



ANNUAL REPORT

# 2024



**ANNUAL REPORT 2024**  
**CURE Foundation**

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Editor  
**Stela Vuković**

Translation  
**Enida Čamdžić**

Design and Layout  
**Tanja Ćurić**

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**CURE FOUNDATION**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

# INTRODUCTION

The CURE Foundation is a **feminist and activist organisation** committed to building a society based on equality, justice and solidarity. Since its establishment on 7th November 2005, CURE has worked tirelessly to advance the rights of women and girls, with a special focus on those from marginalised communities.

As an anti-militarist and anti-fascist organisation, CURE promotes a culture of non-violence and actively opposes all forms of discrimination. It empowers women who are often excluded from public life – including Roma women, women with disabilities, lesbian, bisexual and trans\* women, single mothers, older women and survivors of violence – advocating for their equal participation in every sphere of society.

Through education, art, advocacy and street activism, the CURE Foundation creates spaces of freedom and safety for women and girls. With innovative approaches and strong cooperation with partners in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the region and internationally, we continue to strengthen feminist movements and build inclusive communities.

Our work is focused on generating systemic change. Through campaigns, research, informal educational programmes and creative initiatives, we promote gender equality, holistic security for women and their active engagement in political and social life. The CURE Foundation sees itself as a driving force for social transformation – an organisation that connects, empowers and leads the changes needed to build a society in which women are fully equal, free to make decisions about their lives and present in all decision-making processes.

The logo for the Cure Foundation, featuring the words "Cure Foundation" in a stylized, handwritten script font. The "C" is large and loops around the "ure", and the "Foundation" is written in a similar fluid style.





Foundation CURE, as a **leading feminist incubator**, is committed to empowering, supporting, and securing environments for all women, girls, activists, and feminists through an innovative blend of informal educational programs, targeted research, and impactful advocacy.

By expanding our reach locally and regionally, we aim to forge robust networks that foster active and responsible participation in societal transformation. Our mission focuses on **advancing holistic security for women** – spanning economic, social, environmental and political domains – ensuring their influential presence in peacebuilding and the creation of an inclusive and sustainable women's movement. Through engaged art and activism, we **catalyse critical social changes**, championing a safer, equitable world where every woman's potential is realised.



The CURE Foundation envisions a society free from patriarchal norms where **the safety, equality, and empowerment of women and girls, particularly those from marginalised groups**, are guaranteed. The society we dream of does not tolerate violence or discrimination and recognises women as key drivers of positive social change. CURE is committed to fostering a strong, knowledgeable, and intergenerational women's movement that effectively improves the status of women and champions holistic security to ensure their active and equitable participation in all societal decisions.

The next strategic period will help CURE strengthen and expand a **holistic approach to women's security** that goes beyond addressing the symptoms of gender-based violence but aims to secure social safety and social justice, job stability, access to medical services that support women's freedom of choice, alongside ensuring environmental safety, the integrity of educational processes, and strong support to a robust representation of women in political and decision-making spheres.

This comprehensive model acknowledges and incorporates intersectionality, ensuring initiatives are inclusive and responsive to the needs of diverse women, including those from marginalised communities. Foundation CURE is strategically positioning itself as a feminist incubator, committed to developing a holistic model that not only **enhances women's security** but also ardently **advocates for gender equality**. This ambitious framework integrates diverse strategic elements to form a strong cohesive strategy focused on empowerment, advocacy, and sustainable impact across multiple dimensions.



The CURE Foundation defines the following core values within its work, activities, and in the process of building and strengthening the women's movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina:

- Solidarity among women
- Intergenerational solidarity and knowledge transfer
- Empowerment of women, particularly those from socially marginalised groups
- Innovative approaches and practices
- Internal and external transparency, respecting the do-no-harm policy
- Commitment to a multi-layered feminist identity
- A focus on diverse identities, needs, and aspirations of women and girls
- Activism as a tool for achieving positive social change
- Creating safe spaces for women and girls
- Consistency in efforts and dedication to achieving social justice
- Anti-fascism and anti-militarism
- Non-violence
- Freedom of choice and diversity

**By consistently implementing these values, the CURE Foundation continues to grow as a strong organisation capable of responding to contemporary social challenges.**

# New Strategic Plan for the 2024–2026 Period



This plan is the result of dedicated work and collaboration, focusing on several key areas that we consider priorities in fulfilling our mission. Through this strategic framework, we aim to further empower women, enhance their rights, and contribute to long-term social change.

## **The strategic plan includes the following objectives:**

- Strengthening women's voices and rights through impactful advocacy campaigns and legal reforms
- Promoting holistic security and intersectionality through concrete actions
- Empowering women through education, peace activism, and political participation
- Building capacities and supporting sustainable impact through collaboration and data-driven research

With this plan, the CURE Foundation continues its mission to improve the position of women and create a society where equality and justice are not just aspirations but a lived reality.



# PROGRAMMES AND ACTIVITIES

We achieve our strategic objectives through a series of programmes, activities, and projects that shape the work of the CURE Foundation. Three key programmes stand out as the foundation of our work and the basis for future activities, both due to their programmatic and symbolic value and their open, inclusive nature, which allows for the participation of all those contributing to the development of the women's movement and feminist thought in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

These three core programmes are central to the work of the CURE Foundation, as they continuously enable us to fulfil our mission:

- 1. March on 8th March** – a symbol of the struggle for women's rights and resistance to gender inequality.
- 2. PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism** – a unique platform that merges art and activism, bringing together feminists, activists, and artists from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region.
- 3. 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence** – a global campaign in which the CURE Foundation actively participates to raise awareness and advocate for systemic change in the fight against violence against women.

# March on 8th March



The 8th of March – International Women's Day is dedicated to the fight for women's economic, political, and civil rights, as well as their societal achievements. The CURE Foundation consistently marks this day by creating a safe and visible space for publicly expressing resistance to all forms of discrimination, injustice, and violence that threaten women's rights and social peace.

In honour of the beginnings of the women's movement and to raise awareness of gender inequality and the challenges women in Bosnia and Herzegovina face daily, the CURE Foundation traditionally organises and leads **March on 8th March** in Sarajevo.

This event gathers representatives of marginalised groups, workers, students, elderly women, institutional representatives, academics, media, and all citizens who share the vision of a society based on equality. Through this march, a clear message of resistance to oppression is sent, alongside a firm commitment to the fight for

women's rights, freedom, and equality.

The march aims to show decisive opposition to all policies and practices that endanger women's rights while clearly stating that the fight for justice, freedom, and equality continues.

The slogan of 2024 March was:

**Me-You-We\***  
**UNITED AGAINST**  
**#Discrimination #ViolenceandWars #Poverty**

As part of the march, the CURE Foundation issued a powerful statement reflecting the social reality women face – economic injustices, political oppression, systemic discrimination and an uncertain future. The statement served as a call to resistance and solidarity among all women and feminists fighting for a better society.



I, an activist, a feminist, stand on the frontline of resistance.

Resistance against the oppression of patriarchy, hatred, discrimination, violence and wars. I stand against the patriarchal system with my whole being and body – a body that still belongs to the state. A state that seeks to claim not only my earnings but also my ovaries, my womb, my sick and healthy organs. I raise my voice against the system that – through laws and societal norms – seeks to control my words, poison my thoughts, dictate my opinions and suppress my emotions.

I fear my present, I dread my future and I ask myself how I survived the past – how many traumas has this body endured, a body that still does not fully belong to me. I live in a system where I work to exhaustion just to pay for air, water, food, electricity, heating, land, a roof over my head – to repay the debts of past governments and finance the loans of the future. I live on credit, always in deficit, always in debt, unable to plan my tomorrow. I have no time to dream, and even when I do – I dream of survival. I remain silent when I endure workplace harassment because I cannot afford to start over – I am in deficit. I do not dare think about having children, nor do I plan to, because I fear I would not be able to provide for them.

And yet, today I still stand on the frontline of resistance. And I am not alone. You stand beside me. I do not know what drives you to stand here. Your story and identity may differ from mine. And I thank you for standing with



me – for resisting together. We will listen to one another and learn from our experiences. Our lived realities are our power – the power of collective feminist action. We\*, feminists and activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina – women's rights advocates and self-advocates from both rural and urban areas, returnees, Roma women, lesbians, gender non-binary persons, bisexual and trans women, women with disabilities, women from families of the disappeared, young women, elderly women, employed and unemployed women, parents and single parents, mothers of children with disabilities, homemakers and entrepreneurs, we who have survived gender-based violence, systemic injustice and the systemic violation of our rights – stand together in all our identities, supporting one another and embracing our diversity.





# PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Since its inception in 2006, the PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism in Bosnia and Herzegovina has become a signature event of the CURE Foundation, recognised as a unique feminist international gathering that merges activism with engaged art. The festival was born out of the need to reclaim and transform neglected public spaces, turning them into safe and open venues for artists, activists, theorists, feminists, and all those interested in women's rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region.

As a key social event in Bosnia and Herzegovina, PitchWise has been acknowledged and branded as a festival that brings together pivotal figures from various socio-economic sectors.

## Why Did We Initiate PitchWise?



Reclaiming abandoned and overlooked public spaces, transforming them into meeting places where socially engaged artists, activists, theorists, and feminists from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region can converge.

Ensuring a safe and open space for a new generation of artists and activists, where they can freely express their ideas and create new feminist narratives.

Strengthening solidarity and networking with our sisters worldwide, enabling us to collectively shape a history of resistance and continue the fight for equal rights and fair treatment for all women.



## Key Moments of the Festival

This year's PitchWise Festival took place from 12th to 15th September 2024 at the History Museum of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Full details of the opening ceremony and the complete festival programme are available on the **CURE Foundation's YouTube channel** and social media platforms:

YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@fondacijacure2069/videos>

Festival Programme: <https://fondacijacure.org/program-pitchwise-festivala/>

Over four days, the PitchWise Festival welcomed more than 400 participants, offering a diverse array of educational and creative activities, including panel discussions, workshops, artistic performances, and feminist debates.

## Digital Impact

Beyond its powerful in-person presence, the digital reach of the PitchWise 2024 Festival significantly extended its influence. The following figures highlight its impressive digital footprint:

**Instagram stories and posts – 34,901 views** over just four days.

**Facebook interactions – 27,068 views**, with over **60 new followers** joining the CURE Foundation's feminist community.

**Livestream coverage – a total of 3,121 minutes** of watch time, each minute symbolising solidarity, support, and feminist unity.

The PitchWise Festival continues to expand, both in physical and digital spaces, providing a safe, engaged, and inspiring environment for all those striving to build a society of equality, freedom, and justice.

# 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM

## (25th November – 10th December)



The global campaign '**16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence**' brings together more than 1,700 organisations from over 100 countries worldwide. This year, the CURE Foundation once again actively participated in the campaign, with a special focus on raising awareness about violence and discrimination.

The campaign began with a **street action on 25th November – the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls**, organised by the CURE Foundation. Through performances and activist messages, attention was drawn to the urgent need to combat all forms of violence against women and girls. **With this street action, we highlighted the issue of femicide and violence against women, which occurs daily**

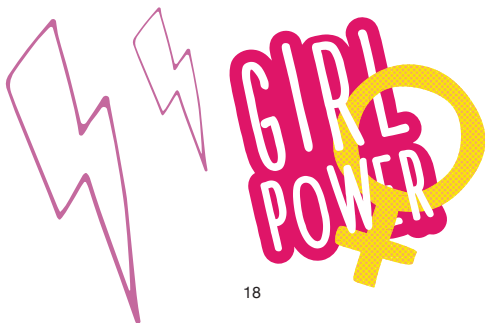
**across the world and too often ends in murder.**

As part of the campaign, on **8th December**, in cooperation with members of the **Women's Peace Initiative**, the **Day of Remembrance for Women Victims of War in Bosnia and Herzegovina** was commemorated. This event aimed to preserve collective memory and raise awareness of women's war experiences, with the goal of strengthening peace initiatives and feminist solidarity.

Throughout the campaign, the CURE Foundation was guided by this year's slogan:

**Me-You-We\* United  
Against #Discrimination  
#ViolenceandWars #Poverty**

emphasizing the importance of collective action in the fight for women's rights.



Thus, through this year's 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, we sent a clear message – there is no going back! Returning to the past would mean the abolition of hard-won rights and freedoms, jeopardising the ideals of equality that we have fought for decades. Protection from discrimination based on any personal characteristic and equality in all areas of public and private life – the right to education, equal pay for equal work, healthcare, sexual and reproductive health, and a life free from any form of violence – enable girls and women to live freely, with dignity, and without fear.

Together, we must resist actions that seek to take us and future generations backward, threatening the level of democratic rights and freedoms we have achieved.

#### Our demands:

- Introduction of a legal definition of femicide!
- Inclusion of femicide as a criminal offence in legal acts!
- Urgent harmonisation of criminal laws with the Istanbul Convention and revision of penal practices!
- Ensuring prevention and protection against violence against women and girls through competent institutions and multisectoral protocols!
- Consistent application of laws in cases where death occurs as a result of domestic violence, ensuring that the perpetrator is sentenced under legal provisions prescribing harsher penalties!





# PROJECTS

Research on the Fragmentation of  
the Feminist Movement in Bosnia and  
Herzegovina

Women's Network of Bosnia and  
Herzegovina

Preventing and Combatting  
Intersectional Violence Towards LGBTIQ  
Women and Non-Binary Persons

Building Up Anti-Gender Resilience  
Movements in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Feminist Time Travel

Women in Politics

We Can Do It – Initiate – Transform!

EmpowerHER

Safe Space for Youth



# Research on the Fragmentation of the Feminist Movement in B&H

Project funded by the Kvinna Till Kvinna Foundation (KTK)

## Project Objective

Since 2021, the CURE Foundation has been implementing the project Research on the Fragmentation of the Feminist Movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina, focusing on analysing the challenges within the feminist and women's movement and advocating for the economic empowerment of marginalised groups of women.

Particular emphasis is placed on women who have survived domestic violence in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the aim of developing adequate strategies and institutional support measures.

In 2024, our goal was to create a space for discussion among various actors within the feminist and women's movement in BiH, fostering dialogue and collective action.

## Key Activities in 2024

- **Two open meetings** were held with organisations from the wider Sarajevo area, where our space served as a safe environment for women's rights defenders. As a result, the 'Sarajevo Feminist Story' mailing list was created, for the first time including organisations from Istočno Sarajevo, facilitating information exchange and coordination during protests and street actions.
- For the first time, **open discussions were held** on the inclusion of non-binary individuals outside the LGBT\*Q community within broader feminist spaces, expanding the discourse on inclusion and identity within the movement.
- Two **coordination meetings** were organised with

representatives of women's organisations from major cities in BiH (Bijeljina, Mostar, Bihać, Zenica, Tuzla) to align messages for the March on 8th March. The process also involved advocates for the rights of Roma women, women with disabilities, and women survivors of cancer.

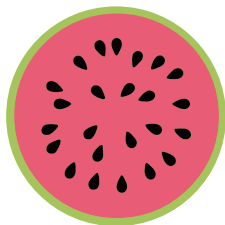
- The CURE team played an active role in **coordinating protests** related to 8th March and femicide, supported a billboard campaign on femicide across BiH, and organised a protest against the reduction of sentences in femicide cases.
- Over **25 individual meetings** were held with organisations and individuals, aimed at knowledge exchange and collectively defining feminist values and perspectives.
- An initiative for a **digital feminist movement** in BiH was launched, featuring interviews and the creation of digital content for educational and promotional purposes.
- In cooperation with the '**Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative**', an online conference on the state of women's rights in BiH was organised, attracting significant public engagement and interaction.
- As part of the economic advocacy initiative, **more than 10 meetings were held** with decision-makers in the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the aim of promoting measures for the socio-economic empowerment of women. As a key outcome, collaboration was established with Prof. Dr Faruk Hadžić on future actions planned for 2025.

## Results and Impact

Through this project, the CURE Foundation has facilitated dialogue among feminist organisations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, strengthened cooperation between different actors within the women's movement, and created space for more inclusive feminist narratives. Advocacy activities and the enhancement of digital activism have been particularly significant, laying the foundation for the continued fight for women's rights in the coming years.

# Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina

The work of the Network has been partially supported  
by the TRAG Foundation



## Women's Network BiH **#solidarity**

### Purpose and Significance of the Network

The CURE Foundation initiated the establishment of the **Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ŽMBiH)**, which was officially launched on **12th September 2009**, during the **fourth PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism in BiH**.

Today, the Women's Network brings together **more than 55 civil society organisations, individuals, and activists** dedicated to the protection of women's rights and gender equality. The Network advocates for anti-discrimination, freedom of choice, equality, non-violence, and anti-militarism, drawing on feminist values of peace, solidarity, trust and community, equality, and diversity.

The Women's Network focuses its activities on strengthening advocacy capacities and enhancing digital visibility through technical improvements of social platforms. The website [www.zenskamreza.ba](http://www.zenskamreza.ba) continuously shares the latest news on the quality of life of women and girls in Bosnia and Herzegovina and serves as a resource for those seeking additional information on women's rights and gender equality.

## Activities of the Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2024

In 2024, the Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued its activities in three key areas, strengthening feminist solidarity, advocating for legal reforms, and enhancing the capacities of women's organisations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### 1. Protection of Women's Rights – Femicide

Femicide, as the most extreme form of violence against women, remains a **central focus** of the work of the **Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina (ŽMBiH)**. Throughout **2024**, numerous advocacy activities were carried out:

- In January, the **Women's Network supported the consolidated proposal for amendments to the Criminal Code of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina**, which was submitted to the Ministry of Justice of FBiH.
- **Support was extended** to the appeal of the Network's **member organisation LARA from Bijeljina**, advocating for **justice for child victims of sexual violence**.
- **Solidarity was expressed** with **Kuća ljudskih prava (Human Rights House)** in Banja Luka, in their demand for the National Assembly of Republika Srpska to adopt the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence.
- In February, the Network issued a **public statement following a femicide in Tuzla**, after which Network members **participated in protests**.
- In April, the **Women's Network** supported submissions to the **GREVIO Committee** and EU institutions, warning about the withdrawal of the Law on Protection from Domestic Violence in Republika Srpska and the rise of anti-gender movements.
- In November, the Women's Network received a **public apology from lawyer Omar Mehmedbašić**, following a

complaint filed by the network with the Bar Association of FBiH regarding his derogatory remarks towards femicide victims.

- All activities were coordinated with **member organisations of the Women's Network**, ensuring transparency and the education of all members on relevant laws and legal documents. The Coordinating **Committee of the Women's Network** approved the activities, and information was shared on our social media platforms.

## **2.Capacity Building for Members of the Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Strengthening the capacities of member organisations remains a **key aspect of the Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina's** work. Throughout **2024**, various activities were implemented to empower organisations at the local level, enhance their advocacy skills, and provide support through grants and educational programmes.

### **Key Activities:**

- In 2024, a total of **13 small grants were awarded to member organisations** for activities in local communities. The grants supported **campaigns marking International Women's Day (5 grants) and the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence (8 grants)**.
- In March, a **capacity-building workshop** was held for member organisations, focusing on lobbying and advocacy for women's rights, particularly in the context of legal reforms and political activism.
- In April, a **study visit to Malta** was organised, with participation from members of the Women's Network and representatives of the 4P Network – a network of community **support workers**. During the visit, a partnership was established with Women to Women Malta, the country's largest women's network.

- Key discussion topics during the visit included **femicide, anti-gender movements, abortion rights, and the Istanbul Convention**. Participants had the opportunity to **engage in discussions with one of the co-authors of the Istanbul Convention**, further strengthening their advocacy capacities for work in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

### 3. Coordination of Actions and Advocacy for Women's Rights

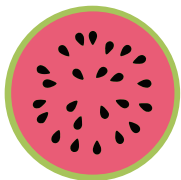
The Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina continues to serve as a **platform for coordinating advocacy efforts** and fostering cooperation with institutions and organisations working on women's rights at the local, regional, and international levels. In this regard:

- **The 8th March Women's Marches** were coordinated in local communities across Bosnia and Herzegovina, bringing together organisations and individuals fighting for women's rights.
- In collaboration with the Network for Building Peace and the Women's Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative, the **calendar for the Week of Peacebuilding and Women's Solidarity** was developed.
- Upon the recommendation of UN Women BiH, an application was submitted for a position within the **CSO Steering Committee Beijing +30**. Over **six months of voluntary engagement**, public consultations were organised with women's organisations from **Europe and Central Asia**. Based on these consultations, **final documents** were prepared and presented to **UN ECE member organisations at the Geneva meeting in October 2024**. Selma Hadžihalilović, a representative of the Women's Network's coordinating organisation, the CURE Foundation, had the opportunity to address the **UN Assembly during an official session**.
- At the invitation of the Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a **panel discussion titled 'Women, Peace and Security'** was organised

in November, held within the **WPS Chiefs of Defence framework**.

- The **Women's Network remains a key reference point for women's rights in BiH**, providing responses to inquiries from **the media and international organisations such as UNICEF, IOM, Klik, EED, and others**.
- On 23rd December, in cooperation with the **Women's Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative**, an **online conference** was coordinated to discuss **the state of women's rights in BiH**, focusing on **femicide, anti-gender movements, and constitutional changes**. The conference was **broadcast on the Women's Network's social media platforms** and received **significant engagement from the feminist community**.

## Results and Impact



**Women's Network**  
of Bosnia and Herzegovina

**#solidarity**



In 2024, the Women's Network of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued its feminist advocacy for women's rights, achieving significant results through efforts to advance legal reforms, build the capacities of member organisations, and strengthen feminist solidarity.

The Network remains focused on combating femicide, improving the legal framework, and empowering women's organisations in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



# Community response to gender-based violence

Project funded by the EuroCentralAsian Lesbian\* Community (EL\*C)

## Project Objective

The objective of the project is to **strengthen the capacity of the community** in Bosnia and Herzegovina to effectively respond to gender-based violence, ensure protection and support for LGBTIQ persons, and improve institutional responses to violence through access to justice and advocacy for inclusive policies.

## Key Activities in 2024

- The process of **establishing** a specialised network of **community helpers\*** was set in motion, bringing together LGBTIQ and non-binary individuals, activists, and allies, who will be trained to provide direct assistance and support to LGBTIQ community members in exercising their right to protection.
- Work was undertaken **to develop a specialised trusted support system**, enabling these community helpers\* to act in accordance with the legal provisions of domestic violence protection laws, offering institutionally recognised support to survivors of violence.
- A **training programme** was developed for two intensive sessions for community helpers\*, equipping them with knowledge of protection mechanisms, legal frameworks, and methods for working with survivors of violence, thereby strengthening their capacity to provide support.
- A **Guide for Action** was conceptualised to serve as an educational and practical tool for community helpers\*, ensuring a more effective and structured approach in working with survivors of violence.

- Collaboration was established with the **Support Network**, developed by the Centre for Women's Rights, with an expanded focus on the protection and rights of LGBTIQ and non-binary persons, ensuring that all support mechanisms remain inclusive and accessible.

## Results and Impact

The project contributes to the **establishment of a sustainable support model for LGBTIQ and non-binary persons** through the education of community helpers, strengthening advocacy efforts, and increasing visibility of intersectional violence issues.

Through the development of **the trusted persons** framework and **digitalisation of knowledge**, long-term support has been secured. The continuation of activities until September 2025 will further enhance access to justice and strengthen resistance to violence and discrimination.



# Building Up Anti-Gender Resilience Movements in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Project funded by UK International Development and the Kvinna Till Kvinna Foundation (KTK)

## Project Objective

The objective of the project is to **enhance community resilience** against the growing anti-gender narratives and initiatives that threaten human rights and freedoms. The project is focused on empowering activists, strengthening feminist structures, and expanding knowledge and tools necessary for an effective **fight against regressive movements** that undermine established gender equality standards.

## Key Activities in 2024

- **Educational programmes and workshops** were held across Bosnia and Herzegovina to raise awareness about anti-gender movements, their methods, and strategies for resistance through feminist activism.
- **Integrated security workshops** were conducted, where participants learned how to care for their psychological, mental, and physical well-being, strengthen personal resilience, and develop safe mechanisms for action in feminist activism.
- **Trainings on personal security** planning were implemented, enabling participants to develop strategies and protection plans for organisations facing pressure, threats, and digital attacks.
- **Simulations of public debates** and media appearances were organised, providing participants with the opportunity to practice responding to anti-gender narratives, strengthen their argumentation skills, and refine

communication strategies.

- **A publication titled Resilience Handbook: Countering Anti-Gender Policies** was written and published by a group of seven authors. The publication provides a detailed overview of the current situation, an analysis of threats, and concrete recommendations for feminist resistance. It is available in digital format.
- **Public campaigns and advocacy actions** were carried out, including two key campaigns related to significant feminist periods in the year, aimed at increasing community awareness and engagement in resisting anti-gender narratives:
- 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence 2024, which sent a strong message that **‘there is no going back’**, as returning to past policies would mean the abolition of acquired rights and freedoms.
- 8th March Campaign 2025, which will further strengthen feminist messaging and advocacy for women’s rights and gender-marginalised groups.

## Results and Impact

The project has contributed to **strengthening the feminist movement, enhancing the security of activists and organisations**, and raising awareness about the importance of safeguarding acquired rights. Through educational initiatives, advocacy campaigns, and the development of resilience strategies, the project has enabled long-term community preparedness for confronting regressive policies and threats.



# Feminist Time Travel

Project funded by Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP)

## Project Objective

The **Feminist Time Travel** project aimed to create a space for the intergenerational transmission of feminist experiences and values, with a particular emphasis on the importance of self-care. Through personal stories of women and the protection mechanisms they used to safeguard their mental and physical well-being, the project facilitated **connections between different generations of activists**.

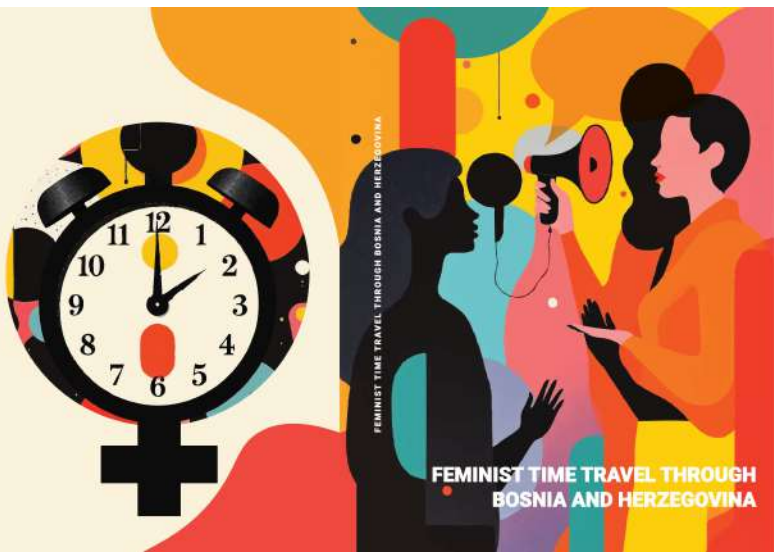
## Key Activities in 2024

- A **three-day workshop** was held, focusing on the beginnings of activism, balancing responsibilities and personal well-being, setting boundaries, and intergenerational solidarity.
- **21 feminist stories** were collected and documented, later published in the book *Feminist Time Travel in Bosnia and Herzegovina*.
- **Five book launch events and discussions** on personal experiences were organised in local communities (Sarajevo, Konjević Polje, Ilijaš, Istočno Sarajevo, and Mostar).
- **Visits to sites of mass atrocities** in Bosnia and Herzegovina were conducted, including Foča, Prijedor, Srebrenica, Ahmići, and Kazani, with the goal of preserving memory and promoting a feminist approach to transitional justice.
- **Ten women participated in the XIX PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism**, where experiences were shared, and feminist dialogue was strengthened.
- Engagement was achieved through **conferences**,

**round tables, and panel discussions** in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region (Belgrade, Zagreb, Vienna, Pristina, Sarajevo), covering topics related to peace and women's activism, support for victims of war crimes, and the importance of feminist models of transitional justice.

## Results and Impact

The project contributed to **strengthening feminist solidarity** by connecting different generations of activists and documenting women's experiences in the fight for equality. The publication serves as a valuable resource for future feminist initiatives, while visits to local communities and atrocity sites further raised awareness about the importance of self-care in activism and the preservation of historical memory. More than 1,000 people participated in the project activities, ensuring a **long-term impact on the feminist community** in Bosnia and Herzegovina.



# Women in Politics

In partnership with Udruženje Budućnost from Modriča, with the support of IAMANEH Switzerland and financial support from the Government of Switzerland

## Project Objective

The Women in Politics project **addresses gender inequality** in political representation **in the municipalities of Gračanica, Lukavac, Tuzla, Šamac, Modriča, Vukosavlje, and Doboj**. The goal is to empower women for political engagement through education, mentorship, advocacy, and monitoring of **gender equality in the electoral process**.

## Key Activities in 2024

- **Support programmes for women** in politics were developed, identifying key challenges and needs of politically active women in targeted municipalities.
- 28 election **observers were mobilised** through a public call, training, and field engagement, covering the campaign period, election day, and the government formation process.
- Seven one-day and seven two-day **workshops were held** for a total of 344 women candidates and politicians, focusing on **campaign strategies, public speaking, and media use for political promotion**.
- Five **online forums** were conducted, where women candidates learned about digital skills, crisis management, and content creation for increased political visibility.
- A **mentorship programme was launched**, allowing participants to continue receiving support beyond formal training, strengthening the network of women within political parties.
- A **digital studio was established**, and a podcast series was launched to highlight women's experiences in politics

and inspire others to get involved.

- A strong **online and media campaign** was carried out, featuring visual materials, brochures, billboards, and radio jingles with slogans such as: 'Strong Women – Strong Communities!', 'I Vote for Women!' 'Women Vote – Women Win!' These efforts encouraged higher voter turnout among women.
- An active project website was created: [www.wip.fondacijacure.org](http://www.wip.fondacijacure.org)

## Results and Impact

The project has significantly contributed to **increasing women's political representation**, as evidenced by the rise in the number of elected women councillors—from 2 to 8 in Gračanica, from 3 to 6 in Doboј, while in Modriča, women now hold 33% of council seats. Through workshops and mentorship, the **capacities of 344 women have been strengthened**, while advocacy efforts and media campaigns have raised awareness of the importance of women's political participation. A key success of the project lies in the strong cross-party support among women and the growing interest from other parts of Bosnia and Herzegovina in similar initiatives.



While these results are already significant, the project will continue in 2025, providing a foundation for the further expansion of the network of politically engaged women, strengthening their leadership, and advancing the fight for a more gender-equal political landscape.



# We Can Do It – Initiate – Transform!

**Resistance to Inequality Policies (Women and girls coming together to drive meaningful social change), a project funded by the Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBS).**

## Project Objective

This project was aimed at **preserving the rights that women have achieved in Bosnian society**, providing tools and recommendations for new generations, and raising awareness about anti-gender policies. Through **public events and collaboration with the academic and civil society sectors**, the project sought to **strengthen the feminist movement, foster solidarity, and resist regressive policies**, with a particular focus on **protecting the rights of women and marginalised groups**.

Our mission was to **ensure that the lessons learned and the rights achieved are passed on to future generations and to women across the region**, while also **providing support and concrete recommendations for the active participation of women in social change**. Through this project, we worked on **reinforcing resistance to anti-gender policies** that threaten the freedoms and rights of all citizens in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**.

## Key Activities

- **The XIX PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism (12–15 September 2024) was organised**, focusing on hate speech, resistance to inequality, and the role of the feminist movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- **The book 'Activism in the Women's Movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina' was promoted**, documenting women's experiences throughout the history of feminist action in the country.

- A conference titled '**Anti-Gender Threats to Rights and Freedoms in Bosnia and Herzegovina**' (29 October 2024) was held, bringing together representatives from public life, academia, political institutions, the media, civil society, and international organisations to discuss challenges in protecting human rights and freedoms.
- **Street actions and campaigns were carried out**, including a street action on 11 October in response to the increasing number of femicides, as well as participation in the global '16 Days of Activism' campaign. These activities aimed to raise awareness about anti-gender policies and mechanisms of resistance.
- Activists took part in **numerous meetings, conferences, roundtables, actions, and the promotion of publications and films** across Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region, discussing women's peace activism from the 1990s to the present, the importance of the Women's Court, support for victims of war crimes and violence, and feminist models of transitional justice.

## Results and Impact

The project has achieved significant results in **strengthening the feminist movement**, raising awareness about anti-gender policies, and highlighting their negative societal consequences. Through the conference, XIX PitchWise Festival, street actions, and media presence, project activities have created **public space for discussions on the threats to women's rights** while also enhancing cooperation with academia, civil society, and international organisations.

A published report with conclusions and recommendations from the conference serves as a valuable resource for continuing the fight against anti-gender policies in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while public actions have increased the visibility of feminist initiatives and heightened awareness of the need to preserve and expand the rights that have been achieved.



# EmpowerHER

Project funded by UNICEF

## Project Objective

The project aimed to **empower young women to become peer educators on gender-based violence (GBV)**, raising awareness of **gender stereotypes, discrimination, and different forms of violence**. By educating their peers, these young women contributed to violence prevention and the creation of a safer environment.

## Key Activities

- A **three-day Training of Trainers (ToT)** was organised, covering stereotypes, discrimination, gender, and different forms of violence, including simulated presentations by participants.
- Following the training, **seven local workshops were held in communities** (Sarajevo, Tuzla, Zenica, Mostar), where new trainers shared their acquired knowledge with their peers.
- An **online campaign was carried out** through the social media channels of the CURE Foundation, aiming to raise awareness among young people about gender-based violence. The campaign's Instagram posts reached a total of **6,793 user accounts**, with 749 post views and an additional 221 views of Instagram Stories. Messages designed by the training participants were used throughout the campaign, further enhancing its impact and authenticity among young people.
- Additional **online consultations** were held via Zoom, along with an online campaign across social media platforms.

## Results and Impact

The project directly **empowered 12 young women**, who, through their acquired skills and knowledge, became educators within their communities, establishing a sustainable model for ongoing efforts in gender-based violence prevention. A total of over **110 young people (mostly girls) were engaged across different communities**, contributing to greater understanding and increased awareness of gender-based violence. The project demonstrated strong potential for further implementation in other communities, laying the groundwork for future expansion and continued activities.



# Safe Space for Youth

Project supported within the Regional Programme on Local Democracy in the Western Balkans 2 – ReLOaD2, funded by the European Union (EU) and implemented by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), with the support of the Municipality of Novo Sarajevo

## Project Objective

The objective of the Safe Space for Youth project was to **empower high school students** from the Municipality of Novo Sarajevo to **recognise, prevent, and effectively respond to various forms of violence**, including peer violence, gender-based violence, and cyber violence, while raising awareness about the importance of a safe school and digital environment.

## Key Activities

- **Eight educational workshops** were held in schools and the community, where 53 students learned about different types of violence, prejudices, and protection strategies.
- **Two film screenings** were organised (**‘Zero Tolerance for Violence’** and **‘What is Gender-Based Violence?’**), followed by **moderated discussions**, encouraging open conversations about violence and support for victims.
- **Two street actions** were conducted (30 July and 25 November 2024), where **CURE Foundation volunteers distributed educational materials** and engaged in discussions with citizens about **violence prevention**.
- An **online campaign** was launched, raising awareness of **violence, stereotypes, and non-violent communication**. The campaign reached **40,000 users per month**, with **42% of them being new followers**.
- **Seven online forums** were held with young people on

topics of **violence, discrimination, and safe use of digital technologies**. A total of **39 young participants** joined the forums, and four **Viber groups** were created to enable **ongoing education and experience-sharing**.

- **Educational materials** were prepared and distributed, including leaflets on types of **violence, stereotypes, and cyber violence**, along with **additional learning materials for students**.

## Results and Impact

The project increased **youth awareness of violence and ways to prevent it** through workshops, film screenings, and online activities. Film screenings and educational workshops helped students recognise and respond appropriately to violence, while street actions enabled direct engagement with citizens, increasing the project's visibility in the community. The online campaign and forums provided a platform for discussion and experience-sharing, and some participants continued their involvement by launching their own initiatives within the '16 Days of Activism' campaign. The project has laid the foundation for future initiatives aimed at creating a safer and more inclusive environment for young people.





# PARTNERSHIPS

Movement-Led Approach – Gender  
Justice

Initiative ‘Women Citizens for  
Constitutional Reform’

Initiative ‘Peace with a Woman’s Face’

Women’s Court – Regional Organisational  
Committee



## Movement-Led Approach – Gender Justice



The CURE Foundation is implementing the Movement-Led Approach (MLA), an initiative of the Global Fund for Women (GFW) in the Western Balkans, as a response to the growing anti-gender movements in the region and with the aim of strengthening the Gender Justice Movement.

A **major regional meeting** of the Gender Justice Movement in the Western Balkans was held from 12th to 19th December 2024 in Aranđelovac, Serbia. The meeting brought together 43 representatives of the MLA Grantmaking Committee, organisations supported through the MLA programme from eight Balkan countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Slovenia and Serbia), as well as MLA programme consultants for the Western Balkans and representatives of GFW.

This regional meeting served as an opportunity for **networking and connecting** movement representatives from the Balkan countries,



presenting the MLA programme, and sharing the results of the context analysis of the Gender Justice Movement in the Western Balkans. In addition, **experiential lessons** on GFW's grantmaking approach were exchanged, with discussions placing particular focus on measuring the impact the movement achieves in the communities where it operates.



## Initiative ‘Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform’

Representatives of the Initiative continued activities aimed at strengthening the protection of human rights and freedoms, with a special focus on incorporating a gender perspective in the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since its inception, the Initiative has continuously advocated for constitutional amendments that would ensure gender equality and equal rights for all citizens.

During the reporting period, the publication *Our Constitution* was released, clearly and visually illustrating what the Constitution could and should look like from a gender perspective. Additionally, the campaign *Rights in Words, Rights in Reality* was implemented both online and in person in nine cities and municipalities across Bosnia and Herzegovina. This campaign, alongside a series of events and publication promotions, helped raise awareness about the importance of gender-sensitive constitutional language and gender equality within the country's legal framework.

Alongside the publication's promotion, the Initiative carried out regular activities including meetings, participation in and organisation of conferences, and informal gatherings with journalists – all contributing to an ongoing dialogue on the importance of constitutional reform from a gender perspective.

The Initiative advocates for five key priorities in the constitutional reform process:

- Use of gender-sensitive language in the Constitution of Bosnia and Herzegovina,
- Introduction of affirmative measures to achieve full gender equality,
- Expansion of the rights catalogue through unified health, social and family protection,

- Greater judicial and legal protection of human rights and freedoms,
- Application of the principle of direct democracy in the constitutional reform process.

The Human Rights Ombudspersons of Bosnia and Herzegovina issued Recommendation P-114/24 to the Parliamentary Assembly of BiH, urging the relevant institutions to take measures to use gender-sensitive language in the drafting, amending or translating of the Constitution. The recommendation emphasises that gender-sensitive language can be adopted through the use of generic provisions in legislative acts and highlights the need to harmonise legal language with linguistic standards and equality principles.

The 'Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform' Initiative is an informal network made up of 35 civil society organisations and activists from across Bosnia and Herzegovina. Through joint action, the members aim to empower citizens to use their knowledge and engagement to advocate for constitutional changes that will ensure gender equality and the protection of human rights.

More information about the Initiative's activities is available at:  
 Website: <https://gradjankezaustavnepromjene.wordpress.com/>  
 FB: <https://www.facebook.com/inicijativagzup>



## Initiative

### ‘Peace with a Woman’s Face’

The CURE Foundation is one of thirteen women’s activist organisations that make up the initiative ‘Peace with a Woman’s Face’, launched by the Lara Foundation from Bijeljina and long-time peace activists from Tuzla. The initiative **emerged as a response from women’s rights defenders to the exclusion of women from transitional justice policies** and to the lack of sensitivity in these policies towards the harm and suffering women in Bosnia and Herzegovina endured during the war and in the recovery process from its consequences.

As part of the planned activities marking 8th December, the CURE Foundation organised a **collective screening** of the documentary film ‘They Die a Second Time’ and a transgenerational dialogue on peacebuilding and culture of remembrance. The workshop was held on 8th December 2024 at the SKRIPTA premises (Emerika Bluma 9, Sarajevo).

The workshop was attended by young people – primary and secondary school pupils, university students, as well as experienced activists who have been engaged in peacebuilding for years. A total of 15 people participated. During the discussion, it was emphasised that school curricula do not include topics such as violence against women, the 16 Days of Activism campaign, the role of women in history, or the suffering of women during armed conflicts. Participants also pointed out that they had never heard of the concept of a culture of remembrance, which further confirms the need for continuing such educational activities.

## **Women's Court – Regional Organisational Committee**

The CURE Foundation, as a member of the Regional Organizational Committee of the Women's Court, continues to promote the work of the Women's Court – a feminist approach to justice, together with the organisations Women in Black (Belgrade), Centre for Women War Victims (Zagreb), Centre for Women's and Peace Education Anima (Kotor), and Horizonti (Tuzla).

As part of these activities, we participated in public presentations dedicated to the Women's Court – the Foča case. The public presentation in Belgrade, held on 23rd February 2024 at the premises of the Youth Initiative for Human Rights, gathered a large number of young people with the aim of informing them about the events of the 1990s in the Balkans – topics that are not part of formal education.

The presentation in Zagreb was held on 24th October 2024 at the Centre for Women's Studies in Zagreb, where it was emphasised that many sexual crimes committed against women and men in Foča have neither been acknowledged nor revealed, but have been silenced and forgotten. The discussion focused on the importance of the Women's Court – the Foča case – as a continuation of the fight for justice, the process of testifying, the feelings of the witnesses, the changes in their lives after testifying, and the next steps in the struggle for truth and justice.

These activities represent a continuation of the feminist approach to justice, through collective memory, solidarity, and support for survivors of wartime sexual violence.

**NASILJU KAŽI**

**GAME**

**OVER**

*\*SAY 'GAME OVER' TO VIOLENCE*



## NETWORKS

The CURE Foundation considers its participation in networks and joint initiatives a key mechanism for developing a solidarity-based and inclusive women's movement in Bosnia and Herzegovina. At the same time, it is an opportunity for the organisation to channel its energy, knowledge and feminist mission into advocating for the improvement of the position of women and other marginalised social groups in BiH.

The CURE Foundation actively contributes to the work of the following networks and initiatives:

- Global Fund for Women – Movement-led Gender Justice in the Western Balkans**
- ERA (LGBTI Equal Rights Association)**
- EuroMed Feminist Initiative**
- Anna Lindh Foundation B&H Network – ALF BiH**
- Initiative for Monitoring EU Integrations in Bosnia and Herzegovina**
- Coalition for Combating Hate Speech and Hate Crimes**
- Women's Court – Regional Organisational Committee**
- Network for Building Peace**
- Women Citizens for Constitutional Reform Initiative**
- Network of Cultural Gender Practices**
- Network of Women in Black**
- ILGA Europe**
- BiH Civil Society Initiative for the Universal Periodic Review – UPR**
- IGLYO**
- College of Tourism and Management Konjic and Education of Marginalized Women**
- EuroCentralAsian Lesbian\* Community**
- ECA Civil Society Steering Committee for Beijing +30**
- Initiative to Reduce Gender Inequality and Discrimination in the Labor Market**

# Activities and Contributions of the CURE Foundation in 2024

## **AWID Forum – Networking and Strengthening the Feminist Movement**

Representing the CURE Foundation, Denija Hidić, along with five activists from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, participated in the AWID Forum held from 2nd to 5th December 2024 in Bangkok. This global feminist event, organised every four years, serves as a key platform for networking, knowledge exchange, and collective action by feminist movements from around the world.

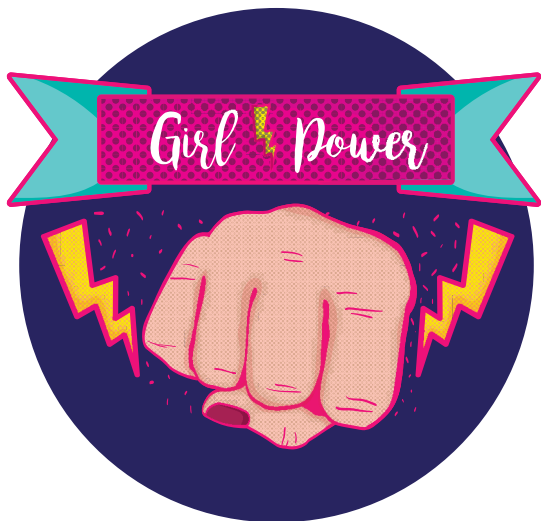
The Forum brought together feminists, activists, and organisations from various countries through dynamic sessions, panel discussions, theatre performances, and interactive workshops. Participants had the opportunity to share experiences, develop strategies, and learn about innovative approaches to strengthening the global feminist movement.

In addition to the formal programme, participants explored the rich culture and traditions of Thailand, discovering local cuisine, customs, and spiritual practices in Bangkok. Of particular importance was the gathering of feminists from the former Yugoslavia, who connected through a WhatsApp group to exchange updates from the Forum, coordinate activities, and continue mutual support in their future work.



## Women's Network Consultant Fund

As part of the Fund for Young Activists, TRAG Foundation supported the voluntary engagement of Milica Pavlović from Podgorica, Montenegro. During November, Milica spent a month with the CURE Foundation, where she familiarised herself with our activities and actively contributed to the organisation through an online campaign, photography, and filming of reels. Her creativity and enthusiasm significantly enriched our team, and her involvement enhanced the visibility of feminist activism.



## Other Activities

- **Meeting with the French Embassy Representative** – Anaïs Girard, Cooperation Attaché at the French Embassy in Sarajevo, visited the CURE Foundation. We discussed opportunities for cooperation and support for our activities focused on gender equality and women's rights.
- **Working Meeting on Trebević** – On 22nd and 23rd February, representatives of the CURE Foundation participated in a working meeting on Trebević, organised by the Swedish feminist foundation Kvinna till Kvinna and the Media Centre Sarajevo. Discussions focused on the increase in femicide, the shrinking space for journalism and activism, and strategies for collective response to negative social trends.
- **Training on Protecting Women Journalists from Online Threats** – A training session was held in Mostar on 27th March, organised by BH Journalists, focusing on legal and institutional frameworks for combating online violence, gender-based violence, and other forms of cybercrime.
- **Visit from Students from Sweden** – In January, we hosted students from the Global College in Sweden as part of an exchange organised by the Institute for Youth Development KULT. Topics discussed included women's economic empowerment, parental leave policies, youth emigration, and the rise of right-wing movements in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- **World Bank Presentation** – A representative of the CURE Foundation participated in the World Bank's Country Economic Memorandum presentation on 15th March 2024 and took part in a panel discussion on energy transition.
- **Visit to the Women's Association JADAR Konjević Polje** – At the beginning of the year, we participated in a traditional četenija preparation event, bringing together over a hundred women from across the former Yugoslavia to preserve and celebrate this traditional Bosnian delicacy.
- **Commemoration in Bijeljina** – On 20th January, we attended

the commemoration and unveiling of a memorial tree-lined avenue dedicated to migrants who are missing or who lost their lives on our natural borders. This emotional event, held at a small city cemetery in Bijeljina, reminded us of the importance of solidarity and compassion in difficult times.

- **Meeting with UN Women** – In early February, we had the opportunity to meet with representatives of UN Women in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Jo-Anne Bishop, Edita Miftari and Mersiha Zulčić. We exchanged experiences and ideas, and discussed potential collaboration on projects such as 8th March activities, the PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism, and initiatives within the Global 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence campaign.
- **Public Screening and Presentation of the Film and Book 'Women's Court – The Foča Case'** – We participated in this important event organised by Women in Black and the Autonomous Women's Centre, with the support of feminist groups from Bosnia and Herzegovina (Horizonti, Tuzla; CURE Foundation, Sarajevo), Montenegro (Centre for Women's and Peace Education – Anima, Kotor), Croatia (Centre for Women War Victims, Zagreb), and artistic-activist collectives from Belgrade and Novi Sad. Following the film screening, a discussion was held with survivors and activists.
- **Educational Programme on Sexual Violence in Wars** – In February 2024, we took part in the educational programme titled 'A Feminist Approach to the Issue of Sexual Violence in the Wars in Yugoslavia: For a Culture of Remembrance and Responsibility'. Organised in cooperation with Women in Black and the Autonomous Women's Centre, the programme addressed critical topics on systemic sexual violence experienced by women at the end of the 20th century. Aiming to raise awareness and empower survivors, the programme highlighted the importance of remembrance and accountability in preventing future crimes.
- **Meeting with Representatives of the Tuzla Community Foundation** – On 28th February 2024, we hosted representatives of the Tuzla Community Foundation at our premises. We discussed our projects and explored

opportunities for future collaboration, emphasising the importance of local and regional connection in achieving shared goals.

- **Presentation at the Youth Forum of Naša stranka** – At the invitation of the Youth Forum of Naša stranka, a representative of the CURE Foundation presented our work on 13th February 2024. The focus was on the issue of femicide in Bosnia and Herzegovina and our efforts to protect women's rights and promote social equality.
- **Protests in Belgrade** – On 24th February 2024, we took part in protests in Belgrade marking the beginning of the aggression against Ukraine and the war in Gaza. Our presence expressed solidarity and called for peace in all conflicts.
- **Strategic Planning in Konjic** – From 6th to 7th March 2024, we participated in the strategic planning meeting of the Initiative for Monitoring the European Integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina in Konjic, working on strategies to enhance the country's EU integration process.
- **Donation for Girls from SOS Children's Village** – We handed over a donation to representatives of INFO Skripta in support of girls transitioning out of SOS Children's Village and starting independent lives.
- **Panel Discussion in Zenica** – We attended a panel discussion in Zenica at the invitation of the association Naša djeca. The event focused on the fight against violence against women.
- **Lecture at the Faculty of Medicine in Sarajevo** – On 9th March 2024, at the invitation of Emina Šehić from InciSioN BiH, we held a lecture at the event 'You Are a Woman – Violence Is Not Your Story' in the amphitheatre of the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sarajevo. We presented our work and highlighted the importance of women's empowerment, underlining how individual contributions can make a difference in Bosnian society.
- **Participation in the B&H WBF Chairmanship Event** – We took part in the B&H WBF Chairmanship in Office event at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Sarajevo, where we discussed

important regional topics.

- **Press Conference and the Project ‘Women’s Caravan for Justice and Reconciliation’** – On 27th March 2024 in Sarajevo, we attended a press conference presenting the initiative ‘Women’s Caravan for Justice and Reconciliation’. The project aims to increase the visibility and participation of women in processes of dealing with the past and promoting criminal justice.
- **Daffodil Day in Sarajevo** – On 30th March 2024, we joined the Daffodil Day event organised by the ‘Renesansa’ Association in front of the Cathedral in Sarajevo, supporting the fight against breast cancer.
- **Visit from a Student from China** – We hosted Fushuo Wang, a student from China. During his visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Fushuo had the opportunity to meet several organisations and talk with citizens, sharing his impressions of the beauty of our country and the noticeable lack of optimism.
- **Gender Action Plan of Sarajevo Canton 2024–2028** – A representative of the CURE Foundation was appointed as a member of the drafting team for the GAP of Sarajevo Canton. Through participation in meetings, the CURE Foundation actively contributed to the development of this strategic document by providing comments and recommendations to ensure the GAP is inclusive and addresses the real needs of women and marginalised groups. With this engagement, CURE continues its long-standing practice of advocating for policies that promote gender equality and ensure systemic support for women in Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- We participated in consultative meetings organised by the Ministry for Human Rights of Bosnia and Herzegovina, a training on the use of social media in promoting the work of CSOs, the regional conference ‘We Are All Heroines’, and a UN Women event on the care economy.

These are just some of the CURE Foundation’s activities in 2024, while through numerous other initiatives, support efforts, and engagements, the Foundation has continued to build the feminist movement, advocate for gender equality, and support women and marginalised groups across Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region.

# CURE Foundation in Numbers

## Digital Presence in 2024

The CURE Foundation has been continuously working to strengthen its media presence and remains open to communication through various channels.

Our **Instagram profile** has **4,457 followers** with 576 posts. The most viewed post, 'A woman, wife, mother – murdered for reporting violence!', reached **88,000 likes**, 1,017 comments, and **62,000 shares**. The total reach of the profile was **15,900 accounts**, with 80.8% of followers being women – the largest demographic group being young women aged 18–24 (43.3%).

Our **Facebook page** has **7,153 followers** and 6,298 likes, while the post 'Who's next?' recorded over **32,000 views**. The page of the Initiative 'Women Citizens for Constitutional Changes' is followed by **4,600 users**, and the 'Women's Network of BiH' has **5,600 followers**.

In addition to social media, we also use a Viber channel with 68 subscribers, serving as a fast communication tool for key events such as the **March on 8th March**, the PitchWise Festival, and the '16 Days of Activism' campaign. Our YouTube channel currently features 97 videos and 62 subscribers and serves as a platform for educational content and the promotion of feminist activism.



**4457**

Followers



**> 7100**

Followers

## Key Strategic Events

- **March on 8th March** – This traditional gathering once again brought together hundreds of participants in the fight for women's rights and gender equality.
- **PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism** – The most important feminist festival in Bosnia and Herzegovina, bringing together artists, activists and audiences from across the region, with more than 2,300 followers on Facebook.
- **'16 Days of Activism' Campaign** – A campaign against gender-based violence that achieved an impressive reach of 384,225 views.

With countless hours of work and even more passion, we continue to raise the voice of the feminist struggle for equality, justice and solidarity. Every activity and every number is proof that together we are making change!

## Media Presence of the CURE Foundation in 2024

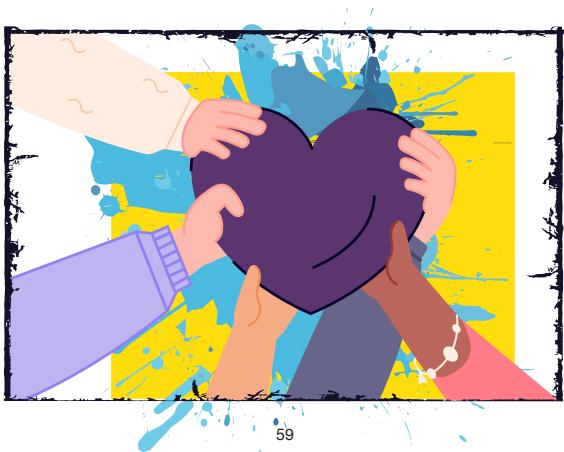
Throughout 2024, the CURE Foundation continued to strengthen its presence in the media landscape through around 30 appearances on television, radio, and podcasts, as well as through publications in online and print media. We were consistently present in public debates on women's rights, gender-based violence, femicide, activism, and constitutional reform, contributing to raising awareness and advocating for social change through our statements, analyses, and initiatives.

Over the past year, members of the CURE Foundation appeared on TV stations such as **TVSA, N1, BHT1, FACE TV, Hayat TV, and Nova TV**, speaking on key social and political topics. The focus of media appearances included the March on 8th March, the PitchWise Festival, the 16 Days of Activism campaign, the 'Citizens for Constitutional Change' initiative, as well as current societal issues affecting the status of women and marginalised groups in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The campaigns and activities of the CURE Foundation received wide media recognition, **with 69 mentions on online portals throughout the year**, in addition to several reports in print media. This number refers to recorded media publications, though the actual number may be even higher, given that not all appearances are always documented. In addition, several radio interviews were held on **BH Radio 1, Federal Radio, Radio Free Europe, and RSG Media**, addressing advocacy efforts, issues within the healthcare system, and initiatives for constitutional reform.

Special media attention was given to the PitchWise Festival of Women's Art and Activism, with promotional announcements aired twice daily on KISS FM from 3rd to 12th September, and further interviews and guest appearances on TV and online platforms.

The CURE Foundation continues to use media space to empower women, raise awareness of social issues, and advocate for meaningful change. Through ongoing presence in media and digital channels, feminist narratives are being amplified, reaching a broader audience and strengthening solidarity and activism within the community.





# DONORS

Kvinna till Kvinna (KTK) and UK International Development; Global Fund for Women (GFW); TRAG Foundation / OAK Foundation; Heart and Hand Fund; Sigrid Rausing Trust; Heinrich Böll Stiftung Sarajevo (HBS); Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung in Bosnia and Herzegovina (FES); ISCOS – Emilia Romagna; Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP) – German Committee; IAMANEH Switzerland and Swiss Government; UNICEF; ReLOaD2 (EU, UNDP, Municipality of Novo Sarajevo)

**The CURE Foundation would like to extend heartfelt thanks to all of you – our friends and supporters from Bosnia and Herzegovina and around the world – for your continuous attention, support and friendship that you have so generously shared with us over the years.**

The CURE Foundation Team in 2024:

Jadranka, Vedrana, Stela, Denija, Selma, Jasmina, Enida, Lana and Sanda.

Members of the Governing Board:

Ranka, Hana, Nadža, Saša and Joško.

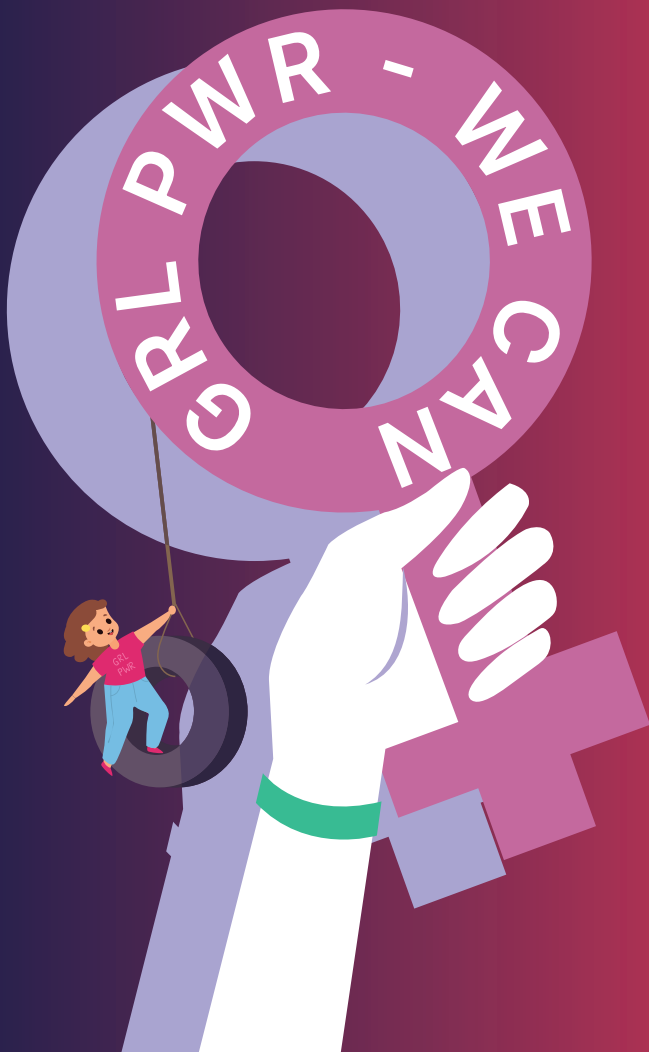
CURE Foundation Media:

Website: **[www.fondacijacure.org](http://www.fondacijacure.org)**

Instagram: **[@fondacijacure](https://www.instagram.com/fondacijacure)**

Facebook: **[facebook.com/fondacijacure](https://www.facebook.com/fondacijacure)**

YouTube: **Fondacija CURE**



# A Few Notes on the New Social Climate in Which We Live and Work

Due to changes in the social climate affecting civil society organisations working in the field of human rights and freedoms, the CURE Foundation organised a team meeting at the end of January 2025 to map out issues that have become particularly relevant over the past six months. Since these issues are directly or indirectly connected to the CURE Foundation's areas of work, we briefly outline them here.

In the second half of 2024, Bosnia and Herzegovina witnessed a surge in anti-gender actions, culminating at the end of January 2025, when Donald Trump assumed office in the United States. One of his first public statements marked the beginning of concrete actions by his administration. Specifically, he declared that 'from now on, there are only male and female genders again', signalling an institutional attack on the rights of trans people, women, and other marginalised groups in society. The direct consequences of this policy included the suspension of financial aid for human rights protection in Europe, disproportionately affecting women and LGBTIQ persons. Bodily autonomy through gender expression became particularly endangered, clearly illustrating how gender-based violence operates.

While the safety, dignity, and livelihoods of vulnerable communities have been seriously threatened, feminist activist movements are responding with resistance. In November 2024, the '16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence' campaign formalised its continuous efforts by adopting the hashtag #16days365, sending a clear message that the struggle continues 365 days a year. In these

uncertain times, marked by escalating threats to human rights and freedoms, solidarity and resistance become even more vital in the fight to protect the fundamental rights of all people.

The CURE Foundation continues to mobilise and articulate a strong feminist response to rising repression, defending equality that is becoming increasingly inaccessible to a growing number of people – especially girls, women, and individuals of diverse sexual and gender identities. At a time when hard-won, legally guaranteed rights and freedoms are being called into question, the CURE Foundation stands firm against attempts to drag society backward and dismantle the democratic gains achieved – particularly protection from discrimination on any personal basis, and equality in all aspects of public and private life, including the right to education, equal pay for equal work, healthcare, sexual and reproductive rights, and a life free from all forms of violence.

Advocacy for the legal definition of femicide as a criminal offence, the harmonisation of criminal laws with the Istanbul Convention, and the revision of sentencing practices became central themes of the public actions organised by the CURE Foundation twice at the end of 2024. These street actions publicly demanded the consistent enforcement of laws and the imposition of stricter penalties for perpetrators of gender-based violence.

At the January meeting, the CURE Foundation officially agreed to include men who share feminist values in its activities, recognising that their capacities are needed in the collective effort to resist the challenges facing the preservation of dignity, rights, and freedoms in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the region.



Obaveza  
svih nas je da  
**spriječimo**  
**nasilje!**

*\*It is our collective duty to prevent violence!*