



**Refuge – Eastern  
European  
Independent Gender-  
based Violence  
Advocacy (IGVA)  
Service**

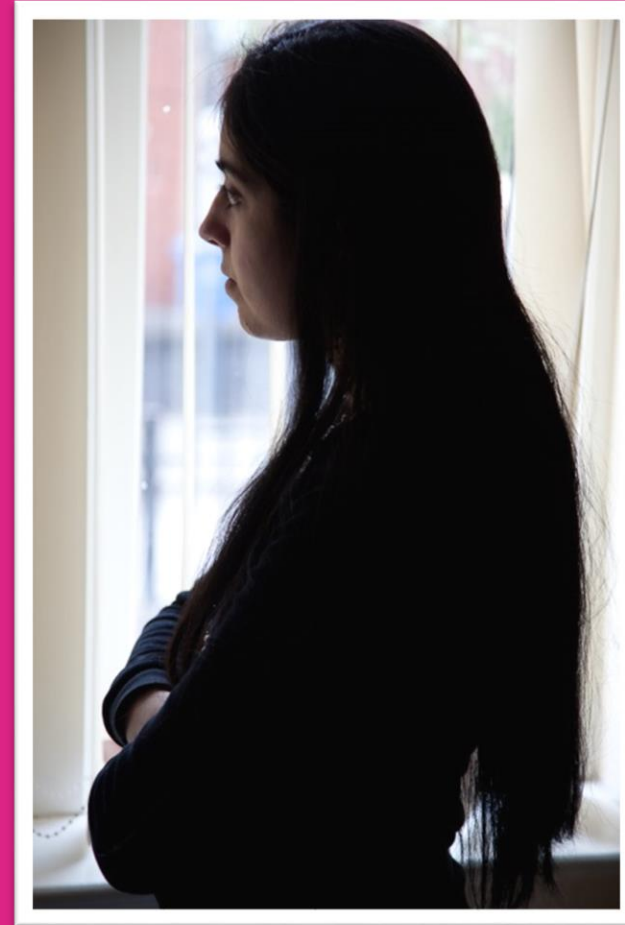
**Refuge**



**For women and children.  
Against domestic violence.**

# Refuge

- Refuge opened the world's first refuge in Chiswick, West London, in 1971
- Now the country's largest single provider of specialist support for women and children escaping domestic violence and other forms of gender-based violence (sexual violence, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, stalking, trafficking, prostitution and so-called 'honour' based violence)
- On any given day, Refuge supports more than 7,000 women and children



# Eastern European IGVA Service

- Built upon thirteen years' experience providing culturally-specific support to **Eastern European** women to address the complex and over-lapping Violence against Women and Girls issues
- Funded to support **female victims/survivors** of gender based violence aged **16 plus**
- We support women who reside in **Brent, Ealing and Hounslow**
- Service consists of two **Polish** speaking Independent Gender-based Violence Advocates (IGVA), one **Lithuanian/Russian** speaking IGVA and one **Romanian** speaking IGVA & Modern Slavery Outreach worker.

Refuge Eastern European Advocacy  
Service support female victims whose  
ethnic origin is from one of  
the following countries:

- Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary,  
Latvia, Lithuania, Poland,  
Slovakia, Slovenia  
Bulgaria, Romania, Croatia
- and other non EU: Albania,  
Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
Georgia, Macedonia, Kosovo,  
Moldova, Montenegro, Russia,  
Serbia, Ukraine.



# Main actions:

- To carry out the risk assessment (DASH Risk Assessment)
- Safety planning & emotional support
- To provide information to the client about her options, and legal rights
- To attend the court with the child
- To request special measures for the client, when in the court
- Explore with client her immigration status
- Explore with the client housing options
- Referral made to Children Social Services and MARAC (explore the consent with the client)
- Explore with client about technological and economical abuse, and refer client to Tech Abuse team (internal)
- Referral for counselling
- Referral for emotional support for children
- Work around the dynamics of DA to be completed during next sessions

# Summary

To make a referral to the EE IGVA service:

Please call **07725245777 (9am-5pm)**

Or emailing

- [easterneuropeanIDVA@refuge.org.uk](mailto:easterneuropeanIDVA@refuge.org.uk)
- [ee.idva@refuge.cjism.net](mailto:ee.idva@refuge.cjism.net)