

# *Victim Support Netherlands*



**Implementation of the  
EU Directive minimum standards on the rights,  
support and protection of victims of crime**

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**WORKSHOP « victims on needs  
assessment Article 22 »**

# *Victim Support NL: Staff*



**1300 volunteers**

**450 paid colleagues →**

**Team managers**

**Legal advisors**

**Casemanagers**

**HR**

**ICT**

**Communication**

**Finance**

## *Victims assisted in 2013*



**165.000 victims contacted →**

**one contact: 93.400**

**continued assistance 71.500**

## *Continued assistance*

**Practical and emotional support: 63.000**

### **Legal aid:**

- **Claiming damages in the criminal procedure: 19.300**
- **Support in the criminal procedure 6.800**
- **Victim impact statement 4.500**

## *EU directive*



### **Implementation:**

- **Proposal for implementation-law will go to parliament at the beginning of 2015**
- **Lower regulation is being developed**
- **Victim support NL is involved in the preparation**

## *Individual assessment*



- **The individual assessment will not be laid down in law but will be established in lower regulation.**
- **I have used a part of the presentation of Helga Ezendam, senior policy advisor Ministry of Security and Justice to show you the elaboration of the assessment in The Netherlands.**



## Individual assessment

Member States shall ensure that victims receive a timely and individual assessment, in accordance with national procedures, to identify specific protection needs and to determine whether and to what extent they would benefit from special measures in the course of criminal proceedings, as provided for under Articles 23 and 24, due to their particular vulnerability to secondary and repeat victimisation, to intimidation and to retaliation.



# Individual assessment - procedure







## Step 1 – assessment

### Personal characteristics

Children

mentally handicapped  
/communication limitation

### Nature of the crime

trafficking human beings

Seksual offences

Murder / menslaughter

Violence in close relationships

Stalking

Terrorism

Genderbased violence/  
hatecrime

Other High Impact Crime

### Circumstances

victim dependant on suspect

higher risk perception victim

earlier victimization within one  
year from the same offence

crime committed in organized  
context

exceptional circumstances



## Step 2 - Measures

If victim is considered vulnerable because of the outcome of step 1:

2 questions:

1. Additional protection measures necessary?  
- consider also the wishes of the victim -

If the answer is yes:

2. Which protection measures are necessary to protect the victim?

(Digital) manual will be developed to help the police officer to choose the right protection measures.



## Step 3 - update

If the elements that form the basis of the individual assessment have changed significantly, Member States shall ensure that it is updated throughout the criminal proceedings. (art. 22 par. 7)

Update by

- Police
- Public prosecutors office

Role of victim support needs further discussion because of privacy aspects.



## Protection measures

- ✓ Safe criminal justice proces
- ✓ Safe victim

*End of presentation*



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