

Resolution of the European Conference of the World Women

We, the European delegates of the World Women's Conference, are proud and excited about the successful pilot project, the 1. World Women Conference in Caracas in March 2011, in spite of all the difficulties, problems and errors. The World Women's Conference has warmed out hearts and exited our spirits. Even if the rank and file woman are materially poor they are rich in power, experience and vision. As World Women in Europe we will put into practice what has been agreed upon in Caracas in order to strengthen the militant women's liberation movement in our countries with special focus on the three action days: 8 March, 1 May and 25 November.

We will preserve the positive elements of the conference and develop them further, and we are resolved to overcome the shortcomings

- We confirm the principles laid down in the documents of the World Women's Conference - the call and the guidelines - and we agree to work on these principles in the future.
- During the conference it must be possible to participate in the mass program and the General Assembly, so there should be no overlap and sufficient time for both activities e.g. two days for both starting with the workshops.
- We insist on clearly stated opinions and the opportunity to bring about democratic decision through voting.
- Protocols of all sessions and meetings of the committees have to be written up, agreed upon and published. They have to include disagreements as well.
- We criticize the distortion and abuse of the principle of consensus, which allowed minorities to impose their opinion on majorities: for example when 225 Columbian women in their six buses were held back at the frontier by the Venezuelan government the majority of the women, who was present at the General Assembly, wanted a resolution regarding this case. But it was never written because some of the women - a minority - held the opinion that such a resolution would provoke the Venezuelan government. We criticise such behaviour and regard it as undemocratic.
- In the same line we also criticise the undemocratic behaviour of those that suppressed the expression of criticism of the Kurdish women on the World Women's Conference. It was against our principles and we expect those responsible to come forward and express themselves self-critically in view of their behaviour. This must not happen again and we must make sure that our errors burn like fire. Divisions among us women serve the ruling class only.
- We insist that the process of preparing and carrying out the World Women's Conference must be multilateral, based on the equal participation of all concerned with it. All applicants for the World Women's Conference in 2016 will have to agree in their application, that they are going to prepare for the conference in a multilateral fashion based on the principle of solidarity working hand in hand with all responsible supporters of the conference. They must also agree to provide any information about current developments in their country and to report any problems they might have.
- The initiators or coordinators will need to be open-minded towards the women and to inform them about any conflicts. They need to install publicity and consult with the women from their respective countries and continents.
- In view of the second World Women's Conference we would like to make a point of addressing women who are organized and those organisations themselves. We would like to avoid the impression that „rank and file women“ is only to mean *unorganized* women. Organisations need to be provided with the opportunity to represent themselves on the World Women's Conference and to join forces with other

organisations. We would like to win over more women and organisation all over Europe. (Left-wing, revolutionary) political parties are not excluded with us, on the contrary they are welcome, if they are willing to work together on equal footing and across party lines.

We are working on forming and promoting committees of the World Women in every country and to keep those committees stay informed of each other's activities. We propose to those committees to work out an annual program and schedules of their work and inform others through the website.

We are going to form a European Committee. It will coordinate our work on a European level based on the binding decisions of the European Conference.

We strive for a European wide coordination of our activities and for a common presentation during the three action days, possibly with a common call, common slogans and emblems. The future European Committee is to make early proposals and to gather and present differing views in this respect.

The results of the World Women's Conference and the European meetings are to be widely published and made known. The results also needs to be presented to the UN and the governments in order to put a strong voice to our movement.

The new website - the one that is maintained from Germany so far - will be easy to handle and have multi-language support. In the course of the next year all committees of the World Women are going to have the right to add their own articles. There will be an educational course to help women in this respect.

We should compose a anthem of the women of the world and we should organize an exhibition to present the women's liberation struggle. We propose an international song contest during the World Women's Conference in 2016 in order to find the finest song to serve as anthem of the women of the world.

Seen from a worldwide perspective the EU is region of enormous wealth but at the same time it is a centre of reactionary forces due to the rule of powerful European companies and governments. We, the World women confront them. The EU is active in brutally transferring the burden of the financial and economical crisis onto the shoulders of the broad masses, especially women, children and workers. This is blatantly apparent in Greece today. The EU and the whole of the "Schengen area" is trying to wall off migration flows from other countries although poverty, hunger and suppression is often caused by those same imperialistic states. The EU European companies and governments destroy the environment and try to reverse achievements already made. They deceive people and quash the struggles of the masses by repressive state power. Their anti-communist campaigning tries to prevent the masses from thinking about social alternatives and revolutionary change.

The masses of women remain a primary target of this reactionary policy. They are exploited and suppressed in a double sense, they are raped and killed and many are forced to flee.

But women stand up and in getting organised they find themselves in the centre of the struggle. The "Arab Spring", the uprisings for freedom and democracy has excited and impressed us. But since then we are worried to see that the objective of these uprisings, first achievements and the role of the women in these movements are again trampled over. The women in the Arab countries will never assent and we feel solidarity and a deep bond towards

them. We declare our solidarity with all women of the world who are particularly exposed to repression and we would like to express this in an additional resolution.

We would welcome it, if the next World Women's Conference takes place in Asia, where millions of women are currently getting organised to stand up for their rights. We are committed to fight for making the objectives of the World Women's Conference known and having them taken seriously.

In this sense we are prepared to cooperate with all those women's organisations and political factions within the international women's liberation movement where our objectives meet with open ears. Let us put life to the final resolution of Caracas. Internationalism must become the guideline of our daily life.

Unanimously accepted without abstentions by the delegations present from Belgium, Germany, France, the Netherlands, Austria, Romania and Switzerland, 7 January 2012