



## Delegation of the 2. World Women's Conference of Grassroots Women to Diyarbakır

From the 1<sup>st</sup> to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July we were as a delegation of the 2. World Women's Conference of Grassroots Women in Diyarbakır. We wanted to find out there about the topical situation of the people and state our solidarity with their fight.

What we have seen and heard there concerned us very much and even made us angry. The immense and level-according approach with which the Turkish government carries out a new Genocid in the Kurdish population was not conceivable for us.

For one year the situation has extremely intensified in Kurdistan. The Kurdish city administrations exist in every office of 2 people, a woman and a man. This co-management is not recognized by the Turkish government. The members of the city administrations are constantly arrested, above all the women.

In the district Sur (Diyarbakır) it has met Fatma Şik Barut. She is there a co-mayoress and has been arrested. In the custody she lived in a very small cell. She might see the news only very seldom together with other prisoners, so that she could find out hardly about the constantly changing situation. Only a short time ago she was released. Nevertheless, at the same time she was relieved of her office (although this is juridically not at all possible, because she was chosen). Accusation was brought by the Turkish government on the basis of §302 – Division of the homeland – against her. She is facing a life long prison sentence now (36 years).

We have come to know Fatma in our visit personally. She has explained to us that she advocates for the self-determination of the Kurdish people. Nevertheless this means no division of the homeland but on the contrary that all ethnic groups within the Turkish state live together self-determined and peacefully.

We protest strictly against the repressions against Fatma Şik Barut and demand the abolition of the process against her and the immediate reinstallation in her office as a co-mayoress of the district Sur in Diyarbakır!



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