

Project name: Civil society organizations as key actors in standardizing support systems for victims and witnesses of crime

Project promotor: Women's Room – Center for Sexual Rights

Partners:

- Victim and Witness Support Service Croatia
- Croatian Law Centre
- Samtok um kvennaathvarf (The Women's Shelter), Island

Project implementation period: 01.01.2020. – 30.06.2023.

Total project value: € 138,985.00, financial support of the Program amounts to 100% of the total eligible costs of the project

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Link to relevant website: www.zenskasoba.hr

Project summary:

Victims of crime are one of the most vulnerable groups, and a standardized and efficient support system is one of the preconditions for providing appropriate assistance and support to victims of all crimes. Civil society organizations are one of the key stakeholders in this system, and the implementation of this project will strengthen the advocacy capacity of civil society organizations in the process of improving the position of victims of crime in criminal proceedings and standardization of support systems. A standardized and efficient victim support system makes it easier for victims go through criminal proceedings, exercise their rights, but also affects the decision to report a crime. The project will strengthen the advocacy capacity of civil society organizations (through the implementation of education on public policy development and advocacy processes). In order for civil society organizations to adequately advocate for concrete change for victims of crime, they need accurate and relevant information on the state of the system, treatment of victims, opportunities to exercise their rights, and treatment of victims in general within the justice system. To this end, a number of comprehensive analyzes will be conducted, the results of which will serve to create concrete recommendations for improving the system, proposals for changes in legislation and will indicate the space for improving the position and treatment of victims of crime. In order to promote the obtained data, strengthen the visibility and role of civil society organizations in the support system for victims of crime and disseminate information about the support system, a public campaign will be conducted. All these activities will contribute to the improvement of the support system for victims of crime, the realization of their rights and positions in criminal proceedings, with emphasis on strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations to advocate and achieve all these goals.