

Common statement | March 2026

FOR A SAFER AND MORE RESPONSIBLE CIRCUS & OUTDOOR ARTS SECTOR

Circostrada, circusnext, FEDEC and IN SITU as European networks and platforms, reaffirm their collective commitment to a safer and more responsible sector.

We are dedicated to strengthening working, training, teaching and creative environments that guarantee the emotional, psychological and physical safety of everyone involved in the circus and outdoor arts sector: cultural workers, administrative and teaching staff, artists, students and all professionals in the sector.

The circus and outdoor arts sector must be a space for experimentation, learning, and collaboration. We have a collective responsibility to ensure that these spaces are based on respect, listening, dignity and integrity for all.

We hold ourselves and our members accountable to these standards. Through our ongoing actions and commitments - including ethical frameworks and dedicated initiatives - we are working to make circus and outdoor arts a safe, inclusive and caring environment where everyone can develop their practice, creativity and professional career in conditions of trust, fairness and safety.

RESOURCES

PREVENTION

- **Charter for Diversity** (2023): promotes a more inclusive ecosystem for artists and professionals working in the sector. [Circostrada]
- **Charter on Ethics and Deontology** (2012): recommendations and non-binding principles, enabling each circus school to seize its content and bring it to life through its educational project. [FEDEC]
- **Crafting a collaborative charter for circus schools: guidelines** (2025): provides clear guidelines for creating a charter that defines shared values and principles within a community. [FEDEC]
- **Diversity and inclusion statement** [IN SITU]

- **Ethical Charter – Take Care project (2025)**: document adopted by all the partners of the Take Care project on mental health and well-being in circus arts. It recalls the common principles to be respected throughout the project. [FEDEC]
- **Ethical Commitments 2026** [circusnext]
- **FEDEC Code of Conduct** (2019): that all members must read and accept the code of conduct in order to join the FEDEC network. [FEDEC]
- **SPEAK OUT project evaluation** (2025): to raise awareness of sexual abuse and gender-based discrimination within the circus arts sector. It outlines the SPEAK OUT project, summarising its organisational structure and the key steps taken during its implementation. [FEDEC]
- **Spotting in circus training: consent, safety & learning** (2024): synthesizes the collective thoughts and discussions of SPEAK OUT members around the creation of a spotting protocol. [FEDEC]

SUPPORT TO VICTIMS

- **En Corps et Toujours** (2025-2027): project aiming to rethink movement-based teaching practices in order to better support individuals who have experienced gender-based and sexual violence. [Tatami Talks in partnership with FEDEC]
- **Organisations dealing with harassment and abusive conduct** (2025): a list of organisations working to address sexual violence, harassment, abusive conduct, and gender discrimination. [FEDEC]
- **SPEAK OUT Toolbox**: one of the outcomes of the European project SPEAK OUT. [FEDEC]

DIG DEEPER

- **Caring in times of crisis** (2021): series of resources following the research lab. [Circostrada]
- **Climb Programme** (2026): leadership development programme to support professionals in reflecting on their practices and promoting organisational care. [Circostrada]
- **CS Lab #5 - Leadership in times of crisis** (2020): series of webinars to question leadership during crisis times. [Circostrada]
- **CS Lab #6 - Caring in times of crisis** (2021): lab designed to reflect on the topic of adaptability and mental health in the sector. [Circostrada]
- **Leadership in times of crisis** (2020): series of resources following the research lab. [Circostrada]
- **Shaking the Current: Handbook for contemporary circus and outdoor arts workers to navigate social responsibility and ethics** (2021): to provide general knowledge on ethics and social responsibility with a set of recommendations to make a positive change in your professional practice. [Circostrada]
- **SPARK Research Lab on Fair Practices and Equitable Working Conditions** (2024-2026): Aims to produce a policy brief and country insights on the topics of fair practices and working conditions in the sector. [Circostrada]