

FACT SHEET

HR

The aim of this publication is to briefly present the content and evaluation results of the National Conference that took place in Zagreb on May 30, in the context of Project “Gender Equality Awareness Raising against Intimate Partner Violence (GEAR against IPV-II)”

The GEAR against IPV II Project in Croatia

The **GEAR against IPV** approach is a coordinated action of **primary and secondary prevention of Intimate Partner Violence in adolescents’ relationships** through interventions in the school or in other settings that are guided by specially designed educational material and are aimed at secondary school students’ awareness raising and empowerment by specially trained teachers.

The main aim is to promote the development of **healthy and equal relationships** between the sexes and the development of **zero tolerance towards violence** by raising teens’ awareness on:

- the characteristics of healthy and unhealthy relationships
- the influence that gender stereotypical attitudes and socially imposed gender roles have on their relationships
- how power inequality between the sexes is related to psychological, physical and/or sexual abuse against women/girls and
- how adolescents can contribute to the prevention of all forms of gender-based violence.

Given the fact that almost all children and adolescents attend school, the **educational system**, at all levels, is the ideal setting for such an effort, where properly trained teachers can play a key role in the implementation of such interventions targeting the general population. The need for implementing in schools interventions related to gender stereotypes and equality, as a means of primary prevention of gender-based violence it is, therefore, imperative.

The **GEAR against IPV approach** is a proposal for systematic intervention in the school (or other) setting, where girls and boys are invited, through a series of experiential activities, to assess but also challenge their culturally “inherited” gender stereotypes and to approach differences between sexes as individual differences rather than as characteristics of superiority of one sex over the other.

Project’s Identity

TITLE:	Gender Equality Awareness Raising against Intimate Partner Violence II (GEAR against IPV II)
PROJECT NO:	JUST/2013/DAP/AG/5408
DURATION:	01.10.2014 – 30.11.2016
COORDINATOR:	European Anti-Violence Network – EAVN (Greece)
PARTNERS:	Mediterranean Institute of Gender Studies - MIGS (Cyprus) Center for Education, Counselling and Research - CESI (Croatia) A.L.E.G - Association for Liberty and Equality of Gender (Romania) Plataforma unitària contra les violències de gènere (Spain) The Smile of the Child (Greece)
EXTERNAL EVALUATOR:	Prof. Carol Hagemann-White

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The Conference took place in the context of European Project [GEAR against IPV - II](#) with financial support from the DAPHNE III Programme of the European Union

 European Commission
Directorate General Justice

 Co-funded by the DAPHNE III Programme of the European Union

Educational Material

GEAR against IPV educational material has been developed in order to support the organization, preparation, implementation and evaluation of teachers’ training seminars and adolescents’ awareness raising interventions (in school or other settings), aiming to primary prevention of Intimate Partner Violence.

Booklet III provides step-by-step instructions for the implementation of a series of experiential activities while **Booklet IV** includes all necessary worksheets and handouts for adolescents.

The full text material is available free of charge at the Project’s website www.gear-ipv.eu/download

This material has been developed in the context of the two European Projects “GEAR against IPV I & II” with financial support from the DAPHNE III Programme of the European Union.





The Conference

The Conference took place in Zagreb, on May 30, 2016; during the conference 88 participants had the opportunity to attend speeches of students and teachers presenting their activities and their own experience from their participation in the 12 GEAR against IPV workshops implemented in their schools during the school year 2015-2016. More specifically, there were implemented experiential workshops in 12 schools in 12 areas of Croatia.

The Conference's Programme is available here: <http://cesi.hr/hr/novosti/1777-prve-veze-su-nasilne-veze/>

Moreover, during the conference an exhibition took place presenting the materials created by adolescents by the end of the workshops in the framework of the implementation of an information and awareness raising campaign aiming to convey to their peers nationwide messages about gender equality, healthy and equal relationships, how to recognize of violence in adolescents' relationships as well as how to react and reject any kind of GBV.

The 11 adolescents' creations are available here <http://www.gear-ipv.eu/campaigns/item/45-croatia-campaign>

Evaluation of Conference

Conference Participants' Demographics

A total of 88 people attended the conference; 79 completed the Conference's evaluation form (40.5% minors and 59,5% adults).

Gender

In both age groups, girls and women outnumbered boys and men respectively. In total, 47 adults (45 women, 2 men) and 32 minors (25 girls and 7 boys) completed the Conference evaluation form.

Age

Specifically, with regard to the age of the participants (see table 1), age range for students was from 16 to 18 years old, while for adults from 26 to 61.

Table 1: Participants age per group and sex (N=79)

	Adults		Minors	
	Men (n=2)	Women (n=45)	Boys (n=7)	Girls (n=25)
Mean	49	41,2	16,7	17
Mode	49	41	17	17
SD	9,9	8,73	1,2	3,16
Minimum age	42	26	16	16
Maximum age	56	61	17	18

Identity

Minors

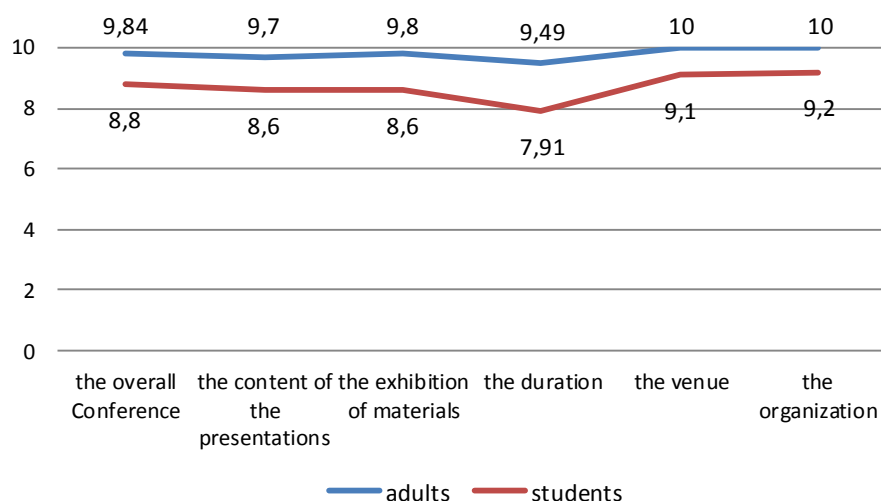
All youth that attended the conference were high school students.

Adults

In their majority 58% adults were teachers.

Apart from teachers, the conference was attended by other professionals such as social scientists (psychologists 17%, pedagogues 15% social workers 4%). A 6% consisted of other specialties e.g. lawyers, journalists

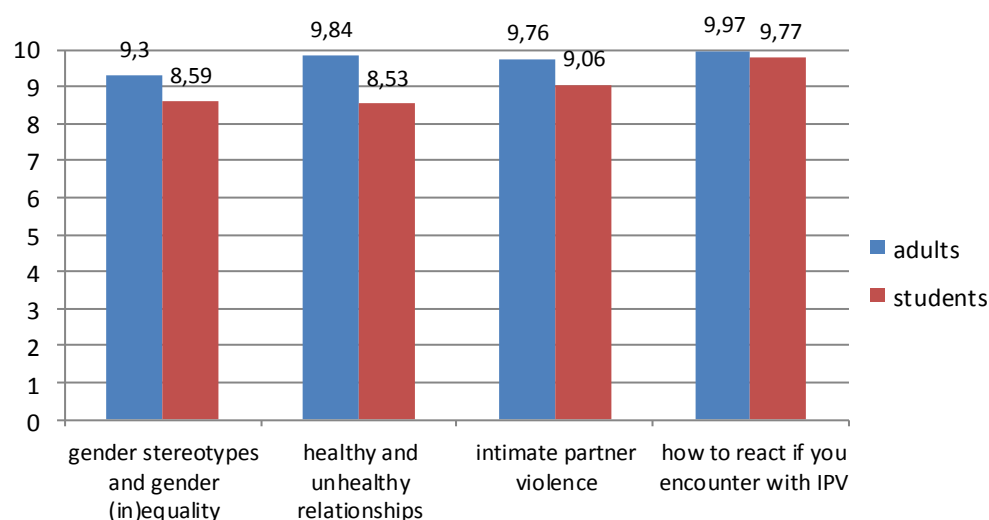
Satisfaction from the Conference



Both, teenagers and adults evaluated positively the conference concerning the content of the presentation, organization, the venue where the event took place and the exhibition of children's creations. Adults provided higher mean scores than children concerning all general aspects of the conference.

Figure 1: Mean score (0=Not at all ... 10=absolutely) of satisfaction for six general aspects of the conference (venue, organization, exhibition, the presentations/speeches, duration and the overall conference) per age group (N=79).

In future, to what extent you would like to learn more about...



The interest of both adults and teenagers for the four modules of the program appears high, although adults provided higher mean scores concerning all modules. Both age groups showed greater interest in the section "how to react if you encounter with IPV in a relationship".

Figure 2. Mean scores (0=Not at all ... 10=absolutely) concerning expression of interest to obtain further information for each of the four modules of the project per age group of participants (N=79).

According to adults' answers to a question regarding further training on the use of the material, it seems that the degree of interest was very high, while the interest for the implementation of the GEAR against IPV workshops was even higher. The students expressed a high interest for participation in the program (9/10). But, in comparison with the group of adults, students showed a lower interest for participation.

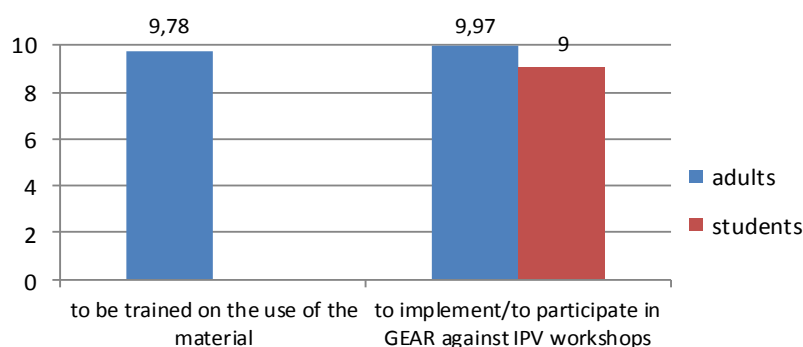


Figure 3: Mean scores (0=Not at all ... 10=absolutely) of expression of interest to receive further training a) on the use of the material (teachers only, N=47) and b) the implementation of adolescents' workshops (per age group, N=79).

Evaluation of Conference's Content: gaining new knowledge

More teachers than students considered that they heard new information at the conference. The great majority of participants in the conference (adults and youth) stated that they heard something "that they liked." More students than teachers stated that they heard information that they did not like.

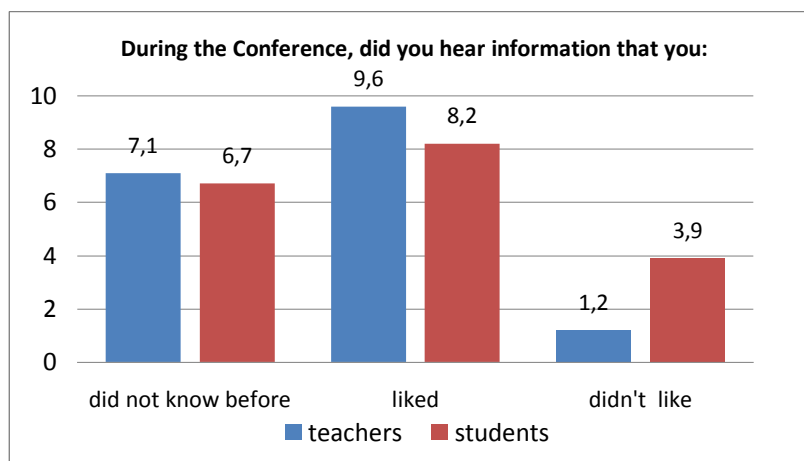


Figure 4: Mean scores (0=none ... 10=too many) concerning new knowledge acquired during the conference and qualitative evaluation (like/don't like) per age group (N=79).

Evaluation of Conference's Content: relevance and usefulness of new knowledge

To a question whether the information that they heard during the conference is useful and relevant to their professional practice, the majority of adults responded positively. The score was higher for usefulness of new information during their professional practice.



Figure 5: Mean scores (0=none ... 10=too many) concerning relevance and usefulness of new knowledge in regards to their professional practice (adults) (N=47).

On a similar question whether the information they received is relevant and useful for their life in present and the future, youth also gave a positive assessments, in particular with regards to the usefulness of acquired knowledge.

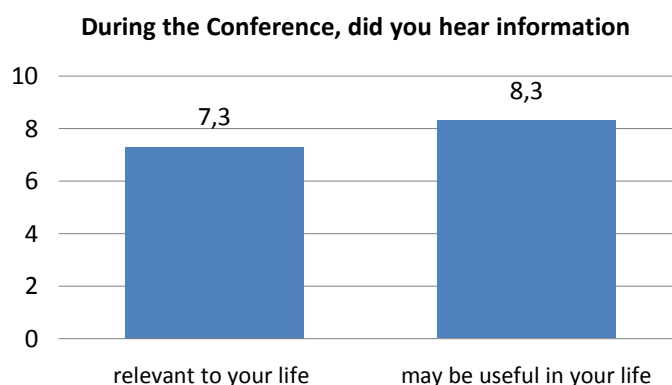


Figure 6: Mean scores (0=none ... 10=too many) concerning relevance and usefulness of new knowledge concerning their life at present or in future (children) (N=32).

In this Conference, what made the biggest impression on me, was...

Adults said:

33 adults gave the answer to the question "what made biggest impression on me".

The most commonly responses of participants who answered the question were:

- Creativity and diversity
- Presentation of the work done in schools (9)
- Very pleasant discussion and guest speakers at the conference (3)
- Spontaneous speech from the heart of the representative of Ministry of Education
- The effects of workshops conducted in schools (3)
- Selection of lecturers
- An opportunity for young people to present the work on the project
- The enthusiasm and creativity of colleagues and students (5)

In this Conference, what made the biggest impression on me, was...

- „the students' motivation"
- „the students' creations and description of their feelings and experiences"
- "the student's enthusiasm and creativity"

Youth said:

26 students gave the answer to the question "what made biggest impression on me".

The answers were:

- The entire conference (11)
- Speech of representatives of Ministry of Education and Ministry of Interior (8)
- The impressive ability of some speakers to intrigue the audience
- Speech and presentations of CESI representatives (5)
- The play conducted by one school (6)
- The reaction of the audience to our presentation
- Socializing and meeting new people
- The entire mindset of young people on this subject

In this Conference, what made the biggest impression on me, was...

- „motivation of students to share experiences with other students"
 - „students' creations"
 - "awareness of young people about the dangers in relationships"
-

Assessment of the necessity for inclusion of relevant modules in the official school curriculum of education

The activities aimed at raising gender awareness, prevention of intimate partner violence, ways of protection and resistance against IPV are currently included in health education program for high school students.

Participants (adults and youth) were asked in the evaluation form **whether** according to their opinion **information and sensitization activities relevant to a) gender stereotypes and gender (in)equality, b) healthy and unhealthy relationships, c) intimate partner violence and d) ways of protection and resistance against IPV should be included in the official school curricula nationwide** (including kindergarten, elementary school, junior and senior high school).

The results are presented in the figures below per subject, educational level and age group of respondents.

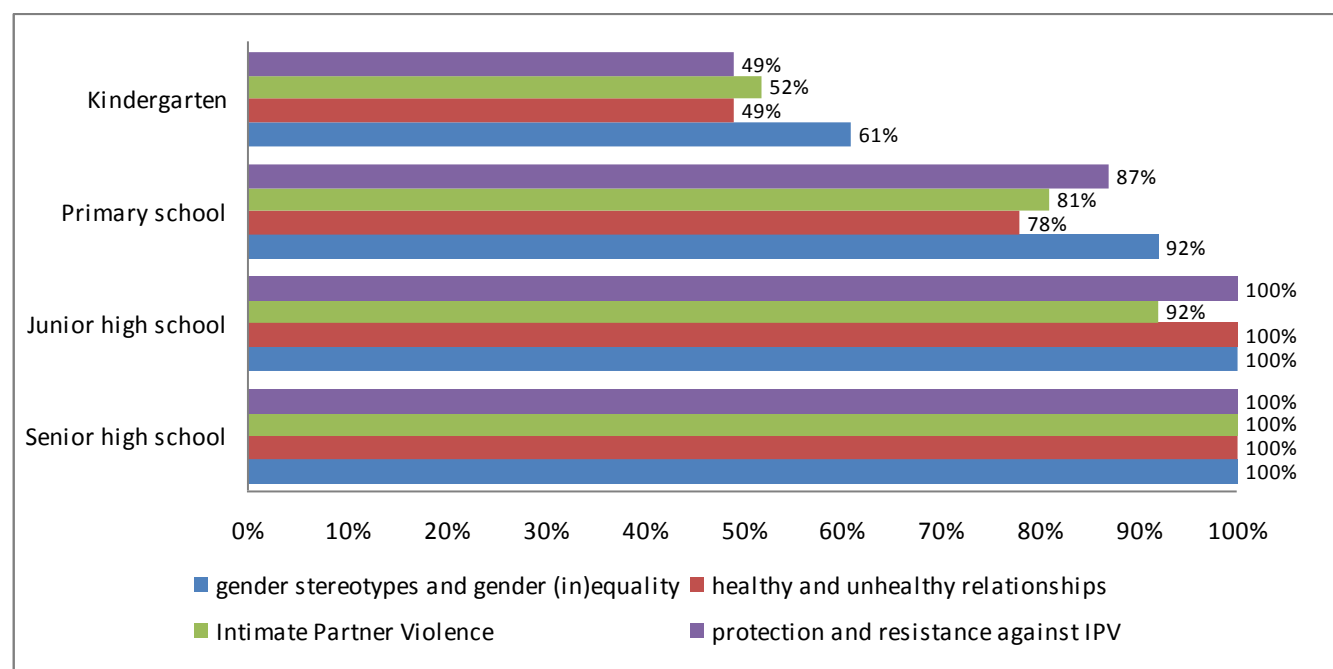


Figure 7: Extent of agreement (%) of participants concerning potential inclusion of each of the four modules of the GEAR against IPV Project into school curricula of each educational level (kindergarten, elementary, junior & senior high school) (N=79).

As a general observation, the introduction of such modules is accepted by almost all of the respondents in the higher educational levels (middle school and high school), while for lower educational grades (elementary schools and kindergarten) it appears that respondents aren't completely sure. A result depends also on the nature of the content of each module separately.

Although the module on gender stereotypes and gender equality can with proper adjustment be applied to kindergarten and primary school in the context of promoting gender equality and primary prevention of intimate partner violence, a certain percentage of respondents seems not to agree.

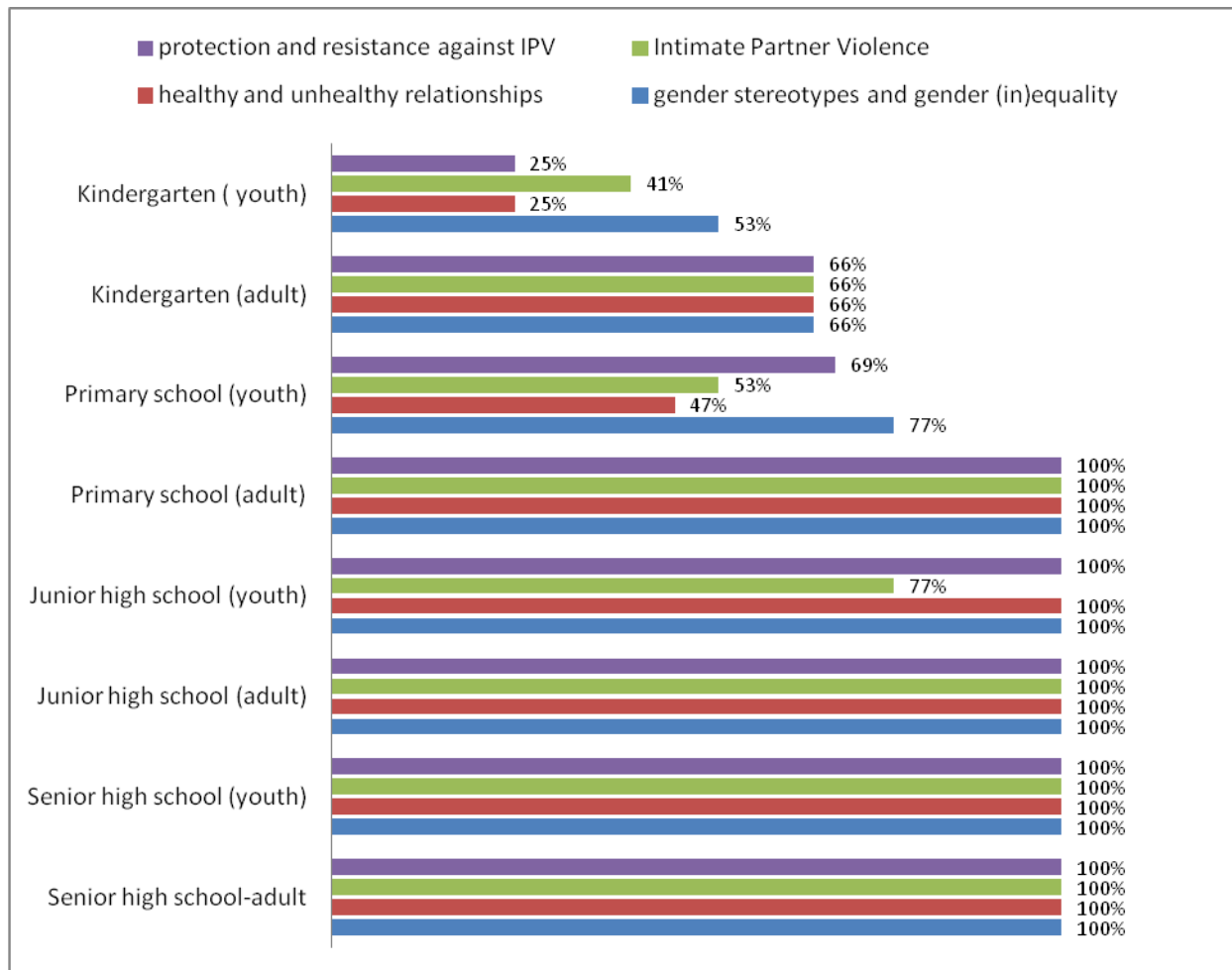


Figure 8: Extent of agreement (%) of participants concerning potential inclusion of each of the four modules of the GEAR against IPV Project into school curricula of each educational level (kindergarten, elementary, junior & senior high school) per age group (N=79).

Looking at the results by age group (Figure 8), the degree of agreement with the introduction of each of the modules in their respective programs of the two highest level of education (high school) is very high and not differentiated between adults and youth.

In the case of an elementary school, however, the youth agree to a lesser degree than the adults to introduce all modules of GEAR against IPV sections into school curricula. In the case of kindergarten, the degree of agreement of youth is lower than that of adults for all modules.

As regards the group of adults, it is interesting that the all respondent believe that all modules should be introduced in high schools and elementary schools.

What I liked most of all in this Conference was....

Adults said:

38 participants gave the answer to the question „what I liked the most in this conference” and the majority of them (66%) indicated that they like “everything”

The most commonly responses of participants who answered the question were:

- Presentations of students (10)
- The involvement and interest of students to the topic (4)
- Good examples of students and their involvement in the campaign
- Presentation of the pilot project
- Professionals and students presenting their work together
- Students' work and discussions
- Food
- A lot of young and creative people in one place

What I liked most of all in this conference was.....

- ***"the effort of teachers and students to raise awareness and motivation and interest of students for the issue of prevention of IPV"***
- ***"I was amazed by creativity and engagement of students"***

Youth said:

24 participants gave the answer to the question „something that I liked the most in this conference” and the majority (60%) indicated that they liked “everything”.

The other responses of minors commonly occurring were:

- Presentation of students' works (7)
- Organization of the conference and the venue
- Presentation of the research results
- Food
- Performance

What I liked most of all was ...

- ***"the presentations, the works of students, the applause we got for our presentation"***
 - ***"the best was performance of students on raising awareness on IPV"***
-

Something that I didn't like was...

Adults said:

36 participants gave the answer to the question „something that I didn't like in this conference” and the majority (61%) indicated that there were nothing that they didn't like. Other conference participants think that some of introductory speeches of representatives of institutions were too long and/or not related to the issue of conference.

Something that I didn't like was ...

- *„that the speech of representative of the teachers training agency wasn't related to the issue of conference. It was promotion of the institution.”*

Youth said:

21 participant gave the answer to the question „something that I didn't like in this conference” and more than half of them (11) indicated that there were nothing that they didn't like. Five respondents said that some speeches of representatives of institutions were too long, 2 students stated that some presentations were too long, 2 students think that presentation of schools were similar and 1 that some of the students were not the best prepared.

Something that I didn't like was...

- *„the introductory speech of Ombudsperson for Gender Equality was too long”*

Awareness of participants for the “GEAR against IPV” Workshops

On the basis of participants answers it is clear that the majority of them knew at least some information about the program before the conference. Information about the GEAR against IPV Workshop had 91% of students and 94% of teachers before the conference. Regarding the source of information, the majority of adults said that they participated at the training and/or they implemented the program in the schools (57%) and 43% got information from other sources. 81% of youth knew information about the program from previous participation in the GEAR against IPV Workshop and 19% knew information from other sources, like teachers, social networks etc.

Adults said...

If you would like to **describe** to another person the GEAR against IPV workshop by **using one single word**, which would that be?

The 87% of adults (41 out of the 47 people) who answered the evaluation form) described the program as...



More photos are available here
<http://www.gear-ipv.eu/nationalconferences/itm/43-national-conference-croatia>



Youth said...

If you would like to **describe** to a friend of yours the GEAR against IPV Workshop by **using one single word**, which would that be?

75% of youth (24 out of the 32 children) who answered the evaluation form) described the program as...

