



Abolir le système prostitueur



ANNUAL REPORT 2012

English Summary

Armund Jung, MP of Bas-Rhin, in a plenary session of the National Assembly

“I would like to pay tribute to the action led by many associations, in particular the every-day on-the-ground action carried out by the Mouvement du Nid, whose sensibility and effectiveness I have been able to personally appreciate.”

Laldja, prostitution survivor

“One evening, I saw a TV show on prostitution. They gave the number of the Mouvement du Nid. The following day, I left a phone message. I remember that I had drunk. And I was scared. Thanks to the Nid, I could start my first steps to get support.”

Raphaël, prostitution survivor

“When I was out on the streets, someone from the Mouvement du Nid used to pass by. At first I didn’t talk to him. One day, I decided to contact him. I wanted to stop, to get my life back together.”

Julien, former john

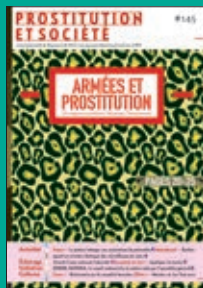
“I joined the Mouvement du Nid, and I’m actively involved in prevention. Education is fundamental. But to deter demand, I don’t think it’s enough. As far as I’m concerned, I know that the law, to make it forbidden, would have been a better incentive.”



n° 143



n° 144



n° 145



n° 146



n° 147



n° 148



n° 149



n° 150



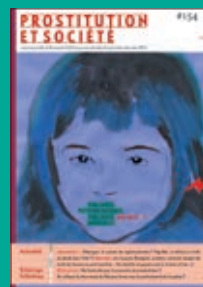
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n° 152



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n° 155



n° 156



n° 157



n° 158



n° 159



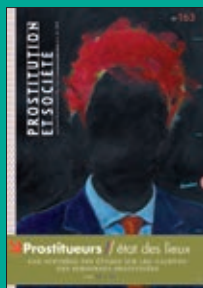
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n° 161



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n° 163



n° 164



n° 165



n° 166



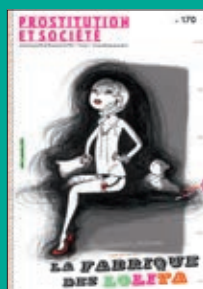
n° 167



n° 168



n° 169



n° 170



n° 171



n° 172



n° 173



n° 174



n° 175



n° 176



n° 177



n° 178

Some key figures about our actions in 2012

A unique on-the-ground presence with women in prostitution

712 outreach visits to street-based prostitution areas
More than **9,000** encounters
More than **4,000** different prostituted people met
4,800 hours of volunteering

A warm welcome: we provide wide-ranging support, in partnership with other services

There are **980** reception services across the country
6,125 persons were received
5,800 specific requests were answered
780 persons received long-term support
7,840 hours of volunteering

Our organisation facilitates specialised training

62 training sessions
2,790 professionals trained

The Mouvement du Nid is committed to working with youth to build gender equality

578 school-based interventions
16,800 youth educated
5,200 volunteering hours

An ongoing work to challenge social perceptions

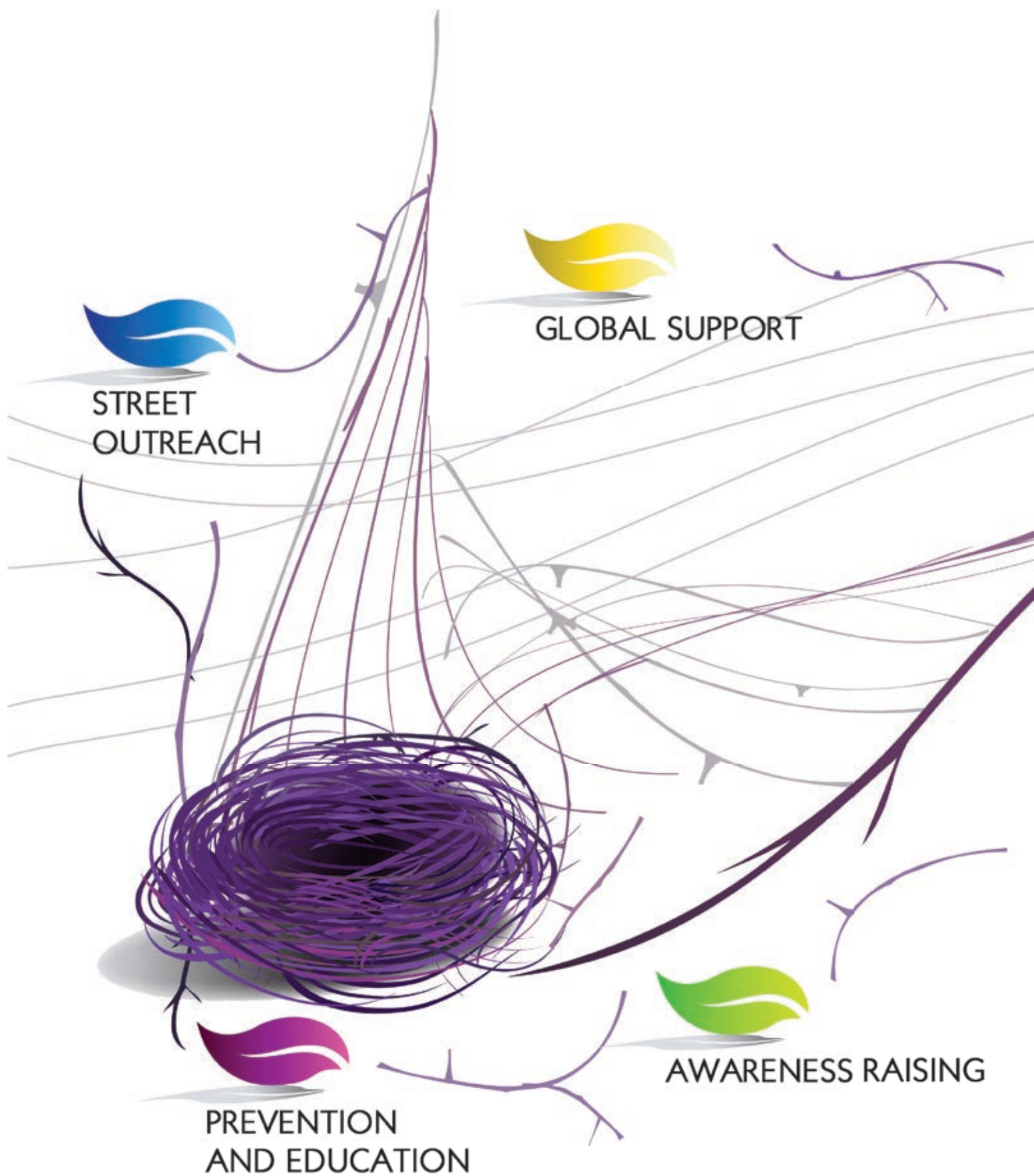
224 events organised to raise awareness and inform
More than **4,179** persons reached
5,480 hours of volunteering

We help improve existing public policies

More than **50** associations involved in the appeal "Abolition 2012"
More than **200** associations and 26 EU member states united around the appeal
"Together for a prostitution-free Europe"

Our national movement is action-based and spread out across the country

28 departmental delegations
14 members of staff
218 activists
More than **400** volunteers





TRAINING

ADVOCACY

**MOUVEMENT
DU NID
FRANCE**

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Together with women in prostitution

Since the very beginning of the Mouvement du Nid project more than 70 years ago, the thought, methodology and action of the Mouvement du Nid has developed itself through the invaluable input of women in prostitution. Thanks to these persons, the Mouvement du Nid came to understand the system of prostitution, its causes and consequences. They have shaped the movement's approach to support as well as on prevention and alternatives to prostitution.

This close and constant interaction with prostituted persons primarily takes place on the sites of prostitution, during outreach work. In 2012, the Mouvement du Nid made 9000 contacts on street-based prostitution areas, thanks to 712 outreach visits in 28 different towns.

It is this first contact which spurs the women in prostitution to come to our offices and receptions. Thus the 9,000 contacts made in 2012 has enabled 1,000 women to receive individualised support by the Mouvement du Nid. Our insight on the reality of prostitution is gained by gathering the stories that our volunteers and workers hear and from the women.

Thus the Mouvement du Nid also offers its specialised knowledge and expertise on the issue of prostitution to those seeking to be trained, to help them better understand prostitution and deal with such situations in their field of work. In 2012, the Mouvement du Nid has informed and trained more than 2,500 social workers.

3 priorities for action



Meeting with the prostituted persons: breaking the isolation caused by prostitution !

The meaning of our action

Most women in prostitution are very isolated. Some persons no longer have any contact with people outside the world of prostitution: they have broken up with their families, are socially alienated, etc. In this context, the Mouvement du Nid is often their first step toward social reintegration.

Personal stories

« I was too scared to ask my family for help, even though they would have helped if asked. I was too afraid they would call me irresponsible if I told them about my unpaid cheques and rent payment delays. »

Anonymous

« When women try to regain human dignity, very often nobody is there to give them a hand. And in the evening, they are completely alone. This is what's most difficult. Because in prostitution, we live in an illusion. We're on our own, yet we're not alone. We're always surrounded by people. »

Jeanine



Support: helping women in prostitution to exit and find alternatives to prostitution

The meaning of our action

Most prostituted persons in France are in vulnerable condition: they are isolated, psychologically distressed and have lost their self-esteem. Most of them – women, men, transsexuals – have survived

violence and abuse, often sexual abuse, before entering prostitution and continue to be subjected to it on regular basis whilst in prostitution. The social, human, psychological, medical and legal support of these persons, which aims to respect their needs and individual path, requires patience, perseverance and oftentimes pugnacity in order to confront with them the considerable challenges that they need to face.

Personal testimonies

« At first I didn't trust them, I thought they (ndlr, the volunteers of the Mouvement du Nid) were policemen, and after that I felt embarrassed, I didn't say anything. And then we established further contact, I got used to going to their office open-hours, and the decision has since then been irrevocable. »

Nadia

« Dear friends of the Mouvement du Nid who helped me to "make the final leap". You trusted in me. You believed me when I said "I want to stop". This trust, I will never forget it, it moved my life forwards. »

Florence exited prostitution at the age of 64



Training social workers: extending our social impact by training professionals

The meaning of our action

Specialised educators, social workers, medical and legal professionals and education staff all play a fundamental role, but often aren't prepared enough to carry out efficient support, reintegration and prevention work.

Indeed, prostitution is almost never addressed in their own professional training. This deficiency is exacerbated by the lack legal framework and the incoherence of public policies with regards to prostitution.

This is why the Mouvement du Nid has for many years developed training courses and information sessions for social partners and social actors.

Personal testimonies

« very useful and enriching training: it changed my perspective on the prostituted person and freed me from certain preconceptions. »

Anonymous

« In my daily practice, I meet lots of people who were sexually abused, and now I'm better equipped to understand how it works and provide more adequate support. »

Anonymous

Against the prostituting system

As an organisation working with thousands of prostituted persons every year and being a primary witness to their lives in prostitution, the Mouvement du Nid is morally obligated to do its very best to inform the public about the reality of prostitution and to prevent more people from entering into it.

This is why the Movement has always been careful to emphasise on prevention and on mobilising civil society as well as supporting and meeting with women in prostitution.

Our prevention policy is to inform youth and the general public about the realities of prostitution and to denounce the prostituting system, which we define as:

- a form of violence, particularly against women
- an obstacle to equality between women and men
- a system of domination that exploits several forms of inequality
- a violation of human dignity and a human rights infringement.

As we do each year, the Mouvement du Nid carried out its actions in 2012 against the prostitution system, guided by three strategic priorities.

3 strategic priorities



Prevention : we seek to promote equality and sexuality education, and help build relationships between girls and boys that are not based on commodification

We develop good kits for youth prevention as well as for educational teams

Many associations and professionals nowadays are confronted to the risks associated to prostitution, especially with regards to young people. The scale of the problem, the normalisation of sexual risk-taking behaviours, the growth of trafficking networks, the complexity surrounding the support of prostituted persons appear to many social and educational workers as a reality to which they are not prepared.

We seek to maintain and develop the outreach of the Mouvement du Nid in schools and with youth in general

Each year, the Mouvement du Nid meets 17,000 youth during prevention sessions. During these sessions, the Mouvement du Nid implements a prevention strategy conceived in positive terms, in order to inspire young people to take control of their own lives by developing social skills such as critical thought, the ability to express their opinions and feelings, understand one's emotions, develop their self-esteem and respect for others.

« I don't carry the story of my experience in the navy as a burden. I'm not ashamed about it. I would just like to say that at the time, nothing dissuaded us from becoming johns and that with education or the law, we could have avoided this unfortunate experience. »

Julien



Raising awareness: our aim is to inform the general public of the reality of prostitution and of the violence of sex acts imposed by money

We seek to understand and analyse the problem of prostitution in order to inform civil society

We were responsible for the very first national survey on clients of prostitution in France. Thanks to our quarterly journal "Prostitution et Société", maintaining up-to-date knowledge and analyses on the realities of prostitution is our priority. These very last few years, new topics of inquiry have emerged such as disability and sexual assistance, cross-border prostitution, student prostitution and new forms of pimping.

We strive to raise public awareness about the violence in purchasing sex acts

A majority of the French people, out of lack of information on the reality of prostitution and on the effects of public policies pertaining to prostitution, pronounce themselves in favour of reopening brothels and against the criminalisation of johns.

We aim to sensitise the media and societal structures? to the reality of prostitution

Through participating in numerous televised debates, radio talk shows or through reading certain news articles in the press, our association has noticed that many journalists continue to convey – at best – confused and incoherent messages, and at worst, legitimise the prostituting system. This is also the case with many intellectuals or public figures from academia or associations. Very often the media in fact know very little about the realities of prostitution and hold preconceived ideas and clichés about it.

« I would like my story to have some impact. I'm doing some reading on prostitution and looking for ways to combat it: we need education in the family and in schools of course, to change mentalities, make a mark in everyone's mind, as what was done with the death penalty. To remove all the stereotypes on masculinity and femininity. »

Éliane



Advocacy: we work on changing legislation in order to implement genuine abolitionist public policies.

In 2012, the Mouvement du Nid continued to campaign for the implementation of coherent and truly abolitionist public policies.

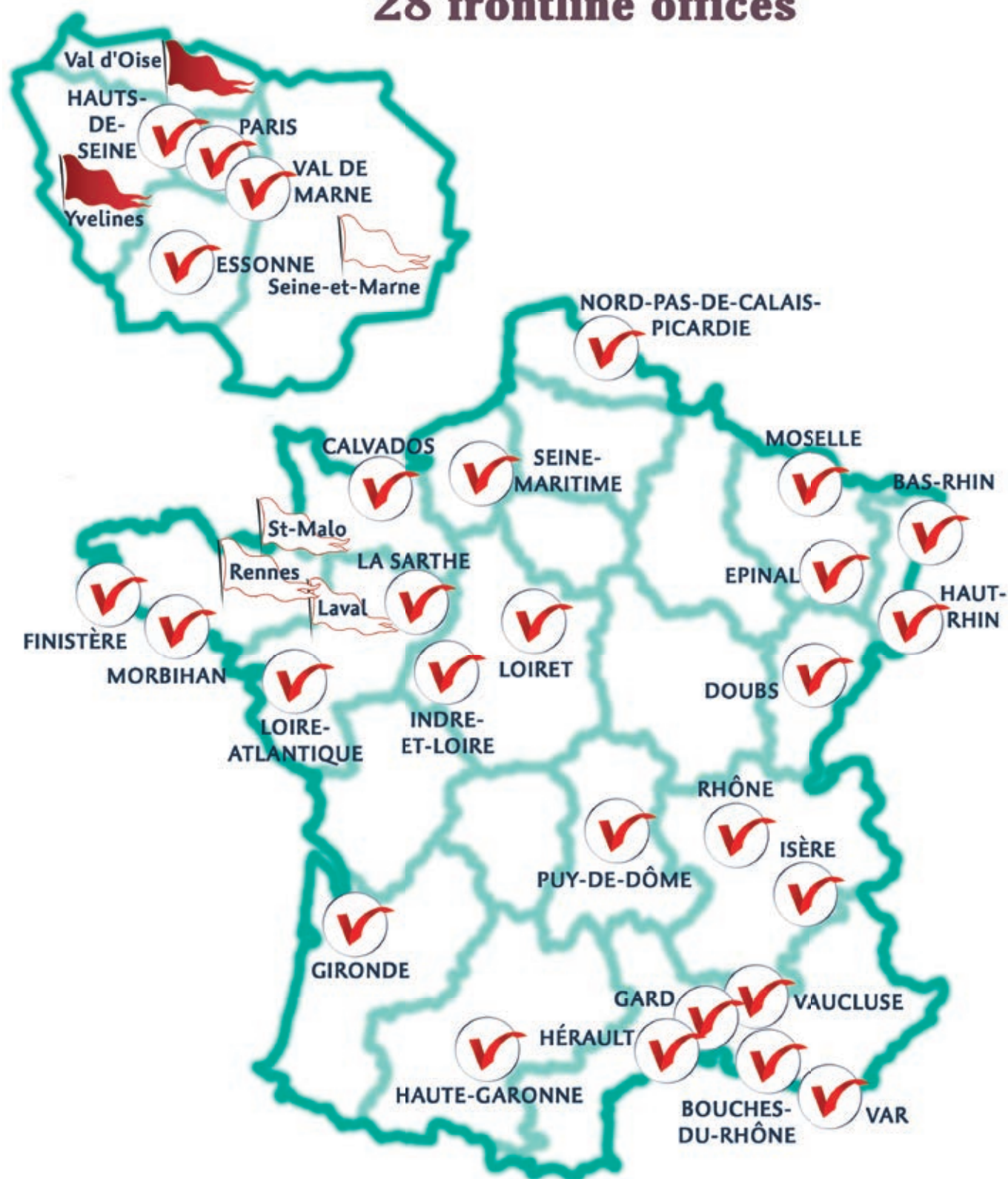
The presidential and legislative election campaigns confirmed the commitment of several political parties to adopt a comprehensive abolitionist law which would include abrogating the offence of solicitation, criminalising clients and implementing true alternatives to prostitution.

This law should be effectively adopted in 2014..

« Prostitution is one of the most striking form of inequality and violence that continues to prevail in the world ... If everyone may be free to control their own body, human rights and human dignity are incompatible with a person's right to control someone else's body because he paid. »

On the 17th of April 2012, François Hollande made the following statement in his response letter to the collective Abolition 2012

28 frontline offices





Association reconnue d'utilité publique et agréée par le Ministère de la Jeunesse et des Sports
et le Ministère de l'Éducation nationale

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