



*žene u crnom
beograd*

REPORT

September - December 2018

As before, we bring a brief report on the activities of Women in Black during the mentioned period and if you are interested in more detailed information, you can find them on our web site www.zeneucrnom.org or contact us by mail: office@zeneucrnom.org

We solidarity thank you in advance.



STREET ACTIONS

In this reporting period we organized seven (7) actions, and we also actively participated in other street actions:

Commemoration / marking of important dates of crimes committed in our name, as well as other crimes against civilian population, during and after wars, in the territory of the former Yugoslavia:

Belgrade, October 5th „We Remember“ - on the occasion of the fourteenth anniversary of the crime - the killing of two soldiers at the military building in Topcider (October 5, 2004), Dragan Jakovljevic and Drazen Milovanovic, together with the families of victims, and activists from Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia

Belgrade, October 5th “We will never forget the crime in Topcider” - a protest in black and silence, in Knez Mihailova street in Belgrade. At the protest, the following banners were raised: We will never forget the crime in Topcider; We remember Dragan Jakovljević and Dražen Milovanović; Responsibility; Women in Black for Peace and Justice.

At the protest, a scene action “Discover the killers of soldiers!” was performed; in which about thirty (30) activists took part.

Belgrade, October 22nd “We will never forget the crime in Sjeverin” - on the 26th anniversary of the crime in Sjeverin, when on October 22nd, 1992, 17 people of the Bosniak nationality were kidnapped and killed, Women in Black organized a protest in black and silence, on October 22nd, 2018 in Knez Mihailova Street.

In addition to the names of the victims killed, the following banners were raised: We remember the crime in Sjeverin (October 22, 1992–October 22, 2018) and Women in Black for Peace and Human Rights.

The protest was attended by about twenty (20) activists of the WiB, supported by the Humanitarian Law Center and the Youth Initiative for Human Rights.





Belgrade, November 18th “We will never forget the crimes in Vukovar” - on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the fall of Vukovar, Women in Black in Knez Mihailova Street, held a protest in black and silence. The following banners were raised:

We will never forget the crimes in Vukovar;

The JNA kept under siege Vukovar for 87 days;

More than 1,000 civilians were killed, 25,000 wounded, and almost all of the non-Serb population was expelled;

On Ovčara, more than 200 sick and wounded prisoners from the Vukovar hospital were killed;

In the uricide, almost the entire city was destroyed;

Thousands of Croatian prisoners have passed through camps in Serbia (Aleksinac, Begejci, Belgrade, Nis, Sremska Mitrovica, Stajicevo);

Responsibility ...

A scene action “Vukovar - killing of a city” was performed. Twenty (20) activists participated in this action.



Feminist, anti-fascist, anti-war, anti-racist, anti-militarist actions:

Belgrade, September 21st, “Stop militarism” - on the occasion of September 21st - World Peace Day, Women in Black held this anti-militarist and anti-racist protest in Knez Mihailova Street.

The following banners were raised at the protest:

Stop militarism

Antimilitarism is our choice

We do not want your military term, we want our rock'n'roll

If you are exporting weapons, do not complain when you „importing“ refugees

“There is so much warfare around the world, there are so many conflicts, everything we make, we sell it” (A.Vucic).

On that occasion, a scene action “Stop the War - stop militarism” was performed: in the street, on the big black screen was written Stop War, and then names of countries affected by armed conflicts: Congo, Ukraine, Nigeria, Syria, Iraq, Palestine, Myanmar, Sudan, Yemen, Somalia, Afghanistan, Cameroon, Pakistan and the Central African Republic were hooked...

Twenty (20) activists took part in the protest.





Belgrade, November 9th “Crystal night and barbed wire - a permanent mark of Europe?”, Anti-fascist action, on the occasion of November 9th - International Day Against Fascism and Anti-Semitism, Women in Black, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Anti-Fascist Union and Autonomous Women’s Center organized anti-fascist / anti-racist action. The protest was held in Knez Mihailova Street, and the following banners were raised:

Crystal night and barbed wire - a permanent mark of Europe?

No fences, no borders

Stop Fascism in the following languages: BCS, English, Italian, German, Spanish, Roma, Pashto, Dari, Farsi, Arabic ...

Women in Black vs. Fascism; Solidarity with refugees.

On that occasion, there was also a scene action during which two activists laid barbed wire along the street (the symbol of the camp in the Second World War and the camp during the 1990s in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, a symbol of the persecution of refugees in today’s Europe ...) and then the wire leaked (a symbol of the hood) and covered it with a transparent ‘No wires, no borders’

About forty (40) activists from Belgrade participated in this action, as well as from Women in Black Network from Kraljevo, Leskovac, Krusevac, Vlasotince, as well as six activists from Montenegro, Croatia and Slovenia. The international character of the action was enriched by the participation of four feminist-anti-militarist and trade union activists from Italy. After the action, 20 activists went to Sremski Karlovci for a regional meeting of the Women’s Court - a feminist approach to justice.



In this reporting period, Women in Black also actively participated in the following street actions:

Belgrade, November 1st, “Always whistler, no more rifle!” - Youth Initiative for Human Rights organized a protest against state support to war criminals, rampaging new wars and repression against human rights activists. The action was held on the plateau between the building of the Presidency of Serbia and the Old Palace.

Peace activists from Youth Initiatives for Human Rights were convicted for protesting (Beška near Novi Sad, January 2017) by whistling against the war crimes suspect Veselin Šljivančanin. About 100 people participated in this action, among them a dozen activists of WiB.

Belgrade, November 5th, “I demand that I be protected from sexual harassment”

The Autonomous Women’s Center, with the support of Women in Black, conducted a feminist action in front of the Faculty of Law. During the action, the activists occupied the entire space around the Law Faculties with ‘I Demand that I be protected from Sexual Harassment’. In the AWC survey on perception and experience, it was found that 80% of young women experienced some form of sexual harassment at faculties. Twenty (20) activists took part in the action.



FACING THE PAST TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE - A FEMINIST APPROACH

This is one of the most important activities of Women in Black. It consists of a number of segments: street actions, workshops, lectures, creation of different models of transitional justice from a feminist point of view, cooperation with related organizations in the form of joint actions (campaigns, consultative meetings).

Visiting the places of crimes committed in our name, as well as other crimes against the civilian population during the war in the former Yugoslavia:

During this reporting period, Women in Black visited:

Lovas, Croatia, October 18th - The commemoration of the 27th anniversary of the crime in Lovas (October 18th, 1991), where Serb armed formations killed 70 civilians of Croatian nationality, attended by four (4) activists of WiB.

Sjeverin, October 22nd - The commemoration in Sjeverin, there were activists of Women in Black from Prijevlje and Pljevlja, together with the families of the killed Bosniaks, paid tribute and laid flowers in Mioče.

Vukovar / Croatia, November 19th "Responsibility and solidarity" - on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the crimes in Vukovar, a group of eight (8) activists of Women in Black visited Vukovar, where along with the families of victims, as well as with citizens of Vukovar, attended the commemoration of the crimes in Borovo settlement, also visited the memorial on Ovčara. We then attended the commemoration on the Danube.

Tuzla (Bosnia and Herzegovina), December 11th - Women in Black participated in a peace protest "We Are Looking For Missing Persons - Do Not Forget Srebrenica" in Tuzla. As a sign of compassion and solidarity, Women in Black from Belgrade often participate in the mentioned protests in Tuzla, and on this occasion four (4) activists participated.

Association "Women of Srebrenica" based in Tuzla, gathers women whose family members disappeared during the genocide in Srebrenica. Since 1996, "Women of Srebrenica" every 11th in the month, in memory of the genocide in Srebrenica, organizing a peace protest. We also visited and laid flowers on a memorial plaque at the "Gate" in the center of Tuzla - the memory of the killing of 75 people, mostly young by the Serb armed forces on May 25, 1995.

Vranic, near Belgrade, December 20th - antifascist solidarity action on the 75th anniversary of the crime in Vranic. Namely, in the Second World War, on the night between December 20 and 21, 1943, the fascist Chetnik formations killed 68 inhabitants of the village of Vranic, most of the family members of Pantic family. Eight (8) activists of Women in Black attended a event in the local Culture Center together with locals.



WOMEN'S SOLIDARITY FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF WAR CRIMES

Actions of women's solidarity – feminist ethics of care and responsibility, acts of mutual support, exchange and cooperation in the region in order to build a just peace. It is primarily about the exchange and support of victims of crimes committed on our behalf, as well as victims / survivors of crimes against civilians of Serb ethnicity:

Bajramovici near Srebrenica (Bosnia and Herzegovina), December 2nd - a joint visit to Nura Mustafic and Refija Hadzibulic, survivors of genocide in Srebrenica when their male relatives were killed. Two activists from WiB (Violeta Đikanović and Staša Zajović) went. On the same day, activists visited Sehida Abdurahmanovic, a witness at the W'sC, in Potocari / Srebrenica.

Tuzla (BH), December 11th - after a peace action "We are looking for missing persons - we do not forget Srebrenica" activists of the WiB had a meeting with the women of Srebrenica, during which they discussed problems related to justice, as well as future joint activities.

Bihać (BH), December 15th - a solidarity visit by Staša Zajović and Lino Veljak to Mejra Dautović (Mother Mejra), peace activist, mother of Edna and Edvina, killed in the camp in Omarska in BH by Serbian armed formations.

(WiB activists met with families of victims after the commemoration of the anniversary of the crimes, as discussed in the previous sections of this report)

Accountability for the crimes - the path to just peace: monitoring the trials at the Special Court

Trial for the crime in Kravica - before the War Crimes Chamber of the Special Court in Belgrade (killing 1313 Bosnian Muslims, within the Srebrenica genocide, on July 13, 1995).

To recall: The Kravica crime indictment was brought at the beginning of 2016. This was the beginning of the most important trial at the High Court in Belgrade / Special Court, because it is a Srebrenica genocide. However, on 14 July 2017, the Court of Appeal ruled to annul the indictment for this crime, which is otherwise not qualified as a genocide, since it was raised at the time when the War Crimes Prosecutor's Office did not have a Chief Prosecutor. The trial continued in November 2017, and the hearings are continually delayed due to non-attendance of witnesses, inaction of the prosecution and the withdrawal of protected witnesses due to threats they receive.

In this reporting period, five (5) hearings were held:

- *September 25 and 26 th* (three witnesses testified at this hearing, as well as one of the survivors from Kravica)
- *October 24th* (one witness appeared, while the protected witness did not appear again to testify "frightened for his safety")



- November 13th (two witnesses testified by the defense of the accused)
- December 21th (the main trial was not held because none of the five invited witnesses showed up).

Trial for War Crimes in Trnje / Kosovo

On March 25th, 1999, members of the Serbian armed forces committed massive killings of Albanian civilians in the village of Trnje (Suva Reka municipality). On that day between 24 and 36 people were killed.

In this period, only one hearing was held - on November 29th.

(Reports from the above mentioned hearings can be found on the WiB website)

Dealing with the past - mutual reflection

meetings, lectures, 'Memory and responsibility - School for youth, media conferences, book promotions, meetings ... organized by WiB and related civil society organizations:

Belgrade, September 11th - BIRN (Balkan Investigative Reporting Network) organized a working meeting on cooperation in the processing of war crimes committed during armed conflicts in the former Yugoslavia, attended by representatives of government, judiciary, associations of victims and NGOs. On behalf of the ŽUC, it was attended by Staša Zajović.

Belgrade, September 18 - Special Court for Kosovo - working meeting with representatives of the Victim's Participation Office of the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, Victims' Participation Services, known in the public as the Special Court for Kosovo, attended by *Silke Studzinsky*, head of the Victim's Participation Office and *Tadeja Novinc*, Associate Legal Officer. The aforementioned court deals with crimes committed in Kosovo from January 1st 1998 to December 31st 2000. The meeting was held at the WiB premises, with the participation of: Goran Lazin, Miloš Urošević and Staša Zajović.

Belgrade, September 27th - meeting with youth from the region (BH and Serbia), in which over twenty young students took part; in the exchange and discussion of anti-war resistance in Serbia in the 90's, activists of the WiB talked along with the projection of video material on anti-war resistance. The meeting was held at the WiB premises.

Belgrade, 4, 5 and 6 October "Memory and Responsibility - School for Youth" – educational program

The first part of the "School for Youth" was held in Radmilovac near Belgrade (23-25 February 2018). The first part of the School had a predominantly 'theoretical' dimension, with the aim of gaining new knowledge of transitional justice and feminist access to justice.

The second part of the School had primarily an activist character - a space for mutual reflection, critical reflection, re-examination, introduction to new experiences in the field of transitional justice, feminist-antimilitarist activism.

In the second part, **22** people from the younger generation from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia, as well as three witnesses at the Women's Court from BH and Croatia participated. This meeting was organized in the form of workshops, debates-interactive lectures, film screenings, etc.



On the first day of the meeting, "*Topcider crime public crime*" was held in the WiB premises. On October 5, 2018, fourteen years had elapsed since the killing of two soldiers Dragan Jakovljević and Dražen Milovanić in the military building 'Karaš', a barracks in Topčider (October 5, 2004). They were killed in a barracks under unclear circumstances, and suspicions were founded that they were killed because they saw at that barracks the then fugitive Ratko Mladic at that time. Author *Bojan Tončić* spoke about the book "*Topčider-anatomy of organized crime*" published by Women in Black (2014). Documentary films about this crime were also produced in the production of the WiB Video Activism Group.

On the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the crime (October 5th), two commemorative events were organized: in front of the Karas barracks in Topcider, in solidarity with the parents and families of the killed soldiers and support for their search for the truth about the death of two young men and 'We will never forget the crime in Topcider'; in the main street in Belgrade, protesting in blackness and silence.

In Radmilovac, near Belgrade, work continued. During the exchange of impressions of both events young participants outside Serbia said that they never heard of Topcider crime, which confirms that there is blockade of information at work, that there is no common memory because the memory is prevalent only on 'their' victims. Young people consider that it is necessary to exchange knowledge, information, create a place for respect and dignity of all victims. Regarding the action in the center of the city, young participants stressed that "*the most concerned and depressed lack of compassion and interest of citizens, especially young people, is the most responsible state that systematically works on oblivion and denial of crimes*". As promised, it was positively said that the media followed the event ...

In the session "*Ethics of Responsibility: On the oblivion, silence, denial, suppression of crimes from the past ...*" the basis for the debate was parts of essays / literary works (Hanna Arendt, Stanley Cohen, Alaida Asman, Amos Oz, Tomas Mann itd.).

On the aforementioned questions, which have been sent to the participants, participants have found some similarities and parallels between what they are referring to the above-mentioned acts and events in the territory of the former Yugoslavia: in all the countries in the region, the celebration of the criminals and humiliation of the victims prevails; the lack of interest and indifference of the majority towards events from the recent past make it difficult to deal with the burden of crime; the use of ethnic, religious identity has served and serves to separate and produce hatred; because of the growing nationalism, ethnically mixed families feel extremely vulnerable and insecure, etc.

The following activities are listed as alternatives: persistent struggle for truth and justice, fostering memories, creating a space for the testimony of all victims, personal memories should become part of the official history; peace activism among young people, international solidarity with all oppressed, especially with refugees ...

"Letter to a Father" – documentary (2011) directed by Srđan Keće; in the film, the author talks about the drama of a family with war and mobilization, shows the drama of a family, as well as the drama of the former Yugoslavia.

The film sparked the shocking testimonies of young people, mostly the crime of forced mobilization that survived their fathers and male relatives, but also the suffering of families mobilized. The young people talked about "stolen" childhood, "seized" future, unprecedented trauma, violence against civilians, and especially women, during and after the war; they raised the question of the guilt and responsibility of their fathers, they testified about discrimination on an ethnic basis.



“Culture of resistance - an antiwar rock music” - debate presented by Jelena Markovic, a film director and activist of the WiB. The discussion, as well as the screening of documentary films on the antiwar resistance of rock bands in Belgrade against the war in BH, confirmed the importance of artistic activist engagement.

The workshop “Militarism and Alternatives, on Nonviolence and Antimilitarism - Controversies, Challenges” showed the importance of acquiring knowledge, critical reflection, reviewing, introducing new experiences in the field of transitional justice, activist feminist-antimilitaristic engagement.

More docu-films about these topics were shown:

- **‘One Day ...’ (10 min.)**, Film by Milica Tomić; who reviews the attitude towards militaristic patriotism, the normalization of militaristic violence, and so on.
- **Insumisos - 20 years of disobedience (25 min.)**, history and actions of the anti-militarist movement Insumisos / Incorrect), Spain; The film was shot in 2010 in the production of Bakearen Etxea-KEM-MOC (Movement for Conscientious Objection).
- **“Some Other Men” (13 min.)** - interviews with the WiB male activists about the reasons for their feminist-antimilitaristic engagement in the WiB, etc.

During the evaluation, it was emphasized that: participation in the joint commemorations of the anniversary of the crime had a strong political-moral and activist character; the combination of activist, theoretical, artistic content is the right path to acquire knowledge. The participants assessed the importance of joint work of various generations - young people and women of the older generation. It was agreed that it is necessary to organize such meetings as often as possible ...

(An integral report on this meeting can be found on the WiB website).

Belgrade, October 8 - A working meeting on dealing with the past was held at the premises of the Humanitarian Law Center / HLC, focusing on active engagement, mutual support, and cooperation of NGOs dealing with issues of dealing with the past / transitional justice in Serbia. The meeting was attended by activists from ten organizations from Serbia, and on behalf of WiB participated Staša Zajovic.

In the continuation of the meeting, proposals for joint work in the field of transitional justice were made: monitoring of war crimes trials, memorials, commemorations, educational work, media ...

Novi Pazar, October 27 - The opening ceremony of the plateau “Hatidza Mehmedovic” in memory of the former president of the Association “Mothers of Srebrenica”, who died in July this year. Plateau was opened by the mayor of Novi Pazar Nihat Bisevac and the president of the Association “Womens of Srebrenica” Hajra Catic. Activists of Women in Black Network (*Sabina Talović, Azra Ajanović, Binasa Džigal, Kenan Delić, Fahrudin Kladničanin*) also attended this event.



Ulcinj, 19-29. October - The basic peacebuilding training, organized by the Center for Nonviolent Action, which was attended by Women in Black activist *Stefan Milosavljevic*.



Belgrade, November 2 - Model of the International Criminal Court, a seminar organized by the Kreisau Initiative / Germany and the Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Sarajevo. *Milos Urosevic* spoke about the activities of Women in Black, especially on transitional justice and the Women's Court, **35** people from **12** countries participated.

Belgrade, November 30 - The lecture "Ethics of feminist disobedience" on feminist approach to justice was held by *Staša Zajović* at the meeting of twenty young feminists from Kosovo and Serbia in Belgrade, organized by the Alternative Center for Girls, Kruševac.

Belgrade, December 20 - A report on the implementation of the National War Crimes Prosecution Strategy and the Report on Regional Cooperation in the Prosecution of War Crimes organized by the Humanitarian Law Center / HLC were presented by Ivana Žanić and Višnja Sijačić from the HLC; Belgrade, Bekim Blakaj, HLC Kosovo, Erna Mackic, BIRN Sarajevo and Jelena Djokic Jovic, Documentation Center for Dealing with the Past, Zagreb.

During the conference critical remarks were made regarding the implementation of the National Strategy for War Crimes Processing in Serbia (non-fulfillment of the activities foreseen by the Strategy, a small number of indictments that exclusively charge lower ranking, few days of trial (**35**), etc.

According to the International Committee of the Red Cross in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, **10,261** persons are still missing.

ARTISTIC ENGAGEMENT IN DEALING WITH THE PAST/TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

During this period, the practice of joint work and cooperation between art collectives, professional theaters, artists engaged in artistic design of resistance to war, war crimes, repression, human rights violations has continued. In addition to the aforementioned art-activist initiatives, primarily in the section "Street actions", during this period, several working meetings were organized in connection with the design and realization of activist-artistic actions with artistic collectives. During this period, we organized the following activities:

Belgrade, October 20th "I don't want concert - I want a revolution!" - on the occasion of the Liberation Day of Belgrade, the antifascist choir "Our Song" organized several activities within the "loud and violent" celebration of the Liberation Day of Belgrade "I don't want concert - I want a revolution!" at Kalemegdan, a short program was performed at the monument to antifascists, and in the evening at the Cultural Decontamination Center / CZKD, antifa choirs from the whole region participated. About a dozen activists from WiB participated in these antifa activities.



During this period, several preparatory meetings with the Art Collective (Škart) were organized in connection with the organization of street actions (November 9th and November 18th and marking of November 29th).



VIDEO AKTIVIZAM TRANZICIONA PRAVDA - FEMINISTIČKI PRISTUP

In order to improve the visibility of the effects of various models of transitional justice, especially those from the feminist point of view, a group of video activists was created in 2010, which was capable of recording, editing, digitizing and setting up on the Internet video and audio material collected during the regular activities of the WiB, in order to make it available to the general public in the form of short films. During this reporting period, the group realized the following video materials:

- **'We remember the women raped in Foča'** (6 min.) - on the action of WiB in Foča (Bosnia and Herzegovina) on the occasion of 19 June - International Day against Sexual Violence in Conflict; The film is subtitled in English
- **Alepo before and after** - video presentation for the promotion of the book 'Syrian dust - war story from the heart of the Alepo' by Italian author Francesca Borri
- **We will never forget the crime in Topcider** (3:56 min.) - street actions on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of this crime
- **Insumisos - 20 years of disobedience** (25 min.), About the history and actions of the anti-militarist movement 'Insumisos' / Inconvenient), Spain; the film was filmed in 2010, produced by Bakearen Etxea-KEM-MOC (Movement for Conscientious Objection); the film was translated and subtitled into the Serbian language
- **'Nada Dabic - left a trace in us'** (9 min.) - Nada Dabic's homelife (1955 - 2018), an activist of the Women in Black Network from Novi Sad.
- **Crystal night and barbed wire - a permanent mark on Europe?** (4 min.) - Action on the occasion of November 9 - International Day against Fascism and Anti-Semitism.





WOMEN'S COURT A FEMINIST APPROACH TO JUSTICE

We bring a brief report on the activities of Women in Black regarding the organization of the Women's Court-the feminist approach to justice in this period. If you are interested in more information, you can find them on our web site www.zeneucrnom.org and www.zenskisud.org or contact us by mail: zeneucrnombeograd@gmail.com

The first Women's Court on the territory of Europe was held in Sarajevo from 7th to 10th May 2015, organized by 10 women's groups from the territory of the former Yugoslavia (Mothers of Srebrenica and Zepa Enclaves, Cure Foundation, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Center for women victims of war, Center for Women's Studies, Zagreb, Croatia, Center for Women and Peace Education Anima, Kotor, Montenegro, Gender Equality Council, Skopje, Macedonia, Women's Lobby, Ljubljana, Slovenia, Center for Women's Studies and Women in Black, Belgrade, Serbia). The women's court was attended by more than 500 people from all the countries of the former Yugoslavia, but also from Argentina, Algeria, Palestine, Israel, the United States, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, etc.

The final event in Sarajevo is not the end of the process, but on the contrary, the incentive to continue from the feminist perspective to the creation of new models of justice. It is an obligation first of all to the witnesses, but also the expression of our responsibility towards the huge burden of the recent past.

In the continuation of the process of the Women's Court, Women in Black, Belgrade coordinates program and other activities, with the support of organizations: Anima, Kotor (Montenegro), Center for Women Victims of War, Zagreb (Croatia), some members of the former Organizing Committee of the Women's Court who acted in the event in Sarajevo, participate sporadically (the Foundation 'Cure', Sarajevo) while the other members support activities without active participation.

During this reporting period, the following activities were organized:

I Regional meetings, Sremski Karlovci – 9, 10 and 11th November 2018.

At this meeting, **38** women from seven (**7**) countries participated: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia, Italy, from 22 towns.

Witnesses (12): Sabina Talović, Mirjana Učakar, Nadežda Kostić, Suvada Selimović, Šaha Hrustić, Rejha Avdić, Nura Mustafić, Binasa Džigal, Marica Šeatović, Jovanka Carević, Milica Miladinović, Vesna Đorđević.

Organizers, activists, therapist of W'sC (17): Snežana Obrenović, Kraljevo, Ivana Miljković, Leskovac, Nela Pamuković, Zagreb, Milica Lupšor, Zrenjanin, Sara Lupšor, Zrenjanin, Ljiljana Radovanović, Jelena Marković, Staša Zajović, Violeta Đikanović (Belgrade); Ljupka Kovačević, Kotor, Mira Vilušić, Tuzla, Anđelija Vučurević, Novi Sad, Marija Perković, Novi Sad, Anita Ilijevska, Skopje, Ivana Ristić Milka Rosić, Leskovac, Verica Gašić, Kruševac, Refija Hadžibulić, Bajramovići/Srebrenica.



Associates, journalists, international friends (9): Tamara Spaić, Marjana Stevanović, Nastasja Radović, Marija Obradović (Belgrade); Anna Valente, Margherita Granero, Torino; Gabriella Rossetti, Rome, Cesarina Damiani, Milano.

We highlight the following activities:

The activities related to the process of the Women's Court in the previous period (from May to November 2018) included publications of the W'sC (regional and international level, preparatory activities for organizing the Women's Court on the violation of women's labor rights (Serbia), feminist ethics care and responsibility, publishing activity ...).

The position of women in the world of work - experiences from Italy, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia: participants at this session talked about brutal violation of labor rights, drastic cuts in social services, especially health, which in particular threaten women's health. The transient work produces violence against women (economic dependence on men, sexual harassment in both the public and private sectors.) A war-profit mafia affiliated with the political oligarchy in Serbia is organizing chains of sexual exploitation of women: there are words about relocating factories in search of as cheap a workforce Italy to Serbia), as well as numerous obstacles to trade union ...

International experience of international solidarity (experiences with women in the Balkans, Africa, the Middle East, as well as in Italy with immigrants and refugees)

In this session, activists from Italy spoke, and we bring the most important points:

- *Continuum of violence* - violence from war is flooded into everyday life, especially in the form of femicide,
- *The continuity of women's resistance to war and injustice* - women in all warring and post-war areas are not victims, but actors who are pushing changes; in order to empower women to establish cooperatives, women's trade unions are initiated in response to women's exploitation practices (Africa),
- *Unpaid work and invisible female work*, male violence occurs in all classes, races, educational levels - universal patriarchal matrix;
- *Transnational solidarity with refugees* - psychological support, legal services, monitoring / surveillance of the work of the border police, initiatives for the economic autonomy of migrant women / refugees, etc.

Reflection on the socio-political context of countries in the region - we transmit the summary of the presentations:

Common findings:

- *Impunity - blockade of dealing with the past*, historical revisionism (Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, BH); the celebration of convicted war criminals in The Hague, their inclusion in the highest authorities, the printing of their 'memoirs' from the state budget (Serbia)
- *Strengthening the nationalist right* (in all countries), the impact of the Catholic Church and clericalist organizations on the Istanbul Convention (Croatia); clerical impact on the reproductive and sexual rights of women (Serbia, BH, Slovenia), climate of fear and vulnerability of ethnic minority communities throughout the region;



- *Repression of human rights defenders* (mostly in Serbia); critically oriented civil society is proclaimed 'enemies of the state' (Serbia, Croatia, Montenegro, BH), the state 'creates NGOs exclusively in the function of the state' (Serbia, Montenegro); the exception is Macedonia in which the state's attitude towards civil society is positively assessed;

- *Growing poverty, degradation of labor rights, brain drain* (throughout the region) - changes in the labor laws especially affected women in reproductive age, changes to the law protect only employers and the consequences are drastic, increased mortality at work (Serbia), etc.

Positive tendencies include the following:

- *The positive effect of the negotiations between Greece and Macedonia*, as a way of calming tensions in Macedonia;

- *Positive attitude of the Montenegrin state towards refugees* - Montenegro has a great image when it comes to refugees and no cases of harassment by the police have been recorded there;

- *Cooperation among civil society organizations in the region* - mutual support and solidarity in work with refugees, initiation of joint initiatives in the face of confrontation (Rekom, Women's Court).

Promotion of the publication: The voice from the pavements - the struggle of mothers with three and more children against the abolition of the realized rights, December 2016 - May 2018, published by *Anima* - Center for Women and Peace Education, Kotor and *Women in Black*, Belgrade. About this publication spoke: *Ljupka Kovacevic* and *Stasa Zajovic*.

At the end of the meeting, the importance of exchanging with friends from Italy was especially emphasized, as a major incentive, especially in the actions of solidarity; the response to the patriarchal attacks - locally and globally.

The next Regional Meeting of the Women's Court will be held on 12-14th April 2019 in Radmilovac near Belgrade.

(An integral report, in bcs languages, about this regional meeting can be found on W'sC and Women in Black website).

II Public promotions of the Women's Court - a feminist approach to justice -regional and international level

Promotions / public presentations consist of the following segments:

- *What is the Women's Court? What is a feminist approach to justice?* The history and process of organizing the Women's Court - what is most often said by the organizers of the W'sC

- *Women's court - feminist approach to justice* (52 minutes) - screening of documentary film

- *The witnesses speak about their experience* of giving testimony at the Women's Court in Sarajevo (What Means Testimony on W'sC?, as well as participation in the continuation of the W'sC process)

- *Discussion with the audience* (Effects of the Women's Court, continuation of the W'sC process, problems most encountered in their environment - suggestions, suggestions for the maintenance of 'mini' W'sC on specific issues, etc.).



In this reporting period, one **(1)** public presentations in Montenegro was held:

The promotion was held in *Nikšić* at the Faculty of Philosophy in the presence of **30** students. Ljupka Kovačević and Ervina Dabižinović, two witnesses from Bosnia and Herzegovina (Rejha Avdić and Suvada Selimović), and three from Montenegro (Anka Vukićević, Maja Jovović and Zagorka Matović) spoke about the history, the process of organization and the continuation of the work of the W'sC.

The student population reactions testify to the complete ignorance of the facts about the war, especially about the absence of the process of dealing with the past in Montenegro.

Public promotions - international level - There were also words about the Women's Court within other regional meetings, and in this period we had a lot of meetings with researchers - whether direct meetings or skype ...

At the regional meeting of the W'sC (S. Karlovci, November 2018), were women activists from the Women in Black network from Italy (Ana Valente and Margarita Granero), who during this period organized the W'sC presentations in several Italian cities: Fano, September 2, Padua, 17 October, etc.

III Preparatory activities for organizing the Women's Court on the violation of women's labor rights (Serbia)

During this period, working meetings were held with workers organized by the activists of the ROZA - Women's Working Rights Group, NENA-Group for Peace and Labor Rights of Women and Women in Black, Belgrade.

Belgrade, September 22 - *Solidarity for labour rights* - working meeting, held on September 22 in the Women in Black premises, fifteen **(15)** women from the following cities participated: Kruševac, Leskovac, Novi Pazar, Novi Sad and Belgrade.

During the exchange of experiences in the world of work during the war period, as well as in the period of robbery privatization, the brutal loss of elementary labor rights was pointed out. The fear of the workers (especially in the production sphere) is dominated by fear of talking about a violation as they are afraid of retaliation, loss of work, etc.

Zrenjanin, September 23rd - *„Solidarity is our strength“* - the workshop was held in the Zrenjanin Social Forum, attended by **24** people (mostly women and two men) from seven **(7)** cities: Zrenjanin, Novi Becej, Novi Sad, Novi Pazar, Kruševac, Leskovac and Belgrade.

Participants were mostly talking about the crime of mass forced mobilization in Vojvodina and elsewhere (during the 1990s), which left deep and unprecedented traumas, primarily among the men who suffered the crime, but also the relatives of mobilized. Since in Serbia no government has committed a breakdown / discontinuity with the burden of crimes, civil society activists who insist on accountability for crimes committed on our behalf are stigmatized and isolated. As for the socio-class dimension of solidarity, the agreement was expressed that the state of hopelessness can be overcome by examples of solidarity practice, union organization, the creation of space for problem disclosure and joint work.

Belgrade, October 16th, Solidary for labour rights - At a working meeting held on October 16 at the Women in Black premises, seven people participated (scientists, media workers and culture workers). The



meeting was of a consultative character - an exchange of views on the challenges and problems related to women's testimonies of violations of women's labor rights.

Otherwise, the meeting is an integral activity on the violation of women's labour rights. It was agreed that education activities will continue in the following period: lectures on political economy and economic history, links between war and privatization, presidency (sociologist Marija Obradovic); participation in preparatory activities on the field (journalists), etc.

IV Feminist ethics of care and responsibility

Encounters in safe areas in which women speak publicly about traumas, and to strengthen mutual support, trust, friendship, involvement of a wider circle of women in the activities of the continuing process of the Women's Court. We continue with this practice from the previous meetings where it was agreed that where there are no conditions for organizing 'mini' W'sC, workshops, circles, meetings are organized ... The feminist ethics of care and solidarity includes the monitoring of war crimes trials; support to legal processes and procedures conducted by witnesses at the W'sC.

Within this segment of the continuation of the W'sC process, the following activities were realized:

Pljevlja, Montenegro – Among Bosniak women in the northern part of Montenegro, the fear of public talk over the crimes of ethnic cleansing committed during the war (1991-1999) still prevails. These are unrecognized, unpunished crimes and suppressed traumas. Workshops are coordinated by feminist therapist Ljupka Kovacevic, an activist of the peace group "Anima" from Kotor and a female therapist at the W'sC.

18, 19 and 20 October, Montenegro, activist /cultural/recreational visit: after the public presentation of W'sC in Nikšić, Ljupka Kovačević organized for two witnesses of W'sC (Rejha Avdić and Suvada Selimović) a three-day tour of the country and meetings with autonomous women's groups in Montenegro in Pljevlja, Bijelo Polje, Nikšić. On this occasion they visited: Nikšić, Zabljak, Pljevlja, Bijelo Polje, Kolasin, Cetinje and Podgorica, where they attended a theater performance.

V Joint Working Consultative Meetings - in this period, operational working meetings of organizers, experts, activists participating in the process continued.

VI Working meetings of Women in Black: as holders of program activities in the continuation of the W'sC process, they held working meetings (reporting activities, preparation of publications, documentation and archives of the W'sC, preparation of regional meetings of W'sC.

VII Video activism

Video activism which implies the realization of video material in relation to the feminist approach to justice; includes translation and subtitling of documentary films about the experiences of nonviolent movements against the impunity of crimes, neoliberal economic globalization, etc.



(Documentary films made during this reporting period are already listed in the section (“Video activism - transitional justice - feminist approach”))

VIII Publishing

Reports:

- *Regional meeting of W'sC, November 2018 (24 p.)*
- *Workshops, working meetings on the violation of women's labor rights (14 p.)*

IX Participation of female witnesses in W'sC in educational activities of WiB: During this reporting period, witnesses at W'sC participated in numerous activities of the WiB Network: street actions; facing the past (visiting crime scene, monitoring the trial, meeting women's solidarity), meetings of the Network, educational programs.

Research on the security of human rights defenders - attacks on Women in Black: Since the beginning of Women in Black (1991), they face various forms of repression, both by state and non-state actors. From the very beginning of the work so far, we have been very often and now we are targeting attacks because of our commitment to the human rights of others and different (in ethnic, political, and sexual terms). However, as a women's peace group, we had the most problems because of our insistence at all levels of responsibility for war and war crimes committed on our behalf. This research project started in January 2018 and during this period the following activities were realized:

1. *Documenting cases of attacks and threats to the WiB* (attacks by state and non-state actors, on social networks, media ...). Due to the escalation of repression against activists (at the beginning of 2014), Women in Black start publishing Dossiers several times a year, who are analytically and systematically reporting on attacks on activists, measures taken by WiB (criminal charges, appeals, requests, letters ...), measures that are not taken / undertaken by the state in which impunity prevails ('none of the cases of physical attacks or threats to activists of Women in Black have so far been resolved in favor of the activist of the WiB'). In this period, Dossiers no. 13. (8 p.), was compiled by lawyer and activist *Mirko Medenica*. In order to inform the domestic and international public with repression of the human rights defenders, the Dossiers are published in English and sent to international institutions, human rights organizations, networks. All Dossiers can be found on WiB website.
2. *Tracking/researching the writing of social networks about the WiB:* attacks, threats, accusations, hate speech by pro-fascist and / or ultra-nationalist organizations.
3. *Analysis of Visibility and Performance of Women in Black in the Media and on Social Networks:* Presentation and Strategy of Their Representation; message categories, frequency of reporting; the analysis includes Private Messages (Facebook's Women in Black Facebook page); texts from the daily press about the WiB, reactions to the events organized by the WiB; reactions from other profiles and websites... The analysis was prepared for the period September-October-November-December 2018; this activity is coordinated by *Marijana Stojčić*, a sociologist and activist of WiB.



4. *Analysis of the State's conduct in cases of attacks on Women in Black*: the activity is carried out continuously, and the final report was done by *Danilo Ćurčić*, a lawyer and associate of the WiB, in December 2018 (11 pages).
5. *A critical review of the questions submitted by the State of Serbia to the CEDAW Committee /Convention against all forms of discrimination against women*. Namely, at the 74th Session (which runs from February 2018 to March 2019, consideration is given to the reports submitted by the State under Article 18 of the CEDAW Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. A document with extensive objections to the Serbian report will be submitted (in January 2019), three organizations: the Autonomous Women's Center, ASTRA and Women in Black: issues related to violence against women, trafficking women and the position of human rights defenders.

- *The position of human rights defenders in Serbia, December 2, in Belgrade*, within the framework of the Festival of Feminist Culture and Action (BEFEM). A part of the findings of independent monitoring of the implementation of Resolution 1325 "Women, Peace, Security" during 2017 and 2018 on the position of human rights defenders was presented. The panelist were: *Marijana Stojčić*, sociologist and *Mirko Medenica*, lawyer, WiB, as well as *Kristina Todorović*, lawyer from. It was noted that there are no institutional mechanisms for the protection of HRD, and that environment /climate in which violence against human rights defenders becomes expected is created.

NETWORKS. COALITIONS MUTUAL SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY

Meeting of the WiB Network, Educational Programs, Feminist Discussion Circles ...

In addition to the aforementioned educational activities (Women's Court, Transitional Justice – Dealing with the the Past ...), the following activities were also implemented in this period:

Meeting of the Women in Black Network, Vrnjačka Banja / Serbia, September 9, 10 and 11

This meeting was attended by **64** activists from all countries of the former Yugoslavia: Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Slovenia, Macedonia, Montenegro.

The following segments are highlighted in the program:

Activists of the Women in Black network reported on the activities of Women in Black and the joint activities of the Women in Black network from the previous Network meeting:

Within the activist art session, documentaries of the Group for Video Activism of Women in Black were screened.

„Bosnia and Kosovo - forgotten European protectorates“ - projection of the documentary film directed by Zoran Solomun (55 min.) Followed by a debate involving fifteen activists.



The central session on the following day (September 10th) was dedicated to peace agreements:

Peace from above - peace from the bottom - on peace agreements (History of peace agreements; peace agreements - experience of wars in the former Yugoslavia (Dayton, Erdut, Kumanovo, Brussels ... domains, limitations, defeats ...); peace agreements: non-punishment of crimes, the impact of peace agreements on everyday life, the gender dimension of peace agreements ...).

The first session started with the lecture „Peace from above - armed / negative peace“? Peace from above - the absence of armed conflict, the presence of injustice, misery, hatred ...?

Vladimir Jevtic, a history professor, WiB activist, Bajina Bašta talked about the history of peace agreements, and *Staša Zajović*, WiB, Belgrade exposed some of the key problems / shortcomings of peace agreements from a feminist/anti-militarist standpoint: the militaristic character of international humanitarian law; non-punishment of crimes and war criminals in official peace agreements, failure to comply with justice for victims of sexual crimes. It was also a question of the contribution of the UN to war crimes (International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia / ICTY). The second part of the lecture concerned the impact and effects of civil society (women's peace movement, peace movement on peace agreements ...).

The second session **„Western Balkans: Peace Agreements** (Erdut, Dayton, Ohrid)“ was devoted to the analysis and limitations of peace agreements in the territory of the former Yugoslavia, as discussed by activists: Mirjana Bilopavlović, peace activist, Pakrac/Croatia, Goran Bubalo, coordinator of Peace Building Network BiH and Anita Ilievska, National Council for Gender Equality, Skopje, Macedonia.

The third session **“From Kumanovo to Brussels - Kosovo/Serbia”** was focused on the Brussels Dialogue - negotiations between Serbia and Kosovo, with the participation of: Dr Dusan Janjic, Forum for Ethnic Relations, Belgrade, prof. Stefan Surlić, PhD, Belgrade, Bojan Elek, Belgrade Center for Security Policy / BCBP, Belgrade and Stefan Milosavljević, student of the Faculty of Political Science, Belgrade.

In the fourth session, **“Life After Peace Agreements: the Feminist-Antimilitarist Perspective of Peace Agreements,”** the gender dimension of the peace agreements was discussed by activists from the whole region: Mirjana Bilopavlić, NGO “Delfin” Pakrac / Croatia, Rejha Avdić, Association of Women of Srebrenica , Bratunac / Tuzla / BH, Halida Konjo Uzunović, Association of Victims of Foča 1992-1995, Sarajevo / BH, Anita Ilievska, National Council for Gender Equality, Macedonia, Snežana Jakovljević, Peščanik, Kruševac / Serbia and Vetone Velju, Mitrovica, for Human Rights, Mitrovica, Kosovo.

Fahrudin Kladničanin, Forum 10, Novi Pazar, Sandžak, *Ljilja Spasić*, Pančevo, Vojvodina and *Sara Pistotnik*, Ljubljana, Slovenia talked about the position of ethnic communities, as well as the growing nationalism in the whole region.

At the feminist reading circle, the book *“Preacher”* was presented: the novel by the author Bratislava Bate Stamenkovic, Leskovac; spoke Goran Lazin, Fahrudin Kladnicanin, Sabina Talovic, Ljiljana Radovanovic, Staša Zajovic, as well as the author.

The meeting ended with an agreement on the activities in the upcoming period.

Moderated by: Ljupka Kovačević, Miloš Urošević and Staša Zajović



Women's Peace Activism, Đulici, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Educational program that the citizens association "Anima" from Đulić and WiB, Belgrade have been organizing since the beginning of 2016. Meetings within Women's Peace Activism are strengthening trust, mutual support and solidarity, wider areas of women's autonomy and self-confidence. This meeting is a continuation of many years of cooperation, friendship, mutual support and mutual cooperation the work of "Anima" and WiB.

In this reporting period, two meetings were organized:

23rd October, Đulići: In the ninth cycle of the aforementioned educational program, **21** women from Đulići, Klisa, Sapna, Glumina and Belgrade participated. Workshops were held:

- *Female gender = female power - women from our lives* (the importance of female genealogy)
- *Exchange of views on important social issues* - in connection with the recent elections in BH (beginning of October 2018) and the participants expressed enormous concern over the strengthening of ethnic-nationalist tendencies; they also talked about solidarity assistance to refugees from the Middle East who are increasingly coming from Serbia to BH on the road to EU countries.
- *Reading circle:* we read together good international news (about the winners of the Nobel Peace Prize for 2018), followed by video material.

The Doku-movies of the Video Activism Group have also been shown on the recent street actions of WiB, and in the end, a joint plan of activities has been agreed for the next meeting.

December 3rd, Đulici - **20** women from Đulići, Klisa, Zaseok, Donji Grbavci, Sapna, Lupa, Kučić kula and Belgrade participated in the tenth cycle of this educational program.

During this meeting the following activities were realized:

- *We celebrate human rights* - 70 years since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, lecture (Brief History Review, Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Human Rights, Basic Characteristics of Human Rights, Women's Human Rights ...).
- *We celebrate women's rights - feminism is our choice* - during this workshop participants identified feminism as a struggle for women's rights, autonomy, freedom, the right to respect for their needs - self-care, solidarity, labor rights of women ... and also the most important achievements feminism.

Together we plan activities in 2019 - A detailed plan of activities (educational, coping with the past, mutual support, women's library Đulići, cultural and recreational ...) were made.

Leskovac, December 27th "*Mutual support and solidarity*" - This meeting is committed to mutual reflection, confidence building, mutual support and solidarity, joint work of the NENA group - the group for peace and women's rights and Women in Black, Belgrade. A joint plan of activities was also made at this working meeting.



Feminist discussion circle, Belgrade / Radmilovac, 7, 8 and 9 December

41 people - activists from 8 countries (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Iran, Italy, Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia) took part in this Feminist Diskusion Circle.

On the first day, *the Report on the Position of the Human Rights Defenders was presented - A Research Project (2018) on the Security of the Human Rights Defenders* was presented by: Mirko Medenica, Marijana Stojcic, Danilo Curcic and Tanja Ignjatovic from Belgrade, and the session was moderated by Snezana Tabacki.

Repression human rights defenders in Serbia and the region - problems that activists face in their activism: fear, censorship, fatigue ... - field experience, analysis, protection measures, importance of mutual support

In this session moderated by Snežana Obrenović, Women in Black Network, Kraljevo and Miloš Urošević, WiB, Belgrade, witnesses were activists from all over the region.

Some of the manifestations of repression mentioned:

Fascist attacks on activists (People often referred to us in parks as whores, even though I am a man, I am a whore' (Kenan, Pljevlja); 'Fascist and nationalistic atmosphere in Pljevlja is dominated and this is very worrying' (Azra); 'Earlier years when I went through a street that was not illuminated, I did not feel it. I feel it for the last year, even if there is nobody, I do not feel safe' Ivana, Leskovac); "The children are now shouting behind me, scratching my son's car. They tell me that I'm working for the CIA ... "(Ljiljana, Belgrade); "If we work with refugees, the police ask me where I am going, if I go to a seminar, they ask me if I am going to the WiB meeting. They pick my car, break my mirrors, rubbing my tires. They did not stop there. In the last few months, they rob my father's house ... '(Svetlana, Vlasotince); 'The only remaining movement in Pancevo is Civil Action, which is deprived of the right to use any space' (Ljiljana, Pancevo); 'Being an activist in these small towns is dangerous ...' (Milka, Leskovac).

Growing militarization and manifestations: increasing funds for arms and reducing budgets for education, health, social programs (Mirjana, Pakrac, Milka, Leskovac); climate of mistrust (Nela, Zagreb); terror and production of enemies of all who differ from the ruling regime in Serbia, which are opposition politicians, independent media, autonomous NGOs (Nadezda, Krusevac, Anđelija, Novi Sad, Milka, Leskovac); 'Everything is colored by militarism.

Attacks by ecclesiastical and paramilitary organizations on women's rights, especially on sexual and reproductive rights in Croatia; the abuse of conscientious objection to the practice of abortion extends to all health professionals ('covers not only doctors in hospitals, but also employees in pharmacies, where women can not reach the available means of contraception'), as Mirjana Bilopavlović from Pakrac spoke.

Similar is the situation in Italy: 'Right-wingers want to limit the law on abortion' (Analysis, Udine)

Hate speech and threats to organizations and activists who provide solidarity to refugees ("Since working with refugees, they call us terrorists' (Kenan, Pljevlja); 'My colleague who offers legal assistance to refugees and asylum seekers daily gets terrible threats to email and social networks, mentioning the names of her young children "(Tamara, Belgrade); "The rise of racism against refugees, the growing violence against those that are different on many levels, is what is happening in Italy ... "(Marianita D' Ambrojo).



Repression of independent media in Serbia (full control of the regime over most of the media, both private and public, used for propaganda and manipulation; the regime persecuted organization of investigative journalism dealing with corruption and organized crime (CINS, NUNS, KRIK, Istinomer, Cenzolovka, Insajder ... '(Nastasja, Belgrade).

Unfair exploitation, brutal violation of labor rights in Serbia, retaliation against rebel workers ('The factories have become as work camps, workers have no right to rebel. If rebel they get fired, they have a huge fear that they will never get a job anymore' (Milka, Leskovac).

The policy of international assistance makes the situation of civil society more difficult ('Support reduces or connects with certain activities related to services that the state and its institutions can not do. In recent times, they insist that we have cooperation with the authorities' (Snezana, Belgrade, Mirjana, Pakrac).

„The Other Side of Hope” movie on the situation of refugees in Finland by Finnish director Aki Kaurismaki is shown on the first day.

On the second day of the afternoon a session was held: **Peace activism of the 90's and now: challenges for feminist-antimilitaristic activism in the region**”, moderated by: Mirjana Bilopavlović, NVO Delfin-Pakrac and Staša Zajović, WiB, Belgrade.

In order to remember the resistance, meet young people with this resistance, as well as the importance of writing history in the history of antiwar resistance, activists talked about the experiences of the anti-war resistance of the 90s and listed numerous actions from the whole region, as well as anti-war actions in Italy against war in the former Yugoslavia.

Discussions on anti-war activities were followed by an exhibition of photographs of anti-war protests and actions, as well as reading passages of texts and statements in the meanwhile of deceased or absent anti-war activists and authors.

Promotion of the book by **Tatjana Tagirov** „**J'accuse! Optužujem!**”

Tatjana Tagirov (1961.-2017.), one of the most important journalists and antiwar / anti-fascist activists in the former Yugoslavia. Since 1991 she joined the Croatian Anti-war Campaign, as a legal adviser in the field of direct human rights protection, and members of the editorial board of its magazine Arkzin. Columns of Tatjana Tagirov (1993-1996) under the title 'J'accuse' express her uncompromising attitude towards all forms of nationalism, fascism and militarism in Croatia, as well as in the whole region. The publication was published by: Documenta-Center for dealing with the past from Zagreb and Women in Black from Belgrade. Staša Zajović spoke about this publication.

Seventy years since the adoption of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide in the UN - adopted on December 9, 1948, at the UN General Assembly session, then in Paris, Dr Janja Bec spoke.

International solidarity with refugees and migrants was the theme of the afternoon session.

In the first part of the session, *Stasa Zajovic* transferred the basic conclusions from the session of the Permanent Tribunal of Peoples (PTN) entitled “Spaces of Disobedience” (29-30 June and 1 July 2018) in Barcelona. At this session, Stasa Zajovic participated as one of the judges. We point out part of the judgment: “After the



third session of the PTN on impunity for the human rights of refugees and migrants, the basic conclusion is that crimes against humanity are being committed at European borders.”

(An integral version can be found on the WiB website).

Boundaries, militarization in the south of the continent / Italy, experiences of solidarity, spoke activists from Italy who warned of deterioration of refugee status, which is reflected through:

- Racism towards refugees (‘constantly nourish indignation, indignation, mistrust and hatred towards immigrants’ (Analysis, Udine)

- **Criminalization of refugees**, but also of those who help them; in the exploitation of refugees as the cheapest workforce; crimes against humanity are committed on EU borders (Ana, Turin)

- **Solidarity with Refugees**: “Although social welfare benefits for reception centers have been abolished, none of these centers have stopped working because citizens keep those centers in their lives. Also, a large number of lawyers and lawyers reveal repression of refugees (Marianita, Padova).

Part Three: Experiences on the Balkan route: problems, challenges, obstacles; Feminist solidarity on the Balkan route

The activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia spoke, moderated by Marijana Stojčić.

Mersiha Smailovic from Legis, Skopje / Macedonia stated that the situation of refugees was somewhat improved by the arrival of the new government: “There have been some legislative changes that the government had to make for accession negotiations with the EU, so the law on asylum, because the former was “fascist”. This new law now talks about “protection” rather than asylum, so it is possible to seek protection but not asylum and refugee status.”

Mirko Medenica from WiB talked about how money is used in Serbia for donations to help refugees. According to him, the results showed that the state largely uses refugees as goods and a source of income.

Svetlana Šarić, Vlasotince spoke of the experience of working with refugees, primarily women and children, in the border areas of Serbia with Bulgaria (Bosilegrad).

Azra Ajanović and Kenan Delić from the Bona Fide organization talked about the experience of working with refugees since the beginning of their arrival in Pljevlja, in northern Montenegro: “Initially, it was very difficult because we had a great fear to bring them to our place. In March, the neighbors began to report us every day for „receiving Talibans, terrorists”(Azra); Kenan stressed that “the police is not harassing refugees, and there is a group of citizens in Pljevlja who helps them in different ways. We want to restore dignity to refugees, to settle them, to take them somewhere, because this is what restores their confidence and raises them mentally.”

Nihad Suljić, an activist from Tuzla (BH), works with refugees: “ Since June, I have been working with refugees. I’m going to the bus station and I’m taking care of them. Citizens are either scared or thought to be giving them a charity. BH still experiences the consequences of the war, but there is no true solidarity. Bihać has turned into a major racist camp in the last couple of months.” Nihad talked about the terror of the Croatian police on the borders ...



Tamara Raftović-Loštrek, Logatec, Slovenia spoke about the experience of working in the asylum seekers' center, as well as about the racist propaganda in the media: "People were in panic, because some media criminalize refugees, they represent them as rapists, thieves, , the destroyer of Christianity, the Slovenian identity ". Tamara said some of the activities of the organization in which "Slovenian Philanthropy" also works: free courses in the Slovenian language, helping women to do various handicrafts and later helping them sell them, organizing a refugee meeting from across the country. 'That's how the "No border kraft" project was created.

Tanja Završki from the Social center Rog, Ljubljana and a project for migrants "No Borders Kraft": "We go to kindergarten with children, cook together, drink tea and talk about everything. That connects us. We started to organize bazaars. There women and we sell heklane products together. All donations are given to women migrant women with whom we work together. It's a good way to connect. We are now thinking about the feminist festival of Red Dawn in Ljubljana, or the recycling festival to export products there. We work with children and with families so that mothers are not at all times busy."

Nela Pamuković, Center for Women Victims of War, Zagreb spoke about the experience of working on providing legal assistance, psychological support, language courses for refugees.

In the final session: **Different view: the criticism of today's media and their ideology** are presented in publications:

- **Volkan Vamik "Immigrants and Refugees"**, Clio, Belgrade, 2018, presented by Dana Vidić, psychiatrist and associate of WiB from Belgrade.
- **Syrian dust (La guerra dentro)** - war story from the heart of Aleppo - author Francesca Borri, Sandorf edition 2018 presented by Staša Zajović

(An integral report can be found on the WiB website)

Solidarity is our strength

Solidarity actions - with members of vulnerable and disadvantaged minority communities (social-class, ethnic-racial, sexual), citizens whose human rights (working, educational, cultural) are endangered.

Solidarity with War Refugees in Serbia: Women in Black started in 2013 when solidarity campaigns against racist attacks were organized that culminated at the end of 2013, and since then, Women in Black have organized a lot of activities, which you can find information on the Women in Black website. Solidarity activities are interconnected, at the same time they include more dimensions - peace, humanitarian, artistic-activist, informative ...

Direct actions - solidarity assistance in the field has several segments and includes:

o Visits to the places where refugees are located - activists of the WiB have provided solidarity assistance in parks in Belgrade, as well as in self-organized refugee camps in Belgrade. These activities are coordinated by activists Goran and Tomislav.



- **Bihac, 2nd and 3rd September** - from February 2018 Bosnia and Herzegovina has become the main destination of refugees / migrants on the way to destinations in the West. On this road Bihać, due to the vicinity of the border with Croatia, became the center of the gathering of refugees / migrants. From Bihać to the border with Croatia there is 12 km, and to the border with Slovenia 120 km. In Bihać, there were thousands of refugees, located in the part of the town around the building of the Dojo Home (Borici) in extremely unfavorable conditions. The refugees testified to the brutality of the Croatian police (torture, deportations ...), Mirko, Violeta, Staša were on this visit.



- **Pljevlja, Montenegro, October 1 and 2** - the visit of activists (Fahrudin, Lino, Staša, Violeta) to the Open Center Bona Fide, who from the moment of the arrival of refugees (February 2018) provided emotional and moral support, accommodation and food for over 1,000 refugees, in which their people are unselfishly supported by them in Pljevlja, near the border with BiH. In the Bona Fide, refugees / migrants, besides accommodation, receive food and clothing, as well as all other possible help and information.

- **Sid, on the border between Serbia and Croatia: October 18**, we went to a solidarity visit (Stefan, Violeta, Staša) to refugees in Šid where the number of refugees is significantly lower than before.



- **Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina** - refugees began in June 2018 to arrive in this city from the direction of Serbia and Montenegro, as a "transit" place to Bihać. Every day from 5 to 10 refugees arrives, and Nihad Suljić, an activist of the WiB Network from Tuzla, 'welcomes' them at the bus station, gives them solidarity support (food, clothes, information, organizes medical help ...).

- **Tuzla (BH), December 11** - solidarity visit of WiB activists (Goran, Mirko, Violeta, Staša), Belgrade, during which they, together with Nihad Suljić from Tuzla, provided refugees with assistance



- **Pljevlja, Montenegro, 22.-25. December** - a two-day visit by Ivana Ristic, activist of the WiB Network, along with the activists of the Bona Fide. (You can find on these visits on the WiB website).

o Humanitarian action - providing humanitarian assistance - through humanitarian actions we encourage solidarity, familiarity, friendship, meetings with war refugees, acquiring knowledge about the situation of refugees, information about their position, etc. During this reporting period, the WiB organized on average one weekly, and sometimes more, solidarity visits to WiB by refugees located in a camp in Krnjaca.



o Artistic activist actions of solidarity with refugees - street peace actions - protests over abuse and militarization of refugee tragedy, fostering solidarity of citizens with war refugees. This segment of activities also includes the aesthetic dimension of solidarity (printing flyers, making badges, banners in Arabic, Farsi, English, Serbian). In this period street actions were organized: March 21st (more information in the section "Street actions")

o Documentary films about solidarity actions: The WiB video activist group recorded shorter films about street actions, artistic activist programs, which has already been mentioned in this report, at 'Video Activist Group'). We also have a rich photo documentation on solidarity actions.

In addition to this, solidarity with war refugees by Women in Black is expressed by other activities:

Reports - in Serbian and English, for domestic and international networks, to familiarize themselves with the problems of refugees, their position, their human rights, abuse, discrimination, both at the level of institutions and society.

Reporting abuses and militarization of the refugee tragedy - cases of repression, abuse, exploitation of refugees by state and non-state actors in the form of robbery and enrichment at the expense of refugees; About this WiB reports both through reports and in numerous announcements.

Monitoring of the application of measures by institutions - fulfillment of obligations undertaken by the state on the basis of international conventions on the situation of refugees and asylum seekers - a gap between factual and normative state (Read more about this in Mirko Medenica 'Balkan route, Autumn 2018, December 2018)

International solidarity - contacts with international networks for the exchange of information, designing joint actions, organizing visits to the places where refugees reside in Serbia, so that during this period we organized numerous visits, participated in international conferences, debates, out of which we highlight:

- **International solidarity with refugees** - this was spoken by activists from Italy at the Regional Meeting of the Women's Court, November 2018 in Sremski Karlovci. (You can find more in this report 'Women's Court - Fminist approach to justice').
- **Transnational solidarity with refugees** - Italian activists spoke about the experiences; and activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia spoke in the panel on 'Experiences on the Balkan Route'; You can find more information about both panels (December 2018) in the previous sections of this report.
- **"Women and Girls in Migrations"**, an international conference organized by the NGO Atina, was held on December 10th. *Mirko Medenica* (WiB) spoke at the panel "Gender perspective of the migration and violence against refugees and migrant women: the view from Serbia", together with representatives from the Danish Refugee Council, Praxis and Kontrapress. In addition to the experiences of Women in Black related to refugee / migrant activities, Mirko also spoke about the attitude of state authorities towards refugees / migrants, as well as the misuse of EU funds intended for refugees / migrants. The conference was attended by about 50 participants.



Discussion circles, lectures, debates at the Women in Black premises - "Wednesday in WiB"

The practice of regular lectures and joint reflections on important social and political issues in the country and the world, continued in this reporting period, in which fifteen (15) lectures, debates, book presentations, projections of films in which they participated over 380 persons.

September 12th "On behalf of the male people: an analysis of convicting court sentences for misdemeanor prostitution" was presented research by Sanja Pavlović and Hristina Cvetinčanin, who spoke in the presence of 12 people.

September 29th, "A surrogate motherhood from a feminist perspective", a conversation in which Vera Litricin, a feminist activist and doctor, took part; Stasa Zajovic, ZUC in this context spoke about the controversies of the right to freedom of choice today, and based on the book 'Neoliberalism: sexual: el mito de la libre eleccion', Spanish author Ana de Miguel, attitudes of Spanish feminists (lawyer, philosopher, anthropologist) on this issue; Milos Urosevic spoke about the refusal of a surrogate motherhood from a feminist angle. There were 17 people involved in this conversation.

October 3rd, "From Autocracy to Stability" debated by: Srbijanka Turajlić, retired professor BU, Free Citizens Movement, Aris Movsesian, New Party, and moderated by Stefan Milosavljević (WiB). 33 people participated in the debate.

October 10th 'About the Evil' a conversation with the books of the anthropologist Dobrila Bradic 'The Deep Age, by Simon Baron Koen (Psychology of Evil) and Hannah Arent (Aichman in Jerusalem); The introducers were: Dana Vidić, psychiatrist, Lino Veljak, philosopher, Daša Duhaček, philosopher, Stefan Milosavljević, FPN student. There were 25 people present at this debate.

October 17th "100 years of Yugoslavia - 1918 - 2018" - the beginning of a cycle. At the first debate "History of the Yugoslav Ideology, Creation of Yugoslavia" lecturers were: Srđan Milošević, historian, Belgrade and Lino Veljak, philosopher, Zagreb, moderated by Nenad Milošević, a writer, politologist, Belgrade, with the participation of 30 people.

October 24th "She left a mark on us - Nada Dabic's" (1955 - 2018), an anti-fascist anti-fascist / antimilitarist activist of the Women in Black Network from Novi Sad.

There were 20 people participating in this event.

October 31st, 'Yesterday's World', Enis Zebic, Edition: Durieux, ZG 2017. E. Zebic is Ph.D., correspondent of Radio Free Europe from Croatia; the book discusses the intellectuals of the anti-fascist liberal-civic orientation in Croatia between the First and Second World War; spoke by Lino Veljak, Tomislav Žigmanov, President of the Democratic Alliance of Croats of Vojvodina / DSHV, a member of the Serbian Parliament; the book was presented within the cycle "100 years of Yugoslavia - 1918 - 2018"; 28 people participated.

November 7th "Yugoslavia in the Historical Perspective", talk about the proceedings in the edition of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia; parts of the book commented about a dozen activists; in a conversation within the cycle "100 years of Yugoslavia - 1918 - 2018", 22 people participated.



November 14th - Did Yugoslavia have to die ... Or how the republican ethnic communist elites through the continuity of their strife led to the inevitable collapse of the SFRY "by authors Sergei Fler and Rudi Klanjšek; edition Dan Graf, Belgrade. The interview was moderated by Dragomir Olujic Storm and Lino Veljak, and the book was commented by activists, and within the cycle "100 years of Yugoslavia - 1918 - 2018", **24** people participated.

November 21st "King Alexander's Dictatorship", talk about the book of Svetozar Pribicevic, a democratic politician, one of the founders of Yugoslavia; This is a renewed edition of the book (2018) on the authoritarian rule of King Alexander, discussed by Lino Veljak and Dragan Stojković, editor of the edition. At the presentation of the book there were **16** people present.

November 29th, "Republic Day - Our Day", Women in Black, in cooperation with anti-fascist activists, organized cultural events on the occasion of 75 years of AVNOJ (Anti-Fascist Council of Yugoslavia). The ceremonial event was organized as an act of affirmation of antifascist heritage, international solidarity, evaluation of cultural creativity of SFR Yugoslavia ...

On the occasion of this historic date, a series of activities have been organized:

- *About the Second Meeting of AVNOJ* - introductory word (Snežana Tabački)
- Goran Babić, a poet, spoke about antifascist poetry and about the National Liberation Struggle
- *We celebrate antifascist poetry* about the NLS
- *We are celebrating anti-fascist poetry, everywhere today*, with poets Goran Babić, Tanja Slijivar, Ramiz Berbić, Nenad Glisic, Radmila Lazic, Nenad Milosevic, Vasa Pavic ...
- *The performance of the antifascist choir 'Our Song'*
- *Friendship dinner*

The event was led by: Dragan Protić Prota and Tanja Marković, and attended by over 80 people.

December 5th, "100 years of Vojvodina in Serbia and Yugoslavia: where is autonomy?", Miroslav Vasin, vice president of the Vojvodina Assembly, chairman of the Democratic Party's Provincial Committee; Ljiljana Spasic, Civil Action, Pancevo; Svenka Savić, linguist and professor emeritus, Novi Sad; Tomislav Žigmanov, President of the Democratic Alliance of Croats of Vojvodina / DSHV, Member of the Serbian Parliament; the interview is held within the cycle "100 years of Yugoslavia - 1918-2018", moderated by Nastasja Radovic, with the participation of **21** people.

December 12th "Houston we have a problem", directed by Ziga Virč from 2016, the film was shot in the Slovenian-Croatian-German co-production. The film is a symbolic story of the rise and fall of Yugoslavia. Although it is conceived and inspired by many real events and facts, the film allegorically tells the atmosphere of the Cold War, developing a myth of the sale of the Yugoslav space program ...

(You can find a comprehensive report on all events within the cycle "100 years of Yugoslavia - 1918-2018" on the WiB website)

December 19th "Anticlerical action on Danube" as a reaction to the growing clericalization in Serbia, this event was attended by **12** people.

December 26th, "The Soft Power of Russia in Serbia", a conversation in which Jelica Kurjak, the former Serbian Ambassador to Russia, Milivoj Bešlin, historian, Sonja Biserko, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights spoke, moderated by Stefan Milosavljević and attended by **25** people.



Publishing activities

In addition to the already mentioned publications, in this period we also published:

„She left a mark on us - Nada Dabic (12 June 1955 - 12 October 2018); Nada Dabic, an anti-fascist activist of the WiB Network, commemoration was held on October 24, 2018 in WiB, 25 persons were present: The first part of the publication conveys the memory of activists on Nada; the other part are interviews with Nada, like her articles on feminism, anti-fascism, antimilitarism, secularism; the publication has 36 pages, edited by Miloš Urošević and Staša Zajović, in November 2018, design by Marija Vidić.

Voice from the Pavement - Fighting Mothers with Three and More Children Against the Abolition of their Rights, December 2016 - May 2018; edited by Anima - Center for Women and Peace Education, Kotor and Women in Black, Belgrade, edited by Ljubomirka - Ljupka Kovačević, design and layout by Marija Vidić, printed by ArtPrint, Novi Sad.

The book was published in November 2018. It has **244** pages and five chapters (Socio-political context in Montenegro 2015 - 2018; Reactions - commencement of protests and support; Protests; Smuggling hunger; and Poems of Hunger strike participants). Namely, prior to the elections and for the purpose of raising political points (2016), the state passed a law (2016), in which women with three or more children are entitled to life-time compensation, then the law is selectively applied, virtually suspended, which is why massive protests of women begin which lasted continuously from 2016 until now. Protests are considered the largest movement of women in the last 25 years in Montenegro. This book is devoted to women's resistance, the struggle for justice and dignity...

„The Scream from the Darkness“ - a collection of poems by Ramiz Berbic, an activist and poet from Tuzla (BH), contains a collection of anti-fascist / antinationalist songs, has 35 pages and was promoted in the WiB on November 29th on the occasion of the Day of the Republic of SFR Yugoslavia.

Women's Peace Agenda for 2019 - shows solidarity activities primarily by alternative collectives, activists from the field who testify to brutal repression of refugees.

The Women's Peace Agenda for 2019 - issues the date on the actions of the WiB dedicated to refugees on the „Balkan Route“. Fostering the aesthetics of resistance by the WiB is also reflected in photographs from our actions of solidarity with refugees organized during the „Balkan Route“ period, as well as anti-fascist and anti-militarist actions of WiB.

The Women's Peace Agenda for 2019 is dedicated to refugees - brave women, men, refugee children from around the world - from the Middle East and Middle East, Africa looking for a safe place in the world.

The Women's Peace Agenda for 2019 has **174** pages, edited by Mirko Medenica and Staša Zajović, in cooperation with activists (Almudena Olmo, Goran Lazin, Miloš Urošević, Snežana Tabački and Tomislav Perušić); design was done by Marija Vidić, photographs were made by Srdjan Veljovic and Zoran Solomun.

Women in Black Calendar for 2019 - Calendar made of photographs of street actions of Women in Black during 2018 (Srdjan Veljovic and WiB Archive), design was done by Marija Vidic.



Campaigns, appeals

In addition to the above initiatives in this reporting period, we have also initiated or actively participated in numerous campaigns, first of all in relation to requests for dealing with the past - responsibility for war crimes, violence against women, against repression of political opponents; over refugees.

“Stop militarism” in a statement on September 21st - World Peace Day, WiB warned of the growing militarization in Serbia (huge quantities of illegal small arms - the inhabitants of Serbia (and Montenegro) are the most vulnerable in Europe; campaigns on the introduction of compulsory military service in Serbia, export of weapons to warring States, various dictatorial regimes, etc.)

WiB also warned that “the state of Serbia is the only country in the region that has not signed the UN Convention on Cluster Munition Banning”, Serbia continues to produce cluster bombs.” In the end, an appeal was sent to the state ‘Stop the sale of weapons, not refugees!’, ‘If you are exporting weapons, do not hack when you import refugees! Everything for peace, health and education - nothing for weapons! Many groups from the WiB Network joined the Appeal.



“Discover the killers of soldiers!” - on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of the assassination of soldiers in Topčider (5 October 2004 - 5 October 2018), the WiB warns that the investigation is still in the pre-trial phase: “Even today, after the crime, the state did not look the truth in the eye publicly acknowledge even the possibility that the soldiers before the death saw the then most wanted Hague fugitive Ratko Mladic, the former commander of the Republika Srpska Army’. In a statement, WiB demands from the state: to immediately suspend the obstruction of the investigation of the murder of Dragan Jakovljevic and Drazen Milovanovic; to finally announce the truth about the killing of soldiers, as well as the hiding of Ratko Mladic in the facilities of the Serbian Armed Forces; that the competent institutions punish all the perpetrators of crimes in Topčider and provide justice for the victims’ families”.



We remember the crime in Lovas - on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the crime (October 18, 1991) in the village of Lovas / Croatia where 70 Croatian civilians were killed, and the perpetrators of the crimes are members of Serbian armed formations and the YPA, the WiB in its statement reminds us of embarrassing verdicts for this crime before the Special court in Belgrade (2008): “the responsibility of the joint criminal enterprise involving the YPA was relativized, and the senior officers of the then YPA under whose command were this crime was executed are not accused ...”

Sjeverin continues to search for the truth, justice - on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the kidnapping and killing of 17 Bosniak Serbs from the village of Sjeverin near Priboj, taken by members of the



Republika Srpska Army (VRS) forces, the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC), the Sandžak Committee (Sandzak Committee) and Women in Black remind that “long-term search of families for the remains of victims has not yet been completed” and that it is “unacceptable that the institutions of Serbia 26 years of persistently refuse to provide victims’ families with just satisfaction, support and recognition’. In the statement, it is emphasized that only one victims body was found, while the rest are still missing.

‘During the multi-year battle for the recognition of the rights to war crimes victims, the HLC, the Sandžak Committee and the WiB testified to the continuing attitude of ignoring and discriminating the victims by the institutions of Serbia’ and that these organizations, therefore, demand from Serbia’s institutions’ to abandon a policy of avoiding liability for human rights violations during the 1990s, and provide victims with fair compensation and truth about the fate of their loved ones’.

“Impunity of Informer for spreading hatred and lies” in a statement regarding the acquittal of the Appellate Court on the complaint of Women in Black against Informer, the WiB recalled that on November 9, Informer published on the front page text, titled “WOMEN IN BLACK BIGGEST FOREIGN MERCENARIES: The West gave them 1,587,596 euro to accuse Serbia of war crimes”. This article states that Women in Black received this amount of money in the last two years with the aim of “attacking and destabilizing the state of Serbia”. Women in Black organization is called “anti-Serb” and “obscurant”. All the information published in the text are completely inaccurate.’

During the trial, which lasted 16 months, the Informer did not submit any evidence for the allegations made in the text, and the editor Vucicevic insulted and threatened activists of Women in Black in the courtroom, saying that “Women in Black should be expelled from Serbia”.

The first instance court dismissed WiB complaint, an appeal was submitted, the second instance court’s rejected the appel. On 28 October 2018 WiB filed a constitutional complaint to the Constitutional Court of Serbia.

On the occasion of the Judgment of the Appellate Court in a case of activists of the Youth Initiative for Human Rights - in a statement dated 31.10.2018 Women in Black strongly condemn the Appellate Court’s ruling that activists of the Youth Initiative for Human Rights have been punished for “violating public order and peace” because they expressed their disagreement with the promotion of war criminal Veselin Sljivancanin in a peaceful and dignified manner at the SNS event in Beška in 2017.

“We are witnesses that in Serbia, state organs are the main promoters of war criminals. The Ministry of Defense has turned into the Ministry of Defense of war criminals, war criminal Lazarevic holds lectures at the military academy, books of war criminal Nebojsa Pavkovic are printed on the state expense. Everyday we learn that persons who were part of the crime policy during the 1990s occupy state positions.” Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, without consequences, takes away the victims of genocide, war criminal Vojislav Seselj, contrary to the law, is still a deputy for the people. It is more than clear that the politics of crime and genocide from the nineties still has the full support of the Serbian authorities today. This is not surprising, since a large number of top officials, beginning with Aleksandar Vucic, were part of a criminal and genocidal policy of the 1990s, “the statement said.



“Crystal Night and Barbed Wire - A Permanent Mark on Europe?” - in a statement on November 9 - the International Day Against Fascism and Anti-Semitism, warns that it is 80 years since the start of the great pogrom of Jews in Nazi Germany, known as the “Crystal Night”, and that in today’s Europe, new forms fascism, which is particularly evident in their attitude towards refugees and migrants who are subjected to persecution, exclusion and racism”.

“The regime of Serbia, supported by ultra-nationalist parties, supports this xenophobic, militarist policy and makes everything more difficult for people who are fleeing the war to seek salvation in Serbia or through EU borders. “Against fascism, new crystal nights, barbed wire and fence! Refugees Welcome!” Is emphasized in the end.



On the occasion of the attack on the premises of Are You Syrious in Zagreb - Women in Black strongly condemn (12.11. 2018) attacks on Are Are Syrious Areas in Zagreb.

“This attack is the result of a shameful political and media campaign of lies and misinformation, aimed at the dehumanization of refugees / migrants and the spread of fear in order to manipulate citizens more easily. Such racist and fascist ideas, unfortunately, have fertile ground in the societies of the region, which have been exposed to nationalistic propaganda for years, where victims are insulted and denied, and war criminals celebrate.



It is warned that ‘refugees / migrants are at the same time exposed to systematic terror by the police and other state authorities of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia’, with an invitation citizens and citizens to show solidarity with refugees / migrants and thus contribute to the fight against growing fascism.”

Solidarity with Danas and Corax - Women in Black strongly condemned organized hacking of the regime of A. Vucic against the newspaper Danas and caricaturists Predrag Koraksic Corax.

In a statement (November 13, 2018), the WiB expresses solidarity with both Danas and Corax: “The regime that produces enemies of all who think differently, the regime that produces and pays Batin’s media, creates the atmosphere of lynching and firing, a regime that produces fervor and fear the vast majority of the population, is based on totalitarianism. Every totalitarian regime is afraid of humor, satire and cartoons. It is known that they are a powerful weapon in the fight against dictatorship. The regime that scares humor, satire and cartoons is doomed to failure!”





We will never forget the crimes in Vukovar! - in a statement on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the crimes in Vukovar, WIB and the Youth Initiative for Human Rights remind that "25. 8. In 1991, the attack by the JNA from the air, from the country and the Danube, began "the hell of Vukovar". On September 19, 1991, a large number of Belgians, throwing flowers in front of tanks, escorted the First Guards Armored Division of the JNA into a devastating hike to Vukovar. As one of the most embarrassing events in the history of Belgrade, it is



covered by the vow of silence and denial!"; And that "nobody responded to the crimes of urbicides, the establishment of a camp, the killing and torture of Croatian prisoners in Serbia, which indicates the continuity of impunity".

The Women in Black, the Multimedia Center / MMC Led art / Art Clinic from Novi Sad initiative for raising memorial plaques for Croatian prisoners of war in Begejci and Stajicevo: This year, we addressed the relevant institutions (Zrenjanin and Žitište municipalities where the camps were located) with the demand that memorial plaques be placed at the places of suffering and torture in the Stajicevo and Begejci detention camps, which would contribute to the process of restoring confidence and reconciliation, as well as respecting the dignity of the victims of these camps and their families. Our requests have not been heard, indicating a lack of political will and moral responsibility in relation to crimes committed on our behalf!

"Serbia - a Space of Impunity for Violence" in a statement on November 29th - International Women's Rights Defenders Day, WIB stresses that "in the last four years, 13 attacks on activists of Women in Black have been committed, and to date no perpetrator were convicted."

"As a paradigmatic case, we highlight the attack on activists of Women in Black in Valjevo in July 2014, during the commemoration of the anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica. On that occasion, 4 activists were injured as well as 3 police officers. Please note that this attack took place in the presence of dozens of police officers. Police officers who made statements in the investigation confirmed that the attackers beat activists with fists, insulted them on a religious and national basis and threatened them. Despite all this evidence, due to the scandalous failings of the Higher Prosecutor's Office in Valjevo, as well as the scandalous decisions of the High Court in Valjevo and the Appellate Court, the epilogue before the Serbian judiciary is that none of the perpetrators has been convicted. Consequently, an appeal was filed to the Constitutional Court for violation of the right to equal legal protection and protection of rights before courts and other state bodies. Last month, the Constitutional Court ruled to reject an appeal, not finding any right violated. Because of all of the above, Women in Black will file an application to the European Court of Human Rights".

Initiative for naming a street in Belgrade after Dejan Nebrigic - December 29th, 2018, 19 years have passed since the death of Dejan Nebrigic (1970-1999), gay activists, pacifists and antifascists. Dejan was killed in 1999. As the declared anti-fascist, anti-nationalist and antimilitarist, he refused a military obligation, publicly reproving him as being a homosexual, which at the time was treated as a disease for which he was permanently released from military duties. In early 1992, he joined Women in Black, and gave a very significant contribution to the anti-militarist and feminist engagement of Women in Black. He participated in launching of a network of conscientious objection. We demand that, "one of many streets in Belgrade to be named after Dejan Nebrigic, one of the first fighters for human rights of LGBT people, feminists, antifascists and antimilitarists". The relevant institutions have not yet answered on this many-year request.



International relations

In the previous sections, this report lists participation in numerous international conferences, as well as visits at the international level.

In addition to the aforementioned, from the participation in international conferences we also mention the following:

October 23rd - a visit to nine members of the Women's Foundation Filia Frauenstiftung, Germany. During this meeting held at the WiB premises there were words about the activities of WiB, problems and challenges in their work.

October 29th - a visit by Zahra R. Vieneuve, a women's coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa at the Women's Global Fund for Women Foundation (program officer for Middle East & North Africa at the Global Fund for Women). During the meeting, we discussed the activities of the WiB, especially on transitional justice from a feminist perspective, problems of security of activists, etc.

London, November 25th - *Staša Zajović* participated in the international conference on secularism "Sharia, segregation and secularism" organized by the "One Law for All" network, supported by the most important antifundamentalist networks "Southall Black Sisters", "Secularism is a Women's Issue"; Center for Secular Space, etc. The conference was divided into several plenary panels, and Stasa Zajovic participated in the Politics of Collusion panel together with Bonya Ahmed, Bangladesh, Secularism is a Women's Issue, Sadia Hameed (Council of ex-Muslim in Britain).



The international award to Stasa Zajovic - the One Law for All network awarded Stasa Zajovic an international award for outstanding contribution to the fight for women's rights and secularism. The award was presented on the tenth anniversary of the One Law for All network, at a London ceremony on November 25th, 2018, in the framework of the above-mentioned international conference on secularism.

Belgrade, December 5th - Working meeting with representatives of EU countries in Serbia with activists from autonomous women's groups from Serbia - on activities, socio-political context, international assistance policy, etc.; Stasa Zajovic participated on behalf of WiB.

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Women in Black
Belgrade, February 2019













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