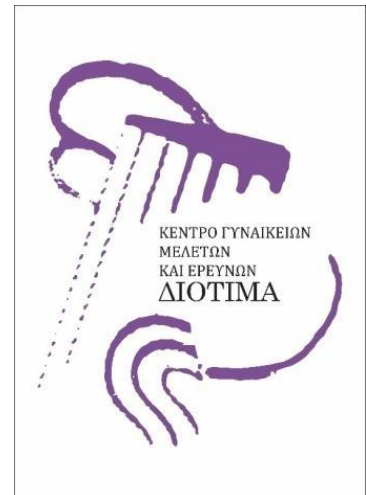


# CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S ISSUES “Diotima”

Annual report 2019



Introduction

The Centre for Research on Women's Issues (CRWI) "Diotima" is a non profit, non governmental women's organization. It was established in 1989 on the initiative of an interdisciplinary group of women.

A constant pursuit of the Centre Diotima during its long presence is the highlight and confrontation of gender discrimination at all levels of social, political and economic life. With vision the defence of gender rights, the Centre Diotima organises researches and studies on gender and equality issues, conducts training programs based on gender issues, participate in advocacy actions, conducts informative and awareness raising campaigns highlighting issues of gender discrimination, in addition operates as Certified Centre for Counseling & Supportive Services since 1996.

Mission of Centre Diotima is the multifaceted support of women who have suffered gender based violence and belong in socially vulnerable and excluded groups of women (refugees, immigrants, unemployed, single parents e.t.c.) by providing legal advice and representation at court, personalized psychosocial assistance and escort-mediation at public facilities and services (health and insurance services , accomodation facilities).

In the context of providing support to gender based violence survivors have been organized empowerment groups for immigrants/refugees for the strengthening of their autonomy, informative seminars for their rights, preventive actions, awareness raising workshops and actions for male refugees (male engagement) aiming to promote basic concepts for gender based violence and its consequences ,as well as the identification of gender stereotypes.

In addition Diotima Centre, as a training provider organises training programs for specific professional groups (police officers, lawyers, judges, prosecutors, coroners, health staff, social worker etc) regarding issues such as the protection and the security, the gender and the gender based violence, the legal framework for legal support of sexual violence survivors e.t.c.

Indicatively, from January 2018 until May 2020 more than 1300 people participated at the training and awareness raising workshops .

Then presented the projects of Centre Diotima implemented or completed in 2019.

I. PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS IMPLEMENTED  
OR COMPLETED IN 2019.

**1. SGBV prevention and response and legal aid in Refugee sites in Attica (Skaramangas, Malakasa, Ritsona), Thessaly (Larissa-Koutsochero), Athens, Thessaly and Thessaloniki urban areas as well as Moria on Lesbos.**

<p><b>Project title</b></p>	<p>SGBV prevention and response and legal aid in Refugee sites in Attica (Skaramangas, Malakasa, Ritsona), Thessaly (Larissa-Koutsochero), Athens, Thessaly, and Thessaloniki urban areas as well as Moria on Lesbos</p>
<p><b>Funding</b></p>	<p>Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)</p>
<p><b>Implementation date</b></p>	<p>01.01.2019 - 31.12.2019</p>
<p><b>Program aim</b></p>	<p>The aim of the program was to develop actions for the strengthening of prevention mechanisms and confrontation of gender based violence as well as to provide services (including legal services) to female and male gender based violence survivors.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Activities</b></p>	<p>Prevention and response in occurrence of gender based violence that exists among refugee population by providing comprehensive services focusing on female and male sexual violence survivors.</p> <p>In particular: a) Prevention and confrontation of sexual and gender based violence and strengthening via the activation of community, b) Psychosocial assistance for women, men and LGBTQIA+ people that have experienced sexual based violence, c) provision free legal representation</p>
<p><b>Actions implemented by the organisations</b></p>	<p>In the sector of prevention: , strengthening groups, activities for male engagement and interpretation. In the sector of management incidents gender based violence: Psychosocial assistance, referral , escort to others services ( health services, accommodation facilities, consulting centres, police departments, courts, asylum services, forensics services, public services, interpretation services e.t.c) . In the sector of the provision of legal aid: legal advice, legal representation, providing support for asylum procedures, coverage of all court costs and interpretation.</p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Beneficiaries</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Number of sexual violence survivors who were supported psychosocially( in Athens, Thessaloniki and Lesvos): 738 people.</li> <li>● Number of sexual violence survivors who were received legal aid( in Athens , Thessaloniki and Lesvos): 375</li> <li>● Number of Beneficiaries who participated in actions of prevention, strengthening e.t.c. (in Athens, Thessaloniki and Lesvos): 1.458</li> </ul> <p><b>General total Beneficiaries: 2.571 people</b></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Collaboration with organisations</b></p>	<p>Centre Diotima has worked collaboratively with the responsible public services( for example, The General Secretariat for Demography and Family Policy and Gender Equality, The Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI), police and forensics services, health services e.t.c.) with public facilities and services and also with Non governmental organizations that are activated in the social field on relevant issues and aim to support refugees ( e.g. Praxis, Solidarity Now, Arsis, Nostos, Iliaktida, Intersos Hellas e.t.c)</p>

## 2. Research “Girls on the Move”

<b>Project title</b>	“ Girls on the Move”
<b>Funding</b>	“Save the Children- Sweden”
<b>Implementation date</b>	01.12.2019-31.12.2019
<b>Program aim</b>	The research specifically intends to record the needs of young women in their countries of residence, as well as the difficulties they face along all this path. This is the first survey conducted for underage girls in our country covering a significant gap in our awareness and in our empirical data, to the extent that the data focus mainly on the population of young men and pay no attention to special requirements and conditions of young women and it constitutes part of a global research effort that is conducted in different parts of the world (Latin America, Africa and Balkans)

<p><b>Project objectives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Tracking of material needs of young women, gaps and challenges in the approach and provision of services (education, housing, nutrition, healthcare, reproductive health, with aim of setting out programs that respond to their needs and will cover the shortages of states and non- states sectors.</li> <li>● Strengthening and developing the global prevention mechanisms of underage refugee population, especially young women.</li> <li>● Forwarding measures which take into account the specific needs of (unaccompanied and accompanied) girls.</li> <li>● Highlighting the importance of gender in movement (on the trip and in any options around it) but also in the life of these girls and their families.</li> <li>● Highlighting the experience of the young women in the planning of programs and policies which takes into account their particular needs, the methods they develop in order to face obstacles and difficulties as well as their dreams and plans for the future.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Beneficiaries</b></p>	<p>Due to the research project a small-scale quantitative research in girls ages 15 until 18 residing in shelters in different parts of the country was carried out . The questionnaire was planned by the Centre Diotima and the global organization Save the Children and then submitted for approval to the Prosecutor for Children. This form included 23 questions and was completed from 46 girls ( who had the choice to reply in English, French, Arabic or Farsi).</p>
<p><b>Collaboration with organisations</b></p>	<p>Cooperation with non governmental organisations which are active around child protection ( UNICEF), public sectors (EKKA) and the Prosecutor for Children for the administration of relevant licenses regarding the research. Cooperation with accommodation facilities for underage girls.</p>



**3. Enhancing capacity of front-line workers to identify & respond to GBV.**

<b>Project title</b>	Enhancing capacity of front-line professionals to identify and refer SGVB survivors.
<b>Source of financing</b>	UNICEF/ Refugee and Migrant Response in Greece
<b>Implementation date</b>	02.05.19- 30.09.19
<b>Program aim and objectives</b>	Strengthening protection of gender based violence survivors, included women and children of all ages. Objectives of the project: developing skills for 210 field professionals for the prevention and addressing gender based violence against migrant/ refugee population.
<b>Actions implemented by the organisation</b>	Training on identification and referral of incidents of gender based violence to professionals working in open accommodation facilities. In this context have been designed and organized 10 two-day trainings involving professionals from 22 facilities.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	210 professionals
<b>Collaboration with organisations</b>	Due to this project Centre Diotima cooperated with many non governmental organizations ( DRC, tdH, Solidarity Now, IOM e.t.c) and public services (Ministry of migration and asylum) employing staff at open accommodation facilities

**4. SPEAK II-Safety,Protection,Empowerment, raising Awareness and Knowledge key gender-based violence issues**

<b>Project title</b>	SPEAK II- Safety, Protection, Empowerment, Raising Awareness and Knowledge on Key GVB Issues
<b>Source financing</b>	Philip Morris International- Papastratos
<b>Implementation date</b>	01.09.2018-30.04.19
<b>Program aim</b>	Providing legal services ( legal aid, representation at court) for gender based violence survivors. Raising awareness campaign against gender based violence.
<b>Actions implemented by the organisation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Legal aid or/ representation at court for 79 women with low income ( less than 10.000 euros)</li> <li>● Online campaign to raise awareness among the general public against gender based violence by creating 15 entries (including original video, photographs, graphics e.t.c)</li> </ul>
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	In the context of the project 79 women with low income were supported , while the online campaign means reached more than 800 thousand viewers.
<b>Collaboration with organizations</b>	Collaboration with Counseling Centers in Athens (of the network of facilities for the prevention and elimination of violence against women of General Secretariat for Demography and Family Policy and Gender Equality/KETHI ) , shelters, National Center Social Solidarity (E.K.K.A) e.t.c.

**5. Assisting Professionals to Support and Empower Refugees and Immigrants.**

<b>Project title</b>	Assisting Professionals to Support and Empower Refugees and Immigrants
<b>Source financing</b>	Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands
<b>Implementation date</b>	01.05.2019- 31.12.2019
<b>Program aim</b>	<p>The aim of the program was to enhance the ability of professionals to respond adequately to the need of empowerment of refugees and immigrants that either have suffered gender based violence, or their lives are at high risk, as a first step for their integration into Greek society. Objectives of the programme were to strengthen the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ability of professionals of Centre Diotima regarding the empowerment of refugees and immigrants.</li> <li>• Ability of public sector professionals, to respond to the empowerment/integration needs of this vulnerable group</li> <li>• The existing empowerment activities through the program “GBV Prevention, Response to Refugees in urban area”, from the Centre Diotima with the funding of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).</li> </ul>

<p><b>Actions implemented by the organisations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Participation and inclusion of refugees and immigrants in the process of assessing their needs and at planning the main stages related to the empowerment and integration and organized by 3 focus groups and a significant number of interviews.</li> <li>● Create a handbook for professionals, based on culturally aware approaches and methods for the development of empowerment and integration activities.</li> <li>● Strengthening of the empowerment and integration skills of professionals, so that they are sufficiently responsive to the needs of beneficiaries, through specially designed activities.</li> <li>● Organising an event in the framework of 16 days of activism to prevent and eliminate gender based violence with the participation of refugees and immigrants.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Beneficiaries</b></p>	<p>Professionals of Centre Diotima, public employees, policy-makers, front-line professionals. More than 50 refugees and immigrants were involved in the preparation of the event, in the focus groups and interviews.</p>
<p><b>Collaboration with organizations</b></p>	<p>In the context of the project, Centre Diotima cooperated with a significant number of non governmental organizations working in the field.</p>

## 6. The Survivor Project: Enhancing Services for Refugee and Migrant GBV Survivors

<b>Program title</b>	The Survivor Project: Enhancing Services for Refugee and Migrant GBV Survivors
<b>Source financing</b>	DG Justice/ Rights, Equality and Citizenship (REC) Programme
<b>Implementation date</b>	01.09.2018 to 30.08.2020
<b>Coordinating organization</b>	CRWI DIOTIMA
<b>Associates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● International Rescue Committee (IRC)</li><li>● General Secretariat for Demography and Family Policy and Gender Equality</li><li>● Research Centre for Gender Equality (KETHI)</li></ul>
<b>Main Actions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Intercultural mediation</li><li>● Skill enhancement and improving of the referral system through training</li><li>● Informing and raise awareness</li><li>● Cross-border learning and knowledge exchange</li></ul>

<p><b>Actions implemented by the organization</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Training women as intercultural mediators to provide services in arabic and farsi at the counseling centres, the accommodation shelters and the SOS phone line 15900 of the General Secretariat for Demography and Family Policy and Gender Equality.</li> <li>● Training professionals at public social services and NGOs in Athens, Lesvos and Thessaloniki</li> <li>● Planning and implementing workshops for future professionals (social working students and police officers school) regarding gender based violence. [15 trainings and workshops in total]</li> <li>● Establishing cooperation proceedings and referral mechanisms to services that answer gender based violence incidents</li> <li>● Producing material for information and raising awareness in multiple languages and production of a digital platform to exchange material</li> <li>● Foreign visits to Europe to exchange skills and good practices regarding gender based violence</li> <li>● Interactive workshop regarding gender based violence</li> </ul>
<p><b>Beneficiaries</b></p>	<p>First of all the project addresses women, young girls, women immigrants and refugees. Males, young males and LGBTQI+ refugees will benefit indirectly by the training of public services assistants. 500 professionals will get trained (social workers, NGO officers, mediators, public assistants, gender equality specialists). Until June of 2020 more than 220 professionals from different positions have been trained. 30% of the trainees were university students, too.</p>
<p><b>Collaboration with organizations</b></p>	<p>Due to the program Centre Diotima cooperate with plenty of public actors ( Hellenic Police, university schools, etc) and NGOs</p>

**8. SPEAK-Safety, Protection, Empowerment, Raising Awareness and Knowledge on Key-Gender-based Violence Issues**

<b>Program title</b>	SPEAK-Safety, Protection, Empowerment, Raising Awareness and Knowledge on Key-Gender-based Violence Issues
<b>Source financing</b>	Mediterranean Women's Fund
<b>Implementation date</b>	01.07.2019 to 30.06.2020
<b>Program aim</b>	Legal representation for women survivors of gender based violence
<b>Actions implemented by the organization</b>	Legal aid and representation at court for women with low income ( under 10.000 euros)
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	14 women with low income ( under 10.000 euros)
<b>Collaboration with organizations</b>	Cooperation with Consulting centres of municipalities for prevention and elimination of violence against women.

## 9. Enhancing capacity of front-line workers to identify & respond to GBV

<b>Program title</b>	Enhancing capacity of front-line workers to identify & respond to GBV
<b>Source financing</b>	UNICEF / Refugee and Migrant Response in Greece
<b>Implementation date</b>	01.10.2019 to 29.02.2020
<b>Program aim</b>	To enhance the protection of survivors of GBV including women and children of all age. Aim of the program is field professionals to develop skills. Specifically, the accountables to develop skills regarding decision making about accessibility to existing services that prevent and address GBV to immigrants and refugees.
<b>Actions implemented by the organisation</b>	Training of professionals who work at open accommodation facilities regarding identification and referral of GBV cases. In context of the program eight (8) two day trainings have been designed and organised in total.
<b>Beneficiaries</b>	210 professionals
<b>Collaboration with organisations</b>	In context of the program, Centre Diotima has cooperated with plenty of NGOs (DRC, TdH, Solidarity Now, IOM etc) and public services (Reception and Identification Service) that employ workers at open accommodation facilities.



## II. Educational / specialisation and raising awareness actions

Indicatively

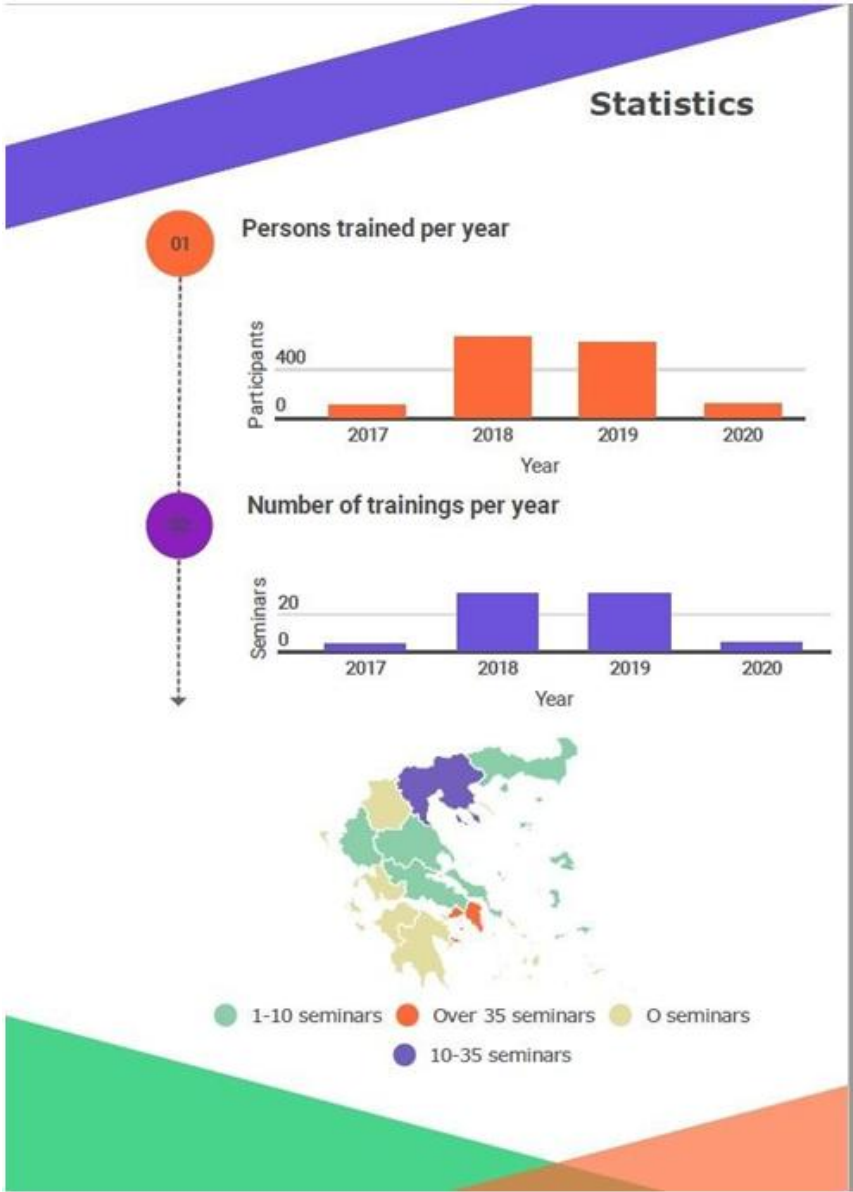
ENHANCING CAPACITY OF FRONT-LINE WORKERS TO IDENTIFY AND RESPOND TO GBV, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON CHILD SURVIVORS (2019)

Educational program title	Target group	Funding	Implementation date and place	Duration	Number of participants
			24-25/06/2019 Athens, The Cube	Two days	22
			27-28 /06/2019 Athens, The Cube	Two days	31
			1-2 /07/2019 Thessaloniki, Studio 29A - Solidarity Now	Two days	21
Two day workshop to untrained field professionals regarding GBV	Field professionals who work at open accommodation facilities	UNICEF	3-4 /07/2019 Thessaloniki, Studio 29A - Solidarity Now	Two days	23
			17-18/07/2019 Kavala, Galaxy Hotel	Two days	24
			23-24/07/2019 Athens, Theotokopoulou House	Two days	8
			17-18/09/2019 Athens, Simeio ARSIS	Two days	15
			19-20/09/2019 Thiva, Municipal Convention Centre	Two days	21
			25-26/09/2019 Lesvos, Tapuat - Iliaktida	Two days	21

ENHANCING CAPACITY OF FRONT-LINE WORKERS TO IDENTIFY AND RESPOND TO GBV, WITH A SPECIAL FOCUS ON CHILD SURVIVORS (2019) (continues)

Educational program title	Target group	Funding	Implementation date and place	Duration	Number of participants
			11-12/11/2019 Thessaloniki, Studio 29A - Solidarity Now	Two days	27
			28-29/11/2019 Athens, Simeio ARSIS	Two days	25
Two day workshop to untrained field professionals regarding GBV	Field professionals who work at open accommodation facilities	UNICEF	12-13/12/2019 Ioannina, University hall	Two days	25
			17-18/12/2019 Thessaloniki, Studio 29A - Solidarity Now	Two days	21
			11-12/11/2019 DRC Larissa	Two days	24

The charts below depict the number of persons trained per year (01), the number of trainings per year (02), between 2017 and 2020 and the geographical distribution in the country (TrainingPortfolio, CRWIDiotima, 2020).



III. Further Actions - advocacy, awareness campaigns, etc.

## 2019: Advocacy

### Press releases and open letters

- **December 2019** : “A responsible approach of the institutional factors towards asylum seekers is necessary”, 17 organisations cosign press release, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/dimarxos-anatolikis-samou/>
- **December 2019** : “Common notice from 17 organisations to the high commissioner of UN for refugees”, common announcement of 17 organisations, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/organoseis-parotrynoyn-ton-ypato-armosti-dikaiomata-ton-prosfygon/>
- **November 2019** : “Alarm because of the xenophobic reactions towards refugees”, Racist Violence Recording Network’s piece, in which Centre Diotima participates, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/anisychia-gia-xenofovikes-antidraseis-kata-prosfygon/>
- **November 2019** : “November 25th : International day of struggle and visibility”, press release of Centre Diotima, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/25-noemvrioy-pagkosmia-imerag-agona-kai-oratotitas/>
- **October 2019** : “The proposed legislation regarding asylum should not take a vote before significant consultation”, 15 civil society’s organisations, among them Centre Diotima, cosign a petition to the greek parliament regarding the draft act of the Ministry of Civil Protection “circa international security and further provisions”, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/na-mhn-psifistei-ns-asulo/>
- **September 2019** : “Complaint of Centre Diotima to the Greek National Council for Radio and Television because of Hellenic Broadcasting Corporation’s reportage that replicates rape culture”, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/kataggelia-esr-reportaz-ert/>
- **September 2019** : “The extreme situations are constant on the Aegean islands”, press release cosigned by 12 organisations, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/kataggelia-esr-reportaz-ert/>
- **July 2019** : “8 female organisations ask to remain unchanged the position of the General Secretary for Gender Equality and the Research Center for Gender Equality”, open letter see here <https://diotima.org.gr/ypografon-ggif/>
- **July 2019** : “Necessity is the General Secretary for Gender Equality and the Research Center for Gender Equality to remain a part of the Ministry of Interior”, press release of Centre Diotima, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/ypagogi-ggif-yp-ergasias/>
- **June 2019** : “The new legal definition of rape is a historic win of the female movement”, press release of Centre Diotima, see here

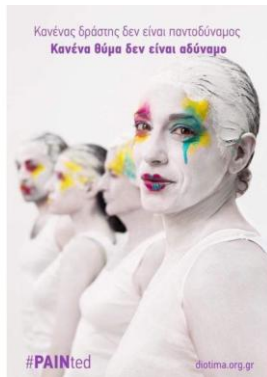
<https://diotima.org.gr/istoriki-niki-toy-feministikoy-kinimatos-o-neos-orismos-toy-viasmoy/>

- **June 2019** : “The legal definition of rape lowers its capacity to protect victims” , press release of Centre Diotima, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/deltio-typoy-periorizei-tin-prostasia-ton-thymaton-o-neos-orismos-toy-viasmoy/>
- **April 2019** : “Centre Diotima remarks the new penal code”, comments of the legal team of Centre Diotima on the public consultation’s platform regarding the suggested penal code, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/paratiriseis-diotima-neo-poiniko-kodika/>
- **March 2019** : “The legal definition of rape is worsening” press release of Centre Diotima, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/deltio-typou-viasmos/>
- **March 2019** : “Open letter regarding the end of the crisis at the european borders”, open letter cosigned by 26 organisations, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/koini-epistoli-anthropistiki-krisi/>
- **March 2019** : “Every day is the 8th of March until we achieve actual equality”, press release of Centre Diotima, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/deltio-typoy-kathe-mera-8i-marti/>
- **March 2019** : “Common announcement : Housing for refugees and asylum seekers”, European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA) and the Greek Housing Network cosign an open letter along with 13 more organisations, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/koini-epistoli-anthropistiki-krisi/>
- **March 2019** : “Open letter regarding national strategy for inclusion”, cosigned by 12 organisations, see here <https://diotima.org.gr/koini-epistoli-gia-tin-entaxi/>

# Raising awareness actions

## #PAINted Campaign

Occasioned by the International day for the Elimination of Violence against women, Centre Diotima created the campaign named #PAINted that works with color to name all forms of gender based violence. Forms of violence that often don't leave an obvious mark, all the same cause multiple wounds to the people who have experienced it either at private or public space.



## Don't Skip Campaign

Through the two month digital campaign "Don't Skip", Centre Diotima aimed at raising visibility to the presence of GBV and at conducting to the creation of a collective culture of zero tolerance against it. Besides, the contribution of everyone to the elimination of gender based violence is necessary. The campaign included informative posters, articles and videos.





## **Public event regarding the 16 days of activism against gender based violence | Lesvos**

The international campaign “16 days of activism against gender based violence” was the cause of Centre Diotima at Lesvos along with UNHCR to carry out a presentation of the piece “Pousse Pion - Push the Chess piece”. Refers to a soulful and powerful article written by six women from Cameroon, who all live in Moria and participate in the creative writing workshop of Centre Diotima (June-October 2019).



## Event regarding the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women | Thessaloniki

Occasioned by 25th November 2019, Centre Diotima carried out an event named “Crossing borders : Gender Based Violence and Empowerment. The refugee experience” at Thessaloniki. Through the event we attempted to open the conversation regarding gender based violence and the refugee experience involving, also, the academic/student community.



## Participation in the 16th International Book exhibition in Thessaloniki

Centre Diotima involved in the International Book exhibition in Thessaloniki showing the campaign “Don’t Skip : Don’t Skip Gender Based Violence” and coordinating a creative reading workshop named “Reading together in the languages of the world” focused on children and their companions.



### **Events occasioned by 8th of March | Lesvos, Thessaloniki, Athens**

Centre Diotima arranged an event named “Women have conversations” in Athens, Thessaloniki and Lesvos in the context of International Women’s Day. Events focus on women refugees, immigrants and greek women in order to communicate with each other and to exchange ideas, concerns, experiences and hope regardless of age and country of origin.



## AWARDS

3 awards belong to the #Don't Skip Campaign and Speak : The first awarding was on 21st February 2019 at the successful Responsible Business Awards 2019. The second awarding was on 19th March 2019 at the Ermis Awards, the premier event in the country regarding advertising and communication. Finally, on the 16th April 2019 was the third awarding within Corporate Affairs Excellence Awards (CAEA) of the Hellenic Management Association, an initiative that aims to activate and sensitize corporations promoting innovative actions with a positive social impact.



