



# TOWARDS A EUROPE FREE FROM ALL FORMS OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

## IN EUROPE...

### JUSTICE FOR WOMEN NOW!

- In Denmark 70% of reported rapes don't result in a conviction.
- Only 11 out of the 28 EU Member States launched campaigns for the prevention of sexual violence since 2011.
- Victim-blaming in cases of sexual violence or rape is still the norm in Europe.

### WOMEN NEED PROTECTION!

- Only five EU Member States comply with the requirement of one place in a safe shelter per 7500 inhabitants.
- Shelters and services for women victims of violence (hotlines, rape crisis centers, etc.) are closing down everywhere, due to austerity measures and lack of funding.

**1 in 4 women** has experienced physical and/or sexual violence since the age of 15.

**50 women** die every week from male domestic violence.

**Every second woman** has faced sexual harassment.

**75%** of women in top management positions have experienced sexual harassment at work.

**1 in 4 women** experience physical and/or sexual violence during pregnancy.

Violence against women costs **226 billion euros** each year, which represent almost 2% of the annual EU budget.

## OUR GOVERNMENTS MADE COMMITMENTS

"We are determined to foster peaceful, just and inclusive societies which are free from fear and violence."

United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted in September 2015

"Violence against women is a manifestation of the historically unequal power relations between men and women."

Beijing Platform for Action (United Nations, 1995)

## EWL PRINCIPLES ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- Male violence against women is structural, not accidental: it is a cause and consequence of inequality between women and men.
- Women's rights are human rights! Violence against women and girls is a human rights' violation.
- Any action to end violence against women should promote the autonomy and empowerment of all women and girls.
- Prostitution and trafficking in women constitute violence against women and a fundamental violation of women's human rights.
- Women are affected by male violence in different ways due to their diverse identities. Comprehensive strategies should be adopted to ensure inclusion and protection of all women and girls.

## EWL DEMANDS

- We call on the European Union to **adopt and implement an EU Strategy to end all forms of violence against women in Europe**, based on the 6 Ps: Policy, Prosecution, Prevention, Protection, service Provision and Partnership.
- We call on the EU and its member states to **ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention** (Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence).

## EWL OBSERVATORY ON VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Set up in 1997, it is a dynamic group of experts and front-line NGO activists from 33 European countries. It plays a key role in identifying burning issues and monitoring progress towards a Europe free from male violence against women.



**Half the population, half the future! Our future starts now!**