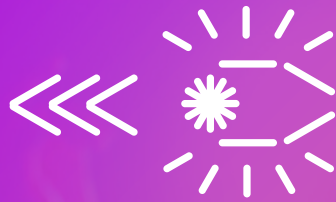


Where
we
stand



CRISSCROSS MANIFESTO

The CRISSCROSS project aims to **address violence towards young women and LGBTI+ people from a structural and feminist approach**, by addressing the hegemonic heteropatriarchy norms in the legitimization and perpetuation of violence, discrimination, and inequality. Social, cultural, moral, religious, and political factors will be considered within each specific setting, in a sensitive and contextualized way for youngsters. CRISSCROSS advocates for a **youth-led approach free of judgement and discrimination** based on people's ethnicity, heritage, sexuality or life choices. *We stand firmly against racism, colonialism, binarism and transphobia.*

CRISSCROSS fosters a **feminist approach** that challenges traditional social beliefs and expectations around hegemonic masculinity. The involvement and support of young cisgender men are crucial for succeeding in this endeavour. This is why CRISSCROSS aims to promote a reference framework for young cis-men to enable them to move away from the hegemonic masculinity that also pressures them to rigidly adopt traditional masculine behaviours such as risk-taking, aggressiveness, and emotional repression. The CRISSCROSS approach encourages healthier and more respectful relationships between all youngsters based on co-responsibility, empathy, assertiveness, and active recognition and consideration of women and LGBTI+ peers. This will result in overall young **LGBTI+ people and women's safety and empowerment.**

Therefore, effective and successful prevention programmes require a collective response that does not focus solely on the victim or the perpetrator. It must **involve the community** as a whole, encouraging active opposition to violent actions and the defence of equal rights, responsibilities, and opportunities for all individuals, irrespective of their gender or identity. In this line, CRISSCROSS is based on a **bystander intervention approach** in nightlife settings: a model that encourages naming, dissuading, and interrupting situations that could lead to sexual violence. In this way, *the community will combat GBV with a conscious and positive approach grounded in responsibility, diversity, and well-being.*

At CRISSCROSS we aim to dismantle problematic rape myths and gender double standards in drug use that perpetuate gendered stigma and victim-blaming while disregarding the role of the perpetrator and the heterosexist context. By embracing a **harm reduction and non-judgemental approach**, we respect the self-determination of people who use drugs, and we recognize drugs as tools that can be intentionally used for coping and/or for gender and sexual liberation and performativity. CRISSCROSS approaches drug use from a harm reduction perspective, it does not aim to prevent or stop use or to address concerns about use or dependencies.

The CRISSCROSS approach encourages alternative relational frameworks that enable **safer, and more egalitarian ways of interacting** focusing not only on risk prevention and sexual health but also on *pleasure, happiness, and self-consciousness*. The CRISSCROSS approach comes along with an LGBTI+ inclusionary perspective centred on the special inclusion and visibility of lesbian, bisexual women, and trans* and non-binary people. Looking forward to the future while recalling who preceded and opened the path we walk today.