

Thursday 29 November 2018

Monaco is Involved in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

Ici j'ai eu mon premier
coup ~~de foudre~~.

ÇA COMMENCE TOUJOURS PAR UNE BELLE HISTOIRE

**28
NOV.
2018**

**JOURNÉE INTERNATIONALE DE LUTTE
CONTRE LES VIOLENCES FAITES AUX FEMMES**

Conférence : "Violences contre les femmes : comprendre pour éradiquer"
animée Madame Karine LAMBERT
Mercredi 28 novembre - 18 h - Auditorium du Lycée Technique
et Hôtelier de Monaco - Entrée libre.

APPELEZ LE
116 919

Appel anonyme et gratuit - 7J/7

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 **Gouvernement Princier**
PRINCIPAUTÉ DE MONACO

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Monaco is Involved in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

On Wednesday 28 November 2018, the Principality of Monaco took part in the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. This Day was initiated by the United Nations and is an opportunity to highlight the importance of preventing this type of violence and the way it is dealt with by the measures put in place by the Prince's Government and the voluntary sector in the Principality.

This Day is coordinated by the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs and is the result of joint reflection by the Prince's Government with the National Council, the High Commissioner for the Protection of Rights, Liberties and for Mediation and the associations involved in this cause, in particular, *Femmes Leaders Mondiales Monaco*, "She Can He Can," Pink Ribbon, *Action Innocence*, the *Union des Femmes Monégasques*, the Zonta Club and the Soroptimist Club of Monaco.

There are various types of violence. However, they are not always visible, and well before pushing and hitting occurs, there is often an escalation of abusive behaviour and intimidation. In the Principality, various players take care of women who are victims of violence. The Princess Grace Hospital can provide an entry point for these victims, who are cared for and referred by healthcare professionals and social workers to the judicial and/or social spheres, depending on the situation. *The Association d'Aide aux Victimes d'Infractions Pénales* (Association for Assisting Victims of Crime) (A.V.I.P.) dealt with 28 cases of conjugal and family violence between January and November 2018.

This day is an opportunity to raise public awareness by means of a poster campaign and a lecture for the general public. This took place yesterday, Wednesday 28 November 2018, at 6 p.m., in the Auditorium of Monaco's Vocational and Catering School (*Lycée Technique et Hôtelier de Monaco*). It was given by Ms. Karine Lambert, Vice-President of the Euro-Mediterranean Academic and Scientific Network on Women and Gender (RUSEMEG), on the theme of "Violence against women: understanding it to eradicate it."

In addition, in connection with this day devoted to combating violence against women, **on Thursday 22 November, at 8.30 p.m., the Princess Grace Theatre presented the play "Le Ventre de la Baleine" ("The Belly of the Whale")**, a love story that gradually turns to domestic violence. The Belgian author Stanislas Cotton depicts the complex mechanism that draws a couple into this victim/executioner relationship; a poignant, universal performance. The play was followed by a discussion with the audience, in the presence of the author and the actress.

Finally, as a mark of solidarity, **the Principality's iconic buildings were illuminated in orange (the official colour of the "UN Women" campaign) on Sunday 25 November 2018**, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.

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Legal aspects

From a legal point of view and in the context of protecting women who are victims of violence, the Principality of Monaco has made major progress in recent years through the 2011 law on Particular types of violence (*Act No. 1.382 of 20/07/2011 on the prevention and repression of Particular types of Violence*).

This text has a broader scope than combating domestic violence, since it criminalises particular types of violence against vulnerable or dependent persons.

It is aimed not only at people who share their lives with abusers - including women and children - but also people with disabilities or incapacitated adults.

It has introduced specific definitions and offences into Monegasque law, as well as protective measures, which are essential in combating violence against women:

✓ Definition and incrimination

- Definition of harassment (Art. 5): to be classed as harassment, the acts in question must have the effect of worsening the victim's living conditions, resulting in an impairment of his or her physical or mental health;
- Criminalisation of "honour crimes" (Art. 9);
- Criminalisation of female genital mutilation (Art. 12);
- Criminalisation of marital rape and incest (Art. 14);
- Criminalisation of forced marriage (Art. 16).

✓ Measures to protect victims

- Physical removal of the aggressor and prohibition of communication with the victim (Art. 23). The Public Prosecutor may also, in urgent cases and before the President of the Court of First Instance has issued a protection order regarding the victim's accommodation, offer emergency accommodation for the victim and, where appropriate, members of the family;
- Medical treatment order (Art 2): this requires the consent of the perpetrator, but in the case of refusal, a prison sentence may be imposed. This medical treatment order may, depending on the case, be an alternative to or complementary to a sentence;
- The possibility for associations combating violence to take legal action (Art 21); significant support for victims.

➔ This law is a real step forward for victims of violence in Monaco.

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Further information

- ✓ A page devoted to combating violence, made available on line on the Prince's Government's Internet Portal in 2016, offers comprehensive information and useful contacts for victims of violence: [Aides-aux-victimes-de-violences](#)
- ✓ In case of emergency, the **Police Department (17 or (+377) 93.15.30.15)** will give an immediate, appropriate response, 24/7, thanks to the constant presence of judicial police personnel who are trained to take care of victims of violence. A specialised unit is specifically devoted to domestic violence; this reception service is provided by police officers and police social workers. Victims of particular types of violence are systematically informed of their rights (compensation for damage, civil action, etc.) and of the possibility of being assisted by **the AVIP - Association d'Aide aux Victimes d'Infractions Pénales (Association for Assisting Victims of Crime)** (see below).
- ✓ **An anonymous freephone number, 116.919**, was launched on 25 November 2016. This number will be available 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. This number is intended to inform victims of violence of their rights and the options available to them.
- ✓ **In addition, the AVIP's telephone number (+377) 93 25 00 07**, which is available 7 days a week, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., enables victims to be contacted and dealt with quickly in the legal, social and psychological spheres. Moreover, many of those involved work within a network and can help victims escape violence.
- ✓ **Also, the Department of Social Welfare and Social Services** offers a drop-in service on working days, from 9.30 a.m. to 5 p.m., to respond to this type of situation by listening and providing appropriate advice. The Department of Social Welfare and Social Services consists of a team of social workers who work in a network with hospital services and outpatient structures, as well as all the social workers of the various entities concerned.
- ✓ **The Princess Grace Hospital Centre** has staff who are specially trained to take care of victims of violence.
- ✓ **What is the AVIP?**
The AVIP was created in July 2014 under Act No. 1382 of 20 July 2011 on the prevention and repression of particular types of violence. Its mission is to support and assist victims of violence. It ensures a high level of care by coordinating the victim's support pathway. The emphasis is on initial contact and listening. It is supported by the Prince's Government and the Public Prosecution Department. To this end, an agreement between the AVIP and the Department of Social Welfare and Social Services was made, making it possible to draw upon existing structures and make direct use of the service of multifunctional social workers. A protocol between the Public Prosecution Department and the AVIP has also been signed to ensure that the Association

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is notified as early as possible of acts of violence that have been committed and to enable support to be provided at criminal hearings, while not replacing the role of the lawyer.

Contact: AVIP (+377) 93 25 00 07 - avip@monaco.mc
15 Rue Louis Aureglia, 98000 Monaco

✓ Law 1382 introduced specific definitions and criminalisation into Monegasque law:

- A definition of harassment;
- Criminalisation of "honour crimes";
- Criminalisation of female genital mutilation;
- Criminalisation of marital rape and incest;
- Criminalisation of forced marriage.

Furthermore, it includes protection measures, which are essential for combating violence against women:

- Physical distance from the aggressor and the prohibition of communication with the victim;
- Medical treatment order;
- The possibility for associations fighting against particular types of violence to take legal action, which is an important form of support for victims.

✓ Finally, many associations work with victims of violence:

- *She Can He Can:* www.shecanhecan.org *Contact:* Vibeke Thomsen - info@shecanhecan.org
- *Femmes Leaders Mondiales Monaco:* www.femmesleadersmonaco.com *Contact:* Chantal Ravera - chantal8@monaco.mc
- *Union des Femmes Monégasques:* www.cmanzone.wixsite.com/ufmonaco *Contact:* Nicole Manzone-Saquet - mmanzone@libello.com
- *Action Innocence:* www.actioninnocencemonaco.com *Contact:* Louissette Azzoaglio - lls@palais.mc
- *Pink Ribbon:* www.pinkribbon.mc/ *Contact:* Natasha Frost - natasha@pinkribbon.mc
- *Zonta Club Monaco:* www.zontaclubmonaco.org/fr/ *Contact:* Loredana Scifoni - lorytulum@libello.com
- *Soroptimist Monaco:* www.soroptimist-monaco.org/ *Contact:* Françoise Ragazzoni info@soroptimist-monaco.org
- *Monaco Says No to Violence against Women:* www.monacosaysnotoviolence.org/ (the result of collaboration between *She Can He Can* and *Femmes Leaders Mondiales Monaco*) *Contact:* Vibeke Thomsen info@shecanhecan.org

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