



The project “*Developing directive-compatible practices for the identification, assessment and referral of victims*” is implemented by the Centre for European Constitutional Law - Themistocles and Dimitris Tsatsos Foundation (GR) in cooperation with the European Training & Research Centre for Human Rights & Democracy (AT), the Center for the Study of Democracy (BG), the Cyprus Center for European and International Affairs, the Institute of Baltic Studies (EE), the Centre for Criminal Justice, University of Limerick (IE) and the Province of Livorno Development (IT). The project is co-financed by the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme of the European Union.

### Objectives and expected results

The Victims Directive, adopted in 2012, is an important pillar of the European criminal law agenda. The project aims to build the knowledge basis for the effective implementation of the Victims’ Directive by proposing model practices for institutions in three critical aspects of victim’s rights: a) Victim identification b) Individual assessment of victims’ needs (including special protection needs) and c) Networking and referral practices between institutions involved in victim support and protection. The project aims to conduct research around the practices that frontline institutions (police, health authorities, victim support services / NGOs) involved in victim support apply in order to identify victims, assess their protection needs and refer them to competent institutions.

### Method

The project uses a mixed method approach that combines data collection, field research activities, comparative analysis, capacity building and awareness raising.

### Activities

Workstream 1 focuses on data collection and research with regard to practices for a) victim identification, b) individual assessment of victims’ needs (including vulnerable victims) and c) effective and low –cost referral mechanisms. The WS starts with recording existing practices in the participating countries and within all institutions involved in victim support (police/prosecution, health authorities, victim support services / NGOs) (Activity 1.1.). Practices will be identified and recorded in all partner MS as well as in additional MS (five MS to be identified on the basis of the research needs) through a network of researchers (Activity 1.2.). Upon collection of all national practices, these will be scrutinized the light of the standards introduced in the Directive (Activity 1.3.) and ‘model’ practices will be identified that comply with the standards of the Victims’ Directive. A checklist for assessing the compatibility of national practices will be proposed (Activity 1.4.).

Workstream 2 focuses on capacity building activities for policy makers and professionals involved in victim support at national (in the partner countries) and transnational level. Specific modules and training materials based on the research and transferring the knowledge on Directive compatible practices will be prepared by all partners (Activity 2.1). Two networking and capacity building workshops will be organized in each partner country



targeting a total of 30-40 participants from all target groups (Activity 2.2.). At the end of the project, a transnational training – networking event for professionals involved in victim support from across Europe will be organized in Athens (Activity 2.3).

Workstream 3 focuses on the dissemination of the results of the project. This will be achieved through a manual of Directive – compatible practices (Activity 3.1.), a dedicated website with all the project material (Activity 3.2) and the organization of one awareness event in each partner country (Activity 3.3.).

For more information on the research and the project, please contact:

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