

I Will Go Reach My World



NURTURE



EMPOWER



OUTREACH

"We have different gifts according to the grace given us..." —ROMANS 12:6, NIV

A MINISTRY FOR EVERY WOMAN



2022.24. November 28, 2022

News from Women's Ministries Inter-European Division

Women under attack, Brave and Rebel



BOOKLET "16 DAYS TO OVERCOME VIOLENCE" 2022

The Federation of Protestant Women in Italy (Fdei) has once again produced the booklet "16 days to overcome violence", to accompany the sixteen days of action from November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, to December 10, Human Rights Day. "Women under attack, brave and rebel" is the title of the 2022 publication.

"While we were planning this notebook, arrived the news of the grim killing of the twenty-two-year-old girl Mahsa Amini in Iran due to a lock of hair sticking out of her veil hiab," writes Claudia Angeletti, editor of the booklet, in the introduction. "The outrage that this crime and the subsequent bloody repressions that still continue as we write (31/10) prompted us to dedicate this issue to Iranian and Afghan women and their courageous rebellion against regimes inspired by religious fanaticism.... At the same time we realized that women and their rights are everywhere under attack by those who want to continue to manage the world with that patriarchal power."

"One of our ways of standing by their side," she adds, "is the graphic choice of reproducing on the various pages Shamsia Hassani's drawings, which give visibility to their aspiration for freedom in a very valuable artistic form."

This booklet edition retains its traditional and well-established style. In fact, every day you can find a theme, a Bible text, a brief commentary, a prayer, and a question to encourage the reflection.

"We want to hope that even our small prayers of each of the 16 days can set in motion the subversive energies of the unjust world order in which women are still the last, according to Jesus's promise "the last ones will be first ones," ends Angeletti her introduction.

This year the booklet "16 Days to Overcome Violence" is in Italian, English, German, and Spanish.

Go to: <https://cloud.eud.adventist.org/index.php/s/zNA2jFtJ7gXBKEo>

As reported by Lina Ferrara, WM Director, Italian Union

News from the Muntenia Conference, Romania



VIOLENCE PREVENTION DAY AT BALTA-ALBĂ COMMUNITY, BUCHAREST

The Women's Ministries enditnow day on November 26 already began on Friday night with a service at the Balta-Albă Church in Bucharest in which Sister Carmen Vasilescu presented the material entitled "Family, God's gift. The Saturday morning devotional had the theme "Prayer brings harmony in the family" and the noon sermon was adapted from the General Conference material under the title "The two faces of power". It was presented by a team of sisters coordinated by Elena Petrescu. At the end of the program, a leaflet with a message dedicated to the family was handed out. Fifteen non-Adventist participants took part. Of these, two friends will make their covenant with the Lord on 17 December. In the afternoon there was an interactive program "Family Talk". This was attended by 12 families who answered questions about family life. Today's family challenges were discussed and solutions were sought. The moderator addressed the topic in the context of the theme "Preventing abuse of power in the family". After the divine service, there was a fellowship meal to which all participants were invited. It was a particularly blessed Sabbath.

As reported by Elena Petrescu, coordinator of the Women's Ministries Department, Balta-Albă, Bucharest.

German "Countering Sexual Violence" Advisory Board Meets



VIDEO CLIPS WITH INFORMATION RECORDED

The team of the advisory board "Countering Sexual Violence" met on November 17, 2022, to record video clips that are intended to draw attention to the problem of sexual violence in the SDA church and the valuable work done by the team.

What must not be, cannot be, and certainly not in our church! This is often the case, especially concerning the issue of sexual violence. Unfortunately, the reality is different in our churches as well. Sexual violence also occurs among us, in our churches and families. However, those who are aware of this fact can be attentive and protect themselves and others from it, as well as get help! Oliver, Angelika, Werner, Martin, and Heidi address this issue and educate and help victims and communities when cases of sexual abuse occur.

The video clips about the work of the advisory board and about the recently published book *Sexueller Gewalt begegnen* (Countering Sexual Violence), which is a product of the work of the advisory board, will be posted online on Instagram and Facebook in a few weeks.

For more information and to contact the advisory board, please visit the advisory board's website at sexueller-gewalt-begegnen.de.

November 25 is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.



ADVENTIST EUD LEADERS SAY NO TO VIOLENCE

November 25 is the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. During the 16 days of activism until December 10, Human Rights Day, we will join the #OrangeTheWorld project that addresses the growing threats to women and girls with our enditnow project that says No to Violence against women and children. We will be posting photos of Adventist men and women who raise their hand to say Stop violence and abuse! See our video of leaders in the Inter-European Division saying Stop violence:

<https://cloud.eud.adventist.org/index.php/apps/files/?dir=/WM%20Webseite/Enditnow%20videos%202022&fileid=34750818>
We will be posting the individual photos on our facebook site EUD WOMEN
#OrangetheWorldDay1

Platform against Violence



WOMEN'S MINISTRIES IN SPAIN INVOLVED IN PREVENTION

We asked the Women's Ministries Team in Spain to give us some information on their Platform against Violence.

The Platform against Violence is a project that aims to reach out, especially to all Adventist women and sympathizers who are victims of physical or psychological violence and their families. This project is also aimed at all members and like-minded of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

We intend to achieve the following objectives:

To raise awareness about violence and abuse in all its forms.

To raise awareness about the divine commands concerning our body (We are the Temple of the Holy Spirit).

To prevent gender violence in the home.

To educate in the peaceful resolution of marital conflicts.

Educate in a culture of peace within our churches.

Support victims of violence

To offer counseling to female victims of violence

To reduce the number of cases of domestic violence.

Establish ourselves as an association.

We are taking part in the worldwide challenge posed by the Women's Ministries Department of the General Conference to fight against violence, which includes the following aspects:

To cooperate with other professional services, to listen to and care for people who suffer from abuse and family violence, to highlight injustices, and to speak out on behalf of the victims.

To help people who need information and to teach them how to access the help that the professional services sector has to offer. If there is a change of attitude and behavior with the possibility of forgiveness and restoration, to provide the ministry of reconciliation.

To assist families in their grief over relationships that cannot be restored.

To address spiritual issues in dealing with abused persons, seeking to understand the origins of abuse and family violence and developing better ways of living together to prevent the recurring cycle.

Taking into account the command we find in the Word of God in Proverbs 31:8+9 : "Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute. Speak up and judge fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy," we have planned the following actions:

OFFER THE VICTIMS A PLACE OF SAFE SHELTER.

OFFER TO THE CHURCH IN GENERAL (members and pastors) TRAINING ON VIOLENCE.

TO SPEAK OUT, WITHOUT PREJUDICE AND CULTURAL BARRIERS.

TO PREACH WITH OUR EXAMPLE.

SUPPORTING ABUSED WOMEN AND THEIR CHILDREN by offering them: legal advice, psychological and spiritual care and counseling as well as education and guidance and referral.

FORMATION OF SUPPORT GROUPS

APPOINTMENT, TRAINING, AND SUPPORT OF A FEMALE "GUIDANCE COUNSELOR" IN EACH LOCAL CHURCH to coordinate the support groups in their local church, carry out orientation and referral work, inform women victims of violence about the services available on gender violence in their autonomous community and inform the Platform against Violence of the cases that exist in the churches.

In this way, the platform would perform the functions of PREVENTION, TRAINING, ORIENTATION, and REFERRAL.

The Platform is made up of a team of professionals in the fields of theology, psychology, law, education, and social work.

The courses offered cover two very specific areas:

20-hour weekend training courses for pastors, church officials, and guidance counselors.

Weekend seminars on violence for churches that request them.

The topics focus on issues such as what is gender violence, violence in the light of the Bible, forms of violence and the identification of violent patterns, assertive techniques to prevent violence, the importance of communication, family influence and repercussions, self-esteem and personal assessment, counseling, the role of the counselor, legal and juridical aspects, and orientation on social services and referral, among others.

Added to this there is web-based information, assistance, and referral service, staffed by a graduate in psychology.

Information supplied by Mercedes Martinez, Women's Ministries Director, Spanish Union

Consideration for Women's Needs in Italy



A BOX FOR WOMEN

I want to share with you a short and, I hope, useful news from my local church in Sesto San Giovanni, a town near Milano, in Italy. Annalisa Minò, the newly elected local Women's Ministries director, has had an all-female idea. A small service for the women of the Sesto Adventist community.

In the ladies' room of the church, she placed a box containing products for women's needs: sanitary pads, deodorants, intimate and sanitizing wipes, hand cream, tights, etc.

On the box, she wrote the following message. "Dear woman, dear sister, this box is here for you. Feel free to use what you need to feel comfortable with. Remember not to take away anything that could be used by another sister and, if you want, you can help keep this box always stocked. Thank you!" On Saturday, the churches often meet during the whole Sabbath day. So the women may have some need and the special box can give them some help.

It is certainly a welcome idea for a targeted service. And it is also an idea to be copied.

Franca Zucca, former WM director in Italy.

Women's Ministries Weekend Retreat in Germany



"DESERT TIMES"

With great expectations, 40 women arrived in Hatten Sandkrug, Germany, for the weekend of November 11-13, 2022. It was the first women's retreat since the merging of the Lower Saxony and Hanse conferences.

With the topic "Desert Times," Nancy Duske, Hanse Conference Women's Ministries director, reached out and motivated the women to go with God through their desert and shared her own experiences with God. He will make it rain and blossom. She recalled many promises from the Bible into the hearts and minds of the participants. The whole weekend felt like an oasis in their everyday life.

Lovingly designed presentations, times of praise and worship, delicious food, and the time spent together in friendship gave strength for everyday life. The time went by much too quickly and the participants are already looking forward to the next retreat in April 2023.

Join us on facebook [eudwomensministries](https://www.facebook.com/eudwomensministries/).
<https://www.facebook.com/eudwomensministries/>

Homepage Women's Ministries:
eudwomen.org

Dagmar Dorn
Hannele ~~Ott~~schofski, Editor

Women's Ministries
General Conference SDA
Inter-European Division (EUD)
Schosshaldenstr. 17
CH - 3006 Bern
Mail: dagmar.dorn@eud.adventist.org