

Targeted approaches domestic violence. Counselling for male perpetrators: Cooperation with support services for women and children and other partners.



So löst man keine Probleme

Stopp der **Gewalt**
gegen
Frauen

Sie haben Ihre Partnerin geschlagen – warten Sie nicht bis zum nächsten Mal. Stellen Sie sich Ihrem Problem. Reden Sie darüber mit einem Freund oder einer anderen Vertrauensperson. Wenden Sie sich an eine Beratungsstelle.

Beratung für Männer - gegen Gewalt
Volkssolidarität Landesverband Berlin e. V.
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10115 Berlin (Mitte)
U-Bahnhof Oranienburger Tor (U 6)
► **Telefon 785 98 25**

Mit freundlicher Unterstützung der Senatsverwaltung für Wirtschaft, Technologie und Frauen

Berlin Volkssolidarität Landesverband Berlin e. V.
Gefördert von der Senatsverwaltung für Justiz

Gerhard Hafner
**Beratung für Männer –
gegen Gewalt**
**Counselling for men –
against violence**
Volkssolidarität Berlin
Kind im Blick
Child in focus
Sozialdienst kath. Frauen

Istanbul Convention

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

The human rights treaty opened for signature in 2011 in Istanbul.

In 2018 the convention came into force in Germany. It is valid law.

In 2021 Turkey withdrew from the convention.

Istanbul Convention: Preamble

Recognising that violence against women is a manifestation of historically unequal power relations between women and men, which have led to domination over, and discrimination against, women by men and to the prevention of the full advancement of women;

Recognising the structural nature of violence against women as gender-based violence, and that violence against women is one of the crucial social mechanisms by which women are forced into a subordinate position compared with men.

Istanbul Convention: Article 16

Preventive intervention and treatment programmes

Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to set up or support programmes aimed at teaching perpetrators of domestic violence to adopt non-violent behaviour in interpersonal relationships with a view to preventing further violence and changing violent behavioural patterns.

Istanbul Convention: Article 16

Preventive intervention and treatment programmes

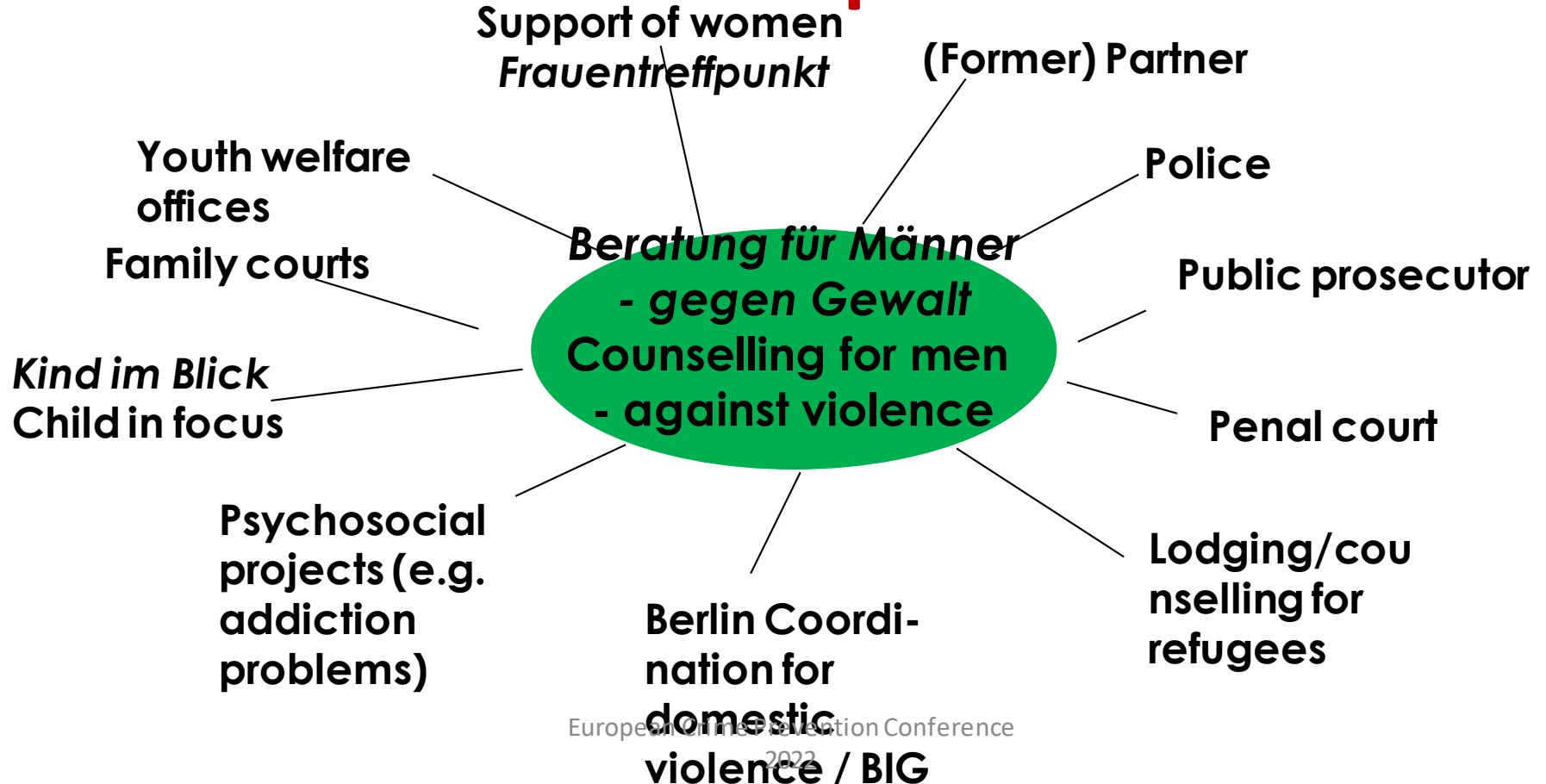
Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to set up or support treatment programmes aimed at preventing perpetrators, in particular sex offenders, from re-offending;

... where appropriate, these programmes are set up and implemented in close co-ordination with specialist support services for victims.

Policy against domestic violence in Berlin

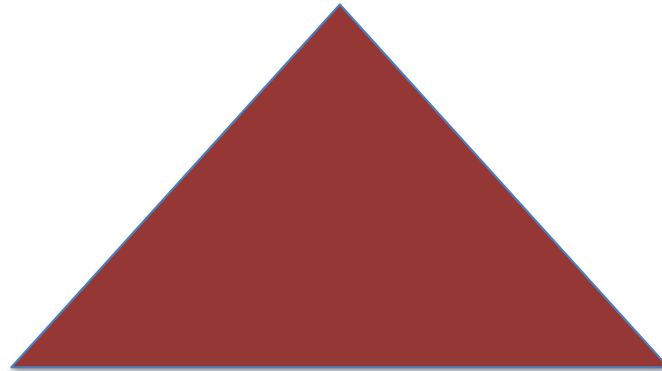
- In 1989 programmes for male perpetrators were established. Behaviour modification programmes for violent men.
- Since 1995 Community Coordinated Response: BIG Coordination Model in Berlin.
- The Duluth Model: The system matters. Work with perpetrators shall be part of the Berlin cooperation structure.

Partners of prevention



Cooperation union

Kind im Blick (SkF)

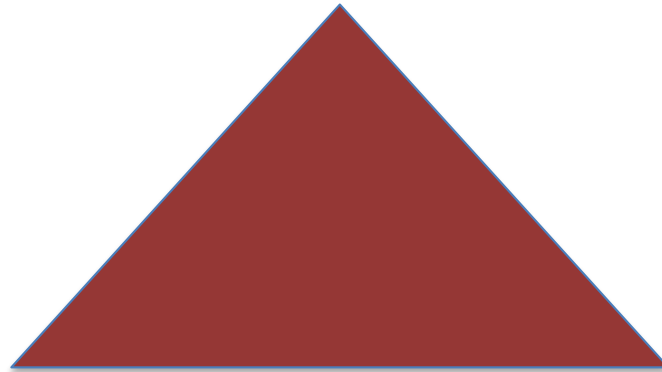


Frauentreffpunkt (SkF)

**Beratung für Männer
– gegen Gewalt (VS)**

Cooperation union

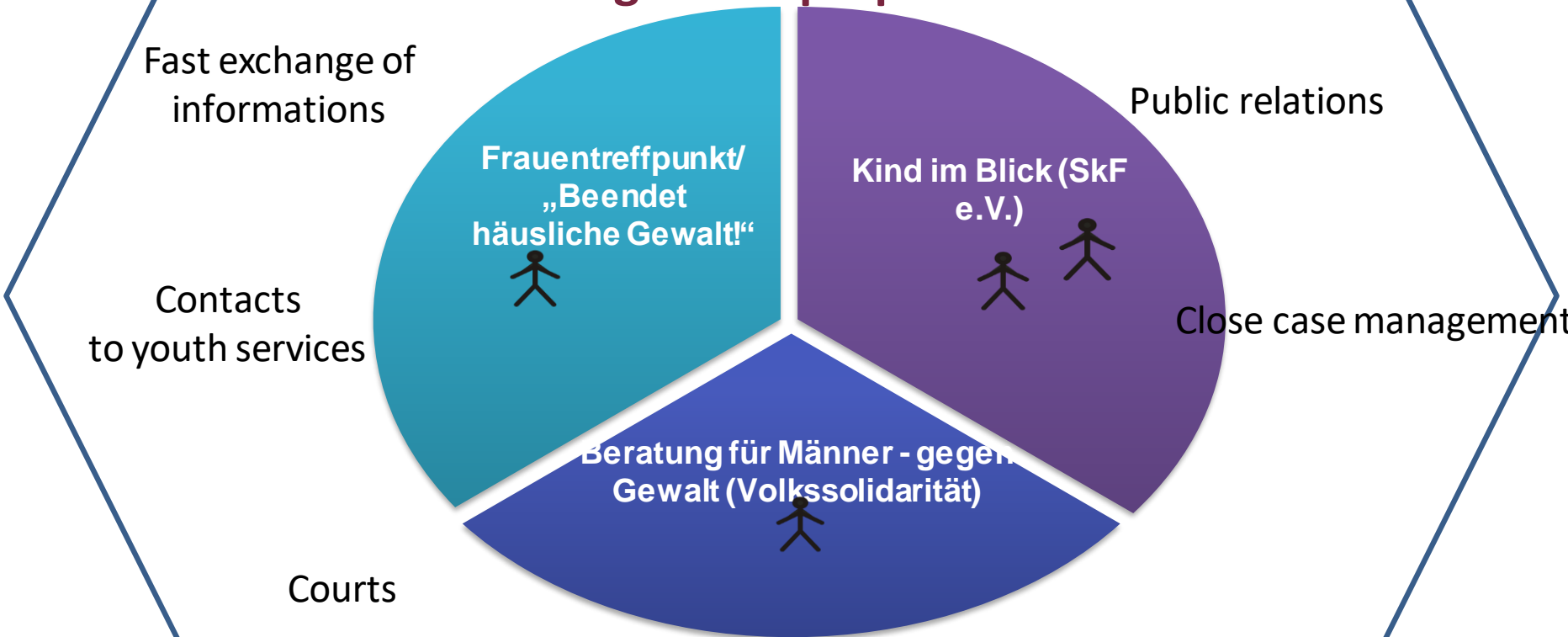
Protection and perspectives of the children



Protection of women

Social training of the
perpetrators

Integration of the support of the women and children, training of the perpetrator



Essentials

- Integration of the work with male perpetrators, support of the women, children and with parents/couples.
- Integration of the work with individuals and the commitment with changes in the society.
- Emphasis on gender/masculinities.
- Emphasis on intercultural work.

Cooperation union

- Common case management between the projects for women & children and the perpetrator programme.
- Common risk assessment.
- Couple/parent sessions are possible in cases of colloquial right cases (Leitfaden/Guide for family courts and Child Protection is in construction)

Mandation for perpetrators

Perpetrators are mandated by

- Penal courts and prosecutors
- Family courts, youth welfare offices/child protection services (Jugendamt)
- Refugees: Lodgings
- „Wife mandated“
- They come voluntarily

Mandation for perpetrators: Police

- The **Police** may recommend to go to the counselling for perpetrators, but there is no obligation yet in Berlin.
- There are plans for a more pro-active approach.
- The Austrian model is discussed: The perpetrator has to complete six counselling sessions.

Work with perpetrators

- At least 3 clearing counsellings + course with 25 sessions (7 months in group setting, in replacement in single sessions)
- Confrontation & resources
- Counselling in Arab, English, French, German, Turkish
- Gender/Masculinities/Responsible Fatherhood

Topics

- Motivation, compliance, responsibility
- Empathy for the perspectives of the partner and children
- Perception and control of the emotions and affects (self and of other people): Dealing with frustration, anger, stress etc.
- Development of alternatives of acts in conflicts
- Responsibility as a father – masculinity/gender

Common risk assessment

The assessment (ODARA from Canada) is done parallel by the perpetrator and the victim

- Particular dangerous aggressions (weapons etc.)
- Escalating frequency and gravity of the aggressions
- Minimising or denial the acts of violence
- Non-domestic violence
- General delinquency

Protection and support for child witnesses

Istanbul Convention, Article 26

Measures taken pursuant to this article shall include age-appropriate psychosocial counselling for child witnesses of all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention and shall give due regard to the best interests of the child.



**Beratung und Schutz für Kinder
und ihre Familien nach beendeter
häuslicher Gewalt**

European Crime Prevention Conference

2022



be  **Berlin**

Senatsverwaltung
für Justiz und
Verbraucherschutz

Kind im Blick / Child in focus

- Sensibilisation of the fathers and mothers for the needs of the children after violence and after separations/divorces: Childhood trauma
- Direct support for the children
- Focus on the responsibility of the father for the effects of his violence

Fathering

- Fatherhood is a crucial issue in the treatment for perpetrators.
- The viewpoint of children is a key issue.
- Working with the men's perspectives as a father is essential.
- Addressing the contradiction between the wish to be a good father and being a perpetrator of violence against the mother of the child.
- The contradiction can be a great motivator for change, yet also a risk factor for psychological distress.

Focus Gender

- Connection between hegemonic masculinity, dominance and violence.
- Strengthening the resources of men and development of alternative masculinities.
- Female & male counsellors and their interaction as role models.
- Efficient work between women and men not only in the team but also in the cooperation.

Changes of masculinities – not only focus on violence

- Emphasis on masculinities on the personal as well on the level of the society.
- Motivate men for their responsibility for a life free of violence and constricting gender roles.
- Emphasis on the perspectives of girls and boys.
- Involvement of men in organisations on the local, national and European levels.

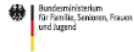
Partners in networking

The Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft Täterarbeit Häusliche Gewalt
Federal Association for the Work with Perpetrators of
Domestic Violence: umbrella organisation for institutions
working with perpetrators of domestic violence in Germany.

The **Standard** for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic
Violence.



BUNDESARBEITSGEMEINSCHAFT
TÄTERARBEIT HÄUSLICHE GEWALT e.V.



Bundesministerium
für Familie, Senioren, Frauen
und Jugend

Arbeit mit Tätern in Fällen häuslicher Gewalt:

Standard der Bundesarbeitsgemeinschaft
Täterarbeit Häusliche Gewalt e.V.

European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence



WWP || EUROPEAN NETWORK



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[INTERNAL AREA](#)

A map of Europe with several white dots indicating the locations of network members across various countries.

[Click on the dots to find out more about our members](#)

European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence

The "European Network for the Work with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence" (WWP EN) was founded as formal organisation on April 9th, 2014 in Copenhagen with 18 founding members from 13 different countries. Today we unite a total of 51 members and are...

[Show full member list](#)



Funded by the European Union



European Crime Prevention Conference
2022

HeForShe Movement



UN Women Solidarity Movement for Gender Equality, initiated by the United Nations.

Women and men working together to achieve gender equality.

Launch by the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and Goodwill Ambassador Emma Watson in 2014.

Funding

Department of Justice of Berlin: *Councelling for men – against violence*

Department of Justice of Berlin: *Child in focus*

Department of Equality of Berlin: *Frauentreffpunkt – Women's service*

Youth Protection Service of Berlin-Mitte

Challenges

According to the Istanbul Convention the work with men who perpetrate violence against women has to be gender sensitive because it is embedded in the „*historically unequal power relations between women and men.*”

In practice this aspect is in the background because social work has the focus on the individual not the society. So addressing perpetrators often lose the gender perspective.

Challenges

Programmes for perpetrators „*are set up and implemented in close co-ordination with specialist support services for victims.*”

There are challenges regarding confidentiality in the cooperation.

Fatherhood after domestic violence is a very burning problem in the society. We are committed to establish counselling in close cooperation with family courts and child protection.

Challenges

Istanbul Convention, Article 31: Custody, visitation rights and safety

Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that, in the determination of custody and visitation rights of children, incidents of violence covered by the scope of this Convention are taken into account.

Parties shall take the necessary legislative or other measures to ensure that the exercise of any visitation or custody rights does not jeopardise the rights and safety of the victim or children.

Challenges

The commitment by men against violence against women and domestic violence and furthermore for a gender equal society is comparatively small. We try to motivate men for a larger commitment. Article 13 Istanbul Convention: Awareness-raising: Campaigns or programmes shall *“increase awareness and understanding among the general public of the different manifestations of all forms of violence covered by the scope of this Convention, their consequences on children and the need to prevent such violence.”*



Beratung für Männer – gegen Gewalt Counselling for men – against violence

Kind im Blick / Child in focus

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<https://volkssolidaritaet-berlin.de/einrichtungen/beratung-fuer-maenner-gegen-gewalt>



Sozialdienst
katholischer
Frauen e.V.
Berlin

Thanks for your attention!

**So löst man
keine Probleme**

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