



April 2021

WWP EN Newsletter

Did you know that the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, also known as the **Istanbul Convention**, **calls for member states to set up and support perpetrator programmes**? That means, according to Article 16 of the Convention, all 34 ratifying states of the Convention should be supporting perpetrator programmes in their countries. Sadly, this is not always the case. Last month, WWP EN concentrated on this issue and the ways in which our members can **magnify the importance of perpetrator work at regional, national and European levels**.

Our campaign for more awareness of the Istanbul Convention happened to coincide with **Turkey's announcement that it is withdrawing from the Convention**. This withdrawal came as a shock to many who are working towards ending violence against women and girls across Europe. We stand in **solidarity with all those in Turkey who will be affected by this decision and especially with the women of Turkey** who will no longer be protected by the Convention's safeguards.

Turkey's withdrawal is part of a bigger backlash against the Convention, which WWP EN finds frightening and disheartening. Despite this setback, **we continue to campaign to make this legally binding document robust in order to fully realise an end to gender-based violence**. We continue to work together with our members to ensure the Convention's goals are achieved and to

highlight just how important the Convention is to our work and that of our members.

So, how can we encourage states to fulfill their obligations to support perpetrator programmes? One of the best ways to do this is to **submit shadow reports to the GREVIO, the independent expert monitoring body of the Istanbul Convention**. These shadow reports can work well as a lobbying tool for perpetrator programmes and victim support services alike. **This newsletter will delve into what the GREVIO is, how shadow reporting works and why it is a great tool to garner support for organisations working to end gender-based violence.**

Have any comments or feedback? [Send us an e-mail](#) and let us know!

Want to stay up to date with everything we do? Follow us on social media ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) or [LinkedIn](#)) or sign up to our [event mailing list](#).

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What is the GREVIO?

The GREVIO is the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence. This group acts as the independent expert body responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Istanbul Convention. Find out more about how it relates to perpetrator work by watching the video explainer below.



[Read more](#)

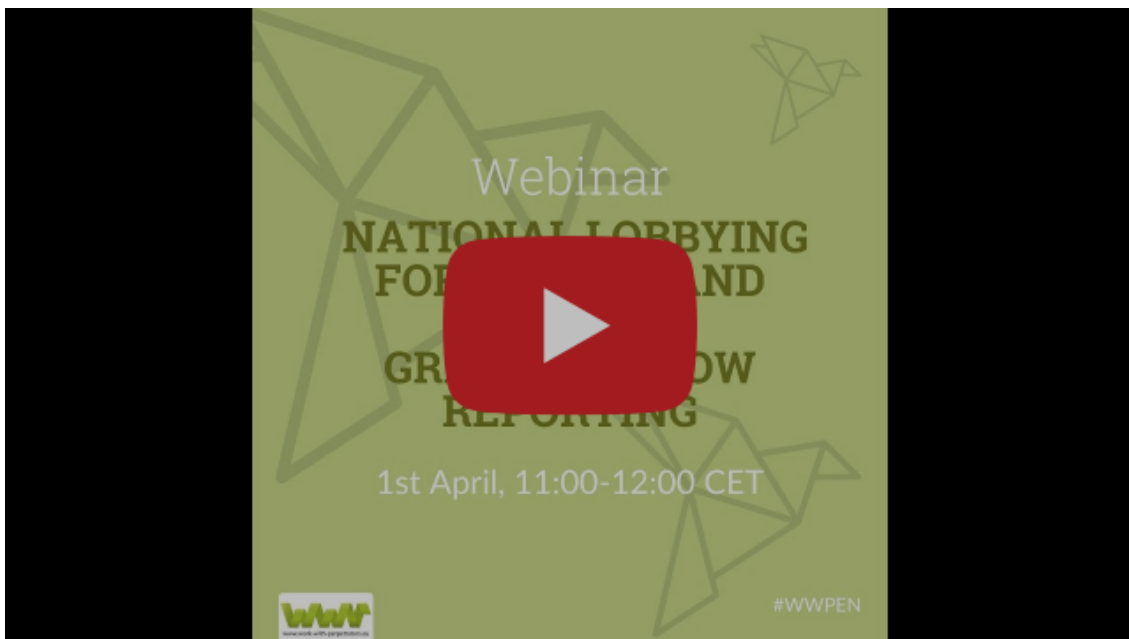
[Interview with Johanna Nelles, Executive Secretary to the Istanbul Convention](#)

In March, we had the opportunity to sit down with Johanna Nelles to get her expert opinion on why GREVIO shadow reporting is key to successful and state-endorsed perpetrator work. Watch the full interview below to get a good insight into why these shadow reports are so important and what can make them most effective.



Webinar: National Lobbying for Change and Funding: GREVIO Shadow Reporting

What is the current conversation around **perpetrator programmes and domestic violence**? How can we shift the conversation to **holding men accountable**? Why do perpetrator programmes need to **address public institutions**? How can perpetrator programmes address public institutions and different policy levels? How can the **Istanbul Convention** be used to address perpetrator work? How can **GREVIO reporting be used as a lobbying tool**? Learn all this in the recording of our most recent webinar on these topics, facilitated by WWP's Executive Director, Alessandra Pauncz.



Following this introductory webinar, WWP is running a 3-hour workshop on 13th April at 15:00 CEST for those who want to develop practical skills based on the topics covered above. It's not too late to register!

[Register for the workshop](#)

Project Update



At the start of March, the FOMEN project team held the second national awareness-raising workshop, this time in German. The workshop was facilitated by Daliah Vakili, Marc Gärtner and Elli Scambor and explored the work of the FOMEN project, the topics of masculinities, anti-racism and intercultural sensitivities. The workshop provided a space for some very interesting and fruitful interactions with professionals working in the fields of gender equality and working with refugees.

If you are interested in the topics, the recording from the first national awareness-raising seminar back in December is available below.



In February, the final conference for the ASAP project was held online. The day was a great success and attracted more than 400 registrations from 14 different countries. ASAP Project work took place over the course of more than 2 years

and came to an end this spring.

Within the project work, partners researched a model to combine the integration of protection and intervention methods for victims and perpetrators of domestic violence with the aim of fostering an efficient network of gender-based violence prevention. During the conference, speakers discussed European best-practice models and guidelines for good cooperation between victim support services and perpetrator programmes, tackling gender-based violence on a European level and much more. The recording can be found below.



The first part of this year has seen lots of developments with the Men in Care (MiC) project. [National benchmarking reports](#), which include context analyses of the seven participant countries as well as organisational analyses for five of them, have been published on the project's website. The reports focus on best practices to foster caring masculinities and have been written based on over 150 interviews with 18 different organisations across 5 countries.



[Read the second MiC newsletter](#), which includes more project updates, an interesting interview and an in-depth article on progress towards caring masculinities in MiC countries.



On [MARVOW's Facebook page](#), each project partner has been involved with monthly themed posts, providing updates on the progress of the training in partner countries. In Estonia, the first stakeholder meeting, aimed at gaining insights into improving cooperation between institutions, took place in January 2021. From this, Estonian partners learned that there is a need for specialised trainings so that professionals are more equipped to work with elderly victims of gender-based violence and domestic abuse. The first system-wide stakeholder meeting in Austria, which took place in March 2021, also identified the importance of comprehensive training to protect elderly victims as well as problems which can arise within this specific work. More updates and information can be found on the Facebook page. Aside from this, partners are still meeting regularly online to discuss progress and best practices for the project work moving forward. Additionally, Marvow training materials on multi-agency models have been uploaded and are [available here](#).



We started this year by [launching](#) a very exciting venture: The Destalk project. The DeStalk project will develop a multi-level capacity-building strategy to train and support professionals of victim support services and perpetrator programmes, officers of institutions and local governments, and other key stakeholders on recognising and taking action against cyberviolence. On March 10, we held a focus group in which we met with practitioners and listened to their insights in order to develop a training based on their everyday practice. Currently, the DeStalk project partners are finalising the training content for the

e-learning package, which will be available by fall of this year.

In the meantime, you can find more relevant material on cyber-violence and stalkerware [on our website](#), and keep up to date with all project developments.

Read more about WWP EN's Projects

Working with Male Migrants and Refugees in Perpetrator Work

Guidelines Document now available on our website

Daliah Vakili gives her expert advice on working with male migrants and refugees in perpetrator work. Daliah is a member of the WWP team as a researcher and trainer for the FOMEN project.

These guidelines give a structured overview of working in this field. They are only recommended for those who already have training on men who use violence in intimate partner relationships, as well as on gender-based violence against women.

These guidelines lay an important foundation for both the theme of our annual conference and our campaign theme this year. They also provide valuable information for those involved in the FOMEN project.

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Throughout these guidelines, it is important to be wary of cultural relativism, it should be emphasized that values, beliefs, and especially cultural practices cannot be identified as justifications or excuses for gender-based violence. The insights into cultural competencies give facilitators the opportunity to deepen their understanding of the target group and to offer an intervention programme with higher chances of success when it comes to motivation and behavioural change of the perpetrators”



#WWPEN

Read the guidelines

See past newsletters here



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