

ORANGE THE WORLD 2026

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Watch the recording [HERE](#)

Sabine Reimann

Eva Skårner

Marianne Doze

Susanne von Dadelsen-Becker

21 June 2026

Soroptimist



International of Europe

#Be**THE**VoiceForWomen'sRights

WHAT TO EXPECT TODAY

- 👉 **What is the OTW Theme 2026**
- 👉 **SIE Advocacy**
- 👉 **The SIE Istanbul Convention Initiative**
- 👉 **Where to find the material**
- 👉 **How to use the material**
- 👉 **Possible activities**
- 👉 **Next steps**



THE OTW THEME 2026



#Be**THE**VoiceForWomen'sRights

Sabine Reimann SIE President

WHAT IS ADVOCACY



- A short definition of Advocacy

Eva Skårner, Vice-President Advocacy



#Be**THE**VoiceForWomen'sRights

Sabine Reimann SIE President

WHAT IS ADVOCACY?

Advocacy means:



- ❑ Giving visibility to women's issues
- ❑ Influencing policies & decision-makers
- ❑ Bringing local experiences to international level
- ❑ Supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals

NB: New Advocacy manual for clubs and members with an Advocacy toolbox filled with all important documents and easy to read breakdowns



WHY FOCUS ON PREVENTION?



- Facts about the Istanbul Convention
- The 4 Pillars of the Istanbul Convention
- The Istanbul Convention Promoters within SIE

Marianne Doze, Istanbul Convention Promoter NL





THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

AND WHY
IT SHOULD BE IMPORTANT
TO SOROPTIMISTS

What is the connection to Orange The World



THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

or

The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and
combating violence against women and domestic
violence

WHAT IS THE AIM OF THE CONVENTION

- prevention of violence
- protection of (potential) victims
- ending the impunity of the perpetrators

Parties are obligated to develop

- laws
- policies
- support services

in order to eliminate violence



protests in Istanbul due tot the withdrawal of Turkey june 2021

ISTANBUL CONVENTION

A 文 LINGUE
MAPS

-  Signed and ratified
-  Signed, not in force
-  Withdrew



don't forget to follow @LINGUE.MAPS

THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

WHAT IS IN THE CONVENTION?



PREVENTION

If a country has ratified the Istanbul Convention,
it will have to take the following measures:



TRAINING OF
PROFESSIONALS



PARTICIPATION OF
MEDIA AND PRIVATE SECTOR



ROLE OF
MEN AND BOYS



AWARENESS-RAISING
CAMPAIGNS



PROGRAMMES
FOR
PERPETRATORS



EDUCATION IN NON-VIOLENCE
AND EQUALITY BETWEEN
WOMEN AND MEN



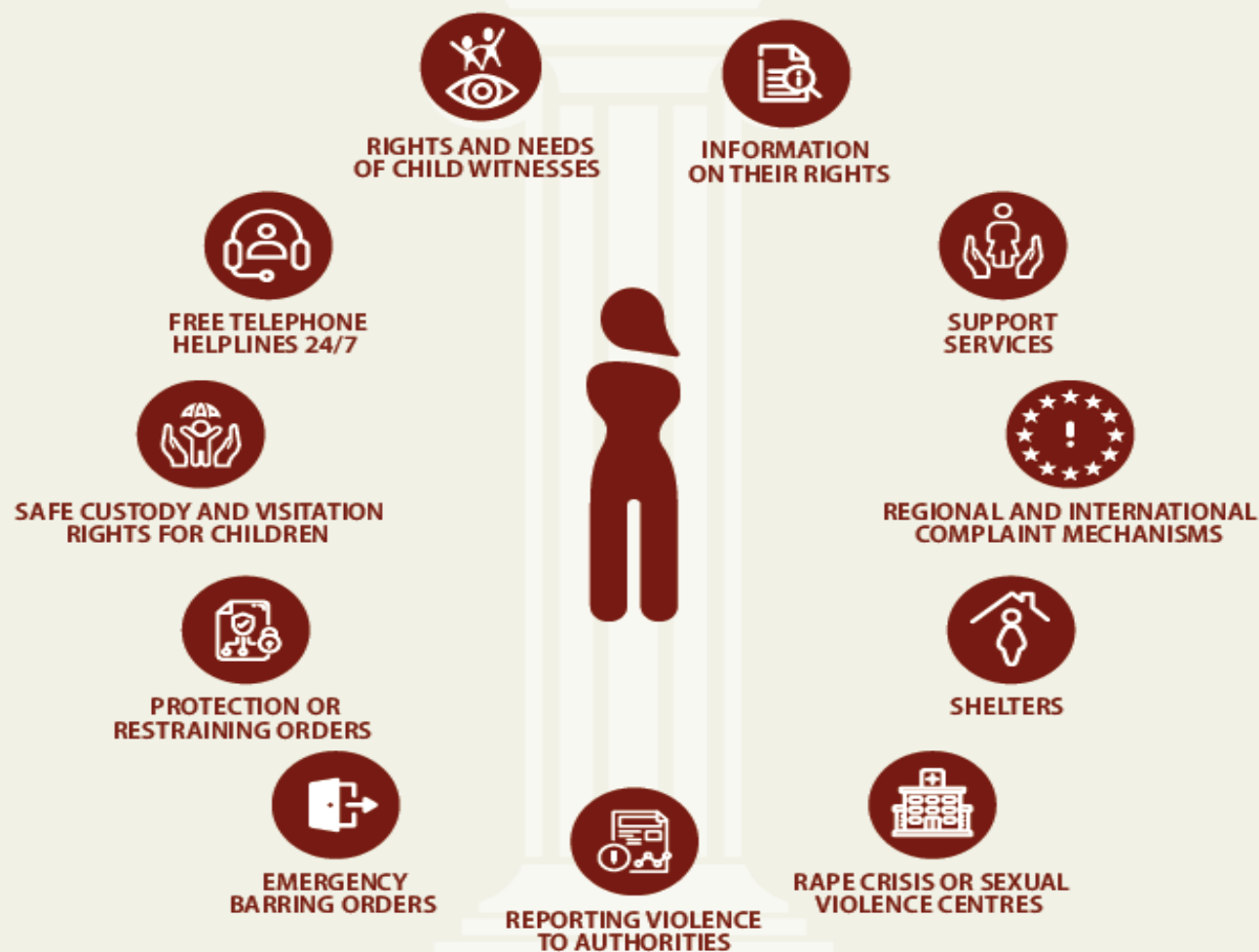
PROMOTING WOMEN'S
EMPOWERMENT



CHALLENGING GENDER
STEREOTYPES

PROTECTION

The safety and needs of victims and witnesses must be at the heart of all protective measures adopted by a country. Their rights include:



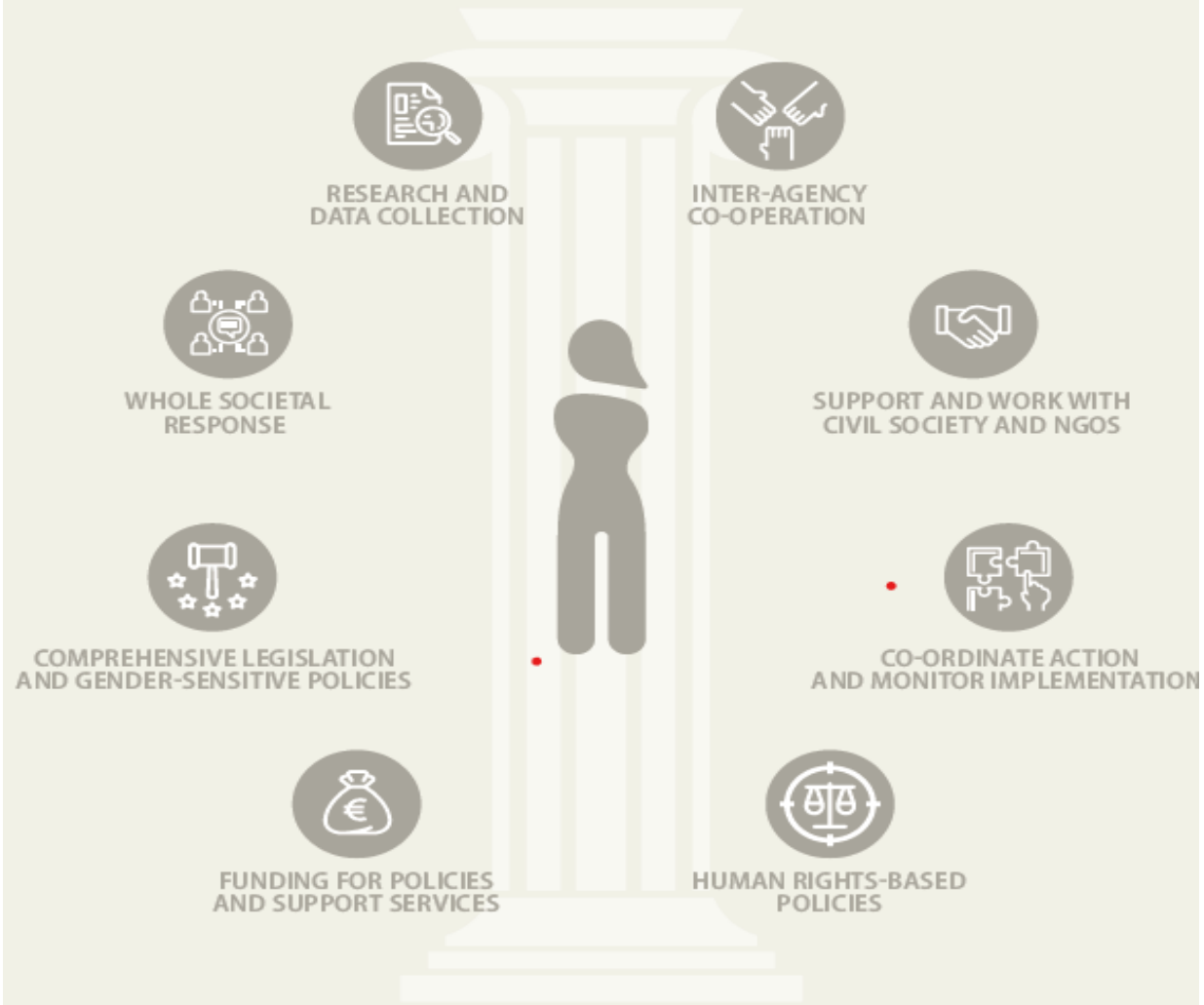
PROSECUTION

If a country has ratified the Istanbul Convention,
it will have to ensure:



CO-ORDINATED POLICIES

If a country has ratified the Istanbul Convention,
it will have to undertake the following actions:



WHICH FORMS OF VIOLENCE?

The Istanbul Convention

Specific forms of violence are criminalised or punished:

- psychological violence
- physical violence
- stalking
- sexual violence
- forced abortion
- forced sterilisation
- female genital mutilation
- sexual harassment.
- digital violence



CONNECTION ORANGE THE WORLD AND ISTANBUL CONVENTION

MOST CAMPAIGNS — RIGHTLY — FOCUS ON THE MESSAGE THAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN IS UNACCEPTABLE.

TODAY'S CHALLENGE LIES NOT ONLY IN AWARENESS, BUT ALSO IN THE QUESTION OF HOW THE AGREEMENTS THAT HAVE ALREADY BEEN MADE ARE ACTUALLY BEING IMPLEMENTED.

The Convention is not only a legal document, but a powerful story about shared responsibility.

European countries have agreed to

- prevent violence against women
- protect victims
- prosecute perpetrators
- develop policy that supports this.

GREVIO

- the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence
- Oversees the implementation of the convention
- Every 4 years each ratifying country is assessed
- GREVIO drafts a report in which the legislative and other measures are evaluated, reports publicly
- Issues recommendations

Common comments in the GREVIO report of different countries:

- There is gender-neutral policy:
it does not acknowledge that women are at greater risk.
- Underlying power dynamics, dependency of women,
and implications for child custody must be acknowledged
(Article 31).

HOW CAN SOROPTIMISTS USE THIS FOR ADVOCACY?

- **AT NATIONAL LEVEL**

National-level advocacy - the most consequential change happens here.

National parliaments pass the laws that implement the Convention;
ministries set the policies and budgets;
high courts shape jurisprudence.

Unions can:

- Read the GREVIO report on your country and use its recommendations as a roadmap for engagement
- Send letters and policy briefs to relevant parliamentarians, ministers and parliamentary committees on specific gaps in implementation
- Initiate or join petition campaigns on specific articles — for example the European petition on Article 31, calling for systematic weighing of violence history in custody and contact decisions
- Build coalitions with other women's organisations and NGOs to amplify advocacy messages
- Engage with the national designated body responsible for coordinating Convention implementation
- Submit shadow contributions to GREVIO's reporting cycles where possible

HOW CAN SOROPTIMISTS USE THIS FOR ADVOCACY?

▪ **AT LOCAL LEVEL**

Municipalities are responsible for many of the services the Convention obliges states to provide: shelter, support, awareness, education partnerships.

Clubs can:

- Approach municipal councils with concrete questions: how many shelter places does our municipality provide? Is the national helpline number visible in public spaces? Do schools in our area teach equality and respect?
- Organise workshops with local schools on Convention obligations under Article 14
- Run media exercises with local journalists — for example reviewing how women are described in local news, an idea that has worked well in Soroptimist clubs already
- Distribute the Violence Meter in community settings, schools and youth organisations
- Host public events during the 16 Days that explain the Convention to a general audience
- Build local coalitions with shelters, helplines, and other women's organisations

LET'S READ THE SIGNS

AND WORK ON IMPLEMENTING THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHj17UIFJn8>

ARTICLE 14

1. The Parties shall, where appropriate, take the measures necessary to introduce educational material on issues such as equality between women and men, non-stereotypical gender roles, mutual respect, non-violent resolution of conflicts in interpersonal relations, gender-related violence against women and the right to personal integrity, adapted to the developmental level of the pupils in formal curricula and at all levels of education.
2. The Parties shall take the measures necessary to promote the principles referred to in the first paragraph in informal education facilities as well as in facilities for sport, culture and recreation and the media.

DO YOU FEEL YOU NEED TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ISTANBUL CONVENTION



Invite your national Istanbul Convention Promoter

- Invite her for a presentation in your club or region
- Ask her advice regarding planned activities
- Include her with any petitions!



FIND THE MATERIAL

**SOROPTIMIST
INTERNATIONAL
OF EUROPE**

 Edit my profile

 Change password

 Logout

 Dashboard

 My structure

 Structures ▾

 Members

 PFR

 Fees

 Downloads

 Registrations

>  05 - Meetings

>  06 - Mentoring and Leadership Academy

▼  07 - Programme & Advocacy

>  Advocacy - CSW

▼  Advocacy - Campaign SIE Federation-initiated

▼  **16 Days of Activism**

 2019

>  2020

>  2021

>  READ THE SIGNS 2022

>  READ THE SIGNS 2023

>  READ THE SIGNS 2024

>  READ THE SIGNS 2025

▼  READ THE SIGNS 2026

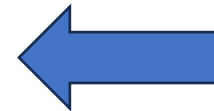
>  Visuals for print

 Campaign Briefing

>  International Day of Peace

>  International Women's Day

>  Posters



RESOURCES

Resource	Description	Link
Council of Europe – Istanbul Convention	Official information on the Convention, its objectives and obligations.	https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention?utm_source=
GREVIO Country Reports	Country-specific assessments and monitoring reports on the implementation of the Convention.	https://www.coe.int/en/web/istanbul-convention/country-monitoring-work?utm_source=
UN Women – 16 Days of Activism	Global campaign resources, factsheets and communication materials.	https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/take-action/16-days-of-activism?utm_source=
UN Women – Facts & Figures	Statistics and key information on violence against women and girls worldwide.	https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/ending-violence-against-women/facts-and-figures?utm_source=
Violence Meter (Violentomètre)	Practical awareness-raising tool helping identify warning signs of abusive relationships.	https://oivf.seinesaintdenis.fr/en/ressources/the-violence-meter-a-tool-to-measure-violence-in-a-relationship/



INITIATIVES FOR THE 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM



- Plan activities and **start PFR immediately!**
- Distribute violence metres
- Collect facts about gender stereotypes i.e. in local news papers and publicly discuss findings with journalists
- Initiate internal discussions for affected members



OTW AND COMMUNICATION

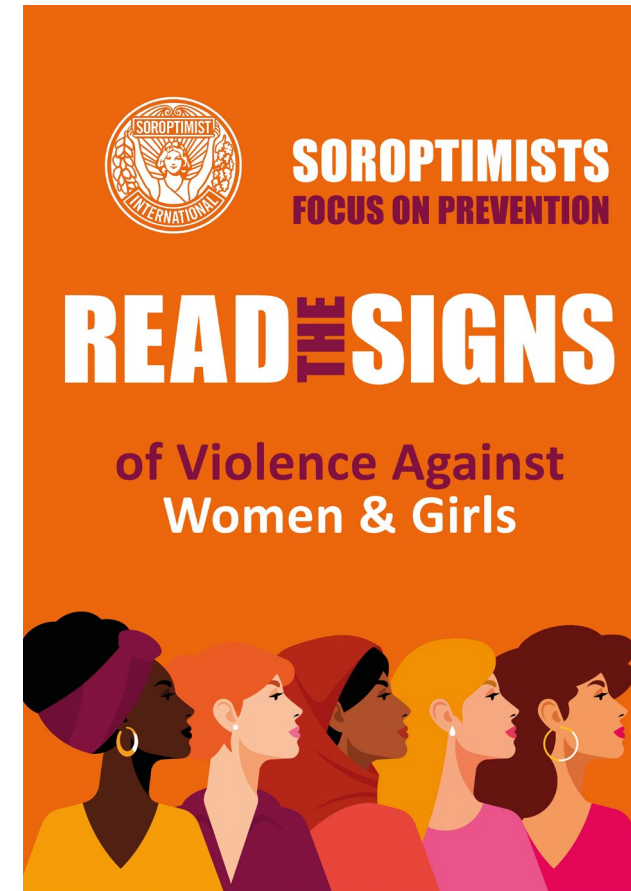


- A guide through the OTW communication

**Dr. Susanne von Dadelsen-Becker,
SIE Communication Officer**



READ THE SIGNS: PRINT MATERIAL

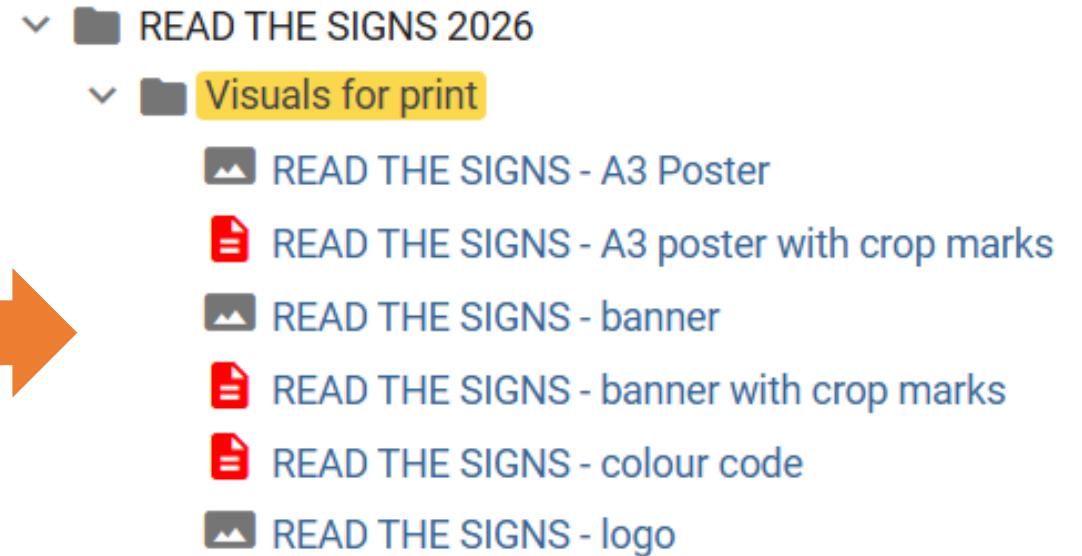
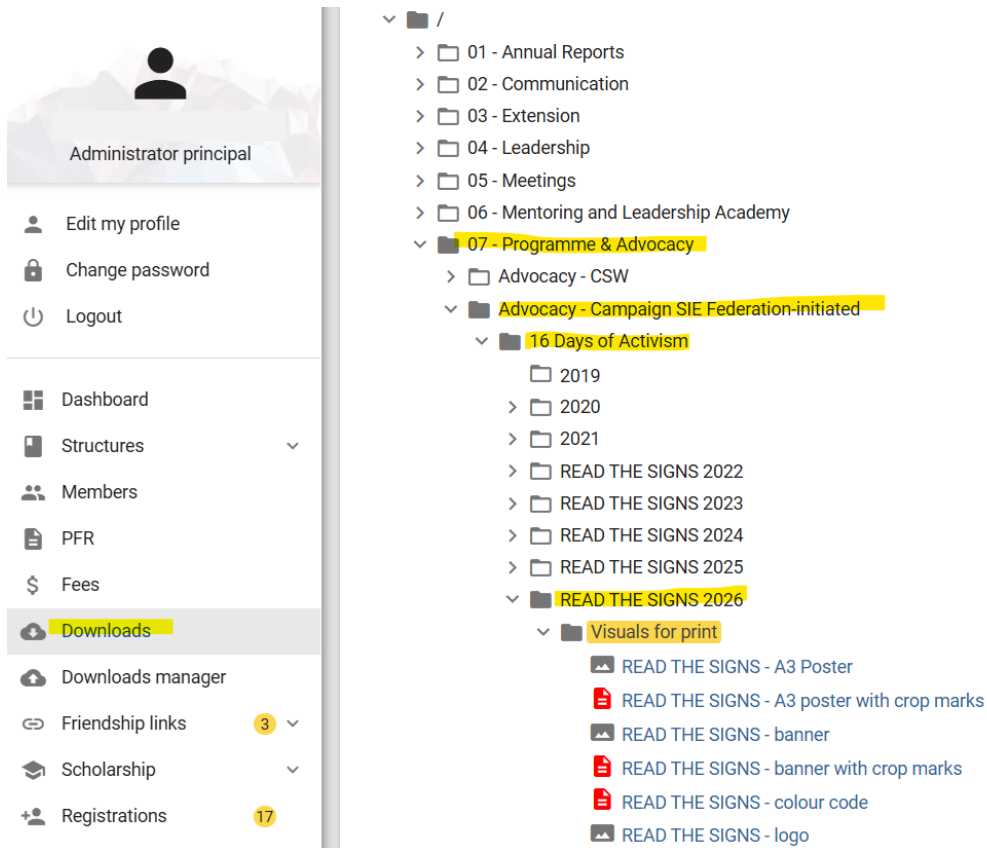


#Be**THE**VoiceForWomen'sRights

Susanne Becker von Dadelsen

WHERE TO FIND THE MATERIAL

On the SIE Extranet



TIPS FOR SOCIAL MEDIA

- copy what SIE does
- engage: like, share, comment SIE posts
- broaden your horizon: use the social media of your town, participating organisations,...
- try sponsored posts
- use hashtags (will be communicated with the social media toolkit)



TIPS FOR OTHER CHANNELS

- press info: local newspapers or national ones
- your website
- your members meeting and newsletter
- gatherings
- ... **be creative**, don't limit yourself to the known channels and ways of working



AND REMEMBER

- Impact of doing the same action in all clubs and Unions
- Please do not alter the documents, only translate where foreseen (cf. campaign briefing)



STOP BEING SILENT!



Interactive zoom campaign promoting OTW 2026
Open for public and will be held sept-nov 2026



Invitations and more
Information will be published in
August

ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS



Please contact:

- For edible print material: siehq@soroptimist.org
- For any other questions – Eva Skarner: evaskarner@hotmail.com
- For Istanbul Convention – Marianne Doze: md9674@ziggo.nl



ORANGE THE WORLD 2026

WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO SUCCESSFUL 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM