



Final Campaign Event

MORE THAN WORDS:

TURNING COMMITMENT INTO REAL CHANGE FOR VICTIMS

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the UN Declaration of Basic Principles of Justice for Victims of Crime and Abuse of Power

**Residence Palace,
Brussels**
28 November 2025



Co-funded by
the European Union



United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime



Hosted by:



Amplified by:



09:00-09:30 Welcome Coffee



09:30-10:30 Opening

- **John Brandolino** | Acting Executive Director, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) (recorded opening speech)
- **Najla Nassif Palma** | UN Victims' Rights Advocate
- **Michael McGrath** | EU Commissioner for Democracy, Justice, the Rule of Law, and Consumer Protection (recorded opening speech)
- **Roxana Mînzatu** | European Commissioner for Social Rights and Skills, Quality Jobs and Preparedness (recorded opening speech)
- **Alessandra Giraldi** | Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union
- **Rosa Jansen** | President of Victim Support Europe



10:30-11:15 Panel Session: Voices That Turn Words Into Reality – The Power of Victims' Advocates to Reform

Introduction by: Levent Altan | Executive Director, Victim Support Europe

Moderator: Larisa Spahic | Victim Support Europe

- **Cath Hill** | VSE Victims' Advocates Platform. Project lead for the Bee the Difference research project with the UK National Emergencies Trust and trustee for UK charity Survivors Against Terror.
- **Moubajel Lehmann** | VSE Victims' Advocates Platform. Advocate for victims of forced marriage, human trafficking, cults and honour-based violence.
- **Ruth Maxwell** | VSE Victims' Advocates Platform, Criminal Injuries Compensation Tribunal consultant & Victims' Representative. Founder of the 'Not Consent' Exhibition.



11:15-11:45

Coffee Break



11:45-12:00

Pro Bono for Impact

- **Niels De Waele** | A&O Sherman



12:00-13:00

Panel Session: From Declaration to Delivery: Institutional Voices on Victim Support

Moderator: Anna Giudice | UNODC

- **Irvin Waller** | University of Ottawa, Emeritus Professor, Criminology (Video Message)
- **Gema Varona Martinez** | President of the World Society of Victimology (Video Message)
- **Katarzyna Janicka-Pawlowska** | Coordinator for Victims' Rights, European Commission.
- **Michaela Moua** | Coordinator on Combating Racism, European Commission.
- **Maria R. MOLLICA, LL.M.** | Team leader – Stop violence against women, European Commission Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, Gender Equality Unit
- **Marie-Cécile Rouillon** | Coordinator for the Rights of the Child, European Commission.
- **Bartjan Wegter** | EU Counter-Terrorism Coordinator



13:00-13:15

Voice Under Threat: Advocating for Journalists' Safety and Justice

- **Pamela Morinière** | International Federation of Journalists, Head of Campaigns and Communications department and gender expert.



13:15-14:00

Panel Session: From Words to Support: Frontline Best Practices

Moderator: Levent Altan | Victim Support Europe

- **James McCulloch** | Chief Executive of Manaaki Tāngata | Victim Support
- **Bart Claes** | Avans University, Professor of Victimology / Criminology
- **Arastalis Chouldry** | Founder of NECX
- **Sandra Demeester** | Director of Hachiko



14:00-

Lunch, Inspiration Speech & Raffle

“Leading Through Crisis: A Story from New Zealand”: James McCulloch | Chief Executive of Manaaki Tāngata | Victim Support

