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EuroMed Feminist Initiative
المبادرة النسوية الأورومتوسطية
Initiative Féministe EuroMed



Press Release

November 13, 2019

Developing Regional Guidelines for Women, Peace and Security Agenda

Amman, November 13, 2019 - Responding to the [UfM Ministerial Declaration](#) on Women's Rights (27 Nov 2017, Cairo), EuroMed Feminist Initiative (EFI) with a consortium of nine women's rights organizations in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, and Tunisia launched a **Regional Campaign on Zero Tolerance for Violence Against Women and Girls**. The campaign takes place in the frame of the regional project "**Combating Violence against Women in the Southern Mediterranean Region**", which is funded by the European Union (EU).

As part of this campaign, Arab Women Organization and EuroMed Feminist Initiative held a **National Consultation on Developing Regional Guidelines for Women, Peace and Security Agenda** on November 13 in Amman, Jordan under the patronage of H.E. Ms. Basma Ishaqat, Minister of Social Development. The consultation aimed at fostering a common understanding of Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda and developing guidelines for the implementation of the agenda on national and regional levels. Click [here](#) to view the photo album.

For her part, H.E. Ms. Maria Hadjitheodosiou, Ambassador of the European Union to Jordan, said "the WPS agenda is not only critical for Jordan; it is a significant component of Jordan's stabilising role in this region of protracted conflict. Women's empowerment has the potential to empower Jordanian society as a whole." She added: "In supporting Jordan's role in the region, the EUs' effort also focuses on helping Jordan improve the situation of women in the country, through protection and by promoting their role in the public domain so that women in political and decision-making roles can help other women and girls, protect them and promote their interests."

H.E. Ms. Basma Ishaqat, Minister of Social Development, emphasized the presence of the political will to support peace and security issues. She added: "Empowering women and involving them in the process of development, security and peace is vital and necessary to end discrimination and achieve development and common prosperity in all spheres of life at national, regional and international levels".

Ms. Lilian Halls- French, Co-President of EuroMed Feminist Initiative discussed the essence of women, peace and security agenda reminding that " WPSA applies gender perspective and analyses in all areas of participation, prevention, protection, legislation, VAWG, equal access to power and resources as well as to labor market, recovery as well transitional justice after military conflict, ending of occupation and militarization."



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Participants emphasized the importance of the political will and government's commitment to implementing the WPS Agenda. In this regard, Dr. Ahmad Abu Hayder, Director of Policies and Strategies, Ministry of Social Development, highlighted the importance of the UfM Ministerial Declaration on Women's Rights and affirmed the government's commitment to the UfM process, as Jordan is co-chairing the UfM together with the EU.

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