

NATIONAL REPORT SWITZERLAND 2016

DETAILS REPORT WRITING ORGANISATION

Country: Switzerland

Organisation writing report: Fachverband Gewaltberatung Schweiz

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1. ORGANISATIONS/PROGRAMMES

WHAT TYPE OF ACTIVITIES RELATED TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION HAS YOUR ORGANISATION CARRIED OUT DURING THE LAST THREE YEARS?

Topics	Measures	Target audience
Legal framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International: expert opinion on Istanbul Convention ● National: expert position on the federal law to improve victim protection ● Information coordination: elaboration of statistics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● National and international public authorities
Networking of actors and know-how	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● International: integrate work with perpetrators of domestic violence ● National: yearly congress 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Consultants for perpetrators of violence
Increase the visibility of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Participation in national and local congresses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Workforce in social and therapeutic field

<p>domestic violence and work with perpetrators</p>	<p>● External communications (website, newsletter, press release, etc.)</p>	
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WHAT WOULD YOU DEFINE AS THE BIGGEST OBSTACLES/CHALLENGES REGARDING VIOLENCE PREVENTION TO YOUR ORGANISATION/S? PLEASE FOCUS ON THE LAST THREE YEARS.

- The lack of long-term funding at a national level
- The lack of coordinated national communication on the topic, and the restricted financial capacities of local organisations to promote work with perpetrators at a local/regional level
- The necessity of increasing networking opportunities with partners in the social/legal field, and with services working with victims

2. COUNTRY

PLEASE GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF GENERAL SITUATION IN YOUR COUNTRY REGARDING WORK WITH PERPETRATORS.

There are 26 organisations operating in the field of perpetrators' work, 20 of which are organised under a national organisation.

Public authorities have recognised that work with perpetrators is essential in order to lower rates of domestic violence. A service has been established at a federal level in order to research and promote this topic. Several psychological departments work directly with justice organisations.

PLEASE GIVE AN OVERVIEW OF YOUR COUNTRY'S CRIMINAL AND CIVIL RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, ESPECIALLY ANY CHANGES WITHIN THE LAST 3 YEARS? (I.E. WHAT ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT LEGAL AND POLICY MEASURES AND HOW HAVE THEY BEEN IMPLEMENTED?)

Currently, the federal administration is working on increasing measures that ensure victims are protected, and that perpetrators take responsibility for their acts.

PLEASE TELL US ABOUT THE PROGRESS YOUR COUNTRY HAS MADE IN RELATION TO ISTANBUL CONVENTION.

Five cantonal organisations have been set up by cantonal authorities in order to offer perpetrator counselling.

The Swiss federal assembly made the following decision for 2015-2019 following "Guideline nr. 3 Switzerland takes care of security and acts as a reliable partner in the world." Target 14 states that "Switzerland prevents violence, criminality and terrorism and combats them efficiently. One measure that has to be reached is the ratification of the Istanbul Convention."

From October 7th, 2015, to January 29th, 2016, national, local and regional organisations and NGOs were able to take positions on the ratification of the Istanbul Convention in Switzerland. Out of the 84 that took a position, the majority approved the text.

We expect the ratification to take place in 2017.

DO YOU KNOW ANY OTHER ORGANISATIONS/PROGRAMMES IN YOUR COUNTRY THAT CARRY OUR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PERPETRATOR WORK? IF YES, PLEASE, LIST THEM.

Please see a complete list here: <http://www.fvgs.ch/beratungsstellen.html>

3. BEST PRACTICES

TELL US ABOUT BEST PRACTICES IN WORK WITH PERPETRATORS IN YOUR COUNTRY.

In 2008, a major work was produced by the confederation that lists all activities conducted in the field of perpetrator work in Switzerland, such as the various services offered.

FVGS is currently looking for funding in order to start a best practice project in Switzerland in 2017.

4. NEEDS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

WHAT HAS TO BE DONE TO PREVENT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN YOUR COUNTRY (REGARDING WORK WITH PERPETRATORS)?

Topics	Measures
Legal framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase justice's liability for authors to take part in a consultancy programme
Networking of actors and know-how	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Develop best practices ● Improve the quality of statistics

<p>Increase the visibility of domestic violence and work with perpetrators</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase networking between consultancy services for perpetrators with social/legal/medical services ● Increase the visibility of work with perpetrators among the general public
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