

FIVE-YEAR REPORT
2012 - 2017

FEMINIZAM
=
ANTIFAŠIZAM



WOMEN'S RIGHTS CENTER
CENTAR ZA ŽENSKA PRAVA

ABOUT THE ORGANISATION

NGO 'Women's Rights Center' (WRC), based in Podgorica, was founded on the 3rd of May 2012. It was established on the basis of the founders' long-term experience in providing support to women victims of domestic violence and other violations of women's human rights.

MISSION

Women's Rights Center (WRC) empowers women to fight for better position in society and access to justice, offering counseling, psychological and legal help. With public advocacy, monitoring and promotion of women's creation, we improve the conditions and social atmosphere in which women will exercise their rights

VISION

GENDER EQUALITY, ACCESS TO JUSTICE AND SOCIETY WITHOUT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN – OUR REALITY

GOALS

1. Promotion and protection of women human rights and gender equality;
2. Empowering women who survived family/partner violence through counseling, psychological and legal help;
3. Connecting and cooperating with other organization/institutions which deal with protection and promotion of women human rights

Goals of the organization are implemented through 3 programs:

- Public advocacy program
- Support program for women victims of violence
- Program for art and culture

WRC TEAM:

Maja Raičević, Executive Director

Ana Jaredić, Psychologist and Coordinator of the support program for women victims of violence

Tanja Markuš, Coordinator of the program for art and culture

Dijana Veljić, Social Worker

Marko Jusić, Translator / Office Manager

Vanja Popović, Finance Manager

Jovana Koprivica, Assistant

Jovana Pavlović, Lawyer

Tijana Živković, Lawyer

PROGRAM ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS CENTER

SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE

Activities implemented in continuity:

- Initial counseling
- Psychological counseling
- Mediating in contact with institutions
- Legal aid and representation of WRC's lawyers
- Accompaniment of person of trust

After the initial interview with the client, we create the support plan that includes the necessary contacts with institutions, psychological counseling, legal aid and accompaniment of a person of trust through all the procedures dealing with violence our client has suffered. Contact with institutions includes written communication with representatives of institutions and assessment of their practice and undertaken measures in individual cases, as well as addressing complaints to relevant Ministries and to the Ombudsman. Psychological counseling is run by a psychologist with long-term training in the field of psychotherapy, direction of Transactional Analysis. Professional supervision of WRC employees is performed by Marina Banić, MA in Psychology, from the Centre for Transactional Analysis in Belgrade, delegate of the Serbian Transactional Analysis Association in the European Association for Transactional Analysis and the National Association of Psychoanalysts of Serbia.

During 5 years of the organization's work, we've provided support to 438 women. Initial counseling in the premises of WRC was given to 767 women, while counseling via phone was given 3192 times. Services of legal aid were provided 1091 times, out of which representation in court 370 times, in the form of legal counseling 546 and 175 legal memorials were submitted. Help in the form of mediation in contact with institutions was provided 324 times while accompaniment of the person of trust to WRC's clients was provided in 155 cases.

PUBLIC ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Public advocacy program includes a series of activities such as advocating for better access to justice, for women victims of violence and discrimination; monitoring and research in the area of violence against women and trafficking in human beings, participation in developing public policies and initiating amendments to the laws in this area, implementing education programs for representatives of institutions on the topic of gender discrimination and women's human rights, public debates, protests and action in

public space as well as public advocacy in the domain of national and international institutions. Achievements in this area include greater presence of topics of women human rights in international reports, improving legal norms regarding violence against women and family relations, successfully conducted research on perception of gender equality by the representatives of judiciary, monitoring report on trafficking in human beings and practice of institutions in cases of family violence, making of the Shadow report for the UN Committee on the elimination of discrimination against women (CEDAW), Shadow report for GREVIO – monitoring mechanism for implementation of the Istanbul Convention, contribution to the Universal periodic report, contribution to the report of the European Commission to Montenegro, addendum for the report on implementation of the Action plan for the pre-accession chapter 23 etc. The visibility of the organization has improved as well which led to the spreading of network of collaborators, improvement of cooperation with state institutions, women's groups and a greater support of society.

The following are the results of this program in the domain of amendments to the laws:

- Signed Memorandum of Understanding with the Supreme Court of Montenegro (2016) and with the Ministry of human and minority rights (2016)
- Proposal of Amendments to the Law on Election of Councilors and Representatives 2013;
- Proposal of Amendments to the Family Law 2015;
- Proposal of amendments to the Law on compulsory health insurance 2015
- Proposal of Amendments to the Law on compensation of victims of violent crimes 2016;

We participated in creating key national policies regarding gender equality and protection against family violence: Protection Strategy against family violence, Strategy for achieving gender equality and first Strategy for protection of children against violence.

PROJECTS:

CASE MANAGEMENT – continual activity

In cooperation with Security Centre and Council for Civilian Control of Police Work WRC established Conference of cases against family violence, as the regular mechanism for analyzing police practices in cases of family violence and violence against women. This is the first such initiative in Montenegro. Conferences gather representatives of Women's Rights Center, Women's Safe House and SOS hotline for women and children victims of violence in Podgorica, as well as police officers in charge of cases of family violence. All the challenges and remarks of family violence victims related to conduct of the police were discussed in order to create solutions for improvement of police practices, better victim protection and support. Another matter discussed is systematization of work places that need to encourage improvement of responsibility and work specialization, as well

as about the problem of suspension of misdemeanor proceedings due to the absence of authorized police officers. Since then, the presence of police officers from Podgorica in misdemeanor proceedings has been ensured in all cases monitored by WRC. It is agreed that conferences of case management become permanent mutual activity with the aim of constant improvement. As a result, police in Podgorica have already improved their response to victims' complaints and the efficiency in family violence cases and stopped negative practice of filing double charges that included victim's responsibility for violence, in cases monitored by Women's Rights Center.

TRAINING PROGRAM ON FAMILY VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF JUDICIARY - continual activity

This educational program was established on the basis of the concept and methodology of NGO Women's Rights Center, based on the long-term experience in working with victims. The goal of the program is to support the process of establishing sustainable and efficient system of protection and support to victims of family violence and violence against women by supporting judicial institutions in implementation of international standards and national legislation in this area. The focus of the program was on the Council of Europe's Convention on preventing family violence and violence against women (Istanbul convention), a comprehensive and legally binding international document in the area of family violence and violence against women. The program was further developed in the process of intensive consultations with representatives of judiciary and other relevant institutions and individuals with expert knowledge on family violence and violence against women. Training program is organized with support of the Supreme Court of Montenegro, with which WRC has signed a Memorandum of cooperation, and also supported by the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution which approved this program and enlisted it in the regular training for judiciary representatives. In 2016 the training was implemented within the program "Protection of children and women against family violence – improved institutional response", conducted in cooperation with UNICEF in Montenegro and financially support by the EU and foundation Kvinna till Kvinna.

MUTUAL NGO MONITORING OF IMPLEMENTATION OF LAWS IN THE AREA OF FAMILY VIOLENCE 2013-2014

Enabling mutual expert NGO action of monitoring, reporting and giving recommendations for improvement of family violence protection in Montenegro, through direct help for victims, monitoring of the proceedings and interviews with victims of violence and representatives of relevant institutions, a detailed insight has been acquired within law implementation in the area of family violence and violence against women, and given recommendations for policy improvement. The project is implemented in partnership with SOS Nikšić and Women's Safe House from Podgorica.

TRAINING FOR LAWYERS ON REPRESENTING WOMEN VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE 2013-2014

Improving access to justice and human rights of women who survived violence, by using free legal aid as one of the instruments which enables equal legal treatment of all citizens in Montenegro. Most significant activities include training of members of the Bar Association of Montenegro on representing women victims of violence and victims of family violence, forming a team of lawyers who will be additionally educated and trained, and making of Handbook for lawyers representing women victims of violence and family violence. Project is implemented in cooperation with Association of Judges in Montenegro who is the holders of the project.



CONFERENCE “PROMOTION OF COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING FAMILY VIOLENCE AND VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN” 2013-2014

Women’s Rights Center organized the first national conference on Istanbul Convention in Montenegro, attended by 120 participants, among which were: decision makers, representatives of judiciary, prosecutor’s office, police, centers for social work, misdemeanor body and civil society sector who were for the first time introduced with key aspects of Istanbul convention and obligations arising from it.

INITIATIVE FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE LAW ON ELECTION OF COUNCILLORS AND MPS WITH THE AIM OF PROVIDING GREATER PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE POLITICAL LIFE OF MONTENEGRO 2013-2014

Increasing political participation of women in Montenegro was the main goal of the initiative conducted by WRC on a voluntary basis. Proposal of amendments to the Law on election of councilors and MPs addressed to the president of the parliament of Montenegro, working group for building trust in the electoral process, presidents of parliamentary political parties and MPs. Initiative, supported by 17 NGOs, contributed to adoption of the amendment due to which political participation of women, after parliamentary elections in 2016, has increased from 17% to 23,6% in the Parliament of Montenegro and 23% in the local authority. Wider public is now, through public advocacy, familiar with the importance of greater representation of women in the political life of Montenegro.

COORDINATED EFFORTS - TOWARD NEW EUROPEAN STANDARDS IN PROTECTION OF WOMEN FROM GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

Within the project, whose holder is Autonomous Women's Center from Belgrade, and in Montenegro Women's Safe House and local partner SOS Hotline for women and children victims of violence Nikšić, WRC participated in establishing a comprehensive legal solutions and policies for protection against gender-based violence in the Western Balkans, as a condition for implementing democracy, human rights, social inclusion and harmonization with EU values. Specifically, this project aims at increasing capacities of women's organizations and networks in 4 Western Balkan (WB) countries for analysis, monitoring and advocacy in the field of protection of women from gender based violence, through long-term regional cooperation and learning from EU experience. Report on results of monitoring the implementation of local policies for protection of women from gender based violence and Compliance analysis of legislative and strategic framework of Montenegro with the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and family violence are the results of the project which aim to improve procedures and institution practice in the area of protection of women against violence. Project included more than 10 regional NGOs dealing with protection of human rights.

ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE 2015

This projects aims to incite improvement as well as respect and implementation of standards for protection of human rights through the rule of law, transparency and responsibility of the institutions. A research was conducted on perception of judiciary on family violence and violence against women, assessment of educational needs and internal practices of judiciary in this area.. We made a proposal for improvement of provisions of the Law on protection against family violence since the practice showed those are not adequately formulated and do not fulfill their goal. The results were used to create an **Educational program for representatives of judiciary on gender based violence** adopted by the Coordinated Board of the Centre for Training in Judiciary and State Prosecution and became a part of regular education of judiciary. WRC, in accordance

with the mentioned program, organized 6 trainings attended by 100 representatives of judiciary. The project was implemented in cooperation with UNDP Montenegro with the support of the Ministry for human and minority rights. The project was financially supported by the Embassy of the Kingdom of Norway in Belgrade.



BALKANS ACT (AGAINST CRIME OF TRAFFICKING) NOW! 2015 – 2016

Project was implemented with the aim of improving civic activism, capacities and cooperation between organization of civil society in the field of human rights and rule of law, combating trafficking in human beings on the Balkans. The project contributed to improving capacities of the CSOs in doing independent and objective analysis and monitoring of the work of institutions; in Serbia, Montenegro, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Macedonia in the area of combating against human trafficking. The project included creation of the monitoring report on implementation of policies, laws and international standards in this area. Within the project a Working group was formed whose members were representatives of the Supreme Court of Montenegro, High Court in Podgorica, Office for fight against human trafficking, Supreme state prosecution and NGO Women's Rights Center. The Working group made a Proposal of amendments to the Law on compensation of victims of violent crimes which prescribes establishment of the Fund for compensation of victims of violent crimes. Proposal of amendments to the Law was presented at the round table "Exercising rights to compensation for victims of criminal acts of violence in Montenegro – Proposed amendment to the Law on compensation for victims of criminal acts of violence" attended by Vesna Medenica, president of the Supreme Court, Mitja Drobnič, chief of EU Delegation to Montenegro, representatives of judiciary, Ombudsman office, Center for training in judiciary and state prosecution, OSCE, Office for fight against human trafficking and other relevant institutions and NGOs. Feasibility study for the establishment of Fund for compensation to victims of violent crimes was also presented at the round table. The study contains the analysis of possible financing sources for the Fund, which does not require allocation from the state budget. Project resulted in making Comments on amendments to the Law on compensation of victims of criminal acts of violence, Monitoring of the laws and policies for combating trafficking in human beings in Montenegro in 2014 and 2015. Results were presented at the International conference in Belgrade "Protection of human trafficking victims – approach based on the rights of victims in practice" and delivered to all relevant national and international actors. Within this project a Handbook for victims' advocates was issued, which contains a set of indicators for monitoring the condition in the field of human trafficking.



REPORTING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS WITHIN NGO COALITION FOR MONITORING OF THE CHAPTER 23

Representative of WRC is one of the members of the Working group for monitoring the negotiations with EU for pre-accession chapter 23, where she monitors the respect of women's rights and gender equality. The report offers evaluation of achievements of Montenegro in this area and is delivered to the Ministry of European affairs.

REPORTING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS WITHIN UPR COALITION

The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) is a unique process which involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States. The UPR is a State-driven process, under the auspices of the Human Rights Council, which provides the opportunity for each State to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries. Within the NGO Coalition, WRC was involved in preparation of shadow report and comments of the UPR recommendations to Montenegro.

REPORTING ON GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS WITHIN EU INTEGRATION PROCESS

Since 2012, WRC through regular communication with EU institutions, particularly European Commission and European Parliament, continuously advocates for better recognition of women's rights within Montenegrin process of the EU Integration. Beside written communication and regular report delivery, WRC representative had numerous meetings with EU officials in Brussels, primarily policy officers of DG Enlargement MPs – members of the Delegation to the EU-Montenegro SAPC (Stabilization and Association Parliamentary Committee) and the representatives of the Directorate General for External Policies of the EU Parliament. This activity is supported by Kvinna Till Kvinna. The result is a better recognition of women in the Report on progress to Montenegro and in the Resolution of the European Parliament for Montenegro.

REPORTING TO THE UN COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS (CESCR)

The aim of reporting is to provide objective and independent information in addition to the state report. WRC within the NGO Coalition, led by Human Rights Action, was involved in preparation of the shadow report to Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR). The shadow report was submitted and recommendations to the state were in accordance to our findings.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION REPORT TO MONTENEGRO

WRC publicly presents part of the report in the field of women's rights and gender equality and participates in the dialogue with EU Delegation when preparing the inputs., WRC uses the following methodology:

- Direct monitoring of the situation of women human rights through legal representation of women victims of violence and discrimination;
- Analysis of state policies and reports;
- Monitoring through membership in national bodies for gender equality;
- Cooperation with relevant NGOs and analysis of their reports and findings;
- Communication with EU Delegation in Montenegro and other relevant actors;

EDUCATION WITH THE AIM OF COMBATING GENDER STEREOTYPES

WRC in continuity organizes lectures and trainings on the topics of feminism, violence against women, reproductive health and labor rights. Lectures were open to public, either organized in cooperation with NGOs dealing with protection of human rights or individually, in the shape of guest lecturers in various faculties and schools, or as workshops which are very important because it enables a greater degree of interaction with participants and better possibilities of conveying the knowledge. During the 5 years of existence, WRC organized and participated in various activities of such kind, among others the lecture "Preventing and combating violence against women and girls" held in the premises of the "Sergije Stanić" high-school, lecture on feminism and women's





creativity, lectures for students of Democracy School organized by Center for civic education, lecture for activists of Roma organizations; lectures for members of municipality Boards for gender equality and a series of panel discussions for citizens, organized by American corner, OSCE, Department for gender equality and NGOs. Workshops on feminism, organized in 2016 in cooperation with NGO Anima, gathered participants of various professional and educational background which contributed to the work dynamic and discussing the principles of feminism from different perspectives.

COOPERATION WITH INSTITUTIONS

Memorandum of Understanding with the Supreme Court of Montenegro

With the aim of contributing to better protection of women against violence and family violence, combating discrimination of women and promoting equality between women and men, on 7th March 2016 Women's Rights Center signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Supreme Court of Montenegro. The purpose of Memorandum was exchanging the information and cooperation of Supreme Court and Women's Rights Center on implementation of projects and activities in the area of protection of women against violence and family violence, combating discrimination of women and promotion of equality between women and men.

With this cooperation, WRC will realize monitoring activities of court proceedings in the area of family violence and violence against women as well as human trafficking, with full respect of independency of court system, judicial system and Law on protection of personal information. Special attention will be dedicated to organizing training programs with the aim of improving capacities of judges for implementing standards for combating violence against women and family violence, particularly Convention of Council of Europe on combating violence against women and family violence.

Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry for human and minority rights

On 22nd of July 2016, NGO Women's Rights Center and Ministry for human and minority rights signed a Memorandum on intensifying future cooperation. Signed parties will more closely cooperate on flow of information and project implementation, as well as on activities related to the promotion of equality between men and women, protection of violence against women and family violence, and combating gender discrimination.

MEMBERSHIPS

| **Membership in the Council for gender equality** which was formed in 2016 under the Ministry of human and minority rights as an expert advisory body to consider issues of implementing policies of gender equality on the national and local level. Eight advisory bodies were formed within the Council whose obligation was to monitor achievement and improvement of equal possibility policy within their fields.

| **Memberships in National council for preventing family violence and violence against women** 2013 monitors and analyses implementation of normative frame in the area of family violence. WRC actively participates in work of the Council presenting case studies and suggesting measures for improvement of protection of victims.

| WRC participates at the **sessions of parliamentary Council for gender equality** and presents evaluation of current situation in Montenegro when it comes to women's rights such as: political participation of women in Montenegro and implementation of National strategy for protection against family violence.

| **Participation in the work of Women's parliament** whose sessions initiates parliamentary Council for gender equality.

| **Participation at the session of the parliamentary Council for political system, judiciary and administration** where WRC explained its initiative for amendments to the Law on election of councilors and MPs, which expressed our request that 1 of the 3 spots on electoral list belongs to women, which is a way to provide minimum of the standard of 30% women in the parliament.

| **Participation in the work groups for development of the first Strategy for protection against family violence**, evaluation of the current condition and identifying key problems in social and other protection, as well as the goals and measures for improvement of social and other protection, especially regarding: better informing of the citizens on problem of violence and forming attitudes on unacceptability of violence; developing program for preventing violence; support to families in preventing violence; further development of normative frame in the area of protection; strengthening cooperation of the bodies, institutions, organizations and other legal and natural persons who deal with protection; gaining new knowledge and skills of all who deal with protection; improved system for collecting and analyzing data and reporting on cases of violence.

Participation in the work group for development of the Strategy for protection of children against violence. Strategy, on the basis of international standards provided by the Convention on child's rights, identifies and elaborates 6 strategic goals referring to the legislation and policies which protect children from all forms of violence, improvement of institutional frame for care and protection of children and empowering judicial system. The goals of the strategy are initiating changes in social norms and cultural practice, developing life skills with children in order to prevent violence, and creating a system for monitoring, evaluation and research.

PARTICIPATION AT THE CONFERENCES AND PUBLIC DISCUSSIONS

WRC with its activities advocates for topics through participation at numerous local and international events – conferences, panel discussions and round tables promoting values of feminism and protection of women human rights, presents analysis and studies in the area of gender equality and suggests initiatives with the aim of improving the position of women in Montenegro. Among those are: annual Forum for security and development in Stockholm, Civil Society Forum in Vienna 2015 and Paris 2016, organized within the scope of Berlin process, Regional panel on national conditions and regional context for development of women's movement organized by OAK Foundation and Trag Foundation, Regional meeting on implementation of Beijing declaration and platform for action, UN, Geneva etc. WRC is writing and will present the Shadow report for the second time to the UN CEDAW Committee.



CULTURE PROGRAM

Activism in the sphere of culture and education came from the need to bring the topics we deal with closer to the society in a way which sends a clear message and leads to think about the problems we are trying to solve. That imposed a question of how to connect activism with art and not endanger autonomy and quality of the work of art, so we decided to start with applied arts, more specifically with design, as an ideal form to communicate with social community.

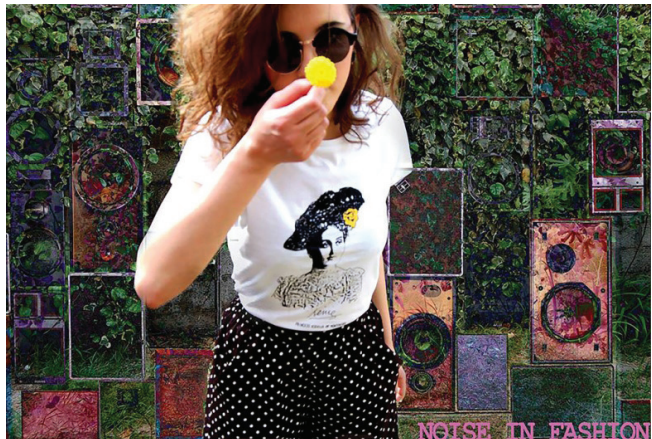
SELECTED PROJECTS

NOISE IN FASHION – in continuity

The project is the result of creative workshops intended for women and youth who survived family violence and to single mothers where they attended workshops for print screening and sewing.

Within workshops for print screening, under mentorship of painters, the participants were able to master the basics of print screening on paper and textile, while for sewing workshops a professional tailor was engaged. The reason we chose these two disciplines is their compatibility which give attractive designer products as a result: t-shirts, scarves and bags made of natural material.

The goal of the workshops is to support participants in overcoming the experience of violence through creative activity and team work. Women's Right Center has been offering from its beginning psychological services as well as legal aid to victims of family violence. Working with them we discovered that a great number of women is unemployed, and due to social isolation which in many cases is inherent in family violence, or due to taking care of children were not able to qualify for a specific employment. This is one of the factors which,



alongside the constant exposure to violence, contribute to instability and losing faith in themselves and their capabilities, which almost always appear with victims of violence. We figured out that by introducing the workshops for training in practical work we are helping the victims not just to strengthen their self-esteem but to raise the level of their creative and work ability.

The revenue is intended for the continuation of the project as well as for Fund for urgent material support to women who survived family violence.



Such project enabled us to, through attractive products, promote values we consider relevant for better functioning and development of society. And one of the series of products was dedicated to image and work of princesses from the dynasty Petrović Njegoš. Humanitarian work, taking care of the poor and sick, advocating for better status of women in the society, especially when it comes to position of mothers and wives in the family, solving the problem of stigmatization of female children which even today is a problem a Montenegrin society faces, were the main life missions of princess Jelena, Ksenija, Vjera and Zorka. High education as well, innovation and the power of will of the princess were breaking the stereotypes about women as citizens of the second row, creating ideal examples for future generations. When we started this series of products, we saw that people of Montenegro were not quite informed about the lives of princesses and their humanitarian engagement. Promoting their work and interesting details from their lives we succeeded in preserving their noble ideas.

One of the segments of this project included cooperation with Montenegrin artists through promotion of their work. Besides promoting ideas of gender equality, this segment is significant because art culture of contemporary creators has a weak promotional segment therefore its audience is made of the very creators, culture workers and small number of fans of art. In this project participated: Teodora Nikčević, Bojana Bogavac and Jelena Tomašević.



We present workshop products within humanitarian bazaars, through participation in NGO fairs, and special cooperation was made with the Festival of alternative theatre – FIAT and Festival of documentary film Underhill. Bazaar is organized with the help of Volunteer club of Gymnasium “Slobodan Škerović”.

WORKSHOPS FOR IMPROVING THE PROCESS OF RESOCIALIZATION OF WOMEN WHO ARE SERVING A PRISON SENTENCE IN THE INSTITUTE FOR EXECUTION OF CRIMINAL SANCTIONS (ZIKS) 2015

Goal of the project: Improving the capability of resocialization of women prisoners after the expiration of a prison sentence. Within the project, two types of workshops were implemented: psychological and creative workshops. Psychological workshops, which are of educational-therapeutic nature, had the aim to develop empathic skills with participants and train them to communicate with others in assertive way. Through these workshops the participants gained insight into which phenomena impact everyday communication which will further more contribute to improving empathic skills necessary to better understand others, their behavior, feelings and needs as well as to better understand their own behaviors and choices. Creative workshops were as well of educational-therapeutic nature, and their goal was to empower participants through creative work and mastering the basics of craft skills in purpose of achieving financial independence after serving a prison sentence. Activities envisioned by workshops



included basics of painting and drawing with the purpose of adopting knowledge of practical application of theory of colors, as well as training to work with decoupage technique, which because of the easiness of mastering, and economic availability of material, is suitable for persons of different financial status and level of creativity. After the completion of workshops, we organized an exhibition of the works in the premises of Petrović Njegoš Foundation, where the Montenegrin public was introduced to the project and its results. Even though the project was successfully implemented, we think this type of activities needs to be integrated in the regular practice of ZIKS in order for the results to have a more permanent effect on the participants.



FEMINIST WORKSHOPS

Center for women and peace education "Anima" from Kotor in cooperation with Women's Rights Center organized 4 lectures in Podgorica within the project "Feminist school 2016". The project gathered participants of various professional backgrounds which contributed to work dynamic and enabled perceiving the topics from various perspectives.

PROGRAM "IN FOCUS" AT THE UNDERHILLFEST

Women's Rights Center established cooperation with the Festival of feature documentary film "Underhill", where one segment of the program "In Focus" will be dedicated to screening of films which talk about feminism, women's rights, as well as wider topics in the area of cultural and artistic creation. After each film there is a discussion with experts on the topic the film refers to. This project is significant because it contributes to the promotion of ideas of gender equality among younger generations which quite often has no interest in it or little knowledge about the topics we promote.



PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS CENTER IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PLAY "SEVEN"

Focus Doc Documentary play "Seven" is based on turbulent life stories of seven women activists for women's rights from different parts of the world. It tells the story about the difficulties these brave women faced because of their decision to confront the social norms and change the position of women in their surroundings. Seven prominent

persons from the public life of Montenegro interpreted the stories of the mentioned activists, one of whom was the executive director of WRC, Maja Raičević. They performed in Podgorica, Kotor and Nikšić organized by Cultural center "Nikola Đurović" from Kotor, in cooperation with Center for women and peace education "Anima", "Hedda Production AB", Swedish Institute in Stockholm and Embassy of Sweden in Belgrade.



FORUM "PUSSY RIOT – GLOBAL SYMBOL OF REBELLION"

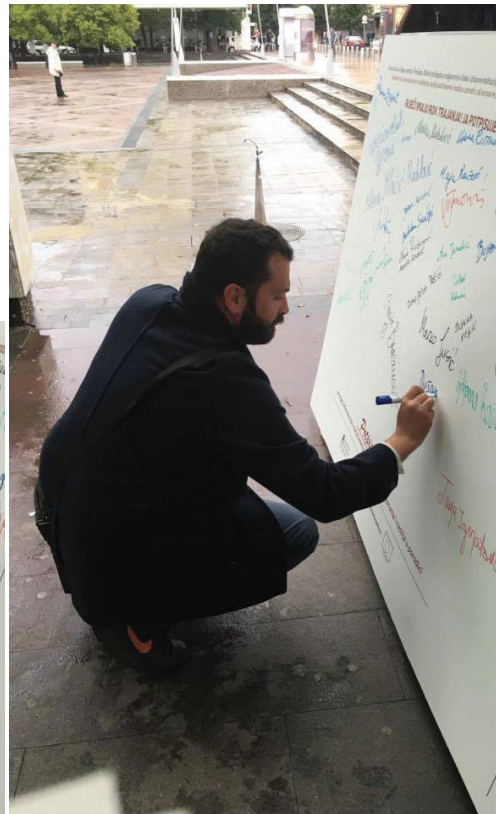
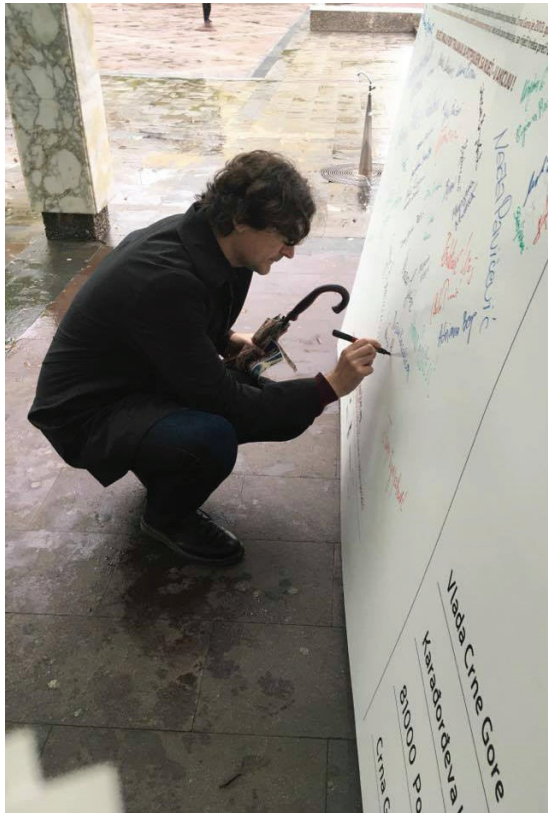
Human Rights Action (HRA) and Women's Rights Center (WRC) on Friday 27th of November 2015, organized a forum "Pussy Riot – global symbol of rebellion" in the "Karver" bookstore, which included the screening of "Pussy Riot: A Punk Prayer" by Mike Lerner and Maxim Pozdorovkin. After the film, the public had the opportunity to talk and spend time with Maša Aljokina, the founder of Moscow activists group "Pussy Riot". Around hundred people attended the forum, mostly representatives of NGOs, activists for human rights and students.



STREET ACTIVITIES / EVENTS



WOMEN'S MARCH. Women's Rights Center in cooperation with NGO Anima from Kotor since 2016 organizes Women's March on the occasion of International women's day, which is taking on actual problems in the area of gender equality and women's rights. "Social justice – We won't give up" was the main slogan of the 2016 March. The March gathered over a hundred of citizens, civil society activists and media.



Campaign “16 days of activism against gender based violence”.

During the campaign, besides interaction with citizens in public space, who were given the opportunity to sign a postcard with a message addressed to the Government of Montenegro seeking implementation of the Istanbul Convention, we organized public classes in Podgorica, Nikšić and Pljevlja titled “Cooperation and intervention – no to family violence”. This activity was organized in cooperation with other women organizations from Montenegro, as well as with Ministry for human and minority rights and Police centers in Podgoca.



Protest of women organizations regarding the Convention "She is here"

On 25th of May, in cooperation with other NGOs from Montenegro, Women's Rights Center organized the protest in front of the city parliament on regarding the convention "She is here" - an elitist gathering, paid mostly with the money of tax payers of Montenegro and organized by a pro-government organization with the same name. With banners "Who is she?" "I am poor", "I am a laborer", "I am unemployed", we pointed out the fact that this type of elitist activism does not support essential improvement of women's position and additionally demolishes hardly achieved trust and network of solidarity between women who work in the field and suffer through violence. It undermines, privatizes and discredits all the efforts that women become recognized in Montenegro as political subjects and make a bigger impact on the development and establishment of gender equality.



“Today they would have been among us” – a protest on the occasion of malpractice of institutions in cases of family violence – and violence against women which in the past two years had a tragic result in couple of cases. WRC in cooperatin with Women’s Safe House and SOS Hotline Niksic, filed criminal charges against state officers who did not use their legal obligations to protect the right to life of victims of family violence.

PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH

- My rights, coauthor project
- Brochure “Convention of the Council of Europe on preventing and combating violence against women and family violence” (Istanbul Convention)
- Handbook for lawyers
- Handbook for Police “Police integrity from the perspective of vulnerable groups”, coauthor project
- Let’s prevent violence – handbook for teenagers, coauthor project
- Feasibility study on the establishment of Fund for compensation to victims of violent crimes
- Brochure for professionals from institutions in charge of practice in cases of family violence and violence against women
- Handbook for victims witnesses of family violence and trafficking in human beings
- Qualitative research on violence against children in Montenegro (in cooperation with Unicef)
- Monitoring report on trafficking in human beings in Montenegro
- Unlocking Art, catalog

BUDGET

YEAR	AMOUNT
2012	9500€
2013	24239€
2014	67740€
2015	76423€
2016	122184€

DONORS

OAK Foundation

Kvinna Till Kvinna

Petrović Njegoš Foundation

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FAKT – Active citizenship fund

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