

The background of the cover features a photograph of two women standing outdoors. On the left, a woman is wearing a black abaya and a white headscarf, waving her right hand. On the right, a woman is wearing a green dress with a pink floral pattern, also waving. The background is a blurred green space with trees.

European Network of Migrant Women

2021

ACTIVITY REPORT



EUROPEAN NETWORK
OF MIGRANT WOMEN

WE DEFEND, STRENGTHEN AND PROMOTE MIGRANT, REFUGEE AND MINORITY WOMEN AND GIRLS' RIGHTS IN EUROPE

**Building solidarity across borders
Discovering the roots of the problems
Seeking to change the system**



**We are visionary, proactive and bold
We care for women and girls**





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THE WAY WE WORK

The European Network of Migrant Women is an NGO gathering over 50 member organizations in 23 European states. Our membership ranges from grassroots service providers to NGOs focused on advocacy and research. They cover a diverse range of subjects in the area of human rights of migrant and refugee women. Some of our members are also individuals coming from different parts of the world: Asia, Africa, Arab world, Latin America, as well as the intra-European migrants. They represent a **unique cultural richness** of women's global struggle for economic, political and physical freedom.

The European Network of Migrant Women is a feminist secular not affiliated with any political party network advocating for the rights, freedoms, dignity and equality of migrant and refugee women in Europe. **We do not work for migrant women. We are led by migrant, refugee and ethnic minority feminists.**

As a network, our work is focused on creating bounds between our members and facilitating their work. To do so, we design training, reports, toolkits and advocacy documents for them. **Above all, we bring them together for events and projects because we deeply believe that we are stronger together.**

At the European level, we carry projects and advocate on different aspects of migrant women and girls integration process. **We strive to eliminate male violence against women and girls including all forms of sexual and reproductive exploitation, we fight for the access of migrant women to their fundamental rights, not forgetting the most at risk among us (undocumented women, underage girls, mothers, lesbians...), we fight for meaningful political participation and economic integration, we fight for equality and we fight for justice.**

We fight for the human rights of women and girls.



THE WAY WE WORK



ORGANISATIONAL CHART



European Network's of Migrant Women's Policies:

CHILD SAFEGUARDING: <https://bit.ly/3p4fgy4>

PRIVACY POLICY: <https://bit.ly/3p7jEMR>



Frohar Poya
Project Officer



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Policy Coordinator



Adriana S.Thiago
Communications
Officer



Alyssa Ahrabare
Project Officer

COORDINATING TEAM

The European Network of Migrant Women's office is located in the Amazone House, in the heart of Brussels (Belgium). The concept of the Amazone House is a visionary one: 20 women's organisations work under the same roof, uniting forces, from the smallest grassroots women's associations to large umbrella organisations advocating at the European level.

Although we are formally registered in Brussels our vision extends beyond this city, beyond Belgium, across our varied and diverse membership and at grassroots level in Europe. In this sense, ENoMW connects with the European Union's institutions and partners in the city of Brussels, while maintaining its vision of human rights of migrant and refugee women and girls across borders and its relationship with our unique member organisations all across Europe.

Our Brussels Office is represented by a small yet efficient and truly feminist team. Our team is complementary to one another and works in a horizontal, feminist way to ensure that we fully represent the interests of migrant women and girls at European level. We also count on the help of interns and volunteers, who are part of the office dynamics. All our projects and actions are designed and aimed at securing and improving the rights of migrant and refugee women and girls - we do so while keeping our eyes on the global panorama of the women's movement, the anti-racist and migrant/refugee movements, and the human rights in general.

2021 has been a period of growth for the network as a whole, despite the exceptionally difficult circumstances of COVID19. The commitment of our members, volunteers and staff, once again, proved to be the real foundation of our work that continues to unite the women of diverse and multiple ethnic backgrounds, making it a unique multi-cultural and intergenerational feminist space with clearly defined values and analysis. It has been a gift for me personally to learn from all the women who have been working with us in the past two years and I am looking forward to the Network flourishing and further crystallising its vision in the next period.

WORKING THROUGH COVID 19

Since the beginning of the COVID19 pandemic migrant women and girls have been severely affected by its consequences. In particular, undocumented women, migrant women victims of men's violence, care and domestic workers and asylum seeking women, have been exposed to the multiple and grave risks, including the **risk to health, safety and life**. Even though majority of ENOMW member organisations continued to provide essential services to migrant and refugee women during the pandemic, most services had to be adjusted to the constantly changing COVID regulations which meant a decrease of in-person support, vital to the above mentioned groups.

While teleworking became essential, the lack of access to Internet Data and Internet Technologies proved to be a significant deterrent for migrant women in exercising their fundamental rights. Our member in **Spain**, Por Ti Mujer, initiated a campaign **#InternetIsARight** highlighting the digital divide impeding migrant women's access to information, employment and justice. At the same time, only in **Finland**, our member Monika Association, supported over 2000 migrant women through its hotline and over 1500 women through one-to-one assistance in 2021. Our members in **Poland**, **Sweden**, **Hungary** and **Spain** received the Afghan women fleeing to Europe, and Melissa Network in **Greece** initiated a successful evacuation of several dozen Afghan female politicians. In the meantime, our members in **France** and **Belgium** went to protests to defend the rights of migrant women victims of violence, and, testified in national courts, while our members in **Poland** worked through the pandemic to provide essential protective gear to homeless persons and medical personnel.

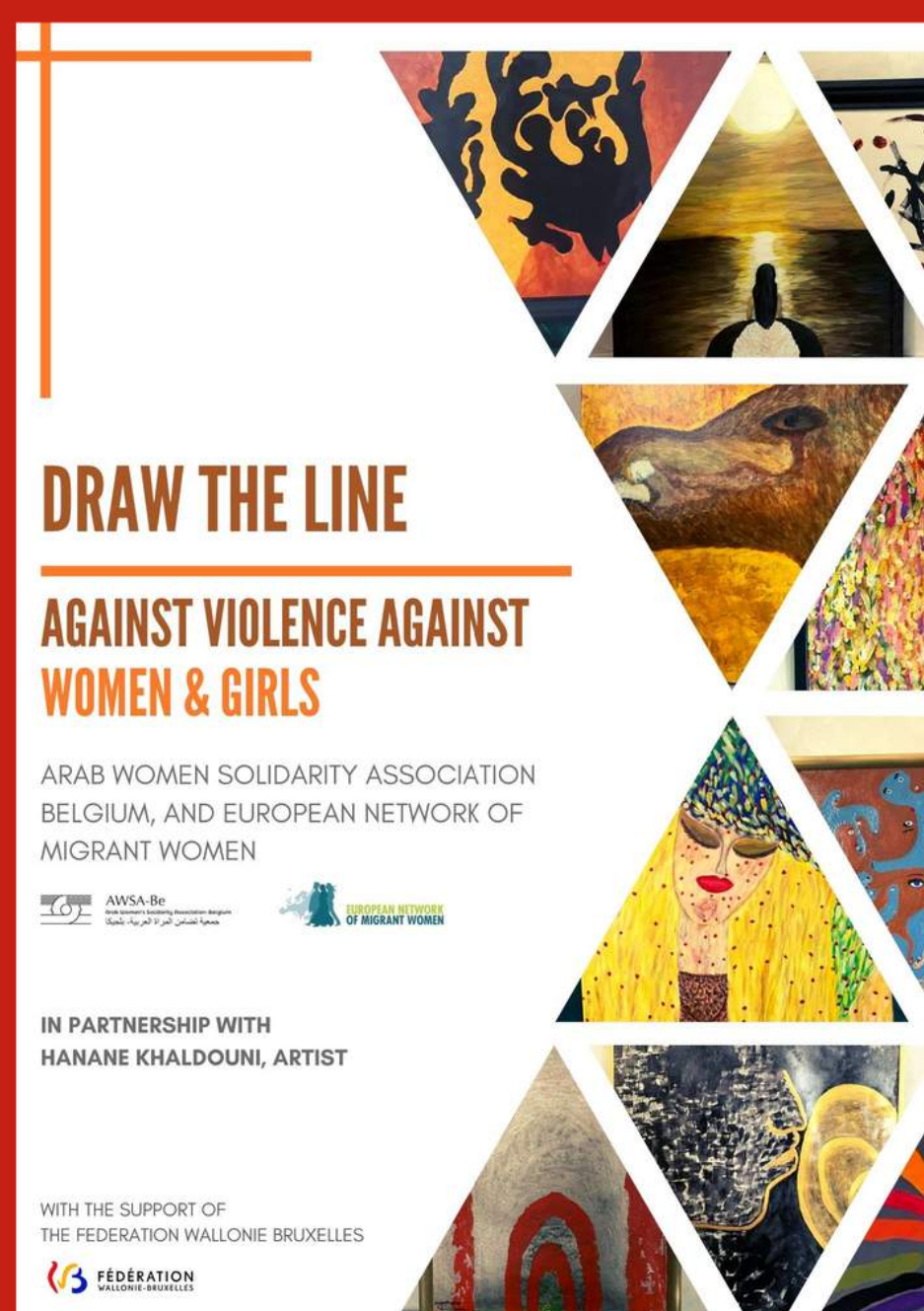
At the same time, motivated by our members in 2020 ENOMW's **Legal Working Group** comprised of practicing lawyers and legal experts in the Network, initiated a legal research on the access to fundamental rights of migrant women in the context of COVID19 crisis. The research was done in partnership with the Reuters Foundation Trust Law Firm, coordinated by the Hogan Lowells law firm. This work has led to the creation of a report with an in-depth analysis of the **legal frameworks on fundamental rights** by undocumented migrant women in nine EU member states. In 2022, we plan on disseminating this document in order for legal experts to be able to better understand the legal framework protecting migrant women, and to advocate for better implementation of the European legal instruments protecting migrant women.


MEMBERSHIP

In the period 2020-2021 our network experienced a slowed but steady growth in organisational membership while we also lost some members as some migrant women organisations have not survived the COVID19 crisis. Many individual migrant and refugee women continue joining the network contributing to our work their skills, time and dedication.

At the national level, in the past two years, our members continued carrying out the tasks in line with their specialist profiles: from supporting migrant women exiting situations of sexual and labour exploitation, to providing specialist services for migrant women victims of violence and discrimination, to research, media work and advocacy, to dedicated activities for migrant women who are single mothers, girls, refugee and undocumented women, domestic workers.

In our continued effort to bring our members together and strengthen their capacity, we developed a toolkit for them, in partnership with one of our Belgian based members: AWSA-Be, Arab Women Solidarity Association.





"Draw the line against violence against women and girls" is a feminist artistic project to denounce, through drawings and painting, the multiple forms of violence against women and girls (VAWG). The European Network of Migrant Women and Arab Women Solidarity Association partnered with the Moroccan artist: Hanane Kaldhouny in order to produce an exhibit and a toolkit. They did so in relation with members of the network, through online interviews, and collection of testimonies to jointly create an awareness raising toolkit in several languages meant to be used all across Europe to free the voices of women and to encourage art against violence: a fight that is all the more necessary in the midst of a health crisis.

The project took place in several stages :

1. **Online interviews with migrant women associations** : data and stories collection in order to conduct research on the causes and consequences of certain forms of violence suffered by women from different countries, origins and backgrounds.
1. **Creation of paintings/drawings by artist Hanane Khaldouni**: she illustrated each testimony in the form of a drawing that we turned into cards. We were able to collect and create a dozen cards via a dozen of interviews with organizations in Europe.
1. **Development of an awareness raising toolkit**: we wrote a booklet and glossary on feminist analysis and advice on using the cards created by Hanane Kaldhouny to allow members of the network, and any interested party to raise public awareness on male violence against women and girls.

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership is indispensable to our analysis, work, advocacy. In our actions we always strive to amplify the voices of migrant, refugee and ethnic minority women and girls bringing to the forefront their lived experiences and realities. In 2021 we run the "Members Spotlight" in which we featured our members work, achievements at national and local level.



VOICES



Migrant Women Reality Watch (MWRW):

MWRW is a series of live interviews, hosted on ENoMW's Facebook page, in which we interview women about a wide array of subjects, according to each's area of expertise. It aims to be a forum for migrant women to access information not available in mainstream media, from a critical feminist perspective, in accordance to the vision, mission and objectives of our network.

- ENOMW has now published 32 episodes of these discussions with women of all ages and backgrounds.
- <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL7UCXYZ5PuE2cLfUbiKxnfDB3ccFr0CE>

Statements and Submissions :

Advocacy and awareness raising being amongst the core missions of the network, ENOMW has published numerous statements and letters in 2021, some of them include:

- 18/09/2021: ENOMW's Submission to European Commission's "Initiative Fighting Human Trafficking – Review of EU Rules"
- 31/08/2021: Carte Blanche : Femmes et filles d'Afghanistan, nous ne nous tairons pas !
- 16/08/2021: Statement by ENoMW on the Situation in Afghanistan and the Rights of Afghan Women and Girls
- 27/05/2021: Where are our girls?
- 12/04/2021: Communiqué of the Feminist Collective: Solidarity with Mme Ursula von der Leyen
- 07/04/2021: Submission to Canadian Ethics Committee: Case of Pornhub/MindGeek

Reports:

In order to be equipped to better protect migrant women and girls everywhere, the European Network of Migrant Women also conducts research on various topics, relevant to migrant women's rights and their integration in Europe. This research, focusing on areas that are not generally explored, enables us to bring a new perspective on how to better approach the different barriers faced by migrant women in Europe.

VOICES

RPUBLICATIONS:

REPORT: Preliminary Study on the Inclusion for Digital Empowerment for Migrant Women in SIX European Countries

The summary report, which is the study of 'Inclusion for digital empowerment for migrant women' in six European countries (Germany, Netherlands, Greece, Bulgaria, Italy, and the Czech republic) is a part of the AMIF-funded project RIDE, and it highlights the digital sectors, skill opportunities in the digital labour market and the barriers for under-represented groups such as migrants and refugees, and in particular migrant and refugee women, in the world of digitalisation. In all these countries, migrants and refugees were mostly involved in semi and low-skilled jobs such as those in restaurant, factories, accommodation and hotels. This is due to language barriers, non-recognition of their qualifications from the country of origin, and having low education. Furthermore, for migrant and refugee women family and childcare posed an issue.

For more information about the project visit: www.ride-project.eu

ILLUSTRATED SUMMARY OF CEDAW GENERAL RECOMMENDATION N38: TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN AND GIRLS IN THE CONTEXT OF GLOBAL MIGRATION

In November 2020 the CEDAW Committee published its General Recommendation N38 titled "Trafficking in Women and Girls in the Context of Global Migration". In this context we share the illustrated summary of General Recommendation N38 related to sexual exploitation, prepared with the support, promotion and experience of survivors in Colombia, especially the Corporacion Anne Frank:

<https://www.migrantwomennetwork.org/2021/08/09/cedaw-genrec-n38-summary/>

VOICES

EU MIGRATION & ASYLUM PACT THROUGH THE EYES OF A WOMAN



EU Migration and Asylum Pact Through the Eyes of a Woman

In the end of 2020, following the publication of the draft Migration and Asylum Pact by the European Commission, we published our response to this important strategic document that have a potential impact the lives of thousands of women and girls on the move:

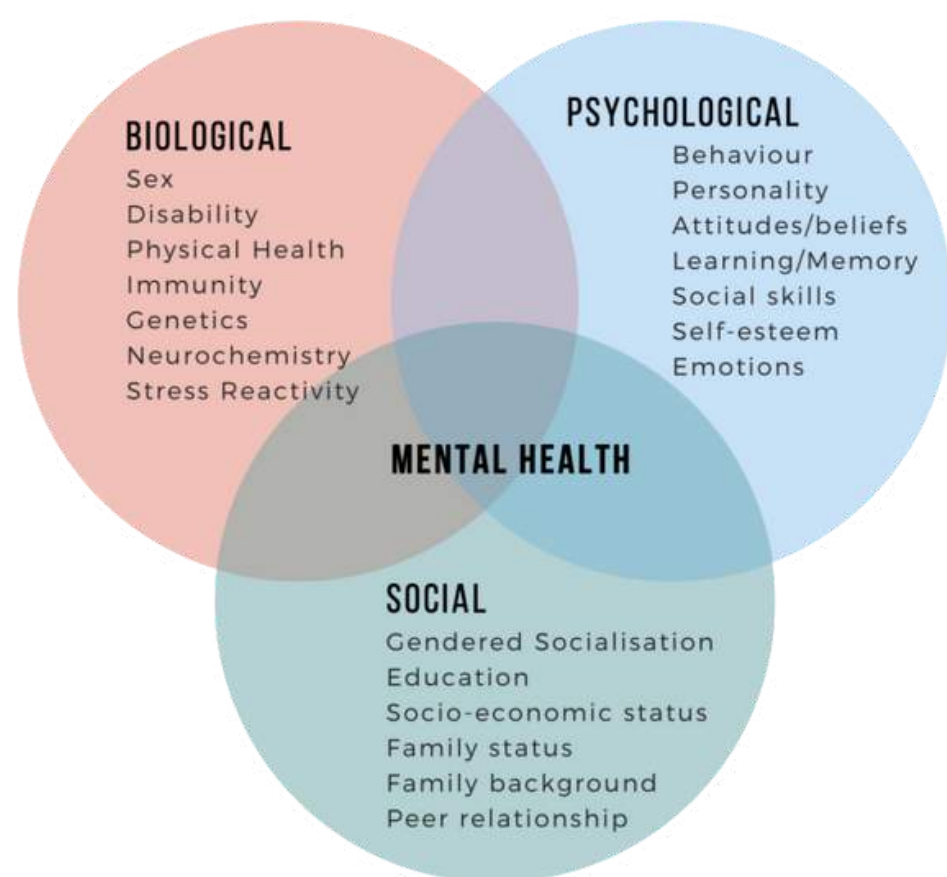
www.migrantwomennetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/MIGRATION-PACT-THROUGH-THE-EYES-OF-A-WOMAN.pdf

EU POLICY Brief on Trafficking in Human Beings

In the end of 2021 we published an EU Policy Brief highlighting the gaps in service provision for the migrant women victims of trafficking, with the recommendations to close them, that was accompanied by the country briefs from Italy, Cyprus, Germany, Latvia and Lithuania - the project partners in the AMIF-funded COALESCE Project.



VOICES



REPORT: Migrant Women's Mental Health and Wellbeing

In October 2021 we published a long-awaited report on migrant women's mental health that came about as a result of our members providing direct services to migrant women who sustained multiple and prolonged traumatic experiences. While preparing this report we came across a serious lack of data on migrant women accessing health services and, specifically, mental health services in Europe. We therefore aimed to publish this report as a door opener for a more comprehensive research and data collection on the mental health of migrant women in Europe. The report provides a synopsis of

- Different experiences of migrant and refugee women and professionals working with migrant women;
- A summary of different mental health factors that can trigger mental illness;
- A snapshot of challenges and root-causes which have a particularly grave impact on the wellbeing of migrant women;
- Barriers to accessing health and mental health services;
- Useful approaches for addressing migrant women's needs in relation to mental health and wellbeing.

READ REPORT:

<https://www.migrantwomennetwork.org/wp-content/uploads/Mental-Health-Report-FINAL-Oct-2021.pdf>

SPACES

Institutional and Policy Work

In 2021 ENOMW continued its dialogue with and contributions to several regional and international organisations and institutions, including the treaty bodies of the United Nations, in particular the CEDAW Committee, UN Women led Generation Equality Forum, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of OSCE, Council of Europe and the EU institutional structures where ENOMW is represented in the EC Expert Group on the Views of Migrants, EC Expert Group on Labour Migration, EU Victims' Rights Platform and EU Civil Society's Platform against Trafficking in Human Beings.

In 2021, we worked closely with the Council of Europe Gender Equality Unit, and contributed to the Recommendation on Migrant, Refugee and Asylum seeking women and to the report on migrant women by the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly. We are pleased to have been granted the observatory status with the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission.

We also conducted the scoping of the country specific recommendations of the GREVIO Committee in relation to the protections of the migrant and refugee women and girls against violence, under the CoE Istanbul Convention.



ACTIONS AND PROJECTS

In the period of 2021, ENoMW initiated and conducted a large number of projects, campaigns and strategic actions, including several European projects. All the projects we take part in are aimed at securing & improving the rights of migrant & refugee women and girls.

FORUM

The aim of FORUM is to combat the stigmatization of migrants and refugees, with special attention to the women situation, through intercultural dialogues, raising the knowledge about the EU policies and promoting a democratic and civic participation, particularly within groups that are less involved in the UE policy making-process. This project responds to societal challenges such as rights access for migrant and refugee women. Its key feature is to transfer proposals from citizens to EU policy makers in order to ensure a participative elaboration of the New EU Migration Pact as well as to provide a base research that connect with the aims of Europe for citizens Program 2021-2027. Migrant women rights advocate organizations from France, Ireland, Italy, Belgium and Spain will be actively working in the FORUM project.

In the context of this project, ENOMW conducted a series of event in France and Belgium:

- Conference and exhibition on Access to Fundamental Rights by migrant women in Paris, in September 2021
- Roundtable on violence against girls and honour based violences in Brussels, in October 2021
- Conference and exhibition on male violence against women and girls in Brussels, in November 2021
- Intra-members training on methodologies of engagement with migrant women on violence against women, in November 2021.



ACTIONS AND PROJECTS

MUMS AT WORK

Mums at Work project aims to increase employability, sustainable income and social integration of migrant mothers aged 25-40 y.o. The project also aims to raise awareness of and influence key stakeholders (businesses, public sector, local communities, general public) with regards to the importance and mutual benefits of supporting economic and labour integration of migrant mothers in Europe. Additionally, the project aims to create a replicable model for such integration that can be used and integrated at policy-level, by relevant decision-making bodies, including at the EU and national level. Mums at Work is funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund and coordinated by Pro Arbeit (Germany), in partnership with Vital Aid Foundation (the Netherlands), Solution: Solidarité & Inclusion (France), C.I.D.I.S. Onlus (Italy), Asociación Bienestar (Spain), Synthesis Centre (Cyprus) and the European Network of Migrant Women (Belgium/EU).

In the frames of this project in 2022 we will be carrying out an **EU-wide campaign on the rights of migrant mothers** and their labour, economic and socio-cultural integration.



ACTIONS AND PROJECTS

RIDE: Digital Empowerment for Migrant Women

Project RIDE, funded by the European Union's AMIF Fund is led by UNITEE (Belgium) in collaboration with Diesis Coop (Belgium), Litus Novum (Germany), Legalcoop (Italy), Youth Included (Czech Republic), Simplexis (Greece), Code to Change (Netherlands), Chamber of Commerce of Bulgaria (Bulgaria) and the Cisco Networking Academy Europe and European Network of Migrant Women. The RIDE Project aims at including migrant and refugee women into the digital labour market giving them the possibility to re-skilling/upskilling in the digital sector by specially designed courses and trainings enabling them to start working. A major part of the project will be dedicated to preparing them for the labour market in their new home country and to raise the awareness about women rights in the host society. In this project, jointly with Code to Change, we will develop the framework for all partners to implement the digital training and mentoring activities across five EU states. The project started in February 2021 and will last for two years.

MORE INFO: www.ride-project.eu



This project is funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF).



Coalesce: Psychosocial, Economic and Legal Support to Third Country Female Victims of Trafficking for Sexual Exploitation in Europe

The project COALESCE, started in January 2021, funded by the AMIF Fund and led by the Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies, in partnership with Immigrant Council of Ireland, Caritas and Refugee Council of Cyprus, Klaipeda Centre of Lithuania, Iroko Onlus of Italy and Marta Centre of Latvia, and European Network of Migrant Women, provides support to the female migrant victims of trafficking for sexual exploitation in Europe by providing gender-specific psycho-social, legal and economic support and assistance to TCN women victims of sex trafficking. The project develops synergies in needs identification, assistance and support. It also aims to place the voices and authentic opinions of trafficked women at the centre of implementation.

MORE INFO: migrantwomennetwork.org/coalesce/



This project is funded by the European Union's Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF).



ACTIONS AND PROJECTS

Teach Digital: Supporting Migrant and Minority Ethnic Women through Digital Education

Teach Digital is the project funded by Erasmus+ and coordinated by UK-based Go Woman, is aimed at increasing digital literacy and empowerment through digital technologies of migrant and minority ethnic women across several European states (UK, Ireland, Spain, Denmark, Lithuania). The project, started in January 2021, will last for two years and as a Network we will be actively contributing to its methodology design and visibilisation.

MORE INFO: <https://www.teachdigital.eu>



HumMingBird

The project, funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme, aims to improve understanding of the changing nature drivers of migration and to analyse patterns, motivations and emerging migration trends. The project's ambitions are to also to demonstrate non-traditional data sources for migration research.

MORE INFO: <https://hummingbird-h2020.eu>





YOUNG MIGRANT WOMEN: #RADICALGIRLSSS

Radical Girlsss is a group of young, first and second generation migrant women, formed in the network in the end of 2018. Three years since its inception the group has matured into an independent, yet organically integrated in our membership, space for the young women to share and act on the concerns pertinent to and identified by the group members. Among them are sexist and racist stereotypes limiting the lives of young migrant women, such as men's violence, sexual exploitation and online violence, ethnic discrimination. While being the members of the Network, Radical Girlsss have their own programme of action, in which priority is given to organising annual feminist camps for young migrant women, member-to-member mentoring and campaigns aimed at raising awareness on the violations of women's rights.

Among the activities executed by the Radical Girlsss in the past two years are a series of webinars and interviews, critical analysis of global women's rights issues, publications and representation of the Network and Radical Girlsss in different feminists spaces and political fora. The group also conducted a project on political participation of young migrant women, organised a series of capacity building workshops for the young refugee and migrant women and provided contributions to the CoE Youth department.

"We fight for radical societal transformation, for women and girls' liberation from prejudice, patriarchal structures and mentalities. While young women are trying to fit as much as possible in the existing system, we wish for our girls to be bold enough to break the system, speak truth to power and build that needed, radical solidarity to take down the streets and claim their rights" - Radical Girlsss



RADICAL GIRLSSS



This project, supported by Women Forward International and implemented jointly with the students of Sciences Po University in Paris, brought together academic research and grassroots action to build bridges, get a comprehensive view and truly assess how to have a positive impact on young migrant women capacity and agency to engage in political participation. We organised a series of workshops with young migrant women and produced a toolkit and a report:

- Based on the voices of young migrant women, the research of various stakeholders and the experience of seasoned feminist advocates, this toolkit was made for practitioners in the field of migration who are motivated to locate and promote the voices of young migrant women within their own organisation and to promote a more women and girls centred and intersectional approach.
- The centering of comprehensive gender mainstreaming strategies is critical in ensuring the political participation of migrant and refugee women and girls. It is essential in guaranteeing the full enjoyment of their human rights and achieving democracies that are representative. The report identifies the factors that hinder migrant and refugee women's participation in international decision-making processes and provides recommendations inspired by practices which have shown to be meaningful and promising.

During a final event, the Radical Girlsss had the opportunity to present their findings the vice-chair of the CEDAW committee, and were invited to Geneva in order to meet the entire committee.

SUPPORTING AFGHAN WOMEN

In August 2021, when the Taliban took over Afghanistan countless women and girls were put in distress. For our feminist organization, business as usual was not an option. We reached out to our contacts in Afghanistan to provide support to those who needed it the most, and were forgotten: **women**.

In the end of August we published a statement in support of Afghan women and we organized our first online event: "**Stand up for afghan women**" in order to gather Afghan women, inside and outside Afghanistan, and get a better understanding of the complexity of the situation.

In the following months, keeping our promise to feminist activist Mahbouba Seraj to "not forget about Afghan women", ENOMW supported the resettlement of hundreds of women with their children. We reached out to governments in order to get them safe passages and we tried to ensure their safety throughout their journey.

Now that many of these women are in Europe, we are not forgetting about them, nor are we forgetting about the ones left behind, who decided to stay and resist for their freedom and their country.

In January 2022, with a better understanding of the situation, jointly with our members providing direct support to Afghan women and girls, we organized the second solidarity event: "**Stand up with Afghan Women**", to assess the evolution of the situation and give a platform to Afghan women.

That same month, we conducted the first of a **series of online and in-person capacity building workshops for the women we helped evacuate**. These women do not want to stay quiet and do nothing, they want to meet people, speak up, work, build connectoons, exchange, impact positively the situation of their country from the outside our build a new life in their host country. In any case, we are here to try and build **spaces for them to meet and create support networks**.

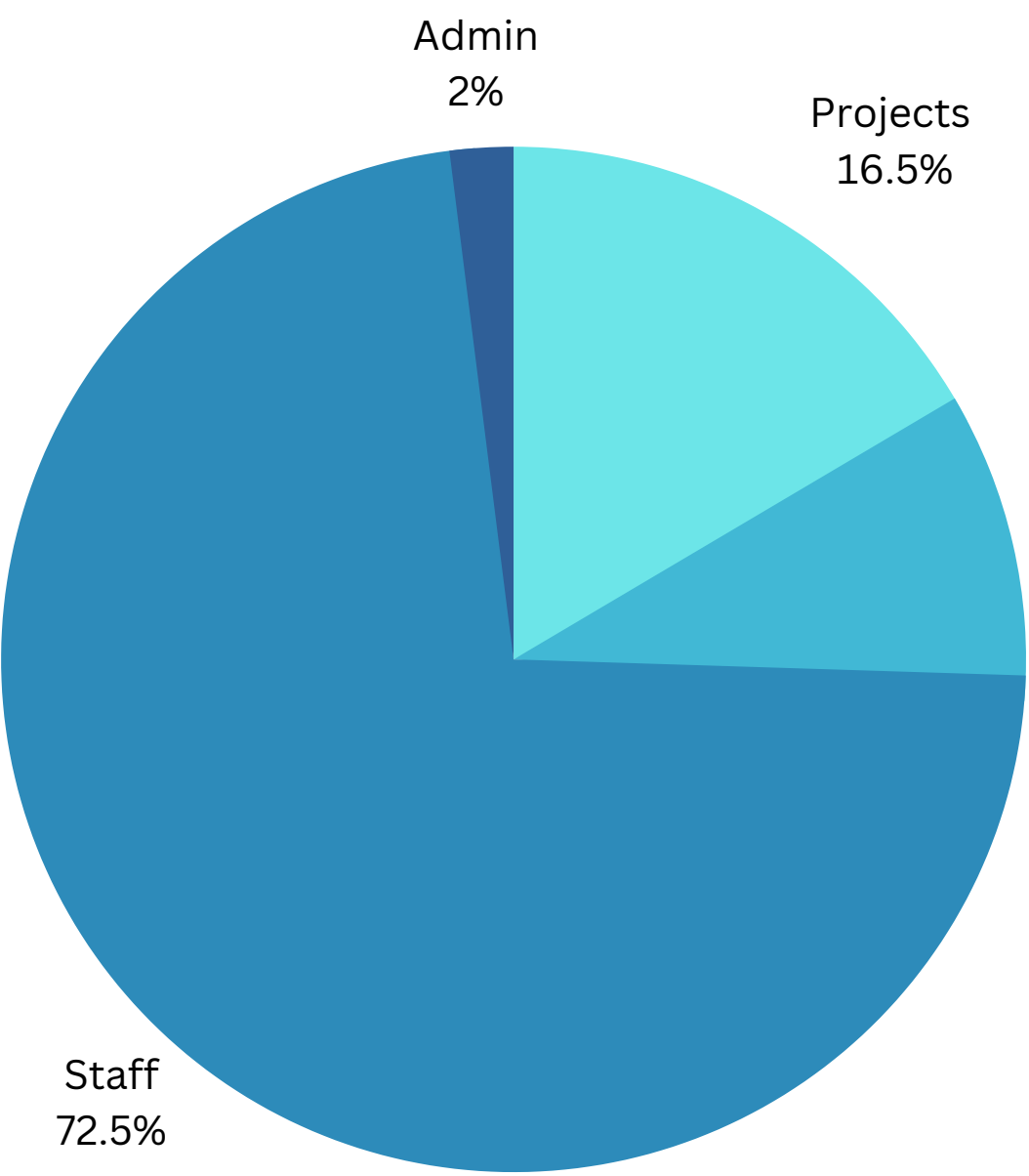
This work will carry on in 2022 thanks to the support of EPIM - European Programme for Integration and Migration

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Among our many partners and collaborators we would like to particularly thank FiLiA Charity, Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights (PpDM), European Women's Lobby (EWL), Spanish Women's Lobby (LEM ESPAÑA), Coalition Against Trafficking in Women (CATW), Trust Law Firm of Thompson Reuters Foundation, Hogan Lovells Law Firm, European Women's Lawyers Association, Safe Passage International, the Good Lobby. We would like to thank all our funders, individual supporters, and, of course our members and volunteers.

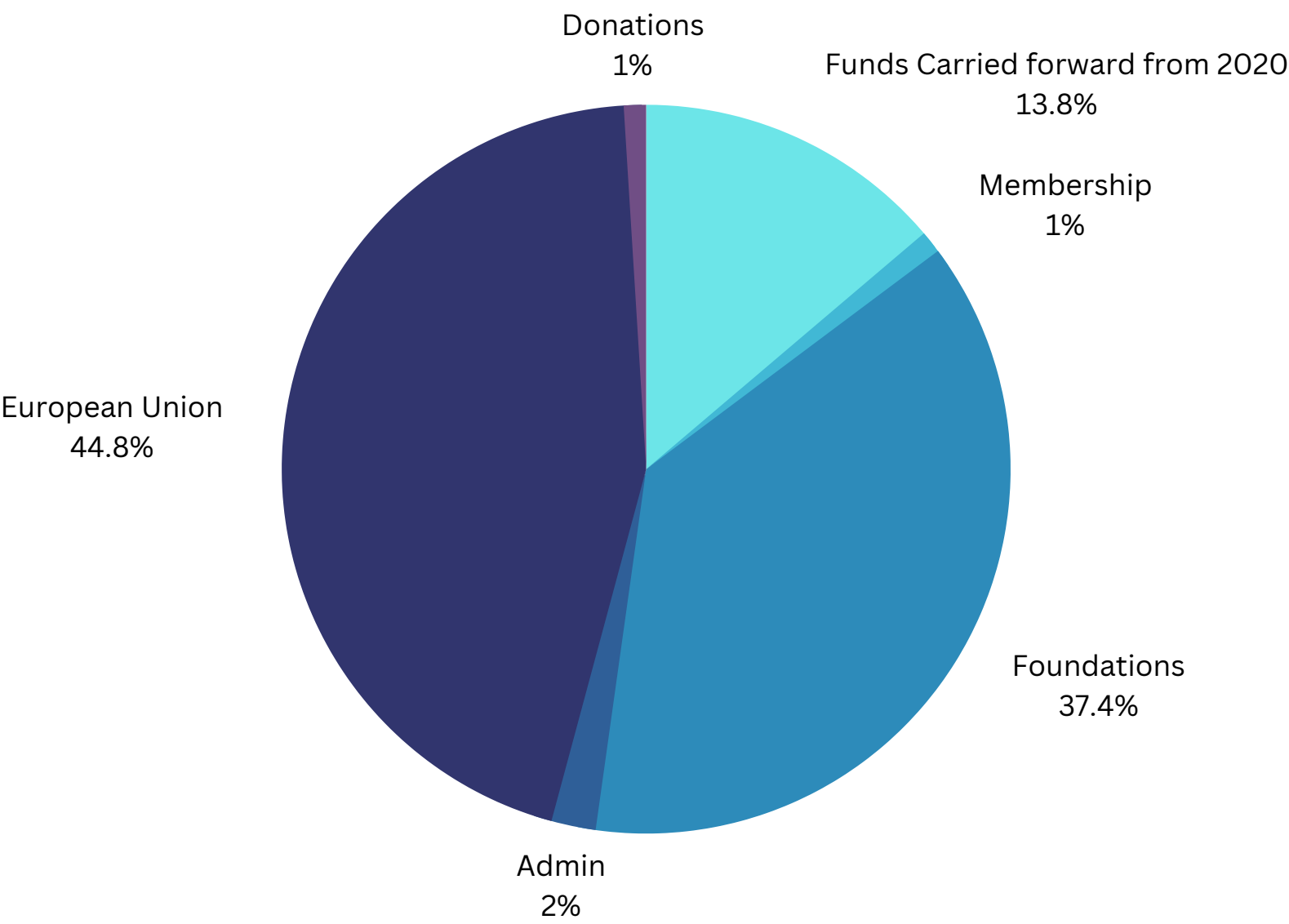


FINANCES 2021



EXPENSES

INCOME



ENOMW'S FINANCIAL POLICY: <https://bit.ly/3JL54Tm>

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