



PREMIER MINISTRE
SECRETARIAT D'ETAT CHARGE DE L'AIDE AUX VICTIMES

Presentation of the International Conference on Victims Assistance (CIVIC)

Following the attacks that have struck our country these recent years, France has set up a Ministry of State for Victims Assistance attached to the Prime Minister. The main mission of the Ministry of State is to implement a victims assistance policy that is coordinated, interdisciplinary and continuous, in the emergency phase but also in the follow up phase.

While there is a real need for an institutionalized pooling of good practices at an international scale, France wants to promote the construction of a doctrine dedicated to the most traumatized victims support (guidelines and scheme structuring).

This is why the Ministry of State for Victims Assistance is organizing an international conference dedicated to victim support and help. This event, organized in partnership with the UNESCO, will take place on January 9th and 10th 2017 in Paris, in reference to the republican march and international mobilization in memory of the victims of the attacks of January 2015.

This international conference will be aimed at:

- Gaining a better understanding of the various victims assistance national systems, with an overview on victims' needs and the procedures in place in each of the invited States. The aim is to define a system of shared services and support for all victims, regardless of their nationality, in the emergency phase, but also in the follow-up phase (including taking care of psycho traumas);
- Promoting victims support, a field of expertise most of the time relatively unknown by the general public ;
- Strengthening international cooperation on victims assistance by sharing best practices between States that have faced terrorist attacks or that have expertise in victims assistance. It will also allow a better coordination of stakeholders; promoting networking and assistance structuring (first-aid workers, police forces, nurses, lawyers, social workers, insurers, victims' associations and civil society) in order to improve answers.

The conference will open on January 9th with a scientific symposium that will bring together field stakeholders, scholars and philosophers, to discuss the main issues related to victim assistance at an international scale. A roundtable on governmental initiatives will be held on January 10th with ministers in charge of victim support policies.

These discussions should pave the way to a report of conclusions in order to improve the coordination in the following key areas: the identification of needs; the link between the emergency phase and the monitoring phase; assistance and support mechanisms; recognition, compensation and memory.

Aide aux
victimes