



WINTER NEWSLETTER 2022

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- 01.

Holiday Greetings from VSE

Dear VSE members, partners and friends,

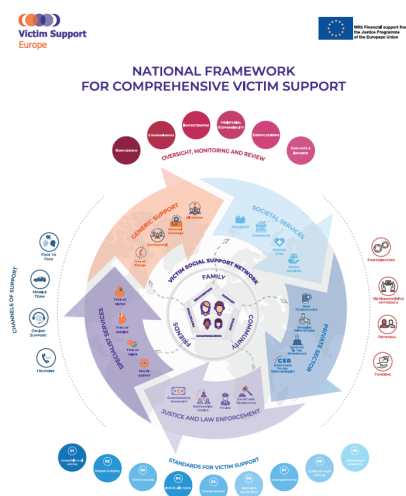
Can you believe that we are approaching the end of 2022?

As we close in on the last month of a tumultuous year, we implore you to reflect on the year, and celebrate the positive things that you were able to accomplish despite the odds.

It's important to acknowledge the incredible work of our victim support community in the face of enormous change and challenge. We've remained resilient in the face of a war in the Ukraine and one of the most inflationary environments in many years. One important central question is: how resilient have we proved in the face of these unprecedented global crisis?

This year was an important milestone for Victim Support Europe's growth: we delivered an impressive number of activities under the Operating Grant, won an astounding number of new EU projects, VSE welcomed a number of new members from around the world, we started an important conversation on supporting the establishment of Victim Support Americas, and we finally had an in-person knowledge exchange in Malta during the Annual Conference. With these successes listing behind us, we are looking forward for the new year of opportunities.

So, what will 2023 bring?



VSE's latest policy paper '[National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support](#)' published this year is just a first step to spark change on the ground. The question is how do we turn this vision into a reality? Implementing the framework is everyone's responsibility: we have identified the ideas behind a practical victim support system, but we now need the European Commission to listen to our ideas, to make sure these concepts are included in European legislation now and in the future.

This is why Spring 2023 will be an important moment for any that cares about the most vulnerable in our society. It's the moment when the EU Commission will propose a revised and improved Victims' Rights Directive.

We need to make sure that the Commission and the European Parliament hear us and understand the framework's impact on their constituents, on EU citizens, and act to enshrine these concepts in European law.

This is the next stage. Our flagship campaign slogan for 2023 - 'Shaping Victim Support Together' will be running throughout the year to make sure that the revised Victims' Rights Directive comes to life. The Directive has real teeth to make sure all victims who need help can get it. Without this law, the EU will be failing huge numbers of victims.

And finally.....

We wish you a very happy, healthy, and safe holiday season as we look forward to a positive New Year.

Best wishes from all of us at Victim Support Europe



– 02.

VSE's General Meeting 2022: Conclusions and Election results

The 2022 VSE General Meeting was held online on 9 December. Together with the members, we discussed our future look on 2023.

In 2023, Victim Support Europe is aiming to achieve ambitious goals in the following 4 key themes:

- Advocacy
- Collaboration
- Changing perspectives and behaviours
- Innovation

Given that the European Commission has announced a possible proposal for a revision of the Victims' Rights Directive by March 2023, we believe it is key to seize the momentum to "go to the point" and put forward the solutions to the existing problems. This revision is indeed essential because it has the power to strengthen existing rights, establish clearer obligations for Member States and new rights for victims. Therefore, advocacy efforts will be a main focus of VSE's work in 2023.

A key element of the General meeting was the input from all of the participants, without their valuable insights, we would not be able to achieve our ambitious goals!

 Victim Support Europe

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Congratulations to our newly elected President!

ROSA JANSEN
Victim Support Netherlands

Finally, a big congratulations to our newly elected President – Rosa Jansen from [Victim Support Netherlands](#), and Board Members – Jeffrey DeMarco from [Victim Support England & Wales](#) and Julianne Grima from [Victim Support Malta](#)!

A word from the President:

"I recognise myself in the ambitions of VSE and core and behavioural values, combined with innovation, healthy business operations and adequate finances. The fact that the interests of victims are the driving force, that their own direction is paramount, that customised solutions are sought and that what seems impossible is nevertheless made possible, feels familiar and is in line with multi-year programmes that I myself have led in recent years in Victim Support The Netherlands.

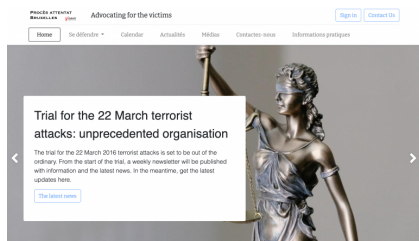
I believe in an organisation where there is a lot of room for development, own initiative and trust in employees. I like to see people around me shine. And of course humour is an absolute precondition for this."



– 03.

VSE's Latest Updates

V-EUROPE launched a unique website to ease access to information on the largest trial in Belgian history

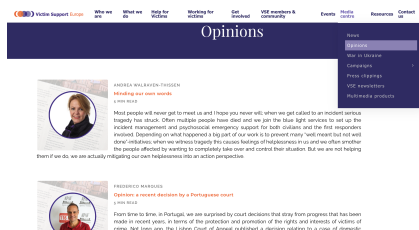


VSE's member '**V-EUROPE**' has launched an exemplary **web-resource** that provides information about the trial to the victims, their families and general public.

A dedicated **website** serves as an information point for those following the trial. The editorial team will publicise a weekly report, covering the latest trial developments.

[→ LEARN MORE](#)

VSE launched a new 'OPINION' section on its website to elevate voices from our global victim support family



As the year draws to a close, we are launching a new '**OPINION**' section on our website to give a platform to experts' ideas and perspectives.

We want to create a dedicated space for unique, authentic voices of the global victim support family. The section publishes thoughtful, solutions-oriented reflections, commentary and

dispatches written by experts — from victim support professionals to private sector innovators — across the world.

We're interested in hearing stories featuring take-home messages, personal experiences, and calls to action. VSE is committed to presenting diverse voices in this section.

[→ SUBMIT YOUR OPINION PIECE](#)

An inside look at the VSE's freshly launched policy paper 'National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support'

As people, and as a culture, Levent Altan, Executive Director of Victim Support Europe (VSE), says, we would be much healthier and happier if we reformed how we help victims of crime. VSE's recent publication, the "**National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support**", offers up truths about the current state of victim support in the EU and asks the question "What defines excellence in victim support?".

We sat down with the VSE's Executive Director, Levent Altan, and Policy Officer, Léa Meindre-Chautrand, to get the inside scoop on this important milestone.



- **Editor:** Marina Kazakova

About Victim Support Europe

Victim Support Europe is the leading European umbrella organisation advocating on behalf of all victims of crime, no matter what the crime, no matter who the victim is. VSE represents 70 national member organisations, providing support and information services to more than 2 million people affected by crime every year in 33 countries.

- **Contact Victim Support Europe:**

+32 23460455 | info@victimsupporteurope.eu <https://victim-support.eu/>



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