

VSE Video Campaign for the Revised Victim's Rights Directive

#NoVictimLeftBehind

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Victim Support
Europe

Introducing #NoVictimLeftBehind

2023 is a crucial year for victims' rights. It has been 11 years since the 2012 Victims' Rights Directive (VRD) was adopted. This year, we are likely to see a proposal by the European Commission to improve the VRD. We await the publication of that Directive with great impatience!

"Why?", you might ask.

Despite progress, the revision of the Directive is sorely needed. VSE's preliminary findings from the BENEVICT project, which examined the implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive across the 27 EU Member States, has highlighted the many problems victims face when seeking justice, accessing support and in the way they are treated.

We hear repeated testimonies from victims about the terrible experiences they have had when reporting a crime, or during the criminal proceedings.

These are truly sad indictments of our responses to victimisation. But the most serious indictment will be our failure to address these problems when we know they exist.

To stand still, without assessing, without evaluating and without improving is to fail victims. There is no shame in reviewing our work and laws, and being open about the challenges and about the change that is needed.

One year ahead of the European Parliament election, we call on politicians, policymakers, practitioners, and every person to stand as one for victims and to support the publication of the revised Victims' Rights Directive to ensure that no victim is forgotten or remains voiceless!

JOIN THE CAMPAIGN!

We have invited leading European NGOs to join our online campaign highlighting the importance of the revision of the Victims Rights Directive for different groups of victims. The campaign contributors answered the following questions in their video messages:

1. Why a revision of the EU Victim's Rights Directive is important to this specific group of victims?
2. What are the concrete ways in which the rights and needs of this specific group of victims can be enhanced within the revision of the Victims' Rights Directive?

Victim Support Europe is launching the video campaign on 13 July at 09:00 (CEST). We provide a campaign toolkit that outlines how VSE members and partners can support the action in order to call on the European Commission to publicise the proposal of the Revised Victims' Rights Directive as soon as possible.

If you have any questions regarding this toolkit, please email r.dossantos@victimsupporteurope.eu

HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

#NoVictimLeftBehind:

Share it!

We want to reach the EU institutions (@EuropeanCommission, @EuropeanParliament and national governments) on the Action Days – 13 July 2023. You can help us achieve this ambitious target by sharing or cross-posting the campaign activity on your social media channels and web-platforms. This includes sharing/cross-posting the Action Week Assets, videoing your own speech based on the template provided in this toolkit and sharing the short video interviews which will be posted starting from the 26th of June on all VSE social media channels.



Importance of sharing crossposting

We are sharing the Action Week assets in editable formats for you to translate it in your languages and upload them natively, but we also encourage sharing or crossposting from [@victimsupporteurope](#) social media channels because it will leverage social proof.

What is social proof? People are more likely to watch and share a video with more views. If we each upload the video, we split the views.



Ways to share the assets

- Schedule **#NoVictimLeftBehind** campaign assets across all your social media channels.
- Create your own content (in your national language or adapted to the specific group of victims) using the campaign hashtag and use your brand/power/influence to support the Video Campaign.
- Share the campaign videos which will be published by VSE on 26 of June across all your social media channels



Victim Support Europe Social Media Handles:

 [Victim Support Europe](https://www.linkedin.com/company/victim-support-europe)

 [VictimSupportEu](https://twitter.com/VictimSupportEu)

 [Victim Support Europe](https://www.facebook.com/VictimSupportEurope)

 [victimsupport.eu](https://www.instagram.com/victimsupport.eu)

 [Victim Support Europe](https://www.youtube.com/VictimSupportEurope)

Victim Support Europe website:

 <https://victim-support.eu/>

Victim Support Europe Action Day Webpage:

 <https://victim-support.eu/media-center/campaigns/revision-victims-rights-directive-campaign/>

Campaign Partners Social Media Handles:

@ twitter	@ Facebook	@ Instagram	@ YouTube
<p>@sexworkeurope @MyEDF @cfj_en @ILGAEurope @EuForumRJ</p>	<p>----- @EuropeanDisabilityForumEDF @Child Friendly Justice European Network @ILGA-Europe @European Forum for Restorative Justice</p>	<p>@sexworkeurope @myedf_europe @cfj_en @ilgaeurope -----</p>	<p>@sexworkeurope @MyEDF @cfjen @ilga-europe -----</p>

Social Media Handles - Others

@ twitter	@ Facebook	@ Instagram
<p> @EU_Commission @EU_Justice @sweden2023eu @Europarl_EN @dreynders @EP_President @KatarzynaJanic7 @EP_Justice @JFLopezAguilar @EUCouncil @vonderleyen @UeEspana </p>	<p> @European Commission @EU Justice and Consumers @Sweden.se @European Parliament @Didier Reynders @President of the European Parliament @Juan Fernando López Aguilar @Council of the European Union </p>	<p> @europeancommission #EUJustice @sweden2023eu @europeanparliament @eucouncil @ursulavonderleyen @rep_perm_espana </p>

Social Media Hashtags

#EUVictimsRights

#NoVictimLeftBehind

#ReviseVictimsRightsDirective

#VictimSupportEU

#VictimsRightsDirective

#EUVictimsRightsDirective

#ShapingVictimSupportTogether

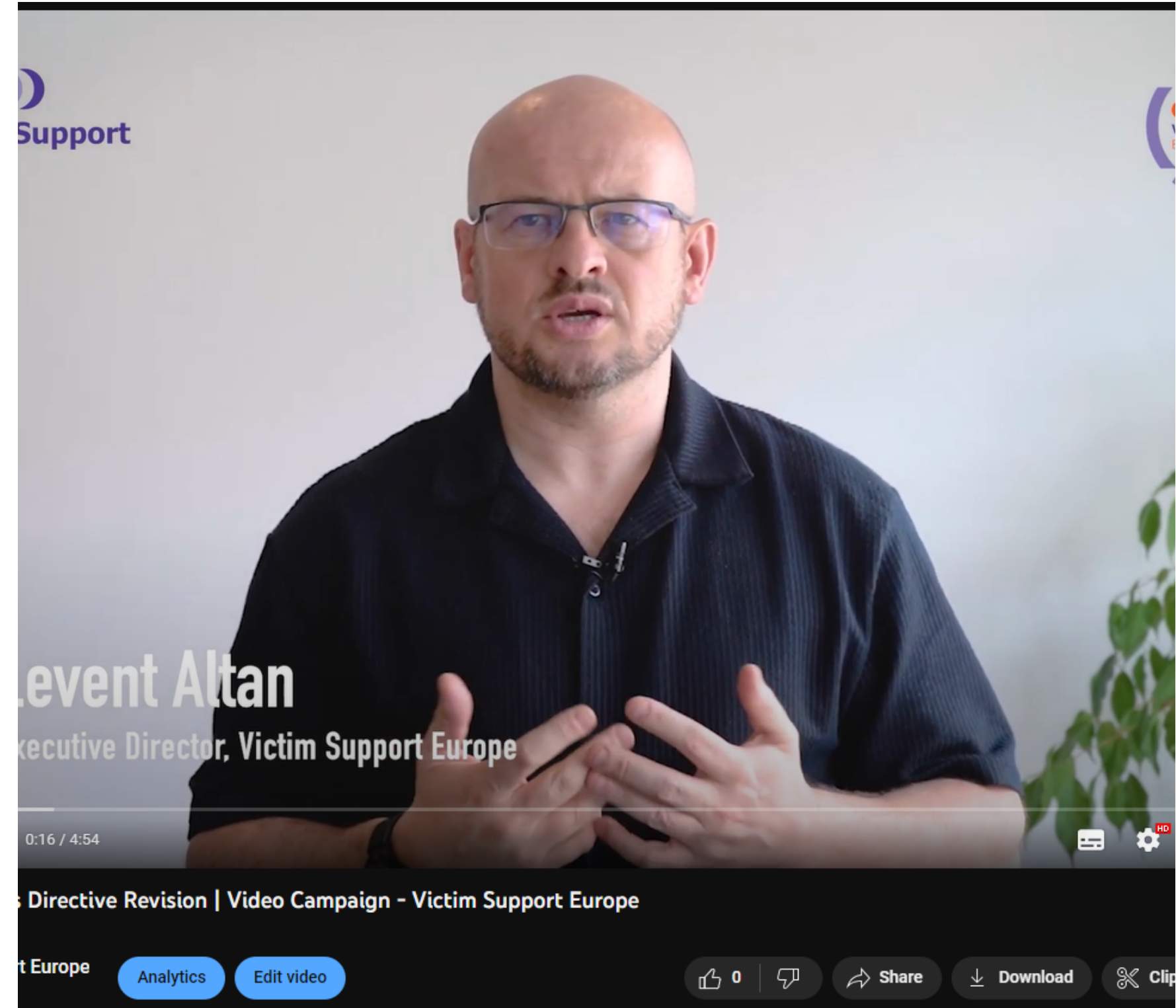
#NoVictimLeftBehind

campaign assets - overview

Post 1 – 13 July 2023

Yesterday, marked the Day when a proposal for a revision of the Victim's Rights Directive was published. It is the occasion for the EU victim support community to share the message of welcome, thereby encouraging a further implementation of the law and bettering the situation of victims in the EU.

<https://youtu.be/lqAk2OSPp6A>



Post 1.1 – 13 July 2023

2023 is a crucial year for victims' rights. It has been 10 years since the 2012 Victims' Rights Directive (VRD) was adopted. This year, we are likely to see a proposal by the European Commission to improve the VRD. We await the publication of that Directive with great impatience!

"Why?", you might ask.

Despite progress, the revision of the Directive is sorely needed. VSE's preliminary findings from the BENEVICT project, which examined the implementation of the Victims' Rights Directive across the 27 EU Member States, has highlighted the many problems victims face when seeking justice, accessing support and in the way they are treated.

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1



Why is the revision of the EU Victim's Rights Directive important to specific groups of victims?



The EU Victims' Rights Directive is functioning as a basic and general EU legislative act when it comes to the rights of victims of crime concerning information, support and protection provided to them, as well as their participation in criminal procedures.

(1/3)



2

Why is the revision of the EU Victim's Rights Directive important to specific groups of victims?

✔ VSE believes that the revision of the Victims' Rights Directive (VRD) should result in stronger language for current rights and obligations, in the inclusion of new rights and obligations, and in a systemic and coordinated approach to victims' issues at Member State level.

✔ VSE's key priorities focus on:

- strengthening victims' access to support (e.g. mandatory referral system, coordination mechanisms, individual assessment for support needs),
- increasing victim's access to information (e.g. coordinated communication systems, standards for information provision),
- and reinforcing victim's access to justice and protection (e.g. increased right to be heard and provide evidence, right to accompaniment throughout proceedings, inclusion of physical protection orders, enhanced protection of privacy).

(2/3)



3

Why is the revision of the EU Victim's Rights Directive important to specific groups of victims?

✔ VSE's advocacy efforts on the VRD revision are guided by recent publications, namely VSE Policy Paper on a [National Framework for Comprehensive Victim Support](#) and VSE Discussion Paper on [Safe Justice for Victims of Crime](#), and its recent publication on [Transforming how we communicate with victims](#).



VISIT [VICTIM-SUPPORT.EU](https://victim-support.eu)

The EU Victims' Rights Directive is functioning as a basic and general EU legislative act when it comes to the rights of victims of crime concerning information, support and protection provided to them, as well as their participation in criminal procedures.

(3/3)



Post 2 – 14 July 2023

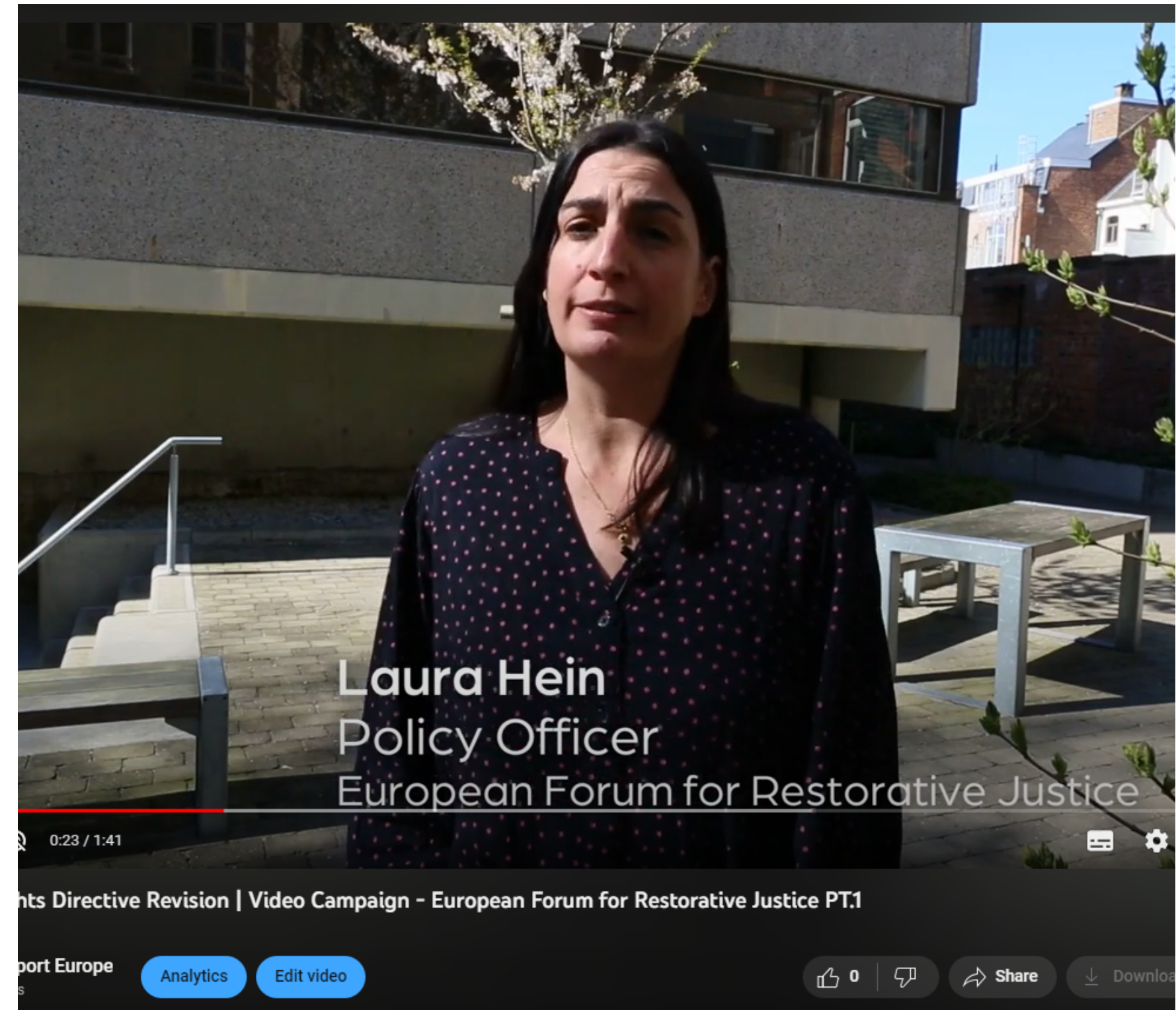
2“Victims’ Rights Directive (VRD) was a crucial step towards the development of Restorative Justice (RJ) in the EU and it has certainly provided RJ with a more solid position and a clear victim orientation in Europe.

However, given that the VRD does not create any obligation for Member States either to create RJ services where these are lacking, nor to making existing services generally available for victims, and given that it does not establish a right of access to RJ for victims, we would support that the revision of the VRD takes into account our proposal and moves forward victims’ rights by strengthening their access to RJ.”

European Forum for Restorative Justice

Watch a short video to learn why a revision of the EU Victim’s Rights Directive is important for the European Forum for Restorative Justice:

<https://youtu.be/BtVXe4doc64>



(Instagram visual included in toolkit)

Post 3 – 15 July 2023

As we are getting more and more busy with our pre-European election advocacy work, we wanted to stop for a moment to ask a couple of key questions from Tim Chapman, the Chair of the European Forum for Restorative Justice's (EFRJ) Board, on the importance of the revision of Victims' Rights Directive.

Change needs to happen now to empower, support and protect all victims of crime. The EU must strengthen the entire legislative framework for all victims, regardless of the type of crime or the motivation for it. Only through a stronger Victims' Rights Directive, can we make sure that no victim is left behind.

Watch this 3-minute video to see what Tim has to say:

<https://youtu.be/dHMYpIrROLE>



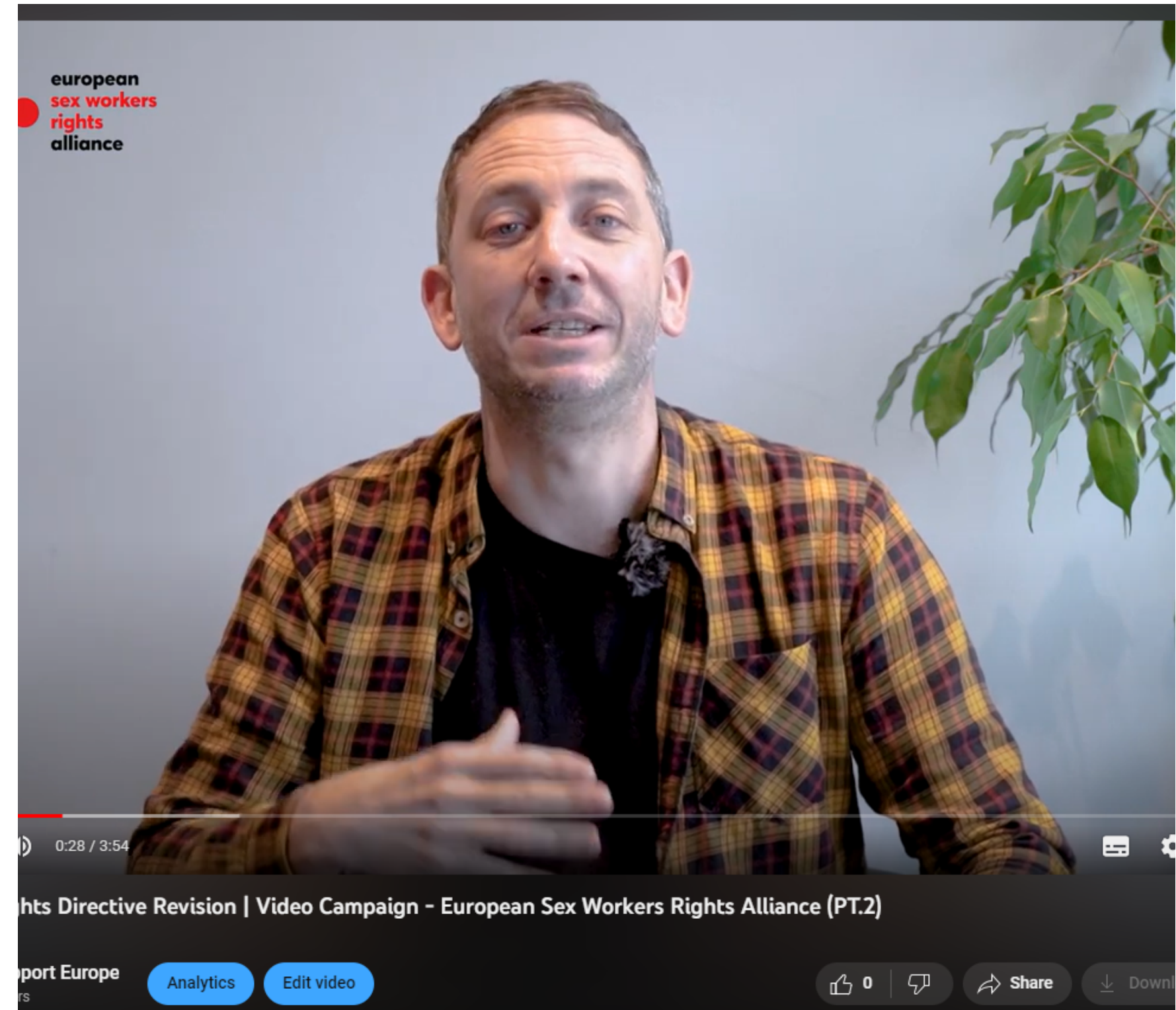
(Instagram visual included in toolkit)

Post 4 – 17 July 2023 (Morning)

“For us in the European Sex Workers Rights Alliance is important and quite urgent that the Victims’ Rights Directive is revised in order to make sure that any victim of crime can access justice in Europe. This is not currently the case for sex workers.”

Luca Stevenson, European Sex Workers Rights Alliance

Watch this 1,5-minute video to learn why a revision of the EU Victim’s Rights Directive is urgent for the European Sex Workers Rights Alliance: <https://youtu.be/LkwWhpgE2lw>



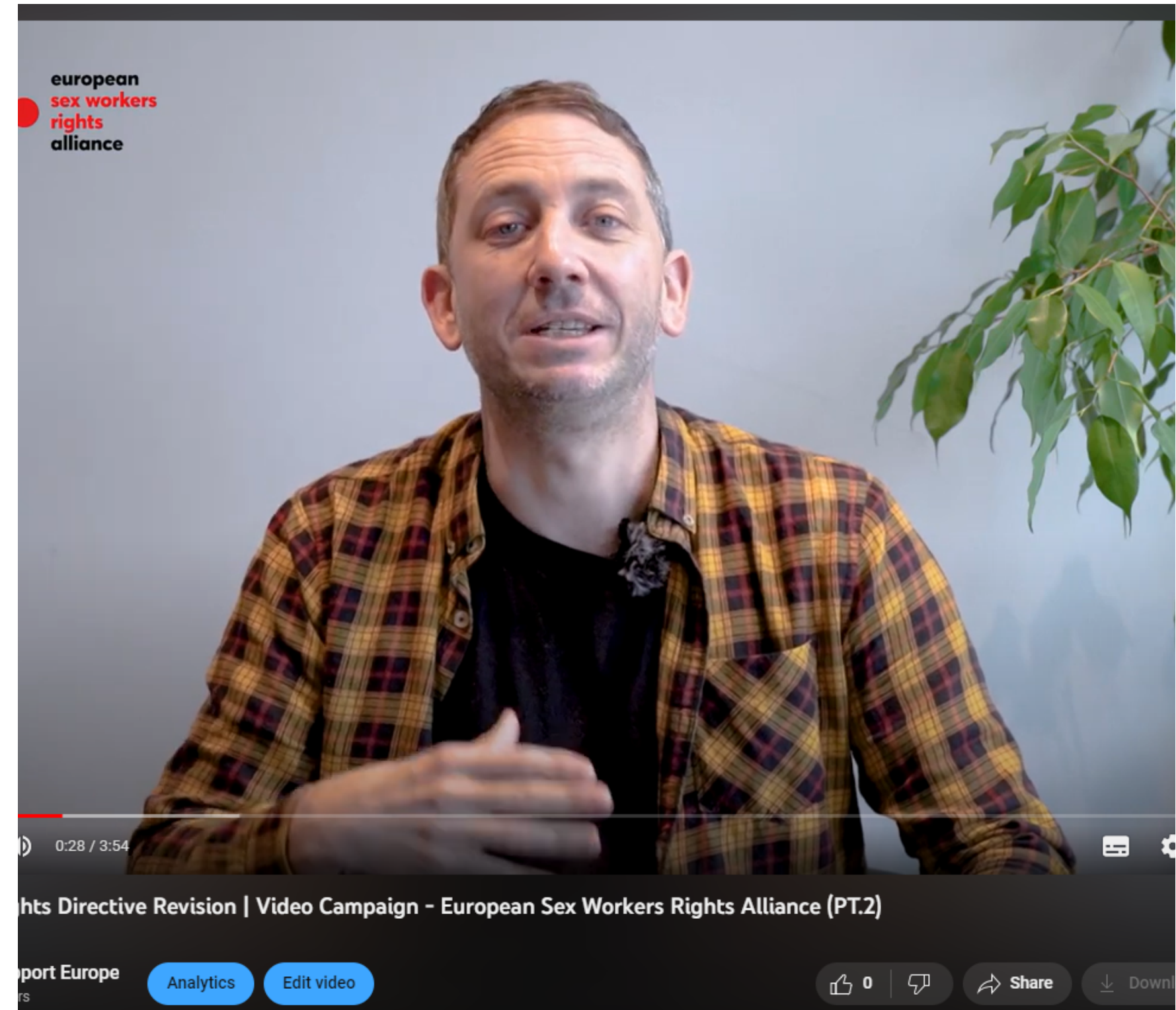
(Instagram visual included in toolkit)

Post 5 – 17 July 2023 (Afternoon)

Access to justice for sex workers in Europe is a considerable challenge and a key area of work for European Sex Workers Rights Alliance. They published a report ‘Undeserving victims?’ that clearly reveals that there is still lack of implementation of the Victims’ Rights Directive in practice – mainly by the frontline police officers.

In this video, Luca Stevenson, Director of Programmes at European Sex Workers Rights Alliance, explores the concrete ways to improve the Victims’ Rights Directive to ensure that marginalised communities can access justice in the aftermath of a crime.

<https://youtu.be/C7wCFtYUxzc>



(Instagram visual included in toolkit)

Post 6 – 18 July 2023

Children come into contact with the justice system in many different ways. When faced with the justice system, children-victims of crime are thrown into an intimidating adult world they often don't understand. Adapting the justice systems to their needs is therefore a necessity.

In this video, Eva Gangneux, Advocacy Officer at CFJ-EN – Child Friendly Justice European Network, discusses what needs to be done to make justice more child-friendly and why we so badly need a revision of the Victims' Rights Directive.

LINK to the video that combines <https://youtu.be/-BbTyra93rs>



(Instagram visual included in toolkit)

Post 7 – 19 July 2023 (Morning)

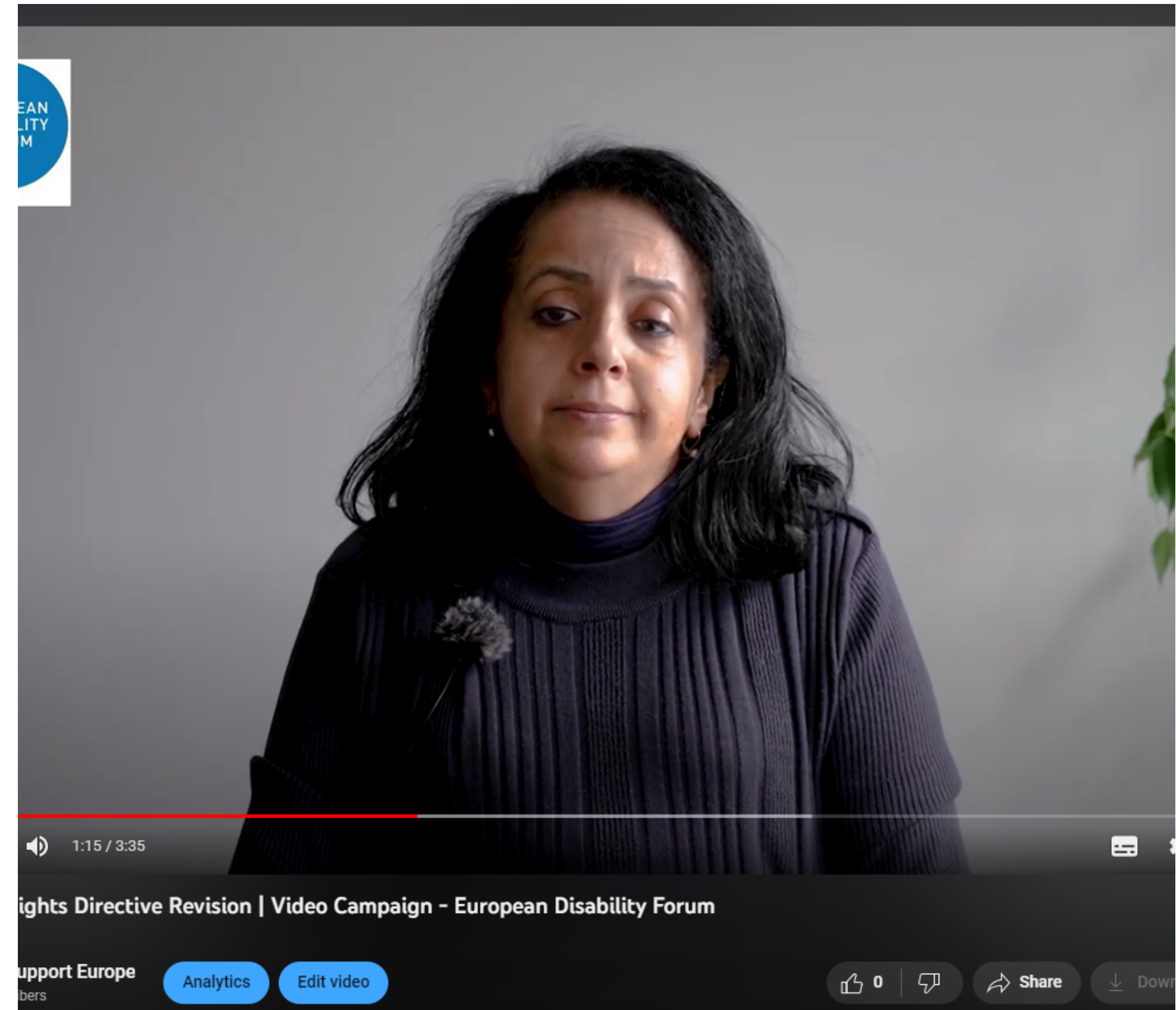
Persons with disabilities are at high risk of becoming victims and survivors of crimes, including violence, hate speech and crime, and harassment. For example, women with disabilities are two to five times more likely to face violence than other women, and 34 % of women with a health problem or a disability have experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner in their lifetime.

With the adoption of the Victims' Rights Directive, the European Commission and EU Member States committed to advance the rights of victims of crime. However, it is still very difficult for victims with disabilities all over Europe to claim their rights due to discrimination, double-victimisation, lack of accessible information, support and protection.

The European Disability Forum (EDF) is concerned that EU Member States do not effectively ensure the rights of victims' with disabilities enshrined in the Victims' Rights Directive.

In light of this, EDF recommends that the European Commission amends its legislation to strengthen the rights of all victims of crimes in the European Union.

In this short talk, Nadia Hadad, Member of the Executive Committee of EDF, explains why EDF awaits the publication of the revised Victims' Rights Directive with great impatience: <https://youtu.be/ensy6Pk3ZV0>



(Instagram visual included in toolkit)

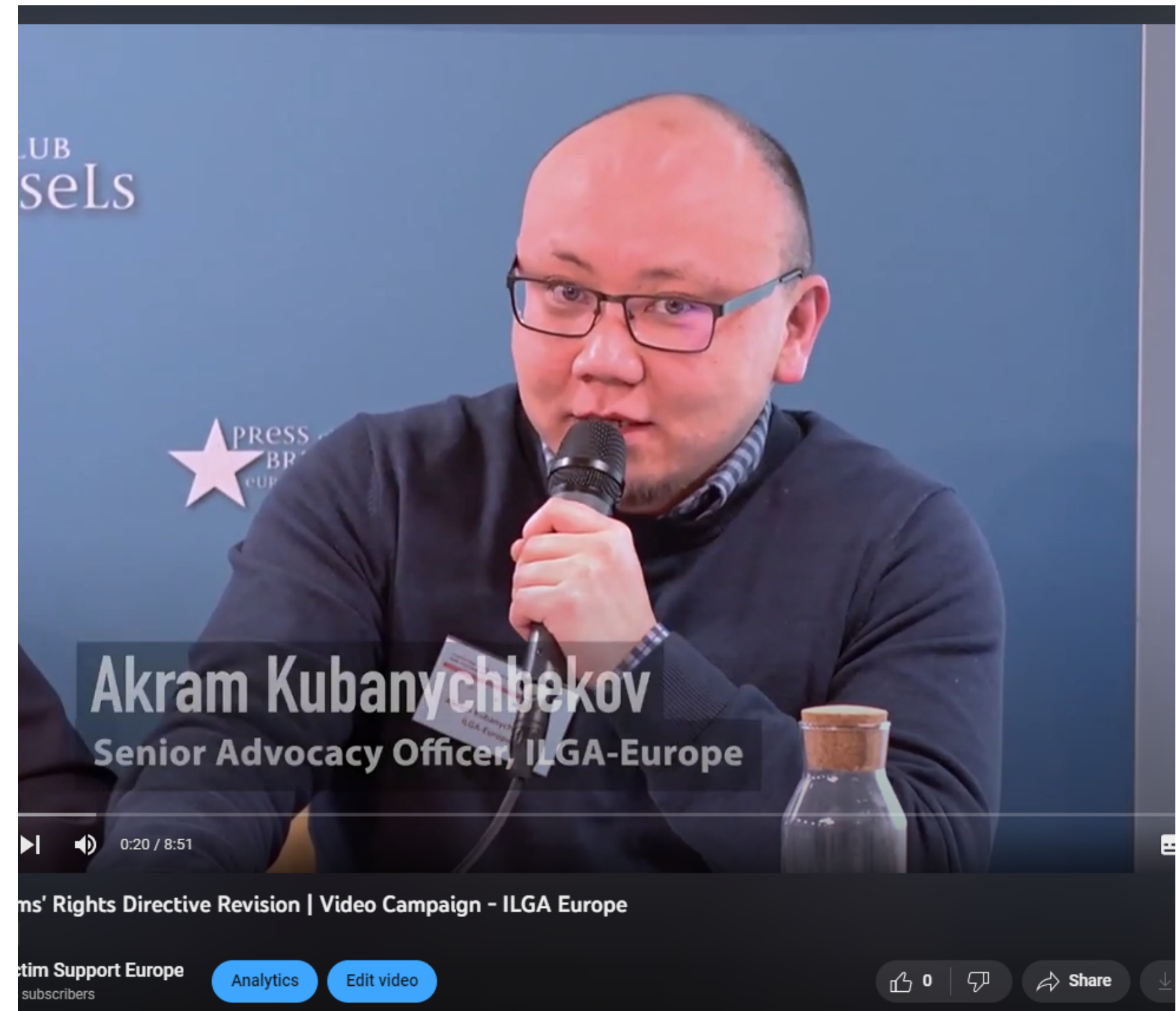
Post 8 – 19 July 2023 (Afternoon)

"What is required to make our criminal justice systems truly effective?"

No one should face violence or discrimination because of who they are. In this video Akram Kubanychbekov explains how #SafeJustice could play a pivotal role in fostering a society where individuals can live without fear, stand up against injustice, and receive the support they deserve through the Victim's Rights Directive.

Read "Safe Justice for Victims of Crime - Discussion paper": <https://victim-support.eu/publications/safe-justice-for-victims-of-crime-discussion-paper/>

<https://youtu.be/0GHIsxILJSk>



(Instagram visual included in toolkit)



Victim Support
Europe



**THE
TRAINING
ACADEMY**
by Victim Support Europe



Co-funded by
the European Union

THANK YOU!

If you have any questions,
please get in touch with

r.dossantos@victimsupporteurope.eu

Visit

<https://victim-support.eu/media-center/campaigns/revision-victims-rights-directive-campaign/>

for more information.