

End FGM EU 2025 Annual Campaign

# #INVEST2PREVENTFGM

BUILDING A FUTURE

FREE FROM FGM



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# ABOUT THE END FGM EUROPEAN NETWORK

The End FGM European Network (End FGM EU) is an umbrella network of **39 European organisations based in 16 European countries**. End FGM EU operates as a meeting ground for communities, NGOs, CSOs and EU level stakeholders to engage, interact and cooperate with one another by sharing experiences and exchanging knowledge.

We uplift and amplify the efforts of our members who are working at the national level to tackle FGM through research, education, support services, and community engagement.

Over the past **10 years**, End FGM EU has:

- Played a leading role in shaping EU policies and advocacy around FGM.
- Worked in close cooperation with international partners to tackle FGM on a global scale.
- Facilitated knowledge-sharing and collaboration among civil society organisations (CSOs) and stakeholders at both the national and EU levels.



A Decade of Action

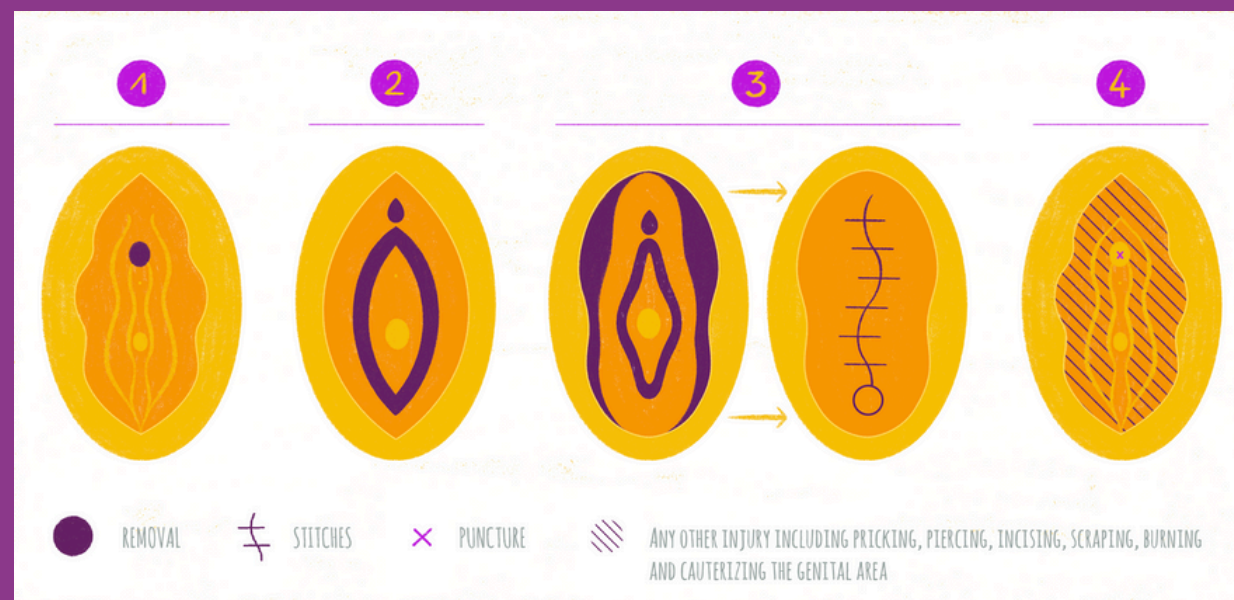


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# WHAT IS FGM?

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** comprises all procedures involving the removal of the external female genitalia or other injury to the female genital organs for non-medical reasons.

There are 4 types of FGM.



FGM is a severe **violation of human rights**, causing physical and psychological harm. It deprives girls and women of bodily integrity and freedom.



FGM is a form of **gender-based violence**, rooted in patriarchy, aiming to control women's sexuality and reinforce discrimination.



FGM is a harmful practice, and over 600.000 women and girls have undergone FGM in Europe. **190.000 girls** are still at risk every year.\*

SOURCE: UNICEF\*



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CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

#Invest2PreventFGM

Building a Future

Free From FGM

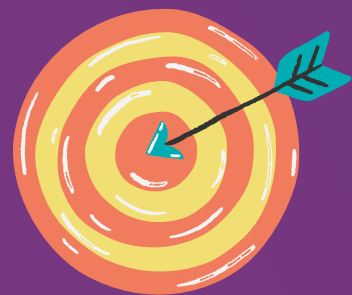


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# CAMPAIGN GOALS



Educate about the physical, psychological, & societal consequences of FGM, highlighting the benefits that its elimination would have on society as a whole.



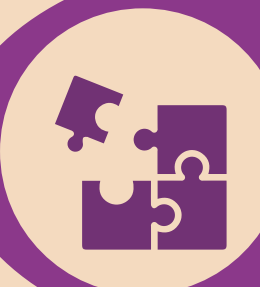
Promote an intersectional approach to FGM elimination, focusing on the importance of prevention strategies.



Drive implementation of key commitments at EU & international level (e.g. the EU VAW Directive & the Istanbul Convention) with a focus on prevention & protection.



Advocate for increased funding for FGM prevention and protection, adapted to the needs of community-led and grassroots initiatives.



Amplify the voice of Communities and Youth: facilitate the creation of spaces for community-led change.



WHY INVEST IN PREVENTION?

WHY IS THIS CAMPAIGN IMPORTANT?

# WHY IS THIS CAMPAIGN IMPORTANT?



Our campaign focuses on **what works to prevent and respond to FGM**. We will promote and encourage the scaling up and widespread implementation of **best practices in prevention and protection**. It's vital that all relevant professionals, civil society, and, most importantly, the communities affected by FGM fully participate in, and benefit from these proven solutions, both in Europe and globally.

Beyond the direct **physical and psychological harm** to women and girls, FGM undermines **the potential of entire communities**. The consequences create lasting barriers to societal well-being, perpetuating cycles of gender inequality, and poor health outcomes. FGM imposes significant costs on communities and public services, contributing to both economic losses and social instability.

Prioritizing prevention strategies across all sectors of society is key to ensure the well-being of women and girls, **break the cycle of FGM, protect future generations, and promote gender equality**. This strengthens entire communities, ultimately allowing societies to thrive.





# THE IMPACT OF FGM ON SOCIETY

FGM perpetuates cycles of gender inequality, and poor health outcomes, imposing significant costs on communities, public services, and economies.



## HEALTHCARE

Physical and psychological harm, including 30% higher childbirth complications for women who've undergone FGM.\*



## ECONOMY

FGM incurs an average cost of over \$50,000 per woman in healthcare, lost productivity, and legal expenses.\*



## EDUCATION

Girls who experience FGM are 20% less likely to complete primary education, perpetuating cycles of poverty and gender inequality.\*\*



# & BENEFITS OF PREVENTION

Ending FGM breaks harmful cycles, empowers women and girls to live free from harm, fostering their well-being which ultimately benefits the whole society.

## STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES

In regions where FGM has been reduced, there is greater social cohesion, improved intergenerational relationships, and stronger community trust.

## BUILDING RESILIENT SOCIETIES

Investing in FGM prevention strengthens healthcare systems, fosters gender equality, and promotes the sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) of women and girls.

## EMPOWERING WOMEN & PROMOTING GROWTH

Womens and girls free from harm can fully participate in society, contribute to positive change in their communities, and advocate for equality.



(SOURCE: UNFPA, WHO)\*

\*SOURCE: WORLD BANK\*\*

(SOURCE: NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, NIH)\*\*\*

# WHY INVEST IN PREVENTION?

While **supporting Survivors** remains at the core of our mission, we urge institutions and donors to increase investment in prevention systems aligned with the Council of Europe's Istanbul Convention and EU legislation.

Throughout the year, we will focus on **different sub-themes each month**, highlighting best practices identified on the [End FGM E-Campus platform](#), and through the [Join Our Chain program](#).

Personal stories from our community trainers, [grassroots activists](#), and [Senior & Youth Ambassadors](#) through the [Purple Chair podcast](#) who aim to amplify and empower youth voices from affected communities against FGM will also be featured.

By sharing these resources built with an intersectional approach we aim to empower FGM-affected communities, engage decision-makers, and raise awareness about concrete steps to end FGM.



**We all play a role** in ensuring prevention is prioritised and the existing gaps in laws, funding and policies are bridged.

Let's work together to **build a future free from FGM!**



GRASSROOT VOICES

# CAMPAIGN ITINERARY

## FEBRUARY

### INVEST IN PREVENTION

#### Campaign Launch

- [End FGM Good Practices Poster \(10 languages\)](#)
  - [Global Report on FGM/C 2025](#)
  - [END FGM E-Campus: Module 4 - Prevention](#)
  - [Join Our Chain](#)
- 
- 4-7th February: End FGM EU Week of Zero Tolerance for FGM
  - 6th February: International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM

## MARCH

### INVEST IN INTERSECTIONAL & INCLUSIVE APPROACH

- [How to Talk about FGM Guidelines](#)
  - [FGM, RELIGIOUS DISCRIMINATION & INTERSECTIONALITY PAPER](#)
  - [CSW:REFRAMING FGM](#)
- 
- 8th March: International Women's Day
  - [CSW69 / Beijing+30 \(2025\)](#)



# APRIL

## INVEST IN SURVIVOR SUPPORT & HEALTHCARE

- [Support Services for FGM Survivors Position Paper](#)
- [Medicalisation paper](#)
- [End FGM E-Campus: Module 2 - Health](#)
- [Join Our Chain](#)

- 7 April: World Health day

# MAY

## INVEST IN EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES

Prevention/Protection Stories series featuring community leaders and Survivors

- [Community Voices Project](#)
- [Community of Practice on FGM](#)
- [Community Engagement Position Paper](#)
- [END FGM E-Campus: Module 5 - Community Engagement](#)
- [Walking the Talk: Financing for Feminist Futures](#)

- 9 May: Europe Day
- 21 May: World Day for Cultural Diversity



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# JUNE - JULY

## INVEST IN PROTECTION & SUPPORT FOR SURVIVORS & GIRLS STILL AT RISK

- [FGM and Asylum Position Paper](#)
- [What can be done to tackle cross-border FGM ?](#)
- [END FGM E-Campus: Module 3 - Protection](#)
  
- 4 June: International Day of Children Victims of Aggression
- 16 June: International Day of the African Child
- 20 June: World refugee Day

# AUGUST - SEPTEMBER

## INVEST IN EDUCATION & AWARENESS

The importance of accurate data in  
shaping effective policy

- [The Interactive Map on FGM in Europe](#)
- [Social Impact Measurement Methodology on FGM](#)
- [Guide on FGM \( The guide will follow soon stay tuned!\)](#)
  
- 1st August: Anniversary entry in force Istanbul Convention
- 12th August: International Youth Day
- 8th September: International Literacy Day



# OCTOBER

## INVEST IN YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Focus on amplifying the voiceS of young people against FGM.

- Community Engagement Position Paper
- Youth Engagement Position Paper
- Purple Chair Podcast
- EWAG week

- 11 October: International Day of the Girl Child (EWAG)
- Ambassadors Programme: Intergenerational Meeting



# NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

## INVEST IN CHANGING THE FUTURE

Support the Kigali Declaration to End FGM and Urge Donors to #CloseTheFundingGap

- Donors Working Group
- Kigali Declaration

- GREVIO Baseline evaluation of EU
- 25 November: International Day Against Violence Against Women
- #16DaysofActivism



# SUPPORT OUR CAMPAIGN

Support us in making this Annual Campaign impactful!

Share your prevention stories, strategies, and successes using the campaign hashtags and **Join Us in Building a Future Free From FGM!**

- Print the posters in [this folder](#) and use them in your pictures.
- Use the stories in [this folder](#) on your social media.

**DON'T FORGET TO TAG US!**

Do you have questions or a contribution relating to the campaign?  
Reach out to: [info@endfgm.eu](mailto:info@endfgm.eu).



**Use our Campaign Hashtags**


**#Invest2PreventFGM**

**#EndFGM**

**Follow us**

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