



2025

SIE Congress, 23-25 October 2025 – Kraków, Poland

ANNUAL REPORT



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF EUROPE



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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT 2024-2025

Dear Soroptimists,

As we reflect on 2024-2025 biennium, I want to express my deepest gratitude and admiration for the extraordinary work carried out by our members across Europe. In a time marked by growing challenges to women's rights, increasing violence against women, and the rapid transformation brought by artificial intelligence, Soroptimist International of Europe has remained steadfast, united, and impactful.

Together, we transformed commitment into measurable action. Through projects focused on education, empowerment, health, sustainability, and the fight against violence against women, our clubs demonstrated the strength of local action with global relevance. Your dedication amplified SIE's voice within the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and the European Women's Lobby, ensuring that women's perspectives were represented where decisions are made.

I am especially proud of our collective efforts to defend the Istanbul Convention and to address emerging forms of cyberviolence through evidence-based advocacy and strategic partnerships. These initiatives show our determination to protect women's rights both offline and online.

This biennium also marked important progress in strengthening our Federation. We expanded leadership and mentoring opportunities, awarded scholarships to women across 19 countries, launched innovative membership initiatives, welcomed new clubs, and embraced new ways of connecting through e-Clubs and twinning partnerships. Our Leadership Academies and mentoring programmes are building a new generation of empowered women, many of whom have become Soroptimists, ready to lead with confidence and compassion.

At the same time, we worked to ensure that SIE is future-ready by improving governance, increasing transparency, renewing our visual identity, and embracing the opportunities and responsibilities of artificial intelligence with a clear gender-equality perspective.

None of these achievements would have been possible without your energy, creativity, resilience, and unwavering belief in our mission. Every project, every advocacy effort, every meeting, and every conversation contributed to strengthening our Federation and advancing the rights and lives of women and girls across Europe and beyond.



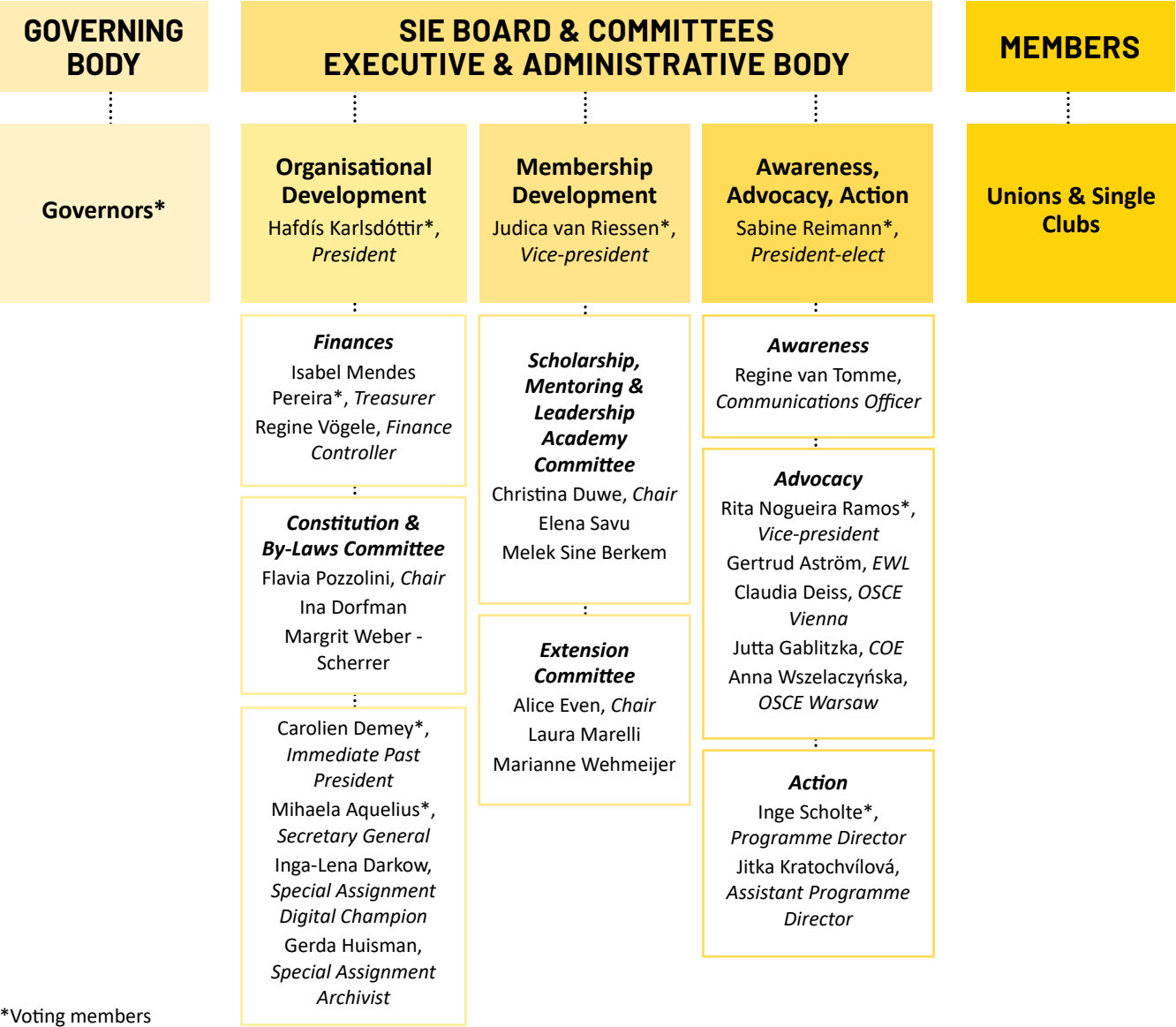
Thank you all for your dedication, solidarity, and inspiring commitment to making a difference. I would also like to extend special appreciation to the SIE Headquarters team for their professionalism, dedication, and invaluable role in ensuring continuity and stability between biennia. Together, as one strong and united team, we continue to build a more visible, influential, and future-ready Soroptimist International of Europe.

With heartfelt appreciation,

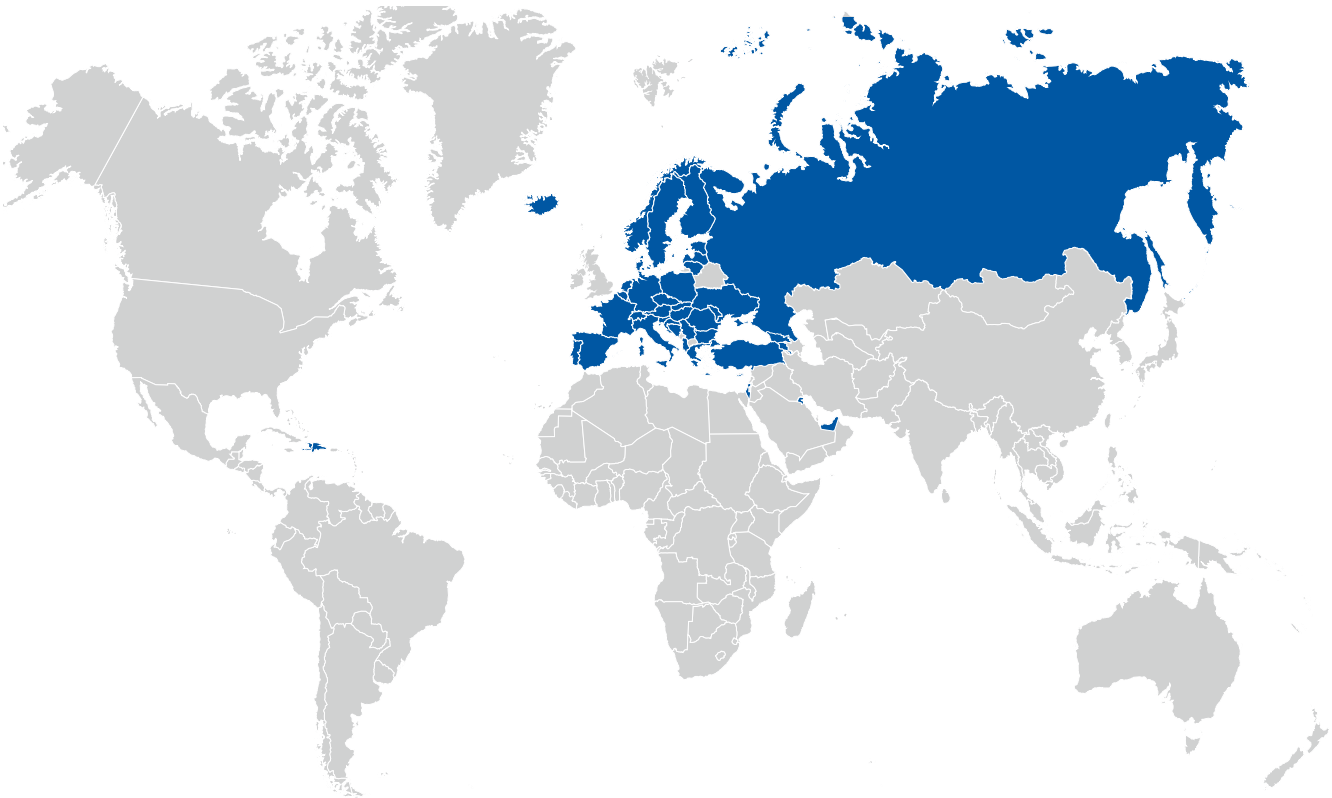
Heidi Kahlöster

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

WHERE WE ARE



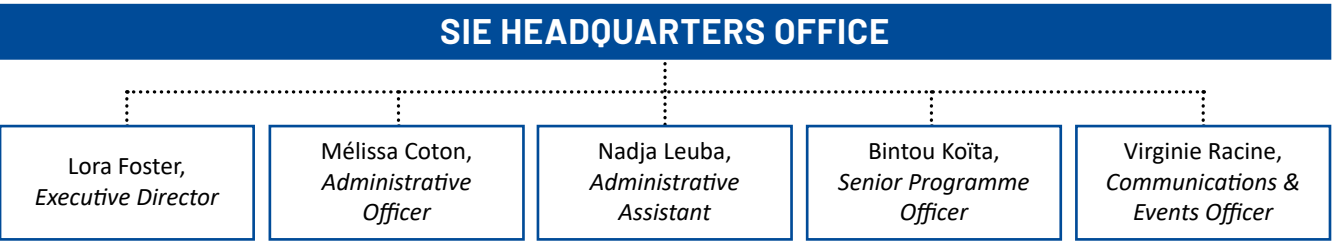
*Voting members



 **43**
COUNTRIES

 **21**
UNIONS

 **48**
SINGLE CLUBS
45 Europe
3 The Caribbean
& Middle East



ABOUT SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF EUROPE

Soroptimists Educate, Empower and Enable women and girls to improve their lives. Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE) is a network of 29,568 professional women working together at local, national and international levels to achieve this goal. With 1,134 clubs across 43 countries in Europe, the Middle East, and the Caribbean, SIE is the largest of the five Federations that make up Soroptimist International, a global organisation with about 62,400 members.

Our ambition is to transform the lives and status of women and girls through education, empowerment and enabling opportunities. We strive for a world where women and girls achieve their full potential, realise their aspirations, and have an equal voice in shaping strong, peaceful communities. As Soroptimists, we advocate for the advancement of women's status, high ethical standards, Human rights for all, equity development, and peace through international understanding and goodwill.

A part of our Action and Awareness efforts, advocacy is a key tool in driving change. SIE holds general consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) and participatory status at the Council of Europe and the European Women's Lobby. We also contribute to the work of OSCE through our permanent representatives. These affiliations allow SIE to advocate at the international level, lobbying for the ratification and implementation of treaties concerning women. And ensuring that women's issues are prioritised in the sustainable development agenda.

Our members span a diverse range of professions and generations, making SIE a powerful platform for sharing knowledge and experience. We are committed to ensuring that all women and girls have the opportunity to become leaders in their communities, and we will continue to advocate for them at all levels of society.

 **29,568**
PROFESSIONAL WOMEN

 **43**
COUNTRIES

 **1,134**
CLUBS

OVERVIEW 2025

The 2024–2025 biennium unfolded against a difficult backdrop: growing political resistance to women's rights across Europe, direct threats to landmark treaties like the Istanbul Convention, and the rapid rise of artificial intelligence with unequal consequences for women. Against this backdrop, SIE strengthened its advocacy networks, grew its membership base, and delivered measurable results on the ground and in international institutions.

AWARENESS, ACTION, ADVOCACY

Programme work: From good intentions to measurable impact

SIE clubs run concrete projects across five focus areas: education, women's empowerment, violence against women, health and food security, and sustainability. A key shift this biennium was moving from isolated activities towards longer-term, impact-driven projects with clearer reporting, essential to maintaining SIE's consultative status (ECOSOC) at the United Nations. Artificial intelligence (AI) was introduced as a practical tool to improve project planning and reporting, contributing to a record number of Best Practice Award submissions with higher overall quality.

Advocacy: Present where decisions are made

With an ECOSOC status and representation at the Council of Europe, the OSCE, and the European Women's Lobby, SIE ensures that the perspectives of its members reach the rooms where decisions about women's rights are made.

- **United Nations:** A 35-members delegation attended the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) in New York. SIE also contributed to the Beijing+30 review, a global

stocktake of progress on women's rights since 1995.

- **Council of Europe:** SIE representative attended bi-annual plenary meetings, briefed on the Istanbul Convention at a roundtable on violence against women in Luxembourg, and coordinated input for a Paris hearing on AI and human rights.
- **OSCE:** Statements were delivered at the Alliance against Trafficking in Persons conference, meetings on civic space and inclusion, and the Helsinki+50 conference.
- **European Women's Lobby:** SIE contributed to EWL's strategy and the EU Roadmap for Women's Rights and submitted a position paper on the EU Directive 2024/1385 on combating violence against women.

Standing Firm on the Istanbul Convention

One of the defining advocacy battles of the biennium was resisting political pressure on this landmark treaty against gender-based violence. The Istanbul Convention Promoters Initiative, launched in 2024, trains at least one expert per Union to disseminate knowledge within their communities. In early 2025, promoters gathered in Strasbourg for an in-depth session with GREVIO, the treaty's independent monitoring body. The initiative has already attracted interest from political stakeholders in several countries.

Cyberviolence: taking the fight online

SIE signed a cooperation protocol with the Centre for Protecting Women Online (Open University) to strengthen evidence-based advocacy on online gender-based violence. This partnership directly supports SIE's credibility at the UN and Council of Europe on an issue growing rapidly in scale and severity.

OVERVIEW 2025

Communications: One Federation, one Voice

Three coordinated Federation-wide campaigns reached SIE members with unified messaging: “READ THE SIGNS” (16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence), International Day of Peace, and “Why It Matters” (International Women’s Day). A coherent communication framework was extended to all three campaigns, significantly amplifying SIE’s collective visibility.

A renewed face for the Federation

A new SIE website launched in 2025, improving external visibility and internal communication. A Corporate Identity Taskforce developed a positioning paper defining SIE’s visual identity and role within the broader Soroptimist movement. A professional agency has been engaged to prepare a proposal for the new SIE logotype and Brand book to be voted on at the Governors’ Meeting 2026.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Reversing a 15-year membership decline is one of SIE’s most urgent strategic challenges. The biennium brought targeted action on two fronts: training and empowering existing members and attracting new ones.

Scholarships, Mentoring and Leadership Academies

Scholarships totalling €123,800 were granted to applicants from 19 countries. For the first time, a dedicated mentoring programme was launched for former grantees, pairing 15 mentor–mentee duos from two cohorts, ensuring that SIE’s investment in individual women extends beyond the grant itself.

A network of Mentoring Coordinators was consolidated, with a face-to-face training meeting held in Helsinki in May. Three webinars on mentoring tools, recruitment of mentors and mentees, and programme structure were delivered to all SIE members.

Four Soroptimist Leadership Academies were held across Europe in 2025, in Finland, Bulgaria, Croatia/Slovenia, and Spain, totalling 94 participants. These week-long residential programmes build leadership and advocacy skills, generate media coverage for SIE, and strengthen club retention among hosting organisations. After the Leadership Academies the participants are paired with mentors for continuing empowerment.

Extension and retention

Thriving Future: a programme for club revival

Delivered in Prague across two weekends by the President-elect of SI South East Asia Pacific, this intensive programme equipped representatives from 22 countries with tools for recruitment, retention, and change management. Follow-up with participants continued through the year, and the programme will continue into the next biennium.

Six new clubs, new formats, new reach

Six new clubs were welcomed in 2025 in Germany, Türkiye, Italy, and Finland, including two e-Clubs, a format the Federation is actively promoting to reach members beyond geographic constraints. Twinning arrangements, pairing established unions with those building capacity, are functioning successfully across several country pairs.

OVERVIEW 2025

BUILDING A FUTURE-READY FEDERATION

Governance & finances: accountable, transparent, sustainable

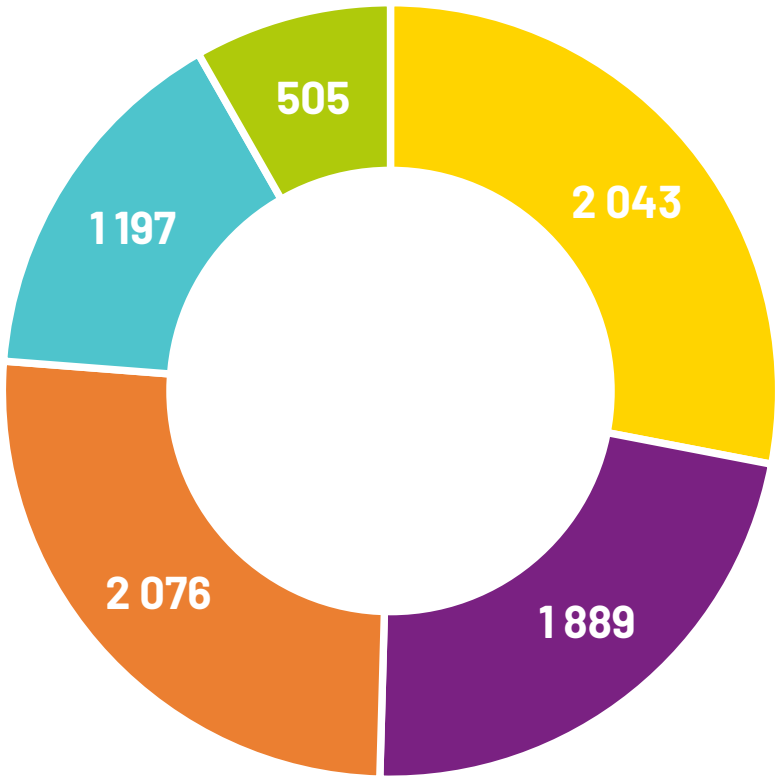
The Board prioritised transparency and future readiness throughout the biennium. The Constitution and By-Laws Committee provided continuous guidance, clarifying governance rules and amendment procedures. Quarterly and annual financial reports were published on the SIE member area, with robust oversight of the Action Fund, Solidarity Fund, and Disaster Recovery Fund. The new SIE Strategy 2026–2031 was approved at the Governors’ Meeting in October 2025, setting the Federation’s direction for the next six years.

Artificial Intelligence: opportunity & responsibility

An AI Taskforce was formally established in 2025 to guide SIE’s engagement with AI from a gender-equality perspective. It delivered training sessions for clubs and leadership, conducted a Federation-wide survey on AI readiness, and launched AI Ambassadors to connect local and European communities. A first draft of a SIE Position Paper on AI and gender equality was also initiated.



OUR PROJECTS



- Education
- Women's Empowerment
- Violence Against Women
- Health and Food Security
- Sustainability



From the 1st of January to the 31st of December of 2025, SIE members raised

€7,831,362



and carried out
7,710 projects

OUR PROJECTS

	Education	Violence Against Women	Women's Empowerment	Health and Food Security	Sustainability
AUSTRIA - 164	57	48	29	21	9
BELGIUM - 278	82	47	29	89	31
BULGARIA - 14	4	3	1	3	3
DENMARK - 59	26	8	9	12	4
FINLAND - 293	76	90	56	40	31
FRANCE - 672	150	164	140	176	42
GERMANY - 1870	550	464	448	304	104
GREECE - 43	6	10	24	3	0
ICELAND - 247	37	71	48	73	18
ISRAEL - 34	6	11	7	7	3
ITALY - 2044	487	509	799	151	98
LITHUANIA - 18	7	3	3	3	2
LUXEMBOURG - 51	16	9	9	13	4
NETHERLANDS - 523	79	185	170	72	17
NORWAY - 300	78	73	84	2	38
POLAND - 90	30	15	15	15	15
PORTUGAL - 18	2	4	6	3	3
ROMANIA - 43	21	5	6	4	7
SWEDEN - 95	15	15	30	22	13
SWITZERLAND - 340	100	61	85	67	27
TÜRKIYE - 290	154	52	34	43	7
SINGLE CLUBS - 224	60	42	44	49	29

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

The Soroptimist Best Practice Awards celebrate the most impactful projects by Clubs and Unions that improve the lives of women and girls.

Awards are given according to our five areas of focus: Education, Women’s Empowerment, Elimination of Violence Against Women, Health and Food Security, and Sustainability.

Additional prizes include a Union Award, a Biennium Award - highlighting a project that supports Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 4 and/or 5, a special Award Advocacy Prize and a Membership Award for projects that boost visibility and attract new members.

These awards honour innovation, dedication, and the power of collective action.



BEST PRACTICE AWARDS 2025

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

SIE BIENNIUM AWARD 2025



Meerbush Goes Future Club of Meerbusch, Germany

Meerbush Goes Future (MgF) is a visionary project integrating climate action (SDG 13) and gender equality (SDG 5) across local and global dimensions. The Meerbusch Soroptimists partnered with climate-neutral companies Sparkasse Neuss and Kyocera, and with NGOs in Nicaragua to support the CommuniTree reforestation project, empowering Nicaraguan smallholder families to restore degraded land, create jobs, and improve education and health. At home, the Club measured and offset its own CO₂ footprint, with members voluntarily compensating over 100 tonnes of emissions. Educational outreach to local schools, businesses, and citizens raised awareness of global interdependence and climate justice. A non-profit association was created to scale the project and attract long-term partners.

Over 5,000 people were reached, and the project was one of only two SIE initiatives featured in the 2024 UN High-Level Political Forum Report. MgF offers a replicable model of grassroots global action for Soroptimist Clubs worldwide.



Funds raised by
the club

€11,000



Women & girls
reached

5,000

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

SPECIAL AWARD "NEW MEMBERS & VISIBILITY"



WOMEN AND SPORT: THE LONG ROAD TO EQUALITY Union of Italy

To mark the centennial of Alfonsina Strada's historic participation in the 1924 Giro d'Italia, the only woman ever to compete in this race, the Italian Soroptimists launched a national campaign placing gender equality in sport at the heart of public conversation. Launched in Cortina, future host of the 2026 Winter Olympics, the project reached over 502,000 people through national and local media and engaged 13,400 women directly. Fifty-four Clubs participated, and 103 municipalities adopted an Ethical Charter for Women's Sport. A partnership with fashion house ASPESI and women's prisons produced designer items sold to fund scholarships and job training, raising €20,000. A petition led to the Italian government issuing a national stamp honouring Alfonsina Strada.

With 4,916 volunteer hours and €227,130 raised, the project is a powerful example of how advocacy, storytelling, and sport can expand Soroptimist networks and inspire new memberships.



Funds raised by
the Union

€227,130



Women & girls
reached

515,400

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

SPECIAL AWARD "ADVOCACY PRIZE"



CURARSI - SI CARES: A SOROPTIMIST APPROACH TO HEALTH Union of Italy

Women represent only 41.2% of participants in clinical trials globally, and medical research has historically been built around the male body, leaving women underdiagnosed and undertreated. CurarSI, an advocacy-led initiative by the Italian Soroptimists throughout 2024, confronted these gender inequities in healthcare. A national conference in Milan co-organised with Lombardy Region and Fondazione Onda opened the initiative. Seventy Clubs across Italy then organised screenings, conferences, and campaigns on breast cancer, cardiovascular conditions, and osteoporosis. Free bone density tests using innovative radiation-free technology were offered, alongside «pink walks» and educational events. The project reached over 1,000 women through screenings and more than 20,000 through outreach activities, while also fostering a new regional alliance against cardiomyopathies. CurarSI combined grassroots energy with institutional partnerships to shift public discourse and embed gender-sensitive practices within Italian healthcare policy.



Funds raised by
the Union

€47,652



Women & girls
reached

20,516

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

UNION BEST PROJECT AWARD



EDUCATE THE CHILDREN OF THE FUTURE, EMPOWER THE MOTHERS!

Union of Türkiye

In Istanbul's Gültepe district, where socioeconomic barriers limit opportunity, the Turkish Soroptimists launched a dual-impact programme at the Gültepe Community Education Center. Children receive weekly English lessons from a Soroptimist volunteer teacher, while their mothers attend weekly empowerment sessions delivered by rotating Istanbul Clubs. Topics include financial literacy, health and hygiene, leadership, consumer rights, and protection against gender-based and cyberviolence. The programme also embraces social cohesion through shared meals during Ramadan and national holiday celebrations. Over 250 beneficiaries have been reached in just one year. Entirely conceived and implemented by Turkish Soroptimists, with no external funding, the project is a model of grassroots Soroptimist action. It has strengthened the visibility of Soroptimist clubs locally and internationally and is designed to be replicated. When you educate a child and empower a mother, you light the way for future generations.



Women & girls reached

250

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

EDUCATION



OTW 2024 - SETTING BOUNDARIES TOGETHER IN A CARING MANNER

Club of Hamont Achel Noord Limburg, Belgium

Domestic violence affects 42% of Belgian women during their lifetime, and over 50,000 cases of child abuse are reported annually. Responding to this reality, the Soroptimists of Hamont-Achel Noord-Limburg developed a prevention project targeting children, educators, and the wider community. Seventeen performances of the theatre play "Why?" reached over 1,200 children aged 5–12, helping them recognise signs of abuse and encouraging them to seek help. A pedagogical study day brought together 135 teachers and school directors, while 32 professionals from childcare attended a dedicated follow-up session. The project united schools, police, child protection agencies, and local government in a sustained collaborative effort.

Over 1,640 volunteer hours were invested, and more than 2,000 people were reached in total. The project demonstrates how creativity, education, and multi-sector partnership can protect vulnerable children and promote dignity for all.



Funds raised by the partners

€4,915

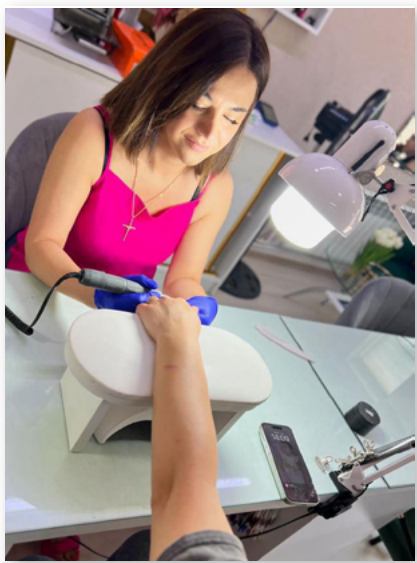


Women & girls reached

2,000

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

WOMEN’S EMPOWERMENT



EMPOWERING DISPLACED WOMEN: THE SOROPTIMISTS OF YEREVAN TRANSFROM LIVES

Club of Yerevan, Armenia

In response to the displacement of women from Karabakh and rural Armenia, the Yerevan Soroptimists launched an empowerment programme at the "Bari Mama" centre between September 2024 and February 2025. Twenty-three war-affected, single, or socially isolated women received psychological support, vocational training, and mentoring in business planning, social media marketing, and proposal writing. By the end of the programme, eight women had launched their own small businesses, in carpet weaving, confectionery, honey production, and cosmetology. Four received start-up grants, while others were supported through sponsorships or equipment donations. The Club invested €9,850 of its own funds.

The project is grounded in the conviction that "education and skills are the only things that can't be stolen", and its success has motivated the Club to expand the programme in 2025 to welcome a new cohort of women.



Funds raised by the club

€9,850

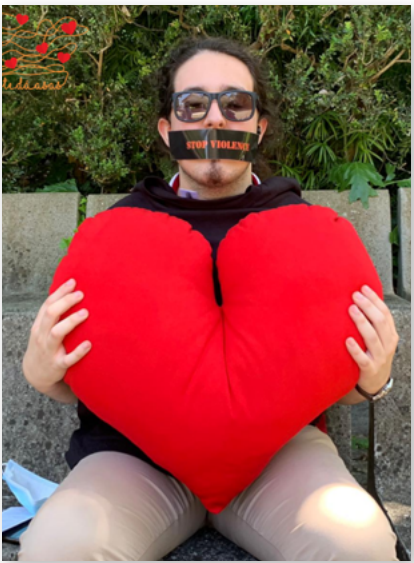


Women & girls reached

23

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN



E-WINGS: INTERACTIVE TOOLKIT FOR THE ELIMINATION OF VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Club of Lisboa Caravela, Portugal

Launched on 25 November 2024, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, E-WINGS is a multilingual digital advocacy toolkit developed by the Soroptimists of Lisboa Caravela. It brings together educational videos, 13 expert-led webinars, a practical checklist for victims and educators, helpline access, and advocacy resources. The platform was designed to challenge harmful gender norms, foster prevention, and empower individuals to recognise and act against all forms of abuse. The launch included direct outreach to senior Portuguese political figures, with QR code access cards distributed to ministers, the Ombudsman, and the National Police Chief.

Since its launch, E-WINGS has reached over 150,000 people through national media and Soroptimist events. Its English version enables global replication. The project directly supports SDG 4 and SDG 5, and stands as a replicable model for digital, community-rooted advocacy against gender-based violence.



Funds raised by the club

€3,000



Women & girls reached

150,000

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

HEALTH & FOOD SECURITY



BLOOM AGAIN: THERAPEUTIC HORTICULTURE Club of Miranese-Riviera del Brenta, Italy

BLOOM AGAIN addresses the physical and emotional well-being of elderly women in a Venetian district where 75.9% of the 1,334 nursing home residents are women. Partnering with AULSS 3 Serenissima, the local health authority, the Soroptimists of Miranese-Riviera del Brenta designed a science-based therapeutic horticulture programme across 15 nursing homes. Research shows plant-based activities can improve memory, social engagement, and motor function, while reducing medication needs. A multidisciplinary team of agronomists and healthcare professionals developed the programme through surveys, site visits, and staff training. A crowdfunding campaign funded raised beds and indoor gardening tools. The project has already produced measurable improvements in mood, sleep quality, and social interaction among residents. Adaptable to each facility's context, BLOOM AGAIN offers a model of holistic, community-rooted elderly care, restoring purpose and connection to nature for women often forgotten by institutional settings.



Funds raised by
the Union

€4,500



Women & girls
reached

1,334

BEST PRACTICE AWARDS

SUSTAINABILITY



RICICLIAMO LA MODA - RECYCLING FASHION FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Club of Moesano, Switzerland

Riciclamo la Moda addresses the environmental and human cost of the fashion industry, which generates 92 million tonnes of textile waste annually. The Soroptimists of Moesano developed a community-driven project combining education, practical skills, and accessible alternatives to fast fashion. Public talks and workshops in schools and community spaces raise awareness of ethical consumption; sewing and knitting groups teach participants to transform discarded clothing into new creations; and five local libraries received curated collections on fashion and sustainability. The centrepiece of the initiative is a monthly pop-up second-hand shop offering quality clothes at low prices, demonstrating that style, affordability, and sustainability can coexist. Around 400 people have benefited so far.

The project will continue to grow in 2025–2026, with funding of €14,000 raised entirely by the Club.



Funds raised by
the club

€14,000



Women & girls
reached

400

VOICES, RIGHTS, ACTION: OUR CAMPAIGNS 2025

In 2025, Soroptimist International of Europe mobilised its Federation-wide network through three coordinated campaigns: on International Women's Day, the International Day of Peace, and the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence. Together, the campaigns carried a single, urgent message: advancing women's rights is not optional. It is the foundation of democracy, stability, and lasting peace.

'WHY IT MATTERS': SOROPTIMIST DRIVING EQUALITY

On **International Women's Day**, SIE launched its "Why It Still Matters" campaign, placing women's achievements and leadership at the centre of the conversation about global progress.

The campaign made a clear and unapologetic argument: women's contributions have shaped science, the arts, economics, diplomacy, and politics across generations, far more profoundly than traditional narratives have acknowledged. Empowering women is not a symbolic gesture; it is a strategic investment. Research on corporate governance tells a strikingly similar story: companies with women on their boards are better managed, more resilient, and more profitable than those without. Across sectors, peace, politics, business, equal participation is not just a matter of fairness, but a proven driver of better outcomes.

Operating in a political climate marked by growing backlash against women's rights, the campaign affirmed that progress already achieved cannot be taken for granted. Soroptimists across Europe brought it to life through local events and coordinated social media engagement, amplifying women's achievements in peacebuilding, STEM, sustainability, education, and justice. The message was unequivocal: women are not beneficiaries of progress; they are its architects. A better world for women is a better world for all.

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

Across Europe, Soroptimists came together on 21 September, joining the global observance of the International Day of Peace under the Soroptimist theme "Peace Needs Women." Study after study confirms that when women participate equally in peace negotiations, agreements last longer and communities prove more resilient.

With determination and solidarity, members trans-



VOICES, RIGHTS, ACTION: OUR CAMPAIGNS 2025



formed this global call into visible action, sending the statement to EU politicians and International Human Rights Institutions.

Through creative actions and community engagement, Soroptimists highlighted women's essential role in promoting peace and protecting human dignity.

'READ THE SIGNS': TACKLING CYBERVIOLENCE – A PREVENTIVE APPROACH

During the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, SIE deepened its sustained advocacy on cyberviolence.

Cyberviolence is not a secondary or "virtual" issue. It mirrors the patterns of domestic violence: power and control, escalation, victim-blaming, institutional failure, but with greater reach and inescapability. Online abuse follows women into their homes, workplaces, and private lives, silencing voices and restricting participation in public life. Every woman has the right to live, speak, and thrive online as offline, without fear.

SIE's 2025 campaign translated this conviction into concrete action. A landmark cooperation protocol was signed with the Centre for Protecting Women Online (Open University), grounding SIE's advocacy in solid research. Members advocated for legal frameworks that recognise cyberviolence as a distinct offence, survivor-centred support services, judicial and police training, and platform accountability. Prevention efforts focused on education from the earliest age (teaching consent, empathy, and equality) with boys and men engaged as allies. The campaign's message was unambiguous: voluntary measures are not enough.

FUNDS

Soroptimist International of Europe (SIE) manages dedicated funds to **support women’s education, empowerment, and recovery.**

In **2025**, a total of **€ 225,740** was allocated across three key funds:

ACTION FUND

The **Action Fund** supports **humanitarian projects** and promotes **educational programmes** that empower women. Through targeted funding, SIE helps create opportunities for women to develop skills, gain knowledge, and improve their lives, fostering long-term positive change in communities.

DISASTER RECOVERY FUND

The **Disaster Recovery Fund** provides targeted support to women and girls recovering from **natural disasters and armed conflicts**. While immediate aid is crucial, SIE prioritises **long-term recovery projects** that offer sustainable solutions. Single Clubs and Unions can apply for grants to assist those affected by **earthquakes, floods, tsunamis, storms, volcanic eruptions, and conflicts**. To date, the fund has supported projects benefiting victims of **armed conflict, flooding, and earthquakes**, helping them rebuild their lives and communities.

FEDERATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND

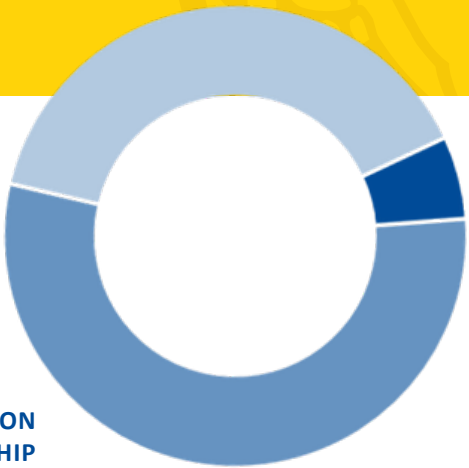
The **Scholarship Fund** supports women (Soroptimist or non-Soroptimist) in advancing their education and careers. It offers two types of grants:

1. **Dr. Suzanne Noël Scholarship**, founder of Soroptimist International of Europe, provides financial aid to female doctors specialising in **plastic and reconstructive surgery**.
2. **The Federation Scholarship** supports women pursuing **continuing education, career changes, or vocational training**. These grants help women enhance their expertise and professional opportunities.

DISASTER
RECOVERY
FUND
€13,100

FEDERATION
SCHOLARSHIP
FUND
€123,800

ACTION
FUND
€88,840



Action Fund
€88,840

Disaster
Recovery Fund
€13,100

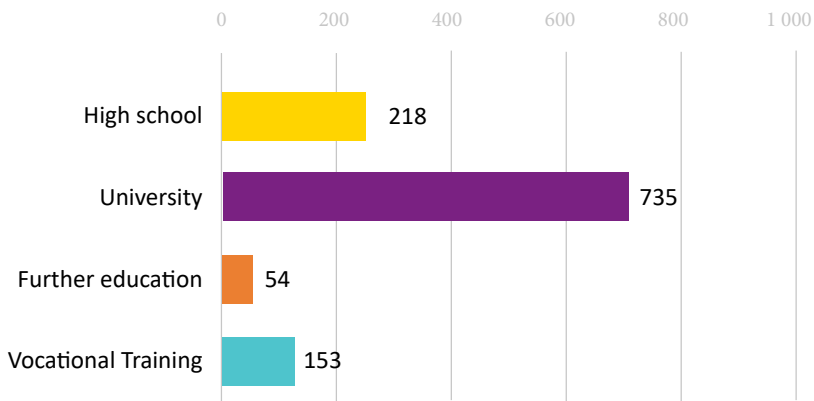
Federation
Scholarship Fund
€123,800

SCHOLARSHIP

ALLOCATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS BY UNIONS AND SINGLE CLUBS

SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTEES AWARDED

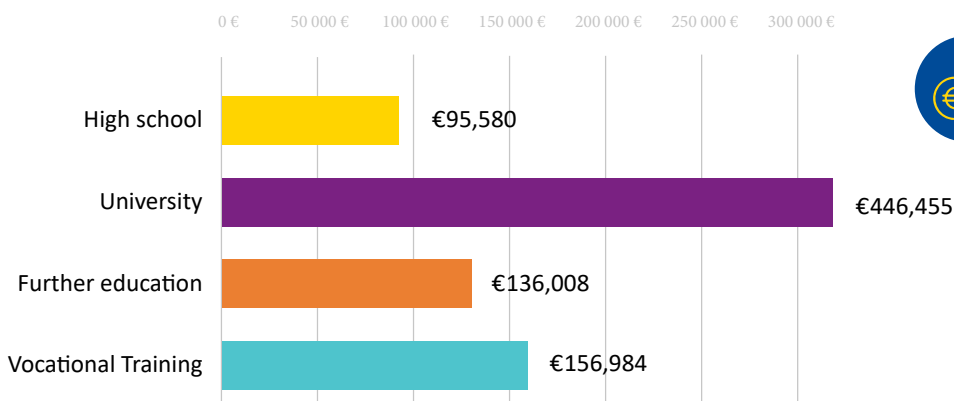
Unions & Single Clubs



Scholarship
granted
1,160

SCHOLARSHIPS GRANTS AWARDED

Unions & Single Clubs



Scholarship
grants
€835,027

MENTORING



119

Mentoring programmes offered



434

Soroptimists mentors



462

Soroptimists mentees



459

Non-Soroptimists mentees



63

Non-Soroptimists mentees who became Soroptimists

EMPOWERING FUTURE LEADERS

The **Soroptimist Leadership Academy (SLA)** is a flagship initiative designed to empower young women through leadership training, mentorship, and international exchange. It brings together experienced Soroptimist and non-Soroptimist professionals to share knowledge, inspire growth, and support participants in becoming confident leaders in their own lives and communities.

The SLA fosters collaboration between Soroptimists from different countries, strengthening a Europe-wide network of professional women. Aligned with our mission to Educate, Empower, and Enable, the Leadership Academy promotes leadership and gender equality. Participants gain essential skills that support their personal development and professional aspirations, while also deepening their understanding of global and local leadership issues. It exemplifies SIE's enduring commitment to investing in young women—preparing them to lead with confidence, clarity, and compassion in an increasingly complex and interconnected world.



Soroptimist Nordic Leadership Academy

📍 Vaasa, Finland

📅 22-28 June 2025

👤 Number of participants: 25

🌐 Participants' countries of origin: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden



Soroptimist Balkan Leadership Academy

📍 Tipchenitza, Bulgaria

📅 1-7 September 2025

👤 Number of participants: 23

🌐 Participants' countries of origin: Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, Türkiye, Poland, Italy

🏆 Theme: 'Building Bridges – Shaping the Future'



R.I.S.E Leadership Academy



📍 Zagreb, Croatia and Maribor, Slovenia

📅 10-15 October 2025

👤 Number of participants: 22

🌐 Participants' countries of origin: Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Poland, Türkiye, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Montenegro

🏆 Theme: 'R.I.S.E'



Soroptimist Leadership Academy

📍 Mijas, Spain

📅 5-11 November 2025

👤 Number of participants: 24

🌐 Participants' countries of origin: Bulgaria, Denmark, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, Türkiye

🏆 Theme: 'Unlock Your Potential'



SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL OF EUROPE

We are a worldwide network of professionally and socially diverse women.

We are a platform to serve communities, share knowledge and experience.

We educate and empower women and girls to lead.

We fight violence against women and girls.

We give women a voice by lobbying at all levels of society.

If you want to make a difference in your community, further women's issues on a wider scale, extend your professional network and make new friends outside your normal circles, we invite you to find out more about us!

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