

# Women's rights

## Recommendations for the UPR of Italy

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## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE UPR OF ITALY WOMEN'S RIGHTS

**Presented by:**

- Fondazione Pangea onlus
- Cooperativa sociale Be free
- Associazione Filomena la rete delle Donne
- Associazione Parsec
- Unione Donne in Italia (UDI)
- Casa Internazionale delle Donne di Roma
- Nosotras onlus
- Associazione Trama di Terre
- Forum of Mediterranean Women Journalists
- Associazione Germoglio Viola-Milano
- Centro Antiviolenza Renata Fonte
- Giraffa onlus
- Prospettiva Donna onlus
- Cooperativa Prassi e Ricerca
- Associazione Ponte Donna
- Associazione Punto D
- Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF)



trama di terre - ONLUS  
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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE FOR  
**PEACE & FREEDOM**



**PROSPETTIVA DONNA**

*Siamo donne che parlano alle donne*



*Centro Antiviolenza Renata Fonte*  
*Associazione Donne Insieme*

# Areas of concern

- ❑ Gender **stereotypes** and discrimination
- ❑ **VAW, femicide, firearms**, including on loosening of regulations for **gun control**
- ❑ **VAW: mechanisms** for effective **implementation of all policies** relating to VAW
- ❑ **VAW: Access to Justice**
- ❑ **Sexual and reproductive health and rights**
- ❑ **Environmental disasters** and women's **health**
- ❑ **Women's access to work and welfare**
- ❑ **Trafficking & gendered impacts of the response to migration flows**
- ❑ **NAP 1325 (WPS)**
- ❑ **Italy's arms transfers**, e.g. countries involved in the **Yemen** conflict
- ❑ **Women's spaces**

# CEDAW Recommendations

**Note >>>** Many of our recommendations  
**reflect those made by the CEDAW  
Committee** in its most recent review of Italy

*(UN index: CEDAW/C/ITA/CO/7, July 2017)*



**Note also that >>> The recommendations reflected in the following slides are a summary of our recommendations.**

*Please refer to the full text of the recommendations available in our joint advocacy brief*



# Gender Stereotypes and Discrimination

- ❑ Put in place a **comprehensive and sustained strategy to eliminate and modify patriarchal attitudes and gender stereotypes**, with particular focus on women and on women belonging to minority groups
- ❑ Ensure that **all gender stereotypes are eliminated from textbooks and that school curricula**, academic programs and **professional training for teachers cover women's rights** and gender equality, violence against women
- ❑ Adopt specific **legislation** to combat **sexual harassment** in all fields, including **politics**



# VAW, femicides, firearms

- ❑ Ensure **systematic and periodic collection** of administrative **data** on civil and criminal proceedings **disaggregated** by the victim and the perpetrator's sex, relationship, age, and the place where the violence took place
- ❑ Ensure that the **Ministry of Interior collect and publish** administrative **data on femicides** and other gender-based killings and **data on the potential correlation** between gender-based homicides and the **weapon used** to kill the victim; and also on
- ❑ The **number of sports shooting licenses**, hunting licenses, and other firearms licenses issued and still valid as well as **sex-disaggregated data on the possession of firearms**
- ❑ Ensure a **tight regulation of firearms**, including by **repealing the recent legislation** that fosters arms proliferation
- ❑ Review and **amend the legislation on self-defence to bring it in line with international human rights standards**, including the ICCPR

# VAW/Mechanisms for implementation

- ❑ **Fully implement** the Istanbul Convention and CEDAW Recommendations including by:
  - ❑ **Improving coordination and gender mainstreaming** between **national, regional** and **municipal** interventions, including by involving women's associations that provide specialist services, to develop integrated policies
  - ❑ **Fully implement the National Strategic Plan on male violence against women 2017-2020**
  - ❑ Enacting **preventive and protection measures in consultation with migrant women and their organizations** against all forms of violence including forced marriage and FGM



# VAW/Access to Justice

Ensure implementation of CEDAW recommendations (*CEDAW/C/ITA/CO/7, para 52*) to

- Take all necessary **measures to discourage the use of the “parental alienation syndrome”** by experts and by courts **in custody cases**
- Adequately address the consideration of the **specific needs of women and children to determine child custody in cases involving gender-based violence** in the domestic sphere
- Set up a **mechanism to take into consideration the disparity in the earning capacity** and the human potential between the separating spouses, given the woman's higher investment in the child-care and home work at the expense of her career
- Adopt **legislation to guarantee the even implementation of services and rights to all Italian children in all districts** when the **father fails to pay child maintenance**

# Sexual and reproductive health and rights

- ❑ Ensure the **full application of Act No. 194/78** throughout the country in order to **guarantee access to abortion services** & ensure that the **exercise of conscientious objection** by health-care personnel **does not pose an obstacle** for women who wish to terminate a pregnancy
- ❑ Ensure **access to free and new generation of contraceptives** by ensuring that it is covered by the National Health Service and made **also available to migrant, asylum seeker and refugee women**
- ❑ Promote **reproductive health education campaigns and awareness raising campaigns**, including on HIV/AIDS
- ❑ Ensure that **all staff in ASL (territorial health units) are trained according to an intercultural approach on FGM, forced marriages, trafficking** in human beings and other harmful practices
- ❑ **Relaunch and strengthen basic health services, and family -care territorial health units**, providing adequate funding



# Environmental disasters and women's health

- ❑ Ensure that national health policies be designed paying attention to the **social and environmental determinants of health and gender**
- ❑ Ensure that policies be fully implemented in all contaminated areas of the country and aim to **avoid environmental contamination and negative health impacts** particularly on women's reproductive, neonatal and child health.
- ❑ Carry out **official scientific research** with on **heavily contaminated areas** and make it publicly available.

# Women's access to work and welfare

- ❑ Undertake **appropriate government policies to eliminate gender pay gap** in the labour market & **report to Parliament**, including on **pension gap**
- ❑ Improve policies for work/life balance e.g. **increase provision of services for children until 3 years** to a coverage of 33% throughout the country and make them **free of charge**
- ❑ **Increase pay for parental leave from the present 30% to 65%** of the salary to make it more widely used & **increase obligatory paternity leave for men**
- ❑ **Redefine the welfare system from a gender perspective**, so as to move from the present family-oriented Mediterranean model to a universal one
- ❑ Duly consider the importance of the experience of the **Equality Counsellors** at all levels (national and local), making it a priority once again to make them **independent of political powers**, partly through proper financing as envisaged by the law that established them (Decree 196/2000)



# Trafficking

- ❑ Implement CEDAW Committee's recommendations on women refugees and asylum seekers, including in relation to **gender-appropriate, individual screening and assessment procedures, adequate reception standards for refugees and asylum seekers**, with particular attention to women and girls, strict observation of the principle of **non-refoulement, support to CSOs working with women refugees** and asylum seekers
- ❑ Ensure that **victims of trafficking are quickly identified and their rights upheld**
- ❑ Ensure that **all authorities involved in processing migrant women's status are fully aware of the legislation** relating to the matter of **residence permits for victims of domestic violence (Art. 18-bis, Law 119/2013)**
- ❑ Implement CEDAW Committee's recommendation to ensure the effective implementation of the law to **combat undeclared work and labour exploitation in agriculture**

# National Action Plan UNSCR 1325

- ❑ **Promote actions directly between Italian women's CSOs and women organizations in conflict-affected areas**
- ❑ **Ensure regular consultations with civil society working in the field so as to promote effective and long-lasting collaboration with local women and their participation in all aspects of peace and reconstruction processes**
- ❑ **Mainstream the Women, Peace and Security in domestic policies, particularly with respect to women asylum seekers and refugees in Italy**
- ❑ **Ensure allocated, sufficient and sustained funding for the implementation of the upcoming new NAP 1325, with detailed roles and responsibilities for implementation of various stakeholders, independent monitoring with clear indicators, and provide public and transparent information on calls for funding applications and how the funding is spent**
- ❑ **Ensure that the issue of the impacts of Italy's arms transfers & of the proliferation of small and light weapons on gender-based violence are fully addressed in the next NAP 1325**



# Arms transfers

- ❑ **Suspend immediately arms transfers to countries involved in the coalition in Yemen and to any other country where there is a risk that arms might be used to facilitate or commit serious violations of international human rights law and IHL**
- ❑ **Implement the CEDAW Committee's recommendation to:**
  - **harmonise the legislation regulating arms export control with Art. 7(4) of the ATT and the EU Council Common Position**
  - **integrate a gender dimension into its strategic dialogues with countries purchasing Italian arms and that, before export licences are granted, comprehensive and transparent assessments be conducted of the impact that the misuse of small arms and light weapons has on women, including those living in conflict zones**



# Women spaces

- ❑ **Ensure that challenges and attacks against independently managed women's spaces cease** and that **relevant legislation**, including that concerning the social sector, **is applied** to preserve the viability and sustainability of their operations
- ❑ **Recognize the social value of the work performed in women's spaces with** dedicated legislation and financial resources



**For a copy of the:**

- **Joint UPR briefing on Women's Rights (October 2019) , please visit:**  
[https://www.wilpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/UPR-of-ITALY\\_Joint-recommendations.pdf](https://www.wilpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/UPR-of-ITALY_Joint-recommendations.pdf)

- **Joint UPR submission (March 2019), please visit:**  
[https://www.wilpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/UPR-of-Italy\\_Joint-submission\\_March-19df.pdf](https://www.wilpf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/UPR-of-Italy_Joint-submission_March-19df.pdf)

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**Thank you for your attention**