

Good afternoon everyone, I am Sara Masetti, I'm a legal fellow and I'm here on behalf of the Alliance of NGOs on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice.

First of all, I would like to thank UNDOC Civil Society Unit for having us here today.

Wanting to do its part in pursuing sustainable development goal 5.2 set by the United Nations, our NGO asked itself how it could help victims of gender-based violence, especially focusing on their access to justice.

For this reason, about one year ago we started working with Gewalt Ambulanz, a violence clinic within the Heidelberg University Hospitals. This clinic is specialized in documenting injuries that can be used in court and offers protection of traces on body and clothing.

Wanting to overcome the possible confusion resulting both from the suffered trauma and from the intrinsic difficulty of technical and juridical language, our NGO studied and developed a leaflet.

This leaflet, that can be found in the violence clinic, aims to help the victims of violence providing them with the basic and essential information about the rights granted them under German law and a list of useful contacts, divided in categories such as: women victims, children, refugees.

The ultimate goal that we hope to achieve through this leaflet – once we test its usability and incorporate every suggestion – is to eventually distribute it in hospital wards, police stations, prisons, refugee shelters and other NGOs.

We will also collect data from victims and carers as they use the leaflets, and publish a scientific study in a few years which, we hope, will also allow us to better the methodology, and make it freely available to other NGOs and state organs in every context in which victims need help.