

NEWSLETTER

Draw the Line

NOVEMBER 2017

VOLUME 1/2017

*Introduction of a new project:
Draw the line - Training and
empowering immigrant women
to prevent sexual violence and
harassment.*

*With this Newsletter we are
proud to present a project
which indeed already lasts one
year.*

*However, now is the good point
to present the first results
instead of advertising what will
come.*

*Thus, we start classically with
the background of the project.*

The project „Draw the Line“

The aim of the project is to inform migrant women about their rights as women in Europe and to give them concrete practical options for how to protect themselves from sexual harassment and how to help affected women. An EU-wide survey shows that 55 % of women across Europe have experienced sexual harassment. 32% of all victims said that the perpetrator was the boss, a colleague or a customer. 5% have suffered rape (European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, 2014).

The structure foresees five workstreams which lead to a and qualitative and timely good project outcome.

Project structure



Target groups

This project targets a vulnerable group which is horizontally spread through different contexts like workplace, places of study and public spaces. Sexual violence and harassment is reported by immigrant women

The project "Draw the line - Training and empowering immigrant women to prevent sexual violence and harrasment" is carried out by six organisations in Europe from Austria, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Italy, Poland and UK.

in different settings, whether at work, at places of study or in schools.

This project intends to address the situation of immigrant women living within an European context. Sexual violence and abuse against immigrant women is influenced by cultural factors, stereotype roles and is highly stigmatized. Information about the rights of women in Europe and available support systems for endangered women is very relevant for the target group.

Current first Results

At date, the second cycles of training are running and will be completed by the end of December 2017 in all the six partner organizations.

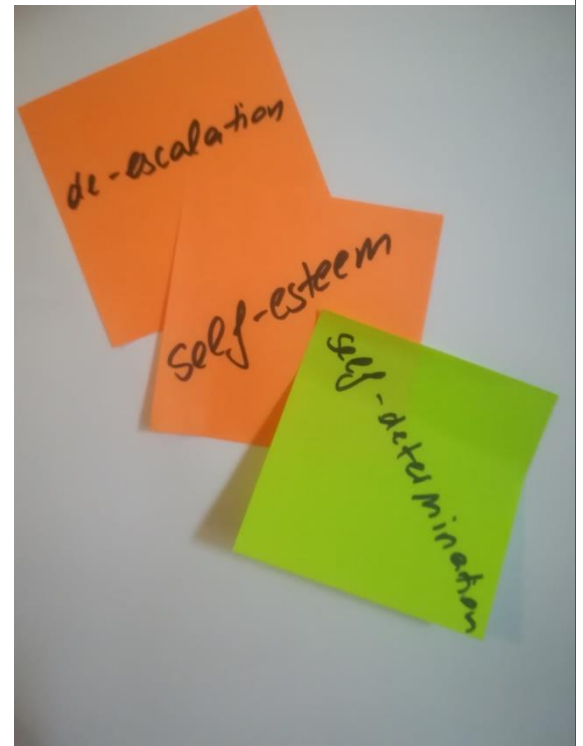
All partners will build up their second cycles upon the experiences and feedback of the first cycles.

The topics of the workshops have provoked different feelings among the participants. The women said that sexual harassment and sexual assault occur

most often in the workplace and on public transport, that they feel powerless in the situation and do not know how to respond.

Most often, women are afraid of losing their jobs and thus part of their self-employment.

Some had for the first time the opportunity to speak openly about such a controversial topic, which is why some



Coordination: OMEGA –
Transcultural Center for
psychic and physical health
and integration

participants' long-suppressed feelings came to light. At the workshops, the women have the opportunity to talk about experiences in a protected space. Without fear of condemnation or consequences, they can describe their perceptions and exchange ideas, strengthen each other and get the feeling of not being alone.

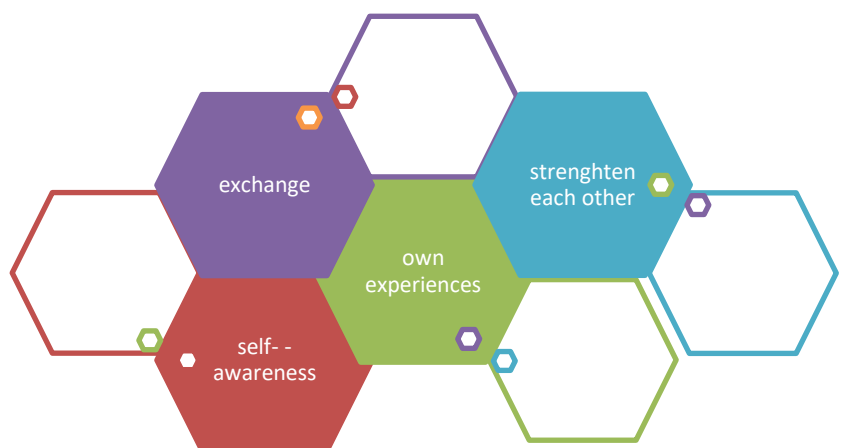
Partly they have experienced feelings of outrage, grief and anger - these could be named and assigned with the help of the group. Others told of unpleasant experiences for which they have blamed themselves and been ashamed for years.

Tears flowed on very personal topics such as "self-protection", "borderline" and "strengthening self-confidence".

Methods for self-awareness and reflection on the personal life, as part of the workshops, encouraged to work on their own history and brought a lot of beautiful things to light.

The graphic shows the several feelings which overwhelmed the multipliers – and the project team.

Someone's relative died while she was in the courses. The other persons were extremely helpful and were caring which made it somehow a bit easier for the person.





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Data per November 2017:

People reached:

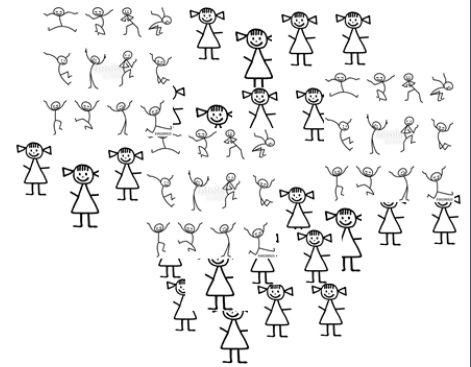
- 10 groups à 2 Personen
- 60 Workshops
- with about 410 persons directly

+

...another five countries with 10 groups each, about 300 Workshops.

...and another 2000 persons that have been or will be reached through their friends and relatives:

„The snowball effect“



DRAW THE
Line
Training and empowering
immigrant women to prevent
sexual violence and harassment

This project was co-funded by the European Union's Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020). The content of this Bulletin represents only the views of the authors* and is their sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

This Bulletin was written by OMEGA as coordinator of the Draw the Line-consortium.



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