

ALLIANCE OF WOMEN IN SLOVAKIA
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The Alliance of Women in Slovakia is a citizen's movement which began in January 1993 as an initiative of a small group of women who had already been engaged in public life and were committed to actively supporting the development of civic awareness and civic culture in their own community, with an emphasis on women's human rights.

In 2003 we continued concentrating on domestic violence and trafficking in women as the most cruel violation of human rights by:

- working in our Crisis Centre (accompanied by a hot line) and providing social, psychological and legal advice and assistance to approx. 400 "new" clients and 80 "old" clients-victims of domestic violence;
- teaching about domestic violence as a subject at the Law Clinic of the Trnava Law faculty - this year number of our students doubled;
- extending our activities in the field of legislation: after having drafted amendments to the existing laws to combat domestic violence, which were passed by the Parliament in June 2002, we are now taking part in the Interministerial Working Team on procedures for dealing with the victims of crime;
- finalising a brochure "Short answers to the most frequent questions about domestic violence", which includes the new legislation we helped to prepare in 2001-2002.

We continued working on a project called the Round Table - a pilot series of participative training seminars on domestic violence tailored for police, lawyers, judges, doctors, social workers, and other professionals dealing with the issue of domestic violence. The aim is then to bring them together again for a round table to discuss producing manuals on the subject for all their colleagues.

We have held consultations with various organisations and institutions in Slovakia and also with ProFem in Prague, and with Amnesty International members from various countries at their meeting in Budapest.

We co-operated with the Austrian organisation Lefoe in providing assistance for trafficked women who had been returned to Slovakia.

We also started a new project with the Polish and Czech organisations La Strada on the training of social workers dealing with trafficked women in Slovakia.

Together with the Austrian organisation Peregrina, we worked on a documentary film about migrant workers *Gute Arbeit*, and we collaborated with the Austrian organisation Initiative Minderheiten in preparing an exhibition on the same topic called *Gastarbajteri*.