



Press release
30 October 24

The Matera International Feminist Appeal

Recommendations to governments on sexual violence

At a three-day conference in Matera (Italy) in October 2024, organised alongside the G7 summit on gender equality, 70 experts from all regions of the world (Africa, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia) met to discuss sexual violence and femicide.

The debates focused on international conventions for the defence of women's rights, the fight against impunity, the consequences of violence and its cost, as well as public policies and good practice.

The scourge of sexual violence throughout the world requires an immediate, coordinated response to combat sexism and sexist stereotypes more effectively, to ensure the protection of women and girl victims and survivors, and to combat impunity for all perpetrators.

The experts call on the G7, G20 and United Nations states to commit to the recommendations adopted at the conference.

They call for urgent, decisive and financed action to protect women and girls, and to combat impunity for perpetrators, especially in the context of war, migration and incarceration.

Every day that goes by without action means that more women and girls are victims of violence that could have been avoided, including in the private sphere.



The 15 recommendations:

1. Ratify and implement the international conventions on combating gender-based violence, particularly sexual violence.
2. Recognise sex and gender-based apartheid as a crime against humanity.
3. Include rape, sexual violence and consent in European legislation.
4. Direct resources towards prevention and education.
5. Guarantee gender parity at all levels and the presence of independent experts in international monitoring mechanisms.
6. Align the G7/G20 objectives with the sustainable development goals on women's rights.
7. Support feminist NGOs and human rights defenders by ensuring their safety and funding for their activities.
8. Promote the empowerment of women.
9. Combat technology-facilitated violence against women and girls.
10. Combat sexual violence during migration and conflict.
11. Make bilateral and multilateral agreements conditional on respect for gender equality and human rights.
12. Apply feminist diplomacy through the promotion, in all political dialogue, of fundamental rights and freedoms and the particular rights and freedoms of women and girls.
13. Combat impunity for rape and sexual violence in detention.
14. Develop data collection and research.
15. Train professionals to deconstruct preconceived harmful stereotypes and avoid re-victimisation.

These recommendations are open for signature by all associations, NGOs and personalities wishing to support and join this advocacy (see full text attached) in the run-up to Beijing +30.

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