

A project coordinated by



Co-funded by the Rights, Equality and
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Concept Note and Background

EU Round Table. A dialogue on the prevention and protection of migrant women on girls from gender-based violence.

Moving forward the designing of a EU Gender Sensitive Reception Condition Charter

Organized by Fondazione L'albero della Vita Onlus, Coordinator of the SWIM Project
6 November 2019

Hosted by Social Platform, Square de Meeûs 18, B-1050 Brussels

BACKGROUND

In the last years, **migrant women represent almost half of migrants and refugees worldwide**. Women and girls, as men, migrate for a variety of reasons but the obstacles they have to face during her journey and when they arrive on EU soil, differs enormously since they are related with gendered inequalities in their political, economic and social status.

In their country of origin, during the journey, in transit and in destination countries, many refugees and asylum seekers women and girls have been exposed to gender-based violence in the form of human trafficking, exploitation, discrimination and abuse.

The UNHCR, the UNFPA and the Women's Refugees Commission after the findings of the *"Initial Assessment Report: Protection Risks for Women and Girls in the European Refugee and Migrant Crisis"* (January 2016) expressed that women and girl refugees and migrants face grave protection risks the urgent need to scale up response efforts, implement innovative solutions and strengthen protection mechanisms and services across borders to adequately address the protection threats facing women and girls.

In this framework and contest, The **SWIM – Safe Women In Migration project** aims to contribute to the protection of W/G migrant and asylum seeker victims and at risks of GBV by addressing some of the most urgent needs identified by current literature and by partners' experience.

THE SWIM PROJECT

The project has been implementing in **5 European Countries** (Italy, France, UK, Sweden and Romania) by a **7 Organizations: Fondazione l'Albero della Vita** (Coordinator), **British Red Cross, Swedish Red Cross, France Terre d'Asile, Italian Red Cross, Fondazione ISMU and Alternative Sociale Association.**

The project works on 3 different levels:

- **building capacity of professionals involved in the reception systems** by enabling professionals working in the reception and emergencies facilities to identify vulnerabilities of girls and women victims or at risk of violence and provide support in a gender and cultural sensitive way;
- **ensuring women and girls effective access to justice and support in case of GBV** by raising awareness on the GBV protections engaging different stakeholders (migrant women and girls, migrant CSOs and migrant Associations, private sector and diplomatic missions)
- **developing an European Gender Sensitive Charter for the European Reception System** through mutual learning and the exchange of good practice among relevant public and private stakeholder.

THE EU ROUND TABLE

The **EU Round Table** will be the opportunity **to share and discuss within relevant stakeholders** – representatives of the European Commission, private stakeholders, NGOs, experts on migration and gender-based violence topics, International Organizations and Networks – **on the European framework**, collect information, points of view, experiences, good practices, lessons learnt and general consultations **for the development of the Gender Sensitive Charter**, defining at a EU level recommendations for Institutional and Operational stakeholders **for a gender sensitive reception of migrant women and girls in Europe.**

It will also serve as a platform for **high-level dialogue between policy makers and civil society organization**, also in order to develop and strengthen multi-level synergies.

Other European Partners





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Agenda

EU Round Table. A dialogue on the prevention and protection of migrant women and girls from gender-based violence.

Moving forward the designing of a EU Gender Sensitive Reception Condition Charter

Leading by **Fondazione L'Albero della Vita Onlus**, Coordinator of the SWIM Project
Partners **British Red Cross, France Terre d'Asile, Fondazione ISMU, Swedish Red Cross, Italian Red Cross, Alternative Sociale Association.**

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09:30 – 10:00 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

10:00 – 10:30 INSTITUTIONAL WELCOMING AND OPENING REMARKS

Silvia Zaccari, FADV - SWIM Project Coordinator

Ivano Abbruzzi, FADV - President

10:30 – 11:00 SESSION 1 – Women in Migration and gender-based violence. The European Union's policy and legal framework.

The session will give an overview of the European Union framework and inform about future work and actions at the EU-level to tackle gender-based violence against migrant and asylum-seeking women and girls.

Speakers:

Halliki Voolma, DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission – Gender Equality Unit

Ioana Pelin Raducu, DG Home Affairs, European Commission – Asylum Unit

11:00 – 11:30 SESSION 2 – SWIM Safe Women In Migration. Presentation of the project

Presentation of the SWIM project, funded by the REC programme. The session will focus on the project objectives, results, lessons learnt.

Speaker:

Silvia Zaccari, FADV – SWIM Project Coordinator

11:30 – 11:45 COFFEE BREAK



11:45 – 13:00 **SESSION 3 - Women and girls in Migration: experiences and good practises to prevent and combat violence.**

Which barriers women in migration faced? Which barriers for girls, women with children or travelling alone? What are the challenges Policies and Organizations have to face for preventing and responding? How to address barriers through a gender mainstream approach and how develop and implement this approach?

Speakers:

Sinem Yilmaz – European Network of Migrant Women

Stephanie Florquin – GAMS

Fatima Awil – EndFGM

Ruth Kasper – FEANTSA

13:00 – 13:45 **LUNCH BREAK**

13:45 – 14:15 **INTRODUCING THE DIALOGUE: The European's Migration Framework**

Pier Francesco Majorino – Member of the European Parliament

14:15 – 14:45 **SESSION 4 – Identifying, Preventing and Responding: definition and presentation of the key words**

What are the key words to tackle for defining a Gender Sensitive Charter within the European reception system? And how can they be addressed?

Speakers:

Silvia Zaccari, FADV – SWIM Project Coordinator

Lia Lombardi – Fondazione ISMU

14:45 – 15:30 **SESSION 5 – The EU Charter development: debate and contribution from stakeholder**

The different experiences, knowledge, background and good practices will be the focus of the activity, leading to the co-drafting of key topics to develop within the Charter for a Gender Sensitive Reception Condition in Europe

15:30 – 16:00 **SESSION 6 – Final consideration**

Feedbacks from participants will be analysed in a plenary session in order to collect suggestions and practical translation in action for the protection of migrant women and girl

16:00 – 16:10 **WRAP UP**