

# REPORT 2019

SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER  
AND DECEMBER



*žene u crnom beograd*

## REPORT

### SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 2019

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

**Street actions:** In this reporting period we organized eleven (11) events, 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 THE WARS, ON THE TERRITORY OF FORMER YUGOSLAVIA:**

**Belgrade, October 5<sup>th</sup> „We Remember“** - on the occasion of the fifteen anniversary of the crime - the killing of two soldiers at the military building in Topčider (October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004), Dragan Jakovljević and Dražen Milovanović, together with the families of victims, and activists from Serbia and Belgium.

**Belgrade, October 5<sup>th</sup> “We will never forget the crime in Topčider”** – a protest in black and silence, in front of the Ministry of Defense. At the protest, the following banners were raised: We will never forget the crime in Topčider; We remember Dragan Jakovljević and Dražen Milovanović; Responsibility.

The action was continued by marching from the Ministry of Defense via Nemanjina Street to the Serbian Government where the following two banners were posted up:

“Discover the killers of soldiers!” and “What has your commission done?” This was also followed by presenting a mirror with *Topčider!* written on it.

This action was organized by Women in Black, in cooperation with Humanitarian Law Center and Youth Initiative for Human Rights, in which 25 activists from Belgrade and three activists from Belgium took part.

**Belgrade, October 22<sup>nd</sup> “We will never forget the crime in Sjeverin”** – on the 27th 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, 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, 2019)



10/22/1992 – The members of the Serbian paramilitary force called the Avengers (Osvetnici) stopped a bus with civilians, inhabitants of Sjeverin, on the Priboj-Rudo route and took them as hostages.

*We remember the crime in Sjeverin*

*Why is the Government not talking about the crime Sjeverin? How much longer?*

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 18<sup>th</sup> “We will never forget the crimes in Vukovar”** - on the occasion of the 28th 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 urbicide, almost the entire city was destroyed;*

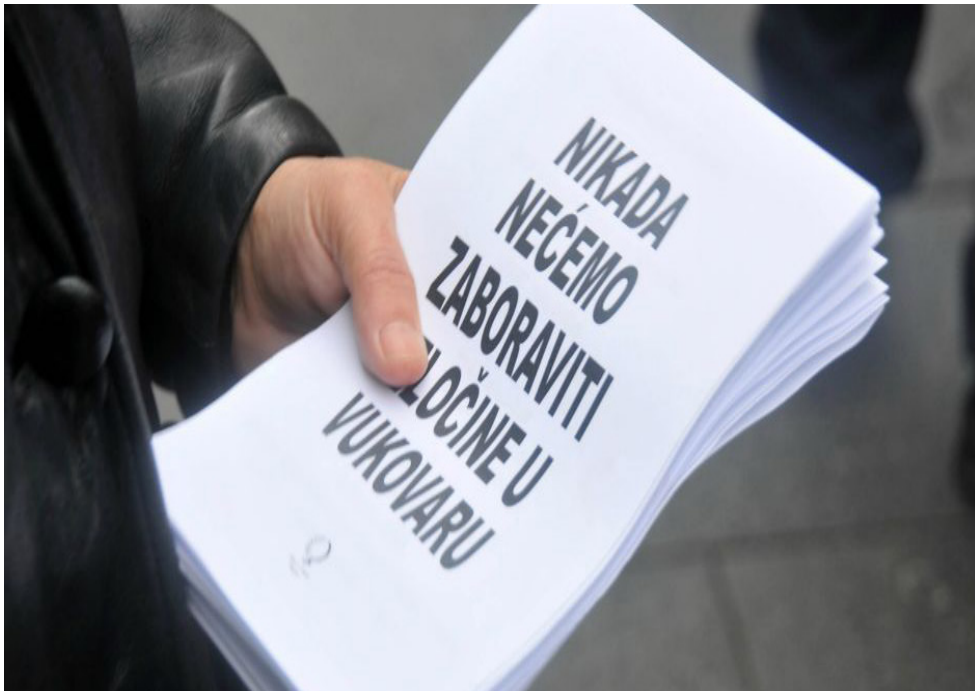
*Thousands of Croatian prisoners have passed through camps in Serbia (Aleksinac, Begejci, Belgrade, Nis, Sremska Mitrovica, Stajicevo);*

*Responsibility ...*

There was an action with scenes played at the protest. It was written Vukovar 1991-2019 by using salt, and then candles were lit around it. There were around forty (40) activists present at the protest, including Women in Black, the Humanitarian Law Center, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Reconstruction Women’s Fund and Anima from Đulići, Bosnia and Herzegovina.









## FEMINIST, ANTI-FASCIST, ANTI-WAR, ANTI-RACIST, ANTI-MILITARIST ACTIONS

We list them chronologically:

**Sarajevo, September 8<sup>th</sup>** – participating in the first Pride Parade in Bosnia under the slogan “They will come out!” There were several thousands of people participating in this very important manifestation organized by the LGBT community and civil society in Bosnia, fifteen (15) activists of the Women in Black Network from Serbia and two WiB activists from Spain, together with other activists from Serbia participated in this Pride Parade, showing a clear and loud support to the first Pride Parade in Bosnia.



**Kruševac, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>** “Justice for Marija Lukić” - protests in front of the Basic Court in Kruševac in solidarity with Marija Lukić, a victim of sexual harassment committed by Milutin Jeličić Jutka, the former mayor of Brus. Marija Lukić filed a criminal complaint against him in 2018, after Jutka had been sending her thousands of text messages during the period of two years while she was employed as his secretary. The court process ended in May 2019 at the Basic Court in Brus, but Lukić's lawyer asked for the process to be moved to the Basic Court in Kruševac after the attacks on Lukić. Women in Black participated in the protests together with the Women's Association of Peščanik from Kruševac.

**Belgrade, October, 15<sup>th</sup>** „Stop the Turkish aggression on Syria!“ - as a response to the Turkish aggression on the Kurdish autonomous province in northern Syria, a protest was organized in all black and in silence in front of the Turkish embassy in Belgrade. Around ten (10) activists participated in the protest.

The following banners used at the protest were written in Serbian, English, Arabic, Turkish and Kurdish.





*Stop the Turkish aggression on Syria!*  
*Stop the war!*  
*Stop the killing of the Kurdish population!*  
*Support the Kurdish autonomy!*

**Belgrade, 9 November 9<sup>th</sup> „From the wall to walls“** - On the occasion of November 9<sup>th</sup> – International Day Against Fascism and Anti-Semitism and 30 years of fall of Berlin wall, WiB organized anti-fascist/antiracist action. The protest was held in Knez Mihailova Street (Delijska česma), with the participation of twenty (20) activists.



In this action the following banners were raised in Serbian, English and Arabic:

- November, 9<sup>th</sup> – International day against fascism
- Women in Black against fascism
- Stop the war, not refugees
- Stop fascism

On that occasion, there was also a scene action „From the wall to walls“ – a city plan of the divided Berlin was laid on the sidewalk with bricks between the eastern and the western part of the city, alluding to the Berlin Wall. The activists were jumping the bricks - symbolizing the jumping over the wall. Then, two pairs of ladders were installed, between them a barbed wire as a symbol of obstacles and barriers with which the refugees and migrants are facing today. The activists were simulating the act of going under the wire. Then the ladders with wires were taken down which represented the ending of the existing barbed wires.

The action ended with small banners that said *Antifascism is our choice.*



**Belgrade, December 6<sup>th</sup> “Stop the killing of women!”** – on December 6<sup>th</sup> – the International Day Against Femicide, Women in Black, together with the Women’s Autonomous Center from Sarajevo, Anima Women Association from Djulici, Bosnia and the Cure Foundation from Sarajevo, organized a protest called Stop the killing of women in Knez Mihailova Street in Belgrade.

The following banners were put out:

- *December 6<sup>th</sup> – Day Against Femicide*
- *Stop the killing of women!*

During the protest there was an action held with scenes: there were around a hundred pairs of red shoes put down on the sidewalk – remembering women killed all over the world. There were around fifty (50) activists participating in this action – remembering women killed all over the world.

## **DEALING WITH 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 18<sup>th</sup>** – The commemoration of the 28th 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 22<sup>nd</sup>** – The commemoration in Sjeverin, there were activists of Women in Black from Prijepolje and Pljevlja, together with the families of the killed Bosniaks, paid tribute and laid flowers in Mioče.

**Vukovar/Croatia, November 19<sup>th</sup> “Responsibility and solidarity”** – on the occasion of the 28th 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.

**Vranic, near Belgrade, December 20<sup>th</sup>** - antifascist solidarity action on the 76th anniversary of the crime in Vranic. 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 the Pantic family. Four (4) activists of Women in Black attended an 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:





**Belgrade, October 4<sup>th</sup>** – Thirty (30) women from the Zvornik area (Đulići, Sapna, Grbavci, Snagovo, Zaseok, Glumina, Lupe) and Novi Pazar visited Women in Black; the visit was organized by the Anima Association from Đulići and Women in Black, consisting of conversation in the WiB premises, a walk around Belgrade and an artist event details of which are mentioned further on in the report.

**Belgrade, December 6<sup>th</sup>** – Sixteen (16) women from the Zvornik area visited WiB; during the visit several activities were held: conversation in the WiB premises, street action, conference, visit to the Museum Yugoslavia, the House of Flowers (Tito's memorial) etc.

## **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 remind:* 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, two (2) sessions were held: *September 26<sup>th</sup> and December 12<sup>th</sup>.*

## **TRIAL FOR THE WAR CRIME IN ŠTRPCI – ON FEBRUARY,**

**27<sup>th</sup> 1993**, the train on the Belgrade-Bar railroad number 671 was raided at the station of Štrpci, when the members of the military formation Osvetnici (Avengers), operating as part of the Višegrad brigade of the Army of Republika Srpska, abducted 20 persons from the train (18 passengers of Bosnian nationality, one passenger of Croatian nationality, citizen of the Republic of Yugoslavia and one unidentified person), took them to the village of Mušići first, and from there to the village of Prelovo, in the community of Višegrad, where they were killed. So far, the remains of four people have been found.

For this crime were accused: Gojko Lukić, Ljubiša Vasiljević, Duško Vasiljević, Jovan Lipovac i Dragana Đekić.

In this reporting period seven sessions were held: *September 2<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>; October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>; November 26<sup>th</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>.*

All these sessions were attended by WiB activists, witnesses at Women's Court from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro together with the relatives of the killed – expressing them emotional, moral and political support.

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



## DEALING WITH THE PAST – JOINT REFLECTION

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

**Belgrade, October 5<sup>th</sup>** – Meeting about WIB experiences on Transitional Justice/Dealing with the Past from feminist standpoint took place in WiB premises; in this meeting participated 15 WiB Network activists and three WiB activists from Belgium.

**Belgrade, November 13<sup>th</sup>** – Forced mobilization of refugees, the Humanitarian Law Center (HLC) report was made by: Ivana Žanić and Jovana Kolarić, the judge Vojkan Simić and Zoran Rajšić, a forcefully mobilized refugee. The biggest number of refugees in Serbia (10 000) was forcefully mobilized in the period from May to September 1995. The HLC filed the first complaint in 1996, in the name of 8 mobilized refugees. The HLC represented around 720 people total in 120 processes for gaining compensation. At this conference present were Miloš Urošević and Staša Zajović in the name of WiB.

**Belgrade, November 27<sup>th</sup>** – Meeting with the representative of the peace organization **Pax, Simone Remijnse** from the Netherlands, who coordinates activities related to dealing with the past in Western Balkans. The conversation was held in the WiB premises where we discussed the possibilities of cooperation related to the politics of remembering (memorialization/contested memory/historical revisionism).

**Belgrade, December 6<sup>th</sup>** – Presenting the “*Suggestion of practical politics: Promoting the rights and status of victims and witnesses in processing war crimes*”. Starting from the insight into the processing of war crimes in Serbia that lasted for several years, the HLC identified the problems and deficiencies



in the existing system of supporting the victims and witnesses. For that reason, it started making a draft offering a suggestion of practical politics, in order to offer an analysis of the current situation and suggesting recommendations of improving the status of the victims and witnesses during the court processes for war crimes in Serbia.

The speakers were: Meris Mušanović and Ivana Žanić, HLC, Biljana Slavković, psychotherapist and Suvada Selimović, a witness in the Zvornik II case. There were sixteen (16) women present from the community of victims of the Zvornik area, as well as WiB activists.

**Sarajevo, December 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> “The Balkan chronics: gender equality, transitional justice and international community”** – discussions and workshops organized by Impunity Watch-Hag, BIRN-Sarajevo, Belgrade. Nastasja Radović participated as a WiB activist who spoke on the following sessions: “Connecting justice, gender and prevention”, “The Sarajevo workshop of the civil society on gender equality and transitional justice: where to next?”, “Does the state politics take in consideration the experiences by the direct actors? What is the role of the international community?” During the debates the international political and financial organizations were criticized for their policy towards the Balkan states, especially in the field of the gender dimension of transitional justice, etc.

**Belgrade, December 23<sup>rd</sup>** – *On implementing the national strategy for processing war crimes* – in this report made by the HLC it is stated that the goals of the strategy in question have not been reached: inefficiency in processing war crimes at the domestic courts, small number of indictments, in the past 16 years the Prosecution for War Crimes filed a total of 10 indictments for sexual violence in war, only 6 victims reached a just trial, not one camera was allowed to record the process for the public, the protection of witnesses and victims is practically non-existent, etc. Miloš Urošević participated in this conference as an activist of WiB.

**Zagreb, December 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>** – The ninth Assembly of the Coalition RECOM (Regional Commission for establishing facts about war crimes and other serious violations of human rights committed in the territory of former SFRY from 1/1/1991 to 12/31/2001). The lack of political support was being analyzed (Slovenia, Croatia and Bosnia didn't give their consent to forming RECOM), the strategy of overcoming problems in the context of creating a regional list of victims from 1991 to 2001, while on December 16th the *Forum for transitional justice* was held under the name “*Victims to live in the memory of the society*”. There were around 250 activists from different organizations from all former Yugoslav republics present at the Forum, amongst them Stasa Zajovic from WiB.

## **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 art collectives: Škart and Dah Theater from Belgrade and Art clinic from Novi Sad on joint activities in the mentioned period.



**October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>** – preparing for the exhibition at the Museum of Yugoslavia *The nineties: a vocabulary of migrations in Serbia*. We organized discussions and the filming of the documentary movie *The Return* in the premises of the refugee camps (Mikulja, Mala Krsna, Kovilovo, Pančevo...) in Serbia in which Women in Black have been showing humanitarian support in solidarity, and we also had activist and artistic initiatives there during the nineties. The participants of this event were the members of the artistic group Škart (Vesna Pavlović, Dragan Protić Prota), activists of WiB who coordinated and organized activities in camps (Jardanka Miličević, Radmila Žarković, Staša Zajović and Violeta Đikanović), and the curators of the Museum (Simona Ognjanović and Ana Panić).

**Belgrade, October 4<sup>th</sup>** – „Maybe to dream” Dah Theater’s play directed by Dijana Milošević, text author and actress Ivana Milenović Popović poses important and painful questions about the past of the nineties, about the dilemmas of the young people and other issues. The play was held in Parobrod, Belgrade, and it spoke mostly to women victims of the war from Eastern Bosnia (Zvornik, Đulići, Klisa, Tojšići, Sapna...) and WiB activists.

After the play there was a discussion including the director Dijana Milošević and actress Ivana Milenović Popović, the women told their impressions of the play, they thanked Dah Theater for their solidarity. The event was also organized by Anima from Djulici and WiB from Belgrade.

**Belgrade, October 20<sup>th</sup>** – The day of liberation of Belgrade the Operation Belgrade organized by the antifascists of the choir Our Song. This day was also marked by the WiB activists, the feminist lesbian choir Le Zbor from Zagreb who were WiB’s guests those days.

**Novi Sad, November 8<sup>th</sup>** – Calligraphy Exhibition of Iranian artist and refugee Reza Al-Khamis in Šok Association. The event was organized by Šok, Škart and Women in Black.

In the first part Reza held a calligraphy workshop after which the exhibition was open. Around ten people participated in the meeting with Reza. He spoke about his approach to calligraphy, the way in which he re-questions the traditional technique, adapts it in the fight against racism, limiting the freedom of expression, about his experience as a refugee. The discussion was attended by WiB activists (Nastasja Radović, Staša Zajović, Zinaida Marjanović), sculptor Tijana Cvetković, Dragan Protić Prota (Škart), members of Art Clinic.

**Belgrade, December 5<sup>th</sup>** “The nineties: a vocabulary of migrations in Serbia” – opening of the exhibition at the Museum of Yugoslavia attended by more than 30 modern artists who dealt with the issue of migrations, relocation of the population inside the former Yugoslav republics as a war consequence. The exhibition was organized in six parts and one of them showed the networks of solidarity. There was also an artistic/activist work presented called “*Dignity-Solidarity-Internationalism*” at the refugee camps (in Serbia during the 90’s).

WiB organized a visit to the exhibition on December 6<sup>th</sup>, together with thirty women from Eastern Bosnia. The exhibition is open until March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020.

**Belgrade, December 11<sup>th</sup>** – Working meeting at the WiB office related to 25 years since genocide in Srebrenica. Aida Šehić, a Bosnian artist from the USA presented her project “*Why are you gone*” dedicated to 25 years since genocide. The discussion was attended by the WiB activists, the Youth Initiative for Human Rights and the ZDF Foundation.

## **VIDEO ACTIVISM: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE – FEMINIST APPROACH**

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 will never forget Topčider crime**“ (2:15 min.) – documentary movie on street action in Belgrade- commemoration of 15 years of this crime.
- „**From the wall to walls**“ (4:25 min.) – documentary movie about antifa action on the occasion of International day against fascism and antisemitism.
- „**Stop killing women**“ (5 min.) – documentary movie about street action on the occasion of December 6th – International day against femicide.
- **Return/Povratak** (10 min.) – a documentary film about the visit to refugee camps in which the WiB activists and the artist group Škart worked during the 90's; the author of the film is the artist Vesna Pavlović.

## **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.zeneucrn.org](http://www.zeneucrn.org) and ([www.zenskisud.org](http://www.zenskisud.org)) or contact us by mail:([zeneucrnombeograd@gmail.com](mailto: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 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) etc.

**Sarajevo, December 9<sup>th</sup>** – public presentation took place in City hall (Gradska vijećnica), organized WIB, Belgrade in cooperation with activists of Foundation CURE, Sarajevo and Faculty of Political sciences of Sarajevo.

In the introduction of this event “Why are so important for us women's memory?” spoke doc. dr.



Jelena Gaković, Faculty of Philosophy, Sarajevo and magister Tatjana Žarković, Faculty of Political sciences of Sarajevo.

About history, organizing process and feminist approach of justice of W'sC spoke members of Organizing Committee of W'sC: Staša Zajović (Belgrade), Mira Vilušić (Tuzla) and Jadranka Miličević (Sarajevo).

In the continuation, a documentary movie "Women's Court- feminist approach" was presented. Later on spoke about their experiences witnesses of W'sC:

- *Kadefa Rizvanović*, Sarajevo, B&H
- *Milica Miladinović*, Zagreb/Croatia
- *Nadežda Kostić*, Kruševac/Serbia
- *Sabina Talović*, Pljevlja/Montenegro
- *Reiha Avdić*, Tuzla, B&H
- *Jovanka Carević*, Zagreb/Croatia
- *Suvada Selimović*, Đulići/B&H

This event was attended by 75 people: students of the University of Sarajevo and their professors. Most of the issues discussed were related to the individual and collective resistance of the witnesses, the network of solidarity between the witnesses, the judicial effects of the Women's Court, the uprising nationalism in the whole region. The meeting was attended by the activists of the Mother's Movement of the Zepa and Srebrenica Enclaves, the Foca Association 1992-1995 etc.

## **INTERNATIONAL LEVEL – PROMOTIONS OF W'SC**

**September 22<sup>th</sup>, Madrid** – meeting/exchange of information with Women in Black from Madrid and Valencia; Staša Z. Spoke about W'sC – feminist approach to justice, situation in the region etc.

**26. September 26<sup>th</sup>, Sevilla** – in social centre 'La Insumisa', Staša Z. Spoke about the ongoing situation in the region of Western Balkans, WIB activities, focussion on W'sC; this event was attended by twenty persons – activists of WIB Sevilla, MOC (Conscientious objection movement), Solidarity with Palestina etc.

**II 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.

In this period we organized:

**Pljevlja/Montenegro, August 31<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>** – Two women activists of the association HO Horizonti from Tuzla organized a visit to the Open Center Bona Fide in Pljevlja. They held a group workshop called "Fight against stress and exhaustion", as well as individual conversations with activists and volunteers of Bona Fide in coordination with the Women's Court psychotherapist Mira Vilušić. Beside that, the HO Horizonti activists (Mira Vilušić and Merima Skokić) got to know the support in solidarity with the refugees by Bona Fide and the extraordinary relations they have with the refugees.

**Šabac, October 31<sup>st</sup>** – A visit of solidarity to Rosa Jakovljević (Bela Reka by Šabac), a Women's Court witness, the mother of the military guard Dragan Jakovljević murdered in the military base Topčider in Belgrade (10/4/2004); with Rosa there were 4 other WiB activists (Ljilja, Dana, Violeta, Staša).

**Đulići, December 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>** – after the workshops (Women's peace activism), we spent the time with the witnesses of the Women's Court from Bajramovići/Srebrenica (Nura Mustafić and Refija Hadžibulić), Tuzla (Reiha Avdić) and Đulići (Suvada Selimović).

Feminist ethic of care and responsibility includes also:

**Monitoring of war crimes – Trials for war crimes before the Special Court in Belgrade:** together with the relatives of the killed, the trials are followed by activists of the WiB (for this trial, you can find more information in this report in the section (Monitoring the trial at the Special Court).

During this period, witnesses who conducted legal proceedings (return of property, preparatory actions for war crimes proceedings) and in all cases were supported by female therapists, organizers and activists of the Women's Court.

**III Joint Work Consultation Meetings** – During this period, operational working meetings of organizations, experts, activists participating in the process continued.

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

**V Participation of 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 place of crimes, monitoring the trial, meeting women's solidarity), meetings of the Network, educational programs.

## **NETWORKS, COALITIONS - MUTUAL SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY**

Women in Black are drivers or active participants of numerous regional networks, coalitions and associations, active participants in the activities of related organizations, in order to strengthen mutual support, solidarity, civil society and democracy in Serbia and the whole region.

During this period, a number of activities were realized, from which we highlight the following:

**Women in Black Meeting, Vrnjačka Banja/Serbia, 13, 14 and 15 September 2019**

This meeting was attended by 47 activists from all ex Yugoslavia countries: Serbia (25), Bosnia and Herzegovina (6), Croatia (3), Slovenia (3), Macedonia (1), Montenegro (3), Italy (3), Spain (2), Turkey (1).

**First part of Network meeting:** They left mark on us - an homage to our friends and comrades; WiB Network activities in previous period – information and analysis; Art engaged– documentaries by the Women in Black Video Activism Group produced since the previous Network meeting.

**Second part of Network Meeting:** *Militarism, militarization, alternatives* – on institutional level militarism – visible manifestations of militarism; on militarization – the process of transferring military values to all aspects of life (obedience, authoritarianism, fear control, enemy production, homogenization (ideological, ethnic-racial, sexual); militarization in the education system; sexist attack on disobedient women (blaming and branding ‘traitors’); war-propaganda in the media, militaristic-clerical propaganda and practice... Alternatives - demilitarization at the institutional level, demilitarization of consciousness, solidarity, anti-militarist-feminist initiatives ...)

This central theme of this Network meeting consisted of several sessions:



**I session:** *Militarism and alternatives* (basic concepts and features; visible manifestations of militarism, models of militarization, alternatives to militarism and militarization, feminist anti-militarism ...) Lecturer was Concha Martin, Women in Black, Military Conscientious Objection, Madrid / Spain.

**II session:** *Militarization and demilitarization in various contexts - international level*

*Speakers were:* Annalisa Comuzzi, Women in Black, Udine, Giannina dal Bosco, Women in Black, Verona and Luisa Morgantini, Rome (Italy); Yolanda Roulier, Women in Black, Santander, Spain and Pinar Kuranel, Women’s Studies, Ankara /Turkey.

**III session:** *Militarization and demilitarization – regional level...* in this session spoke activists from ex Yugoslavia countries: Mirjana Bilopavlovic, NGO “Dolphin” Pakrac (Croatia); Danijela



Antonovska, Council for Gender Equality of Macedonia, Skopje; Ljupka Kovacevic, Psychologist, 'Anima', Kotor (Montenegro); Ljupko Miseljic, journalist, Banjaluka (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Marija Sebic, sociologist, Children's Center, Zajecar, Snezana Obrenovic, sociologist, WIB activist, Kraljevo, Tamara Spaić, journalist, WiB activist and Nastasja Radovic, journalist, WiB activist Belgrade (Serbia).

*Militarism and alternatives* – screening of movies (WIB Videoactivist group) and debate

**IV session: “A scowl of discontent is circling Europe – Europe on the streets”** – about the spring of 2019 mass protests were organized across Europe

**I part: *Balkan is boiling*** – on mass protests in the region...

*Serbia: „Release from fear, awaken solidarity, strengthen repression?“* – on protests in Serbia spoke: Martin Bezinarevic, # 1od5milliona civic movement, Majdanpek / Belgrade; Bratislav Stamenkovic, writer, civic activist; Ivana Ristic, NENA – Group for Peace and Women's Rights, Leskovac; Ljiljana Spasic, Pancevo Civic Action and Tatjana Tabacki, Skaska, Zrenjanin.

About protest in Montenegro with slogan “97 000-Resist!” spoke Verica Mirović, Podgorica and on protests in Macedonia spoke *Anita Ilijevska, Skopje*.

**II part: *Demilitarization of consciousness?*** About protest movements in Europe and beyond ... (experiences, influence, lessons ...) spoke activists from Italy, Spain, Turkey.

**IV session - *Anti-militaristic feminist resistance – engaged art*** consisted of few segments:

In the first part **„Resistance in words, drawing ...“engaged activist-artistic publications were presented publications :**

„*Women Who Opposed I World War*“ (“*Mujeres que se opusieron a la Primera guerra mundial*” by *Women in Black Madrid* (Mujeres contra la guerra, Madrid) by LAMALATESTA, Madrid, 2018; book presented by Concha Martin ), Madrid and Jolanda Roulier, Santander, Spain;

„*War - story in drawings*“, written by Djo, Dju; Sasa, Zole and Misel talked; drawn by Zokin; Published by Fabrika knjiga, Belgrade, 2018; the book was presented by Djordje Balmazovic Zole, collective Skart Belgrade / Ljubljana.

“*The Art and Culture of Resistance*”, by prof. Milena Dragicevic Sesic, PhD (Faculty of Dramatic Arts, Belgrade), published by Clio Publishing House, 2018; the book is presented by Snezana Tabacki

„*Stop cluster munitions!*“ – the anti-militaristic publication on the Convention on the Prohibition of Cluster Munitions contains basic information on the said Convention; the Black Women campaign for Serbia to sign the Convention - collecting signatures throughout Serbia for the adoption of the Convention; the militarization of the refugee tragedy - the export of weapons of the state of Serbia to warring areas; anti-militaristic street actions, documentaries, etc. The publication was presented by Staša Zajović.

Second part “*It's not enough to get angry, but to turn anger into creative resistance*” - on anti-militaristic-feminist actions on various meridians...screening of documentaries and debate.

*Evening of poetry: Vavilonia of Marina Cvetajeva* (video presentation and poetry in Albanian, Bosnian, Montenegrin, Croatian, French, English, Italian, German, Serbian, Russian, Spanish, Macedonian language), this event was prepared by Miloš Urošević and Staša Zajović. The evening finished with feminist-antimilitaristic party.

On Saturday, 15<sup>th</sup> September we organized a discussion circle „How and what's next?“ and at the end of the Network Meeting, a joint activity plan was prepared for the upcoming period and an evaluation of this Network meeting was made.

*(Report in Serbian – 25 pages – you can find on the WiB website)*

**Belgrade, October 8<sup>th</sup>** – Meeting of WiB from Serbia with the WiB of Belgium. During the conversation about the current social-political situation in Serbia; the activists from Belgrade, Leskovac and Novi Sad were discussing the tendencies of fascization and clericalization in Serbia, the mental state of the nation, denying the freedom of media, student protests, corrupt privatization, lack of the law implementation in Serbia, the politics of the EU towards Serbia, etc. Beside the guests from Belgium there were around ten WiB activists and student initiative activists (#1od5miliona#).

**Belgrade, November 4<sup>th</sup>** - Meeting of a focus group about the conditions in which the NGOs of Serbia function, their capacities and needs, the status of women defenders of human rights (repression by the governmental and non-governmental actors, politics of international aid, issues, challenges...) The meeting was held at the House of Human Rights and Democracy organized by the Civil Initiative. Present at the meeting were activists from all of Serbia including Stasa Zajovic representing WiB.

**Vrnjačka banja, November 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>** „Solidarity among women“ – panel discussion where Snežana Obrenović, WiB Network activist from Kraljevo, spoke about ethical/political principles of solidarity and WiB practices of solidarity. This was organized by the Association of Women Citizens Peščanik from Kruševac.

**Belgrade, November 26<sup>th</sup>** “Who is defending the defenders?“ – conference organized by Civil Rights Defenders/CRD, about security of the defenders of human rights in Serbia, seeking justice for the victims denied of their human rights, pressure and challenges they face. Staša Zajović participated as an activist of WiB.

**Belgrade, November 30<sup>th</sup>** “Growing clericalization in different contexts – democratic antifeminist responses” – twenty eight (28) people from Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, as well as a refugee from Iran, participated in a meeting organized by WiB (Belgrade) and Protagore (Zagreb). Information was exchanged on the common activities related to secularism, current clerical tendencies in Poland, Serbia, Croatia and Montenegro, on the state and society level.

They also talked about future activities.

*(A more detailed report from this meeting can be found on WiB's website)*

**Vrnjačka banja, December 14<sup>th</sup>** „Resolution 1325 – gender dimension of security“ – morning workshop coordinated by Snežana Obrenović (WiB Network activist from Kraljevo) about the concept

of human security, threats to the security of women, feminist charter on security. The workshop was held at the seminar called Resolution 1325, organized by Pescanik from Krusevac, with the participation of around 30 women activists from Rasina District, Serbia, and Mitrovica, Kosovo.

**Vrnjačka banja, December 14<sup>th</sup> – “About the Resolution 1325 and her implementation in the Balkans”**, a part of the project called “*The negotiations between Belgrade and Prishtina from women’s perspective*”. Stasa Zajovic held an interactive lecture, the participants of the seminar (around 30 of them) were activists of women’s rights and women on local positions in the region of Mitrovica, who are a part of the Women’s Organization of Mitrovica for Human Rights, and activists and women on local positions from Rasina District. Stasa spoke about a decades long cooperation between the activists of Kosovo and Serbia (street actions, meetings of solidarity and mutual support, experiences of the Women’s Peace Coalition made of the Network of Women from Kosovo and WiB Network from Serbia, monitoring the trials for war crimes against the Albanian civilians at the Special Court in Belgrade since 2008 until now, cooperation related to Women’s Court, etc. Some documentary films were shown about the Women’s Peace Coalition, marking the anniversary of the crimes against Albanian civilians, etc.

**Belgrade, December 26<sup>th</sup> „Resolution 1325 – feminist-antimilitaristic approach“** lecture at the Faculty of Political Science held by Staša Zajović as a part of the Master studies “Gender and international security” lead by Prof. Dr Daša Duhaček. Around ten Master students participated. They were talking about the WiB experiences in creating a concept of security from a feminist-antimilitarist perspective (a Resolution of WiB handed over to the Serbian Parliament, but the suggestion was never taken on the agenda); about the long experience of WiB as a part of the Independent Monitoring of the implementation of the Resolution 1325, Women’s Charter on Security, etc.

## **EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH PROGRAMS**

– in addition to the aforementioned, were realized within the Network:

### **Research: The Impact of Clericalization on Reproductive and Labor Rights – Serbia**

Research goals: gaining an insight into the position of women in Serbia regarding reproductive rights, the impact of rising tendencies of clericalization on women’s views on reproductive rights and on the interconnection of labor legislation (labor rights) and reproductive rights. Researchers are prof. PhD Ildiko Erdei and prof. Lidija Radulović, PhD (Faculty of Philosophy, Belgrade, Department of Ethnology).

The research was conducted from the beginning of March to the end of May 2019; the survey was conducted in all of Serbia, appr. **50** women activists from the Women in Black Network participated, and **1050** questionnaires were collected. The results of the research were presented in the next WiB Network, September 2019 and a in next months will made publication.





## WOMEN'S PEACE ACTIVISM, DJULICI, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Educational program that the civic association "Anima" from Djulić and Women in Black 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, one meeting was organized:

**October 24<sup>th</sup>** – *at the thirteenth (13) cycle of this educative program 22 women from the following places participated: Đulići, Klisa, Radava, Šetići, Glumina, Lupe, Grbavci, Sapna, Zaseok, Belgrade.*

The following activities took place:

During the workshop that dealt with getting to know each other better and boosting self-confidence, the participants named the 'undesirable' characteristics in the patriarchal socialization of women ('I can't stay silent', 'I trust others too much', 'pride, spite'; and positive characteristics: empathy, solidarity, friendliness etc.

**Workshop – conversation about good and wrong** based on the books *Psychology of the Good* and *Psychology of the Wrong* by Simon Baron Cohen, shortly presented by the psychiatrist and WiB colleague *Danica Dana Vidić*. The focus was on the values of empathy, solidarity, bravery as well as contradiction of motherhood, imposed patriarchal roles. The women spoke about their traumas, especially during the war, but also in peace time.

*(To remind: during May and June 1992, Serb armed formations committed crimes of ethnic cleansing, robbery, torture, killing ... Thousands of civilians from 13 villages from Zvornik municipality were expelled in May 1992, and about 700 men were later killed in the place of Gerina slaughter; about 300 more are being searched for...).*

The most important segments of the discussion were:

**Remembering war traumas and losses** "*When we were told to leave this place, when our men were killed, we returned by ourselves with our children*" (Suvada).

**Overcoming obstacles, the feeling of self-respect and pride related to children** "*We are left as single mothers. We're fighting. We built great relationships with our children. The war took away a lot of things from us but also helped us learn a lot of things*" (Beska)

**Gender based discrimination** (sexual harrasment, underestimation of single mothers - in war and peace...)



*“We are being humiliated, our each success. What hurts the most is that they underestimate us for being single mothers, for achieving what we achieved, sometimes they say that we achieved it in the most gruesome way, selling our bodies. It is something as raping our pride” (Šaha)*

**Mutual support, women friendship, activism, mutual learning** *“I am proud of all my girlfriends. We still need to work on ourselves, we need to hang out more and support each other more. I won’t submit to anyone, I learned my freedom late...” (Enesa)*

**Reading corner – Đulići Women’s Library** – some women read four books each; the most attention was given to the following books by women authors from different countries: *A Woman at Ground Zero*, by Nawal El Sadawi (Egypt); *Didara – the Story of a Woman from Prizren*, by Maša Malešević (Serbia/Kosovo); *Persecution* by Svetlana Đorđević (Serbia); *Avala is Falling Down* by Biljana Jovanović (Serbia) etc. At the end of this session the participants took the books that they would present at the next meeting.

Documentary films of the Women in Black Group for Video Activism (about street actions since the previous meeting). During the final session we discussed the activities we would be doing together in the following period. The meeting was coordinated by Staša Zajović, with the support of Suvada Selimović and Violeta Đikanović.

**Đulići, December 21<sup>st</sup>** – at the fourteenth (14) meeting organized by Anima from Djulici and Women in Black from Belgrade, **19** women participated from the Municipality of Zvornik and the following places: Motovo, Sapna, Klisa, Sarajevo, Bajramovići/Srebrenica, Tuzla, Tahići, Đulići, Grbavci, Radava and Belgrade.

The following workshops were held:

**Smile, hair** – symbols of woman’s power; the smile of Mona Lisa; woman’s hair in traditional storytellings; the waving of hair through spaces and centuries; covering of hair in religions...

**Workshop: Climate panic circles the world** – on protecting the environment as a basic human right...

After the short lecture on climate changes, the participants gave their suggestions:

To change the consciousness and habits to protect the environment; to set up ecological and moral rules during the marking of the anniversary of crimes in Zvornik Area – to prohibit the installations of places that sell things during the burials, to fight against the commercialization and kitsch during commemoration events.

During the **Reading Circle** the women presented the books they read. The meeting was coordinated by Staša Zajović, with the support of Suvada Selimović and Violeta Đikanović.

**Kotor, October 26th Militarism and militarization – feminist-antimilitarist responses**

The Feminist Discussion Circle was held in *Kotor/Kavač (House of Free Thought)*, there were **15** women activists from different civil society organizations participating, from the following cities: Bar, Bijelo Polje, Herceg Novi, Kotor, Pljevlja, Podgorica, Belgrade.

Several workshops and lectures were held (Staša Zajović):

**Militarism and militarization** – basic terms, relations between militarism and patriarchy, characteristics and manifestations of militarism. The participants identified different types of militarism (visible manifestations: police, army, import-export of arms, huge amounts of illegal arms privately owned (Serbia, Montenegro and Yemen are the countries with the biggest number of illegal arms), arms production, uniforms, mobilization, occupation, military barracks, military objects, military parades, shooting at celebrations, etc. Other phenomena related to militarism: spreading fear, apathy, party state, auto-censure, normalization of violence, militarization of feminist requests for gender equality (in Montenegro there's a trend of many women joining the army).

Short documentary films about militarism were shown afterwards (by WiB Group for Video Activism).

### On alternatives to militarism and militarization

In the first part there was an interactive **lecture on women peace movement** (basic principles, historic review, militaristic character of the so-called peace agreements that don't include forced mobilization, sexual crimes against women, peace activists etc.

Climate panic is circulating around the world - a social-class, gender, anti-militaristic dimension of the climate change / earthquake, which features a docu-film "Rebel Girls – a Documentary (3.20 min.) on Addressing the UN (September 2019). About the environmental activist from Sweden Greta Thunberg.

## 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 WiB 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:**

**Visits to Belgrade-based refugee sites** – activists of the WiB provided solidarity assistance, several times a month, in parks in Belgrade, as well as in self-organized refugee camps in Belgrade.

– **Pljevlja, Montenegro (border between Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina)– November 9<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup>** – solidarity assistance from Goran Lazin, a WiB activist at the Bona Fide Open Center in Pljevlja. During his stay, Goran actively participated in all refugee reception and support activities. To quote the part of Goran Lazin's report: "I stayed in Pljevlja for a week. On the first day, Azra and I went to the border crossing with Bosnia to assist a group of refugees who had been returned from the border by the border police. We found them hidden by an abandoned house by the side of the road. There were sixteen of them, half of whom were women and children, who were transported by car to Pljevlja. We took them to a hotel in Pljevlja, which has been receiving refugees for a long time in cooperation with the municipality. Refugees are paying for the night (10 euros). The rest of the day, we tidied up the basement (garage) of Bona Fide, which houses a huge amount of refugee items - men, women and children footwear and clothing. Every day around 6 pm we went to the bus station and were greeted by the refugees arriving by bus from the direction of Podgorica. They would be welcomed, asked if they needed warm clothes or shoes, if they needed transportation to a doctor or a hotel. One evening there were over twenty refugees at the station, with young children, so we returned to bring warm cars to them both for adults and children. At the station, the arrival of refugees varied - sometimes there were twenty, some days a dozen or less." Since February 2018, over 3000 refugees/migrants have passed through this Bona Fide center.

– **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, WiB organized on average one weekly, and sometimes several times, solidarity visits of refugees located in Krnjača camp to to WiB premisses.

– **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 and more information in the section "Street actions").

**In addition to this, solidarity with war refugees 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.

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

**II Solidarity with Marija Lukic** – Trials for sexual harassment in Kruševac (September 23<sup>rd</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>). Marija Lukić is a victim of sexual harassment committed by Milutin Jelicic Jutka, the former mayor of Brus. Marija Lukić filed a criminal complaint against him in 2018 because he sent her about 15,000 SMS messages during her two years as his secretary. An indictment was filed against M. Jeličić Jutka on July 20<sup>th</sup>, 2018 for two criminal offenses: sexual harassment and unlawful sexual acts through abuse of office. The trial began on May 27, 2019 in the Basic Court in Brus, when the defendants' supporters organized verbal and physical assaults on Marija Lukić and us who support her. At the request of M. Lukic and her lawyer, the trial was transferred to the Basic Court in Kruševac. All three hearings held so far in Kruševac were accompanied by the WiB activists. The trials take place in extremely unfavorable circumstances: a small hall, continuous obstruction by the accused's supporters, instructed false witnesses (officials of the ruling party from Brus) who demonize Marija Lukić, accuse her of being responsible for the violence she suffered (with her 'provocative' dressing and 'overbearing behavior'...), while the accused was turned into a 'victim' by the abuser. A particular form of obstruction is the presence at the trials of Vojislav Šešelj, a convicted war criminal in The Hague, who obstructs the trial, with continuous insulting of Staša Zajović, with the court guard not reacting in order to protect the dignity and integrity of the Woman in Black activist. "This behavior represents a recklessness of the judicial system within the total collapse of the institutions in Serbia, to which V. Seselj, a regime clown, a traveling circus man, a convicted war criminal contributes. This fascist exhibition is a regime-orchestrated misogynistic public outburst on disobedient women (in this case, it was embodied in the brave Marija Lukić)", we stated in the trial report. Prior to the commencement of the aforementioned hearings, WiB together with 'Peščanik' organized protests in front of the Basic Court in Krusevac in solidarity with Marija Lukić.

**III Solidarity with the Milivojevic Family from Lucani – The Ivanjica Trial (November 15<sup>th</sup> and December 17<sup>th</sup>)** – Criminal proceedings against the Director General of the Milan Blagojevic-Namenska Arms Factory, Lucan – Radoš Milovanović and two executives from the same factory (Vladimir Loncarevic and Toma Stojic). They are charged with 'committing a serious crime against general security' because on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017, workers Milomir Milojević and Miloško Ignjatović were killed after a gunpowder explosion. At the first hearing, held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2019, the Director R. Milovanović blackmailed and forced hundreds of workers at the Milan Blagojević-Namenska factory from Lučani to brutally insult the family of the dead worker Milomir Milojević. At the next hearing (November 15<sup>th</sup>), thanks to organized support for the Milovojević family by the WiB activists and a group of citizens from Belgrade, no organized groups of the indicted's supporters appeared before the court.



On November 15<sup>th</sup>, three trials were held according to the director Milovanović's lawsuits. At the first trial, Director Milovanović sued Mirjana Milivojević, sister of the deceased Milomir, for 'damaging his reputation' (following a letter sent to A. Vucic, President of Serbia in May 2019, in a letter pointing to unsafety at the factory and accused director Milovanović for the tragedy). At the second trial, the same director also sued Milovan Milivojević (father of the deceased (Milovan) for 'insulting his honor' because he told in the media that director Milovanovic was 'the most responsible for the death of his son'. Director Milovanovic was not present at these trials and the accused (Mirjana and Milovan) stated that defense evidence was also rejected at this retrial ("it was refused to include evidence of the recorded conversation between me and the director three months after the accident, where the director offered us a job for my daughter and wife, while to me he offered an apartment. He thought that I myself came to sell my dead child", Milovan said. Both Milovan and Mirjana have been acquitted, which the family interprets as 'an order from the top of the government and that this could be a prelude to the release of Director Milovanović'. At the third trial, director Milovanović and two factory officials (Stojić and Lončarević) denied their guilt. The lawyer for the Milivojević family asked for the documentation to determine how much gunpowder was in the warehouse (460 kg was allowed and there were indications that there were 1.5 even 2 tons of gunpowder in an illegal facility that did not have a use permit. Milovan Milivojević recalled that on that tragic day, the temperature outside was higher than 40 degrees and that it was forbidden to work (in the production of gunpowder) at such a high temperature, etc.

At the hearing on **December 17<sup>th</sup>**, Vladimir Lončarević, who pleaded not guilty, argued that the workers' themselves were responsible' for their death because they 'did not obey the directors' order and safety regulations'. "This trial also shows that the indicted enjoy the support of the Aleksandar Vučić regime, the association of the criminal mafia and the political oligarchy in the arms industry in Serbia, where the workers reduced to slave labor serve ruthless exploitation for the profit of arms dealers," says in the statement made by WiB.

*You can find integral reports from the above trials on the WiB website)*

## **DISCUSSION CIRCLES, LECTURES, DEBATES AT THE WOMEN IN BLACK PREMISES - "WEDNESDAYS AT WIB"**

The practice of regular discussions, lectures and joint reflections on important social and political issues in the country and the world, continued in this reporting period, which included seven (17) lectures, debates, book presentations, film screenings, with the participation of more than 330 persons.

**September 11<sup>th</sup>**- 15 women activists attended a meeting with women activists from Spain (Concha Martin, Yolanda Roullier), Italy (Giannina Dal Bosco, Analisa Komuci) and Turkey (Pinar Kuranel).

**September 16<sup>th</sup>** "Current Political Situation in Palestine", speaker Luiza Morgantini (Former Member of the European Parliament, Former Vice-President of the European Parliament, Leader of the Solidarity Movement with Palestine. On the genesis of the conflict in the Middle East, failed peace agreements, increased violence in the occupied territories, resistance from the Palestinian Intifada, Israeli-Palestinian Solidarity Networks, documentaries and videos on Palestinian life in the





occupied territories, their involvement in their own emancipation, resistance to the Israeli state and the expansion of freedom. This event was attended by 22 people.

**September 18<sup>th</sup> “Liberation of Lesbians: Feminist Texts (1968-1980)”** – a booklet published by Labris, presented by Milos Urošević who edited the book with Nela Pamuković (Zagreb). The promotion was attended by 13 people.

**September 25<sup>th</sup> “The Rise and Fall of Yugoslavia’s First Lady”** – Jovanka Broz and the Serbian Public 1952-2013, published by Official Gazette, Belgrade 2018. The book by the author, historian Ivana Pantelić, Institute for Contemporary History, Belgrade. The author spoke about the book in the presence of 7 person.

**October 2<sup>nd</sup> “Savka Subotić – A Woman Who Hasn’t Hidden Anything”**, promotion of the book by Gordana Stojakovic, published by Academic Book, Novi Sad. The book was presented by author Gordana Stojakovic. The promotion was attended by 12 people.

**October 9<sup>th</sup> “Euphoria and Euthanasia”**, by Hrvoje Jurić, Head of the Department of Philosophy, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Zagreb and Head of the Department of Ethics at the same Faculty. The book, published by Sandorf and Mizantrop, Zagreb 2019, is devoted to analyzes of current social and political issues. The author dissects the ruling system in the Balkans, in Europe and in the world (which he sees as bureaucratic-partitocratic-militaristic-patriarchal) and neoliberal capitalism, but also dominant techno-science, reductionism in higher education and the manipulative character of the mass media, advocating direct democracy as a path into a society of equality, justice and solidarity. Apart from the author, Ivan Milenković, philosopher and editor of Radio Belgrade’s Third Program spoke. There were also activists who commented on certain parts of the book. This event was attended by 25 people.

**October 16<sup>th</sup> “Climate Panic Circles the World”**; in the introductory part Snežana Tabački spoke about the factors affecting climate change, about the rebellions against climate change (social-class, gender, anti-militaristic dimension of the revolts), 15 people participated in the conversation.

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> “Elections in Kosovo: resetting political reality”** – discussing recent elections in Kosovo, implications for Serbia-Kosovo negotiations, etc. spoke prof. Stefan Surlić, Faculty of Political Science, and Tamara Spaić, journalist, Belgrade, with the participation of 22 people.

**October 30<sup>th</sup> - The fall of the Berlin Wall: victory and / or defeat?** – a thematic cycle on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall; this thematic cycle takes the form of debates, common reflections; screenings of films (documentary and feature films; book promotion of a topic; reading / commenting on texts / essays.

In the first session, “*From Wall to Walls?*”, Milos Urošević presented basic information about the global conditions that preceded the erection of the Wall, the construction of the Wall (1961) until its demolition (1989). Lino Veljak referred to the root causes of the demolition of the Wall and the great geopolitical changes in the world after the demolition of the Wall. Jelena Bjelica, an analyst at the Afghanistan Analystis Network, Kabul / Belgrade, spoke about the connection between the Soviet

invasion / war in Afghanistan (1979-1989) and the collapse of the USSR, the demolition of the Wall, etc. The debate was moderated by Marijana Stojčić, with 19 people participating.

**November 13rd “The fall of the Berlin Wall: victory and / or defeat?”**, A thematic cycle marking the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. In the second session, “Eastern Europe in the Right Rings from the Fall of the Wall to the Present,” the introductory speaker was Olga Manojlović Pintar, historian, Belgrade, who referred to the growth of right-wing ideologies and practices (nationalism / racism / xenophobia) in Eastern European countries, etc. This event was attended by 30 people.

**November 20<sup>th</sup>** – Erela Shadmi, peace, lesbian-feminist activist Erela Shadmi from Haifa, Israel; she talked about the political situation in the Middle East, the Women’s Peace Movement (Women in Black, Women’s Peace Coalition), the Eco-peace Middle East. In the continuation of the meeting with Erela Shadmi, documentaries were filmed from on WiB Belgrade street performances and actions, after which the situation in Serbia was discussed. 13 persons participated in the interview.

**November 27<sup>th</sup> “The fall of the Berlin Wall: victory and / or defeat ?**, a thematic cycle marking the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall.

In the third session, “On the effects of the fall of the Berlin Wall in the field of transitional justice”, Milan Cakić, a sociologist from Belgrade, spoke about the processes of transitional justice in Eastern Europe, with particular reference to the mechanisms of lustration and the opening of secret files - the effects and shortcomings. The interview was attended by 17 people.

**November 29<sup>th</sup> “Republic Day - Our Day!”** – Women in Black, in cooperation with anti-fascist activists, cultural workers, organized a friendship evening and event to mark AVNOJ’s 76th anniversary on Republic Day.

We organize this event because we celebrate and respect the anti-fascist heritage of NOB, affirm the values of anti-fascism, cultural creativity and internationalist solidarity; we make visible the repressed, forgotten and invisible existences, feelings and experiences of others in the NOB...

The slogan of this year’s event “In Honor of the Forgotten and Invisible in the NOB” consisted of the following segments:

- AVNOJ Second Session – Opening Remarks (*Snežana Tabački-Barči*)
- Why did we decide on the theme of this year’s event? – *Staša Zajović*
- Solidarity against Fascism: Italians in Yugoslavia - Yugoslavs in Italy (1943-1945) - presented by *Milovan Pisarri, historian*
- The Ernst Telman Partisan Unit was presented by *Marijana Stojčić*
- “If History Won’t Recognize It, Poetry Will” (Poems “The Origin of Sultan Soldier” and “Sight of Sultan Soldier”) by poet *Nenad Glišić Gile* was read by actor *Ivan Nikolic*
- Invisible persecution: the attitude of the partisan movement towards gays - presented by *Vladimir Jevtic, Bajina bašta according to the LGBT Forum Progres, Podgorica*
- The un / visible love of poets in the National Liberation War (*Vladimir Nazor and Ivan Goran Kovacic*) is represented by *Lino Veljak*, and the song by *V. Nazor “Boat on Buy”* was read by *Ivan Nikolic*
- Performances of the antifa choirs “Our Song” and *Sabina* and the WiB (partisan songs in the new arrangement;
- Poets – they read poetry (*Nenad Milošević, Goran Babić, Danica Vukičević*)

*The event was hosted by: Dragan Protić Prota and Tanja Marković, and the event was attended by about 80 people.*

**December 4<sup>th</sup>** – Thematic cycle on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall – The fall of the Berlin Wall: victory and / or defeat? The screening of the feature film Goodbye Lenin was attended by 7 people.

**December 11<sup>th</sup>**, “**What kind of country is this?**”, screening of the 2018 feature film by Croatian director Vinko Brešan examines the burden of the recent past; 10 people participated in the screening and debate.

**December 18<sup>th</sup>** “**The fall of the Berlin Wall: victory and / or defeat?**”, Within the thematic cycle on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the fifth session “Consumption meanings behind and after the fall of the Berlin Wall” was held. Dr. Ildiko Erdei, Associate Professor at the Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade, and Dr. Emilija Mijić, researcher and associate, Department of Ethnology and Anthropology, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Belgrade spoke.

The lecture presents ideas on consumption and consumption patterns that existed in Yugoslavia (and in other parts of Central and Eastern Europe) in the Cold War era, even after the fall of the Berlin Wall. While during socialism, consumption was mainly associated with the concepts of abundance and consumer well-being, as well as with the idea of capitalist modernity, after the fall of the Berlin Wall, one of the most striking forms of consumption was the so-called. nostalgic consumption, which involves not only searching for objects and things from the time of socialism and their use, but also the idea of a “better past,” informed by the loss of illusions about the present.

**December 25<sup>th</sup>** – Exchange of information, experiences and impressions from conferences attended by WiB activists during December 2019 (on Transitional Justice, Women’s Court, etc.). In the second part of the meeting, proposals for future debates were presented within the framework of “Wednesday at the WiB”. 15 activists participated in the debate.

*(Extensive reports from these debates can be found on the WiB website)*

## **PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES**

During this period, we published the following publications:

**Security for Human Rights Defenders** – A 14-page publication, the result of a seminar of the same name, when participants are introduced to the basic legal frameworks and procedures in the event of attacks, threats and other threats to safety and health. The editor of the publication is Mirko Medenica.

**Women’s Peace Agenda for 2020** – is dedicated to engaged art – the aesthetics of the anti-war resistance of Women in Black, which since the beginning of our work (1991) was conceived and realized together with artists and art collectives (Škart, Dah Theater, MMC Art Clinic ...).



*The Women's Peace Agenda for 2020* – presents in the introductory part the symbols and artifacts of Women in Black, as well as the basic starting points for the activist-artistic aesthetic of Women in Black; anti-war street actions against the war in the former Yugoslavia, as well as actions of global solidarity against violence and war; artistic-activist engagement in dealing with the past, feminist / anti-militarist / anti-racist actions, etc.

*The Women's Peace Agenda for 2020* – Delivers dates on WiB actions and lists selected dates, actions, initiatives, practices. Fostering aesthetics of resistance is reflected in the photographs from our actions.

*The Women's Peace Agenda for 2020* – dedicated to Borka Pavičević (1947-2019), playwright, founder of the Center for Cultural Decontamination, a consistent anti-war civic, antinationalist/ antifascist activism, a sublime and elegant figure of our movement, a brave woman, gentle and kind buddy ...

*The Women's Peace Agenda for 2020* – **180** pages, edited by Staša Zajović, in cooperation with activists Miloš Urošević, Snežana Tabački, Nataša Milanović; design and layout was done by Marija Vidić, photos made by Srđan Veljović, Biljana Rakočević and Vesna Pavlović.

**Women in Black Calendar for 2020** – Calendar made of photographs of street actions of Women in Black during 2019 (Srđan Veljović 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.

**Solidarity is our strength! – Women in Black sent their unreserved, clear and vocal message of support for the first Pride Parade in Sarajevo (September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019).**

“WiB and related civil society organizations are urging all democratically-minded citizens of Sarajevo, as well as all of Bosnia and Herzegovina, to take to the streets of Sarajevo, regardless of their sexual orientation, and say NO to those who hate others and different.

It is an act of solidarity, as well as a political act that clearly sends the message that we, who share the value system of peace, non-violence and respect for human rights, have an obligation and responsibility to reach out to those who are scared and that together with them we want to say that Sarajevo on that day, and every other day, in every other city in Bosnia and Herzegovina, belongs to everyone, “ the statement said.

**“Discover the killers of soldiers!** – on the occasion of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the assassination of soldiers in Topčider (5<sup>th</sup> October 2004 – 5<sup>th</sup> October 2019), the WiB, Fond for Humanitarian Law

warned that the investigation is still in the pre-trial phase. In a statement, WiB demands from the state: to immediately suspend the obstruction of the investigation of the murder of Dragan Jakovljević and Drazen Milovanović; to finally announce the truth about the killing of soldiers, as well as the hiding of Ratko Mladić 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 28<sup>th</sup> 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 that

“On June 20, 2019, the Belgrade High Court, in a retrial, sentenced the eight indictees guilty of war crimes and sentenced them to four to eight years in prison. The trial for war crimes in Lovas lasted 11 years. Justice for the victims is once again not satisfied since the Trial Chamber did nothing to restore dignity of victims and their families. Women in Black will continue their practice - visits to crime scenes and thus build a policy of peace, friendship and solidarity with the villagers of Lovas. “

**“Remember the crime in Sjeverin”** – on the occasion of the 27<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the abduction and murder of 17 Bośniak citizens of Serbia from the village of Sjeverin near Priboj, carried out by members of the Republika Srpska Army (VRS), and the Youth Initiative for Human Rights repeat that justice for the victims Sjeverin is not satisfied because “the courts have concealed the responsibility of the state of Serbia, even though it was established during the trial”, “In the name of justice, on behalf of the dignity of the victims, we ask Serbia to arrest the perpetrators and their commanders. Until Serbia faces these and all other crimes committed on our behalf, it will continue to be a safe house for convicted war criminals and an oasis of impunity,” the statement said.

**Stop Turkish aggression on Syria!** – on the occasion of the attack on the territory of northern Syria, an autonomous area controlled by the Kurdish population, the WiB requested the competent institutions of the state of Turkey “to stop armed aggression against the autonomous Kurdish region in northern Syria, from the international community to do everything in its power to exert pressure to the Government of Turkey to cease violating international humanitarian law and withdraw its military forces, for the investigators of the International Criminal Court to conduct an investigation that would result in the indictment for war crimes and crimes against humanity against officials of both the Turkish military and Turkish President Erdogan, “ is stated in the statement dated October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**From the Wall to Walls** – in a statement on November 9<sup>th</sup> – International Day for the Fight against Fascism and Anti-Semitism, as well as on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall, WiB emphasizes that “The fall of the Berlin Wall represents a symbolic moment of the destruction of the system of ‘real socialism’ in the East and Central Europe. It awakened his hopes of strengthening freedom and democracy.

Instead, there has been growing social and economic inequality, nationalism, populism, xenophobia, conservatism, radical pro-fascist ideologies, policies and practices, which is brutally manifested in refugee persecution, border militarization, rising military spending and arms trafficking. “The state of Serbia and private companies close to the regime are exporting weapons to warring states and various dictatorial regimes: weapons produced in Serbia have been found on numerous fronts

in the world, particularly in Yemen and Syria, and often end up in the hands of various terrorist organizations that commit war crimes. This makes gun sellers and suppliers complicit in war crimes. Because of the enormous profits from the sale of weapons, the regime produces the deaths of civilians in the warring areas, and causes the death and casualties of workers in the arms industry in Serbia,” the statement said.

**Stop glorification of war criminals!** – Women in Black in a statement (11/11/2019) strongly condemned the unveiling of the memorial plaque to Mladen Bratić, a major general of the former Yugoslav People’s Army and commander of the Novi Sad Corps, who led the attack on Vukovar. The plaque was placed within the military complex in the center of Novi Sad by representatives of the Serbian army, the Prime Minister of the Provincial Government, and Milos Vučević, Mayor of Novi Sad. WiB warns that this shameful act is “a message to the citizens of the Republic of Croatia that the state of Serbia does not want to give up the same ideology that produced the war, and that this ideology is still alive. This is a process that disrupts the already fragile relations between the two countries and increases instability in the region. “

**We will never forget the crimes in Vukovar!** – in a statement on the occasion of the 27th anniversary of the crimes in Vukovar, WIB reiterated the request to the competent institutions of the State of Serbia to “establish the responsibility of the former YPA leadership for the armed attack on Croatia and to initiate legal proceedings for the crime of uricide in Vukovar; establish the full truth about the missing by opening the archives of the Serbian Armed Forces and discovering the graves of Croatian victims in Serbia; initiate court proceedings for the establishment of camps and for the killing and torture of Croatian civilians and soldiers in camps in Stajićevo, Begejci, Sr. Mitrovica, Aleksinac, Nis and Belgrade; acknowledges the request of Women in Black and the Art Clinic, signed by more than 30 civil society organizations, to erect memorial plaques at camps in Stajićevo and Begajci and to support other forms of symbolic reparations to victims and their families; initiate a legal ban on glorification and rehabilitation of war crimes convicts committed in Vukovar and all other places ”.

**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 Stajićevo:** 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 Stajićevo 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!, WIB stressed in appeal November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**Stop Violence Against Human Rights Defenders!** - in a statement on November 29<sup>th</sup> - International Day of Human Rights Defenders, it is recalled that “Women in Black have been exposed to both attacks and threats from the beginning of their work, which have intensified over the last 5 years through numerous attacks, from physical attacks, threats, insults, interference with rallies and other forms of intimidation. In connection with these attacks, 13 proceedings were initiated before the state authorities of the Republic of Serbia. Neither of these cases has a judicial epilogue, none of the



perpetrators has been punished. Most cases are still under investigation. We reasonably suspect that the state authorities do nothing to find and prosecute the perpetrators. Even in the case of physical assault in Valjevo (July 11, 2014), when four activists were injured, in the presence of dozens of police officers, none of the perpetrators were prosecuted. “ It also alleges that eight female activists and Women in black are investigating for a crime for which a prison sentence has been imposed in connection with a feminist-antimilitarist protest organized on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019, in front of the Serbian Orthodox Church/SOC headquarters in Belgrade.

“Human rights defenders today operate in an extremely hostile atmosphere, without the protection of state bodies, exposed to ruthless campaigning and media lynching, in anticipation of attacks by the regime of instructed fascist groups, in a society where intolerance and hatred are growing daily, where violence is fully normalized. We consider the authoritarian regime of Aleksandar Vučić directly responsible for this situation, “it is emphasized at the end of the statement.

**Stop killing women!** – in a statement on December 6<sup>th</sup> – International Femicide Day, the WiB and the Autonomous Women’s Center, recalled that “87,000 women were deliberately killed in 2017 worldwide. More than half of them (58%) - 50,000 are killed by partners or family members, meaning that 137 women worldwide are killed every day by their family members. More than a third (30,000) of women were intentionally murdered in 2017 by their current or former partners, those they trusted or those who told them they loved them (Data from the Gender-based Murder of Women and Girls Study, UNODC, 2018) . In 2019, 25 women have been killed so far in Serbia, by ex or current partners and spouses, sons, grandchildren, stepfathers, and 12 more have been attempted. Five women reported violence to relevant institutions, and in addition, three killers were previously known to police for violent behavior against other members of the community. Six women were killed by guns and hunting rifles. The number of women killed in the countries of the former Yugoslavia is the largest in Serbia, followed by Croatia, ” the statement said.

**Initiative for naming a street in Belgrade after Dejan Nebrigić** – December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 20 years have passed since the death of Dejan Nebrigić (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 Nebrigić, 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 addition to meetings, participation in international conferences already mentioned in this report:

**Peace Prize for Staša Zajovic** – The Government of the Spanish province of Navarre (Gobierno de Navarra / Nafarroako Gobernua), based in Pamplona, presented the Peace Prize on September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2019 to Stasa Zajovic, one of the founders and coordinators of Women in Black. The reasoning of the decision states that the award is given for its “commitment to peace and peace activism, non-violent anti-war engagement, organizing protests against war, militarism, hatred, discrimination, for advocacy for justice and human rights, especially women’s human rights. We believe - the government’s reasoning points out - that Staša Zajovic’s engagement embodies the values that our institution stands for and is a major contributor to peace. “

The award ceremony was held on September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Castel Ruiz de Tudela, a symbol of the peaceful coexistence of different cultures throughout history. It was attended by the highest representatives of the province of Navarre: the President of the Province of Navarre, the Speaker of Parliament, the Mayor of the City of Tudela “, as well as feminist-anti-militarist activists from Spain.

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**Women in Black, March 2020.**

