



FIRST INTERNATIONAL SOS-VICS CONFERENCE
“Building communication bridges in gender violence”
(directed to all professionals assisting victims/survivors)
University of Vigo, Spain, 25th and 26th September, 2014.

CALL FOR PAPERS

The approval in Spain of Basic Law 1/2004 of 28th December, 2004, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence has greatly contributed to fighting gender violence, especially in drafting regulations and creating specialised institutional mechanisms to tackle this issue. However, the problem is still present in our society and statistics indicate that the number of gender violence cases among foreign women is extremely high in Spain and other EU countries.

In Spain, the law provides that professionals who assist such victims/survivors of gender violence should receive specialised training and therefore, interpreters must be provided specialised training in this field in order to cater to the communication rights of these women. However, none of the measures adopted by public administrations have contemplated the need for specialised interpreters to work with victims/survivors of gender violence, thereby hampering communications between the different parties involved in providing assistance to these victims.

The project **Speak Out for Support (SOS-VICS)** is creating tools for such specialised training of interpreters and is simultaneously striving to make the public administration aware of the need to work with professional, specialised interpreters. This project began in November, 2012, and will end in October, 2014. It will culminate with the **First International SOS-VICS Conference entitled “Building communication bridges in gender violence” which will be held in Vigo, Spain, on 25th and 26th September, 2014.**

This conference will be **multidisciplinary** and cover communication problems between victims/survivors who do not speak the official language/s and the people assisting them (**legal professionals, public prosecutors, police, medical professionals, psychologists, social workers, computer experts, NGO’s, victims’ associations, immigrants’ associations, administrative staff, etc.**). It will bring together all agents under the common SOS-VICS umbrella to speak and seek ways to improve communication efficiency in our respective fields.

There will be plenary sessions, round-table discussions, paper presentations and poster sessions. Experienced gender-violence professionals and interpreter trainers will talk at the plenary and round table sessions. Please ensure that your paper is linked to the title of this conference. **Abstracts must be limited to 300 words and should have 5 keywords. The official languages of the conference will be English and Spanish, therefore kindly send your abstracts either in English or Spanish.**

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS:

- Dr. Erik Hertog (Emeritus Professor at KU Leuven/Lessius school and external consultant of SOS-VICS)
- María Naredo Molero (legal expert and consultant to Amnesty International)
- SOS-VICS project partners (please check the [project website](#) for more information about our partners).



DATES TO REMEMBER:

Abstracts must be sent in by 30th April, 2014.

Successful applicants will be notified after 31st May, 2014.

Deadline for conference registration is 15th July, 2014.

Deadline for submission of papers for publication is 30th July, 2014.

The organising committee will be glad to help you with your queries (sosvics.congreso2014@uvigo.es). Kindly visit the conference website (<http://cuautla.uvigo.es/consos/>) or the project's website (<http://sos-vics.org>) to know more about the conference or project.

Registration is free and should be done through the conference website (<http://cuautla.uvigo.es/consos/>). All participants will be given a certificate of attendance.

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