



*žene u crnom
beograd*

ACTIVITY

REPORT

**for the period
January – May 2013**

As we have done in the past, we are providing you with a brief report regarding our action in this period. If you are interested in more detailed information you can find it on web-site www.zeneucrn.org or by contacting us by mail at zeneucrn@gmail.com

We would like to thank you in advance, in solidarity.

žene u crnom



STREET ACTIONS

In this reporting period, we have organized:

- commemorations of important dates of crimes committed in our name
- Feminist, antifascist, anti war, antiracist and antimilitaristic actions...

This is the chronological review of these actions:

- **February 14th, Belgrade, street dance "One Billion Rising"**: Group of independent activists, supported by the Women in Black Network, and The Network against violence against women, organized a campaign which is held on the same day, during 14 hours, across the globe. While we were dancing in the streets of our cities, we all symbolically demanded the immediate end of violence against women. Our action coincided with actions in 187 countries. "Playing in the streets, squares, public spaces show the world how strong we are together and how many of us are there! Solidarity is our strength! Solidarity is our protest against violence against women" is the message of the campaign.

- **February 22nd, Belgrade - Stop rehabilitation**: a protest against the court rehabilitation of Draza Mihailovic, war criminal from World War II. In front of the courthouse, the members of Women in Black have pointed out the slogan "Mihailovic - genocide - Srebrenica" and "Anti-fascism is my choice." Approximately 20 activists of Women in Black protested "due to the fact that the victims of chetnik units, under the command of Mihailovic, are denied the opportunity to face the court, and give their truth about the alleged anti-fascism of Chetniks".



- **February 27th, Belgrade - 20 years of abductions in Štrpci - perpetrators unpunished, victims of unrecognized**: Commemoration of the crime in Štrpci, where, on February 27th 1993, at 3.48 PM, members of the armed forces "Avengers" from the Army of the Republika Srpska kidnapped 19 passengers, all non-Serbs (18 Muslims and one Croat) from the train 671, going from Belgrade to Bar, at Štrpci station, 230 km from Belgrade. Women in Black, the Humanitarian Law Center and Youth Initiative for Human Rights marked the anniversary of the abduction Štrpci in front of the Belgrade's main railway station on February 27th. The commemoration began at 15.30. So far, only Nebojsa Ranisavljević is convicted of this crime, the abduction of 19 citizens of Serbia and Montenegro. Serbia still did not recognize these victims as civilian victims of war. The action was attended by approximately forty activists. The





participants called upon the government to change the law, after 20 years of neglect of the victims' families and the non-recognition of responsibility for the crime, especially regarding the rights of the civil war invalids, and express elementary responsibility and solidarity with the victims and their families.

- **March 8th, Belgrade – Women’s March “Why the state sleeps while my labour rights are violated”** – “The law is a dead letter, I want to live from their work”:

the action for the working women’s rights organized by the Women in Black Network Serbia and Reconstruction Women’s Fund. This year’s campaign points out the vast difference between the rights envisaged in the Law and the daily practice of endangering women’s labour rights. Protest action began with the testimony of a group of women who were reading texts in the central city street, about the violations of labour rights of women from different parts of Serbia. The march, which took place the central city streets, was accompanied by the drummer, and attended by over 200 people. The event was continued at the *Center for Cultural Decontamination*, with homage to the continuity of women’s resistance, and the play “Working Women’s Rights,” performed by SOS Vlasotince.



- **March 21st, Belgrade - Rebel racism - resist!:**

On the occasion of the International Day against racism, a week of European action against racism and during the month of Roma Women’s Activism, Women in Black, together with Reconstruction Women’s Fund organized anti-racism protest in front of the Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade, indicating the racism that is reflected primarily in relation to the Roma population and other minority communities in Serbia (ethnic, sexual and other minorities). This action was attended by dozens of women who have carried the banners of different colours on which was written “We will not be defeated!”, “We will not let that intimidate us!”, “Resist racism” and “We say without doubt: Stop racism”.



- **March 21st, Novi Becej - Women’s anti-racism march:**

Regarding the above mentioned date, *Women in Black*, together with the *Roma Women Network Banat* organized march against racism in Novi Becej downtown, during the freezing rain and the wind. During the march, which was attended by about a hundred of Roma activists and the activists from other groups, the participants expressed solidarity with the slogans “We are all Roma”, “Stop Racism, and stop discrimination”, “Against racism, resist racism”. After the march, Roma Women Network Serbia organized a theatre performance, made by RWNS activists, supported by the artists from Dah Theatre, as part of the campaign “All that I am”. The campaign aims to break down prejudices and stereotypes about Roma women and points to the richness of identity and diversity. Performance is held at the local cultural centre, and was attended by over a hundred people.



- **April 23rd, Belgrade - "Why":** Activists of Women in Black joined, at 2,06 AM and 2,06 PM, the members of families, colleagues and friends of 16 RTS employees, who were killed in 1999, during the NATO attack on RTS building. In front of the monument "Why?", at Tasmajdan park in Belgrade, they laid flowers to 16 killed workers of RTS, for whose death is convicted only former RTS director Dragoljub Milanovic, for milder offense, with mild punishment. Families of the victims filed a request for extension of the indictment on April 30th 2009, upon which, up to this day, no one reacted. Women in Black are one of 25 organizations, members of Serbian civil society, that joined the request of the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Studies from Belgrade (CEAS) and Žanka Stojanovic, the representative of families of employees of Radio Television Serbia (RTS) killed in the NATO bombing in 1999, made on January 18th 2013, to include the case of death of RTS workers in the mandate of the international commission for investigation of the murders of journalists Dada Vujašinovic, Slavko Ćuruvija and Milan Pantic. In one year, the case will be out of date; hence the decision to include the case of death of RTS workers in the mandate of the commission is even more important.



FACING THE PAST -TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE -FEMINIST APPROACH

This is one of the most important activities of Women in Black. It consists of many segments: street events, workshops, lectures, creating different models of transitional justice from a feminist point of view, and the cooperation with similar organizations in the form of joint actions (campaigns, consultative meetings).





VISITING THE PLACES OF CRIMES COMMITTED IN OUR NAME

In this reporting period, Women in Black have visited Vlasenica, on April 20th 2013, where eleven identified Bosniaks killed in the period of 1992-199 were buried. So far, at the cemetery in Vlasenica (Rakita) 310 victims from Vlasenica are buried. In Vlasenica, 2,600 people were killed by Serbian armed forces. Group of Women in Black visited the scene of the crime committed in their name. At the commemoration they laid a wreath with the words "We will never forget the crimes in Vlasenica - Women in Black Belgrade."

WOMEN'S SOLIDARITY FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF WAR CRIMES

The action of female solidarity - feminist ethics of care and responsibility, acts of mutual support, exchange and cooperation in the region, in order to build a just peace. In this period we organized the following visits:

- **Belgrade, February 8th – 14th:** visit of four activists of the organizations "Women from Srebrenica", who took part in WiB Network Serbia meeting and participated in numerous activities.
- **Zvornik, Bosnia and Herzegovina, March 28th** – "Building Peace through Women's Solidarity" - Meeting of Women in Black, Belgrade activists with women from local association "Anima" from Đulići. Bosniak and Serbian women testified about war casualties, refugees, economic hardship. Women from Zvornik specifically asked about the political and ethical value framework of Women in Black and their actions. The participants of the meeting discussed how to cooperate in feminist and anti-militarist actions and how to show the public that women, instead of politicians, can create peace. This meeting was attended by about two dozen women. In addition to the exhibition that shows the aesthetic dimensions of resistance of Women in Black, we organized jointly the sightseeing and socializing. We also spoke about the cooperation in the future.
- **Vlasenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina, April 20th** - Activists of Women in Black met with women from Srebrenica, Tuzla, Milici, Zivinice and other places, spent time together and talked about visits in the future period.





Punishment of crime - the path to a just peace: monitoring of the trials held at the Special Court - before the War Crimes Chamber in Belgrade. In this reporting period, we monitored the following trial:

Trial for Čuška / Kosovo: On May 14th 1999, during the armed conflict in Kosovo, between the Kosovo Liberation forces and Serbian military and police forces, the nine members of the 'Jackals' killed at least forty-three (43) Albanian civilians in the village of Čuška, Pec. From the beginning of the trial, which began on December 20th 2010, Women in Black activists were present at all hearings. In this reporting period, there were the following sessions:

- March 25th, 26th and 27th
- April 22nd

Abovementioned trial was monitored by Miloš Urošević, who wrote the reports to WiB Network and to the other international associated networks.

ARTISTIC ENGAGEMENT IN DEALING WITH THE PAST TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE

In this period, we continued the practice of joint work and cooperation between activists and artistic collective and professional theater artists, engaged in shaping the artistic resistance to war, war crimes, repression, human rights violations. Besides the above mentioned art-activist initiatives, primarily in the category "Street actions", in this period, we organized meetings with art collectives: Art Klinika, Skart, and Dah Theatre, on joint activities in the future.





VIDEO ACTIVISM: TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE - FEMINIST APPROACH

In order to improve the visibility of the effects of different models of transitional justice, particularly one from a feminist point of view, promoted by Women in Black, WiB activists created, during the 2010, a group of video activists, who are trained in recording, editing, digitizing and posting on internet, the video and audio material collected during the regular activities of WiB, so that they would, in the form of short films, be more available to the general public.

Next to films mentioned in the section related to Women's Court, group of video activists, coordinated by Mary Vidic and Goran Lazin, in cooperation with Marija Arandelović and Zinaida Marjanovic, did the following films in the reporting period:

- **15-M:** a documentary (22 min.) about the civil uprisings in Spain against neoliberal capitalism, and reductions in social benefits. The film shows a citizens' initiative "Democracia Real - ya" (We want true democracy). For the presentations, WiB send to all the groups the supporting material - materials about the initiative, in electronic form or hardcopy.
- **Boliviana/Bolivian woman:** Documentary lasting 2:34 minutes; shows three women from Bolivia – woman who cleans shoes, a transvestite and a mine worker. Film speaks about their work, obstacles and dangers that they face, but also about the opportunities.
- **They are right/Tienen Razon:** Documentary, 5:10 minutes long, showing homeless woman in Spain who lost their homes because they could not repay home loans;
- **Sevillana/Girl from Seville:** Documentary, 5:09 minutes long, shows the occupation of vacant housing, creating a squat, testimony of tenants and their struggle to stay there.
- **Ibercaja:** movie of 4:34 min. displays facts about the political and economic situation in Spain and the ways in which the media psychologically encourages citizens to borrow money, and shows victims of economic violence, offering suggestions for resolving this problem. The film was made specifically to raise public awareness of this problem and to create a network of mutual support for the legalization of squats.
- **Turn off the dark** - the documentary, 3:30 minutes long, about the action on the International Human Rights Day, December 10th 2012, in Belgrade, organized by the following groups: Labris, Center for Youth Integration, Regional Centre for Minorities, Association of Students with Disabilities, Athens, Space and Women in Black.





- **The Stadium - 90 minutes of equality** (15 minutes), produced by the Democratic Women's group Stadiums, is a documentary about the women who fight to return to the stadiums, from which they were thrown out, within a harsh policy of gender apartheid and gender segregation in theocratic Iran. The film has been translated and subtitled in Serbian language.
- **The perpetrators unpunished, victims unrecognized** - 20 years after abduction in Štrpci (3.02 min.): Action held on February 27th in front of the railway station in Belgrade for twentieth anniversary of crime in Štrpci - the kidnapping of passengers from a train Bosniak 671, going from Belgrade to Bar, through Štrpci. The film includes interviews with Sandra Orlović (HLC), Masa Milutinovic (Youth Initiative for Human Rights) and Violeta Djikanovic (Women in Black).
- **Why the state sleeps while my labour rights are violated** – documentary, 5:27 minutes long, shows the Women's street march in Belgrade dedicated to Women's labor rights, with the participation of 200 activists of Women in Black Network from all over Serbia.

WOMEN'S COURT FEMINIST APPROACH TO JUSTICE

At the end of 2010, the members of the Initiative Board (IB): *Women to Women*, Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), *the Center for Women and Peace Education Anima*, Kotor (Montenegro), *the Center for Women's Studies* and *the Center for Women War Victims*, Zagreb (Croatia), *Women's Network Kosovo*, Kosovo, and *Women's Studies* and *Women in black*, Belgrade, launched an initiative to organize the Women's Court for the former Yugoslavia. IB now has 10 organizations from all countries of the former Yugoslavia. At a meeting, organized in early February 2013, the Initiative Board has evolved into the Women's Court Organizing Board (OB).

Women in Black are the leading organization, regarding the implementation of the activities related to the organization of the Women's Court; they negotiate and coordinate all activities with other organizations, OB members.

This report is mainly related to activities in Serbia, as well as joint activities of partner organizations. Activities carried out in other countries of the former Yugoslavia are presented if Women in Black, as carriers of program activities, gained information from other members of the Organizing Board of the Women's Court. If you need additional information, you can find them on websites www.zeneucnom.org and www.zenskisud.org



In this reporting period, the following activities were implemented:

I - Public presentations

Public presentations, organised as a part of the initiative to organize the Women's Court, are an integral part of the research and activist process, aiming to gather information and suggestions regarding the concept and vision of justice and the choice of topics of the Women's Court. In this reporting period, we have organized **eight (8)** public presentations, **six (6)** of them in Serbia and **two (2)** in Montenegro, with 122 participants.

In the reporting period, following presentations were organised:

- *March 20th, Bijelo Polje, Montenegro:* with **fifteen (15)** participants. Presentation was organised by "Strong Mama". Following films are shown: *Women's Court – International Experience*, *Women's Court – Feminist Approach to Justice* and *Women's Court for former Yugoslavia*. Presentation was organised by Anima, from Kotor and local women's group "Strong Mama".
- *March 22nd, Kotor, Montenegro:* organised at the *Home of free thought*, with 2 women who have lost their jobs, and the representatives of the Employment Service. On this occasion, the film *Women's Court: the international experience* is shown.
- *March 25th, Preševo, Serbia:* with **twenty one (21)** participants, women and activists of local Women's Forum, and political parties, as well as Women in Black Serbia activists. Women from Presevo testified on violence in the private sphere: violence against women, the patriarchal mentality within your community that prevents women to speak publicly about it, the injustices of the state, the limitations of institutional justice and unjust power relations on a global scale. We planned joint activities related to the WoC organization, joint activities of Women in Black Network and the specific activities of women from Presevo, Leskovac and Vlasotinać.
- *April 6th, Prijepolje, Serbia:* with **twenty two (22)** women from Prijepolje and Priboj, Bijelo Polje and Pljevalje (Montenegro); this presentations was coordinated by Ivana Vitas and Marija Perković.
- *April 7th, Kraljevo:* with **eleven (11)** participants, organised by Snežana Obrenović. The most discussed topic was the crime of forcible mobilization during the wars in the 1990ies.
- *April 13th, Kruševac:* with **fifteen (15)** participants, women from Kruševac, Čičevac, Brus, Varvarin and Aleksandrovac, led by Snežana Stanojlović and Marija Perković. The most discussed topic was the crime of forcible mobilization during the wars in the 1990ies.





II – Feminist Discussion Circles

Feminist Discussion Circles - the joint reflection of important issues, place to foster critical reflection and questioning, in order to strengthen the autonomy of women and increase the collective power and political power of the feminist movement. Feminist discussion circles are a combination of workshops, debates-interactive lectures, and films. While preparing the activity, we have prepared two different programs. During this period, WiB realized **three (3)** feminist discussion circles in which participated 73 activists from Montenegro and Serbia.

- **March 8th, Kotor, Montenegro - Feminist ethic of care and the care economy:** a feminist discussion circle was, in the biggest part, devoted to this subject, with 23 women from Montenegro present.
- **April 24th and 25th, Tivat, Montenegro – From the maternal peace politics to the feminist anti-militarist resistance:** feminist discussion circle on forced mobilization and resistance of women, held in coordination Women in Black from Belgrade and Anima, Kotor. This circle was attended by 26 women from Montenegro - Budva, Cetinje, Podgorica, Pljevlja, Bijelo Polje, Ulcinj, Herceg Novi, Kotor, Tivat, and Niksic. The program consisted of following workshops, lectures, film screenings:
 - **About the current political situation in Montenegro** - interview coordinated by Ljupka Kovacevic
 - **About feminist circle on forced mobilization** – about the crime of forced mobilization, lessons and conclusions from feminist circles held in Belgrade in late October 2013 (Stasa Zajovic)
 - **Women talk about the forced mobilization, military/militaristic violence and resistance** - two workshops (Remembrance of personal experiences - experience with forced mobilization challenges, dilemmas, and obstacles ... the testimonies on forced mobilization, how to satisfy justice in cases of forced mobilization? (coordinated by Ljupka and Stasa)
 - **Video Performance Washing** (19'20 min.long), made by artist Gordana Andelic-Galic (Bosnia and Herzegovina); the video performance was followed by the discussion.
 - **Trešnjavac** – film about women's resistance to forced mobilization (1992) and Women **in Black** (15 minutes); the screening of the documentary is followed by a discussion.
 - **Letter to Father** - documentary (2011), directed by Srdjan Keca, 48 minutes long. The film connects the personal and political, family drama and drama of the former Yugoslavia.

It was agreed, at the end, to continue with this topic, due to the complexity of this issue, at the feminist circle that will be organised in the fall of 2013.

- **April 26th - 28th April, Belgrade/Radmilovac - "War crime of rape":** the seminar was attended by 24 activists from Women in Black Network Serbia (Novi Sad, Srem Karlovci, Belgrade, Nis, Dimitrovgrad, Pirot, Zajecar, Leskovac, Vlasotince, Presevo, Krusevac and Kraljevo) and Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina). The circle consisted of the following segments:





- *I - About the war crime of rape* - lecture held by Gabi Miskovski, Medica Mondiale, Cologne / Germany,
- *II - Prosecuting rape at the International criminal tribunal for the former Yugoslavia and the War Crimes Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina* - lecture Gorana Mlinarević
- *III - Feminist ethics of responsibility: the cases of Serbia/Nemačka- Gabi Mishkovska and Theodora Tabacki*
- *IV - What does a supporter need to know when in conversation with a woman who has survived war trauma* - lecture and workshop held by Lepa Mladenović. At the end of the evaluation took place.

III - Joint meeting of the Initiative Board for Women's Courts of ex-Yugoslavia

It was the first Joint meeting in 2013 year and the third from the beginning. The meeting was held in Skopje (Macedonia), from February 1st to February 2nd, with 11 members of Initiative Board who attended this meeting: Klara Nahtigal (Women's Lobby, Slovenia), Rada Borić (Centre for Women Studies, Zagreb), Nela Pamuković (Centre for Women War Victims, Zagreb), Memnuna Zvizdić and Indira Mujić (Women to Women, Sarajevo), Dragana Petrić (Lara, Bijeljina), Ljupka Kovačević (Anima, Kotor), Igbale Rogova (Kosova Women' Network, Priština), Savka Todorovska (Counsel for Gender Equality, Skopje), Daša Duhaček (Centre for Women Studies, Beograd), Staša Zajović (Women in Black, Beograd).

The members decided the following:

- Initiative Board is renamed into Organizing Board of Women's Court;
- Women in Black continues to lead the process in the name of the Board;
- Zorica Trifunović will be the Technical Coordinator for communication between the Organizing Committee members;
- all organizations and women attended this meeting are the members of the new Committee;
- the Women's Court will be held on November 23rd - 25th 2014;
- the place where the Court will be held should be chosen in mutual consultations;
- The training for public hearings – testimonies will be held in Montenegro (Kotor or Tivat) from September 26th to September 29th, instead of April.

IV – Working consultative meetings

In accordance with the Feminist Code of organizing the Women's Court, in which we committed to the divisibility of knowledge, and creating common thinking processes, these meetings are part of that democratic process. We use them to jointly analyze the results of implemented activities, and define the next steps in the process of creating and understanding justice from a feminist perspective. In accordance with the process of WoC organizing and feminist ethics, in addition to joint working consultative meetings, we initiated a variety of different types of work at the country level: the regular operational meetings, conferences, workshops, meetings, legal team meetings, focus group discussion, discussion circles, and so on. In the reporting period, we have organised following meetings (activities in Serbia and the activities in other former Yugoslavia countries, we got information about):



1. **Joint working consultative meetings** – between partner organizations OB members, as well as with other civil society organizations that participate in a process of organizing WoC:
 - **January 15th 2013, Zagreb:** Meeting of Women in Black activists with activists from the organizations from Zagreb, held at the Center for Women War Victims/CWWV, with 13 participants: Rada Borić (Center for Women's Studies), Nela Pamuković (CWWV ROSA), Đurđica Kolarec (CWWV ROSA), Biserka Momčinović (CGI, Poreč), Staša Zajović (Women in Black, Belgrade), Milena Beader (CWWV ROSA), Nada Peratović (Center for Civic Courage), Željka Sartori (Center for Women's Studies), Milena Jelić-Čalić (Dokumenta), etc. At this meeting, the participants discussed the upcoming joint activities (participation at the meeting of WiB Network, feminist discussion circles, as well as preparations of the witness, etc.).
 - **January 21st, Ljubljana:** working consultative meeting of activists from Slovenia, Croatia and Serbia; meeting was organised at the Union Hall in Ljubljana, with following participants: Metka Rosandić and Klara Nahtigal (Women's lobby Slovenia), Rada Borić (Centre for Women's Studies, Zagreb), Nela Pamuković (Centre for Women war Victims, Zagreb) and Staša Zajović (Women in Black, Belgrade). Since the Women's Lobby Slovenia joined the process later, the participants agreed to support the activities of the Women's Lobby of Slovenia concerning public presentation in Slovenia in the following period.
2. **Regular working meetings:** held in the Women in Black premises in Belgrade. During this reporting period, there were **twenty (20)** meetings, on each Thursday. Team members of coordinating team of Women in Black participate in the meetings, and sometimes the work includes members of *Women's studies* from Belgrade. At the meetings, we share information, thoughts, and doubts, analyze the results of the performed activities, define and agree on future actions, and so on. Between 5 and 10 members of coordinating team participate at these meetings.
3. **Working consultative meeting of WiB Network:** Held during the regular Network Serbia meeting (held in Banja Vrujci, on February 8th, 9th and 10th 2013.), with following workshops: feminist approach to justice – problems, challenges, suggestions... 75 activists participated, from 25 town from Bosnia and Herzegovina (Sarajevo, Tuzla), Montenegro (Pljevlja, Herceg Novi), Croatia (Zagreb and Split), Slovenia (Maribor, Ljubljana), and Serbia (Vlasotince, Leskovac, Dimitrovgrad, Pirot, Zaječar, Kraljevo, Kruševac, Niš, Novi Sad, Novi Bečej, Bajina Bašta, Prijepolje, Doljevac, Zrenjanin, Pančevo, Šabac, Bela Reka, Sombor, and Belgrade). The above mentioned workshop was attended by about fifty activists in working groups dealing with various aspects (problems, challenges, dilemmas, related to the process of WoC organization), witnesses (how to create a safe space for witnesses; how to prepare and strengthen potential witnesses and how to create a new paradigm of evidence), educational activities in the framework of the WoC organization (screenings of documentaries, public presentations, the feminist discussion circles, support groups for further development of the concept of feminist ethics of care and responsibility, and so on).
4. **Working consultative meeting of "Women's Court: feminist approach to Justice" Coordinative Team** – held in Belgrade, on March 9th 2013, in Women in lack premises, with 15 participants – Women in Black Network Serbia activists, coordinators of activities related to WoC process in Serbia: Olivera Babić (Women's space – Niš), Aleksandra Žikić (Centre for Girls – Niš), Snežana Obrenović (Women in Black – Kraljevo),



Svetlana Šarić (SoS phone for Women and children victims of violence– Vlasotince), Marija Penčić (Women from the South – Pirot), Slavica Stanojlović (Peščanik – Kruševac), Milka Rosić and Mirjana Mijailović (Women for peace – Leskovac); Anelija Dimitrova (Independent Women’s Center – Dimitrovgrad); Staša Zajović, Ljiljana Radovanović, Marija Perković, Ivana Vitas, Marijana Stojčić, and Miloš Urošević (Women in Black, Beograd). During the meeting, the participants arranged the future activities related to WoC process, within Women in Black Network Serbia.

5. **Working meetings:** held to jointly design specific activities related to the WoC organization, and to make operating agreements within smaller working groups. These meetings are held in accordance with the needs of the program, and there were about a dozen of these working group meetings, mainly at the premises of Women in Black.

V – Creating support Groups/ Creating Core Groups

Initiating and strengthening coalitions to mutual support, and deepen knowledge about issues related to feminist approach to justice and joint work on the organization of WoC. In this sense, WiB activists organize meetings with experts, members of the academic community, art organizations and individual artists, activists involved in the organization of WoC, and activists interested in involvement in activities related to WoC. In this reporting period, following working meetings that spread solidarity coalitions between experts and activists were held:

- **February 14th 2013:** Working meeting with historian Olga-Manojlovic Pintar (Institute of Modern History) on issues important to the process of WoC organizing: history from below (what is the alternative history?), new paradigms of testimony (witness figure, the problem of victimization and re-traumatization, etc), and the preparation of a readers about the history from below and a new paradigm of evidence. Several meetings were held with Natasa Lambic, historian and activist Women in Black activists, who is preparing a textbook / reader for the feminist discussion circle on these issues that will take place in July 2013. These working meetings were coordinated by Staša Zajovic.
- **February 21st 2013:** Working meeting at the Humanitarian Law Center, with Marijana Toma, Sandra Orlović (HLC) and Stasa Zajović (Women in Black). The participant spoke about the participation of Marijana Toma at a meeting of the Organizing Board of the Women’s Court (Ljubljana, June 2013), HLC provided literature on reparations, regular informing HLC staff (Marijana and Sandra) about activities related to WoC: feminist circles, presentations etc, in order to further include them in the process.
- **March 15th 2013:** Trešnjevac / Vojvodina (the famous place of resistance to forced mobilization of the 1990ies). The meeting was attended by Ana Kosanyi, Klara Balint, Ildiko Meszaros, Lajos Balla, and Vilmos Almasi (all very active in organizing non-violent revolt against the draft (1992 and later), and in establishing Zicer Republic, etc) and Women in Black activists Ljiljana Radovanovic, Violeta Djikanovic, Stasa Zajovic and Zagorka Golubovic. During the meeting, participants agreed upon the participation of women from Tresnjevac in the feminist discussion circles on the resistance to forced mobilization (May 2013).



- **March 19th 2013:** meeting was held in Belgrade, at the premises of the organisation "The tear" (Association of refugees and displaced persons from the Krajina/Croatia), between women activists from this association and Lina Vušković and Stasa Zajović (activists from Women in Black). Women from the association "Tear" talked about their extremely unfavourable position (economic, political), and the inability to obtain justice - criminal justice, and social justice (restorative). WiB activists gave the material related to WoC process to the members of the Association "The tear".

VI - Film presentations

This educational program consists of several segments - a documentary film about the experiences from organised Women's Courts and tribunals at the international level, documentaries and feature films about women's experiences, and those of Women's Group and Networks, in relation to violence against women, women's struggle for peace and justice, and feminist approach to justice and documentaries produced by Women in Black - a group for video activism, on access to justice, peace and security. All screenings are followed by the discussions, about the topic of the films and about the initiative for organizing the Women's Court - a feminist approach to justice. During this reporting period, the following activities were held: **Ten (10)** screenings of **three (3)** documentary and feature films in **six (6)** cities, since in some town, more than one projection are organised. Screenings were attended by **111** persons, mostly women.

1. **"Where do we go now":** French film directed by Nadine Labaki from Lebanon. The film deals with the relationship between Muslim and Christian residents of a Lebanese village. However, the film is primarily about the courageous and determined women in the village who support each other, and work together, in solidarity, despite the fact that men confront one another. The film is 110 minutes long. During this reporting period, following screenings of this film and the discussion were organised:
 - *March 20th, Belgrade:* in the Women in Black premises, with the participation of 19 people.
 - *March 24th, Vlasotince:* screening of the film was organised at the SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence premises, and was attended by 11 people.
 - *March 29th, Leskovac:* The screening and discussion was organized by the group *Women for Peace*, and was attended by 11 people.
 - *April 5th, Krusevac:* Screening of the film was held at the Association of Women *Hourglass*, and was attended by 11 persons.
 - *April 9th, Pirot:* screening of the film at the premises of Women mediateque, and was attended by 15 people.
2. **"A woman in Berlin/ Anonymous"** Film by German director Max Färberböck is based on the book by German journalist Marta Hillers, and lasts 130 minutes, about the mass rape of German women by the Red Army, at the end of the Second World War. In this period following screenings and discussions were organized:
 - *March 17th, Vlasotince:* at the premises of SOS phone, with the participation of 11 people.
 - *April 24th, Belgrade:* Screening was held at the Women in Black premises, with the participation of 12 people.



- *April 29th, Leskovac*: Organized by Women for Peace, with the participation of 10 people.
3. **“In my country”**: The film was directed by John Burman, lasting 105 minutes was made by the book “Homeland of my skull”, written by Boer writer Antji Krog, and talks about the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa. In this reporting period, the film was shown in:
 - *March 16th, Vlasotince*: The film is presented in the premises of the SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence, and his projection was attended by 14 people.
 4. **“Invoking the Spirits”**: The film lasts 63 minutes, and follows the life story of two women (Nusreta Sivac and Jadranka Cigelj), survivors of sexual violence in the Omarska camp during the Serbian aggression on Bosnia and Herzegovina. In this period, the film was screened in:
 - *April 17th, Dimitrovgrad*: Screening of the film was held at the Independent Women’s Centre premises, and was attended by 7 people.

VII - Video activism

Video activism implies the use of video in activities related to the feminist approach to justice; includes the translation and subtitling of documentaries about the experiences of non-violent movement against impunity for crimes of neo-liberal economic globalization, and so on.

- **Video Clips related to Women’s Court: a feminist approach to justice** - information on the process of organizing of the WoC. Running time is 8:33 minutes and the clips are done in the following languages: English, Serbian, Montenegrin, Croatian, Slovenian, Macedonian, and Albanian.

VIII - Publishing activity

The goal of this activity is to deepen the knowledge needed for the process of organizing *Women’s Court- a feminist approach to justice*, it includes leaflets, readers, etc. In this reporting period, WiB publishing following units:

- *War crimes of rape: the reader* intended primarily for the course on this subject, containing essays of relevant authors (Susan Braunmiller, Gabi Miskovski, Patricia V. Sellers, Olivera Simic, Vesna Nikolic-Ristanović and Milos Urosevic. The reader has 168 pages and is edited by Milos Urosevic and Stasa Zajović, design and layout are done by Zinaida Marjanovic and Marija Vidic.
- *The report Women’s Court: Feminist Approach to Justice, January 2012 - December 2012* - The report was printed in 20 copies, has 100 pages and was edited by Stasa Zajovic.
- *Transcript of the meeting of WoC OB members, Skopje, February 2013*: transcribed and edited by Marija Perkovic; it has 41 pages.
- *The practices of impunity of crimes against women*: the small reader for the feminist discussion circle about “war crime of rape”. It has 26 pages, and is edited by Milos Urosevic, in cooperation with Staša Zajovic.



Leaflets:

- *Women's Court – Feminist Approach to Justice: the data about the process*, leaflet is in following languages: English, BCMS, Slovenian, Macedonian and Albanian;
- *Women's Court – short info about the meeting of IB members in Kotor* - leaflet is in following languages: English, BCMS, Slovenian, Macedonian and Albanian;
- *Women's Court – Feminist Approach to Justice – data about the process in Serbia*. The leaflet is in Serbian.

WOMEN, PEACE, SECURITY FEMINIST – ANTIMILITARISTIC APPROACH

Within our continuous work on the feminist approach to security and UN SC R1325 – Women, Peace, Security – we have initiated large number of different programs.

I – Educational activities

Engendering human security – educational research project, started in June 2011. In the previous period (October - December), educational seminar “Engendering human security - towards feminist anti-militarist concept” was organised. During this cycle of field - educational seminars, together with the participants, we selected indicators that will be monitored in the future, about which will be discussed later. In this period, we carried out the following educational activities:

- *April 16th - Gender and Security*: a lecture on feminist anti-militarist approach to security, through experience of Women in Black, held at the Women's Studies, at the Faculty of Political Science, by Gordana Subotic.
- *April 29th and 30th, Belgrade - Feminist anti-militarist approach to security, the interpretation and application of UN SC R1325* - a feminist discussion circle, in which following lectures, discussions and screenings were organised:
 - *April 29th*: A screening of “Secret operation” (Zero Dark Thirty), 157 minutes long film directed by Kathryn Bigelow. After the screening, we organised the discussion, moderated by Stasa Zajovic, about the militaristic dimension of the film.
 - *April 30th*: *The discrepancy between declarative and factual - the state and its institutions* – the discussion on corruption and unreformed security sector? About possible models, byways and perspective, about the fight against corruption in Serbia at the beginning of 2013. Speaker: Dusan Gamser, Fellow of the Centre for Euro-Atlantic integration/ CEAS, Belgrade.
- *On the mechanisms of transitional justice and the reparations in Serbia*, lecturer Sandra Orlović, executive director of the Humanitarian Law Center.



II – Militarized security – the discussion based on the essays from the reader (*World's military spending*, written by Anup Shah, *The risk of military Keynesianism*, written by John Phepher., and *New Decisiveness – new thoughts for New Year*, written by Camilo Mac Bica).

III - From a critical look at the UN SC R1325 to feminist anti-militaristic alternatives – The discussion about the essays in the reader (*Critical view on Resolution Women, Peace and Security* written by Sophie Richter-Devroe and Pratt Nicola, *Implementation of Resolution 1325 - experience and practice (Afghanistan, Liberia, Fiji, Nepal, Spain)*, and *War and after the war*: moderated by Sasa Kovacevic.

This discussion circles was attended by 13 people, seven members of the working group for the independent monitoring of the implementation of the NAP for UN SC R1325 in Serbia, two representatives of UN Women, and two activists of Women in Black - lecturers.

IV - Research activities: Continued independent monitoring of the implementation of UN SC R1325: Research on UN SC R1325 has continued in early 2013. Women in Black have formed a working group to monitor global UN indicators. Based on their work and findings, we wrote "Shadow Report", which contains the results of research and monitoring of indicators from January 2013 to mid-June 2013. The results of the survey will be completed by June 15th – before July 10th a book with the analysis of results will be finished. Consultant and a researcher is Biljana Brankovic. It was agreed that the researchers will follow four (4) groups of indicators: 1. The National Security Strategy and Human Security, 2. Reintegration and rehabilitation programs in the Republic of Serbia; 3. Trade in arms and military equipment / globalization and militarism 4. Establishment of institutional mechanisms NAP and the status of refugees and displaced persons / women and girls.

Within this activity, there were three meetings of the working group in the Women in Black: on January 29th, February 5th and April 9th.

- *Report for EPLO (European Peace building Liaison Office):* about UN SC R1325 status in Serbia, methods of implementation, the attitudes of women's organisations and CSOs who participate in the process; for their report on implementation of UNSCR 1325 in Europe (31 p.)
- *Status of NAP for the implementation of UN SC R1325 in Serbia:* The report is intended as a response to CEDAW Committee (Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women), and is written with similar organizations (Reconstruction of Women's Fund, the Autonomous Women's Center, Astra and Labris, it was planned to be presented in July 2013 in Geneva, before the UN CEDAW Committee.

Communication with the institutions of the Republic of Serbia responsible for the implementation of the NAP for UN SC R 1325: in this period, members of the working group for independent monitoring of the implementation of NAP for UN SC R1325 were sent, related to the case study - monitoring of the indicators for the implementation of UN SC R1325 - 143 issues, are sent to the relevant institutions, most importantly the Ministry of Defense as the carrier of the NAP activities. Relevant institutions largely failed to respond, so the members of the Working Group filed 41 complaints with the Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and launched five (5) administrative proceedings due to lack of transparency and openness to public, that defines the process of accepting NAP. Experience of independent monitoring of the implementation of the NAP for UN SC R1325 shows extremely irresponsible attitude of institutions responsible for the



implementation of the NAP, which is reflected in the fact that, until May 2013, the government did not fully formed institutional mechanisms for the implementation of the NAP, civil society organizations did not affect the process of creating NAP, etc..

Participation in international, regional and local conferences and seminars on human security and UN SC R1325

January 15th, Zagreb - Monitoring of the implementation of UN SC R1325: Stasa Zajović spoke about the experience of Women in Black in monitoring the NAP for Serbia and exchange experiences with activists from Croatia.

February 1st, Belgrade - Meeting with the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy (BCSP): About indicators we investigated for the publication BCBP made. Round table was organised by Belgrade Centre for Security Policy. Gordana Subotic participated on n behalf of the Women in Black.

February 26th, Belgrade - Practices and models of inclusion of civil society organizations in the process of implementing and monitoring the NAP for UN SC R1325 - roundtable organized by the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy (BCSP) and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF). Gordana Subotic participated on n behalf of the Women in Black.

April 8th, Belgrade: meeting with German parliamentarians Inge Hoge, a member of the Security Committee in the German parliament; the meeting was held at the premises of Women in Black. Stasa Zajović and Gordana Subotic participated on n behalf of the Women in Black.

April 17th, Belgrade - How successful are independent state bodies in the control of the security sector in the Balkans? Promotion of the regional research is organized by the Belgrade Centre for Security Policy. Gordana Subotic participated on n behalf of the Women in Black.

April 25th and 26th: Regional dialogue on gender and security: collaborative efforts of government and civil society in the implementation of UNSCR 1325: The Conference brought together participants from diverse professional and activist experiences, to create a platform for exchange of ideas and good practices and challenges on the ground in the application of Resolution UN SC R1325. The conference was supported by UN Women, and was organized by: Belgrade Centre for Security policy (Belgrade), Research and management policy (Center for Research and Policy Making - CRPM, Skopje), the Institute for Democracy and Mediation (Institute for Democracy and Mediation - IDM, Tirana), Kosovo Center for Security Studies (Kosovar Centre for Security Studies - KCSS, Pristina) and Women for Women (Sarajevo). Gordana Subotic and Diana Miladinovic participated on behalf of the Women in Black.

Publishing activity: In this period, we published The Reader on feminist anti-militarist approach to security, about the interpretation and implementation of UN SC R1325; this is a third reader within this edition. Reader has three chapters that contain essays written by relevant regional and international authors on this topic: The gap between declarative and factual - the state and its institutions, militarized security, and a critical overview of UN SC R1325 and feminist anti-militaristic alternatives; reading has 66 pages, and is edited by Stasa Zajovic in collaboration with Gordana Subotic, a layout and design was done by Marija Vidic.



Newsletter UN SC R1325: The publishing of this Newsletter started in Jun 2011. It is our way to contribute to better information about the UN resolutions on security, demilitarization, greater influence of women in post-conflict solving problems, especially in Serbia and the Western Balkans. The newsletter also questions the traditional concept of national security, and deals with reform of the security, the gender dimension of safety, and security integration. It has the following columns: *Women in Black and Resolution 1325*, *Activities of Women in Black on the demilitarization of security*, *Serbia - Resolution 1325 and the Security Integration Experiences of the world*, *Reflections on security issues from a feminist anti-militarist angle* and *Calendar of Events*. The Newsletter is published monthly in both Serbian and English. The electronic form is available on the website www.zeneucnom.org It is edited by Tamara Kaliterna, layout and design are done by Marija Vidic.

Network, coalitions – mutual support and solidarity

Women in Black initiated or actively participated in numerous regional networks, coalitions and alliances with similar organizations, in order to strengthen mutual support and solidarity between civil society in Serbia and the region.

In the reporting period, WiB organised numerous activities; we will name some of them:

Women in Black Serbia Network: Women's Peace Network, with activists and groups from all parts of Serbia. The Network members organize working meetings, to arrange future activities.

In this reporting period, we have organized **a meeting in Banja Vrujci, on February 8th, 9th and 10th**. The meeting was attended by 75 activists from 25 towns, from:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina - Sarajevo, Tuzla (Women of Srebrenica),
- Montenegro – Pljevlja (Bona Fide), Herceg Novi/Kotor (Anima),
- Croatia – Zagreb (Center for Women War Victims) and Split (Domine),
- Slovenia – Maribor/Ljubljana (Women's lobby of Slovenia),
- Serbia - Vlasotince, Leskovac, Dimitrovgrad, Pirot, Zaječar, Kraljevo, Kruševac, Niš, Novi Sad, Novi Bečej, Bajina Bašta, Prijepolje, Doljevac, Zrenjanin, Pančevo, Šabac, Bela Reka, Sombor, Beograd.



The program included the following activities:

- *In picture and in words* - quantitative and qualitative overview of the activities of the Women in Black Network, between two regular meetings (example, in 2012 we organized 34 street actions, with approximately 1400 participants, 15 visits to the places of crimes (11 in Bosnia and Herzegovina, visited by 144 activists). Women in Black monitored 38 trial days, at war crime trials and trials to the members of fascist groups, etc. We presented other programs (R1325, transitional justice - a feminist approach, publishing activity, militarism, etc...).
- *Video Activism:* In this reporting period, the group has finalized 23 videos, for a total of over three and a



half hours (3h 37min 28sec), consisting of 8 topics related to dealing with the past, 7 related to feminist anti-militarist actions, 3 related to the Women's court and 5 related to other WiB actions in 2012. In addition, 10 films have been translated and subtitled into English and Serbian. Seven films is presented to the broader public via YouTube.

- *"Black list" for Women in Black, and others like us:* About the new wave of repression against defenders in Serbia – about fascist action of "Naši" / Nazis, in the presence and with the blessing of the authorities, moderated by Stasa Zajovic and Snezana Tabacki, with network activists from all over Serbia as participants.
- *Feminist Reading circle* – Presentation of books written by Snezana Jakovljevic, writer and activist from Krusevac: Milos Urosevic, Ervina Dabizinovic, Stasa Zajovic, Sasa Kovacevic and author spoke about the books *Eve in the cage*, *Ipal*, *En den dinu*, and *The best one out of ten in the bar*.
- *Co-critical approach to the concept of reality in the world and in our region: fear, hope and humiliation* - a discussion about the book "The Geopolitics of Emotion" written by the French author Dominique Moissi, with Lino Veljak and Slobodan Sadžakov who gave introductions, as well as with dozen of WiB Network activists who participated in the discussion, moderated by Snezana Tabacki.
- *Alternatives in the world and in Europe* – about civil, labour, student revolts against dictatorships and neo-liberal capitalist tyranny. Ervina Dabizinovic (Anima, Kotor) spoke about the riots of Montenegrin students, trade unionists, members of civil society and public figures from the opposition parties, during the 2011 and 2012; Lino Veljak (Faculty of Philosophy, Zagreb) was talking about the student uprising in Croatia under the motto "Knowledge is not a commodity"; Metka Roksandic (Women's Lobby, Maribor / Ljubljana) spoke about "Slovenian uprising" - Civil rebellion against cuts in social benefits, corruption, unemployment in Slovenia, and Stasa Zajovic spoke about the Indignados movement in Spain. Integrated report on the above mentioned discussion can be found on the website of Women in Black.
- *Joint reflection on the future activities of Women in Black:* We held two workshops: *Women's Court: a feminist approach to justice* - problems, challenges, suggestions ... and *Towards the 8th of March* - artistic and activist workshops: the first workshop was attended by about 50 activists, while approximately 20 activists took part in creating activities related to March 8th 2013. (the report can be found on the sites www.zeneucrnom.org and www.zenskisud.org)
- *About the autonomy and unity* – about the activities of groups within the Network of Women in Black: activists from Women in Black Network Serbia spoke about their groups' autonomous actions.
- *Poets* - promotion of a "small" publishing series of the Network. We read the poetry of Ramiz Berbić (Tuzla) and others; poetry evening was moderated by Sabina Talović (Pljevlja) and Edvin Kanka Čudić (Sarajevo / Brcko District).
- *Feminist and masquerade party* (Saturday evening, Feb 9th) and the planning of joint activities in the future (Feb 10th).





“Solidarity is our strength” bulletin: Bulletin of the international solidarity campaigns in which Women in Black participate, comes out every other month, but the material is collected daily. The campaigns are related to international organizations dealing with human rights, such as Amnesty International, Women Living under Muslim Laws (WLUML), Code Pink, Human Rights Defenders, etc. Campaigns are mostly related to the pressure put on international institutions, as well as on institutions of particular country, in order to save lives of human right defenders, but may also be related to the preservation of the environment and other social issues. We invite you to join in campaigns of global solidarity and mutual support. The bulletin is edited by Saša Kovačević. In the reporting period, two bulletins are published.

In the reporting period, we also held numerous work group meetings about issues that WiB network deals with (Women’s Court – Feminist Approach to Justice, UN SC R1325, Video activism, engaged art and transitional justice...) which was mentioned in previous sections of this report.

Solidarity actions with members of vulnerable and deprived minority groups (social, class, ethnic, racial, sexual groups), and with citizens whose human rights (work rights, education rights, cultural rights) are violated, and the defenders of human rights at risk.

Solidarity with the Roma population against the institutionalized violence against the Roma population, for human security and human rights:

- *January 28th, Belgrade* - actions of solidarity and support to the Roma family in the Bežanijska kosa; the city authorities threaten to demolish their houses that were built in 1976, under the pretext that no license is acquired. Thanks to the solidarity action the house is not demolished. Borka Vasic participated in the action, on behalf of the Women in Black.
- *February 19th, Belgrade* – Visit of *Women in Black* activist Borka Vasic to above mentioned Roma family, along with activists from the NGO *Praxis*.
- *Support to educational activities about inter-culturalism - interethnic and intercultural solidarity “Coexistence in diversity”:* After going through the training, organized by Women in Black in November 2012, the activists of *Roma Women Network Banat* organized a series of workshops, based on the Manual “*Coexistence in diversity*”, which was prepared by Women in Black for this educational cycle;
 - *February 26th, Novi Bečej*, workshop in coordination of *Roma Women Network Banat* (supported by Women in Black activists Ljiljana Radovanovic and Violeta Djikanovic).
- *April 8th, Novi Bečej*, - Solidarity action on the World Day of the Roma, in the organization of *Roma Women Network Banat*, in Novi Becej. Marija Perkovic participated on behalf of Women in Black.



Women’s anti-racism march on the occasion of the International Day against racism, a week of European action against racism and during the month of Roma Women’s Activism, March 21st, Novi Becej



In the previous sections of this report are listed other activities - support of Women in Black to the month of Roma Women's Activism (March 8th to April 8th).

Solidarity with the workers in the fight for labor rights - against privatization theft

- *February 6th, Belgrade - Essential problems of Serbian transition in the example of Jugoremedia and similar companies:* discussion organized by 'Republic', the journal of civil self-liberation, and Equality, organization from Zrenjanin; participants were workers from Jugoremedia, lawyers and activists.
- *March 8th, Belgrade - Debate "Women and Economics - congratulations for March 8th":* organized by CZKD, Marijana Stojcic and Stasa Zajovic participated in the name of Women in Black.
- *March 9th, Belgrade - "Workers and the policy of the production of wars in the Balkans in the 90s - Workers and capitalism, the role of workers in emerging capitalism:* workers and the capitalist state, organized by the Centre for Cultural Decontamination, within the "Naming IT War". Marija Perkovic participated in the discussion on behalf of the Women in Black.

Antifascist Solidarity - monitoring of trials to clero- fascist organizations

- *The trial Mladen Obradovic, leader of the clero-fascist organization "Obraz":* he is charged with the crime of "racial and other discrimination" during the preparation of the Pride 2009 (Criminal Code, Article 387). In this reporting period, we attended the hearing on April 26th, when Marija Savić from "Labris" and Lazar Pavlovic, from "Gay Straight Alliance" testified. The next hearing is scheduled for May 30th.
- *The trial to twelve men, for ignition of the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade on February 17th 2008:* At the Higher Court in Belgrade, on April 16th, began the trial to those who lit on fire the building of the American embassy in Belgrade, after the rally "Kosovo is Serbia" (17th February 2008), that following the declaration of independence of Kosovo. On that day, in the embassy, one protester, Zoran Vujovic, is killed. At the beginning of the trial, six indicted men denied any guilt. The accused are charged with the criminal offense of "causing public danger or death." The next hearing is scheduled for Jun 14th.

We wrote monitoring reports, which were sent to national and international networks of human rights, LGBT, anti-fascism / racism and solidarity networks.

Appeals and mutual support and solidarity campaigns

In this period we have also participated in a number of civil society initiatives, organized by associated groups. Here are the ones in which we actively participated (as lecturer, panelists, etc ...):

- *February 2nd, Novi Sad - About Responsibility - Hannah Arendt* (Dasa Duhacek, Belgrade, Why is antifascism necessary for every feminism (Lino Veljak, Zagreb) and the Anti-Fascist practice: why we don't tolerate fascism? (Stasa Zajović, Belgrade) lectures with participation of twenty participants, held at the University of Novi Sad, ACIMSI Center for Gender Studies (2003-2013), and Doctoral Studies: Contemporary theories of gender, Svenka Savic.
- *February 12, 2012. Belgrade:* Museum of Yugoslav History, the debate "Yugoslavia from start to finish - collection of oral testimonies of Yugoslavia", attended by 5 activists of Women in Black.



- *February 19th, Belgrade: Roundtable "Where is Kosovo today?"* Organised by the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia and ZFD Forum (Forum Civil Peace Service) (Kosovo-File, Report 02/19/13).
- *February 26th, Belgrade - "Pride and Politics":* a debate on the ideological and political implications of organization and opposition to the Belgrade Pride, organised in Cultural Center Rex. Milos Urosevic participated on behalf of the Women in Black participated.
- *April 9th, Belgrade: Forum for Transitional Justice* – presentation of the 4th edition of Journal for transitional justice, published by the Humanitarian Law Fund. Four Women in Black activists participated in the event.

In addition to the abovementioned initiatives in this reporting period, we have also launched or have actively participated in numerous campaigns, especially related to the dealing with the past - responsibility for war crimes, demilitarization and the repression of political opponents; we will mention several campaigns and initiatives:

- *January 18th – demand to examine the death of 16 workers of RTS:* Women in Black is one of 25 civil society organizations from Serbia who, on January 18th, joined the request of the Centre for Euro-Atlantic Studies from Belgrade (CEAS) and Žanka Stojanovic, representative of the families of employees of Radio Television Serbia (RTS), killed in the NATO bombing in 1999, to include the case of the death of sixteen RTS employees into the mandate of the international commission for investigation of the murders of journalists Dada Vujasinovic, Slavko Ćuruvija and Milan Pantic.
- *February 13th - Open letter to the President of the Republic of Serbia Tomislav Nikolic:* initiated by Women in Black, the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights and the Union of Anti-Fascists, the open letter demands from the President of Serbia to publicly renounce the title of Chetnik duke (criminal quisling formations from World War II), which he received in 1993. Open letter is supported by dozens of organizations from Serbia and the former Yugoslavia. The President did not respond.
- *February 22nd - Stop the rehabilitation of war criminals:* Statement which declares that "the rehabilitation of Draza Mihailovic and the Chetnik movement reverses the anti-fascist struggle of the Serbian people. Also, that fact further humiliates the victims of crimes inspired by the ideology and practice of the Chetnik movement, which occurred in the nineties. Attempt of the rehabilitation of Mihailovic is deeply immoral act. Those who decide to do so, must be aware that rehabilitation of crimes that do not outdate, under international law, makes them accomplices in this crime." The statement was supported by numerous CSOs.
- *February 27th - request to the President of the Republic of Serbia T. Nikolic to sign the Convention on the Prohibition of Cluster Munitions in Serbia* – On October 31st 2012, Women in Black sent the request to the President of the Republic of Serbia, Tomislav Nikolic, to put the decision to sign the UN Convention on Cluster Munitions on the agenda of the National Security Council. With the application, the activists submitted the signatures of Serbian citizens, to support that. President replied, on November 5th: "According to the Constitution and the law, the President of the Republic does not have jurisdiction in the area that is the subject of the application." In the second letter, Women in Black have drawn attention to the fact that this answer is not in accordance with the Law on the Security Services, and required URGENT change in the agenda for the next sitting of the Council, in order to include the question and the decision about signing



the UN Convention on Cluster Munitions. President did not respond.

- *April 6th- the anniversary of the siege of Sarajevo:* CSOs Women in Black from Belgrade, Vojvodina Civic Center and the Youth Center CK13 from Novi Sad marked the anniversary of the siege of Sarajevo.
- *April 11th- the condemnation of the incident when the president of "Mothers of Srebrenica and Zepa" was thrown out from UN building:* During the speech of Serbian President Tomislav Nikolic, Munira Subasic revealed a T-shirt with the text "Srebrenica" and picked up a small banner with the "Republic of Serbian - genocidal creation" sign, after which she was thrown out from the UN building in New York.
- *April 23rd- against violence in Vojvodina:* Women in Black were one of 33 civil society organizations that have signed the appeal of non-governmental organizations, public figures and intellectuals related to the events in Vojvodina, because "representatives of the political parties that form the government, in cooperation with other nationalist parties and nationalist and extremist organizations, and even those that are legally banned, are conducting a policy of violence over Vojvodina and its citizens."

These and many other appeals can be found, in integral form, in Women in Black website.

Secularism is women's issue

In this period, we continued with various forms of cooperation with local and regional associations that advocate a strict separation of church and state, against the misuse of religion for political purposes, and so on. We also continue ongoing cooperation with international anti-fundamentalist networks WLUML and SIAWI. Women in Black have launched a series of lectures and a course on atheism; these are some of the activities in which we participated:

- **February 7th, Belgrade - rejected appeal by Women in Black:** The Constitutional Court of the Republic of Serbia rejected as groundless suggestions for determining constitutionality and rejected the initiative to assess the constitutionality of the Law on Churches and Religious Communities. The decision applies to the four proposals, including one submitted by the Women in Black, in the name of the Coalition for a Secular State. Law on Churches and Religious Communities (adopted April 2006) undermines the secular nature of the state. On the second anniversary of the adoption of the Law on Churches and Religious Communities, on April 24th2008, we have submitted the initiative to the Serbian Constitutional Court, to review the constitutionality of that law. The initiative reminded that the Republic of Serbia is, by Constitution, a secular state and that churches and religious communities are separate from the state and pointed to the statutory provisions that are violations of the provisions of the Constitution (interference of the Church in public affairs, the right to immunity of religious officials, funding of religious officers, conducting religious ceremonies in state institutions, religion in public schools, etc.)..
- **March 8th, Belgrade – Towards March 8th, Misogyny as a link between the religions:** Debate which critically analyzed 'patriarchal misogyny in Serbian society, chauvinism instigated and assisted by the Serbian Orthodox Church. In the panel discussion organized by the association "Atheists of Serbia" participants were Natasa Lambic from Women in Black, Borka Pavicevic from the Centre for Cultural Decontamination, Dubravka Stojanovic from Faculty of Philosophy in Belgrade and Marija Dudic. Natasha Lambic spoke about feminist responses to religious fundamentalism.



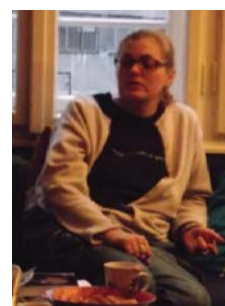
- **April 13th Belgrade - A course on atheism:** course consisted of the following segments: two lecture based on the book written by philosopher Michel Onfray, *Atheist Manifesto* (Part One: *Atheology - Odyssey of free - minded spirits, Atheism and coming out of nihilism, Towards the atheology*; Part II: *Monotheisms (Tyranny and the slavery to "the other side", Bonfire for intelligence, To want the opposite of the real)*; III - *Christianity (fabrication of Jesus, Paul's contamination, Christian totalitarian state)*; IV - *Theocracy (Small clipping theory, In service of Nagoya death, For a post-Christian secularism)*; course is led by professor Dr Filip Kovacevic, of Montenegro, the course was held at the Women in Black office; lectures and discussion was attended by 17 people. Second part of the course on atheism is scheduled for June 8th 2013th



Discussion circles, lectures and internal debates

We continued with the practice of regular discussion circles, lectures and joint reflection on important social and political issues in the country and the world. In this reporting period, we organised 10 lectures and debates with 219 participants.

- **January 30th** - Nada Peratović, activist of feminist organization "Citizen Courage" from Zagreb – the lecture and the discussion "About the silence in Banjaluka" (about the crime of ethnic cleansing in Banjaluka during the war), and the presentation of a documentary made by Sabina Vajrača "Back to Bosnia"; this event had 16 participants.
- **February 20th** – Prof. dr Ivana Kronja – the lecture and the discussion "The body and the society" and the projection of a film "Clip" - 20 participants.
- **February 22nd and 23rd:** visit and exchange with friends from Montenegro, during which the following activities visits and exchanges with friends from Montenegro in which were held the following activities were held:
 - Presentation of the book *Altevizija. Balkan postmodern 7*, by Milan Popovic, PhD, from the University of Montenegro, Lino Veljak gave the introduction, the discussion was moderated by Miodrag Kapetanovic;
 - Presentation of the book *Onfray in Podgorica* by Filip Kovacevic, PhD. PhD Faculty of





Political Science, Podgorica, the book is introduced by Lino Veljak;

- Presentation of the book *There is no coastline*, by Esad Kocan, chief editor of Monitor; the book was presented Bojan Tončić, Tamara Kaliterna and Stasa Zajović;
- Round table *Montenegro spring: fact or fiction?* - With Esad Kocan, Milan Popovic and Filip Kovacevic as participants, moderated by Nastasja Radovic, a journalist. Discussion and presentations were held on the premises of Women in Black; various segments of the program were attended by about fifty (50) persons in total.
- *March 13th* – Prof. dr Lino Veljak – lecture and discussion “Left and Right” - 32 participants;
- *April 3rd* – Prof. dr Zorica Mršević – lecture and discussion “About graffiti and hate speech” – 12 participants;
- *April 10th* - Prof. Dr Ivana Kronja – lecture and discussion “Misogyny and fashion industry” - 17 participants;
- *April 17th* – Dr Aleksandar Sekulović - lecture and discussion “The entertainment industry and theatre-ocracy”- 22 participants.
- *May 8th* - Janja Beč Neumann, Laslo Vogel, Đorđe Subotić, and Slobodan Sadžakov – the debate on the current political situation in Vojvodina - “Vojvodina - a tragedy or a farce autonomy” - 26 participants;
- *May 15th* – Dr Božidar Jakšić – lecture and discussion *Yugoslavia (SFRY): Totalitarian State - The museum artifact - The lived experience - the alternative?*”- 24 participants.



International Politics

Active participation in international conferences on global solidarity actions, and activist visits. Here are some of implemented activities:

- *April 8th*, Belgrade: Inge Hoger, a member of the German Parliament and member of the Security Committee of German Parliament.
- *March 19th – 23rd*-Visit of activists/filmmakers John Antonelli and Andrew Black (“Mill Valley Film Group”- USA), during his visit to Belgrade and Novi Becej, they recorded the activities of Women in Black.
- *April 11th - 13th*, Vukovar, Croatia: Culture of Remembrance Forum - “The memory of the war, or the war of memories” organized by *Documenta - Centre for Dealing with the Past*, Zagreb. Women in Black activists Ljiljana Radovanovic, Violeta Djikanovic participated at the Forum, while Stasa Zajović spoke at the



session: Visits to places of suffering and participation at the commemorations for victims.

- April, 2013 Prize for Women's Human Rights: Stasa Zajović, one of the founding members, the coordinator of the activist of the feminist anti-militarist group Women in Black Serbia, is the winner of the "Charlotte Bunch" Award for women's rights, granted by the Global Fund for Women. Other awarded feminist activists are Monz Hassan (Nazra, Egypt) and human rights defender from Colombia Monica Roa.

In this period, dozens of international activists / activists from several European countries and from USA, and Canada, close to the Network have visited Women in Black.



Report prepared by Staša Zajović, in cooperation with Borka Vasić, Ljiljana Radovanović, Marija Vidić, Miloš Urošević, Marija Perković, Nataša Lambić, Nataša Milanović, Snežana Tabački, and Tamara Kaliterna.

Belgrade, May 2013.