

Brava Ending violence against women together

Formerly TERRE DES FEMMES Switzerland



Annual report 2022

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Brava combats violence against women and sexism in Switzerland.

In so doing, we pay special attention to people in particularly precarious situations, such as women refugees.

Our vision is a just society where all people, regardless of gender, live free of violence and in a self-determined manner.

Editorial

2022 was a year without certainties. After the Taliban took power in Afghanistan, women and activists were murdered in Iran, the right to abortion was overthrown in the US and women were outvoted on the issue of the AHV-revision in Switzerland, we had to accept that setbacks on the path to equality were also a real possibility. We learned something this year: rights that seem to be secure can suddenly be taken away from us.

And that's exactly why it is so important not to relent, to never give up, to get organised in networks, to create alliances and to stand up for a fairer world without violence, side by side.

And that's what Brava did last year: In 2022, Brava provided counselling and support to women affected by violence, initiated, promoted and finalised political deals, built bridges and networks, listened to people and amplified their voices.

You will find out more about our work on the following pages. You can read about our counselling sessions, trainings and workshops, our political activities and the project «voices of refugee women». Furthermore, Rozë Berisha, Tahmina Taghiyeva, Sim Egger and Flurina Peyer will give you an insight into their everyday work at Brava.

A lot still remains to be done against gender-based, sexualised and domestic violence in Switzerland. Our allies and us are not running out of ideas. That's why we will continue to work toward equality and against gender-based violence, fully motivated and ferociously! Will you join us?

Nicole Niedermüller, board member



The year 2022 in numbers

9 empowerment workshops with and for migrants held

145 migrants empowered through workshops

6 trainings conducted

Awareness raised among 160 experts on gender-based violence



Counselling of 55 persons affected by violence

50 refugee women reached with the project "Voices of Refugee Women"



You can find all interviews for this annual report at www.brava-ngo.ch/de/aktuell/jahresbericht or here (in German).



Counselling

In 2022, 55 people requested advice from Brava through various channels. After an initial interview and support in the triage, 36 of them were successfully referred to a specialised agency. 15 women received support over a longer period of time. 14 of the requests came from women in the asylum process, who were affected by gender-based violence (most of them during their journey). Four women had already been accompanied by Brava for some time. Those cases were successfully closed in 2022.

Persons affected by gender-based violence often have insufficient access to offers of support and counselling in Switzerland. They are confronted with structural obstacles due to linguistic or social barriers or because of their residence status that they are unable to overcome without support. They often don't know what specific offers exist. Brava tries to ensure that all people affected by gender-based violence will get professional support and counselling.

“The clients themselves do most of the work during a counselling session. I am always deeply impressed by their power, their patience and their will to keep on fighting.”

Education

Trainings

In 2022, Brava conducted six trainings in gender-based violence for 160 professional experts. Clients included the asylum organisation AÖZ Zurich, the professional association Avenir Social and the Salvation Army Bern. “How can I react in situations of domestic violence?”, “How do I recognise that a woman needs help?” or “What contact points can I refer her to?” are questions that we always come up against during trainings.

Many refugee women experienced massive violence in their country of origin or on their journey. In Switzerland, they are discriminated against on various levels and often don't know what they can do or what their rights are. The staff at the asylum centres are often the only direct contact point and therefore play an important role in preventing violence and supporting persons affected by violence. In order for women to be professionally supported in the area of asylum and migration, the people working in these structures need to understand and be aware of gender-based violence.

Empowerment workshops

We held nine half-day workshops for 145 migrant and displaced women in 2022. The issues the women wanted to discuss ranged from “self-determination and women's rights” to “dealing with stress and prevention of violence”. The participants of the workshops came from Turkey, Kurdistan, Syria, Somalia and Eritrea.

The aim of the workshops is to give information and help the women to get easier access to competent support. The workshops are led by two experts from the Brava Education and Counselling Circle and a key person with her own experience in migration or as a refugee. Additionally, experts like lawyers or psychologists give specialised inputs. Translations, child care and costs of transportation are, of course, provided.



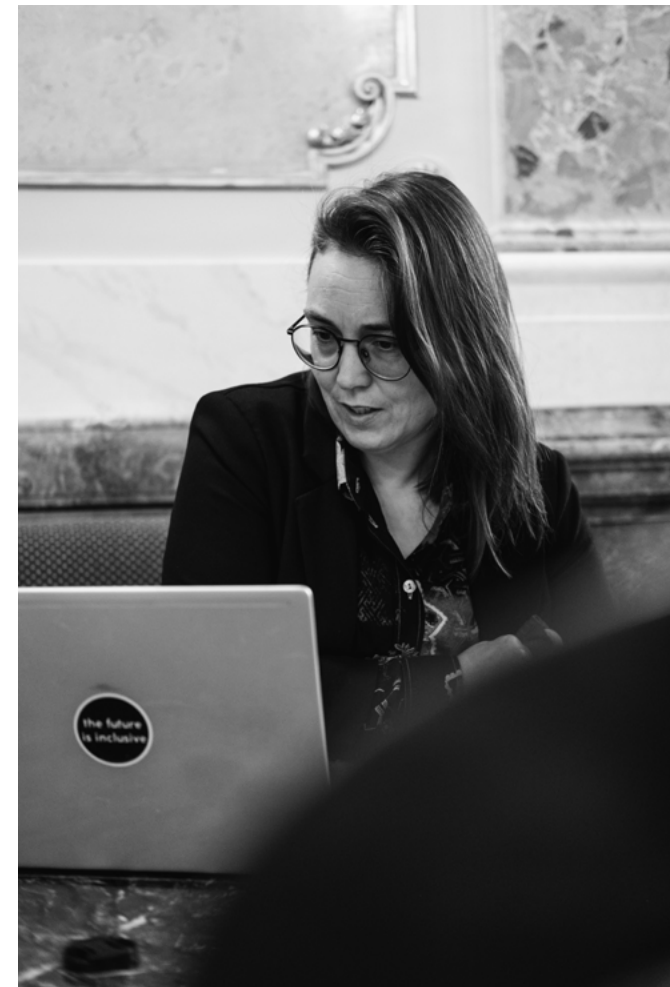
“The asylum system needs to be rethought in fundamental ways, otherwise such offers will just remain a drop in the ocean”.

Political activities

In 2022, Brava and its allies attained that nationwide prevention campaigns against violence and prevalence studies on violence will become a reality in the near future and a contemporary sexual offence law will be introduced very soon. Furthermore, the path for a national crisis intervention centre in cases of violence has been paved and motions on this issue were adopted by both councils in the autumn session. At this crisis intervention centre persons affected by violence will receive immediate specialised medical and psychological support and will be able to make use of professional documentation and forensics services.

We are particularly pleased to witness that the fight for the rights of refugees and migrants affected by violence is finally bearing fruits. We are also hopeful for the political issues on the agenda: “Tatort Ausland” (access to specialised support for persons who were affected by violence abroad) and AIG 50 (better protection against domestic violence through a residence status independent of marriage).

But we need to persist! International experts confirmed in their GREVIO report on the implementation of the Istanbul Convention, which was published in autumn 2022, what we see in our everyday work: in Switzerland, there is a lack of political will and not enough money allocated to comprehensively combat gender-based violence!



“The year 2022 showed once more that we can achieve an awful lot through the persistent and interconnected work of NGOs, activists and expert services.”

You can find the full interview with Sim Egger, responsible for political activities, on our website (in German).



Project “Voices”

The year 2022 was very important for the project “Voices of refugee women”. The first exchange between politicians and the project participants took place in January. It was the first time the women could directly speak with political decision-makers and voice their demands (for example concerning mental and physical health or their living situation in asylum centres).

A further highlight after our participation at the feminist strike on 14th of June: Tahmina Taghiyeva takes up the newly created position of Project Officer in July. This was followed in August by a trip to Berlin, where participants of the Voices-Project had the chance to network with refugee women from all over the world at the international Women in Exile conference.

Over the year, a total of 10 meetings took place with around 50 refugee women. They formulated their political demands together, supported each other and searched for ways to make their voices heard in Switzerland.

At the last meeting of the year the women wrote a greeting card to the new Federal Councillor Elisabeth Baume-Schneider, which included an invitation for a meeting. We were very pleased that the head of the Federal Department of Justice and Police (FDJP) accepted this invitation!

“Many people think that you cannot change anything without the right to vote. But as a refugee woman and activist I know that there are other ways.”



Campaigns

Just in time for the feminist strike day on 14 June, we published the brochure “Gewalt an Frauen – feministisch betrachtet”. The launch was accompanied by a digital campaign on social media.

The richly illustrated brochure highlights important aspects of the issue in short texts: What is violence against women? What can we see when we look back at the last few decades? And what do statistics tell and what don't they tell? This difficult and heavy issue is made accessible through catchy visualisations, embeddings in everyday life situations and plain language over 50 pages.

Due to high demand we were able to print a second edition in autumn 2022. You don't have a copy yet? You can order it at www.brava-ngo.ch/bestellungen.

16 days against violence

Once again, Brava took part in the campaign “16 days against violence against women” by the peace organisation cfd. On 25 November, the Day Against Violence Against Women, we published a podcast on the issue of this year's campaign: femicide. The planned screening of the film “Chaylla” at the Human Rights Film Festival in Zurich and the following panel discussion had to be cancelled at the last minute because the event venue Kosmos went bankrupt. The event will now take place in April 2023. Nevertheless, Brava was still present during the 16 days: with interviews in the media and expert inputs on various panels.



Finances

Balance sheet (in CHF)

ASSETS	2022	2021
Petty cash	56.20	0.00
Postal cheque	144 560.95	351 261.42
Banks	1 022 083.24	815 579.67
Liquid assets	1 166 700.39	1 166 841.09
Accounts receivable	0.00	0.00
Short-term loan	0.00	0.00
Accounts receivable	0.00	0.00
Inventory	3 566.00	4 060.00
Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	54 024.67	37 314.65
Current Assets	1 224 291.06	1 208 215.74
Fixtures and Fittings	678.00	1 284.00
IT, office equipment	2 095.65	4 269.00
Fixed assets	2 773.65	5 553.00
Total assets	1 227 064.71	1 213 768.74
Liabilities	2022	2021
Trade payables	47 138.65	101 108.17
Accrued expenses and deferred charges	143 068.40	109 405.41
Short-term borrowed capital	190 207.05	210 513.58
Short-term borrowed capital	190 207.05	210 513.58
Organization capital	1 036 857.66	1 003 255.16
Total liabilities	1 227 064.71	1 213 768.74

The complete annual statement can be found on our website.

Profit and loss account (in CHF)

	2022	2021
Membership contributions	6 700.00	6 800.00
Donations without a specific purpose	334 025.38	357 922.97
Donations for a specific purpose	4 427.00	1 640.00
Income from projects	408 669.15	388 889.62
Income from patrons	918 750.02	910 391.72
Total income	1 672 571.55	1 665 644.31
Labour expenditure	713 882.69	684 089.46
Travel and hospitality	7 711.05	4 818.70
Expenditure	206 556.79	141 829.08
Material expenditure	2 709.00	4 807.15
Direct project costs	930 859.53	835 544.39
Patron acquisition costs	312 397.23	151 751.51
Donation acquisition costs	147 367.57	118 571.42
Institutions acquisition costs	58 145.70	59 493.34
Fundraising	517 910.50	329 816.27
Labour expenditure	90 686.58	102 108.86
Travel expenses	11 316.32	17 108.52
Material expenditure/Further education	24 464.29	23 282.87
Maintenance costs	40 316.01	30 877.91
Collective costs	15 864.22	114 856.15
Depreciation	2 709.00	4 807.15
Total Administrative Expenses	185 356.42	293 041.46
Operating Result	38 445.10	207 242.19
Financial profit/Bank charges	-4 842.60	-4 699.16
Total Financial Result	-4 842.60	-4 699.16
Result before adjustment of fund capital	33 602.50	202 543.03
Allocated Funds	-34 000.00	-154 000.00
Withdrawn Funds	11 876.00	1 909.95
Total Fund Adjustment	-22 124.00	-152 090.05
Annual Result	11 478.50	50 452.98

About us

Our everyday work against gender-based violence and sexism is only possible because of your support. We will ensure that, in future, all women in Switzerland will be able to lead a self-determined life. Our activities include:

- Advisory service for persons affected by violence, their families or professional experts
- Political activities towards concrete measures against gender-based violence
- Empowerment workshops with and for migrants
- Trainings for migration and asylum experts
- Campaigns and awareness-raising to make gender-based violence visible

You want to know what stands behind Brava? Visit our website.

Become a private donor

With a patronage you are sending a clear message against gender-based violence and are helping us to implement concrete and comprehensive long-term projects for persons affected by violence. We thank you very much!



www.brava-ngo.ch/donate

Do you have any questions?
Please contact us: 031 311 38 79
spenden@brava-ngo.ch



“Our long-standing effort against violence against women is only possible thanks to you. Thank you very much for your donations, your complicity, your reassuring words, for sharing our contents in your networks. Thank you very much for showing interest in our work”

Nathalie Jufer, responsible communication

Colophon

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