



Good practice in Tackling Violence against Women and Children European Research & Practice Conference

20 – 22 September 2006, Budapest, European Youth Centre

Organized by:



NANE, Women's Right Association, Budapest/ Hungary



European Network WAVE and

Co-ordination Action on Human Rights Violations, CAHRV

The public part was supported by the Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement of Hungary and the Ministry of Welfare and Labour of Hungary.



CAHRV (2004 – 2007) is funded by the European Commission's Sixth Framework Programme,

The Conference successfully took place from the 20th to 22nd of September 2006 at the European Youth Center in Budapest; Hungary. The conference focused on “Good Practice in tackling violence against women and children” and aimed to give a platform for intensive exchange between research and practice.

The contacts of the European Network WAVE were used to invite experts of NGOs of the Eastern/Central European and accession countries.

The conference started with a half day open part for the Hungarian audience with simultaneous translation supported by the Ministry of Justice and Law Enforcement and the Ministry of Welfare and Labour of Hungary. 51 Hungarian people attended the public part including experts and interested people in the field of policy, advocacy, practice and science, as well as several CAHRV members and invited experts from Women’s NGOs (see below).

After opening by Ms. Zsuzsa Sebestyén, Department of Equality between Women and Men of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour, Györgyi Toth from NANE/ Hungary reported on Hungarian activities and experiences in preventing violence against women and children and on NANE activities, followed by information about the European Network WAVE from Maria Rösslhuber/ Austria.

Following presentations were given:

“Taking stock and looking forward: European standards and strategies for overcoming gender-based violence”.

Prof. Carol Hagemann-White, University of Osnabrueck/ Germany (CAHRV co-ordinator)

From good intentions to good practice? Exploring the role of policing and legislation in gender-based violence intervention

Prof. Cathy Humphrey, University of Melbourne/ Australia (CAHRV member)

Research needs of the police to practice more effective policing of domestic violence

Lt. Colonel Ildikó Farkas, national victim support officer, Department of Crime Prevention and Equal Opportunities, National Police Headquarters/ Hungary

Multi-agency interventions for victims/survivors and perpetrators

Jalna Hanmer, University of Sunderland/ UK (CAHRV member)

Lessons from the Austrian model to tackle domestic violence

Birgitt Haller, Institut für Konfliktforschung Wien/ Austria (CAHRV member)

The following sessions of the conference were not open to the public but aimed to offer a platform for intensive exchange between research and practice. All participants were invited to discuss the usefulness of the presented research and statements and to contribute with experiences in their working fields. The prepared statements for the sessions were limited to 10 minutes.

15 CAHRV members, 3 WAVE organizers and 15 experts of Women NGOs from Hungary, Bulgarian, Romania, Cyprus, Turkey, Serbia, Slovakia, Czech Republic, Croatia, Lithuania and Poland attended the seminar.

After an introduction in aims and structure of CAHRV by Carol Hagemann-White, Olga Toth, Institute of Sociology, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, presented the results of research on violence against women in Hungary.

In four sessions the focus was on specific fields in tackling violence against women and children:

1. Empowering women and children victims of domestic violence
2. The role of police and the justice system in preventing domestic violence, including perpetrators programs
3. Intervention systems and multi-agency cooperation
4. Role of the health system in identifying and responding to domestic violence

In each of the sessions research on good practice was presented and experiences in the different countries from representatives of NGOs reported, followed up by intensive and fruitful discussions and exchange:

In the closing session a discussion on drafting EU policy recommendations and needs for future research in Europe took place.

The results of the discussions will flow in the final CAHRV report on “**Agencies and evaluation of good practice: domestic violence, rape and sexual assault**”, to be published in the near future, as well as in the final recommendations for EU policy, to be submitted in April 2007.

A comprehensive report on the conference is in preparation.