



## WORKING GROUP ON GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

The “**Working Group on Gender-Based Violence**” is focusing on the question of how restorative justice can be useful in cases of gender-based violence to identify a different way to undo the injustice, repair harm, change the victim’s perception of oneself after the crime and to discourage the offender from committing further violence and harm.

Gender-based violence is a phenomenon deeply rooted in gender inequality, and continues to be one of the most notable human rights violations within all societies. Physical, sexual, psychological or economic harm, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life are some examples.

Gender-based violence often occurs within a relational context and it strengthens discourses and dynamics that criminal justice system fails to take into consideration as well as the overall experience of the parties involved. Also, only a few cases of gender-based violence are reported to the authorities and even less reach the criminal justice system as a large number of victims prefer to keep private about the situation. This is why more awareness-raising initiatives and alternative justice engagement and support are needed.

EFRJ recognizes and respects the concerns that many people have over restorative responses to gender-based violence. There are real risks of victimization due to imbalances of power and control. Such violence is often deeply traumatic for the victim. This working group will be responsible for addressing these challenges and developing models of restorative justice, which are safe, anti-oppressive and effective.

### The Working Group:

- Produces a short document explaining the potential contribution of restorative justice in this domain;
- Works together to develop a specific training of the EFRJ;
- Supports and encourages research on the potential application of restorative justice related to gender-based violence;
- Commits to regular virtual meetings and exchange of emails
- Can be consulted on this topic by EFRJ staff and members.
- Initiate project proposals on the topic

**Four/Six members** will compose the core team of the Working Group and they will be selected based on their experience, profession, motivation to participate, and country representation.

The deadline for applications is **7 September 2020**. We invite interested members to [fill this form](#) including a short bio and a short motivation note

