

STAND SPEAK RISE UP

TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE
IN FRAGILE ENVIRONMENTS



STAND SPEAK RISE UP! PRESS RELEASE

NOVEMBER 2019

The **Stand Speak Rise Up!** non-profit organisation's first working meeting

Colmar-Berg, 16-17 November 2019

On the 16th and 17th of November, the **Stand Speak Rise Up!** non-profit organisation's board of directors met for the first time at the Castle of Colmar-Berg, in Luxembourg. Her Royal Highness the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg launched the **Stand Speak Rise Up!** non-profit organisation in September 2019 after the Forum in March 2019. This unique event had a worldwide resonance by putting victims of wartime rape at the heart of its conference and by making their voices heard.

HRH the Grand Duchess succeeded in rallying internationally renowned personalities for a common cause in the non-profit organisation: Nobel price peace winners, experts, lawyers, researchers, NGO founders, writers and journalists.

The association is reinforced by a scientific committee, which will advise the board on specific topics.

Through the association **Stand Speak Rise Up!**, HRH the Grand Duchess is able to unite project leaders, committed individuals and survivors. The association thus becomes a "megaphone", giving victims as well as experts a platform to be seen and heard.

The association's board of directors met for the first time on the weekend of the 16th and 17th of November to work on the projects linked to **Stand Speak Rise Up!**. The meeting also raised the issue of children born of wartime rape. Honorary Member Ms Pramila Patten presented the progress regarding the first plea of the United Nations on this subject.

During the meetings, the board of directors also defined the federating role of the association, led by HRH the Grand Duchess.

As well as increasing worldwide advocacy and visibility regarding the cause of sexual violence as a weapon of war, the organisation supports concrete projects, particularly concerning the topic of children born of wartime rape.

The Stand Speak Rise Up! non-profit organisation

The non-profit organisation Stand Speak Rise Up! aims to denounce rape as a weapon of war and sexual violence in fragile environments, to prevent their proliferation and to support victims in their reconstruction and their need for justice. It was created in September 2019 at the initiative of the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg, after the first International Forum on this subject in March of the same year in Luxembourg.

Members / Board



President
HRH The Grand Duchess of Luxembourg



Secretary General
Stéphane Bern
Journalist & TV/Radio host



Treasurer
Chékéba Hachémi
President and founder
Afghanistan Libre



Céline Bardet
President and founder
We are NOT Weapons of War



Hugues Dewavrin
President of La Guilde du
Raid and Managing Director
of Dp Investissements



Atifete Jahjaga
Former President
of Kosovo



Charles Margue
Sociologist and member of
Chambre des Députés (Déi Gréng)



Peter Maurer
Historian and President of the
International Committee of the Red Cross



Dr Denis Mukwege
Gynecologist and
women's rights militant



Véronique Olmi
Writer, scenarist, co-fonder
of Festival "Paris des Femmes"



Raphaël Pitti
Doctor and professor of
emergency medicine



Jean-Christophe Rufin
Member of the Académie Française,
doctor, writer, diplomat.



Feride Rushiti
Founder of the Kosova
Rehabilitation Centre for Torture Victims



Frédéric Tissot
Lecturer, doctor and former
consul general of France
(Kurdistan d'Irak)



Muhammad Yunus
Founder
Grameen Bank



Valérie Toranian
Editor-in-chief, writer,
La Revue des Deux Mondes



Christine Lagarde
President of the
European Central Bank
AWAITING CONFIRMATION

Honorary advisory members



Pramila Patten
Special Representative of the Secretary General
on sexual violence in conflict
United Nations



Michelle Bachelet
High Commissioner for
Human Rights

Members / Scientific Committee



Martine Brousse
President of La Voix de l'Enfant
and National Commissioner for the
Rights of the Child



Sarah Doraghi
Humorist and columnist



Philip Grant
Director
Trial International



Marion Guth
Producer
A-Bahn Production



Joëlle Letsch
Managing Partner
ADT-Center



François Heisbourg
General Councillor for Europe
International Institute for
Strategic Studies



Ajna Jusic
President
Forgotten Children of War



Mara Marinaki
Principal Advisor on Gender
European External Action Service



Philippe Peyrat
General Delegate,
Director of partnerships
Fondation ENGIE



Aude de Thuin
Founder and President
Women in Africa



Astrid Ullens de Schooten
Founder and philanthropist
of Fondation A Stichting



Anne-Marie Von Arx-Vernon
Deputy and director
Cœur des Grottes

The scientific committee is expected to grow and evolve.

Projects related to **SSRU!** as to date



- 1.** SEMA network retreat for 50 survivors in March 2019 in Luxembourg. Subsequently, 2 survivors have applied for international protection in Luxembourg.

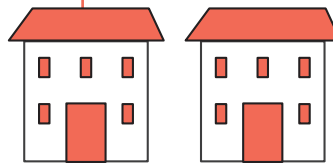
2.

Collaboration on the project "Back Up" of the NGO We Are NOT Weapons of War.



- 3.** Expansion of Panzi Hospital in the Democratic Republic of Congo with the Luxembourg Red Cross and the Mukwege Foundation.

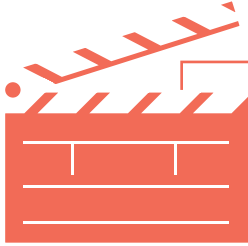
- 4.** Construction of "waiting Houses" for women needing care with the help of the Luxembourg Red Cross and the Panzi Foundation.



- 5.** Installation of solar panels on the roof of Panzi Hospital funded by the Engie Foundation in collaboration with the Mukwege Foundation.

6.

The Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs of Luxembourg has donated €5 million in financial aid towards the development of Panzi Hospital.



7.

Construction of a cinema near Panzi Hospital in cooperation with les Ecrans de la Paix and La Guilde du Raid.

8.

Establishment of a think tank "Fridden an Gender" (Peace and Gender) consisting of members of 4 NGOs from Luxembourg with the purpose of advancing considerations regarding sexual violence in sensitive areas.



9.

Creation of 2 evening screenings (10-11 December 2019) of films on situations of conflicts at the Luxembourg City Cinémathèque. Project initiated by the ambassadors of Belgium, Germany, France, Poland and the UK.



10.

Exhibition on the highlights of the forum "Stand Speak Rise Up!" at the Abbey of Neumünster Cultural Exchange Center.



Press Contact :
Stand Speak Rise Up!
Tel: (+352) 47 48 74 - 260
press@standspeakriseup.lu
www.standspeakriseup.lu

#TEAMSSRUP