



WOMEN'S RIGHTS CENTER
CENTAR ZA ŽENSKA PRAVA



MONTENEGRO: Domestic Violence Joint Stakeholder Report for the United Nations Universal Periodic Review

Submitted by The Advocates for Human Rights
a non-governmental organization in special consultative status
SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence-Nikšić
and
Women's Rights Center

for the 29th Session of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review
January - February 2018

Founded in 1983, **The Advocates for Human Rights** (The Advocates) is a volunteer-based non-governmental organization (NGO) committed to the impartial promotion and protection of international human rights standards and the rule of law. The Advocates conducts a range of programs to promote human rights in the United States and around the world, including monitoring and fact finding, direct legal representation, education and training, and publications. The Advocates has produced more than 80 reports documenting human rights practices in more than 25 countries, and works with partners overseas and in the United States to restore and protect human rights. The Advocates for Human Rights holds Special Consultative Status with the United Nations.

SOS Hotline for Women and Children Victims of Violence Nikšić was founded in 1998 by a group of activists, who dream about a society in which equality and social justice are core values. SOS Hotline is recognized as one of the leading NGOs in Montenegro in the fight for women's rights. SOS Hotline seeks to be a powerful instrument for women in economic, social and political empowerment. SOS Hotline's vision is a world where all women and all children live in peace and dignity. Its mission is to help the positive development and application of capacity and potential of women and children in the family and society, through the promotion and protection of women's and children's rights in order to create a dedicated, responsible, and open community.

Women's Rights Center was established in 2012, on the basis of the founders' long-term experience in providing support to women survivors of gender-based violence and other violations of women's human rights. The Women's Rights Center (WRC) empowers women to fight for a better position in society and access to justice, offering them counselling, psychological and legal assistance. Through advocacy, monitoring and promotion of women's creativity, the Women's Rights Center improves conditions and the social atmosphere in which women exercise their rights. WRC advocates for gender equality as one of the priorities of Montenegro in the European integration process.