



WELCOME TO THE SECOND FOMEN PROJECT NEWSLETTER

Welcome back

Whilst a lot has changed in the world since our **last newsletter**, we believe that it is more important than ever to be working towards our goal of gender equality with an intersectional approach which considers different versions of masculinity.

We'd like to thank you for taking an interest in our project and we're proud to present you with the latest updates and developments of our programmes, as well as an insight into the challenges posed to project work by the Covid-19 pandemic, as well some extra media which relates to the project topic.

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FOMEN Progress

In March 2020, project work was interrupted by the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Luckily, the FOMEN Network adapted quickly to working remotely and exchanging ideas online. This is not to say, however, that the adaptation came without its challenges; we have all had to adjust to new ways of working and living and these have proved to be tough.

Since March, we have successfully held two online international meetings with all partners, giving us a chance to discuss the national-awareness raising seminars and important developments. On an organisational note, the FOMEN project has been granted an extension due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, meaning that project work will continue until December 2021.

Partners have been working hard to develop an extensive education and capacity-building programme as **part of the project work.**



FOMEN

Third Project Meeting



The FOMEN team @ the third international partner meeting in October 2020.

In fact, 2021 will see FOMEN partners develop the capacity building programme to train frontline professionals and multipliers on a national level, and will explore topics such as gender and masculinity, violence prevention, cultural sensitivity and anti-racism. We're really looking forward to welcome you to our workshops.

Partners have also completed **national reports** on the needs and resources of working with migrant men*, that are available in both the partner language and English on the newly updated FOMEN website. From this, we're excited to present you with our transnational report, which explores the research and results from each country.

Transnational Report

Published in Autumn 2020, the transnational report presents the results of a needs analysis for gender sensitisation and prevention of gender-based violence with male* refugees and migrants. The project's interdisciplinary team from six countries, together with national experts, have identified needs, resources and good practices in relation to violence prevention work with male refugees and migrants. Based on this analysis, quality standards have been developed for gender sensitisation and violence prevention programmes.

[Read more...](#)

National Awareness Raising Seminars

Austria

On 19 November 2020, VMG held the first NARS for the Austrian team. The workshop brought together 19 participants from different backgrounds, namely organisations which offer counselling services for men and organisations working with migrants and refugees. The workshop was held in collaboration with DMÖ and presented the FOMEN project and its aims and outputs, as well as various different approaches to best practices and working with migrant men*. Important themes were addressed, including: relevance of religion; gender relations in intercultural relationships; the diversity of migration history; experiences with violence; the notion of "honour"; quality standards for this type of work and the different dimensions of working with young men with international family histories.

The Austrian team will hold the next NARS in March on the topic of anti-racism and cultural sensitivity. Please contact [Elli Scambor](#) if you are interested or would like more information.

Croatia

The first National Awareness Raising Seminar (NARS) in Croatia, titled **"Prevention of violence against women in the migration context"** was held on 8 December 2020 with 42 participants. The NARS explored intersectionality of gender-based violence and migration from different perspectives. Furthermore, the workshop discussed challenges of risk reduction and prevention of GBV during the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as working in the refugee reception centre under epidemiological restrictions. Additionally, there were presentations on the delivery of perpetrator programmes during the pandemic and the Red Cross' experiences of work with survivors of gender-based violence under international protection. As well as this, two aspects of the FOMEN project were presented: prevention of gender-based violence in the integration of male refugees and presenting the FOMEN programme for refugees in the integration process.

Germany

On 10 December 2020, the German team held the first NARS on the topic of **"intercultural sensitivities in the work with men* around gender equality"**. The workshop provided an overview of the FOMEN report and the transnational context, as well as an introduction to anti-racist thought and intercultural competencies when working with men*. The workshop invited participants to challenge their own biases and provided a space for critical self-reflection in regard to these topics. After three presentations, there was a lively discussion round at the end where participants shared their experiences working with cultural mediators in the work with men*. The recording can be found [here](#).

The German team will hold the next NARS (in German) on 3 March 2021 on the topic of masculinities, intercultural competencies and anti-racism. Please contact [Daliah Vakili](#) if you are interested or would like more information.

Greece

The Greek FOMEN team @ Symbiosis held the first two NARS in 2020.

In June of last year, the first NARS was held within the framework of an online event on ***Migration and Forced Displacement***, co-organised by the SelectRespect Network. The NARS was attended by over 100 people, including front-line professionals working with refugees and migrants in various fields. The topics of the NARS included: everyday life in times of Covid-19; the difficulties faced in accessing housing and healthcare; inefficient access to the labour market due to reduced jobs and lack of vocational training; the importance of cultural exchanges with the host society; the inequalities and discrimination caused by lack of an action plan in relation to the integration strategy.

The second Greek NARS was held in November 2020 within the framework of an online event titled ***"Human Rights in the Covid-19 era"*** and as part of the 4th Select Respect Film Festival. Over 80 people attended the workshop and were witness to discussions on the current situation in Greece and the increased risk of violence which has resulted from the movement restrictions imposed due to the pandemic. Additionally, the workshop highlighted the ever-growing need for a gender-sensitive approach to violence prevention and a critical reflection on traditional men's roles.

Italy

On 10 November 2020, CAM held the first NARS in Italy titled ***"The impact of gender on the migrant experience"***. The NARS attracted 40 participants who discussed the FOMEN project, as well as the importance of work on gender-based violence with male migrants and refugees. In terms of the project and the national context, the results from the FOMEN needs analysis were presented. There was a focus on migration terms within the national Italian context, the Italian welcoming system. Additionally, CAM discussed the contents of future trainings related to the FOMEN project.

The Italian team will hold the next NARS in the coming months. Please **Silvia Amazzoni or CAM** if you are interested or would like more information.

Spain

The Spanish FOMEN team @ Conexus held two NARS in 2020.

The first NARS, titled **"Masculinity, migration and prevention of violence"** was held on November 13 as part of the ***"XVI Forum against Gender Based Violence"*** which included presentations of the FOMEN project and the results of the needs analysis, the education programme and the capacity building. As well as this, there was an introductory intervention by the then Secretary of Equality, Migrations and Citizenship of the Catalan Government, Oriol Amorós, and a presentation on a programme to transform masculinities for young migrants by Pako Abril. There were over 50 participants and the event was also live-streamed on YouTube in English, Spanish and Catalan.

The second NARS, titled ***"How to work on gender and violence prevention with refugee and migrant men?"*** was held on December 12 and was mainly directed at those professionals who had participated in the needs analysis process of the project. 14 professionals registered for the event and 12 finally took part. The webinar included a brief introduction on the FOMEN project, presentations of the results and needs analysis, and a lively discussion with participants on the possible implementation of the education and capacity programmes in their work contexts.

The Capacity Building and Education Intervention Programmes

Over the past year, partners have worked together to create comprehensive Capacity-Building and Education Intervention Programmes.

The Education Intervention Programme aims to work with male* migrants and refugees to encourage dialogue and discussion in seminars, as well as a safe space to reflect on the topics of gender roles, self-care, social relations, violence prevention and caring masculinities. Each partner will implement the Education Programme in their country using culturally-sensitive methods.

The Capacity-Building Programme (CBP), on the other hand, is aimed at professionals working in the field of migration, gender-based violence prevention and gender & masculinities. Similar to the Education Programme, the Capacity-Building Programme will be offered in each partner country in numerous languages.

Read more about the CBP and gain an insight into the different modules.

Get Involved

If you are interested in taking part in the training for the Capacity-Building Programme or the Education Intervention Programme, please reach out to the **FOMEN contact person for your country**.

Spotlight: the first implemented Education Programme in Austria

Austrian partner VMG presents an account of the first education programme back in Summer 2020

On 15th of June 2020, VMG started the first FOMEN Education Program with male refugees and migrants in Austria. In cooperation with the NGO ZEBRA we reached out to a highly motivated and intrigued group of men who have been spending most of their asylum procedure in and around the Styrian city of Mürzzuschlag. Due to the town's remoteness and the legal impossibility for them and their family working a job or pursuing an education, in addition to Covid-19 slowing down most aspects of social and public life, these men were highly motivated to participate as the first group at the FOMEN Education Program.

Read more...

Media

The FOMEN team would also like to refer to two other interesting pieces of media:

- **Podcast: Refugees and Migrants amid the Global Pandemic: Gendered Vulnerabilities in the Middle East**
- **Video: ReNaz Corona and Women's Bodies** (a literary and artistic project aimed to combat domestic violence during the corona virus lockdown)

Don't forget that you can follow the FOMEN project updates on social media. We can be found on **Instagram** and **Facebook**!



FOMEN Partners

Updates

We would like to congratulate FOMEN project partner, **Symbiosis - School for Political Studies in Greece**, for being awarded the European Citizen's Prize by the European Parliament for 2020. Each year, the European Citizen's Prize honours outstanding achievement in certain areas which you can read more about [here](#).

List of Partners

- **Verein für Männer- und Geschlechterthemen Steiermark (VMG), Austria, Lead Partner.** Meet the FOMEN team @ VMG.
- **Society for Psychological Assistance (SPA), Croatia.** Meet the FOMEN team @ SPA.
- **Associació Conexus: atenció, formació i investigació psicosocials (CONEXUS), Spain.** Meet the FOMEN team @ Conexus.
- **Symbiosis Astikis mi Kerdoskopiki Etaireia (SYMBIOSIS), Greece.** Meet the FOMEN team @ Symbiosis.
- **Centro di Ascolto Uomini Maltrattanti (CAM), Italy.** Meet the FOMEN team @ CAM.
- **European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence (WWP EN), Germany.** Meet the FOMEN team @ WWP EN.
- **Centre for Gender and Violence Research, University of Bristol, UK.** Meet the FOMEN team @ the Centre for Gender and Violence Research.



Co-financers



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If you don't want to receive any more messages (to: {EMAIL}) any longer, you can [unsubscribe](#) free of charge at any time.

Data protection & the FOMEN Project.

FOMEN Project
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