
ANNUAL PLAN OF THE VICTIMOLOGY SOCIETY OF SERBIA

FOR 2024



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During 2024, it is planned to continue and further work on the activities that the Victimology Society of Serbia-VDS has been engaged in until now, as well as the start and initiation of new activities. In this sense, the planned activities are:

I General

1. Further development of the organizational and personnel structure of the VDS.
2. Drafting of new and amending existing legal acts and strategic documents of VDS.
3. Continued inclusion of experts and young people in the membership and activities of the VDS and the development of stronger professional cooperation among the members of the VDS.
4. Continuation and further development of cooperation with faculties, state institutions, independent bodies and civil society organizations in the country and international cooperation.
5. Promotion, expansion and finding new ways for volunteer work.
6. Regular notification of members via the VDS info mailing list
7. Regular updating of the website, Facebook, Instagram, X.
8. Searching for funds for projects and further developing a strategy for longer-term and more stable financing of ongoing activities

II Help and support for victims of crime

1. Further development of the Victim Assistance Service VDS info and support for victims through:
 - a. Providing information and other types of help and support to victims of crime, including support in court and related to participation in court proceedings. A special focus will be on providing support to women victims of gender-based violence, within the framework of projects: Advocacy for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially violence in the family, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, (Kvinna till Kvinna), Formation of a national telephone SOS lines for women with experience of gender-based violence that will work according to feminist principles (OAK foundation). In addition, the emphasis will be on providing psychosocial support to women victims of all forms of intimate partner violence, primarily psychological, with the aim of strengthening their own competences for getting out of violence (continuation of the implementation of the From a Victim to a Winner program).
 - b. Licensing of support services and professionals working with victims.
 - c. Updating the database of state institutions and institutions and civil society organizations that provide assistance and support to victims, which is available on the VDS website.
 - d. Monitoring and analysis of the Service's work (on a monthly and annual basis).
 - e. Strengthening the positioning of the Service at the local level, continuing cooperation with local partners (police, center for social work, Center for the care of the elderly, children and persons with disabilities, etc.), expanding cooperation

- by including schools (psychological-pedagogical services) and working on developing a local model of prevention and protection against violence, especially domestic violence.
- f. Strengthening the capacity of the Service to provide support to families of mass victimization, murder, traffic accidents. Victims
 - g. Increasing the visibility and promotion of the work of the Service on the VDS website and social networks (Facebook and Instagram page), as well as by organizing open doors
 - h. Strengthening the capacity of the Service through:
 - i. Cooperation with European support for victims;
 - ii. Cooperation with organizations and institutions that provide help and support to victims, especially victims of gender-based violence in Serbia
 - iii. Strengthening regional cooperation;
 - iv. Continuous education of persons involved in the work of the Service.
 - v. Empowerment of employees and volunteers in the Service (supervision workshops, workshops to prevent burnout)
2. Support in the prevention of burnout at work, balancing professional and unpaid work, self-care and early detection of mental health problems (within the project Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic violence, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, The Kingdom of Sweden and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation)

III Advocating for the implementation of existing legal solutions and further changes in law and practice, especially in terms of harmonization with international and European standards

1. Advocating for the improvement of the position of victims and the establishment of a national system of support for victims (through participation in the work of the National Convention on the European Union (NCEU) in the working groups for monitoring negotiations in chapters 23 Justice and fundamental rights and 24 Justice, freedom and security and the like) (continuation of activities).
2. Continuation of efforts to improve the services and position of women who survived male violence within the framework of the Women Against Violence Network and the project Establishing a national telephone SOS line for women with experience of gender-based violence that will work according to feminist principles.
3. Continuation of cooperation with the Protector of Citizens in performing the duties of the National Mechanism for the Prevention of Torture.
4. Advocating for the establishment and improvement of support mechanisms for victims of sexual violence at colleges.
5. Advocating for the improvement of the work of groups for coordination and cooperation in dealing with cases of domestic violence and other forms of violence according to the Law on Prevention of Domestic Violence (within the project Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic

violence, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation).

6. Monitoring court proceedings in cases of femicide, domestic violence, discrimination and abuse at work with the aim of further advocating for the improvement of practice, as well as proceedings for damages and other court proceedings in the case of mass victimization at the Elementary School "Vladislav Ribnikar" in Belgrade (within the framework of the project Advocacy for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic violence, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation).

7. Advocating for the establishment of a national SOS telephone line for women victims of violence (through the Women Against Violence Network).

8. Advocating for the establishment of a fund for emergency support for victims.

9. Commitment and active participation in the memorialization process of the two mass murders that took place in May 2023.

IV Advocacy for raising social awareness about the position of victims and their rights

1. Marking the European Day of Victims, 22 February.

2. Marking the Day of Remembrance of the killed women victims of violence, May 18.

3. Marking 16 days of activism against violence against women.

4. Initiation of commemoration of the Day of Remembrance of Victims of Mass Victimization, 3-4. May

5. Distribution of the annual report on the work of the VDS in Serbian and English.

6. Representation of members of the VDS in the media in order to raise public awareness of the victims, their needs, rights and problems.

V Research

1. Mapping of capacities for help and support to persons who have been discriminated against and face violence and discrimination on the labor market (within the project Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic violence, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, Kingdom of Sweden and Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation).

2. Continuation of the activities of the research group on femicide to collect data for the European Observatory on Femicide.

3. Encouraging new victimology research (for example, in the field of green victimology, traffic delinquency, etc.).

VI Education

1. Implementation of accredited training programs (specialist course on gender-based violence, training on identification, assistance and protection of male victims of human trafficking, training for working with victims of violence).
2. Implementation of training to strengthen capacities for responding to sexual violence at faculties in Serbia.
3. Implementation of training for working with victims of gender-based violence for teachers in two secondary schools in Belgrade (within the project Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic violence, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kvinna Foundation till Kvinna).
4. Development and implementation of trainings for representatives of trade unions, employers' associations, labor inspectorates: a) Prevention of abuse at work: forms, support for victims, legal regulations and basic interventions and b) Discrimination in the workplace: forms, support for victims and legal regulations (within project Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially domestic violence, violence at work and in educational and other institutions, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation).
5. Conducting workshops for children to recognize gender-based violence.

VII Conferences, round tables and meetings

1. Organizing the annual conference of VDS.
2. Promotion of the scientific journal Themida.
3. Organizing other gatherings, tribunes, open doors as needed and possible.

VIII Publishing activity

1. Journal Temida
 - a. Improving the quality of journals, especially in terms of progress through categorization of the RS Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development.
 - b. Continue being evaluated by Thomas Reuters in order to include Themida in appropriate collections of the Web of Science (Social Sciences Citation Index).
 - c. Inclusion in other relevant databases of scientific journals in order to increase visibility and citations.
2. Printing of informational material aimed at informing citizens in general, and women in particular, about forms of discrimination and violation of women's rights in the field of work and employment (within the project Advocating for the rights of victims of gender-based violence, especially violence in the family, violence at work and in education and other institutions, the Kingdom of Sweden and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation)
3. Publication of other publications according to possibilities and needs