Activists’ motivation and resilience for strong community network: tools and experience from Eurasian Women’s Network on AIDS

Svitlana Moroz, 2020
History of the movement and networking of the community of women living with HIV in EECA

2010
Russia, EVA Association

2011
Tajikistan, Tajik Network of Women Living with HIV
First meeting of women’s community leaders within MDG6 Summit

2013
Ukraine, Positive Women

2015
Eurasian Women’s Network on AIDS
Kazakhstan, Fund of Women living with HIV

2016
Armenia, Women’s Empowerment Centre

2019
Kyrgyzstan, Women’s Network of Key Populations
Kyrgyzstan, National Network of Women living with HIV
Uzbekistan, Positive Women of Uzbekistan
Women-led Community-based Research among HIV-positive Women experienced violence in EECA (2018)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>%</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>71%</td>
<td>who had faced physical violence did not seek assistance</td>
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<tr>
<td>68.5%</td>
<td>indicated economic violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>52%</td>
<td>had experienced violence after being diagnosed with HIV</td>
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<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>indicated that perpetrators of violence used children as a means of manipulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>28%</td>
<td>experienced sexual violence</td>
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<td>37.7%</td>
<td>indicated that use of the male condom was a significant problem for their partners</td>
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What we are advocating for?

**EQUAL RIGHTS - EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES: EXCERPT FROM INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY STATEMENT**

1. **Ratify the “Istanbul Convention”,** which provides legislative protection against violence and a full range of services for women survivors of violence.

2. **Ensure the collection of gender-disaggregated statistics** in the field of public health (HIV prevention and treatment, opioid substitution therapy, etc.).

3. **Remove articles criminalizing the transmission of HIV** from the criminal codes of countries, as they are based on a violation of human rights and are ineffective in combating the spread of HIV.

4. **Review discriminatory legislation** based on HIV status, drug use, homosexuality, transgenderism, or sex work.
Our Values

- Commitment to women’s community
- Respect for Diversity
- Learning from each other
- Mutual support
- Feedback provision
- Flexibility and Safety
- Empowerment
Our Structure

- General Assembly
- Supervisory Board
- Members
- Secretariat
Feminist School towards a gendered HIV response

**Goal:** Development of leadership and activist potential of women, living with HIV and women from key populations through feminist vision and gender theory in the EECA region.

*We value* peer support, mentoring and capacity building as ways to enable our members to become resilient and more self-determined in their lives.

*We believe* that gender inequality is a central challenge to the success of the HIV response and efforts to secure human rights.
Open Faces to challenge HIV Stigma

Regional women’s campaign #InSpiteOf, featuring the leadership and stories of fifteen strong, brave women and girls, openly living with HIV in EECA

The campaign was developed by UNAIDS in partnership with Eurasian Women's Network on AIDS