



Heraklion, 25 November 2022

## PRESS RELEASE

**Topic:** Meeting of the project SAFE-NET: Creating a Safety Network for Girls' Victims of Online Violence

On 7-9 November in Heraklion, the Steering Committee Meeting, accompanied by a Mutual Learning Activity, took place at the offices of the Association of Members of Women's Associations of Heraklion in the framework of the project SAFE-NET: Creating a Safety Net for girls' victims of Online Violence.

The aim of the project is to create a safety net to address online violence and support girl victims of violence.

Partners had the opportunity to collaborate and to develop constructively the project deliverables and to plan the next steps.

Participants exchanged knowledge and experiences on past activities, as well as practices, methods, and tools in the field of gender-based victim support and addressing gender-based cyber-violence.

An in-depth analysis of data and practices transpired, regarding the management of cases of gender-based cyber-violence (legislation, recording, reporting/complaints, differences with addressing other forms of violence, removal of material from the internet, etc.)

Good practices for supporting victims of gender-based cyber-violence were presented, such as specialised guidelines for the provision of distance services to (potential) victims of violence, based on the previous experience of the leading organisation.

Partners have agreed on the forms and impacts of gender-based cyber-violence that the project will intervene, as well as the target groups, who will be addressed for effective prevention and response.

The intervention tools designed:

(a) aimed at building the capacity of school professionals and secondary school teachers on the topic of gender-based cyber-violence,

b) to inform and raise awareness of parents of adolescents on the issue of gender-based cyber-violence.



Finally, conclusions were documented to be incorporated into the upcoming project activities and the next steps were discussed and planned out for the successful completion of the project.

Specifically, by the end of the year we expect the release of the cyber violence incident response protocol for frontline professionals, which will be the first in Greece and one of the first in Europe to be produced in a targeted manner. The protocol will be tested by professionals in order to produce the first data regarding its implementation and incorporate feedback.

At the same time, interventions for school professionals and parents in both Greece and Norway will be initiated.

SAFE-NET is a 26-month (2021-2024) transnational project funded by the Active Citizens Fund under the EEA Grants 2021. The partners are the Association & Heraklion (Greece) who is the Lead Partner, KUN - Centre for Equality and Diversity (KUN) (Norway) and the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences (IAKE) (Greece).