

2017 Women's Summit for Equality and Justice Final Declaration

We Want Equality for Justice.

Expectations from the Political Will;

There should be equal opportunities for citizens that differ in gender, language, religion, sexual orientation and political opinion.

Turkey should execute the international conventions that it is a signatory to by ensuring and implementing gender equality. In the cases where it violates these conventions, inspectors should be consulted.

The oppression and the violence enacted on women by antagonistic hate speech should be prevented. A common language that is egoless and prioritizes an inclusive, peaceful tone should be established.

The state of emergency that is promoting violence, preventing the right of free association and undermining democracy must be immediately abrogated.

There should be pressure on the law enforcers for the efficient implementation of Article 6284, Law to Protect Family and Prevent Violence against Woman.

State-sponsored pro-family policies should be abandoned. A Ministry of Women that prioritizes women's gender equality must be formed.

All kinds of gender-based violence against women should be aimed to be eliminated with preventive, deterring and punishing political approaches and practices.

Coordination centres, NGO advisory boards and relevant NGO units, that will enhance the dialogue with NGOs in local governance, must be established.

An NGO Coordination Unit must be incorporated in the Permanent Staff Regulations of the Interior Ministry. A working directive must be authored and there should be a quota for the budget and for women and LGBT associations.

Gender equality should be included in the national curriculum. Unacceptable expressions like, '*obeying men is a form worship*' should be removed urgently from the national curriculum.

Public officials who are regularly involved with women, children and LGBT individuals should regularly receive training on gender issues, against violence towards women and on LGBT rights.

Maintenance services, which is the biggest obstacle to women's participation in the workforce, must be provided by local and central authorities. The care economy should be supported.

To ensure gender equality, a special budget should be allocated at the local and central level. In addition, gender sensitive budgeting should be applied, and gender-based budget statistics should be compiled.

The risks that are entailed in identity records that are based on declaration should be forestalled.

Expectations from the Judiciary;

Instead of consolidating the repressive, oppressive patriarchy, the judiciary should function in a way that lifts inequality.

An effective monitoring mechanism should be established in the Supreme Board of Judges and Prosecutors, especially on the arenas where sexist decisions occur like criminal proceedings.

Increasing the number of women judges and prosecutors in the judiciary should be a prioritized basic policy. Equal distribution of women should be ensured by accelerators such as quotas, aiming to establish parity, with numerical targets to increase the number of women over the years. These instruments should also be provided for women to be in higher courts, in higher positions in the Ministry of Justice and in more positions as prosecutors.

In terms of vocational training of judges and public prosecutors, courses and practice on gender equality should be added to the curriculum of the Turkish Justice Academy.

Expectations from Political Parties and Party Leaders

In order to increase the presence of women in decision-making mechanisms, the parity of men and women must be legally guaranteed and implemented in political parties and decision-making bodies.

There should be a leadership approach that incentivizes and strengthens women by opening space in the political arena, rather than recommending working more to get involved politics.

The number and effectiveness of women's assemblies at all levels should be increased to strengthen local women's organizations.

The authority of muftis (*religious civil servants within the body of Turkey's Directorate of Religious Affairs*) to conduct marriage should be rejected and must be taken to the Constitutional Court by the opposition parties.

There should be a new political model for the young generation. It should adopt a different perspective and language in politics.

The knowledge, experience and solution capacity and capacity of independent women's organizations accumulated over 30 years should be exploited.

Expectations from the Civil Society

All-encompassing and collective organizational structures and umbrella organizations must be founded. These should be inclusive, collectively and horizontally organized, be knowledge focused, support solidarity, put forward individual rights and lastly be above political parties.

A massive gender equality campaign must be initiated in partnership with political parties, the private sector and civil society, using all platforms including written, visual and digital media.

Women's organizations and activists should come together to develop problem-based organization models.

Civil society should be rejuvenated with innovative methods by developing technology-based organizational models and digital platforms.

The Women's Summit for Equality and Justice must be convened every year and should function to ensure gender equality.