

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VICTIMOLOGY SOCIETY OF SERBIA 2022



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VICTIMOLOGY SOCIETY OF SERBIA
2022**

Belgrade, 2023.

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Mission, aims and tasks

Victimology Society of Serbia - VDS was established on 12 November 1997 as an independent and non-profit association of citizens. The purpose of founding VDS was to get together as many humanistic oriented professionals as possible, who contribute with their scientific, professional and personal authority, as well as inter-disciplinary research, education and victim support to the development of victimology and improving rights of victims of crime, war and human rights violation, regardless of their gender, religious beliefs, political views or other personal features.

VDS's mission is to advocate for the improvement of rights of all victims and providing favorable social conditions in which victims would be in a position to realize their rights and satisfy their needs, as well as for establishing social structure that would enable all those whose rights are violated, to heal and reintegrate into the community.

The Victimology Society of Serbia is a member of several domestic organizations and networks: the European Movement in Serbia, the "Women Against Violence Network" and the Alliance of Associations "Network of Organizations for Post-Penal Support of Serbia". VDS was a member of the Republic Team for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and the Initiative for Legal Prohibition and Protection of Children from Corporal Punishment in Serbia. VDS is the founder and member of the Association for *Joint Action FOR Truth and Reconciliation*. VDS was a member of the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture (NPM) from 2012 to 2017, and became a member of this mechanism again in 2020.

VDS is a member of a number of international and European organizations: The World Victimology Society, the European Forum of Victim Services (now Victim Support Europe), the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Program (ISPAC), the International Network of Organizations Combating Violence with Firearms (IANSA).

Over the past twenty-three years, VDS has established cooperation with a large number of individuals and organizations from the countries of the former Yugoslavia, as well as from other European and non-European countries.

The main activities of VDS are:

- Proposing amendments to laws and advocating for their implementation;
- Monitoring the status of victims in criminal proceedings
- Assistance and support to victims of crime;
- Scientific research of various forms of victimization, their consequences and ways of prevention, as a basis for further creation of appropriate policies on improving the status of victims of crime and war and protection of their rights;
- Advocating for raising public awareness about the situation victims endure, their rights and problems;
- Truth and reconciliation;
- Publishing;
- Organizing scientific and professional gatherings and
- Education.

These activities reflect the continuity of the Victimology Society's work on achieving long-term goals in terms of improving the position of victims, creating new institutions, influencing the rule of law and the prevention of crime and conflict.



Activities of the Victimology Society of Serbia in the period 1 January-31 December 2022.

During 2022, VDS activities were carried out according to the VDS Work Program for 2022, adopted by the Assembly of the Victimology Society of Serbia.

General issues

VDS membership, informing VDS member and the public about the ongoing projects and the other VDS activities

During the reporting period, one person became a member of the VDS. Unfortunately, in 2022 one member past away: dr Jovan Ćirić, judge of Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia, senior research fellow and former director of the Institute of Comparative Law.

During the reporting period, VDS members received on a regular basis information about ongoing projects, publications, activities of the Victim Support Europe, victimological and other conference and meetings, etc.

The website of the VDS was regularly updated. Information about the VDS's work is available, including ongoing and realized projects, publications, conference, etc. All information is available in Serbian and English. Milica Luković Radaković was in charge of maintaining the website during the reporting period, while Tatjana Orej was in charge of administering the website.

In addition to the website, since 2012, VDS has its Facebook page, since 2015 – Twitter profile which helps increasing visibility of our activities. Beside that, VDS has a Youtube channel which contains all the video material created within projects and other activities, as well as recordings of guest appearances of the VDS members in the media. Since 2020, VDS also has its Instagram profile.

Posting information about VDS activities via social media, as well as media appearance of the VDS's members help increasing the visibility of the VDS in our community.

All activities related to membership, informing the members, updating the website and social media profiles are self-financing. Sanja Ćopić PhD, Jasmina Nikolić, Tamara Đorđević and Milica Luković Radaković were in charge of these activities in 2022.

Activities of the VDS bodies

During 2022, a regular meeting of the VDS Assembly was held (adoption of the VDS work report for 2021, the financial report for 2021 and the work program for 2022). VDS Director and the Executive Board performed their regular tasks provided by the Articles of the organization. The Executive Board held regular (electronic) meetings and made decisions on current issues. In 2022, the Rulebook on accounting and financial-material operations was adopted.

Strengthening the capacity of the VDS team

During 2022, there were activities aimed at strengthening the capacity of the VDS team, which was directly involved in the implementation of the activities. Capacity building was done through the participation of VDS team members in a series of workshops organized by various organizations and foundations, about which there is more information in the part of the report on the participation of VDS members at scientific and professional meetings and other gatherings.

VDS library

During the reporting period, the book fund increased. The VDS library currently has 1845 titles in the fields of victimology, law, criminology, gender studies, truth and reconciliation, human rights, restorative justice, and other areas. In addition, the VDS library has a large number of journals, of which six are regularly received through the journal exchange: Journal of Criminology and Criminalistics, Security Journal, Perjanik, Sociology, Legal Records, and Law: Theory and Practice. Some journals are donated to the VDS by its members or institutions VDS collaborates with: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović donates her copies of the European Journal of Criminology, Criminology in Europe, The International Journal of Restorative Justice, and Contemporary Justice Review to the VDS library, while the University of Criminal Investigation and Police Studies regularly provides its journal Science, Security, Police. Finally, the VDS library also has a rich selection of audio and video materials.

The VDS library is available to all members of the Society. Since November 2007, library use has been included in the membership fee, while non-members can join the library. Since 2007, 101 people have joined the VDS library.

Information about the library's work and the contents of the VDS library are available at <https://novisajt.vds.rs/vds-biblioteka/>.

Acquiring books for the library is mostly done through gifts and receiving book copies for reviews in the academic journal *Temida*. Library maintenance activities are self-funded and voluntary. Milica Luković Radaković was responsible for the VDS library during the reporting period.



Applying for projects

One of the ongoing activities of the VDS is seeking funds for projects and further development of a long-term and more stable funding strategy. During the reporting period, VDS applied for a total of five projects. Out of that number, funding was received for the implementation of two projects.

Advocacy for raising awareness about victims' rights and their position

Awards of the Victimology Society of Serbia for 2022

The Victimology Society of Serbia established three awards in 2009:

- Award for contribution to the improvement of victims' rights
- Award for contribution to the development of a non-conflict and comprehensive approach to dealing with war and war crimes "The Third Way"
- Award for a talented young researcher

The Award for contribution to the improvement of victims' rights is awarded to individuals or organizations who, through their activities or efforts, have made a significant and lasting contribution to the improvement of victims' rights and the achievement of the goals for which the Society was founded. This award was awarded to **Radmila Gujaničić** in 2022.



Radmila Gujaničić is a long-standing member of the Victimology Society of Serbia, who founded the first feminist group in Western Serbia, Women's Center Uzice in 1998. Within the Women's Center Uzice, Radmila focuses on gender studies, economic empowerment of women in general and particularly women from rural areas, as well as fighting against gender-based discrimination. She is the author and implementer of a large number of training programs for women's economic empowerment. She worked on establishing women's groups in Western Serbia. In 2010, she initiated and helped launching the project "Collection and Recycling of Textiles for Sustainable Social Services", which was recognized by the National Employment Agency and other institutions in Serbia as important for employing women from vulnerable groups. Based on this project, RETEX, an innovative center for textile collection and recycling, was created, which currently employs more than 10 women from vulnerable groups. In 2015, Radmila Gujaničić launched a new service, the SOS helpline, within the Women's Center Uzice, which was licensed in June 2018. Since 2015, in addition to actively working on women's economic empowerment, Radmila has been actively involved in advocacy processes for the regionalization of the SOS helplines and the construction of a safe house in the Zlatibor district. She is active in the Network Women against Violence, within which she worked on Mapping the capacities and services of the Network Women against Violence in 2022. The synergy of work on women's economic empowerment and support

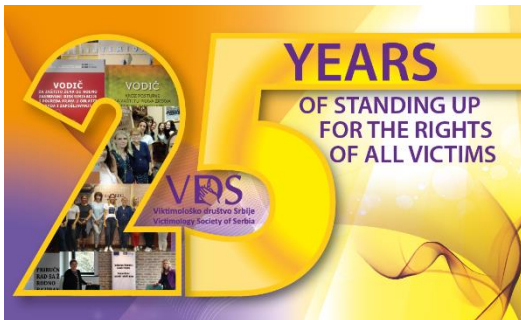
for women victims of violence is one of the best ways to help them leave the cycle of violence. Taking all this into account, the Executive Board decided to award Radmila Gujanicic the award for contribution to the improvement of victims' rights and thus recognize her enthusiasm, dedication, and perseverance.

The Executive Board received one proposal for the award for contribution to the development of a non-conflict and comprehensive approach to dealing with war and war crimes "Third Way," but there were not enough votes to award this prize to the proposed candidate. Regarding the award for a talented young researcher, there were no proposals. Therefore, these two awards were not awarded in 2022.

Marking the European Victims' Day

On the occasion of this year's marking of the European Victims' Day, the VDS decided to draw attention to the problem of sexual violence at the Serbian universities. To this end, the VDS organized an online event held on February 23, 2022. The goal of the event was to present the project *Sexual violence at the universities in Serbia: Raising awareness about sexual violence and developing innovative mechanisms of victim support* and the findings of the research on sexual violence against students at the Serbian universities. Jasmina Nikolić spoke about the VDS, while prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović and prof. dr Sanja Čopić presented the findings of the mentioned research. More than 80 participants from different faculties attended the event. The presentation was recorded and distributed to interested faculties. Some faculties have posted the presentation on their websites to allow a wider range of students and staff to be informed about the survey results.

Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia "25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims "



The annual conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia, entitled *25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims* was held on November 25, 2022, in Belgrade. The conference brought together over 50 participants.

The conference aimed at facilitating the exchange of experiences and knowledge and to highlight the challenges as well as the directions for further work and advocacy related to the position of victims of crime and the development of victimology in Serbia.

The official opening of the conference was held with a welcome speech by the President of the VDS, prof. dr Slobodan Savić and the Director of the VDS, Jasmina Nikolić. This was followed by the awarding of the VDS Awards for 2022. As previously mentioned in the report, Radmila Gujaničić was the winner of the Award for her contribution to the improvement of victims' rights.



The conference was organized through three thematic sessions. The first session was dedicated to the jubilee of the Victimology Society of Serbia, which celebrated 25 years of existence in 2022. During the first session, the founders and members of the VDS spoke about the development of the Society and the experiences of joint advocacy for the improvement of the position and rights of victims. The introductory presentation was given by the Director of VDS, Jasmina Nikolić, followed by personal reflections on the 25th anniversary by:

- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, founder and first president of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Mag. Rodoljub Šabić, lawyer and one of the founders of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, professor at the Faculty of Security, University "St. Kliment Ohridski", North Macedonia and honorary member of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Doc. dr Nikola Petrović, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, member of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Dr Vida Vilić, research associate, member of the Victimology Society of Serbia



The second session was dedicated to the protection of victims of domestic violence and recommendations for its improvement. Special focus was on considering the role of the Groups for coordination and cooperation in responding to domestic violence, exchanging experiences and challenges faced by the groups in practice, and recommendations for improving their work and the

overall response to domestic violence. The opening presentation titled *The Role of the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in Responding to Domestic Violence: Challenges and Perspectives* was given by prof. dr Sanja Čopić, a researcher in the Victimology Society of Serbia and an associate professor at the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade. The experiences and challenges of working in the groups were discussed by:

- Aleksandra Maksimović Sekulić, Basic Public Prosecutor's Office in Mladenovac
- Nada Kuzmanović Tomušilović, Center for Social Work in Pančevo
- Miloš Babić, Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade Police Department, Lazarevac Police Station
- Gorjana Mirčić Čaluković, Higher Public Prosecutor's Office in Belgrade



The third session was dedicated to the topic of sexual violence at the Serbian universities and the research conducted by the Victimology Society of Serbia as part of the project *Sexual violence at the universities in Serbia: Raising awareness about sexual violence and developing innovative mechanisms of victim support*. The main findings of the research on sexual violence against students at the faculties in Serbia were presented during the session, as well as the outcomes of the implemented training for building the capacity of faculty staff and students to respond to sexual violence. The opening presentation titled *Sexual violence against students at the faculties: Main research findings and outcomes of the training for building capacity for proper response to sexual violence at the universities in Serbia* was given by prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, an independent advisor at the Victimology Society of Serbia, and Milica Luković Radaković, an assistant researcher at the Victimology Society of Serbia. The experience and challenges in developing and implementing mechanisms for the prevention and protection against sexual violence at the faculties were discussed by:

- Doc. dr. Ivana Janković, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš
- Doc. dr. Sanja Ignjatović, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš
- Aleksandra Avramović, Faculty of Dramatic Arts, University of Arts in Belgrade.



The members of the Conference Program Committee were:

- Prof. dr Oliver Bačanović, full professor at the Faculty of Security, "St. Kliment Ohridski" University, Skopje (North Macedonia);
- Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, member of the European Academy of Sciences and Arts, full professor at the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, member of the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia, honorary member of the World Society of Victimology and former president of the European Society of Criminology (Serbia);
- Dr Sanja Milivojević, associate professor at the Bristol Digital Futures Institute/School for Policy and Executive Director of the Border Criminologies program at the University of Oxford (United Kingdom) and research fellow in criminology at La Trobe University in Melbourne (Australia);
- Dr Mirjana Dokmanović, retired research associate at the Institute of Social Sciences and member of the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia (Serbia);
- Dr Vida Vilić, research associate, Deputy Director for Legal Affairs at the Dental Clinic in Niš (Serbia).

The members of the Organizing Committee of the Conference were:

- Jasmina Nikolić, Director of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Prof. dr Sanja Čopić, Associate Professor at the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, University of Belgrade, and President of the Executive Board of the Victimology Society of Serbia
- Milica Luković Radaković, Assistant at the Victimology Society of Serbia

Marijana Nedić, Assistant at the Victimology Society of Serbia, also assisted in organizing the conference.



As in previous years, the VDS conference was a contribution to the 16 Days of Activism against Violence against Women, which began on November 25 with the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and ended on December 10 with International Human Rights Day.

Funds for the organization of the conference were provided by UN Women through the project *Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence*, as well as by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development, and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia.

National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture

VDS is one of six civil society organizations with whom the Protector of Citizens concluded a cooperation agreement on September 13, 2022 for carrying out the tasks of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM). The signed agreement regulates in more detail the cooperation that the Protector of Citizens establishes with selected associations in carrying out NPM tasks based on the Decision of the Protector of Citizens from July 22, 2022 on the selection of associations with whom the Ombudsman will cooperate in carrying out NPM tasks and in accordance with Article 2a paragraph 2 of the Law on Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment and Punishment.

The cooperation is carried out through participation of representatives and permanent expert associates of the association in visits to places where persons deprived of liberty are or may be located, the preparation of reports or parts of reports on the visits conducted, the preparation of recommendations for the elimination of identified deficiencies in the work of institutions where persons deprived of their liberty are or may be located, providing expert opinions and views on the health status, especially physical injuries and mental suffering resulting from any form of abuse. Additionally, the cooperation also involves preparation of reports or parts of thematic reports on the status of persons deprived of liberty, preparation of analyses and/or opinions on regulations or draft regulations that regulate the status, rights, and obligations of persons deprived of liberty.

During the reporting period, one visit to the Correction Institution for Women in Požarevac was organized. Jasmina Nikolić represented VDS during the visit.

Power of Change - Power of Prevention of Gender-Based Violence in Serbia

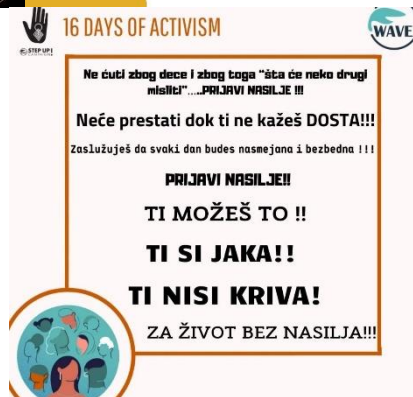
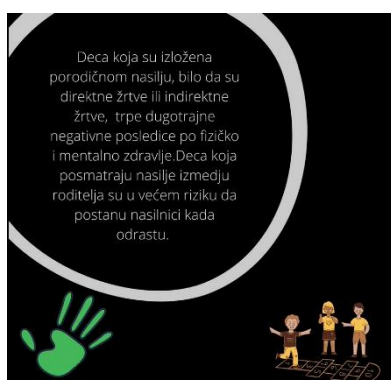


The project *Power of Change - Power of Prevention of Gender-Based Violence* in Serbia was implemented within the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence against Women (UNTF). The project aimed to contribute to reducing harmful, gender-based stereotypes associated with discrimination and violence against women and girls by raising the level of knowledge and awareness among youth and influencing the change of negative attitudes and behaviors. The Victimology Society of Serbia was one of eight organizations that participated in the project. Activities were carried out in eight cities/municipalities in Serbia: Kraljevo, Novi Sad, Zaječar, Novi Beograd, Čelarevo, Aleksinac, Prijepolje, and Sombor. The project was implemented from June 10, 2020, to September 30, 2022.

The main activity during the reporting period was the organization of the “Living Library”. This event was organized by VDS in collaboration with the “Fenomena”

Association from Kraljevo. The event was based on the personal stories of women and girls – “living books” - who were empowered and willing to share their experiences and, through their example and personal experience, testify to discrimination and human rights, as well as their ability to “break down” stereotypes and prejudices, and to confront any kind of violation of rights and freedoms. The event was held at the premises of the Vracar municipality in Belgrade on April 18, 2022, and was attended by about 50 participants (high school students, students from the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, the Faculty of Philosophy, and the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Belgrade). Special thanks are due to Ms. Danijela Vuković, who shared her story as part of the “Living Library”.

Jasmina Nikolić, Milica Luković Radaković and Tamara Đorđević were involved in the realization of the “Living Library”.



Advocacy for the rights of victims of gender-based violence in general and specifically of domestic, work-related, and violence in the educational institutions

During the reporting period, a four-year contract was signed with the organization Kvinna till Kvinna for the implementation of the project entitled *Advocacy for the rights of victims of gender-based violence in general and specifically of domestic, work-related, and violence in the educational institutions*. The project aims to work towards changes in relevant policies, legislation, and practice in order to improve the position of victims of gender-based violence in Serbia in general, and specifically women victims of violence in the family, in the field of work and employment, and in the educational institutions. Through project activities, work will be done on raising public awareness so that citizens in general and women in particular are able to recognize,

prevent, and respond to gender-based violence in different environments; strengthening the capacity of those working with victims of gender-based violence for an adequate and effective response and treatment of victims; improving policies and practices in the field of prevention and suppression of gender-based violence in different environments; empowering victims and strengthening their capacity to leave violence, and improving cooperation with local services involved in preventing and combating violence against women in different environments.

The implementation of the project directly involves Jasmina Nikolić, Milica Luković-Radaković, Marijana Nedić, prof. dr Sanja Čopić, and prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović. The project started on September 1st, 2022, and will last until September 1st, 2026.

Advocacy for changes of laws and practice

Participation in the working groups of the National Convention on the European Union (NCEU)

The Victimology Society of Serbia (VDS) is an active member of two working groups within the National Convention on the European Union (NCEU): Working Group responsible for monitoring negotiations in Chapter 23 and the Working Group responsible for monitoring negotiations in Chapter 24. During the reporting period, VDS followed the work of the NCEU Working Groups for Chapters 23 and 24 through regular updates.

VDS research group on femicide and its work within the European Observatory for Femicide

The European Observatory for Femicide is one of the most important results of the Femicide project throughout Europe (implemented within the European Cooperation in Science and Technology (COST) program - 2013-2017), in which Serbia participated (the project's management board included: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, dr Sanja Čopić, and Msc. Ljiljana Stevković). The European Observatory for Femicide (EOF) was established in 2018. EOF's mission is to prevent femicide through data collection, data visibility, awareness raising, and to: create a unique European data collection system that will provide measurement and comparison of femicide rates throughout Europe; raise public and expert awareness; analyze individual femicide cases throughout Europe to identify gaps in responses to violence against women. More about EOF can be found at <http://eof.cut.ac.cy/>.

EOF has four bodies: Coordinators who change every two years, a Council, National Research Groups, and two thematic groups (for quantitative and qualitative research). The role of research groups is to work together with EOF on data collection and analysis of femicide cases - data collection for a pilot study is underway. The research group for Serbia consists of VDS members: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, prof. dr Sanja Čopić, dr Vida Vilić, and Msc. Ljiljana Stevković. The research group for Serbia has been involved in EOF since the beginning.

During 2022, the research group for Serbia conducted the following activities:

- Continuation of data collection on femicide cases during 2022 and after the completion of the EOF pilot study, using the same methodology that was applied for the pilot study. The key sources of data are media texts of printed and electronic media on murders of women in the context of family-partner relationships.
- Msc. Ljiljana Stevković participated in an online meeting of the focal points of the European Observatory for Femicide, where achievements to date and plans for future Observatory activities were presented.
- At a panel on Institutional Action in Cases of Reported High-Risk Domestic Violence (with Fatal Outcomes), organized by the Autonomous Women's Center on May 18, 2022, at the Envoy Conference Center in Belgrade, Ljiljana Stevković presented the results of a comparative analysis of femicide case characteristics in 2019 and 2020 in Serbia, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Malta, and Cyprus, conducted by the VDS research group for femicide as part of the EOF pilot study.
- Msc. Ljiljana Stevković presented the significance of EOF (End of Femicide) and the research group of the VDS for the femicide to the journalist Tamara Zablocki for the article *"Domestic Violence is not a Personal, Intimate Matter"* on the VOICE portal

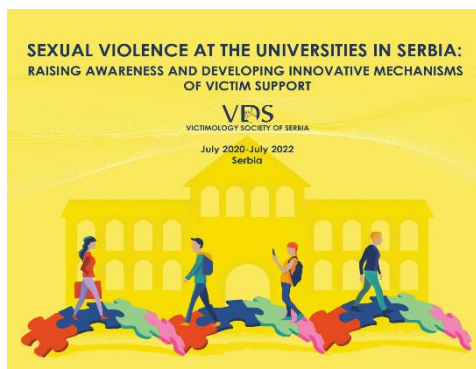
(<https://voice.org.rs/nasilje-u-porodici-nije-licna-intimna-stvar/>), which was created as part of the project “Ethical Reporting on Violence against Women”.

- Jasmina Nikolić, director of VDS, presented the European Observatory for Femicide at the conference “Institutional Response to Femicide” held in Belgrade on December 28, 2022, organized by the Women’s Parliamentary Network and the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality.



Research

Sexual violence at the universities in Serbia: Raising awareness about sexual violence and developing innovative mechanisms of victim support



Victimology Society of Serbia was one out of nine research institutions from around the world who won the SVRI (Sexual Violence Research Initiative) and World Bank Group Development Marketplace Award for Innovation in the Prevention and Response of Gender Based Violence 2020 (see: <https://www.svri.org/what-we-do/research-support/svri-grants/svri-grant-2020>). The award was given for the implementation of the project *Sexual violence at the universities in Serbia: Raising awareness and developing innovative mechanisms of victim support*. More information about the award and the other awarded institutions and organizations can be found at <https://www.svri.org/what-we-do/research-support/svri-grants/svri-grant-2020>.

The project *Sexual violence at the universities in Serbia: Raising awareness and developing innovative mechanisms of victim support* aimed to raise awareness of sexual violence at universities in Serbia and to improve institutional responses by proposing innovative mechanisms for prevention and response to cases of sexual violence at universities/faculties in Serbia. The project consisted of four groups of activities: research on sexual violence at faculties in Serbia, development and piloting of the “first response” training on sexual violence at faculties, development of mechanisms for preventing sexual violence and supporting victims at faculties, and distribution/communication of project results.

During the reporting period, the following activities were carried out:

- Research on sexual violence against students at faculties in Serbia:
 - The data was analyzed and a research report was written, which was prepared and published in the form of a book: Nikolić-Ristanović, V., Čopić, S. (2022) *Sexual Violence against Students at Faculties in Serbia*. Belgrade: Victimology Society of Serbia. The book is in Serbian with executive summary in English. It is available in electronic form at the VDS website <https://vds.rs/File/KnjigaSeksualnoNasiljeNadStud.pdf>. The book was distributed to various faculties, universities, research institutes, libraries, civil society organizations, etc.
- Development and piloting the “first response” training on sexual violence at faculties:
 - Based on the findings of the research and the achieved cooperation with contact persons within the research part of the project, the *Training for building capacities of university staff and students for proper response to sexual violence* was conducted at six faculties in Serbia. More about the training can be found in the section on education in the report.
- Development of mechanisms for preventing sexual violence and supporting victims at faculties:
 - After the training that was organized within the project, colleagues who have completed the training continued with activities aimed at developing and improving

mechanisms for the prevention and suppression of sexual violence, with the support of VDS. This has resulted in the following: the University of Arts in Belgrade, whose member is the Faculty of Dramatic Arts, has adopted the Code on Protection from Harassment in the Educational and Work Process at the University of Arts in Belgrade, which also provides protection from sexual violence; at the Faculty of Philosophy, University of Niš, the Code on Prevention and Protection from Violence, Sexual Violence, Harassment and Blackmail has been developed and adopted, and a platform called “My Faculty, My Safe Place” was created on the Faculty’s website with information on how and to whom to report violence, sexual violence, and harassment (<https://tpn.filfak.ni.ac.rs/>).

- Dissemination of project/research results:
 - Online event on the occasion of the European Victims’ Day, organized on 23 February 2022 (more information is provided above in this report).
 - Presentation of research findings and conducted training at the scientific conferences in the country and abroad. More information can be found in the section on the participation of VDS members in scientific conferences and professional meetings.
 - Media appearances. More information can be found in the section of the report on the appearances of VDS members in the media.

The project lasted from July 1, 2020, to July 1, 2022, and was funded by the World Bank. Following persons were involved in project activities: prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, dr. Sanja Čopić, Jasmina Nikolic, Milica Luković Radaković, and Tamara Đorđević.

Illicit firearms trafficking and gun violence in Europe: In-depth analysis of Serbia

Within the TARGET project - Illicit firearms trafficking and gun violence in Europe: in-depth analysis of Serbia, conducted by the Flemish Peace Institute (Belgium) and the Institute of Security and Global Affairs at Leiden University (Netherlands), VDS conducted research aimed at determining the extent and nature of gun violence in Serbia and the characteristics of firearms used in cases of violence, identifying existing measures and practices to prevent violence through the use of firearms, combatting illicit arms trafficking, and limiting the impact of illicit arms trafficking on violence, as well as developing proposals for collecting and recording data on the impact of illicit arms trafficking on gun violence to improve information collection on these issues. More information was provided in the VDS annual report for 2021. During the reporting period, data collected in 2021 were analyzed, and a research report was written, which was published in: Čopić, S., Dokmanović, M. (2022) A snapshot of illicit firearm-trafficking and gun violence in Serbia, in Duquet, N. (ed.) *Pulling the trigger: gun violence in Europe*, Brussels: Flemish Peace Institute, ISBN: 9789464074192, <https://vlaamsvredesinstituut.eu/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/TARGET-7CountryReports-FPI-def.pdf>.

The project lasted from September 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021. Persons involved in the project activities: dr Sanja Čopić, dr Mirjana Dokmanović, and prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović.

Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence

The project *Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence* was part of the program *Ending violence against women in the Western Balkans and Turkey: Implementing norms, Changing minds*, which is funded by the European Union and implemented by the UN Women. The overall goal of the VDS project was to strengthen the capacities of the groups for coordination and cooperation in Serbia to effectively assess the needs of victims and develop individual safety plans for victims of domestic and other forms of gender-based violence defined by the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence. The project consisted of two main components. The first was a research aimed at getting to know the work of the groups for coordination and cooperation (GCC) and the needs of group members for capacity building and improved coordinated responses in cases of domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence. The findings of the research provided the basis for the second component of the project, which aimed at strengthening capacities of GCC to work with victims of gender-based violence, as well as mapping the needs of victims and developing individual protection and support plans through the activities described below.

The main activities carried out within the project during the reporting period were:

- Analysis of the situation and assessment of the needs the GCC: During the reporting period, the VDS collected data on the work of GCCs through direct monitoring of their work. A Protocol for observing GCC meetings, previously developed, was used to monitor the meetings. The data collected through direct monitoring of the groups were analyzed and, together with other data collected during the project, used for drafting recommendations.
- Strengthening the capacity of GCCs to work with victims of gender-based violence: Two trainings were conducted: The training for working with victims of gender-based violence and a Workshop for mapping the needs of victims, assessing risk, and developing individual safety plans. More information can be found in the section of the report on education.
- Supporting GCC in developing individual safety plans for victims:
 - During the reporting period, the VDS provided support to GCC in developing individual plans through the active participation of two members of the VDS team, prof. dr Sanja Čopić and Jasmina Nikolić, at the GCC meetings in Basic Public Prosecutor's Offices in Mladenovac, Lazarevac, and Pančevo, as well as through feedback on individual safety plans during the conducted trainings when the plans were analysed and discussed.
 - Regular updating of a special page on the VDS website called *The Forum for professionals working with victims*, which is available at <http://vds.rs/phpbb/>. The forum serves as a resource center and platform for sharing experiences, knowledge, and examples of good practice in dealing with domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence. During the reporting period, one online presentation of the Forum was organized, and it was also presented during the trainings for GCC members.
 - The *Handbook on mapping victims' needs and developing individual plans of support and protection of victims* was published. The main goal of the Handbook is to provide guidelines to both professionals and victims for moving through the system of prevention and intervention in cases of domestic violence. It was distributed to all project participants who participate in GCCs' work (from social welfare centers, police, and basic public prosecutors' offices), as well as other GCCs

in Serbia. The Handbook is in Serbian, and it is available at <https://vds.rs/File/Vodic2022.pdf>.

- Developing recommendations to improve the work of GCCs and the overall response to domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence. The recommendations were developed based on the results of the project as a whole and were presented and discussed at the VDS's annual conference, which was presented above in this report.
- Providing support to victims of domestic and other forms of gender-based violence, which is further explored in the section of the report related to the work of the VDS info and victim support service.

The project was implemented from June 21, 2021, to February 15, 2023. The following persons were directly involved in the project activities during the reporting period: prof. dr Sanja Čopić, dr Mirjana Dokmanović, Jasmina Nikolić, Milica Luković Radaković, Tamara Đorđević, and Marijana Nedić.

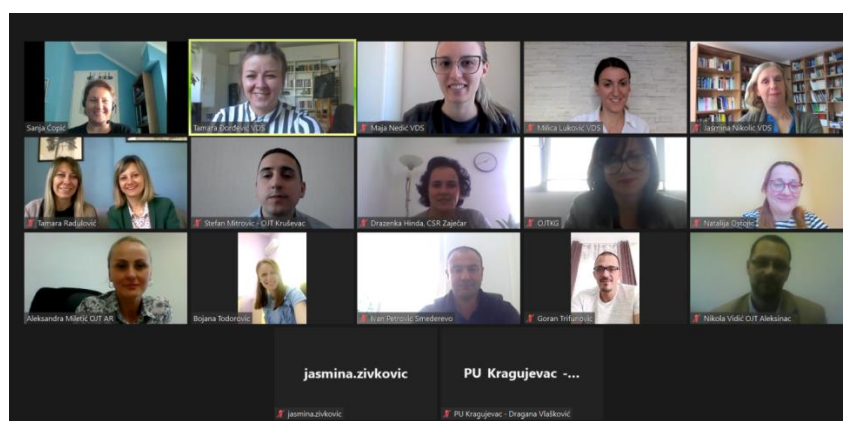
Education

Training for working with victims of gender-based violence

Training for working with victims of gender-based violence is accredited by the Republic Institute for Social Protection. In 2022, it was implemented as part of the project *Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence* (for more information on the project, see above in this report). A four-day training was held in January and February 2022 for representatives of the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Serbia. The training was conducted online via the Zoom platform, and 19 police officers attended. The aim of the training was to provide basic knowledge for working with victims in an appropriate manner, with a particular emphasis on victims of domestic violence, sexual violence, and human trafficking, as well as to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to provide appropriate assistance to potential and current victims of gender-based violence and victims in a broader social sense. The main topics covered during the training were: Defining basic concepts; The scope, structure, and characteristics of different forms of gender-based violence; Factors contributing to the occurrence of gender-based violence and risky situations; Victimization, victims' needs, and the importance of appropriate support and assistance to victims, especially women and children; Legal protection of gender-based violence victims; Stereotypes and prejudices related to gender-based violence; System of protection, support, and assistance to victims; Firearm possession as a risk factor for domestic violence and the perpetrator's control over the victim; Challenges in work and analysis of individual safety plans for victims. The training was implemented by: dr Sanja Čopić, Jasmina Nikolić, Milica Luković Radaković, and dr Mirjana Dokmanović, while Tamara Đorđević was the assistant.

Workshops on mapping victims' needs, risk assessment, and developing individual safety plans

Within the project *Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence*, VDS designed and organized a two-day training called *"Workshops for mapping victims' needs, risk assessment, and developing individual safety plans"*. The overall aim of the workshops was strengthening capacities of professionals in the GCC in selected towns for assessing victims' needs and potential risk and for developing safety plans in accordance to victim's needs, rights and interests. The training was implemented in the form of interactive workshops. The workshops were organized online, via the Zoom platform, and included a combination of lectures, facilitated group discussions, case studies, and inter-sectoral dialogue. Workshop participants were representatives of the police, social welfare centers, and basic public prosecutor's offices who are involved in the GCCs or otherwise work with victims of domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence. Four series of workshops were organized during May, June, and September 2022. A total of 59 professionals attended the workshops: 18 representatives of social welfare centers, 21 representatives of basic public prosecutor's offices, and 20 police officers from the following cities: Kruševac, Zaječar, Veliko Gradište, Prokuplje, Aleksinac, Aranđelovac, Smederevo, Kragujevac, Subotica, Pančevo, Valjevo, Mladenovac, Belgrade, Vrbas, Šabac, Vršac, Lazarevac, Sremska Mitrovica, Paraćin, Požarevac, Zrenjanin, and Užice. The workshops were developed and implemented by Jasmina Nikolić and prof. dr Sanja Čopić, with the help of two assistants: Milica Luković Radaković and Tamara Đorđević, as well as with the assistance of Marijana Nedić.



Training for building capacities of university staff and students for proper response to sexual violence

Within the project *Sexual violence at the universities in Serbia: Raising awareness and developing innovative mechanisms of victim support*, VDS developed and implemented the *Training for building capacities of university staff and students for proper response to sexual violence*. The training aimed at building capacities of students and university staff (teaching and non/teaching) for proper first response to sexual violence at the faculties. The training was organized online, via the Zoom platform, from February to April 2022. The participants in the training were students and teaching and non-teaching staff from six faculties: three faculties in Belgrade (Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation, Faculty of Political Sciences, and Faculty of Dramatic Arts), two faculties in Niš (Faculty of Philosophy and Faculty of Medicine), and one faculty in Novi Sad (Faculty of Philosophy). A total of 137 participants completed the training: 70 students, 50 teachers, and 17 non-teaching staff. The training included eight thematic workshops: Introduction and defining basic terms (sex, gender, gender-based violence, sexual violence); The scope and characteristics of SV against students at the faculties; Consequences of SV and victims' needs; Stereotypes and prejudice related to SV; 'First response' to SV (2 workshops), and Mechanisms of support and protection of students from SV at the faculties (2 workshops). The training was developed and implemented by prof. dr Vesna Nikolic-Ristanovic, prof. dr Sanja Čopić, and Jasmina Nikolic, while Milica Luković Radaković and Tamara Đorđević were assistants at the training.

Training "From a victim to the winner: Using one's own capacities to exit violence"

As a part of the project *"From a Victim to the Winner"*, which was implemented by the VDS and funded by the Secretariat for Social Protection of the City of Belgrade, VDS developed and implemented a two-day training on October 26 and 27, 2022, at the Palas Hotel in Belgrade, entitled *From a Victim to the Winner: Using One's Own Capacities to Exit Violence*. The aim of the training was to teach participants how to best direct victims to use their own capacities for exiting violence and personal growth and development, in addition to the existing system of assistance and support. The training participants were representatives of the City Center for Social Work (CCSW) from the following departments: Novi Beograd, Palilua, Zemun, Surčin, as well as employees of

the Victimology Society of Serbia. A total of 24 participants attended the training, led by Jasmina Nikolic and dr Mirjana Dokmanovic. The training was categorized by the Chamber of Social Protection (decision number 5507-2348/2022), and participants received a certain number of points, which they need for license renewal. The training was implemented interactively, with many practical demonstrations and exchanges among participants. The presenters introduced affirmative research and an affirmative approach in working with victims, as well as techniques related to post-traumatic growth, forgiveness, and gratitude that are applicable in working with victims. The importance of defining goals and empowering victims to help themselves to become winners was particularly emphasized, as well as how experts can help them in that process.

Gender equality impact assessment and introduction of gender perspective in the process of preparing regulation

The training entitled *Gender equality impact assessment and introduction of gender perspective in the process of preparing regulations* aimed to establish and improve the capacity of state administration bodies to conduct an analysis of the direct and indirect effects of new regulation options on citizens, including sensitive social groups, and on gender equality. During the reporting period, the training was conducted for two groups of participants from state administration bodies in September 2022 in cooperation with the UN Women Office in Serbia, and for one group of participants in November 2022 in cooperation with GIZ. The training program was developed by dr Mirjana Dokmanović, who participated in its implementation, and was also conducted by Jasmina Nikolić, prof. dr Sanja Čopić, and prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović.

Victim support

VDS info and victim support service

The VDS info and victim support service is the first generic service for victims of crime, founded in 2003 within the Victimology Society of Serbia. The service is aimed at all victims of crime, both men and women, members of all ethnic groups, regardless of any personal features (LGBTI, sick, disabled persons, etc.). Assistance and support are provided to both direct and indirect victims (family members of direct victims and other individuals indirectly affected by criminal behavior). The target group also includes victims of crime who appear in court as witnesses or in some other role, as well as victims of violence who are in prison, former, current and future prisoners, related to their rights and victimization. The services provided to victims within the Service include the following:

- Emotional support;
- Information (on psychological reactions and recovery dynamics, practical information for re-establishing life trajectories after a traumatic event, information on victims' rights and ways in which they can exercise them, on the possibilities of using restorative approaches, especially mediation and other ways of peaceful problem solving, etc.);
- Referral to specialized (state and non-state) services and organizations or individuals in Belgrade and Serbia depending on specific needs;
- Support in the court, in contacts with state institutions, and in the process of mediation.

All forms of assistance and support for victims are free of charge. The basic principles of the Service's work, which are also the principles of work of all organizations of this type gathered around the Victim Support Europe, are trust, respect for the victim, their rights, needs and feelings, confidentiality of information and autonomy of the victim's will. Assistance and support are based on an empowering and supportive relationship towards victims, which can be significant for their recovery, but also for activating them in seeking solutions to the problems they face.

During the reporting period, the following activities were implemented:

- Providing support to victims - in 2022, the Service was contacted by 127 victims of different forms of victimization. A total of 340 contacts were made, which means that a certain number of victims contacted the Service more than once. Of the total number of victims, 98 were female and 29 were male. The most common forms of victimization for which victims approached the Service were: domestic violence and work-related violence; in addition, support was provided to individuals due to dissatisfaction with the actions of institutions, inability to exercise rights at the labour market, family problems, persecution, threat, fraud, and others.
- In order to increase the visibility of the Service, examples of contacting the Service, as well as other materials intended for victims and potential victims, were regularly posted on the social networks Facebook and Instagram and on the VDS website.
- Throughout 2022, reports on the work of the VDS info and victim support service were posted on the VDS website, and disseminated through social media (Facebook and Instagram) every month.

The working hours of the Service were from 10am to 8pm.



Starting from September 1, 2022, Milica Luković Radaković became the head of the VDS info and victim support service. During the reporting period, support for victims was also provided by Jasmina Nikolić, Tamara Đorđević, and Marijana Nedić.

Victims support was provided within the projects *Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence* (UN Women) and *Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, particularly in the family, workplace, and educational institutions* (Kvinna till Kvinna). The focus was on providing support for victims of domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence. Victim support activities were also supported through the projects *By decentralization to the Empowerment of the Women Against Violence Network, Improvement of Services and Position of Women who survived Male Violence; From a Victim to the Winner; Establishing the National Telephone SOS Line for Women Experiencing Gender-Based Violence, which will work according to feminist principles, and Women's NGOs - pioneers in defining tools for monitoring the implementation of GREVIO and CEDAW recommendations to Serbia for ending violence against women* (through the SOS - Sound of Soul application).

By decentralization to the empowerment of the Network of Women Against Violence and improving services and position of women who survived male violence

In 2022, the Victimology Society of Serbia continued to coordinate the Belgrade region of the Women Against Violence Network (WAVN) for the fifth year in a row, as well as the activities planned for the Belgrade region as part of the project *Establishing the National Telephone SOS Line for Women Experiencing Gender-Based Violence*, which will work according to feminist principles. The project aims to reduce violence against women and girls in Serbia by establishing support services, raising public awareness and education, monitoring and improving policies and public administration, and advocating for policies and laws. The specific objectives of the project are to increase the network's influence on the public, national, and local policies by participating in decision-making, accessing funds, and implementing activities; improving the position of WAVN members as service providers; and establishing a joint SOS line (national SOS phone) coordinated

by the network as a leading service for women experiencing violence in Serbia. The project is financially supported by the Trag Foundation through the OAK Foundation.

Jasmina Nikolić and Milica Luković Radaković were directly involved in the project implementation.

Institutionalization of quality services for support and integration of women who survived violence

This project is a part of the program implemented by the Autonomous Women's Center entitled *Institutionalization of Quality Services for Support and Integration of Women who Survived Violence*, funded by the Austrian Development Agency through the Austrian Development Cooperation Program. The project implemented by the VDS is focused on advocating for the recognition and financing of general services for victims, *VDS info and victim support* at the local level. In 2022, VDS signed a memorandum of understanding with the City Center for Social Work in Belgrade aimed at improving support for victims of crime, particularly victims of domestic violence. The *VDS info and victim support service* collaborates with the Center for Social Work of Novi Beograd, which has included the service in its programs for handling victims of domestic violence and referring victims to continuous psychosocial and psychological support to the VDS, free of charge. Additionally, with the approval of the Ministry of the Interior, VDS collaborates with the Novi Beograd police station and its department in Bežanijska kosa, which regularly distributes informative materials and sporadically refers victims to the service.

The project was implemented from September 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022. Jasmina Nikolić and Milica Luković Radaković were directly involved in the project implementation.

From a Victim to the Winner

VDS implemented the project *From a Victim to the Winner*, which was funded by the Secretariat for Social Protection of the City of Belgrade. The general objective of the project was to prevent domestic violence through activities aimed at identifying, informing, educating, and supporting potential victims and victims of domestic violence. The specific objectives of the project were to strengthen the capacity of employees in the local community for prevention and intervention in cases of domestic violence, rational use of existing resources for prevention and intervention in cases of domestic violence at the local level, as well as piloting an innovative program for working with victims. The main activities within the project were:

- Providing support to victims of violence, which was discussed in more detail above in this part of the report;
- Designing and conducting the training for employees in the departments of City Centre for Social Work in Novi Beograd, Zemun, Palilula, and Surčin and VDS for the implementation of the From a Victim to the Winner program, which was discussed in more detail in the section on education in this report;
- Implementing the program entitled *From a Victim to the Winner*;
- Designing and printing informative material.

For the purposes of the project, informative material (leaflets) was prepared and printed. The informative material aimed to inform victims about the program and support provided by the Victimology Society of Serbia, as well as to facilitate the referral of victims to the professionals at

the City Center for Social Work. Two models (two different designs) of leaflets were printed, with a total of 600 leaflets printed (300 of each model). The informative material was distributed to the City Center for Social Work departments in Novi Beograd, Zemun, Surčin, and Palilula, as well as to the Ministry of the Interior, Police Station Novi Beograd.

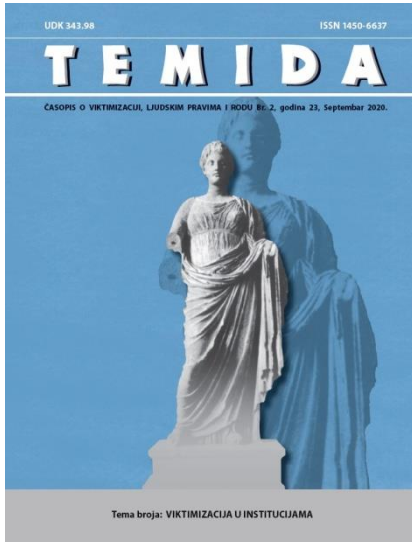


The project was implemented from July 1, 2022, to December 31, 2022. The following persons were directly involved in the project activities: Jasmina Nikolić, dr Mirjana Dokmanović, Milica Luković Radaković, and Marijana Nedić.



Publishing

Journal on victimization, human rights, and gender - Temida



In 1998, immediately after its establishment, Victimology Society of Serbia started the journal on victimisation, human rights and gender, which was named after the Greek goddess of justice Temida. First, inspection copy was published in 1997. *Temida* is the first and still the only journal dealing with issues of victimisation, human rights and gender in Serbia, but it has also been recognised as such in the region of the former Yugoslavia and even broader. *Temida* has been published regularly since 1998. From 1998 to 2017 it was published quarterly, while from 2017 it is published three times a year. *Temida* is an Open Access journal. *Temida* publishes articles in Serbian and English. Articles are subject to double-blind peer review.

According to the categorization of scientific journals by the Ministry of Science, Technological Development, and Innovation for the year 2022, the *Temida* journal is categorized as a national journal of international importance (M24).

Temida has been in the international DOI system since 2007. It has been indexed in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) since 2010, and in the EBSCO research database since 2013. In 2015 it was included in the new edition of the Web of Science – Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), a new edition of journals that extends the content of the Web of Science and makes it possible searching, finding and quotation of journals that are included in this edition. This allows publishers to see their citation rates, while the evaluation process and inclusion in other collections within Web of Science are ongoing.

During 2022, three issues of *Temida* were published:

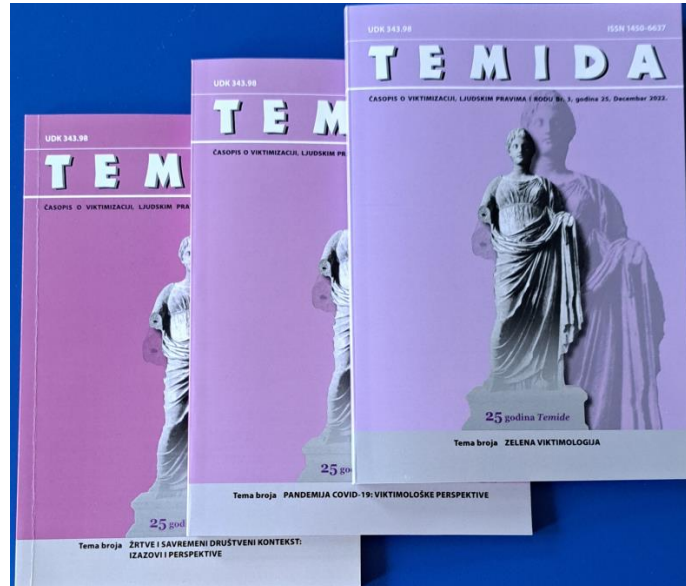
- Issue 1: *Victims and Contemporary Context: Challenges and Perspectives*
- Issue 2: *COVID-19 Pandemic: Victimological Perspectives*
- Issue 3: *Green Victimology*

During the reporting period, some of the key activities related to the *Temida* journal were:

- Regular communication among members of the Editorial Board.
- Regular meetings of the Editor-in-Chief, Deputy Editor-in-Chief, and Journal Secretary.
- The Journal Secretary participated in the Open Access Journals Editorial Processes and Business Models webinar, organized by the Electronic Information for Libraries (EIFL) International Consortium, in collaboration with African Journal Online, Academy of Science of South Africa, DOAJ, LIBSENSE, and University of Cape Town. The webinar presented examples of good practice and advice for authors, reviewers, editors, and publishers of scientific journals related to editorial policy (including author and reviewer guidelines), conflicts of interest, confidentiality, ethical issues (including plagiarism), digital archiving of articles, and technical issues.

- The Editor-in-Chief and Journal Secretary participated in a lecture organized by Kobson on the novelties in scientific publishing and examples of good publishing practices. Iryna Kuchma, Manager of the Open Access Programme, presented novelties in the field of open access in science on a global level. Milica Ševkušić, National Coordinator for Open Access at EIFL, highlighted the possibilities of applying good publishing practices in domestic open access journals, which includes updating editorial policies, availability of licenses in full text, and updating data in DOAJ and other databases.
- Regular promotion of *Temida* on social media and sending calls for papers to mailing lists of scientific institutions and universities in the country and abroad, as well as to prominent scientists and professionals dealing with victimological issues, human rights, and gender.
- The *Temida* page on the VDS website was regularly updated, where all key information about the journal, its history, editorial policy, author guidelines, as well as full issues in PDF format can be found.
- The *Temida* page on Wikipedia was regularly updated.
- The evaluation process by Thomas Reuters for including *Temida* in the Web of Science (Social Sciences Citation Index) is still ongoing.
- During 2022, three legal entities and one individual subscribed to the journal.
- During 2022, the exchange of *Temida* journals with seven journals from the country and abroad continued.

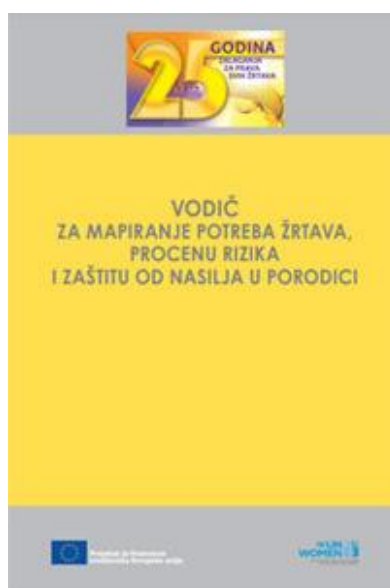
VDS received financial support from the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia for publishing issues in 2022.



Other publications

During the reporting period, the following publications were released:

- Nikolić-Ristanović, V., Čopić, S. (2022) *Sexual violence against students at the faculties in Serbia*. Belgrade: Victimology Society of Serbia (in Serbian language with executive summary in English).
- *Handbook on mapping victims' needs and developing individual plans of support and protection of victims* (2022), edited by: Čopić, S., Nikolić, J., Luković Radaković, M., Đorđević, T., Nedić, M. Belgrade: Victimology Society of Serbia. (in Serbian language).



Collaboration with higher education institutions, associations and independent bodies, professional practice and international exchange programs

In 2022, a memorandum of understanding was signed between VDS and the City Center for Social Work Belgrade with the aim of improving support for victims of crime, particularly victims of domestic violence. The agreement was signed on July 7, 2022.

The Victimology Society of Serbia is a scientific unit of the Faculty of Special Education and Rehabilitation of the University of Belgrade (FASPER). During the 2021/2022 and 2022/2023 school years:

- Members of the VDS, dr Sanja Čopić, doc. dr Nikola Petrović, dr Mirjana Dokmanović and prof. dr Slobodan Savić, gave lectures at FASPER within the following courses: Criminology with Juvenile Delinquency, Victimology and Violence against Children.
- Under the subject of Victimology, a virtual visit to the Victimology Society of Serbia was organized, during which students were introduced to the organization and main activities of the VDS. The visit was organized on December 14, 2022.
- A group of female FASPER students who attend the Women and Prison course visited VDS and were introduced to the programs that VDS developed and implemented in the Correctional Institution for Women in Požarevac. The visit was organized on December 21, 2022.

In July 2022, Maria Izco Rincon, a doctoral student from the University of Malaga (Spain), was on a research stay in the VDS.

Participation of VDS members in the work of international and domestic organizations and networks

Jasmina Nikolić, Director of the VDS, participated in the work of the Coordination Committee of the Network Women against Violence, as a member.

Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, dr Sanja Čopić, dr Mirjana Dokmanović and Msc. Ljiljana Stevković are involved in the COST Action CA18121 - Cultures of Victimology: understanding processes of victimization across Europe, which aims to develop an innovative, functional, and comprehensive theoretical framework for cultural victimology. Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović is a member of the Management Committee. The action lasts for four years (2019-2023).

Individuals engaged in the implementation of the VDS activities in 2022

During the reporting period for the implementation of projects and ongoing activities at VDS, the following people were engaged:

- 4 full-time employees - Jasmina Nikolić, director of VDS and head of the VDS info and victim support service until September 1, 2022, Milica Luković Radaković, assistant and from September 1, 2022, head of the VDS info and victim support service, Tamara

Dorđević (from January 17 to October 1, 2022), and Marijana Nedić (from October 3 to December 9, 2022), assistants.

- 4 people were engaged under a copyright contract - Prof. Dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović, Prof. Dr Sanja Čopić, Dr Mirjana Dokmanović, and Mr Ljiljana Stevković.
- 1 accountant - Bernadica Ljubinković. • 1 person who administers the VDS website - Tatjana Oreļj.

Participation of members and volunteers of the VDS in professional and scientific events and seminars in the country and abroad (on behalf of the VDS or with presentations of VDS activities and related victimological topics)

Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović:

- World Society of Victimology Symposium *"Victimisation in a digital world: Responding to and connecting with victims,"* San Sebastian, Spain, 5-9 June 2022. Co-authored paper presented with S. Čopić and J. Nikolić entitled "Towards gender-sensitive and victim-centered approach to sexual violence at the faculties in Serbia."
- Webinar "Pathways to Research Impact," SVRI, 7 September 2022.
- European Society of Criminology Conference *"Challenges and opportunities in a virtually and physically connected Europe: the need for criminology,"* Malaga, Spain, 21-24 September 2022. Co-authored paper presented with S. Čopić titled "Victimisation survey on sexual violence against students at the faculties in Serbia."
- XII Annual VDS Conference "25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims" Belgrade, 25 November 2022. Presentation of co-authored paper with M. Luković Radaković titled "Sexual violence at faculties: main research findings and outcomes of capacity-building for responding to sexual violence at faculties in Serbia."

Prof. dr Sanja Čopić:

- Panel discussion *"When people are goods: the position of victims of human trafficking and smuggling,"* Belgrade Centre for Security Policy, Belgrade, 22 February 2022.
- Roundtable *"Researching society during the pandemic - methodological aspects of research,"* Institute of Sociology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, 8 April 2022. Co-authored paper presented with V. Nikolić-Ristanović titled "Challenges of research in pandemic conditions: an example of research on sexual violence at faculties."
- Conference *"Raising awareness of women victims of violence: Statistics on gender-based violence,"* Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Zlatibor, 7-9 June 2022.
- Webinar "Pathways to Research Impact," SVRI, 7 September 2022.
- XII Annual VDS Conference "25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims", 25 November 2022. Presentation titled *"The role of coordination and cooperation groups in responding to domestic violence: challenges and perspectives."*
- Panel discussion *"Sexual violence at faculties",* Women's Solidarity, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, 12 December 2022.

Jasmina Nikolić

- Press conference on the occasion of the International Day of the SOS Helpline, speaker, Belgrade, May 16, 2022.

- Panel discussion "*Institutional response in cases of high-risk domestic violence (leading to fatalities)*", moderator, Autonomous Women's Center, Belgrade, May 18, 2022.
- Conference "*Raising Awareness of Women Victims of Violence: Statistics on Gender-Based Violence*", Statistical Office of the Republic of Serbia, Zlatibor, June 7-9, 2022.
- Assembly of the Network of Women Against Violence, June 2022, presentation of the work: Mapping the capacities of the Network.
- Supervisory workshop for the Central Serbia region, author and implementer, June 29-30, 2022, Kragujevac.
- Kvinna till Kvinna networking meeting, Zlatibor, October 17-20, 2022.
- XII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia "*25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims*", Belgrade, November 25, 2022. Presentation titled "*25 years of the Victimology Society of Serbia.*"
- Annual Conference of the Phenomena Association, Belgrade, December 9, 2022.
- Conference of the Women's Parliamentary Network and the Committee on Human and Minority Rights and Gender Equality, "*Institutional Response to Femicide*", Belgrade, December 28, 2022. Presentation introducing the European Observatory on Femicide.

Milica Luković Radaković

- 6th Meeting of the Serbia Technical Working Group European Union/UN Women Programme "Ending Violence against Women in the Western Balkan countries and Turkey: Implementing Norms, Changing Minds," Phase II, online, October 4, 2022. Presentation of the project results *Evidence-based capacity building and support to the Groups for Coordination and Cooperation in response to domestic and other forms of gender-based violence.*
- Kvinna till Kvinna Networking Meeting, Zlatibor, October 17-20, 2022.
- XII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia "*25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims*", Belgrade, November 25, 2022. Co-authored presentation with V. Nikolić-Ristanović titled "*Sexual Violence in faculties: Main Research Findings and Outcomes of Capacity-Building for Responding to Sexual Violence at Universities in Serbia*".
- Annual Conference of the Phenomena Association, Belgrade, December 9, 2022. Presentation of work with young people within the "*Power of Change*" workshops.
- Presentation of the Independent Report to the CEDAW Committee (2018-2022), Network of SOS Vojvodina, December 9, 2022.
- Panel discussion "*Sexual Violence in faculties*", Women's Solidarity, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, Belgrade, December 12, 2022.
- Presentation of the program "Participation and Democracy in Serbia - Women's Rights in Practice," Kvinna till Kvinna, Užice, December 15, 2022.

Ljiljana Stevković

- Webinar: Rise of transactional sexting & self-generated content, INHOPE, 13.4.2022.
- Panel discussion *Institutional response in cases of high-risk domestic violence (with fatal outcomes)*, Autonomous Women's Center, Belgrade, 18.5.2022. Presented results of a comparative analysis of femicide cases in Serbia, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Malta, and Cyprus in 2019 and 2020.
- Focal point meeting, EOF (European Observatory on Femicide), 20.5.2022.
- More data to safeguard women and girls: A new statistical framework for measuring femicide, UN Women, 29.9.2022.

- XII International Conference "Days of Archibald Reiss," University of Criminalistics and Police Studies, Belgrade, 8-9.11.2022. Presented a co-authored paper with Prof. dr. D. Vasiljević-Prodanović and A. Raspopović titled "*Students' experiences of victimization and perpetration of online violence*".

Marijana Nedić:

- Webinar "More data to safeguard women and girls: A new statistical framework for measuring femicide", UN Women, 29.9.2022.
- XII Annual Conference of the Victimology Society of Serbia "25 years of standing up for the rights of all victims", Belgrade, 25.11.2022.

Appearances of VDS members in media

Prof. dr Vesna Nikolić-Ristanović

- Portal 24/7, Topic: Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.02.2022.
- K1, Show "We Today", Topic: Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 14.03.2022.

Dr Sanja Čopić

- TV RTS1, Morning news, Topics: European Victims' Day, Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.02.2022.
- Radio Novi Sad, News, Topics: European Victims' Day, Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.02.2022.
- TV Nova S, "Among us", Topics: European Victims' Day, Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.02.2022.
- TV UNA, Topics: European Victims' Day, Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.02.2022.
- TV Kurir, Show "Puls Srbije", Topic: Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 25.02.2022.
- Interview for Blic, Topic: Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 13.03.2022.
- TV K1, "Uranak", Topic: Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.03.2022.
- TV Euronews, "Center", Topics: Rape, treatment of perpetrators, ways of punishment, 26.09.2022.
- TV Nova S, "Among us", Topics: Rape, treatment of perpetrators, ways of punishment, 03.10.2022.

Jasmina Nikolić

- TV Kurir, Topic: European Victims' Day, Sexual violence at universities in Serbia, 22.02.2022.
- Radio Beograd 1, "Magazine", Topic: International SOS phone day, 16.05.2022.
- TV RTS1, News 2, Topic: International SOS phone day, 16.05.2022.
- TV UNA, "UNA DAY", Topic: How do call centers for victims of violence and suicide prevention work, 1.11.2022.
- K1TV, "We today", Topic: What does the preparation program for the release of convicts entail, and how to help rape victims?, 14.12.2022.

Ljiljana Stevković

- VOICE portal, Text: Domestic violence is not a personal, intimate matter, Topic: Importance of the European Femicide Observatory and the VDS femicide research groups, 6.10.2022.

Donors

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