

Ending Violence Against Women in Europe

An Exploration of Philanthropic Giving

An ARIADNE report by Karin Heisecke & Karen Weisblatt

Ending Violence Against Women in Europe: An Exploration of Philanthropic Giving represents the results of the first research into philanthropic funding for work to end violence against women in Europe. It addresses both donors' and recipients' perspectives on current activities and funding priorities in this field. Analysis of the data points to significant gaps between the well-documented extent and gravity of the issue, existing policy responses, and current philanthropic support. The study underscores the pressing need to generate more research and knowledge in this sector in order to fully explore philanthropy's role in helping to end this human rights violation in Europe.

KEY FINDINGS:

1. The number of foundations that support work to end violence against women in Europe is small. Funding tends to be at a low level and short-term compared to expressed needs.

2. Foundations indicated that only a minority of their grantees are based in and work in Europe. More than half of foundations funding in Europe have a total annual grantmaking budget of under € 1 million.

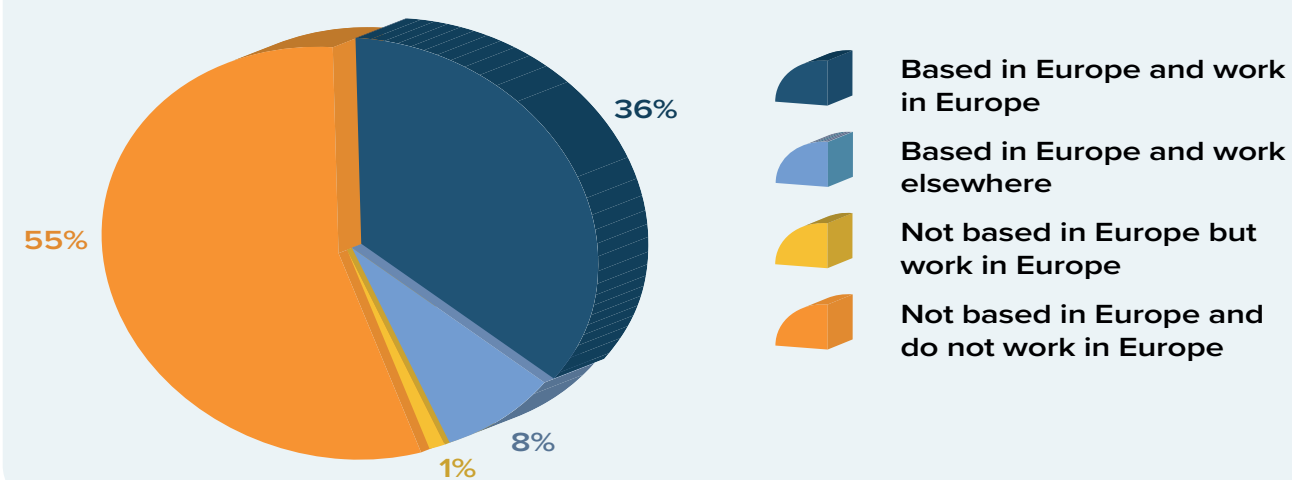
3. The areas of focus most addressed by VAW work are rape/sexual assault

and domestic violence. The most favoured target groups are women in prostitution/trafficked women*, young women/girls, and migrant/refugee/asylum-seeking women.

4. There are regional differences: NGOs in the East get more funding from foreign governments and international sources, while those in the West receive more funding from national and regional governments.

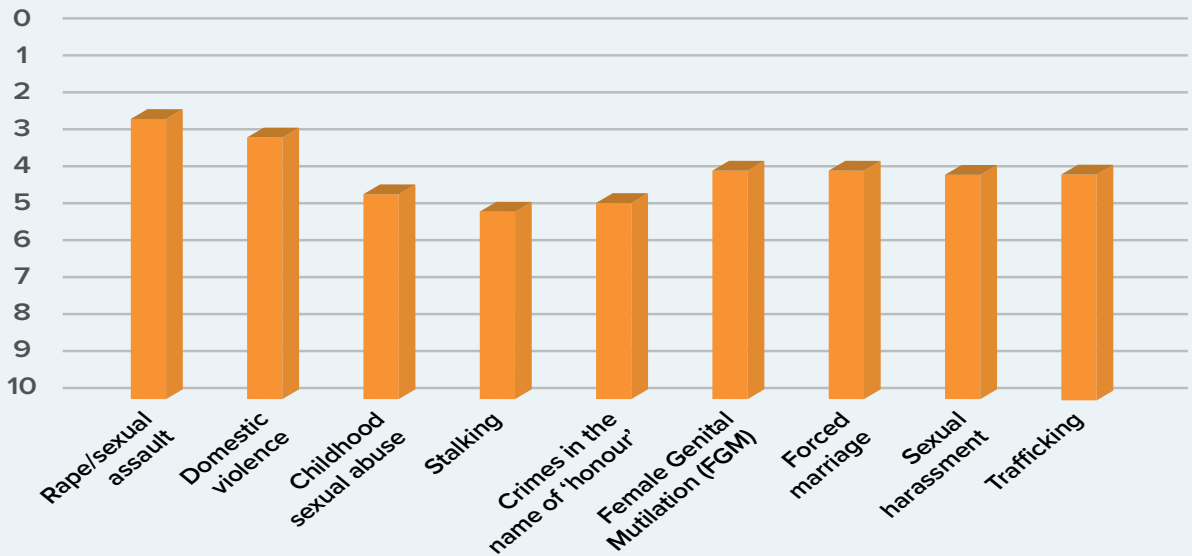
5. Given additional funding, NGOs across Europe would engage in more awareness raising, policy advocacy and communications work.

If you fund work on VAW, please indicate how many of the organisations you fund or have funded are:

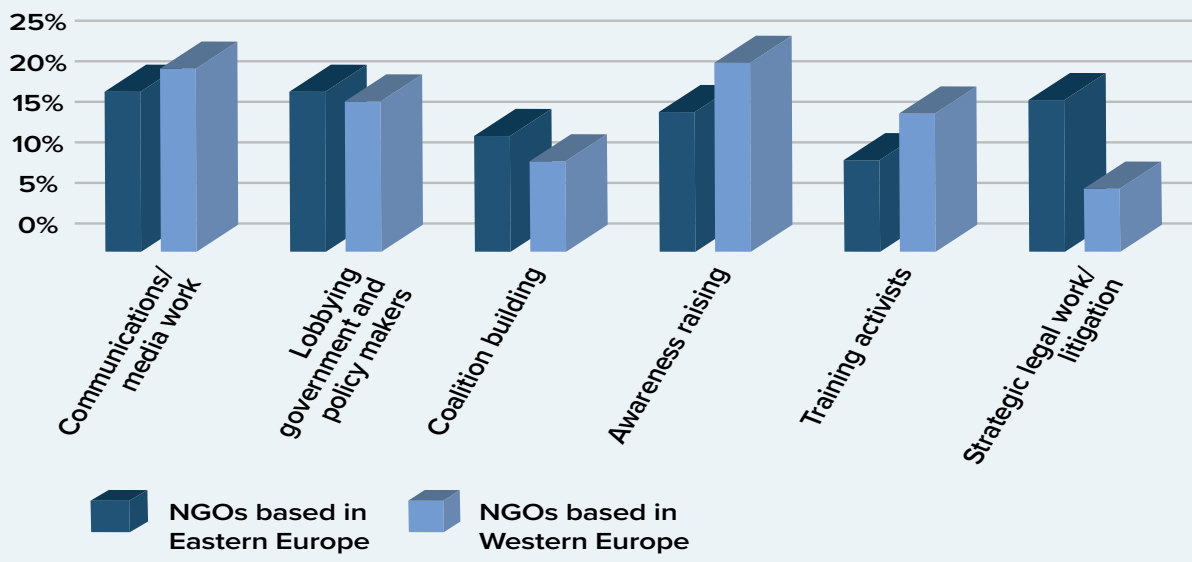


*This category of funding was created by the researchers conducting the survey of funders in order to simplify areas of funding for ease of research. Some donors have found this category problematic, as it suggests that prostitution is always linked to trafficking and it ignores the legitimate choices and concerns of sex workers. The presence of the category in the survey does not reflect a position taken by Ariadne or the authors of the report.

VAW average funding focus (1 = High Priority; 10 = low priority)



Which advocacy activities would you like to do (or do more of) but do not currently get funding for?



What can be done to engage more donors in this field?



Funders highlighted the need for both more data and clearer strategic communications. There is an interest in doing more, but a lack of a clear vision as to how to advance positive approaches and strategies to tackle the issue. A model that could serve as inspiration might be Move to End Violence, a programme initiated by NoVo Foundation, which was developed based on the outcomes of interviews with over 100 stakeholders. Partnerships and donor-led joint advocacy activities should be explored further to encourage discussion and engagement.

Ariadne – European Funders for Social Change and Human Rights
 T: +44 (0)203 752 5557 – www.ariadne-network.eu – info@ariadne-network.eu