

***Femmes migrantes victimes de violences
au Luxembourg et à l'étranger***

The case of Portugal

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Legal framework & relevant public policies

VICTIM'S STATUTE

*every victim of crime has the **same rights**, regardless of ancestry, **nationality**, social status, gender, ethnicity, race, language, age, religion, disability, political or ideological beliefs, sexual orientation, culture, or educational level*

[**specially vulnerable victims** have extra protection and guarantees]

- Information & communication
- Legal aid
- Protection
- Medical assistance
- Prevention of secondary victimization
- **Assistance by a Victim Support Specialist**

Legal
framework
& relevant
public policies

NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR THE RIGHTS OF VICTIMS OF CRIME 2024-2028

Migrants are always considered **specially vulnerable**

To **mitigate obstacles that hinder the participation** of victims in criminal proceedings, *assess the possibility of ensuring that, until the completion of the initial individual protection needs assessment of the victim, no personal data related to the victim's residency status is transferred to the authorities responsible for immigration matters*

Legal framework & relevant public policies

IMMIGRATION LAW



Structural changes this year prevent most migrants to get a residence permit!

Domestic violence:

in cases of family reunification, victims can get an **autonomous residence permit**, but only after the Public Prosecutor makes a formal accusation.

Human Trafficking:

if undocumented, victims have a right to a **special residence permit**

Difficulties & obstacles in practice

what happens to victims that are undocumented?

LAWS THAT ENSURE PROTECTION TO VICTIMS OF CRIME COLLIDE WITH OTHER LEGAL DIPLOMAS!

- Information & communication
lack of translation services
- Legal aid
rule of reciprocity
- Protection
access to shelters & social support
hindered by bureaucratic obstacles
- Medical assistance
exemption from payment can be denied
- Prevention of secondary victimization
risk of being reported to immigration authorities
- Assistance by a Victim Support Specialist



Discrimination!

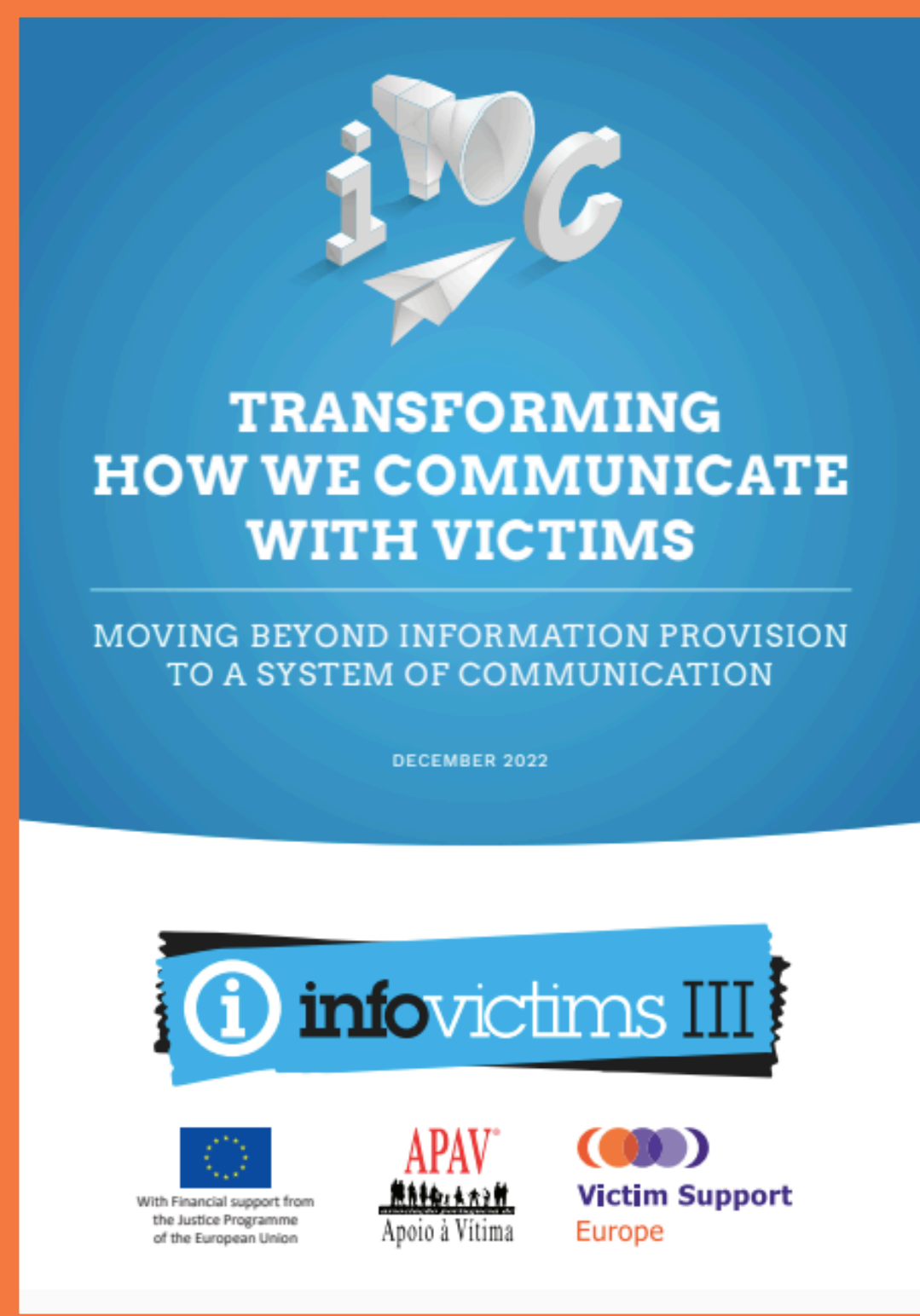
The
importance
of victim
support
services
designed for
migrants

THE POWER OF HAVING AN INTERMEDIARY!

The Portuguese Association for Victim Support has a **Support Unit for Migrant and Discrimination Victims since 2005**

The **National Support Centers for Migrant Integration** have **victim support services for migrants** who are victims of domestic violence and/or harmful traditional practices **since 2021**

The importance of victim support services designed for migrants



- First contact with police and/or Courts and follow-up on all stages of the process
- Institutional protocols to prevent victims to face certain services directly
- Lobbying to improve public policies
- Training of professionals that might contact with migrant victims

Thank you!

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