



**ženska soba**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2016**

# **WOMEN'S ROOM**



Ženska soba je korisnica institucionalne podrške Nacionalne zaklade za razvoj civilnoga društva za stabilizaciju i/ili razvoj udruge.

# **CONTENT**

**1. WHO WE ARE**

**2. SUMMARY 2016**

**3. INTRODUCTION**

**4. DIRECT WORK WITH VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE**

**5. EDUCATION**

**6. RESEARCH**

**7. DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY THROUGH PUBLIC  
WORK, ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING**

**8. PUBLISHING**

**9. FINANCIAL REPORT**

**10. APPENDIX**

# 1. WHO WE ARE

---

**Women's Room (Ženska soba) – Center for Sexual Rights** is a nongovernmental, feminist, nonprofit organization that works on raising awareness of women, institutions and public about women's sexuality and sexual rights through education, research, advocacy and public work. We provide direct and indirect assistance and support to victims of sexual violence. The vision of Women's Room is a society free from patriarchy, discrimination, misogyny and gender-based violence, where individual choice is the fundamental value.

The organization was founded in 2002 in Zagreb and works on local and regional levels.

## AREAS OF WORK:

- ❖ Protection of human rights with an emphasis on women's human rights;
- ❖ Combating sexual violence: development of public policy and effective practice in working with victims of sexual violence, direct work with the victims, and development of preventive mechanisms and programs;
- ❖ Promotion and protection of sexual rights pursuant to the Declaration of Sexual Rights, including the sexuality of women and sexual and gender minorities (LGBTIQ).

## GOALS:

- ❖ Actively advocating advances in sexual and gender equality by applying feminist policies, principles and values;
- ❖ Empowering women while actively pursuing and protecting basic human rights for women;
- ❖ Working directly with survivors of sexual violence through counseling (psychological, medical, legal counseling and crisis counseling) and therapy, including preparations for court proceedings, and working with those close to victims of sexual violence;
- ❖ Actively advocating the importance of preventing violence against women, sexual violence and trafficking for sexual exploitation, developing prevention mechanisms and programs and their implementation;
- ❖ Actively protecting and promoting rights of children and youth and preventing sexual violence among them;
- ❖ Improving the level of education and awareness among Women's Room target groups about sexual violence and sexual rights;
- ❖ Promoting and protecting sexual rights in line with the Declaration of Sexual Rights;
- ❖ Promoting positive attitudes towards female sexuality, sexual health and freedom of choice;

- ❖ Actively advocating against discrimination based on gender identity and/or expressions, sexual orientation and intersexual characteristics;
- ❖ Empowering the LGBTQ population in the process of pursuing their human rights;
- ❖ Advocating a policy of non-violence and active participation in peace processes.

### **ACTIVITIES OF WOMEN'S ROOM:**

- ❖ Developing educational programs and methods;
- ❖ Organizing and conducting workshops, trainings, round tables, conferences and lectures aimed at fostering professional development and raising awareness among target groups of Women's Room;
- ❖ Familiarizing Croatian experts with various existing models and practices in the field of prevention, treatment and combating gender-based violence, with a special focus on sexual violence;
- ❖ Familiarizing Croatian experts with various existing models and practices in the field of sexual rights;
- ❖ Encouraging and conducting studies about target areas of work of Women's Room;
- ❖ Organizing and providing free expert assistance and support to victims of gender-based violence, with special focus on sexual violence, by providing medical, psychological and legal counseling and psychotherapy aimed at coping with trauma, preparing for court proceedings and counseling for those close to the victim;
- ❖ Developing new and improving existing models of operation when working with survivors of sexual violence in institutions (hospitals, police, schools, prisons, courts) and implementing them;
- ❖ Publishing activities from the field of operation of Women's Room;
- ❖ Collecting, archiving and classifying books and other materials available to members and all interested parties;
- ❖ Cooperating and networking with national, regional and international organizations, associations and institution which share similar goals;
- ❖ Monitoring and lobbying for legal harmonisations with international conventions, declarations and other legal mechanisms referring to gender-based violence, with focus on sexual violence and sexual rights;
- ❖ Monitoring and lobbying for legal harmonisations with international conventions referring to sexual and gender minorities.

## STRUCTURE OF WOMEN'S ROOM:

Women's Room's work is shaped, managed and coordinated by the Working Team, Coordination Team, Management Committee, and the Women's Room assembly (Appendix 1 and Appendix 2).

During 2016, the **Working Team** of Women's Room was comprised of **Maja Mamula** (President of the Coordination Team), **Maja Vukmanić Rajter** (Coordinator of the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence), **Paula Zore** (Office and Financial Coordinator), **Antonija Hojt Ilic** (Coordinator of Educational Programs), **Anamaria Droždan Kranjčec** (Coordinator of the legal team), **Josipa Tukara** (Coordinator of Youth Programs), **Laura Marković** (counselor at the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence), **Kristina Mihaljević** (Associate) and **Darko** (Therapeutic Dog - chocolate labrador).

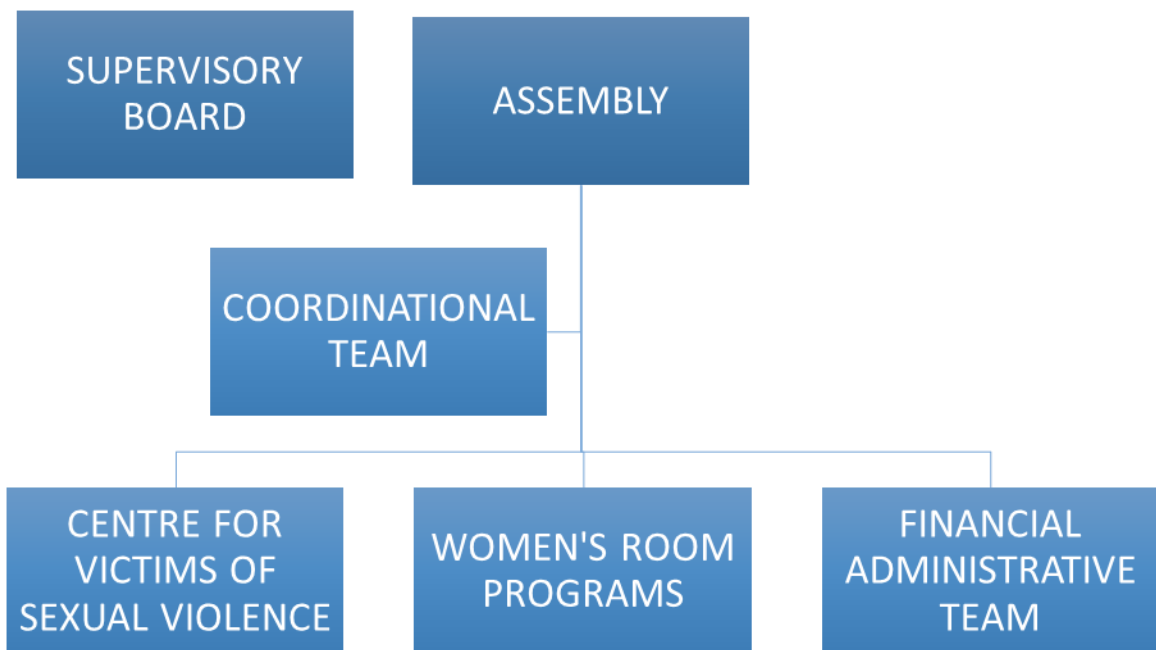
In addition to the core of the Women's Room Team, our regular associates of the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence **Voljana Kapelina** (Medical Counselor), **Ida Šamanović** (Counselor and Psychotherapist), **legal office Pelc** (Legal Counselors), **Ula Marton** (Gynecologist), **Ksenija Maslo** (Supervisor) and **Dalibor Stanić** (accountant).

In addition to the Working Team, numerous experts from specific fields worked on our projects and programs during 2016. Furthermore, we would like to emphasize involvement of **45** regular volunteers who provided important contributions to the work of the organization with their energy, positive approach, and enthusiasm. Volunteers contributed a total of **761,5** hours when volunteering in our regular activities.



**Therapeutic Dog Darko**

**Image 1: Women`s Room Organigram**



## SIGNIFICANT ACHIEVEMENTS OF WOMEN'S ROOM SINCE ITS FOUNDATION

- ❖ Over 200 projects and programs;
- ❖ Over 1520 educational events held (workshops, trainings, lectures);
  - ❖ Over 55 133 participants at educational events;
  - ❖ Over 125 different printed materials in areas of work published (books, brochures, leaflets);
  - ❖ 13 pioneer research projects undertaken;
- ❖ The first and only Centre for Victims of Sexual Violence officially opened in Croatia in 2008;
  - ❖ Over 4313 counselling sessions held with over 1247 clients;
  - ❖ The first media campaign "STOP Sexual Violence" implemented in Croatia in 2009;
  - ❖ Launched a blog "Women's Room - Female Voice" on the website of Vecernji list 2009;
- ❖ Coordinator of Women's Room Maja Mamula declared Zagreb's Woman of the year in 2010;
- ❖ Member of the Women's Room, Antonija Hojt received the Volunteer Oscar Award in 2010;
- ❖ Launched a website "Safe Place", intended for women who are victims of all forms of violence in 2012;
- ❖ Launched a public campaign against violence against women "In Three Clicks Choose a Life free of Violence!" in 2012;
- ❖ Launched a public campaign against violence against women "Seize a Life Free of Violence!" in 2014;
- ❖ First international conference on sexual violence in Croatia "*System of Public Policies and Support for Victims of Sexual Violence*" in the Croatian Parliament.

## 2 . S U M M A R Y 2 0 1 6

---

In 2016, the Women's Room had **22 programs and projects**, some that were a continuation and some that were initiated during the year. In addition, we have continued implementing three projects for which we received no resources but have invested good will and energy.

Within the scope of **educational programs**, we held **253** different educational sessions, including **3** conferences, **3** specialized two-day educations, **11** trainings (one or more days), **150** workshops, **61** lectures, **5** round tables, **2** tribunes, **2** public actions, **1** thematic session, **2** sport events and **2** partner meetings with educational characteristic. Target groups comprised of representatives of civil society organizations, representatives of state bodies and institutions, university students, secondary and elementary school pupils, teachers and experts who work in educational institutions, parents, women and general public. In 2016 a total of **8.056** people participated in educational sessions.

The **Center for Victims of Sexual Violence** provided **540 counseling sessions**, and **114 individuals** received support and assistance. The most frequent problems clients identified were rape/attempt of rape (**67,7%**) and **sexual abuse (11%)**.

During 2016, we published **5 different materials**: **11** leaflets; **2** work cards, **one** poster, T-shirt, billboard, city light, led display, publication, two jingle, two telescopes and one short video film. Many materials were produced in the scope of public campaigning "Pričajmo jezikom ravnopravnosti".

Women's Room members participated in **31 local conferences and/or meetings, thematic sessions or promotions** organized by local and/or international organizations or governmental bodies. We also participated in **18 meetings of different networks, teams, working groups, coalitions, coordination's and committees**.

The work of Women's Room was covered in the media **251 times** by TV, radio, portals, newspapers. Our radio jingle "Center for Victims of Sexual Violence" was aired on **44** local radio stations a total of **88** times, while radio jingle "Pričajmo jezikom ravnopravnosti" was aired on **10** radio stations **332** times. Information about our regular activities was published in **94** articles on the Women's Room website, available in Croatian and English languages.



## **THE MOST RELEVANT EVENT FOR THE WOMEN'S ROOM IN 2016**

- 1) Three-day conference in Opatija "Conference on the role and sustainability of civil society organizations in combating violence against women" was organized.
- 2) Started an implementation of "Specialized education for professionals who are working with victims of sexual violence: Modules 1 - 4" in Zagreb and Slavonski Brod.
- 3) "One-day meeting of representatives of the National team for prevention and suppression of domestic violence and violence against women, county teams and civil society organizations" was organized in Zagreb.
- 4) Research "Analysis of the role, capacity and sustainability of civil society organizations working to combat violence against women" was conducted.
- 5) Created and advocated "Action plan of civil society organizations to combat violence against women: proposal of necessary measures (2017-2021)".
- 6) Created and promoted "Model of sustainability of civil society organizations working directly with women victims of violence".
- 7) Successfully conducted a public campaign "Let's talk language of equality" in which 14 women's and feminist civil society organizations participated.
- 8) For the fourth year in a row, a public campaign "With all the strength against violence against women" was conducted in cooperation with the Croatian Rugby Association and the Advertising Agency IMAGO.
- 9) Four training sessions for volunteers have been organized and held.

### 3. INTRODUCTION

Women's Room worked on **22 programs and projects** during 2016 related to **3** program areas: 13 of which alone, 7 were held by Women`s Room and 2 in partnership with other civil society organizations within the 3 bearing areas of work: the protection of human rights with an emphasis on women`s human rights, combating sexual violence, and the promotion and protection of sexual rights pursuant to the Declaration of Sexual Rights, including the sexuality of women and sexual and gender minorities (LGBTIQ). Three projects are volunteer projects of Women's Room.

**Table 1: List of projects/programs and donors of Women's Room in 2016**

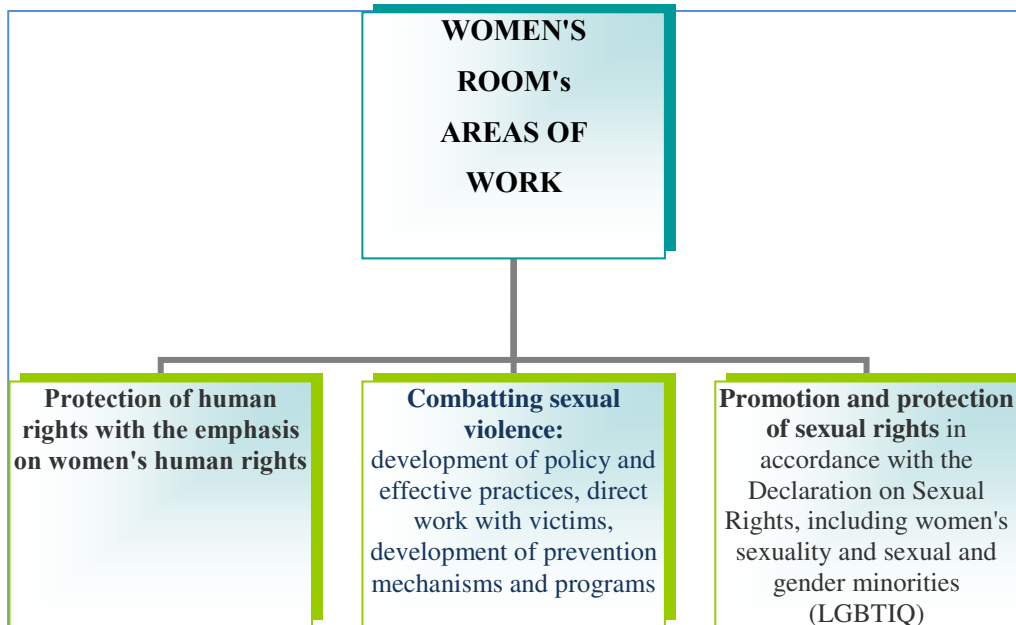
no.	project title and donor agency	amount
<b>1</b>	<b>Institutional Support for Stabilization and/or Development of the Organization</b> National Foundation for Civil Society Development (January 1, 2016 – December 31, 2016)	<b>239.825,94 HRK</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Together We Can do More!</b> The European Social Fund, "Human Resources Development" 2007 to 2013, Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations that provide social services (December 29, 2014 – February 28, 2016)	<b>572.866,60 HRK</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Relevant institutions and civil society organization – voice for victims of sexual violence</b> Europska unija - IPA 2012: Building Capacities of CSOs for Ensuring Effective Implementation of the EU Standards in the Enforcement of Human Rights (November 3, 2015 – November 2, 2017)	<b>144.563,37 EUR</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>The new force against violence against women</b> Iceland Liechtenstein Norway Eea Grants - Norway Grants (January 1, 2016. – February 28, 2017)	<b>980,712,00 HRK</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Future without violence!</b> Ministry of Science, Education and Sports of the Republic of Croatia (October 16, 2015 – August 31, 2016)	<b>50.000,00 HRK</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Institucionalna potpora - Center for Victims of Sexual Violence</b> Heart and Hand (November 23, 2015 – May 23, 2016)	<b>4.625,00 USA</b>

7	<b>Center for Victims of Sexual Violence</b> Mediterranean Women's Fund (July 1, 2016 – July 30, 2017)	<b>4.000,00 EUR</b>
8	<b>Safe from violence!</b> Ministry of Social Policy and Youth of the Republic of Croatia (October 20, 2015 – October 19, 2016)	<b>115.000,00 HRK</b>
9	<b>With Collaboration to Change!</b> Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Croatia (December 7, 2016 – August 31, 2017)	<b>60.000,00 HRK</b>
10	<b>#sherajmoodgovorno</b> Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy (November 15, 2016 – November 14, 2017)	<b>112.333,00 HRK</b>
11	<b>Center for Victims of Sexual Violence</b> City of Zagreb – City Office for Social Protection and Persons with Disabilities (January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016)	<b>40.000,00 HRK</b>
12	<b>Combating Violence against Women and Gender Inequality</b> City of Zagreb, Mayor's Office, Department for Promoting Human Rights, Gender Equality, Relations with National Minorities and Religious Communities and Civil Society Development (January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016)	<b>15.000,00 HRK</b>
13	<b>Violence against women with disabilities</b> City of Zagreb – City Office for Social Protection and Persons with Disabilities (January 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017)	<b>20.000,00 HRK</b>
14	<b>Protecting Mental Health of Transgendered and Transsexual Persons</b> City of Zagreb – City Office for Health (January 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016)	<b>15.000,00 HRK</b>
15	<b>Prevention of sexual violence against and among young people</b> City of Zagreb – City Office for Social Protection and Persons with Disabilities (January 1, 2016 – January 31, 2017)	<b>15.000,00 HRK</b>
16	<b>#Nije kompliment</b> City of Zagreb - City Office for Education, Culture and Sports (01.01.2016. – 31.12.2016.)	<b>15.000,00 HRK</b>

17	<p><b>Let's illuminate the path of violence!</b></p> <p>Hrvatska elektroprivreda d.d. (July 18, 2016 – December 31, 2016)</p>	5.000,00 HRK
18	<p><b>Developing the capacity of CSOs to include human rights in public policy</b></p> <p>a partnership project with the Croatian Law Centre, the Centre for Women War Victims - ROSA, Croatian Red Cross, HOMO Association for the Protection of Human Rights and Civil Liberties Pula, the Serbian Democratic Forum</p> <p>Europska unija - IPA 2012: Building Capacities of CSOs for Ensuring Effective Implementation of the EU Standards in the Enforcement of Human Rights (November 04, 2015 – April 3, 2017)</p>	2.995,00 HRK
19	<p><b>Love does not Hurt</b></p> <p>Ministry of Social Policy and Youth of the Republic of Croatian</p> <p>a partnership project with the League for the Prevention of Addiction Split (October 1, 2015 – September 31, 2016)</p>	11.500,00 HRK
20	<p><b>Gender equality in everyday life - Our view</b></p> <p>City of Zagreb, Mayor's Office, Department for Promoting Human Rights, Gender Equality, Relations with National Minorities and Religious Communities and Civil Society Development (June 15, 2015 – February 28, 2016)</p>	15.000,00 kn
21	<p><b>I know! I act!</b></p> <p>City of Zagreb - City Office for Education, Culture and Sports (24.07.2015. – 28.02.2016.)</p>	20.000,00 kn
22	<p><b>Busting myths about our health!</b></p> <p>City of Zagreb - City Office for Education, Culture and Sports (July 24, 2015 – February 28, 2016)</p>	10.000,00 kn
23	<p><b>GOOD Initiative</b></p> <p>a partnership project with the Center for Peace Studies National Foundation for Civil Society Development</p>	0,00 HRK
24	<p><b>Sexual violence – Decreased of Number of Cases of Rape from Reporting to Police to Judgment with Final Force and Effect</b></p> <p>Volunteer project of the Women's Room (since 2013 -)</p>	Volunteer project

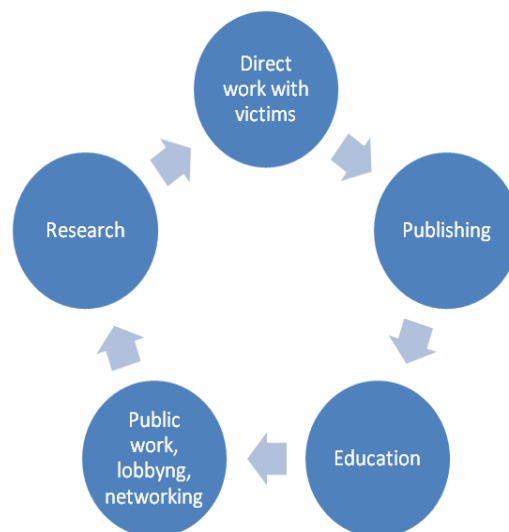
25	<b>REKOM</b> Volunteer project of the Women's Room (since 2008 -)	<b>Volunteer project</b>
26	<b>Initiative for Civic Education</b> Volunteer project of the Women's Room (since 2009 -)	<b>Volunteer project</b>

**Image 2: Women's Room fields of work in 2016**



Similar to previous years, the Women's Room's work is organized in **five main clusters of activities**: direct work with victims of sexual violence, education, research, public work and publishing.

**Image 3: Women's Room Activities in 2016**



Below, we outline the basic activities of Women's Room in 2016.



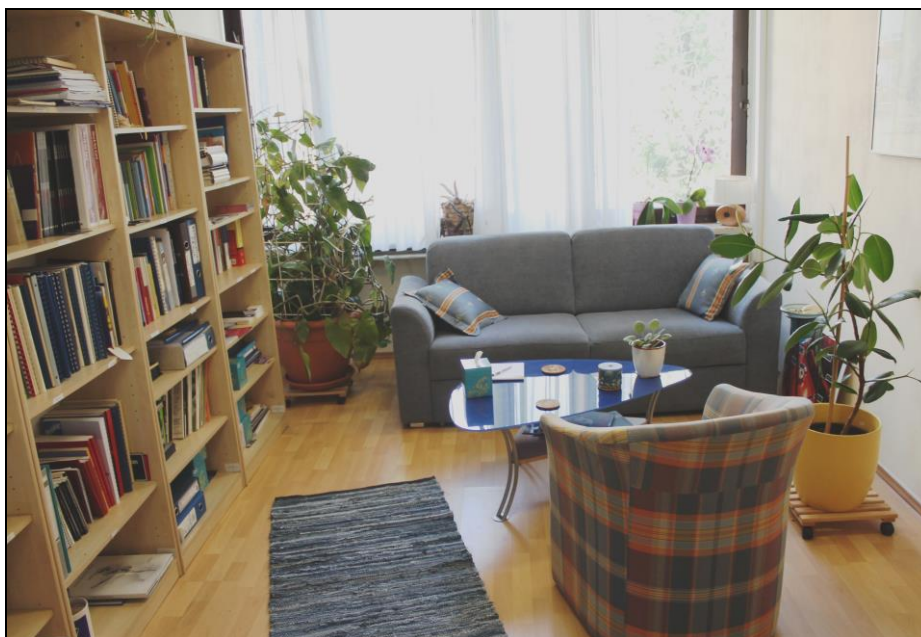
**Two-day education „Combating Domestic Violence and Sexual Violence“**  
(Donja Stubica, March 2016)

## 4. DIRECT WORK WITH VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

---

Since official opening in April 2008, the main objective of the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence is improving the quality of life for survivors of any form of sexual violence. The center is the only referral center for victims of sexual violence in Croatia and continues to expand its services and improve the quality of work. Thanks to a number of projects and donors, the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence has increased the scope of work during 2016.

The team of the Center is specialized to work with victims of sexual violence, but we provide the assistance and support to all persons who contact us either by coming into the premises of the Center, by phone, by e-mail (especially created email address), or in any manner that is available to our beneficiaries. We are available to anyone who needs assistance and/or support every day from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Services of the Center include: psychological, medical and legal counseling, psychotherapy to work through traumatic experiences, preparing for a trial, as well as work with families and loved ones of the victim. All services are completely free and anonymity is fully guaranteed.



**Counseling space and library in the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence**

During 2016, there were a total of **540 counseling sessions**, and assistance and support was provided to **114 beneficiaries**. As can be seen from the statistics of the Centre, although we provide services to all, the most frequent beneficiaries women are survivors of rape, attempted

rape, sexual abuse, domestic violence, as well as people who need information and support in the field of sexual rights and sexual health (Table 2).

**Table 2. Categories of reasons people contacted the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence in 2016**

Issue	frequency	%
rape/attempted rape/incest	366	67,7%
sexual abuse	61	11%
domestic violence	47	8,7%
other forms of violence	18	3,3%
various information, consultation	13	2,4%
sexual harrasement	12	2,2%
sexual problems	6	1,1%
Human trafficking	5	0,9%
Unclear issues	1	0,2%
<b>total</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>100 %</b>

Women's Room was contacted in 62,2% of cases where the person had experienced some form of sexual violence. Other victims experiences are poorly represented. (Table 3).

**Table 3: Persons who contacted Women's Room for assistance and support in 2016.**

A person who contacted	frequencies	%
The victim / survivor of violence	336	62,2%
Relatives of victims	91	16,8%
Representatives from government institutions	57	10,5%
Representatives from other civil society organizations	35	6,5%
Other possibilities	11	2%
Friend of victim/survivor of violence	10	1,8%
<b>total</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>100%</b>



## 5. EDUCATION

---

Educational projects and programs have become the hallmark of Women's Room. Our trainings and lectures have been recognized as professional and high quality, and our educational work as highly professional. Because education was a priority since our establishment, this is a result of a long, well thought out approach that has evolved over the years of our work. The importance of education provided by the Women's Room is exemplified by the fact that since 2003 until now we had more than **54.000** beneficiaries of educational activities.

Education is an integral part of every Strategic and Operational Plan of Women's Room, and apart from planned activities, we often receive numerous invitations to conduct education. These invitations come from civil society organizations, professional associations, educational institutions and/or different governmental bodies and institutions.

**Main areas** of education are:

- Sexual violence, violence against women;
- Sexual rights, female sexuality;
- Sexual and gender equality;
- Trafficking women for sexual exploitation,
- LGBTQ population.

**Methodology of education** varies, it is adjusted to beneficiaries and includes:

- Lectures;
- Workshops and trainings (one-day or several days long);
- Round tables;
- Public panels.

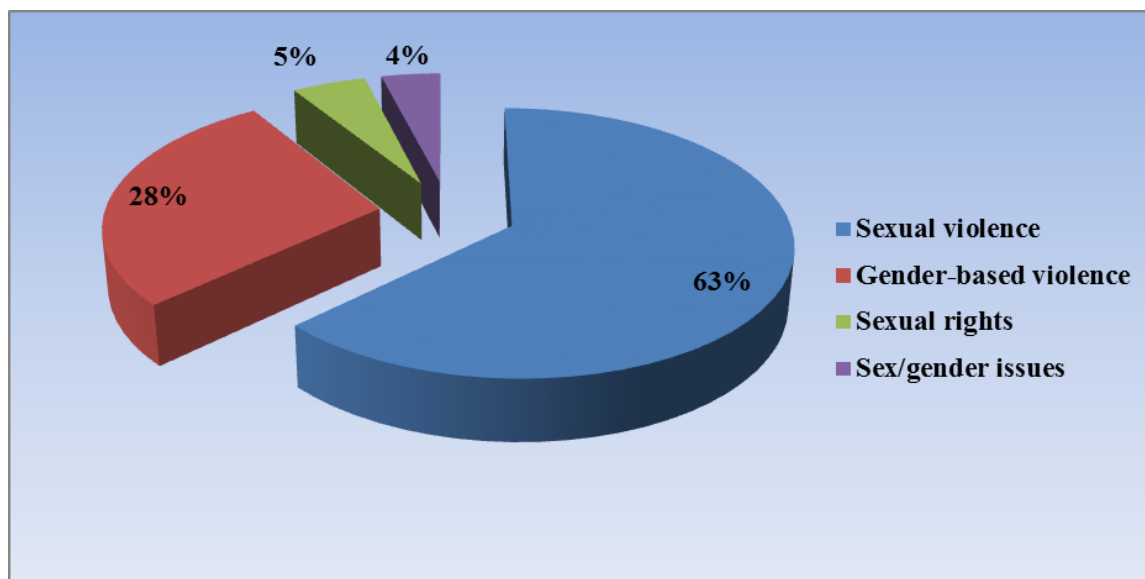
**Main target groups** of education are:

- Women in general,
- Civil society organizations in Croatia and the region,
- Children and youth,
- LGBTQ individuals,
- Relevant state institutions and bodies,
- General public;

During 2016, members of Women's Room organized **253** different educational activities, including **3** conference, **3** specialized two-day educations, **11** trainings (one day or more days

trainings), **150** workshops, **61** lectures, **5** round tables, **2** tribunes, **2** public actions, **1** thematic session, **2** sport events and **2** partner meetings/trainings. The total number of beneficiaries for numerous educational activities of the Women’s Room was **8.056**.

Topics of conducted educational activities were most frequently related to sexual violence (63%), gender-based violence (28%) sexual rights (5%) and sex/gender issues (4%) (Graph no. 1). The most common beneficiaries were pupils, citizens, students, parents and representatives of relevant bodies and institutions.



**Graph 1: Themes of educational activities in 2016**

## 5.1. SEXUAL VIOLENCE INCLUDING TRAFFICKING WOMEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

This area includes the development of prevention programs and projects against sexual violence, as well as raising awareness about the problems of target groups through a variety of activities, such as workshops, round tables, training sessions, lectures, panel discussions and theatrical performances. Target groups are the same for all other forms of education, with an emphasis on youth.

There was a total of **161 different educational activities** organized about sexual violence, that included **117** workshops, **28** lectures, **2** specialized educations, **6** trainings, **3** round tables, **1** conference, **2** partner meetings/trainings, **1** thematic session and **1** tribunes, which were attended by a total of **3.132 people**, which included:

- ✚ **2.296** elementary and high school pupils
- ✚ **257** citizens and parents
- ✚ **240** students
- ✚ **226** representatives of relevant governmental bodies and institutions, profesors and experts from educational system
- ✚ **143** representatives of civil society organizations

Themes of education varied: from definitions, forms and prevalence of sexual violence and trafficking in women, its consequences, traumatization, rape trauma syndrome and direct protection of victims to need for legislative changes in regards to sexual violence and the need for standardized Code of Conduct in Case of Sexual Violence and other.

On May 20-21 2016 Women's Room – Centre for Sexual Rights organized "Specialized training for **expert personnel working with victims of sexual violence**, namely Module 1: Sexual Violence – Forms, Prevalence, Indicators and effects and Module 2: Legal Perspective on Sexual Violence on May 20 and 21 in Dojnja Stubica. Participants in the training were expert **staff** from the police, educational system, judicial system, healthcare system and representatives of civil society organizations. Training featured lectures from psychologist and coordinator of women's Room, Maja Mamula, Ph.D., judge of the Higher Misemeanour Court in Zagreb, Branka Žigante Živković, dip. Iur., judge of the County Court in Zagreb, Lana Peto Kujundžić, dipl.iur, and head of the legal team in Women's Room, Anamaria Droždan-Kranjčec.

Specialized training is a constituent part of the project "Relevant institutions and Civil Society Organization – Voice for Victims of Sexual violence" implemented by Women's Room – Centre for Sexual Rights, Association Brod – Women's Human Rights Group and partner organization

Grad from Slavonski Brod. Project is financed by the European Union and co-financed by the Government Office for Cooperation with NGOs.

The same training model was held on June 17. and 18. 2016. in **Slavonski Brod** in cooperation with Association Brod – Women’s Human Rights Group. The two-day training, which featured the same lecturers as the previous one, included participants from the police, educational system, judicial system, healthcare system and representatives of civil society organizations from Western and Eastern Slavonia.

Module 3 and Module 4 of the specialized training will be held for the same participants in 2017.



**Round table „Voice for victims of sexual violence“**

(Zagreb, November 2016)

In order to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, Women’s Room organized a round table **“Voice for Victims of Sexual Violence”** on November 25 2016. The issue of sexual violence was discussed by Maja Mamula, Women’s Room coordinator, Helena Štimac Radin, head of the Government Office for Gender Equality of Republic of Croatia, Margareta Mađerić, the President of the Gender Equality Commission of the City of Zagreb, Zoran Burić, PH.D. from the Faculty of Law at the University of Zagreb, Lana Peto Kujundžić, judge at the County Court in Zagreb, and Ana Ergović Kuzmanović from the Victims and Witnesses Support Office in the County Court in Zagreb.

A large number of representatives of relevant governmental bodies, institutions and civil society organizations, which tackle this issue in their day-to-day operation, attended the round table.

## 5.2. GENDER EQUALITY

For years, Women's Room has been systematically working on the promotion of gender equality through organizing various educational activities. We organize them with the aim of educating all target groups about basic concepts in order to contribute to improvement of human rights in our society as related to sexual rights, sexuality, and gender and sexual minorities.

During 2016, **20 different educational activities** were delivered within the scope of this field, including: **14** lectures, **3** workshops, **2** sport events, **1** training and **1** tribune. There were **2.523 participants** which included:

- ✚ **2.000** citizens
- ✚ **399** students
- ✚ **81** elementary and secondary school pupils
- ✚ **13** representatives of civil society organizations



**Ragby game Croatia vs. Oxford UFC and public campaign „With all the strength against violence against women“**

(Stadium Stjepan Spajić, Novi Zagreb 2016)

In Cooperation with the Croatian Rugby Association, Women's Room continued to implement the public campaign "**Stand Strong against Violence**" throughout 2016. The campaign included a string of printed materials (flyers, billboards, invitations), while the central event of the campaign was a rugby match between Croatia and Switzerland, held in April 2016. at a stadium in Novi Zagreb.






During the match members of Women's Room and volunteers informed visitors about the work of Women's Room – Centre for Sexual Violence and gender equality. Informational materials produced by Women's Room were distributed to the spectators at the sporting event.

The campaign continued in October 2016 when members of Women's Room attended another rugby match. The aim of the campaign "Stand Strong Against Violence" was to sensitize the general public about the issue of violence against women and gender inequality. The rugby match included stands where informative materials (flyers, brochures, handbooks) were distributed and the citizens had a chance to get better acquainted with the work of the support centre for victims of sexual Violence in operation as a part of Women's Room. The entire event was supported by volunteers of Women's Room.

### **5.3. GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE**

Violence against women is one of the gravest forms of violation of a woman's human rights, which causes horrendous consequences, not only for women, but for the whole society. Violence against women stems from the unequal power between women and men, and as reinforces the status quo. Despite the fact that the emphasis of Women's Room's work is focused on sexual violence, we recognize the importance of assessing the entire context and prevalence of gender-based violence. For these reasons, gender-based violence or violence against women constitutes a significant portion of our educational activities.

During 2015, we organized **71 educational activities**, **40** workshops, **19** lectures, **4** trainings (one or more days), **1** specialized education, **2** public actions, **2** meetings, **2** conferences and **2** round tables, for **2.340 participants** which included:

-  **1.039** citizens and parents
-  **888** elementary and secondary school pupils
-  **162** representatives of civil society organizations
-  **161** representatives of relevant governmental bodies and institutions
-  **90** students of different faculties

Within the scope of delivered lectures, we covered numerous topics including: definitions of gender-based violence, its forms and prevalence, data on reported cases in Croatia, role of civil society organizations in combating gender-based violence and information about civil society organizations that provide specialized services for support and assistance to women as victims of violence to mechanisms of protection, establishing and coordinating SOS phone lines and counseling services.

Women's Room – Centre for Sexual Rights organized a three-day conference called "**Conference on the Role and Sustainability of Civil Society Organization in Preventing Violence against Women**", in Hotel Admiral in Opatija on June 8-11 2016. The conference was organized as a part of the project “New Force in Fighting Violence against Women”.

The goals of the conference were to raise awareness about the unacceptability of all forms of violence against women and girls; developing and *Action Plan for Civil Society Organizations For fighting Violence Against Women*; developing a *Model For Sustainability of Civil Society Organizations Working with Women Victims of Violence* and informing participants about the campaign which will be launched as a part of the project.

The topics of the conference were: the role of civil society organizations in **combating** violence against women; existing mechanisms and services provided by civil society organizations with the aim of preventing violence against women; necessary steps in preventing violence against women in Croatia; **fundamental** problems and threats civil society organizations face when ensuring the sustainability of the operation, and a public campaign about their role in preventing violence against women.

A total of 39 participants from the Ministry of Justice, Independent Office for Victims and Witnesses Support, Disability Ombudsman, civil society organizations from Croatia, Iceland and Serbia participated in the conference.

Response from civil society organizations was overwhelmingly positive, which is evident from the fact that a total of 24 civil society organizations were represented at the conference.

Gudrun Jonsdottir, social worker and spokesperson, and Helga Baldvinsdottir, lawyer and councillor from partner organization Stígamót Iceland, were special guest lecturers at the conference. Their lectures sparked considerable interest and attention, which was particularly evident from the discussion that followed. Other lecturers at the conference were: Maja Mamula (Women's Room), Andreja Mlakar (Disability Ombudsman), Mirjana Duduković (CSO Korak from Karlovac), Slobodanka Macanović (Autonomous

Women's Centre, Belgrade), Paula Zore (Women's Room), Jasena Knez Radolović (CSO Parents in Action (Rode)), Nikica Hamer Vidmar (Ministry of Justice), Mirjana Kucer (Domine), and Mirjana Herceg (Izvor from Tenja).

The conference was envisioned as an opportunity to communicate, share experiences and ideas, which was considerably contributed to by facilitator Željka Jelavić, activist and feminist with years of experience. Languages of the conference were English and Croatian, while a two-way translation was provided by Women's Room long-term translator.

The outlines of the *Action Plan for Civil Society Organizations for Preventing Violence Against Women* and *Sustainability Models for Civil Society Organizations Working with Victims of Violence* were developed at the conference through group work in small teams, discussions and case studies, all based on the results of the research prepared by Women's Room. Several days after the completion of the conference members of Women's Room compiled conclusions of all working and discussion groups and emailed the materials to all participants of the conference to get their feedback. Based on the information gathered, both of the documents were developed and published in a publication entitled *Civil Society Organizations as Key Stakeholders in Prevention of Violence against Women in Croatia*.<sup>1</sup>

Women's Room tackled the issue of gender-based violence as a part of the public campaign „Let's Speak the Language of Equality“, implemented in November and December 2016. The public campaign was developed through several steps which included cooperation with several civil society organizations, activists, journalists, and marketing experts. The campaign included 14 civil society organizations from the whole of Croatia, 12 of which were actively involved in developing the campaign. All of these are women's organizations and feminist organizations active in the field of women's rights, some for over 20 years, whose active participation is responsible for positive changes made in recognizing and understanding women's rights and gender equality, as well as for the implementation of concrete steps on the level of public policy, legislation, and operation of institutions in Croatia. The central slogan of the campaign was “Women and Feminist Organizations. Leaders in the Fight for Women's Rights”. All visual materials for the campaign included three variants of the female version of the noun thinker in Croatian: *mislilica, znalka and mudrakinja*.

---

<sup>1</sup> Publikacija: <http://zenskasoba.hr/docs/OrganizacijecivilnogdrustvaZENSKASOBA.pdf>



The central idea of the campaign was to raise public awareness about the inequality between women and men by using visible inequality in the Croatian language. The purpose of the campaign was to use gender inequality evident in the language to warn about different aspects of the fight for the rights of women and girls, and to present organizations which have been actively advocating for the rights of women and girls for over 20 years. As a part of the campaign the website [www.zenskasoba.hr/jezik-ravnopravnosti](http://www.zenskasoba.hr/jezik-ravnopravnosti) was launched and used to invite citizens to make their own suggestions for female variants for Croatian nouns which are missing in the language, and thus make their contribution to the fight for women's rights. Over 250 suggestions were collected on the web site and Women's Room plans to compile them all into a „Dictionary of Equality“.



**Three-day conference in Opatija "Conference on the role and sustainability of civil society organizations in combating violence against women"**  
(Opatija, June 2016)

## 6. RESEARCH

---

One of the main goals of the Women's Room is the development and implementation of scientific research for the purposes of raising public awareness, educating representatives of institutions, developing important documents and reports, as well as lobbying for changes in legislation.

Since 2003, the Women's Room has implemented and published 13 research projects: Attitudes of Political Parties about LGBT Rights before Elections in Croatia in 2003 (2003); Attitudes and Knowledge of University Seniors of Relevant Universities about Sexual Violence (2004); Status of Women's Sexual Rights in Croatia (2005); Experiences of LGBTIQ Population with Psycho-social Providers in Croatia (2005); Gender Prism of Sexual Rights of Youth (2008) and research on issues regarding trafficking of persons in Croatia (2006 - 2008); Civil Society Organizations that Provide Specialized Services to Women Victims of Violence as Key Actors in the Process of Democratization of the Society (2010); Protection of Rights and Provision of Support to Victims/Witnesses of Domestic Violence (2010); Report "Sexual violence in Croatia in 2000 - 2010" (2011); "Gender, gender roles, sexuality, violence" (2011).

In 2013 we have started with a new research project called "Sexual Violence – Decreased of Number of Cases of Rape from Reporting to Police to Judgment with Final Force and Effect". We have continued implementing more research projects during 2016.

## 7. DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC POLICY THROUGH PUBLIC WORK, ADVOCACY AND NETWORKING

---

In 2016, Women`s Room continued to work in the field of networking and advocacy, as one of our many activities. Over the years we have dedicated time and attention to systematic public work through our daily activities and presence in the media.

Women`s Room members participated in **31** international and local conferences and/or meetings, thematic sessions, public events or promotions organized by local and international organizations and governmental institutions.

In addition, members of Womens`s Room participated in **18** meetings of different networks, teams, work groups, coalitions, coordination teams and councils.

Women`s Room is active in several **networks**: AWID Women`s Rights, ASTRA Network - The network of women's organizations from Central and Eastern Europe for sexual health and reproductive rights, ACTA Anti corruption anti trafficking action, Euro-Mediterranean Foundation Anne Lindh, Trans\* Gender Europe, ILGA – International Gay and Lesbian Association, The Platform 112 Croatia, PETRA Network – CSO network for the prevention and elimination of trafficking in women, RECOM – Regional Commission for Establishing Facts about War Crimes and Other Serious Violations of Human Rights in the Former Yugoslavia, SeeQ Network, SVRI – Sexual Violence Research Initiative, Trans Network Balkan, WAVE – Women Against Violence Europe and Croatian Women`s Network.

Members of Women`s Room are also involved in various **committees** (National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Commission for Gender Equality of Zagreb City Assembly , the Commission for Protection against Domestic Violence of City of Zagreb, City of Zagreb Committee for Celebrating the European Year of Volunteering), **working groups, initiatives** and **teams** (Feminist List Against Rape in War in Countries of Former Yugoslavia, The Initiative for systematic and quality introduction of civic education in schools, The Croatian initiative for the introduction of health education in the educational system, Citizens Coalition: Stop High-Risk Sexual Education, the National Team for Combating Domestic Violence and Violence against women, organization committee One Billion Rising Croatia).

With regard to the specific areas covered by the Women's Room, it's important to inform as many people as possible about our activities and issues that we deal with, with a focus on women's human rights, the status of women in society, gender equality, the problem of sexual

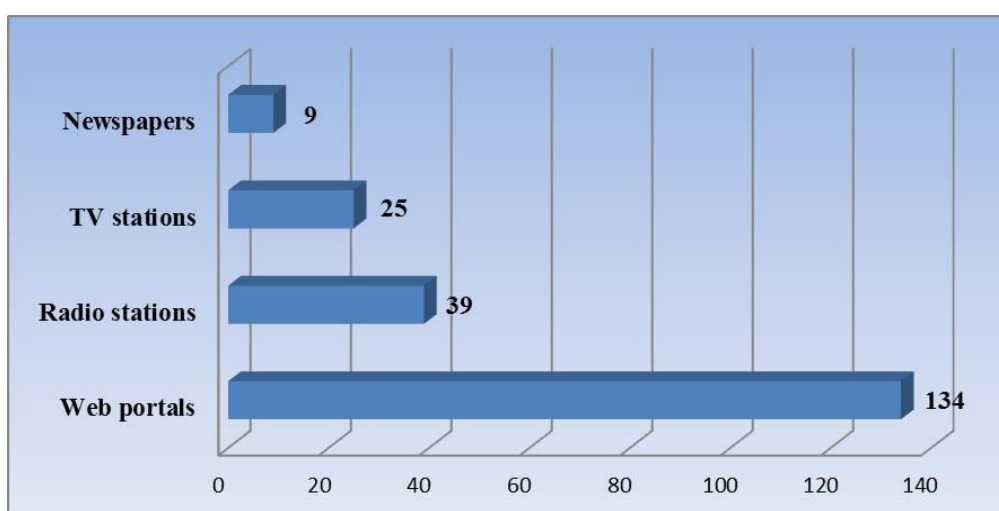
violence and victims' rights sexual violence, sexual rights and discrimination against sexual minorities.

We are trying to achieve **systematic media appearance** through maintaining contacts with representatives in media, but also through the Women`s Room web page ([www.zenska.soba.hr](http://www.zenska.soba.hr)). Women`s Room also launched its official Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/zenska.soba](http://www.facebook.com/zenska.soba)) which currently has more than 2.400 members. Through web page "Safe Zone" ([www.sigurnomjesto.hr](http://www.sigurnomjesto.hr)) we ensure availability and enable the exchange of information on the activities carried out in the area of violence against women. Thereby we are improving the collaboration between all services that provides support and assistance to women victims of violence.

The work of Women's Room was covered **617 times** in numerous media (**197 without radio jingles**). Our texts, comments and interviews were published 9 times in **newspapers**; we were guests in **25 TV shows/programs** and **29 radio shows**. Information about the activities in Women`s Room was published in **134** different articles and could be found on a number of **web portals**.

During 2016, a radio jingl “**The Center for Victims of Sexual Violence**” was broadcast on the occasion of the National Day of Combating Violence Against Women on September 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016. It was broadcasted on 44 radio stations throughout Croatia for a total of 88 times. Radio jingl “**Let's talk language of equality**” created within the same national campaign was distributed to 10 local radio stations in total 332 times.

Information about our regular activities was published in **94** articles on website of the Women`s, available in Croatian language.



**Graph 2: Media appearance in 2016**

## 8. PUBLISHING

---

Publishing is also an important area of Women`s Room work which includes: publishing brochures, text books and books on sexual violence, sexual rights and sexuality; producing leaflets, posters, postcards, stickers, bookmarks, planners, organizers, menstrual calendars and other promotional materials; translating and publishing landmark publications from the field of sexual violence and sexual rights.

During 2016, we published **15 different materials**:

- Leaflets: “Sexual Harassment”, “We were just Joking”, “Don`t be Afraid of Shadow”, “Center for victims of sexual violence”, „The Rights of Victims of Criminal Offenses”, “Women and Feminist Organizations – We Take the Lead in the Fight for Women's Rights”, “Social Networks = Safe Networks”, “Trans Rights are Human Rights”.
- Working cards: “Sexual Harassment”.
- Posters “Gender equality in everyday life - Our view”.
- T-shirts “With all the strength against violence against women”.
- Billboards, city lights: “Women and Feminist Organizations – We Take the Lead in the Fight for Women's Rights”.
- Publication „Civil Society Organizations as Key Actors in Combating Violence against Women in Croatia”.

In the scope of public campaign we also created “Women and Feminist Organizations – We Take the Lead in the Fight for Women's Rights” two telescopes<sup>2</sup> and radio jingl<sup>3</sup>.

---

<sup>2</sup> Telescope: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TwuNNS4z1U>

<sup>3</sup> Radio jingl: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v30oNMkVFVA>

Image 4. Examples of printed material in 2016

Ženska soba - Centar za seksualna prava je neprofitna, feministička organizacija civilnoga društva osnovana 2002. godine s ciljem osnaživanja žena i osvještavanja institucija i javnosti o seksualnom nasilju i seksualnim pravima.

U okviru Ženske sobe djeluje i Centar za žrtve seksualnog nasilja, prvi takav specijalizirani centar u Hrvatskoj, u kojem osiguravamo zdravnu pomoć i podršku žrtvama seksualnog nasilja i zalazemo se za njihova prava.

Ženska soba  
Maksimiska 51a  
www.zenskasoba.hr  
zenska.soba@zenskasoba.hr  
tel: 01/61 19 174  
fax: 01/61 19 175

Ova publikacija izdana je uz pomoć Europske unije i financirana od Ureda VRH za udruge. Sadržaj ove publikacije isti je kao i odgovornost Ženske sobe i niti na koj se način ne može smatrati da odobrava govorila Europske unije i Ureda VRH za udruge.

**PRAVA  
ŽRTAVA  
KAZNENIH  
DJELA**

Leaflet „The Rights of Victims of Criminal Offenses”

# Jezik ravnopravnosti

*Upiši riječ muškog roda i svoj prijedlog ženske inačice.*

m.r.

ž.r.

**Pričajmo jezikom ravnopravnosti.**  
Za više informacija posjetite [www.zenskasoba.hr/jezik-ravnopravnosti](http://www.zenskasoba.hr/jezik-ravnopravnosti)

**Ženske i feminističke organizacije.**  
Vodimo glavnu riječ u borbi za prava žena.

Nacionalna zaklada za razvoj civilnoga društva | eea grants | norway grants | Ženska soba | IZVOR | KOZAK | Sloboda

www.norwaygrants.org  
<http://zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr>

Leaflet: “Language of Equality”

## 9. WOMEN`S ROOM FINANCIAL REPORT FOR 2016

During 2016, Women's Room implemented **22 programs and projects**.

**Donors** of the Women's Room were: The European Social Fund, "Human Resources Development" 2007 to 2013, Strengthening the capacity of civil society organizations that provide social services; European Union – PROGRESS ACTION GRANTS; European Union – IPA 2012: Building Capacities of CSOs for Ensuring Effective Implementation of the EU Standards in the Enforcement of Human Rights; National Foundation for Civil Society Development; Mediterranean Women`s Fund; Ministry of Science, Education and Sport of the Republic of Croatia; Ministry of Social Policy and Youth of the Republic of Croatia; Mediterranean Women`s Fund; Heart & Hand; City of Zagreb - City Office for Social Protection and Persons with Disabilities; City of Zagreb - City Office for Health; City of Zagreb - City Office for Education and Sport; City of Zagreb, Mayor`s Office – Department for Promotion of Human Rights, Gender Equality, National Minorities and Civil Society Development; Hrvatska elektroprivreda d.d.

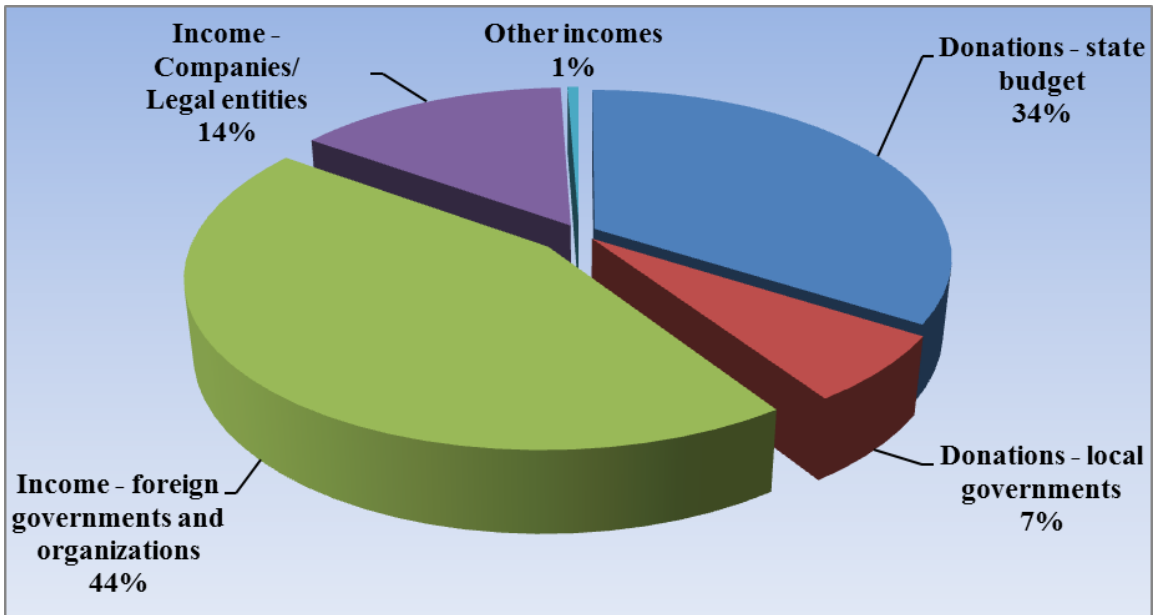
Women's Room's revenues and expenditures for 2016 are presented in tables 4 and graphs 3 and 4 below:

**Table 4: Women's Room's Revenue and Expenditures 2016**

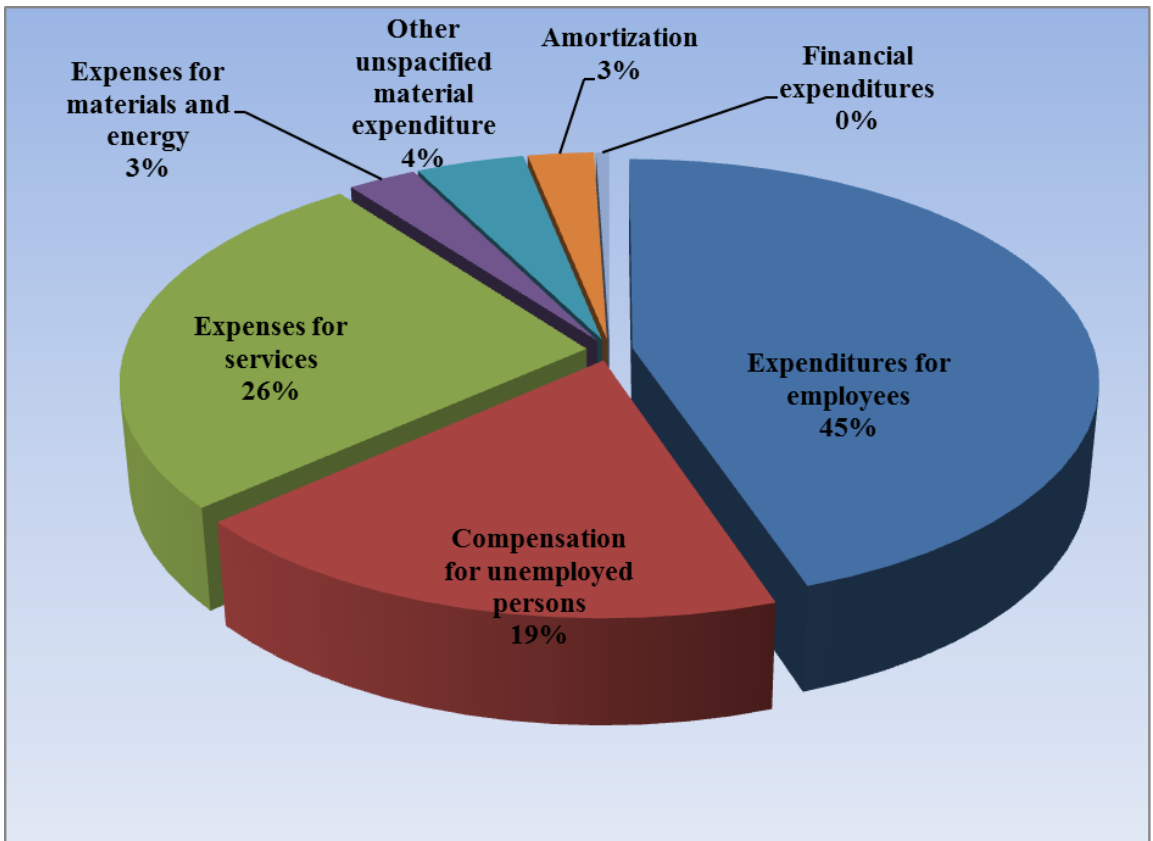
<b>Account</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount in HRK</b>	<b>Total in HRK</b>
<b>52</b>	<b>OUTCOME 2015</b>		<b>-3.708,07</b>
522210	Deficit from the last year		<b>-3.708,07</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>REVENUE</b>		<b>1.804.172,64</b>
<b>31</b>	<b>Revenue from sales of products and services</b>		<b>11.800,00</b>
<b>33</b>	<b>Revenues under special regulations</b>		<b>1.124,38</b>
3312	Revenues from special regulations from other sources (Croatian Employment Service)	1.124,38	
<b>34</b>	<b>Income from assets</b>		<b>3.240,23</b>
<b>341</b>	<b>Income from financial assets (interest and exchange rate gains)</b>	<b>3.240,23</b>	
<b>35</b>	<b>Incomes from donations</b>		<b>1.786.433,00</b>
<b>351</b>	<b>Incomes from donations from the public budgets</b>	<b>725.921,79</b>	
3511	Income from donations from the state budgets	608.494,23	

3512	Income from donations from the budgets of local (regional) governments	117.427,56	
<b>352</b>	<b>Income from foreign governments and international organizations</b>	<b>791.997,95</b>	
<b>353</b>	<b>Income from companies and other legal entities</b>	<b>259.384,58</b>	
<b>354</b>	<b>Income from citizens donations</b>	<b>9.128,13</b>	
<b>36</b>	<b>Other income</b>		<b>1.575,58</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>EXPENDITURES</b>		<b>1.805.721,31</b>
<b>41</b>	<b>Expenditures for employees</b>		<b>763.595,22</b>
<b>411</b>	<b>Salaries</b>	<b>648.971,14</b>	
<b>412</b>	<b>Other expenses for employees</b>	<b>3.000,00</b>	
<b>413</b>	<b>Social security contributions</b>	<b>111.623,08</b>	
<b>42</b>	<b>Material expenses</b>		<b>981.918,06</b>
<b>421</b>	<b>Workers compensation costs (travel, transport and professional education)</b>	<b>89.045,06</b>	
<b>423</b>	<b>Compensations for volunteers costs</b>	<b>4.863,65</b>	
<b>424</b>	<b>Compensation for persons not employed in organization</b>	<b>318.478,45</b>	
<b>425</b>	<b>Expenses for services</b>	<b>447.547,76</b>	
<b>426</b>	<b>Expenses for materials and energy</b>	<b>47.434,60</b>	
<b>429</b>	<b>Other unspecified material expenditure (representation, insurance, dues and registration fees)</b>	<b>74.548,54</b>	
<b>43</b>	<b>Amortization</b>		<b>44.448,85</b>
<b>44</b>	<b>Financial expenses</b>		<b>8.485,35</b>
<b>443</b>	<b>Other financial expense (banking services, payment services, foreign exchange losses and interest on arrears)</b>	<b>8.485,35</b>	
<b>45</b>	<b>Donations</b>		<b>6.249,00</b>
<b>46</b>	<b>Other expenditures</b>		<b>1.025,83</b>
<b>52</b>	<b>Lack of revenues over expenditures</b>		<b>-5.256,74</b>





**Graph 2: Women's Room's Revenue in 2016**



**Graph 3: The Women's Room's Expenditures in 2016**

## 10. APPENDIX

---

### Appendix 1 Structure of Womens Room in 2016

Structure of Women's Room includes:

**Assembly** of the Women's Room, which is the highest electoral and program body and includes regular members of the Women's Room;

**The Management Board** is the governing body that consists of five independent persons who work in the field of human rights and the president of the Coordination Team;

**Coordination Team** is an executive body which includes coordinators of Women's Room;

**Working Team** that works on programs and projects of the Women's Room, and includes all members that participate in the Women's Room, including volunteers. List of State and members of the Women's Room is visible in Appendix 2.

## **Appendix 2 List of members of the Women`s Room, a member of the Committee and Coordination Team in 2016**

### **Women's Room members (regular):**

Maja Mamula, Nera Komarić, Jelena Poštić, Boris Krstinić, Jelena Levak, Petra Ćus, Slobodanka Poštić, Maja Kolega, Dunja Bonacci Skenderović, Lada Bonacci, Vanja Oštrić, Koraljka Vlajo, Maja Vukmanić Rajter, Paula Zore, Ivana Lončar, Antonija Hojt Ilić, Anamaria Drožđan – Kranjčec, Josipa Tukara Komljenović, Laura Marković, Irena Špoljarić, Silva Mežnarić, Matea Popov, Ana Ergović Kuzmanović, Andrea Kapelina, Sanda Malbaša, Jelena Čaušević.

### **Members of the Women's Room (associate):**

Rada Borić, Amir Hodžić, Iva Žegura, Ingrid Marton, Sanja Milojević, Asja Zenko, Ulla Marton.

### **Board members of the Women's Room:**

- ❖ MA Željka Jelavić, ethnologist, Ethnographic Museum
- ❖ Sanja Cesar, psychologist, CESI
- ❖ Neda Pavić, lawyer, Deputy County Prosecutors Office in Zagreb
- ❖ Vesna Majher, City spokeswoman of City of Zagreb
- ❖ Željka Barić, director of the Home for children and adults - victims of domestic violence "Rainbow"
- ❖ Ph.D. Maja Mamula, psychologist, coordinator of the Women's Room

### **Members of the Coordination Team of Women's Room:**

1. Maja Mamula, president of the Coordination Team (authorized representative)
2. Maja Vukmanić Rajter, head of the Center for Victims of Sexual Violence (authorized representative)
3. Paula Zore, Office and Finance (authorized representative)
4. Antonia Hojt Ilić, Head of the educational program (authorized representative)