

European Family Justice Center Alliance



Benefits of an integrated Multidisciplinary approach of Domestic Violence in Europe



Bert Groen, President of the European Family Justice Center Alliance/European Alliance for Hope and Empowerment



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OUR EUROPEAN DREAM

Eliminating domestic violence, sexual violence and child abuse and restoring hope and joy in the life of victims and their families!





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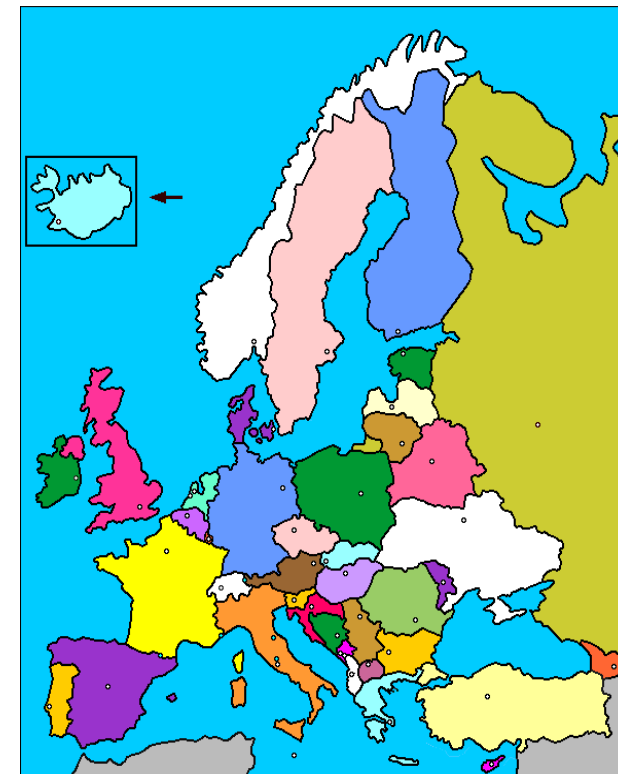


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FJC's in Europe: pilots & initiatives

- The Netherlands: Tilburg
- Italy: Milan
- Poland: Warsaw
- Germany: Berlin
- Belgium: Antwerpen/Hasselt/Mechelen/Turnhout
- N. Ireland: Derry
- Iceland: Reykjavik
- Sweden: Malmö
- France: Paris
- 40 members in 22 European countries





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VISION of the EFJCA



A future where all professionals work together to ensure safety and a better life for survivors of domestic violence, child abuse and domestic violence.



European Family Justice Center Alliance REQUIRED DIRECTIVE FOR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES



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OUR LEGAL FRAMEWORK IN EUROPE



***Council of Europe Convention on preventing
and combating violence against women and
domestic violence***

Istanbul, 2011

'The Istanbul Convention'



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Article 7 – Comprehensive and co-ordinated policies

*Parties shall take the necessary legislative and other measures to adopt and implement State-wide effective, comprehensive and **co-ordinated** policies encompassing all relevant measures to prevent and combat all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention and offer a holistic response to violence against women.*



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*Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures, in accordance with internal law, to ensure that there are appropriate mechanisms to provide for **effective co-operation** between all relevant state agencies, including the judiciary, public prosecutors, law enforcement agencies, local and regional authorities **as well as non-governmental organisations and other relevant organisations and entities**, in protecting and supporting victims and witnesses of all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention.*



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Parties shall ensure that measures taken pursuant to this chapter shall:

- *be based on a gendered understanding of violence against women and domestic violence and shall focus on the human rights and safety of the victim;*
- *be based on **an integrated approach** which takes into account the relationship between victims, perpetrators, children and their wider social environment;*
- *aim at avoiding secondary victimisation;*
- *aim at the empowerment and economic independence of women victims of violence;*
- *allow, where appropriate, for a range of protection and support services to be located on the same premises;*
- *address the specific needs of vulnerable persons, including child victims, and be made available to them.*



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What do we as EFJCA offer:

- The central platform for FJC's and related multidisciplinary models in Europe
- Provide mutual support and cooperation among members
- Creating and organizing a platform for conversation, consultation and exchange of ideas, expertise and good practices in the approach to domestic violence
- Organizing a yearly conference
- Supporting and following up new Family Justice Centers in Europe



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What do we offer more

- Promoting and strengthening the integration of the FJC model in Europe
- Applying and take part in EU or other calls
- Developing materials for training, monitoring and evaluation

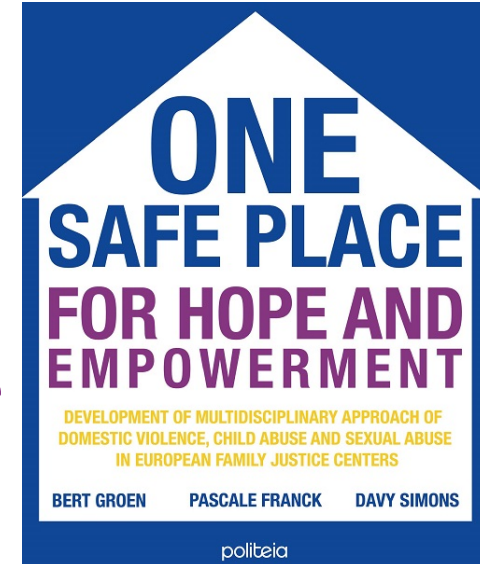


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SOME OF OUR PRODUCTS

- Offering a 'how to start a FJC' package (starters package).
- Book on how to start a FJC: One Safe Place for Hope and Empowerment
- Developing and providing trainings and instruments on a range of methodologies and products focusing on ACE, Trauma-informed care, Polyvictimization and Hope.
- Offering webinars on topics of interest for the FJC's and Multi Agency models.
- Developing a buddy system between FJC's and new initiatives
- Participating on conferences and seminars in- and outside Europe





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Workshop Child & Family Maltreatment Conference San Diego Jan. 2018





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The development of the multidisciplinary approach in Europe, what do we have to challenge?

- Not all countries are focusing on positive change on gender based violence. There's a strong (religious) movement that embraces the old (family) traditions and is not willing to change these. They are challenging the directives of the Istanbul Convention.
- The influx of more than a million migrants and refugees from active warzones into Europe. They bring their own values and views on violence against women and children, based on their own habits and way of life in their home countries.



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The development of the multidisciplinary approach in Europe, what is very motivating?

- Organizations all over Europe are experiencing that they are not alone in their vision and daily work! The feeling of **WE** is growing.
- The first (research) results and feedback from survivors in existing FJC's are showing promising results and underlines the feeling that the models are effective



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2018 and Beyond: most important topics

- Support existing and new members
- Support and outreach to candidate-members
- Work with health sector
- Strangulation + Conference 2018
- Polyvictimisation and trauma-informed care
- Applying for grants
- Research on results and experiences
- Development of a European Voices network
- Work with other European networks
- Webinars





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Where are we now in Europe?

Building further on our dream





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We are dreaming BIG





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But first we have to start small!





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FJC Paris, La Maison les Femmes





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FJC Tilburg





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FJC Malmö





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Thank you for your attention



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