

## **«NOT JUST POSTERS IN THE BATHROOMS»**

**A report on sexualized violence in clubs and at festivals in Switzerland**

**What support do clubs and festivals need in order to take action against sexualized violence? A needs analysis and a call to stakeholders**

### **Abstract**

Music clubs and festivals fulfill a cultural and social role in society. They are places where people can come together, they make culture accessible, and provide a platform for national and international artists. But they are also places where people can experience different forms of discrimination and sexualized violence. This affects not only audience members but also staff, volunteers and the artists themselves. The majority of those affected by sexualized violence are women, inter, non-binary, trans and agender individuals.

As part of the preliminary project «Together Against Sexualized Violence in Clubs and Festivals», Helvetiarockt, the Swiss association for women, inter, non-binary, trans, and agender individuals working in the music industry, has authored the report «Not Just Posters in the Bathrooms: What support do clubs and festivals need in order to take action against sexualized violence?»

This report seeks to identify the specific types of support clubs and festivals require to effectively prevent and address sexualized violence. It sheds light on the contextual factors surrounding sexualized violence in clubs and festivals and reports a needs analysis to identify obstacles and challenges in the implementation and establishment of appropriate measures.

The needs analysis is based on data collected between April and September 2022 through an online survey, five qualitative interviews, two workshops, and a panel discussion. The collected data were analyzed using grounded theory to identify recurring patterns and obstacles in the prevention and intervention of sexualized violence.

Key themes, such as resource shortages and inadequate training, emerged from the analysis and informed the development of the following recommendations. These findings highlighted gaps in current practices and led to targeted measures aimed at ensuring effective action by all stakeholders, particularly policy makers, authorities, and organizations.

The key recommendations are organized around five action areas and are

- ▶ Promoting diversity and equality
- ▶ Creating and expanding group-specific offerings
- ▶ Expanding the network and strengthening collaboration
- ▶ Driving professionalism and creating standards
- ▶ Expanding financial resources

There is a need to establish expertise on sexualized violence in clubs and festivals, as well as to professionalize existing structures. To ensure the sustainable

integration of prevention and intervention measures, targeted services must be created across Switzerland to provide clubs and festivals with expert knowledge, products, training, and advising. Comprehensive awareness-raising and better coordination between institutions and authorities will help ensure that those affected by sexualized violence receive the support they need.

The report concludes with a summary for Helvetiarockt and an outlook on a follow-up project that will be carried out in collaboration with PETZI, the association of non-profit music clubs and festivals in Switzerland.