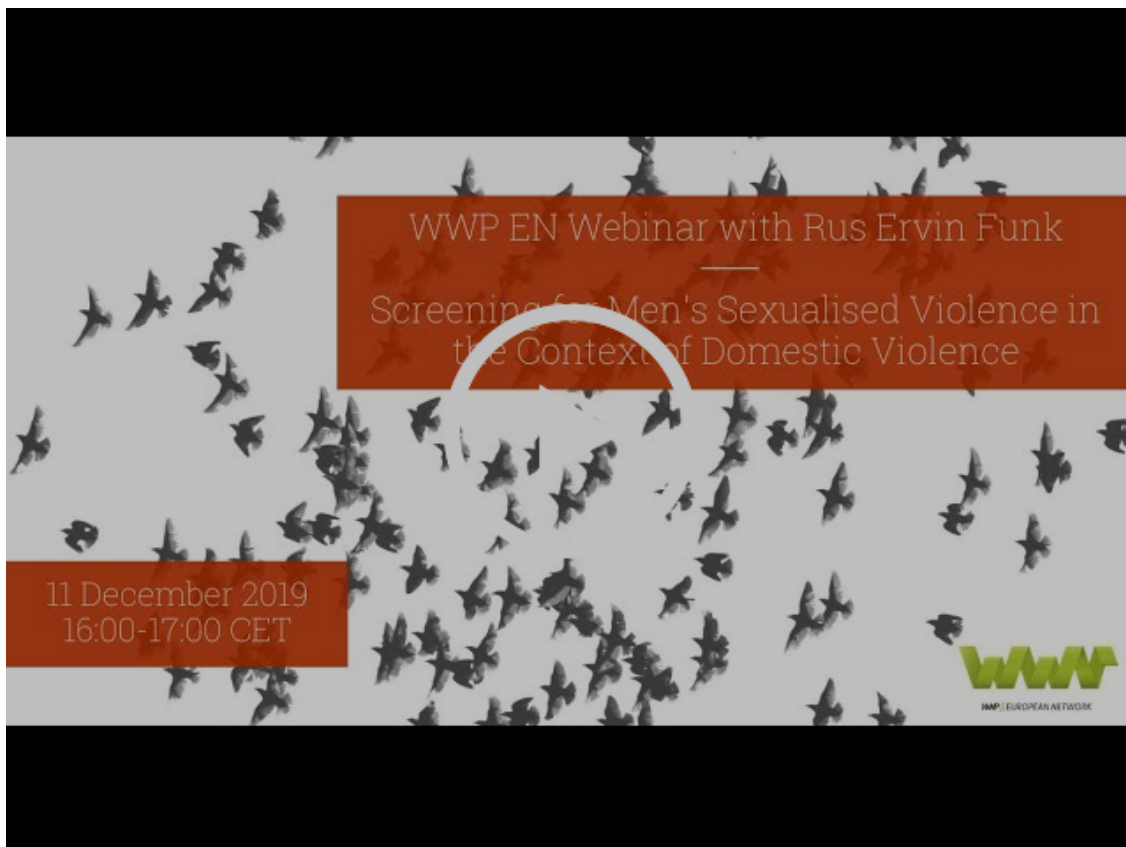
After two years, the final ENGAGE conference took place mid-November in Florence. We're proud of all the hard work that went into developing an innovative 4-step process for engaging perpetrators. The finalised roadmaps and training packages are now available on our website and free to download. For some background to the project and an insight into lessons learned you can also watch the ENGAGE webinar, now online on our website.

CONSCIOUS (decreasing recidivism after prison)

Our partner in the CONSCIOUS project, ASL Frosinone, held a training day for healthcare professionals at the end of October and presented lessons learned during the first year of the project. So far, 18 perpetrators of domestic violence and 24 perpetrators of sexualised violence have started the treatment programme.

New Webinars Online

We have two brilliant new webinars now available on our website. Rus Ervin Funk gave us tips on how to screen for men's use of sexualised violence and Heinrich Geldschläger shared background on the ENGAGE project, lessons learned and evaluation results. You can find all our past webinars [here](#).





Upcoming Conferences

Check out which conferences you shouldn't miss!



There are interesting conferences all over the world coming up in 2020. A conference we find particularly interesting is happening 2-4 September in Dublin ;) Click below to find out more.

See upcoming conferences

Missed a Newsletter? No Problem :) Take a look at past newsletters by clicking here!



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