

PRESS RELEASE

9th march 2023

**TOWARDS A BETTER APPLICATION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONVENTION
ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE**

Launching the LEILaW project:

LISTEN, EXCHANGE AND INFORM ON HUMAN RIGHTS LAW FOR WOMEN

In the aftermath of International Women's Rights Day, the associations RYSE, Douri and Passerell are pleased to announce the recent launch of their project LEILaW *Listen, Exchange and Inform on (human rights) Law for Women*.

This project aims to listen, exchange and inform on the legal framework protecting victims of violence for women and children with a migrant background in Luxembourg. Co-financed by the European Commission LEILaW has received a grant of 566 158 EUROS from the *Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV)*.

The 2018-2023 coalition agreement among its priorities includes the "Equality between women and men", a policy that shall be implemented transversely. Nevertheless, we notice a gap between the governmental ambitions and the reality – especially in respect of migrant women and children.

Our aim is to promote the implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, also known as the Istanbul Convention. *"Very often, we find out that the people who come to meet us seeking legal advice are unaware of the existence of this text,"* explains Ambre Schulz, LEILaW project manager. And she adds: *"Discussing with several professionals in contact with asylum seekers, refugees and migrants, we have noticed that there are many questions left on the ground on how to inform women about gender-based violence and domestic violence – whether this happened in the country of origin or in Luxembourg"*.

Running for two years, this project brings together three experienced partners, RYSE, Douri and Passerell.

They will implement two types of complementary actions in order to achieve this objective:

- **Empowerment activities** in order to create a safe space where it will take place an exchange between people from different communities about gender-based violence topics, as well as the development of self-awareness (Douri, RYSE).
- **Legal capacity building through a legal contact point** and interdisciplinary training workshops on applicable law for professionals in contact with our first target audience (Passerell).

The activities designed for LEILaW have already started. For instance, Passerell has begun the first round of trainings (3 sessions) focusing on the Istanbul Convention which will end with a Roundtable to be held on the 20th of June. DOURI has set up a programme of recreational activities : *What is my beauty?* workshop every Wednesday from 14:00 to 18:00; *Up-recycling* workshop every Tuesday from 14:00 to 18:00 : both in Maison beck 10 rue de chateau 4433 Sanem. For more info see [here](#). RYSE will start their talk groups in April 2023.

For more information, follow us on social media !

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[Passerell](#) is a Luxembourgish nonprofit association funded in 2016. Our aims are to promote and defend fundamental rights, to support vulnerable persons in the exercise of their rights, especially to support and defend the rights of applicants, beneficiaries, and those rejected for international protection. At the same time, Passerell works to develop social ties between asylum seekers, refugees and citizens.

[DOURI](#) is a non-profit organization. "Douri" in Arabic means the sparrow: a breed of birds that has proven its ability to live and adapt all over the world. Like sparrows we want people to adapt and integrate, which means we also stand for individuals' freedom of expression against all types of discrimination, inequality and violence (domestic, gender based, race based... etc). Our mission includes raising awareness about emerging ecological and environmental issues in our modern world. Luxembourg is our starting point to implement projects using communicative tools, like visual art, social theatre, music, performances, workshops, books, qualitative researches, conferences and many other tools, to erase social differences and spot on the essence of being human in a changing world / Contact : 661 158 300 - Info@douri.lu

At [RYSE](#), we help young refugees to integrate and launch their professional career in Luxembourg as this promotes inclusiveness and undoubtedly leads to independence. We work with our young beneficiaries to promote their socio-cultural integration and develop their skills, so that they become competitive in the labour market. We offer them a tailored support system, which includes a one-to-one mentoring programme, opportunities to gain local work experience as well as job search support and linkages with local employers. We work to deconstruct prejudice and combat the barriers refugees face along their integration journey. / Contact : 691 110 610 - info@ryseluxembourg.com



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