Philippe VANSTEENKISTE – UN Global Congress of Victims of Terrorism

My sister was killed by Daesh at the Brussels terrorist attacks in 2016. When you become victim of a terrorist attack, your life, your values, and assurances get completely shaken up.

During the acute and post-acute phase, you cannot find words to describe your feelings and emotions. Some help was provided to us, but it was unsuitable to our needs. With time you feel lonely and lost. You feel like an alien in the world, divided from society.

With time you feel lonely and lost. You feel like an alien in the world, divided from society And that is exactly what terrorism is seeking.

To understand the emotions and situation I was going through, I needed contact with fellow victims and survivors. But in Belgium there was no association of victims of terrorism. Hence, I approached a French association of the victims of the Paris terrorist attacks. Meeting them changed my whole situation: without needing to try to explain your feelings, you discover finally someone understands you! I was not alone anymore. Hope resurrected. That was the moment I realized the need to create an association in Belgium. It would be called V-Europe.