

THE CURE FOUNDATION NEWSLETTER

January/February/March 2022

First edition in 2022

Welcome to the first CURE Foundation Newsletter highlighting events and news from our community during the period January - March 2022.

Enjoy reading and stay in touch!

Women Human Rights Advocates



March 17 and 18, 2022 - Workshop in Prokosovići

Women Human Rights Advocates is a project funded by the European Union and implemented by the CURE Foundation and the Foundation for Women's Empowerment (FWE). During the two years of implementation, efforts are being made to strengthen the capacity of ten organizations in ten municipalities, with recommendations for institutions at the local level on how to improve the position of women.

Local organizations with which we cooperated in 2021 are the Association of Citizens "Probudi se (Wake Up)" Istočno Sarajevo, the Association of Women "Romkinje (Roma Women)" Bijeljina, the Association of Women "Pašinke" together with the Association "Sigurno mjesto (Safe Place)" from Zavidovići, the Association "Ženska vizija (Women's Vision)" from Tuzla and Active Women "Donje Moštre" from Visoko.

In March 2022, a workshop was organized with the Women's Association "Srce i duša (Heart and Soul)" from Prokosovići / Lukavac.

Advocating for Women's Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina

With the support of the Swedish feminist Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation, the CURE Foundation continues to use new technologies to advocate for women's rights. Our goal is to provide space for the continuous promotion of the women's perspective in relation to current socio-political issues by enabling direct communication with the audience during the live streaming of our digital events.

Women and Peacebuilding in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The project "Women and Peacebuilding in Bosnia and Herzegovina" aims to raise awareness of citizens about the need to include women in all phases of peace negotiations and peacebuilding. The project is based on the recommendations of the research "Dealing with Restlessness and Peacebuilding from the Perspective of a Post-Dayton Woman" and provides an opportunity to include young women, middle-aged and elderly women, members of minority and marginalized groups, returnees, women survivors of violence and discrimination, asylum seekers, children born of wartime rape and all persons recognized as agents of positive change in the context of peace building in BiH. One of the goals is to make women's personal

stories heard and to motivate other women to deal with everyday violations of women's human rights. Since the beginning of 2022, the CURE Foundation has been working on mapping, collecting and summarizing personal stories and portraits of women so that this material is available to the general public through publication / research and digital stories that will be promoted through an online platform.

We are currently creating content for the fifteenth Regional Meeting of the Women's Court, which will be held in Sarajevo from 11 to 13 May 2022. This project is fully financially supported by our friends, peace activists from the Women's World Day of Prayer - German Committee.

Capacity Building of the Women's Network of BiH



March 2022 - The conference of the Women's Network of BiH entitled "ZERO Tolerance of Violence Against Women - Solidarity and Support"

The Women's Network of BiH has focused its activities on strengthening the advocacy capacity through the technical improvement of our social platforms. Our website www.zenskamreza.ba continues to broadcast the latest news regarding the quality of life of women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and is a resource for all those who seek more information. Our participation in meetings on advancing the position of women

has led us to be invited to nominate two candidates for a state-level working body to discuss the perspectives of the new generations through the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

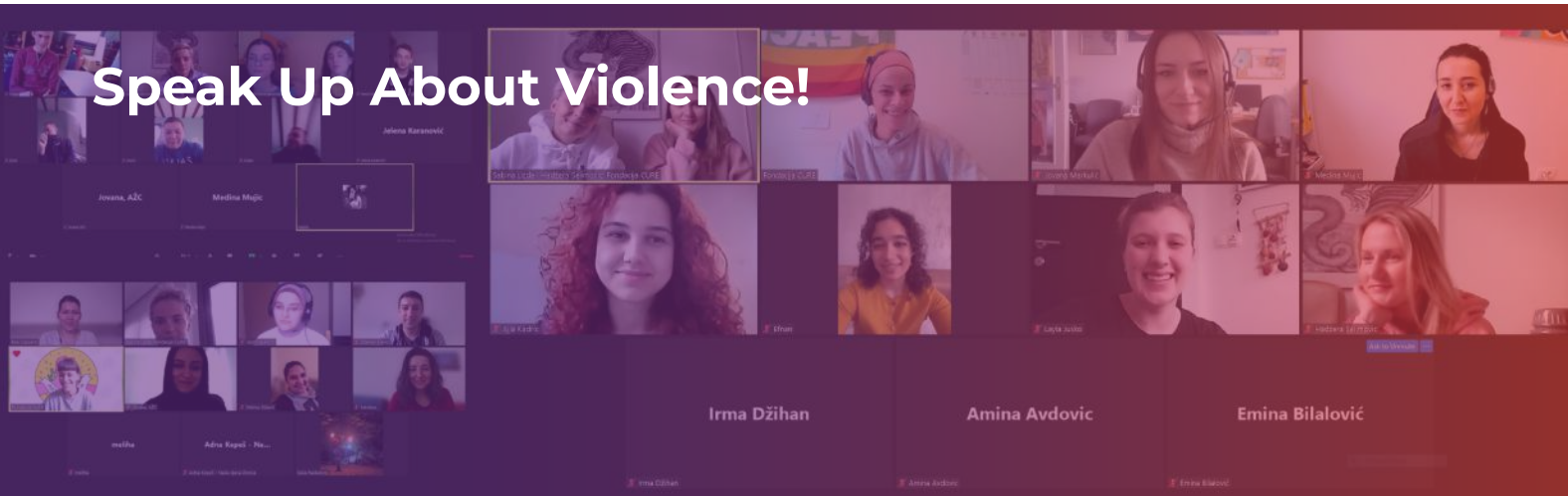
The conference of the Women's Network of BiH entitled "ZERO Tolerance of Violence Against Women - Solidarity and Support" was held in

Sarajevo on March 7 and 8, 2022 at the Grand Hotel.

The conference was intended for members of the BiH Women's Network to discuss topics related to violence against women. After the Conference, members of the Women's Network supported and participated in the March for the 8 of March, which was organized under the slogan "Feminism did not wage wars, nationalism did!"

Person of Trust

Three members of the CURE Foundation team joined the training for the Person of Trust Institute conducted by our friends from the Zenica Women's Rights Center. Through this training, the CURE Foundation continues to strengthen its capacities by improving the knowledge and competencies of its members in direct work with women.



January 2022 - two-day online workshop in Banja Luka
February 2022 – two-day online workshop in Zenica
March 2022 –two-day online workshop in Sarajevo

The CURE Foundation works to support, strengthen capacity and create a safe environment for a new generation of activists and feminists, for their responsible and active involvement in positive social change through education, research, analysis and public advocacy, improvement of women's media image and raising visibility, local and regional networking, engaged art, activism, and building an inclusive and sustainable women's movement.

The CURE Foundation, in cooperation with the Autonomous Women's Center from Belgrade, implements the project Speak Up About Violence! The goal is to strengthen different women of all ages who will act as bearers of positive social change, creating a safe and positive environment to improve the quality of everyday life of women and other socially marginalized groups. The primary focus of the project is to make young girls (14-20 years old) and peer educators (18-25 years old) feel safer from sexual and gender-based violence in youth relationships. By educating young people not to

tolerate violence, by encouraging young women to be drivers of positive change, we create a safe space and a healthier environment. Moreover, we provide tools for different target groups to take responsibility and use power to stop gender-based violence. Various target groups (women's NGO, Youth Councils, youth associations and young women) that are part of the project's educational program will become initiators and creators of various activities and workshops with the aim of educating others about the problem of gender-based violence. Through this project we create a safe space - private and public using various media tools (internet platforms, new media platforms, social networks, etc.) to empower young women to talk about gender-based violence in youth relationships.

In the period from January to March 2022, three two-day online workshops were held in Banja Luka, Zenica and Sarajevo.

Gender Sensitive Local Policies of the Municipality of Centar Sarajevo in the EU Accession Process

The CURE Foundation has started the implementation of the project "Gender Sensitive Local Policies of the Municipality of Centar Sarajevo in the EU Accession Process". This Project is part of a broader action entitled "Furthering Gender Equality through the EU Accession Process". This Action is co-funded by the European Union and by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). The regional partners implementing the action are Reactor – Research in Action from North Macedonia, Albanian Women Empowerment Network (AWEN) from Albania, Rights for all from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Kosovo Women's Network (KWN) from Kosovo, Women's Rights Centre (WRC) from Montenegro and the Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation from Sweden through its office in North Macedonia.

The project "Gender Sensitive Local Policies of the Municipality of Centar Sarajevo in the Process of EU Accession" is focused on the analysis of gender policies, programs and future activities in the Municipality of Centar Sarajevo. During this project, the Cure Foundation will continue to advocate for the development of gender policies at the local level, with the development of such a local policy document that will incorporate UNCEDAW recommendations for Bosnia and Herzegovina as much as possible, especially regarding the position of socially marginalized groups of women, as well as policy papers developed by local women's organizations in line with the EU gender policy recommendations.

CURE - INITIATIVES

Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative

In January, the Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative published the second issue of the Bulletin, which contains information on the activities of the Initiative in the second half of 2021. On the occasion of the International Women's Day, all members of the Women's Network of BiH and the Network for Building Peace in cooperation with the Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative joined forces and marked the Month of Peacebuilding and Strengthening the Visibility of Women's Activism in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In recent years, the members of these initiatives have organized hundreds of activities throughout

Bosnia and Herzegovina on the occasion of International Women's Day, and they have continued this practice in 2022. The BiH Agency for Gender Equality and the Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative held an online masterclass: "Gender Responsive Constitution in the Light of International and EU Obligations". Topics covered through three modules are: Constitution and International Standards from the CEDAW Convention and the Resolution 1325 (Women, Peace and Security Agenda), Constitution and Regional Standards in the Field of Gender Equality: Law and Institutional Framework of the European Union and Council of Europe, Constitution and Other Relevant

Standards in the Field of Gender Equality - the process of constitutional reforms in BiH from a gender perspective and protection of human rights.

More information on the activities of the Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative can be found at: <https://gradjankezaustavnepromjene.wordpress.com/>



Initiative "Let's Share Responsibility Together"

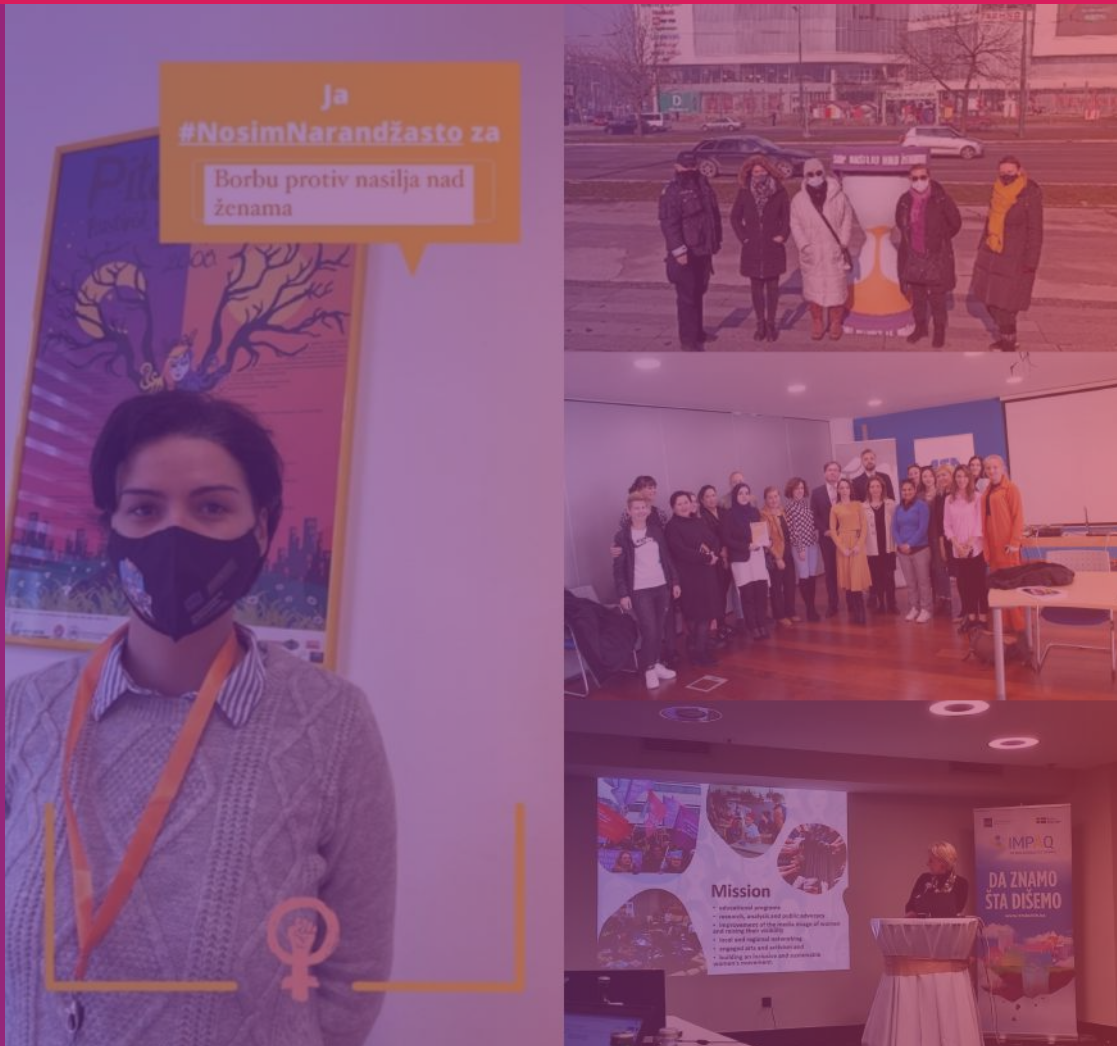
March 2022 - Press conference of the Initiative "Let's Share Responsibility Together"

On March 22, 2022, at 10 am in the hall of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a press conference was held on Amendments to the Election Law of BiH: Women Again Excluded from the Discussion. There are already quotas in Bosnia and Herzegovina when it comes to equal representation of all three constituent peoples of BiH, so we see no reason not to take the same measures to ensure equal representation of both sexes. It is important to emphasize that such changes would not affect the will of voters, and we would be closer to equal and balanced representation of men and women in the legislative bodies.

The Initiative "Let's Share Responsibility Together", an informal coalition of civil society organizations and politicians, advocates amending the BiH Election Law as follows:

- a change on the basis of which the missing number of elected women of at least 40% would be filled from the compensatory list;
- maintaining the gender quota and increasing it to 50%, with the principle of alternating order of candidates.

Compensatory lists are formed by the leaders of political parties and the will of the voters does not affect the order on the list. This is exactly the space that could enable the missing number of selected persons of the underrepresented sex up to 40%, which is why we consider this solution optimal.



In Sarajevo, on March 29, 2022, members of the CURE Foundation attended a seminar entitled "For Better Air Quality - To Know What We Breathe" within the IMPAQ project implemented by EPA (Swedish Environmental Protection Agency) and funded by the Embassy of Sweden. The seminar discussed air pollution through the prism of gender equality.

CURE Foundation presented its mission and vision, the biggest challenges in BiH and challenges in its work, the connection between gender equality and environmental problems, the importance of gender mainstreaming in the work of relevant authorities, and our impact on policy and decision making.

The seminar presented data on pollution in BiH, poor air quality, types of pollutants, and the need to encourage action and change policies in terms of greater involvement of women in all processes related to environmental protection. The state of social security in BiH regarding (un)paid maternity leave, the manner of payment of salaries during

maternity leave, the availability of kindergartens, especially in rural areas, the existence of a transport network, the status of unemployed women - mothers, etc. were analyzed. Furthermore, the impact of pollution on everyday life and the health and economic consequences for women and children in particular were discussed.

The presentation of the students of the Konjic College of Tourism and Management and their achievements through the project "Education of Disenfranchised Girls / Women" was organized in the premises of ASA Prevent in Sarajevo (on March 2022). This academic year, the Konjic College of Tourism and Management opened its doors to disenfranchised girls and women from all over Bosnia and Herzegovina with the support of the CURE Foundation and the Association for the Development of a Free Society Pozitiva BiH, and ASA Prevent awarded a scholarship to one of the girls.

Members of the CURE Foundation supported the #NosimNarandžasto (#I Wear Orange) initiative launched by the KULT Youth Development Institute to mark the Orange Day, January 25, and to send clear messages of support and encouragement to all women and girls victims of violence.

**#fondacijacure #orangetheworld
#nosimnarandzasto**

On Monday, January 17, regional activists and members of non-governmental organizations from over 40 organizations from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Montenegro called on representatives of institutions responsible for

preventing and combating all forms of violence against women and girls to do their job responsibly and conscientiously and to protect the survivors, to act urgently and adequately punish the perpetrators because EVERY MINUTE IS IMPORTANT! As part of a joint action in three countries, an hourglass was set up in front of institutions in five cities (Belgrade, Niksic, Podgorica, Vranje, Sarajevo). With this action, we wanted to say that all institutions are obliged to act in accordance with the law and international regulations. The hourglass sculpture aims to serve as a symbolic reminder that the institutions to which the women address are responsible for women's lives, and that women run out of time.



8. mart - dan žena Fondacije CURE

Standing for the 8th of March - CURE Foundation organized a March for the 8th of March to mark the International Women's Day and to draw attention to the fact that even in times of "peace", in a time without natural disasters and

pandemics, women's lives are not safe, and with any social or natural disaster, the rights and safety of women and girls are further compromised.





Cure - ToRs

In the past period, we have announced ToR for positions for our digital advocacy this year, and we are very pleased to have found associates and look forward to new topics and discussions.

Link:

<https://fondacijacure.org/fondacija-cure-poziv-za-dostavu-ponuda-za-saradnice-ke-za-digitalno-zago-varanje-za-zenska-prava-u-bosni-i-hercegovini/>

ANNOUNCEMENT! PITCHWISE FESTIVAL

On this occasion, we announce the PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism, which will be held from 8 to 11 September 2022.



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We would like to thank the donors in 2022!

The European Union; Kvinna till Kvinna; Global Fund for Women; Foundation TRAG/Foundation OAK; Die Feministische Friedensorganisation CFD; Mediterranean Women's Fund; Heart and Hand Fund; Sigrid Rausing Trust; CARE International, Balkan Trust for Democracy (BTD); The United States Agency for International Development (USAID); Employment Service of Sarajevo Canton; Foundation for Women's Empowerment; Heinrich Böll Stiftung Sarajevo; Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung BiH; ISCOS Emilia-Romagna.