



# ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Champions of  
sexual and reproductive  
health and rights



# WHO WE ARE

The International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF) is a global service provider and a leading advocate of sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. It is a worldwide movement of national organisations working with and for communities and individuals.

IPPF European Network (IPPF EN) is one of IPPF's six regional networks. We work in 41 countries across Western and Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

**THIS REPORT PRESENTS SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR WORK AND IMPACT IN 2016.**



Young people |



Rights |



Choice |



Vulnerable people



Sexual & reproductive health care |



Gender-based violence



# A WORD FROM OUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR



I joined IPPF EN at the start of a tumultuous year for global politics. The UK's vote for Brexit and the US elections provided the backdrop to our work in 2016, with very real consequences for IPPF soon to follow in the form of the new US administration's cruel Global Gag Rule, targeting the lives of some of the world's most vulnerable women and girls.

As we grapple with these challenges, our Regional Office has continued to support our members and partners around Europe and Central Asia. The focus, as always, has been on helping women and men, girls and boys who are neglected by governments, or, sadly, deliberately attacked by regressive forces that seek to control the lives and bodies of others. Young people and marginalised women remain at the heart of our work on sexuality education, contraceptive access and abortion rights.

It is shocking that this is the only region in the world where rates of HIV infection are increasing, and IPPF EN remains committed to fighting so that those most at risk do not fall through the cracks as states fail to step up. We are also working hard to help make sure that when humanitarian crises and emergency situations strike, women's sexual and reproductive health care and rights are not overlooked.

In difficult times, there are also opportunities. In 2016, the success of our longstanding work to hold European politicians to account for their commitments to reproductive health and family planning in the Global South was recognised when we secured funding for the Countdown 2030 Consortium for a further four years. We are grateful for the opportunity to continue this important work together with our partners until 2020.

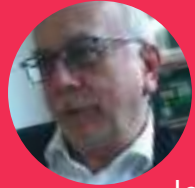
We are proud to have played a part in supporting grassroots movements in Europe that are pushing back on the most egregious efforts to strangle women's rights, and to have helped support the launch by European governments of the She Decides movement.

For my team in Brussels it has been a year of transition – to new leadership, to a new structure designed to deliver on our strategic priorities, and to new offices. I would like to thank them for their hard work and commitment.

Caroline Hickson

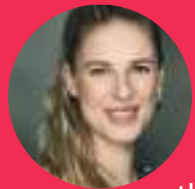
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Caroline Hickson', written in a cursive style.





"It's fantastic that IPPF EN contributed to over 70 legislative changes in 2016 throughout Europe and Central Asia, as well as in EU policies towards the Global South. This is crucial to making sexual and reproductive health and rights and gender equality a reality for everyone!"

Gabriel Bianchi,  
IPPF EN Regional President from 2017



"Young people are at the heart of our work. We are fighting with them and for them, to leverage their potential as volunteers, activists and advocates, and help ensure that no young person is left behind."

Lene Stavngaard,  
IPPF EN Regional President 2014-2017



@ IPPF EN / Dearbhla Crosse

## YSAFE

YSAFE is IPPF EN's regional youth network: Youth Sexual Awareness For Europe. The network was created 11 years ago to bring young people into the IPPF EN family on a long term basis and empower them to help shape our region's future. YSAFE members work hard to explain to policymakers and other stakeholders working on sexual and reproductive health and rights just how important it is to involve young people in political and policy debates that affect their lives.



[www.ysafe.net](http://www.ysafe.net)

f @ysafe.network

🐦 @YSAFE



Youth Sexual Awareness For Europe

**"OUR PRIORITY IN 2016 WAS TO HELP STRENGTHEN THE YOUTH VOICE ON SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS IN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA BY BOOSTING THE RECRUITMENT OF YOUNG VOLUNTEERS AND DEVELOPING STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS WITH OTHER YOUTH NETWORKS, AS WELL AS SEEKING TO INCREASE OUR LONG TERM FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY."**

Simon Herteleer,  
YSAFE Steering Committee Chair

# IPPF - A MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

## OUR VISION

All people are free to make choices about their sexuality and well-being in a world without discrimination.

## OUR MISSION

To lead a locally owned, globally connected civil society movement that provides and enables services and champions sexual and reproductive health and rights for all, especially the under-served.

## OUR VALUES

SOCIAL INCLUSION

DIVERSITY

PASSION

VOLUNTEERISM

ACCOUNTABILITY

1

- Governments are held to account for political and financial commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR)
- Policy-makers deliver fully on SRHR as they implement the global development agenda



**100**  
governments respect, protect and fulfill sexual and reproductive rights and gender equality

OUTCOME 1

OUTCOME 2

**1 billion**  
people to act freely on their sexual and reproductive health and rights

OUTCOME 3

**2 billion**  
quality integrated sexual and reproductive health services delivered

OUTCOME 4

A high performing, accountable and united Federation

4

- IPPF European Network's funding base is increased and diversified for increased sustainability
- Results- and evidence-based systems and processes are enhanced to maximise performance



2

- Young people are empowered through comprehensive sexuality education to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health and rights



**IPPF**

European Network

3

- More vulnerable and marginalised people have access to sexual and reproductive health care, and education and information that support their health and rights





# CHAMPION WOMEN'S RIGHTS

Because Europe must stand firm against reproductive bullying



@ IPPF EN / Dearbhla Crosse

**“The #CzarnyProtest was a beautiful example of the power of grassroots activism to hold political leaders to account, of how social movements can work across borders. Thousands of outraged people in Europe and around the world stood with Polish women to say «enough is enough»”.**

Irene Donadio,  
IPPF EN Senior Lead for Strategy and Partnerships

Opposition to women’s reproductive freedom and safety has significantly increased in our region in recent years and has been further emboldened by the expansion of right-wing movements and victories. Attacks on abortion rights and access to contraception in Poland are the most extreme manifestation, but the danger is present in many places, from Croatia and Sweden, to Malta and Ireland. In countries such as Hungary, repressive governments are trying to stifle NGOs’ ability to function altogether. This is the reality many of our members and partners are fighting on a daily basis.

To confront these challenges, IPPF EN is developing the capacity to create more powerful narratives and communications tools that will help to build wider public and political support for sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). We also strongly support mobilisation for reproductive rights, and are helping national organisations to build their capacity to fight back against repressive forces that seek to prevent people, especially women and girls, from living free reproductive lives. Our aim is to strengthen the SRHR movement, speak loud and clear about the values that underpin our Federation, and – working with other progressive movements - contribute to positive change in the region.



# RESPECT, PROTECT, FULFIL

Ensuring that governments deliver on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and gender equality is central to our work. Here are just some of the policy changes our members helped bring about in 2016:

## **BELGIUM**

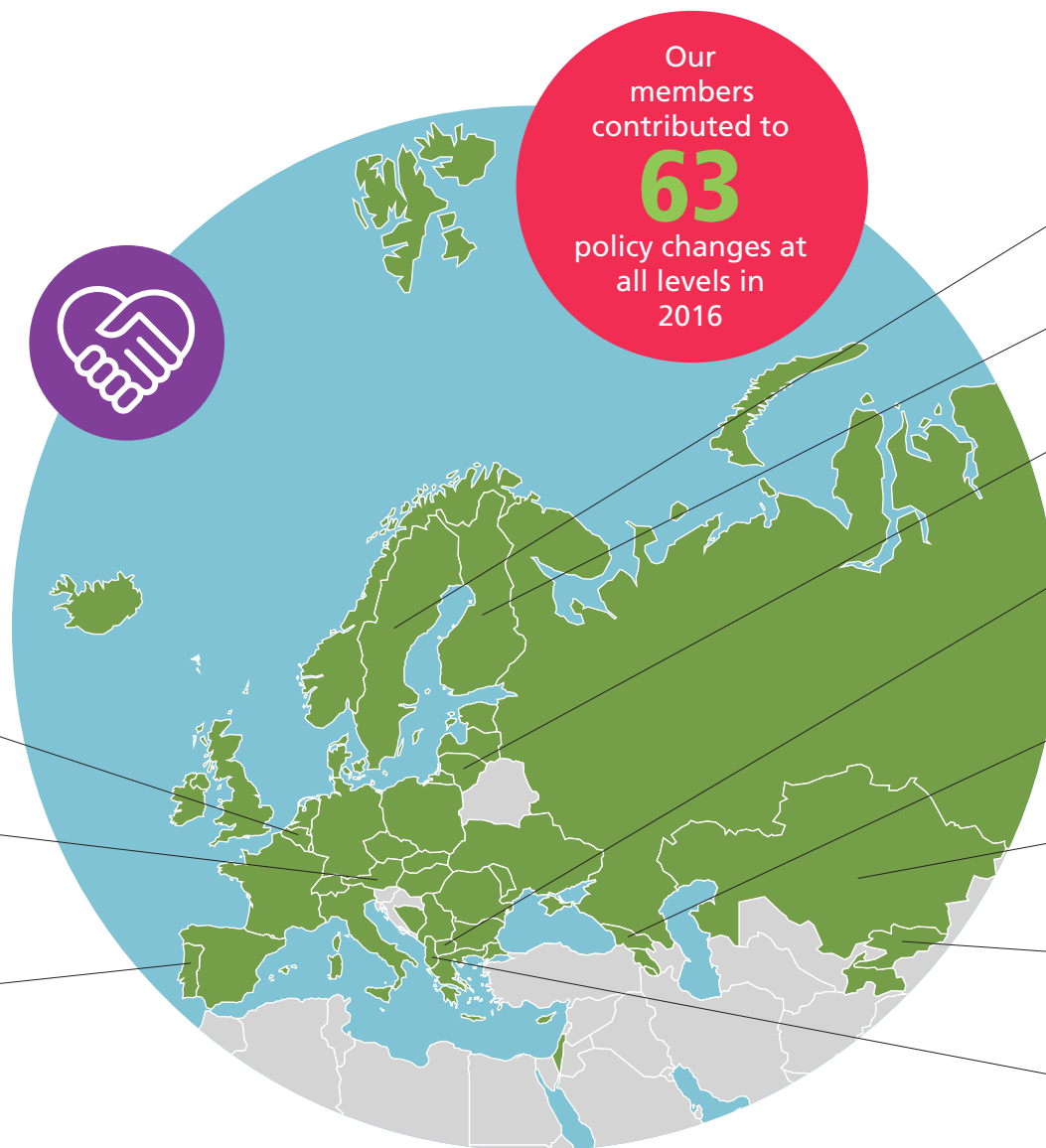
Campaign on public transport targeting reproductive freedom has been banned

## **AUSTRIA**

Austrian Council of Ministers has approved €4.5 million humanitarian aid to Syrian refugees, including €1 million for United Nations Population Fund

## **PORTUGAL**

Medically assisted reproduction is now accessible to all women, regardless of marital status or sexual orientation



Our members contributed to **63** policy changes at all levels in 2016

## **SWEDEN**

Medically assisted reproduction is now accessible for women without a partner

## **FINLAND**

Girls' rights and empowerment set as top priority in Finnish development policy report

## **LITHUANIA**

Pro-choice law on medically assisted reproduction has been adopted

## **REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

Appropriate coverage of comprehensive sexuality education has been included as an education objective in National Youth Strategy 2015-25

## **GEORGIA**

National budget for HIV prevention and treatment has increased during transition period as Global Fund withdraws funding

## **KAZAKHSTAN**

Funds have been allocated in national health budget for purchase of contraceptives for most vulnerable groups

## **KYRGYZSTAN**

Criminal code has been amended to strengthen criminalisation of forced and early marriages

## **ALBANIA**

National contraceptive security strategy 2017-21 approved; SRHR strategy in crises and humanitarian emergencies approved



# MAKE CHOICE A REALITY

So that 120 million more women can live free reproductive lives



IPPF EN continues to push European donor governments and the EU to be as ambitious as possible in their funding and political commitments to sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) in the Global South. This advocacy work is largely carried out by Countdown 2030 Europe, a consortium of 15 organisations across Europe that we lead in fighting for universal access to family planning worldwide. As a result, in 2016 European donors renewed their political commitment to supporting the world's most vulnerable women and girls, despite the major challenges of shrinking budgets for overseas development aid and political change.

Following the 2015 adoption of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, IPPF EN is focusing on ensuring that national governments throughout Europe and Central Asia, as well as European regional bodies,

are held accountable for the goals they have signed up to relating to gender equality and SRHR. We supported our members in tracking how far their governments were acting on commitments made in 2015, and joined forces with civil society partners to influence new processes being set up at regional level to help ensure the goals become reality.



© IPPF / George Osodi





# EMPOWER THROUGH SEXUALITY EDUCATION

So that no young person is denied crucial life skills



A major focus of our work in 2016 was paving the way for increasing numbers of young people to develop the skills to navigate growing up, thanks to sex and relationships education.

The European Network was a loud contributor to IPPF's global Know It, Own It campaign, calling on all countries to ensure that young people, especially the most vulnerable, are equipped with quality information about health and the positive aspects of sex and sexuality.

We also collaborated with Germany's Federal Centre for Health Education (BZgA) and other partners to carry out exciting new research on the current status of sexuality education in 25 countries in Europe and Central Asia. The research shows that some form of sexuality education in school is becoming the norm in our region and that there is more awareness about the healthy development of young people, with growing focus on increasing child protection and gender equality. We are encouraged that many countries are investing in sexuality education to ensure that all young people are safe and healthy, though sadly others are still denying them crucial life skills. The research will be used to create a powerful new resource for all those fighting alongside us to ensure that young people's right to sexual literacy is fulfilled\*.

\* The report, 'Sexuality Education in Europe and Central Asia: State of the Art and Recent Developments – An overview of 25 countries', will be published in autumn 2017.



# LEAVE NO ONE BEHIND

So that all young people can take care of their health,  
free from discrimination

We are proud to have continued our work with marginalised young people in Eastern Europe and Central Asia, including sex workers, people who inject drugs, prisoners and men who have sex with men. They are particularly vulnerable to HIV and other sexually transmitted infections because they face many kinds of discrimination, stigma and violence which also make it extremely difficult for them to access care.

In response to this abuse, in 2016 we worked with partners to create a new guide for developing and implementing programmes that provide HIV prevention services and sexual and reproductive health care to vulnerable young people\*. This draws on the extensive experience of the United Nations Population Fund, IPPF EN and other partners fighting to support these communities in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

However, the health care that is provided to these young people by our members and other civil society organisations is at huge risk of being withdrawn because long term donor support for HIV programmes in the region is coming to an end, and states are not yet stepping in to provide a safety net. If these services are allowed to close, more young lives will be ruined.

**“I WOULDN'T GO TO THE STATE HEALTH SYSTEM BECAUSE GOD FORBID IF I HAD AN STI OR IF I WAS HIV-POSITIVE - THEY DON'T GIVE YOU THE RESULT PERSONALLY, THEY DISPLAY IT ON THE MAIN DESK.”**

Ljupco,  
Transgender sex worker,  
33 years old, Macedonia



© IPPF EN / Jon Spaul







@ Panayotis Tzamaros / Shutterstock.com

**More than half the refugees arriving in Europe are women and children. Around 1 in 10 refugee women travelling through Europe is pregnant, and around 1 in 5 refugee or displaced women has experienced sexual violence.**

# SUPPORT IN CRISIS SITUATIONS

Because sexual and reproductive health care saves lives in emergencies



Women and girls are disproportionately affected by conflict, war, natural disasters and other humanitarian emergencies. They are often subjected to sexual violence and unwanted pregnancies and are vulnerable to sexually transmitted infections. Although their sexual and reproductive health needs are critical, in disaster situations they are often overlooked.

IPPF EN continues to support 19 countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia to ensure that, when humanitarian crises strike, people are not denied at least a basic level of vital sexual and reproductive health care. In 2016, our region made great strides in strengthening coordination on sexual and reproductive health among national health actors, which is an essential step in preparing for emergency situations and securing commitment from governments.\*

Many of our members are helping to protect the sexual and reproductive health and rights of refugee and migrant women and girls as the humanitarian crisis continues. In 2016, SRH Serbia worked in seven refugee camps to provide women – usually travelling with children or alone – with crucial information about where they could go for sexual and reproductive health care. They also organised sexuality education workshops and offered contraceptive care and counselling in safe spaces for 16-23 year olds living in the refugee camps.

\* Since 2012, we have been working with UNFPA's Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) Regional Office to coordinate the EECA Inter-Agency Working Group (IAWG) on sexual and reproductive health in crisis, whose members include NGOs, UN agencies and governments. Its aim is to provide country teams with knowledge and tools to be able to support SRH in case of an emergency.







# OUR PARTNERSHIPS

IPPF EN is able to bring about change thanks to the amazing people we work with. Here are just a few of the partnerships that made our work in Europe and Central Asia possible in 2016:



## COUNTDOWN 2030 EUROPE

IPPF EN is the lead partner of C2030E, a consortium of 15 NGOs working to ensure the advancement of human rights and investment in family planning in the Global South. In European countries and within the EU institutions, Countdown 2030 Europe holds donors to account for their policy and funding commitments to achieving universal access to sexual and reproductive health.

[www.countdown2030europe.org](http://www.countdown2030europe.org)

[@C2030Europe](https://twitter.com/C2030Europe)



## UNFPA EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA REGIONAL OFFICE

We are working hand-in-hand with the United Nations Population Fund's Regional Office to make sexual and reproductive health a priority in crisis situations, coordinating efforts on humanitarian response and emergency preparedness in 19 countries. Other key areas where we work together include HIV and supporting IPPF members to help them ensure their governments include sexual and reproductive health and rights in their national plans for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

<http://eeca.unfpa.org>



## EUROPEAN WOMEN'S LOBBY

IPPF EN has worked for more than a decade with the European Women's Lobby to empower women and girls and jointly advance their autonomy and self-determination in relation to sexual and reproductive choices. Sexual rights and fighting gender stereotyping are priorities for the EWL. We are working together to equip the new generation through (sexuality) education to enhance women's empowerment, prevent gender-based violence and tackle the social norms and attitudes that hamper gender equality.

[www.womenlobby.org](http://www.womenlobby.org)



## HIGH GROUND - THE ALLIANCE FOR DIGNITY AND CHOICE IN EUROPE

We have formed an alliance for dignity and choice in Europe with five other human rights groups. High Ground's aim is to counter opposition, in particular from religious organizations and individuals, to women's rights, sexual and reproductive health and rights, the human rights of LGBTI people, and to secular institutions. Together we are actively promoting a progressive agenda for diverse, secular and open societies in Europe.

[www.highgroundalliance.eu](http://www.highgroundalliance.eu)

We are also contributing actively to the missions of:



CONCORD - EUROPEAN NGO CONFEDERATION FOR RELIEF AND DEVELOPMENT



EURONGOS - THE EUROPEAN NGOS FOR SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



## INCOME

**Total income = € 5.76 million**

€ 2.28 M from IPPF headquarters in London, mainly generated by contributions from governments

€ 3.48 M in restricted grants from various donors

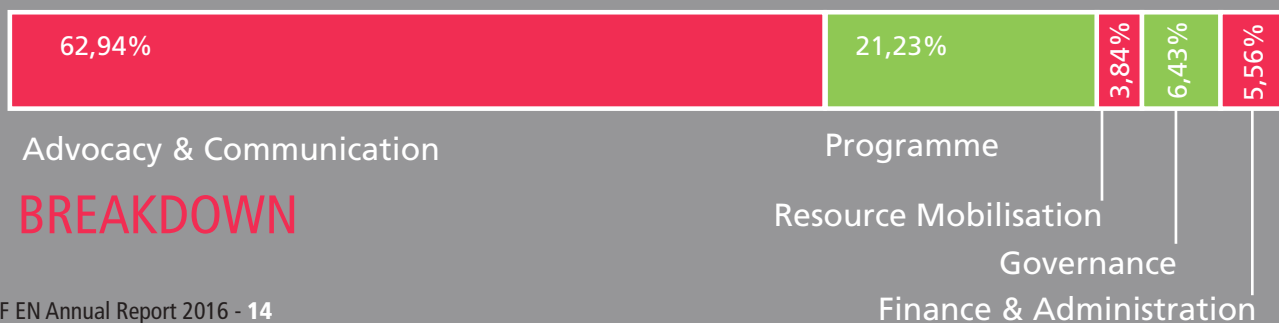
## EXPENSES

**Total expenses = € 6.27 million**

€ 2.63 M indirect costs\*

€ 3.64 M related to restricted projects

\* Including € 0.37 M currency exchange losses



## BREAKDOWN

# THANKS TO

WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR SPECIFIC PROJECTS IN OUR REGION:

THE BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION AND UNFPA (UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND)

# OUR MEMBERS

Our region reaches from Iceland to Israel and from Spain to Kazakhstan. It includes some of the richest countries in the world and some of the poorest. Some of them are donors of international development funding, others receive it, and several countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia face the loss of international donor funding for sexual and reproductive health and rights as their economies develop.

Throughout our region, the landscapes, populations, cultures and politics of our region are extremely diverse. Together, we are a proud and strong member of IPPF's family of activists for sexual and reproductive health and rights.

## GREECE

Positive Voice [www.positivevoice.gr](http://www.positivevoice.gr)

**HUNGARY** Patent Association Against Patriarchy [www.patent.org.hu](http://www.patent.org.hu)

**ITALY** Associazione Italiana per l'Educazione Demografica (AIED) [www.aied.it](http://www.aied.it)

**LUXEMBOURG** Mouvement Luxembourgeois pour le Planning Familial et l'Education Sexuelle (PFL) [www.pfl.lu](http://www.pfl.lu)

**MONTENEGRO** CAZAS [www.cazas.org](http://www.cazas.org)

**ALBANIA** Qendra për Popullsinë dhe Zhvillimin, Albanian Centre for Population and Development (ACPD) [www.acpd-al.org](http://www.acpd-al.org) - **AUSTRIA** Österreichische Gesellschaft für Familienplanung (ÖGF) [www.oegf.at](http://www.oegf.at) - **BELGIUM** Fédération Laïque de Centres de Planning Familial (FLCPF) [www.planningfamilial.net](http://www.planningfamilial.net), Sensoa [www.sensoa.be](http://www.sensoa.be) - **BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA** Family Planning Association of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Association XY [www.xy.com.ba](http://www.xy.com.ba) - **BULGARIA** Bulgarian Family Planning and Sexual Health Association (BFPA) [www.safesex.bg](http://www.safesex.bg) - **CYPRUS** Cyprus Family Planning Association (CFPA) [www.cyfamplan.org](http://www.cyfamplan.org) - **CZECH REPUBLIC** Společnost pro plánování rodiny a sexuální výchovu (SPRSV) [www.planovanirodinz.cz](http://www.planovanirodinz.cz) - **DENMARK** Sex & Samfund [www.sexogsamfund.dk](http://www.sexogsamfund.dk) - **ESTONIA** Eesti Seksuaaltervise Liit (ESTL) [www.amor.ee](http://www.amor.ee) - **FINLAND** Väestöliitto [www.vaestoliitto.fi](http://www.vaestoliitto.fi) - **FRANCE** Mouvement Français pour le Planning Familial (MFPF) [www.planning-familial.org](http://www.planning-familial.org) - **GEORGIA** Family Planning Association of Georgia (HERA XXI) [www.hera-youth.ge](http://www.hera-youth.ge) - **GERMANY** Pro Familia Bundesverband [www.profamilia.de](http://www.profamilia.de) - **ICELAND** Fræðslusamtök um kynlíf og barneignir (FKB) [www.fkb.is](http://www.fkb.is) - **IRELAND** Irish Family Planning association (IFPA) [www.ifpa.ie](http://www.ifpa.ie) - **ISRAEL** Israel Family Planning association (IFPA) [www.opendoor.org.il](http://www.opendoor.org.il) - **KAZAKHSTAN** Kazakhstan Association on Sexual and Reproductive Health (KMPA) [www.kmpakaz.org](http://www.kmpakaz.org) - **KYRGYZSTAN** Reproductive Health Alliance of Kyrgyzstan (RHAK) [www.rhak.kg/english/index.php](http://www.rhak.kg/english/index.php) - **LATVIA** Latvija Gimenes Planosanas un Seksualas Veselibas Asociacija "Papardes Zieds" [www.papardeszieds.lv](http://www.papardeszieds.lv) - **LITHUANIA** Seimos Planavimo ir Seksualines Sveikatos Asociacija, Family Planning and Sexual Health Association (FPSHA) [www.spa.lt](http://www.spa.lt) - **THE NETHERLANDS** Rutgers [www.rutgers.international](http://www.rutgers.international) - **NORWAY** Sex og Politikk, the association for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights [www.sexogpolitikk.no](http://www.sexogpolitikk.no) - **POLAND** Towarzystwo Rozwoju Rodziny (TRR) [www.trr.org.pl](http://www.trr.org.pl) - **PORTUGAL** Associação Para o Planeamento da Família (APF) [www.apf.pt](http://www.apf.pt) - **REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA** Health Education and Research Association (H.E.R.A.) [www.hera.org.mk](http://www.hera.org.mk) - **REPUBLIC OF SERBIA** Serbian Association for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights [www.safesexresurs.org](http://www.safesexresurs.org) - **ROMANIA** Societatea de Educatie Contraceptiva si Sexuala (SECS) [www.secs.ro](http://www.secs.ro) - **SLOVAK REPUBLIC** Slovenská spoločnosť pre plánované rodičovstvo a výchovu krodcovstvu (SPR), Slovak Family Planning Association [www.rodicovstvo.sk](http://www.rodicovstvo.sk), **SPAIN** Federación de Planificación Familiar Estatal (FPFE) [www.fpfe.org](http://www.fpfe.org) - **SWEDEN** Riksförbundet för Sexuell Upplysning (RFSU) [www.rfsu.se](http://www.rfsu.se) - **SWITZERLAND** Sexual Health Switzerland [www.sante-sexuelle.ch](http://www.sante-sexuelle.ch) - **TAJIKISTAN** Tajik Family Planning Alliance (TFPA) [www.tfpa.tj](http://www.tfpa.tj) - **UKRAINE** NGO Women Health and Family Planning - **UNITED KINGDOM** fpa [www.fpa.org.uk](http://www.fpa.org.uk)

**ARMENIA**  
Family Health Care Network  
[www.armfha.com](http://www.armfha.com)  
**RUSSIA**  
Russian Association for Population and Development (RAPD)  
[www.ranir.ru](http://www.ranir.ru)

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

## FULL MEMBERS

## COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS

## **DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.**

If you would like to help us, you can make a donation directly into our bank account:

BNP PARIBAS FORTIS  
Brussels, Belgium  
BE18 0016 5794 9965  
IPPF European Network

Thank you!

## **VOLUNTEER!**

---

WE NEED ALL THE SUPPORT WE CAN GET TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO GET INVOLVED, THERE ARE SO MANY DIFFERENT WAYS YOU CAN HELP.

JOIN OUR MOVEMENT, GET IN TOUCH VIA:

**[INFO@IPPFEN.ORG](mailto:INFO@IPPFEN.ORG)**

---





55 Rue Royale  
1000, Brussels,  
Belgium

Tel +32 2 250 09 50  
Email [info@ippfen.org](mailto:info@ippfen.org)

**STAY TUNED!**  
[www.ippfen.org](http://www.ippfen.org)

f @ippfeurope  
t @ippfen  
v IPPF European Network

Registered in Belgium as an international  
Non Profit Association N° 0840.619.519

