



*žene u crnom
beograd*

REPORT

**for the period
January – April 2016**

As we have done in the past, we are providing you with a brief report regarding our action in this period. If you are interested in more detailed information you can find it on web-site www.zeneucrnomo.org or by contacting us by mail at zeneucrnombegrad@gmail.com

We would like to thank you in advance, in solidarity.

žene u crnom



STREET ACTIONS

In this reporting period we organized eleven (11) actions, but we are also actively involved in other street actions:

- Commemorations / marking significant dates of crimes committed in our name
- Feminist, anti-fascist, anti-war, anti-racist, anti-militarist actions...

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

Belgrade, February 27th - On the occasion of 23rd anniversary of the crime in Strpce, Women in Black, Humanitarian Law Center and Youth Initiative for Human Rights, organized (from 3.48pm to 4.48pm) peace action *"We remember the crime in Strpce"* in Knez Mihailova Street. To remind: On February 27th 1993 at 3.48pm from train 671, from Belgrade to Bar, in Strpci train station, 230 km from Belgrade, members of armed formations "Avengers", apart of Army of the Republic of Srpska kidnapped and killed 19 passengers, non-Serbs (18 Muslims and 1 Croat). Following banners were present: *The train stopped at 15.48h; We remember the crime in Strpce - 27.02.1993.-27.02.2016; And after 23 years, Serbia is silent. Until when?; Women in Black for peace and justice. There were also banners with the names of victims Esad Kapetanovic, Ilijaz Licina, Fehim Baki, Seco Softic, Rifat Husović, Halil Zupčević, Senad Dečević, Jusuf Rastoder, Ismet Babačić, Tomo Buzov, Adem Alomerović, Muhedin Hanić, Safet Preljević, Džafar Topuzović, Rasim Coric, Fikret Memović, Fevzija Zeković, Nijazim Kajević, Zvezdan Zulicic. In addition to standing in black and in silence, actresses of Dah Theatre performed a song from their play "The Story of Tea", which is dedicated to kidnapping in Strpce. This action was attended by **35** activists.*



Prijepolje, February 27th - In front of the memorial plaque in Prijepolje, the 23rd anniversary of the crime in Strpce was marked. Activists of Female Voice from Priboj, Bona Fide from Pljevlja, who are members of Women in Black Network, paid tribute to victims of crime in Strpce.

Belgrade, March 26th - The Youth Initiative for Human Rights and My Initiative movement organized a walk from the Republic Square to Batajnica, in protest against the rehabilitation of war criminals. Walk was 20 kilometers long and was organized under the slogan *"too young to remember, determined to never forget"*, so to never forget the crimes against Kosovo Albanians during the NATO bombing in 1999.

The walk was completed in Batajnica, where in the MIA Special anti-terrorist unit training area in 2001 were found more than 700 bodies of Kosovo Albanian civilians killed during the war in Kosovo (1999). Women in Black activists took active part in this action.





Belgrade, April 6th - "We remember - 24 years from the beginning of the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina". On the anniversary of the beginning of war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Women in Black organized peace action in black and in silence, in Knez Mihailova Street. Action was also organized on the occasion of the unjust verdict of the Hague Tribunal to Vojislav Seselj. During the protest stage action *We remember* (6.04.1992.-6.04.2016.) was played. 30 activists took part in the action from following organizations: Women in Black, the Youth Initiative for Human Rights, the Association of Serbian antifascists, Autonomous Women's Center.



Belgrade, April 23rd - The activists of Women in Black, on April 23rd in 02.06am joined the families, colleagues and friends of 16 RTS employees who were killed on April 23rd 1999 in 02.06am in NATO attack. On the monument "Why?" in Tašmajdan park in Belgrade, Women in Black, laid flowers with the words "We remember."

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

Listed chronologically:

Belgrade, February 8th - "No to rehabilitation" anti-fascist protest in front of the Higher Court (Timočka 15) in Belgrade, where a hearing for rehabilitation of Milan Nedić, a Nazi collaborator was held. As head of the Serbian government during the Nazi occupation in Second World War. M. Nedić is responsible for the Holocaust and crimes against antifascists during World War II. Rehabilitation of M. Nedića would delete anti-fascist heritage, morally and politically normalize fascism, encouraging neo-fascist and fascist policies and movements in Serbia today. This protest of Women in Black was joined by activists from Croatia (Zagreb and Novska) as well as from Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Belgrade, March 8th: "Decent work, not a famine" street march to commemorate International Women's Day, this street action was attended by about **500** people from all over Serbia. Street march was organized by the Reconstruction Women's Fund, in cooperation with Women in Black. After the street march an interactive exhibition "Solidarity - internationalism - Continuity" was organized at the Center for Cultural Decontamination.



Belgrade, March 14th - "No to rehabilitation", an anti-fascist protest in front of the Higher Court (Timočka 15) in Belgrade, where we attended hearing for the rehabilitation of Milan Nedić, head of the Serbian Government, during the Nazi occupation in World War II. On this occasion, we held following banners: "Women in Black against fascism", "Anti-fascism is our choice", "No to rehabilitation". During the protests, supporters of the rehabilitation, members of Nazi organizations insulted and threatens activists of Women in Black.





Belgrade, March 19th, "Act for Freedom of Movement", anti-militarist protest against the repression of refugees from the Middle East, which intensified after the closure of the so-called Balkan route; protest was held simultaneously in the countries of the Western Balkans and in Europe. Activists of Women in Black took part in this action.

Belgrade, March 21st, "We want open borders, not a fortress Europe - Stop Racism!", on the occasion of International Day Against Racism, Women in Black organized a peace action in Knez Mihailova Street in Belgrade. Action was related to the issue of war refugees and their situation in Europe today.

Following banners were held: *We want open borders, not a fortress Europe!; Europe 1936 = Europe 2016., Stop the persecution of people from the Middle East!; Stop the War, not the people!; Border closed - door wide open for smugglers of people!; Stop the war in Syria, Stop the war in Iraq, Stop the war in Afghanistan; Stop deportations, Stop trafficking weapons, No one is illegal, and so on.* Banners were in various languages: Serbian, English, Arabic, Dari and Farsi. During the protest, performance "Asylum, no tents, no wires, no limits ..." was held.

In action participated activists of Women's Space from Niš, who on this occasion performed their performance against violence and discrimination against Roma women with the following message: *Discrimination against Roma women in employment; Stop terror against Roma women, Stop racism! We are all Roma women and men!* etc. This protest was attended by about fifty (50) activists of Women in Black, Women's Space, Reconstruction Women's Fund and Regional Centre for Minorities.





FACING THE PAST TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE - A FEMINIST APPROACH

Facing the past / transitional justice - feminist approach

This is one of the most important activities of Women in Black. It consists of many parts: street actions, workshops, lectures, creating different models of transitional justice from a feminist approach, in cooperation with similar organizations in joint actions (campaigns, consultative meetings).

WOMEN'S SOLIDARITY FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF WAR CRIMES

Women's solidarity against the impunity of war crimes: actions of women solidarity - feminist ethics of care and responsibility, acts of mutual support, exchange and cooperation in the region in order to build a just peace. In this period we organized:

January 21st and 22nd, Bihac (Bosnia and Herzegovina) - solidarity visits to Meira Dautović, peace activist, mother of Edna and Edvin, who were killed in the concentration camp at Omarska in Bosnia and Herzegovina by Serbian armed forces.

February 8th, Vranic, Belgrade - antifascist solidarity visit to the village of Vranic, in memory of the crimes that were committed by Chetnik fascistic formations during World War II against civilians of Serbian nationality. On this occasion, Women in Black activists, the activists from Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina visited the memorial room in the house of the family Pantic.

February 19th Đulići, BiH - a meeting with women from the town in the Zvornik area (Đulić, Klisa, Setici, Srebrenica); During this meeting the four activists of Women in Black organized a peace workshops, and they also agreed joint activities in the future.

April 11th, Potocari / Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina: solidarity visit of ten women the area of Zvornik and Women in Black activists from Belgrade to Memorial Center Potočari / Srebrenica, where they met with the mothers of Srebrenica. The same day, activists of Women in Black have visited the village Bajramovići (near Srebrenica) and met Nura Mustafic and Refija Hadžibulić, survivors of the genocide in Srebrenica.



Punishment of crime - the path to a just peace: attending trials at the Special Court

At the War Crimes Chamber of the Special Court in Belgrade, the proceedings against the accused Pavle Gavrilović and Rajko Kozlina for war crimes in the village of Trnje (Suva Reka / Therandë), March 25th 1999, Kosovo, when members of the Serbian Army and the Ministry of Interior of Serbia killed 31 Albanian civilians (including 22 members of the Gashi family); 19 of them are still missing. In this reporting period, we followed a hearing held on January 18th.



ARTISTIC ENGAGEMENT IN CONFRONTING THE PAST / TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

During this period the practice of joint work and cooperation with art collective, professional theaters, artist engaged in the artistic expression of resistance to war, war crimes, repression and human rights abuses was continued. Besides the above mentioned artistic and activist initiatives, primarily in the section "Street actions", in this period were organized several working meetings related to the conception and implementation of activist-artistic actions with artistic collectives: Multimedia center Led Art / Art Clinic and Dah Theatre on joint activities in that period, a working meetings were held in Belgrade and Novi Sad. In this period, activities were focused on making a documentary film about the Women's Court - feminist approach to justice and 10 meetings were held on this subject.

VIDEO ACTIVISM: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE - FEMINIST APPROACH

In order to improve the visibility of the effects of various models of transitional justice, particularly one from a feminist point of view, promoted by Women in Black (WIB), created in 2010 by a group of video activists, who are trained for recording, editing, digitizing and posting on internet video and audio material gathered during regular activities of Women in Black, in the form of short films, to become available to the general public. Group for video activism of Women in Black is coordinate by Marija Vidic and Goran Lazin, in cooperation with Marija Arandjelovic, Zinaida Marjanovic and other activists of Women in Black. In this reporting period, the group has implemented the following videos:

- **Refugees are welcome** - the action of Women in Black held to mark the December 10th- the International Day of Human Rights; film lasts 2:57 minutes.
- **We will never forget the crime in Strpce** - a documentary about the anniversary of the war crime in Strpce; 5:48 minutes duration (in Serbian and English)
- **"We want open borders, not a fortress Europe - Stop Racism!"** - On the occasion of March 21st - International Day Against Racism, Women in Black organized a peace action in Knez Mihailova Street in Belgrade; lasts 5:04 minutes, in English and Serbian language.
- **The bitter taste of freedom** - documentary film lasting 56 minutes talking about the murder of the Russian journalist Anna Politkovskaya, in October 2007.
- **"Women's Peace Meetings"** - a documentary film (translation and subtitling), are provided in this report under the heading of the same name of the educational program.
- **Women's Court - feminist approach to justice** - documentaries (translation and subtitling), are provided in the eponymous section in this report.



WOMEN'S COURT FEMINIST APPROACH TO JUSTICE

Here's a quick report on the activities of Women in Black in connection with organizing the Women's Court-feminist approach to justice in this period. If you are interested in more information, you can find them on our web-sites 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 May 7th to 10th 2015, organized by 10 women's groups from the former Yugoslavia (Movement Mothers of Srebrenica and Zepa; Cure Foundation, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Centar for women victims of War; Centre for women's studies, Zagreb, Croatia; Center for women and peace education Anima, Kotor, Montenegro; The Council for Gender Equality, Skopje, Macedonia; Women's Lobby, Ljubljana, Slovenia; Center for women's studies and Women in Black, Belgrade, Serbia. Women's Court was attended by over 500 people from all the countries of the former Yugoslavia, but also from Argentina, Algeria, Palestine, Israel, USA, Spain, Italy, Sweden, Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, etc.

Women in Black, during the five years, are the leaders of program activities of the Women's Court.

The final event in Sarajevo is not the end of the process, but rather an incentive to creating new models of justice out of the feminist perspective. It is the responsibility primarily to the witness, but also an expression of our responsibility to the enormous burden of the recent past.

In continuation of the Women's Court, Women in Black, Belgrade coordinate the program and other activities, with the support of organizations: Anima, Kotor (Montenegro), Center for Women War Victims, Zagreb (Croatia), the Foundation 'Cure', Sarajevo, some members of the former Organizing Committee of the Women's Court continue to participate sporadically (Council for Equality, Skopje, Macedonia), while the other members support without active participation.

In this reporting period, we are reporting activities of Women in Black and other organizations participating in the continuation of the process of Women's Court:

I Feminist ethic of care - support lady witnesses

Regional meetings of the witness - after the final event held in Sarajevo. In this period we held the following regional meetings:

The feminist discussion circle - About Feminism Then and Now: April 1st to 3rd 2016 at Kotor, Montenegro, organized by the Center for Women and Peace Education Anima, Kotor and Women in Black, Belgrade, a feminist discussion circle was held. 26 women participated: 10 from Serbia and 16 from Montenegro. Some of witnesses participated in the Women's Court from Serbia and Montenegro, as well as activists of "Anima" and the Network of Women in Black from Serbia.

The program consisted of the following units:

- **The skills of nonviolent communication** - workshop which was facilitated by *Ljupka Kovačević*
- **"Suffragettes"** - an American film from 2015, directed by Sarah Gavron and discussion after the film.
- **A feminist activism in Yugoslavia** - lecture *Ervine Dabižinović*
- **"Drug-ca" the first feminist conference in Eastern Europe, 1978** - recording of the show on the first feminist conference in Eastern Europe (1978). After this documentary film there was a discussion on: the status of women



today, especially in rural areas; the gap between academics and activists, but also on their cooperation, the importance of education, especially in the present circumstances, devaluation of education; the challenges of solidarity among women; on volunteer work now and then, and so on.

- **What is feminism today?** Where feminism is going here and in the world? - The introductory speaker, *Paula Petricevic* and *Stasa Zajović* discussed the complex situation in which the feminist movement in today's world, especially the obstacles and challenges (NGO-ization, gender mainstreaming / gender equality policies, neoliberal economic globalization, strengthening of conservative and fundamentalist tendencies , etc.)
- **"Obrani berači"** - (47 minutes) documentary film by Milica Lupšor, Zrenjanin about the difficult situation of seasonal agricultural workers in Vojvodina, ruthless exploitation, fear and poverty of women, and the fight for women's labor rights.
- **A recent judgments of the ICTY** - about how the verdict of the Hague Tribunal in March 2016 (R. Karadzic and V. Seselj) affect our work and our struggle against impunity for war crimes. All participants stated that they were distressed by the verdict, and brought doubts in the possibility of justice and equity at the international level; All participants expressed their concerns because they feel that this judgment will lead to an increase in nationalist tensions; participants have expressed heightened motivation to get involved in this situation (joint action, more frequent meetings and joint reflections).
- **"Where feminism goes - here and now?"** - Keynote speaker *Paula Petričević* on the fragmentation of the feminist movement, the reduction of feminism on gender equality policy, threats to feminist movement in the form of institutionalization of feminism and feminist politics through the state apparatus, the academic community, but also through non-governmental sector , etc.
- **Evaluation (What have I got of this meeting?):** Found that participants received encouragement for further joint work, new friends, new knowledge, but also great anxiety and even fear because of the situation in the entire region.

II Promotion of Women's Court - Feminist Approach to Justice

Novi Sad, March 5th 2016 - Public presentation of the Women's Court was held at the University of Novi Sad - Center for Gender Studies, Novi Sad, in the presence of twenty people (20), mostly female students of gender studies, Journalists from Independent Association of Journalists of Vojvodina and the activists.

After a short introductory section and presentations (Svenka Savić, Profesor at University Novi Sad and Stasa Zajović, Women in Black, Belgrade), spoke the witness on the Women's Court, held in May 2015 in Sarajevo.

Part I: The witnesses speak about their experience testifying in the Women's Court in Sarajevo

Suvada Selimovic, Đulići, Bosnia and Herzegovina testified to WC about the massacre of Bosniak civilians in 1992.

Nadezda Kostic, Kruševac testified to WC about the forced mobilization of men for the war in Kosovo in 1999, during the military intervention of NATO.

Vesna Đorđević, Zrenjanin testified about the brutal violation of labor rights of women.

Part II: The importance of the testimony of the WC, the witness experience can be summarized as follows:

- A common area of the struggle for justice of women victims of war and other injustices;
- The possibility that women are telling the truth about what happened on the basis of their experience and not through falsified information, the media and politicians;
- Cohesion, unity and mutual support to witness above and beyond national boundaries and national origin;
- Construction of an ethic of responsibility by disclosing the witness manipulation by political elites;



- Collective experience resistance to forced mobilization of women and through personal experience, the ability to know the truth about the resistance to forced mobilization during the war in Serbia, because of "media blackout".
- Information about the consequences of war violence, especially crimes of forced mobilization, health of relatives of mobilized
- Creating space for women victims of campaign of violations of labor law, etc.

Part III - Questions and comments of the audience were related to: the current ethnic relations in BiH, indifference and silence among students about what happened during wars, and so on.

Documentary films about the final event - the Women's Court in Sarajevo (May 2015)

The feminist approach to justice - by Noa Pintarić, duration 9:40 minutes

Women's Court, Sarajevo - author Berin Džamailović, duration 5:26 minutes

Tanja Djuric Kuzmanovic, prof. PhD University of Novi Sad, spoke about her experience as a WC collaborator regarding the socio-economic violence, and above all the forms of economic violence against women in war and post-war period, the brutal violation of labor rights of women in the process of privatization theft, but also resistance of women.

Svenka Savic talked about the common interaction and connectivity of feminist activism and theory and about the importance of WC for the academic community.

Finally, we discussed the future plans of the Women's Court.

III Working meetings with the witness at the national level

Zagreb, January 17th - The meeting was held at the *Centre for Women Victims of War*, and in the organization of Center for Women War Victims - Rosa, Zagreb and Women in Black, Belgrade.

The meeting was attended by the following witnesses:

Marica Šeatović, Novska

Jovanka Carevic, Zagreb

Ljubica Anđelković, Novigrad

Mirjana Učakar, Ptuj, Slovenia

and organizers: Nela Pamuković and Stasa Zajović

Part I: Work on the texts of the testimonies - the witnesses, with the support of the organizers reviewed the texts of their testimony, made some changes (ie. A slight shortening, where the facts are repeated ...), commented footnotes brought by the working group of Women in Black, and authorized the text of testimony. After this phase, the working group has incorporated all the amendments and joined the editorial staff of texts testimony. This process takes place in accordance with horizontal and democratic character of the entire process of organizing WC.

Part II: Joint reflection on current social and political situation, arrangements for activities in the future.

IV Joint working consultative meetings

In this period maintained the operational organization of working meetings, expert, activist participating in a continuing process of WC:

- **Zagreb, January 16th** - Working meeting in which participated Stasa Zajović and Nadezda Čaćinović philosopher, on the book *Women's testimonies* and Nadezda has agreed to write a review for a book on WC.



- **Zagreb, January 19th and 24th** - Working meetings in which participated Rada Boric, Stasa Zajović, Nela Pamuković, Marijana Senjak, Milica Miladinovic, Jovanka Carevic; During the meetings they discussed the support to the witness, the international panel of judges, financial problems, joint activities.

V Working meetings of Women in Black

As leaders of program activities in continuation of the process of WC, held working meetings (reporting activities, preparation of publications, documents and archives of WC, prepares regional meetings of witness, prepares Women book of testimonies, the coordination of the working group for making a documentary film about WC, etc.

VI Video Activism

Video activism which includes the implementation of video material related to feminist approach to justice; includes the translation and subtitling of documentaries about the experiences of non-violent movement against the impunity of crimes, neoliberal economic globalization, etc. In this reporting period following documentaries were made:

- **Production of individual testimonies:** includes **30** individual testimonies at the Women's Court in Sarajevo in May 2015 in total of 12 hours and 15 minutes.
- **Work on the documentary Women's Court** - in this period, there were **10 working meetings** in Belgrade, in the premises of Women in Black (Audio materials, shared vision, design, drafting working version of the film, etc.).

VII Women's book of testimonies

Work on the book in coordination of Women in Black includes the following segments:

- *Editing of testimonies:* the testimonies for which the witness gave consent were examined, changes were made in accordance with the suggestions of the witness, footnotes are reviewed by associate of the Women's Court Masa Malesevic, etc.
- *Documents from the Women's Court:* decisions and recommendations of the International panel of judges were gathered.
- *Texts of associates of Women's Court:* reviewed, followed by an English translation.
- *Other elements:* analysis of continuing of the process, and the text on the work of the feminist therapeutic team of WC is under work, etc.

VIII Participation of the witness and the organizers of WC in the activities of the Women in Black (street actions, visiting the crime scenes, the educational programs ...)

1. Meeting of the Network of Women in Black: February 5th-7th: The witness from Serbia, Croatia (Milica Miladinović, Marica Šeatović), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Kadefa Rizvanović, Reiha Avdic, Suvada Selimovic, Saha Hrustić), Slovenia (Mirjana Učakar) participated, as well as the organizers of WC (Violca Krasniqi, Kosovo, Nela Pamuković, Zagreb).

2. Women's Peace Meetings:

- *Vrnjačka banja, March 18th-20th:* Milica Miladinović i Jovanka Carevic from Croatian and witnesses from Serbia





- *Pašina Česma, near Leskovac, April 15th-17th*: Jasminka Bogdanovska, Marionka Atanasovka and Savka Todorovska from Macedonia
- *Bečej, May 13th-15th*: Kadeša Rizvanović, Edina Karic, Jadranka Milicevic from Bosnia and Herzegovina and witness from Vojvodina

3. Women build peace together - support of Women in Black

- *Đulići, February 19th* - (Suvada Selimovic, Saha Hrustić, Reiha Avdic, Šehida Abdurahmanović)

4. Street actions

- **Belgrade, February 8th** - protest against the rehabilitation of Milan Nedića (Marica Šeatović, Milica Miladinović, Nela Pamuković)
- **Belgrade, March 21st** - **“We want open borders, not a fortress Europe”**, on the occasion of the International Day against Racism, Women in Black organized a peace action, dedicated to the refugees from the Middle East, Croatian witness Milica Miladinović i Jovanka Carevic, as well as the organizer of WC Nela Pamuković took part

5. Visiting places of crimes

- **February 8th – Vranic**, Marica Š., Milica M., Nela P. and other information already listed in the category “Street actions”
- **April 11th - Srebrenica, Bajramovići**, other information already listed in the category “Women’s solidarity against the impunity of war crimes”



IX Publishing

In this reporting period, we have arranged the following publications:

- *Transcript of the regional meeting of the witness in Vrdnik* - 16 pages
- *Transcript of a discussion circle “A feminist feminist movement then and now”* - 12 pages
- *Transcript of promotion of Women’s Court in Novi Sad* - 7 pages

Women’s peace policy - education programs

In this reporting period, we held the following educational programs:

Women’s peace meetings are devoted to consideration of joint participation of women in peace building, obstacles and challenges in building peace, the role of women’s peace activism to achieve just peace. Women’s peace meetings form a visible active contribution of women in non-violent conflict resolution and experience of international women’s peace movement, encourage the strengthening of networks of women’s solidarity, peace alliances and coalitions against the war, sexism, nationalism, militarism and all forms of patriarchal discrimination ...

Women’s peace meetings - educational program runs from March to December 2016 and will be held in three regions in Serbia, as well as in the two regions in Kosovo. Each meeting lasts three days.

This educational program consisted of the following workshops, lectures,

First day:

- **Relationships among women: the policy of peace and / or war?** - Workshop
- **Mechanisms of patriarchal control over women** - identifying and overcoming



- **The Peace Culture and female friendships**
- **Solidarity among women - a policy of peace**
- **Always disobedient** - ethical and political principles of Women in Black

We Pray That The Devil Go Back to Hell - documentary film (38, 35 min.), The author Gini Reticker. The film is about the civil war in Liberia (1989 -2003.). The film testifies to the initiative of the brave women who forced the warring parties to sign a peace treaty (2003).

Second day:

- **Are women peaceful by nature?** - Workshop
- **Towards feminist concept of peace and human security** - Workshop
- **About the history of the peace movement, the women's peace movement** (brief history, main features of the women's peace movement, the current situation in the women's peace movement)
- **The experiences of women's peace movement. Peace - at international, regional level**
 - *A brief history of women's peace movement* - international level
 - *The experience of non-violent struggle of women for peace* - before the Second World War - Yugoslavia
 - *Peaceful actions of women against the war against, violence in war and in peacetime* - for peace, solidarity, justice - impunity for war crimes, women's campaigns for the preservation of the environment, with interactive lectures. During this educational program, some of the previously performed WiB video material will be played, but also the group for video activism of Women in Black for the purposes of this program prepared a lot of new video material:

I cycle of movies: Women's struggle for peace, justice, impunity for war crimes

1. International experience of women - PP presentations (*Mother of the May Square, Argentina, Mothers of Russian soldiers, Mothers on Saturday ...*). This video was made 2016.

2. The experiences of women in the region

- **Solidarity mothers for peace** (32 min.) - Regional meetings for mutual support of women - victims of the worst war crimes in Srebrenica, Vukovar (Croatia), Bela Reka, Belgrade (Serbia). These meetings are meetings of women who their tragedy and pain turned into a common struggle for peace and justice. This informal network is launched by the Women in Black. *This documentary is made 2016.*
- **We are looking for the truth, we demand justice** (2:19 min.) - Documentary film is about street action, which was dedicated to the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the murder of two soldiers in Topcider on 05.10.2004, which was carried out in Knez Mihailova street in Belgrade on 05.10.2014. The author of the film is Marija Arandjelovic.
- **We will never forget the genocide in Srebrenica: The Actions of Women in Black on the 20th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide**
 - **"Srebrenica - Stumbling rock for Serbia"** (4:31 min): Documentary about action of setting up a symbolic memorial of Women in Black and Art Clinic MMC / Led art, Novi Sad, on July 7th 2015 in the Srebrenica Street in Belgrade . The action was organized in the framework of the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica.
 - **"When the Serbia looks in the mirror - it will see Srebrenica"** (4:29 min.): Documentary about the stage action executed on July 10th 2015 in front of the Presidency of Serbia, organized by Dah Theatre, Women in Black Network Serbia, Women in Black Italy and Spain and activist of other organizations from Belgrade. The action was organized in the framework of the 20th anniversary of the genocide in Srebrenica.



II cycle of movies - against femicide

1. **"No woman less"** - street action of Women in Black and Women's Network Against Violence on December 7th 2015 in Belgrade, on the occasion of the International Day against femicide

III cycle of movies - on struggle of women for the preservation of the environment

1. **Green Belt** - PP presentation of women's action in Kenya
2. **Creative actions of women to preserve the environment** (The New Environmentalists)
From Kenya to the Arctic
Production: Mill Valley Film Group, California, USA

A short documentary films (duration of *13.35 minutes*) depict the struggle of women for justice in their communities (against pollution, exploitation of natural resources, etc.). The above films are subtitled and translated in 2016, and for the purposes of this educational program.

- **Argentina: The struggle of women against pesticides** - on crops genetically modified soy
- **Bangladesh** - action against the pollution caused by the dismantling of old ships
- **Kenya** - action against the construction of dams that destroy Lake Turkana

After the showing we had a conversation.

IV cycle of movies

1. **The first women's peace movement religious and spiritual orientation** - PP presentation of movement in Myanmar, especially the decades-long struggle leader *Aung Sang Suu Kyi* (*The video was made in 2016 for the purpose of this program.*)
2. **Women campaign of solidarity with the refugees from the Middle East:**
 - **"Solidarity is our strength"** - the experience of Women in Black (*8.58 min.*)
 - **Jody Williams** - Nobel Peace Prize, 1997 from television shows DLD19 "unmasking Achilles - today's wars and devastation (*film lasts 11 min.*) And was made in 2016.

Third day

Women's Peace Network and the coalition in the former Yugoslavia, all over the world ...

1. **The International Network of Women in Black - network of women's solidarity against war** - docu-film 'International Network of Women in Black, produced by Women in Black Seville (2008), duration 11 minutes. *This docu-film is subtitled and translated in 2016, and for the purposes of this educational program.*
2. **Women's Peace Coalition** (Network of Women in Black and Kosovo Women's Network)

Feminist anti-militarist action - in our world ...

- **A feminist pacifism** - lecture

Projection of docu-films about feminist-antimilitarist actions (*prepared in 2016 for the purpose of this educational program*):

- **Greenham Common**, United Kingdom (GRIN Komon, 6:43 min.)
- **Codepink**, USA (10 min.)
- **The Raging Grannies**, United States and Canada (6 min.)

After screening we had a conversation.



Feminist anti-militarist actions in Serbia

1. **Trešnjevac - resistance of women to forced mobilization** (1992) - documentary by German television DW (1993), duration 5.30 minutes
2. **We return you a tank!** (3:40 min.) - A documentary film produced by Women in Black (2010) follows the street action of Women in Black, Art Clinic and Skart "We return you a tank", in October 2010, which represents a tribute to the deserters and rebels against the war in Serbia
3. **We remember the brave resistance of women** (4.27 min.): Feminist anti-militarist action was organized in Krusevac - in memory of the resistance of women of Rasina district to forced mobilization during the war in Kosovo and NATO bombing.

In this reporting period was held in two regions in Serbia:

Vrnjaska Banja, March 18th, 19th and 20th - participated **31** women from Central Serbia, Sandzak, Belgrade (Aleksandrovac, Krusevac, Belgrade, Brus, Kraljevo, Čičevac, Varvarin, Prijepolje, Trstenik, Priboj), as well as two activists from Zagreb.

Pašina Česma, near Leskovac, April 15th, 16th and 17th - participated **31** women from South and Southeast Serbia, Belgrade, Kraljevo, Leskovac, Vlasotince, Pirot, as well as from Macedonia (Tetovo, Veles, Skopje).

This educational program was coordinated by Women in Black activists: Gordana Radosavljevic, Ivana Vitas, Mina Damjanovic, Snezana Obrenovic, Snezana Tabački and Stasa Zajovic.



Women's peace activism - an educational program in the framework of the project "Women together boost the confidence and build peace" of associations of Citizens "Anima" from Đulići near Zvornik, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In this reporting period, the following activities were held:

Đulići, February 19th - held in the premises of "Anime", attended by 22 women from the following places: Đulići, Šetići, Klis, Tojšići, Srebrenica, Tuzla, Zvornik, Belgrade, Leskovac.

The program consisted of the following workshops:

- **Strengthening of self-esteem - What do you love most?**
- **The relations among women: the policy of peace and / or war?**
- **Culture of Peace and female friendships**

Documentary films were showed:

- **We remember - 23 years of crimes in Zvornik** (8:59 min): the documentary Group for video activism of Women in Black on marking of 23rd anniversary of crimes against Bosniak civilians in 1992 in the municipality of Zvornik.
- **The Joint substances** (21 minutes): documentary was made on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the Mothers of the May Square. The film shows mothers searching for missing sons and daughters during the military dictatorship in Argentina (1976 - 1983), the fight against impunity, as well as the enormous efforts made by the Mother of May Square have achieved in the field of education, social justice and human rights.
- **Together for Peace and Justice** - Women of Srebrenica, Zvornik, Women in Black, the Mothers of the May Square (Nora Kortinas) Srebrenica, May 2015



Workshops are moderated by activists of Women in Black: Stasa Zajovic, Milka Rosic, Ljiljana Radovanovic and Violeta Đikanović.



NETWORKS, COALITIONS MUTUAL SUPPORT AND SOLIDARITY

Women in Black initiated or were actively involved in numerous regional networks, coalitions and alliances, an active participant in the activities of organizations in order to strengthen mutual support, solidarity, civil society and democracy in Serbia and the whole region.

The meeting of Women in Black Network, February 5th, 6th and 7th

The meeting was attended by **62** persons, namely: two (2) from Montenegro, three (3) from the Croatia, seven (7) from Bosnia and Herzegovina, one (1) from Slovenia, seven (7) from Kosovo and forty-two (42) from the eight (8) cities in Serbia.

The program included the following activities:

Friday, February 5th

"The pictures and words" - on the activities of Women in Black between two meetings of the Network reported activists of Women in Black: Milos Urosevic, Stasa Zajovic, Ljupka Kovacevic, Ljiljana Radovanovic, Nadezda Kostic and Snežana Tabački.

Together we are building a network of feminism, international solidarity and just peace: the international visits and conferences where activists participated, spoke: Snezana Jakovljevic, Marija Perkovic, Stasa Zajovic, Reiha Avdic and Ljilja Radovanovic.

The challenges of activism - then and now (pre-war, war, post-war activism - similarities, differences ...), the film material from the first feminist meeting in Eastern Europe 'Drug-ca women in Belgrade, in 1978 and which served as a basis for discussion, panelists were:

Dragan Jovanovic, philosopher, Associate Student Cultural Center, Belgrade,

Alexander Kraus, president of the Association of anti-fascists of Serbia

Stasa Zajovic, activist of the first feminist groups in Serbia Woman and Society, Women in Black

Vjollca Krasniqi, University of Pristina, Kosovo

Nela Pamuković, activist of the first SOS phone in Eastern Europe (Zagreb, 1988), an activist of the Center for Women War Victims, Zagreb

Marijana Jovic, Women's Peace Group / MIG, Pancevo

After the screening of the documentary film, the participants and talked about various emancipatory tendencies of the SFRY, including the SKC (Student Cultural Center, Belgrade) presented as an extremely important point.

German friend (El amigo aleman) - projection of Argentine film (production 2012, duration 100 min.). The film is about the issues facing young people with the burden of the past, guilt, responsibility ...

Saturday, February 6th

The refugee drama - the militarization of Europe; internationalist solidarity: Answers of social movements across Europe ...



Within this panel, there was talk about following issues:

- **Part I: Events of militarization** (racism, xenophobia ...) in various countries of the refugee 'Balkan route' (Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia ...)
- **Part II: Alternative Answers** - What have we do?
- **Part III: What to do next?** - Joint actions ...

Panelists:

Nikolina Nina Zec, Female group "Izvor", Tenja, Osijek, Croatia

Goran Lazin, Women in Black, Belgrade

Mirjana Učakar, Ptuj, Slovenia

Violeta Đikanović, Women in Black, Belgrade

Mirko Medenica, Women in Black, Belgrade

Fahrudin Kladničanin, Forum 10, Novi Pazar

Nela Pamuković, Center for Women War Victims, Zagreb

Vjollca Krasniqi (Vjollca Krasniqi), Faculty of Philosophy, University of Pristina, Kosovo

Betty Muharemi, Open Door, Pristina, Kosovo

Moderated by *Stasa Zajovic*

Common thinking and design activities in the coming period, the working groups discussed the March 8th and dealing with the past from the perspective / angle of young people.

Dealing with the past and youth, discussion panelists:

Anita Mitic, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Belgrade

Goran Lazin, WIB, Pancevo

Vladimir Jevtic, Bajina Basta

Mirko Medenica, Women in Black, Belgrade

Marija Sebić, Zajecar

Fahrudin Kladničanin, Forum 10, Novi Pazar

Venera Cocaj, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, Pristina, Kosovo

Tomislav Perusic, Women in Black Belgrade / Subotica

Adriana Kocic, Alternative Center for Girls, Krusevac.

Within the segment **Activist art**, a documentary film **Diary of a witness**, in which Suvada Selimovic, coordinator of the Association of Citizens Anima, Đulići and activist of Women in Black testified.

Discussion corner "Where and how to move on", finished the second day of the meeting. About the current situation in Serbia and the region and important social issues spoke: *Marica Šeatović*, Against Oblivion, Novska (Croatia), *Beti Muharemi*, Open Door, Pristina and *Nevenka Rica*, Association for helping hand to hand, Ugljare (Kosovo), *Nadezda Kostic* and *Binasa Džigal*, activists of Women in Black (Serbia).

Moderated by *Snezana Tabacki*.

The last day of the meeting was devoted to **evaluation work**. The participants mostly emphasized as significant discussion on the refugee crisis and confronting young people with the past, which were the central topics of the meeting.

(Integrated report of the meeting of the Network located is on the site of Women in Black)





Solidarity is our strength

Actions of solidarity with members of threatened and disenfranchised minority communities (social class, ethnic, racial, sexual) citizens whose human rights (employment, education, culture), are compromised.

Solidarity with war refugees in Serbia

Women in Black began in 2013, when they organized solidarity action against racist attacks which culminated in late 2013 and since then until now Women in Black organized a multitude of activities, which you can find information on the website of a Women in Black. Activities solidarity include multiple dimensions - peacekeeping, humanitarian, artistic and activist, an informational ...

In this period we organized the following activities:

Direct action - solidarity aid in the field has more segments and includes:

- **Visits to the places where there are refugees** - asylum centers, parks at the Faculty of Economics and the Central Bus Station in Belgrade; border crossings, self-organized refugee camps, reception centers for refugees, etc.
- **The Peace Action charity** - providing humanitarian aid, through humanitarian actions encourage solidarity, meeting, friendship, meetings with war refugees, the acquisition of knowledge on the situation of refugees, information about their position, and so on. These actions are organized during visits to places where there are refugees.
- **The artistic activist action of solidarity with the refugees** - street peace actions - protests against abuses and militarization of the refugee tragedy, fostering solidarity of citizens to war refugees. This segment includes activities and aesthetic dimension of solidarity - printing flyers, wearing badges, banners in Arabic, Farsi, English, Serbian language).
- **Documentaries about the solidarity actions:** Group for video activism of Women in Black has recorded a short films about street actions, artistic and outreach programs, which have already been discussed in this report part "group for video activism"). We also have a rich photo documentation of solidarity actions.

Direct action - solidarity assistance in the field - listed chronologically:

January 15th, reception center of Presevo: The police did not allow entry into the center to activists of Women in Black (Mirko Medenica and Violeta Đikanović), but thanks to the support of humanitarian organizations *Remar* and *Mensajeros de la paz*, they managed to deliver humanitarian of Women in Black, and tour the refugee camp. Presevo is located near the border between Serbia and Macedonia, and per day is arriving about 2000 refugees.

January 16th, reception center Dimitrovgrad - activists of Women in Black (Mirko and Violeta) was not allowed into the refugee center, but thanks to the organization *I'm Human*, they made a contact with refugees, awarded a modest humanitarian aid and refugees have testified about various types of abuse.





February 16th, reception center of Presevo and Miratovac - again activists (Violeta and Mirko) were banned by police to enter a reception center. Thanks to friends from *REMAR a / Mensajeros de la Paz*, the Spanish humanitarian organization, they met with refugees, mainly from Aleppo (Syria). They testified about the problems of traveling through Turkey and Greece, abuses and corruption ... the same day, Violeta, Mirko and Katarzyna from Poland visited the reception center in Miratovac, located, fifty meters from the border line (between Macedonia and Serbia). There they saw the special police unit, in full battle gear, with automatic weapons, armored vehicles ... visit to the refugee camps was also supported by friends from the Reconstruction Women's Fund.



March 9th, parks in Belgrade, in the park at the Faculty of Economics group of activists cooked the food and tea for refugees. In the park that day were between 20 and 30 refugees, mostly men. A group of four volunteers from Germany, on their return from Lesbos (Greece) decided to stay in Belgrade for two months, organized by 'No Borders kitchen', preparing daily hot food to refugees in the park.

Belgrade, March 19th, "For Freedom of Movement" - anti-militarist protest against the repression towards refugees from the Middle East, which was discussed in the section "Street actions".

Belgrade, March 21st, "We want open borders, not a fortress Europe - Stop Racism!" On the occasion of International Day Against Racism, Women in Black organized a peace action in Knez Mihailova Street in Belgrade. Action was in relation to the question of war refugees and their situation in Europe today.

March 28th, Adaševci - Violeta Đikanović and Mirko Medenica visited a refugee center in Adaševci near Sid (near the Croatian border): Officials of the Commissariat for Refugees and Migration of the Republic of Serbia were looking for "permission" for the distribution of humanitarian aid, which we have repeatedly and vainly sought ... On this occasion, we witnessed discriminatory behavior of workers of mentioned Commissariat for refugees. This was confirmed also by activists of foreign humanitarian organizations. Fifty meters from the camp, taxi drivers charge high sums of money to refugees to drive them to the Hungarian border. This visit confirmed discrimination, abuse, exploitation of refugees by state and non-state actors.



April 21st, parks in Belgrade - cleaning parks of refugees - activists of Women in Black visited refugees in parks near the bus station and the Faculty of Economics. There were dozens of men and women traveling alone, most of them were from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Syria, and also a families from Maghreb countries. They are afraid to say from which country they come from, but all are running away from war, terror. We shared a modest humanitarian aid, visited mothers with children, talking with teenagers from Afghanistan. We also visited the squat "No border hostel" where some of the refugees are accommodated. Squat leaking in several places, the hygienic conditions are catastrophic. On April 20th it was announced that the Commissariat for Refugees will come with the police and all the refugees from the squat will be deported to the camp in Krnjaca, near Belgrade. Therefore, in front of the squat gathered around thirty activists of various collectives in solidarity with refugees, and people from the Commissariat for Refugees did not show up. Police last night showed up in the squat and reviewed it with flashlights and guns. Municipal police „cleans“ park of refugees: we have seen whole families sitting on the benches or standing, because they are not allowed to sit on the grass... About all we informed the media ...



April 26th, Belgrade, cleaning the city of refugees - that day about ten of us from Women in Black, heard the testimony of guards that, after the elections on April 24th, on the night of April 24th/25th at 2am began the demolition of buildings, in Savamala neighborhood, where refugees found their temporary shelter. Three persons with balaclavas on their heads stormed into the building, tied the guards, snatched his walkie-talkie, expelled refugees and destroyed the facility. We saw the consequences of a night of violence: Activists center for refugees Miksalište, was ordered to abandon their facility and leave immediately. With such a brutal measure refugees are deprived of the most essential needs (hot meals, shelter, clothing ...). They also demolished squat (No border hostel), forced out the poorest among refugees, mainly from Afghanistan. Regardless of the closure of the Balkan route, the refugees did not stop to come and closer of the 'Balkan route' means the growth of smuggling networks, exploitation and an even greater tragedy of refugees ...

April 27th, visit to squat in Belgrade - a group of twenty volunteers, two days ago squatted old barracks, which consists of ten rooms with two toilets, for now three rooms are suitable for stay. In the park at the Faculty of Economics were about thirty refugees, in another park close the bus station was about fifty refugees.

April 28th, parks, Belgrade: Violeta, Mirko, Stasa, Goran and activists from Armenia were in the park at the bus station to carry humanitarian aid to refugees.

In both parks were like yesterday much less refugees, about fifty of in two parks. In a talk with the refugees, this time from Sri Lanka, we have heard about the brutal violence which they have been exposed on the way to the park (assault with weapons, theft ...). This has already been seen in Bulgaria, which is the most terrible nightmare for refugees. This was the first such a story from Serbia...

(For all the above actions of solidarity comprehensive reports can be found in Serbian and English, on the website of Women in Black)



In addition, solidarity with war refugees, Women in Black expressed in other activities:

- **Write and send reports** - in Serbian and English language, for domestic and international networks and institutions we work with, to learn about the problems of refugees, their status, human rights abuses, discrimination, both at the level of institutions and society. In this reporting period, activists of Women in Black have been prepared ten (10) reports.

Monitoring the human rights situation of refugees has more segments:

- *recording of complaints and appeals on violence and discrimination against the refugees* - both by state institutions and civilians. The source of information are direct contacts with refugees, meetings and exchange of information with activists of allied organizations and movements at regional and international levels, monitor media reports on the situation of refugees, contacts with representatives of international human rights institutions, especially those for migration and refugee rights.
- *logging 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, profiting on migration from the Middle East and the creation of a new wave of post-war profiteers layer.



- *monitoring the implementation of measures by the institution, fulfilling the obligations assumed by the states on the basis of international conventions on the situation of refugees and asylum seekers - the gap between the actual and normative state (Read more about this in the report: "The refugee crisis - report on the current situation" in Serbian and English can be found on the Women in Black website)*
- *discriminatory behavior of state authorities to Women in Black during a visits to centers for the reception of refugees - activists of Women in Black have visited the locations where there are refugees, to took collected help and to get familiar with the conditions in which refugees live, as well as the attitude of the state toward them. In these visits, the police prevented them from entering the reception centers, with the excuse that to enter the center permit is necessary. Our attempts to contact with the Commissioner for Refugees and the relevant Ministry to obtain more information or alleged license were not successful. (Detailed report on discrimination can be found on the website of Women in Black: Attacks on Women in Black January-April 2016, Dossier no. 6).*
- *international solidarity - contacts with international networks to exchange information, joint actions, organizing mutual visits, debates ...*

Repression against defenders of human rights - Attacks on Women in Black: January 2016 - April 2016

The dossier no. 6 - can be found on the website of Women in Black.

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

The practice of regular discussion circles, lectures and joint reflection on important social and political issues in the country and the world, was continued in the reporting period, thirteen (13) lectures and debates were organized in which 278 people participated:

January 27th - Talk on "The RnR and popular culture in Yugoslavia", speaker Dragan Jovanovic, philosopher and documentary "Ellipses" about the first rock group in Yugoslavia was screened. The event was dedicated to the late Momcilo Radovanovic, one of the members and founders of the ellipse and collaborator of Women in Black, participated 21 people.

February 4th - the premiere of 'Gloria', (110 min.), A Chilean film about a women who in theirs old age, seeking their autonomy and freedom. The screening and discussion was attended by 10 people.

February 10th - Travelling Balkans: Eugenio Berra sociologist, Milan / Belgrade held a lecture about the experiences of traveling through the Balkans, with the presentation of video association for the promotion of culture 'European destinations and Balcani' from Trento, Italy. The meeting was attended by 18 people.

February 17th - "Looking at the cobblestones" - the documentary produced by the NGO "Forum 10" from Novi Pazar for 45 minutes; film testifies to the experiences and attitudes of women from Sandzak (northwestern part of Serbia) on removing veil after the Second World War in Yugoslavia; the film is mostly about women of different generations and evil use of customs and cultural heritage. After the screening, author Fahrudin Kladničanin spoke about the film, attended by 35 people.



February 24th - the promotion of the book "Identity and Integration of Roma in Serbia" by Nada Raduški and "Roma in Serbia - between the anvil and the hammer poverty discrimination" Bozidar Jaksic, participate also Nada Đuričković, coordinator of the NGO "Daje", Belgrade. The talk was moderated by Lino Veljak; Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb, participated 21 people.



March 2nd - "On the current political situation in Turkish Kurdistan" - lecture and video projection material with *feminist caravan* presented Jodie Pandey, feminist activist and participant of the feminist caravan. The event was attended by **20** people.

March 9th - "And the turtle flying" the screening of the movie about Kurdistan population, especially women, in the region of the Middle East, attended by **13** people.

March 16th - "Some different men", the documentary, produced by Women in Black, with interview with the men, Women in Black activists, the mutual support, political values, the role of men in the feminist movement; the conversation was moderated by Stasa Zajovic and Marijana Stojić attended by **25** activists.

March 30th - Talk about historical revisionism in Serbia, the Rehabilitation of quisling Milan Nedic, head of the Serbian government during the Nazi occupation in World War II; speaker was historian Milivoj Bešlin, attended by **11** people.

April 6th - "Woman theater in India", the experience of staying in Bangalore, India at the festival of women's theater and in general about women engaged in art, spoke Dijana Milosevic, director of Dah Theatre from Belgrade, attended by **13** people.

April 13th - "Towards the Elections", talking about the upcoming elections in Serbia (April 24th) with Vesna Rakic Vodinelić, a professor of international law at the Faculty 'Union' in Belgrade, Vesna Pestic, sociologist and Milos Adamovic, President of SDU (Social Democratic Union), attended by **30** people.



April 20th - Meeting with students from Italy: activists of Women in Black (Milos Urosevic, Ljiljana Radovanovic, Dunja Hadžiomerspahić and Stasa Zajovic), held at the Center for Cultural Decontamination, interactive lecture about peace activism for about **60** students and their teachers from gymnasium 'Oriana' from Ravenna, Italy. In the organization of this event have participated Women in Black from Ravenna. The lecture included a documentary film of the Group for video activism of Women in Black.

April 27th - "The Left and anti-fascism," a lecture by *Milica Popovic*, political scientist and journalist of Le Monde Diplomatique for Serbia on the following issues: What is the name of anti-fascism today - the answer of left to the strengthening of extremism in the world; also "The concept of hegemony by A. Gramsci" lecture was held by *Lino Veljak*, Faculty of Philosophy in Zagreb. The event was attended by **34** people.

Mutual support and solidarity

During this period we have also participated in numerous international conferences, civil society initiatives organized by related groups; here in chronological order we mention those in which we have active participation (lecturers, panelists ...):

January 22nd, Belgrade - the presentation of the report "*The right of victims to reparations in Serbia and standards of the European Court of Human Rights*". On this occasion, the analysis of the key obstacles to (not) the exercise of the rights of victims in relation to the established standards of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, as defined by the European Court of Human Rights. The report is based on long-established practice in representing victims of the domestic and international bodies. On behalf of the Women in Black attended Milos Urosevic.

January 25th, Belgrade - "**Freedom of assembly in the Western Balkans**" - Conference on the implementation of international mechanisms relating to freedom of gatherings, as well as on the situation of defenders of human rights



in Serbia. Conference organized by the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights on behalf of the Women in Black participated Ljiljana Radovanovic.

January 25th and April 1st- trial for femicide: the High Court in Jagodina (central Serbia) continued criminal proceedings against Stevan Kojic who on April 2nd 2015, killed his wife Žaklina Kojic. The crime of femicide in Serbia has reached dramatic dimensions: in 2015, 33 women were killed, from the beginning of 2016, 9 were killed. To activists of Network of Women Against Violence, which followed the trial from the very beginning (December 2015), joined in the name of Women in Black, Milos Urosevic. In this period, there were hearings on January 25th and April 1st.

January 28th, Belgrade - "What does the laws on police, public assembly and public order and peace brings to citizens?"; a panel discussion of the Coalition "PrEUgovor". At a panel discussion with the critical review on the draft Law on Police, the Law on Public Peace and Order and the Law on Public Gatherings that in January 2016 were presented in the Serbian Parliament. On behalf of the Women in Black attended Ljiljana Radovanovic.

February 3rd - Protest in front of the Magistrates Court in Ustanicka 14, Belgrade "It is not her, it is me". Support to Anita Mitic, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, against which the misdemeanor procedure for organizing the "unauthorized" protest on the 20th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide. The action, was organized by the Youth Initiative for Human Rights, on July 10th 2015 was attended by about fifty activists of Women in Black.

February 3rd and March 23rd, Leskovac - court proceedings against the witness Slobodan Stojanovic from Leskovac has been postponed due to the absence of the opposite parties, and the event was attended by Mirko Medenica, activists of Women in Black. S. Stojanovic is a former member of the Serbian police and witness the crimes committed in Kosovo in 1998 by members of the 37th PJP battalion MUP RS. Because of his intentions and the three colleagues of him to testify about the events in Kosovo, he was the object of repression by a person who he in his statements cited as perpetrators of crimes. It should be noted that to date crimes of which Slobodan Stojanović has knowledge, have not been prosecuted. The culmination of prosecution of witnesses Stojanovic is court proceedings against him for alleged threats via e-mail sent to the prosecutor for war crimes Vladimir Vukcevic and his deputy Slobodan Stankovic. The aim of the procedure is to criminalize and discredit the witness Stojanovic, as well as to intimidate him with threatening imprisonment.

March 7th, Novi Sad - "Is to say no to war heroic act?"; the debate organized by the Vojvodina Civic Center and Radio Television of Vojvodina: Debate on the resistance to war, refusal to participate in the war in the form of desertion during nineties.

The debate was preceded by an exhibition 'The story of the absurdity' by Hrvoje Polana, photographer from Zagreb. The debate was attended by:

Teofil Pancic, a writer and journalist, Belgrade

Stasa Zajovic, activists of Women in Black

Branislav Opranovic, journalist and activist, Novi Sad

Hrvoje Polan, author of the exhibition 'Story of the absurdity'

Želimir Žilnik, film director and screenwriter, Novi Sad

The debate was moderated by *Željko Stanetić*, Director of the Vojvodina Civic Center, and was held at Studio M in Novi Sad, in the presence of about sixty people.

March 11th, Belgrade, "Rebel with a cause - Biljana Jovanovic (1953-1996)".

On the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the death of writer and activist Biljana Jovanovic, Women in Black organized a night of remembrance at the Center for Cultural Decontamination.



The event consisted of the following units:

- “*Biljana Jovanovic - Rebel with a cause*”, the promotion of the book published by Women in Black, talked Radmila Lazic, a poet.
- “*Life is a demonic work, what we angels are looking for in it*” - an exhibition dedicated to Biljana Jovanovic prepared by the Jelena Trpković, painter.
- “*The wind goes to the south and goes around to the north*” - reading letters of Biljana Jovanovic from the book of correspondence.



March 23rd, Belgrade - “The history of the LGBT movement in Serbia”, organized by Belgrade Pride; talk about LGBT activism 1990-2000.

Panelists:

Lepa Mladenovic, feminist lesbian activist

Zorica Mršević, legal experts and activist

Stasa Zajovic, Women in Black

The event was held at the Cultural Center Grad, and was moderated by *Bojana Ivkovic*, Belgrade Pride.

April 5th, Belgrade - “Access to documents on crimes against international law in the possession of the Serbian institutions: state secret stronger than the right to the truth”, HLC report presented in the Media Center. The report presents the practice of the Ministry of Interior and Ministry of Defense of Serbia, in the application of rules on access to public information, and in connection with the investigation of crimes against international law committed during the wars in the former Yugoslavia. On behalf of the Women in Black attended *Milos Urosevic*.

April 14th, Belgrade - “Antifascist Front and Elections 2016”, talking about parliamentary elections from the point of anti-fascist orientation and values advocated by the organizations that make up AF, among others, and Women in Black. On behalf of Women in Black and *Snežana Tabački* spoke and a discussion was attended by a dozen of activists of Women in Black.

April 19th, Belgrade - Meeting of defenders of human rights - the problems faced by defenders of Human Rights in Serbia and the world. The meeting was organized by the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Serbia *Irena Sol-lorano* and advisor of the Office of the UN *Claude Cahn*, on behalf of the Women in Black were *Mirko Medenica* and *Stasa Zajovic*.

Campaigns, appeals

In addition to the initiatives outlined in this reporting period, we have also initiated or actively participated in a number of campaigns, particularly in relation to the requirements for dealing with the past - responsibility for war crimes, violence against women, against repression of political opponents; of refugees:

“We want open borders – We don’t want fortress Europe” - said in a statement on the occasion of March 21st, International Day Against Racism, Women in Black pointed to the rise of racism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance against refugees in today’s Serbia and Europe.

The statement also said: “The countries of the European Union by closing borders and by behavior towards refugees, endanger the fundamental values on which it is formed and persists, the European Union, namely solidarity and human rights. Such actions will inevitably lead us to the “Fortress Europe”, which is something, for what we thought it



went down in history in 1945, the defeat of the ideology that created the concept. The state of Serbia, the procedures of their authorities fit in this bad situation. Behind the false media image of Serbia as a “paradise” for refugees, hiding numerous abuses of state authorities, police brutality, corruption, crime and getting rich at the expense of the persecuted people”, etc.

The continuity of impunity and unpunished violence against human rights defenders – March 28th 2016: It is now almost exactly two years since the Lawyers Committee for Human Rights (legal representative of the Women in Black) filed a criminal complaint against Radomir Pocuca, former spokesman of Anti-Terrorist Unit of the Ministry of Interior Affairs of Serbia, for the crime of endangering safety, and because of his calls for violence via social network Facebook, which was directed against the activist of the Women in Black. Since then until the present day, for two years, this process is not running, and none of the hearings were held. In a statement on March 27th: “With such a (non) functioning of state institutions, the state encourages potential attackers against activists of non-governmental organizations dealing with human rights issues. The defenders of human rights are left to themselves, and they take risks because the daily attacks could be repeated, because the message that individuals, perpetrators get from the media and state institutions in this and other similar cases, is that they will be unpunished”.

The award for the crime - a humiliation for the victim - on the occasion of the acquittal of Vojislav Seselj, WIB statement of March 31st states: “The judgment of the ICTY on March 31st 2016, to Vojislav Seselj, who is one of the greatest symbols of ethnic cleansing and genocide in the former Yugoslavia, in which he is freed from all charges of war crimes is a scandal without precedent. With this verdict victims of Seselj’s criminal idea of a “Greater Serbia” are deeply humiliated. The idea of justice and the principle of culpability for crimes is shamelessly spit in the face by the Chamber of the Hague Tribunal chaired by Judge Antonetti, a war of aggression and ethnic cleansing were declared legitimate behaviors. etc.

Punish the attackers at a community center Oktobar - Women in Black have strongly condemned the attack, which are members of fascist organizations committed at the social center of Oktobar in the night between Thursday and Friday, March 31st / April 1st 2016. WIB ask the competent institutions of the Serbian state to urgently catch and prosecute those responsible for this attack.

“This and similar other attacks occur in an atmosphere of absence of any culpability to the crime and violence, at all levels. We believe that the recent ruling of the Hague Tribunal, to released Vojislav Seselj, was a strong boost to members of fascist groups, which will now open hunting season on all those who think differently and different from the dominant nationalist discourse, carried out attacks on all who are committed to the idea of solidarity, and respect for human rights, “the statement said.

We remember! - On the occasion of 24 years since the beginning of war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in the statement of Women in Black protest against the recent judgment of the ICTY: “Some judgments of the ICTY (especially Perisic, Karadzic, Seselj ...) encourage impunity of crimes, insulting the dignity of the victims and survivors. There is an open fear of ruining the already fragile regional stability and new conflicts. These judgments lead to the strengthening of nationalistic and militaristic climate in the whole region, further deepen ethnic or any other intolerance. These judgments show that the institutional justice at the national and international levels is insufficient and that the key factors of the international community sacrifice justice in the name of geopolitical calculations and interests”.

Against the glorification of war criminals - In their appeal to the public (Women in Black, Humanitarian Law Center, Youth Initiative for Human Rights, the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, Lawyers’ Committee for Human Rights and the Antifascist Union of Serbia) protested against the promotion of the book of war criminal Momčilo Krajišnik on April 15th, who was sentenced by the Hague tribunal for extermination, murder, persecutions on political, racial and religious grounds, deportation and inhumane acts and crimes against humanity. The statement said: “The fact that a convicted war criminal got space in state institution is scandalous. We consider the organization of such an



event is a direct act of “normalization” of crimes and shameless insult to all the victims of a criminal policy, which Momcilo Krajsnik was part of. We demand from the competent of the Belgrade Youth Center, as well as the competent from the City of Belgrade, as the founder of the Youth Center, to refrain from holding the event and thus prevent embarrassment that would be caused to the Youth Center, Belgrade and all its citizens.

Publishing

In addition to the publications listed in the preceding sections of this report, we state the following:

“Jasna Bogojevic - left a mark on us” - publication in memory of Jasna Bogojevic (1946-2015), an anti-war, anti-fascist activist, fighter for justice. The publication has 32 pages.

“Jelka Kljajic Imširović - left a mark on us” - publications on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of her death, (1947-2006), one of the founders of Women in Black, antiwar friend, fighter against all forms of totalitarianism, an activist for democracy and justice.

Biljana Jovanovic - Rebel with a cause - on the occasion of the twentieth anniversary of the death of writer and anti-war activist Biljana Jovanovic (1953-1996), Women in Black have published the book “Biljana Jovanovic - Rebel with a cause”. The book has three parts: the first part consists of prose (essays, and critical texts from legacy of B. Jovanovic), the second part is the act of the drama by B. Jovanovic and the third part is about the political-activist engagement of Biljana Jovanovic. The book was edited by Radmila Lazic and Milos Urosevic, has 272 pages, the book was published and printed thanks to the solidarity and support of comrades of Biljana Jovanovic.

International Activities - participation in international conferences, meetings ...

February 27th, Pristina, Kosovo - The feminist discussions, history, memory, difference, the feminist activism in the pre-war and war period in the former Yugoslavia, spoke feminist activists from the region. On behalf of the Women in Black participated Stasa Zajovic. The meeting is part of the “Memory Mapping Kosovo”, and organized by the Institute for Studies in Society and Culture, and the University Program for Gender Studies and Research (UP).

February 11th and 12th, Istanbul, Turkey - Regional Conference - promotion of Global Study of Resolution 1325, organized by UN Women. In the name of Women in Black participated Stasa Zajovic in the following working groups / workshops: *Gender response to the humanitarian and refugee crisis* and *The Women in the prevention of violent extremism*.

March 25th and 26th, San Sebastian / Donostia, Basque Country / Spain - Stop War Festival (San Sebastian was named European Capital of Culture for 2016) and as part of that, they organized a number of activities in which participated Stasa Zajovic.

March 25th - Debate on the feminist-militarist activism of Women in Black, along with films of the Women’s Court, the actions of Women in Black in connection with the genocide in Srebrenica, and so on. At this conference, there were over a hundred people.

March 26th - *The House of Peace and Human Rights San Sebastian / Donostia*, participated in the panel “25 wars every year, 61 million displaced persons” along with *Carmen Magallon Portoles*, president of WILPF-a (Women’s International League for peace and freedom), *Alfonso Sanchez Ramirez*, professor and president of the Spanish section of Amnesty International, *Pere Ortega*, president of the Center for Peace Research of Barcelona.

March 27th and 28th - Working meeting with activists, Stasa Zajovic and Women in Black Spain, Cantabria agree on the joint activities.



April 8th, 9th and 11th - XXVI International festival of culture and peace in Guernica (XXVI Jornadas Internacionales de Cultura y Paz de Gernika / Gernikako Kultura eta Bakearen Nazioarteko XXVI, Jardunaldiak). Zajović Staša, WIB, had a number of activities:

April 8th 2016 - the *Gernika Peace Museum* (Museo por la paz / Gernikako Bekearen Museoa) held an international conference "Women and activism in the war". *Stasa Zajović* participated together with *Marina Gallego*, coordinator of the movement "Ruta Pacifica", Colombia, *Taqva Attallah*, Combatants For Peace, Nablus, Palestine.

April 9th- day workshop on activism (activism and art) in ASTRA - social factory of culture; attended by about 20 activists in coordination of Alex Carrascosa, activist, facilitator of the process of Transformacion CREATIVA de Conflictos, methodology dialogue through the arts.

April 11th - Feminism in war and in peace, in the Forum Plaza, Gernika. Participated *Stasa Zajović*, *Marina Gallego*, Colombia, *Roberta Bacic*, a peace activist, Chile. At this conference there were about 60 students / activists.

During this period he also had a huge number of international visits of activists and researchers from around the world.



Report prepared by *Stasa Zajović*
supported by *Goran Lazin*, *Milos Urosevic*, *Ljiljana Radovanovic*, *Mirko Medenica*,
Ljupka Kovačević, *Marija Vidic*, *Nataša Milanović*, *Snežana Tabački*, *Violeta Đikanović*

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