

Meeting to share knowledge and feminist management good practices for a life free from violence against women

Executive Summary

The ***Meeting to share knowledge and feminist management good practices for a life free from violence against women*** took place in Barcelona in March 2014. It was the result of a process that started when some feminist organizations in Morocco expressed their will to bridge a gap to other realities, in order to share and learn about resources and practices on the work to fight violence against women.

That is how organizations from Catalonia (Spain), El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Morocco with a broad experience in this issue got together in order to deepen and share their knowledge around **three core subjects**:

- ✓ **Intervention with women that have lived or live situations of gender violence**
- ✓ **Advocacy /Prevention**
- ✓ **Feminist Management models: Feminine confidence, politics and authority**

The participating organizations were [ACSUR Las Segovias](#), [Actoras de Cambio](#), [Association Marocaine des Droits des Femmes](#), [CALALA – Women’s Fund](#), [Centro de Derechos de las Mujeres](#), [Organización de Mujeres Salvadoreñas por la Paz](#), [Mains Solidaires](#) and [TAMAIA Viure sense violencia](#). Also, external experts participated in the different core subjects.

The three working days led us to the following conclusions:

- ✓ Women’s resistance to violence is diverse, rich in experiences and valuable in its methodological contributions, life and knowledge.
- ✓ It has been established that violence against women, as a strategy from patriarchy, has a universal dimension, and that its attacks are constantly being renewed.
- ✓ We have verified that in different countries, some with the most advanced legislations in the matter of violence, others that do not even have a specific legislation, we often come up against the wall of judiciary, as if the human rights of women, were not such.
- ✓ Feminist justice repairs, does not victimize, it is necessary to recuperate our own space for intervention, not only to have public services.
- ✓ During 2014, in Catalonia, only from the 1st January to the 18th March, six women have been killed. This is an issue that not only concerns women or women’s organizations, it is also the responsibility of society as a whole if it wants to call itself a democracy.
- ✓ Representatives of the participant organizations consider the feeling of unity and the globalization of feminism all over the world as very significant.
- ✓ All the participants work on the recovery of women victims of gender violence and consider that, as one of the effects of such violence is silence and isolation, feminist women groups are indispensable to break this isolation.
- ✓ Feminist women groups are also essential in all the work to recuperate the general and the specific historical memory of women, recognizing feminine genealogy.

- ✓ Collective work with women generates a different empowerment than the individual work. Self-help groups are strategic spaces to learn about feminism as a way of life.
- ✓ Every participant and collaborator has expressed that they have been able to verify the transformative value of feminism around the world. They have felt the sisterhood in the strength of their feminist being, their creativity, the search for solutions, their resistance, and their activism. And, something very transcendental, they have honoured the capacity of women from the whole world to love and to survive.
- ✓ This meeting has permitted us to share how women constantly build what patriarchy tries to destroy through war and through violence against women. This daily building is possible mobilizing all resources within their reach and, especially, with the support and solidarity that established networks offer.
- ✓ This meeting is expected to be the beginning of networking among the organizations and countries represented to continue sharing strategies, knowledge, strengths and experiences, in the face of their common job to eradicate violence against women.

We want to continue this work so it can be a germ of an international network of feminist organizations of expert women to fight violence against women, created by civil society, that facilitates South-South and South-North exchange and dialogue. A network with an emphasis in the practices and the knowledge on the intervention for women's recovery and on prevention, sharing the view of these violences, both addressing the common elements that are present in every country and culture, as well as the strategies to confront them, in the search of the multiplication of good practices and of mutual learning.

We also intend the network to become an expression of international solidarity among feminist organizations, an element of strength, accompaniment and support in the moments when political and social incidence is needed to transform realities, legislations, traditions, policies, etc. contrary to women's rights and to violence free lives.

You can access the whole document on the Meeting in Catalan, French or Spanish [here](#).

For more information you can contact calala@calala.org

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