

## Together towards new and ambitious challenges

Over the past years we have made great progress together to combat the scourge of female genital mutilation, and the United Nations Resolution was a turning point. Our model supported advocacy by local activists towards their national governments, mobilising them to promote international instruments, which were used by the same activists to hold their governments accountable for the protection and promotion of women's rights as human rights. This method worked. Though there continue to be forces that oppose the progress that has been achieved, and even try to roll it back, we will persevere. When a liberty is protected by law, it becomes a right that can be asserted, providing the tools to continue and expand the demand for justice.

Today we ask you to be with us in this new and more ambitious challenge. We are ready. We hope you are, too. Donate to No Peace Without Justice and support our work for the protection and promotion of women's and girls' human rights around the world.

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No Peace Without Justice is an international non-governmental organisation born of a campaign of the Transnational Radical Party and is now constituent association and a member of the Senate of the Nonviolent Radical Party Transnational and Transparty, an NGO with General (Category I) consultative status at the United Nations ECOSOC.



# Fighting for the human rights of women

Our fight demands unflagging commitment, courage and tenacity.

Victories must be celebrated, yet we must guard against complacency: unless the legal framework that guarantees full equality between men and women is constantly strengthened, all advances will continue to be attacked, undermined, weakened or revoked.

The human rights of women must be pursued without compromise, promoted and encouraged until they are enshrined in legislation, and protected and safeguarded over time as essential components of the rule of law. Fighting for this goal is risky: in many parts of the world it leads to social rejection, harassment, imprisonment and even death.

The Campaign against female genital mutilation has long been part of this struggle. The adoption of the United Nations General Assembly Resolution banning female genital mutilation worldwide recognized the legitimacy of all the activists who for years had been vilified for their work.

The battle to end female genital mutilation is an emblematic one that paves the way for other battles that invoke the rule of law on behalf of individual rights, physical integrity and personal autonomy, particularly as they relate to sexual and reproductive choice. It is the same battle that women fight every day by standing up against regressive social conventions, a battle of self-empowerment and dignity, sometimes at great personal cost.

As with all political initiatives it is not without financial cost. Since 2000, NPWJ has invested more than seven million euros in this campaign, working closely with its partners to carry out activities in 28 African countries and beyond to pursue intensive advocacy toward European and African institutions and the United Nations.

Our victories have been possible thanks to the decision by international organizations, governments, companies and private citizens to contribute concretely to the creation of conditions in which this kind of violence against women and girls will no longer be tolerated.

The current priorities in the fight for the human rights of women are not so different from those of the past: the right to self-determination, the freedom to make informed and autonomous choices about the course of one's life, one's sexuality, if and when to have children, whether and when to marry, and all within a context of public policies and structures that allow for real choice.

