

Charter of Values for the Protection and Care of Women Victims of Violence

We, local governments, recognize that violence against women is intrinsically linked to social and political systems that perpetuate the domination of men over women. Such violence constitutes a violation of human rights and has widespread societal impacts, affecting not only women but also their children.

Aware that women are disproportionately affected by poverty, we understand that combating violence must also include measures to address economic insecurity.

We recognize that women's political participation is crucial, both from a democratic perspective and in relation to health, safety, and education—areas for which local governments are often responsible.

We stand in solidarity with women, political leaders, and non-governmental organizations fighting against violence, particularly intimate partner violence, sexual violence, femicide, and female genital mutilation, including in conflict zones.

Recognizing our responsibility toward the protection and well-being of women victims of violence, we, the undersigned local governments, commit to taking active steps to combat violence against women and to become "caring territories for women victims of violence," thereby contributing to the human development of our societies.

Given the diverse range of local competencies, territorial policies, and necessary partnerships, we, as local governments, members of the International Observatory on Violence Against Women, pledge to actively work towards the eradication of violence against women.

Together, we will work towards building a society free of violence against women by implementing local public policies rooted in the values of equality and freedom. Achieving real equality between women and men requires access to public services.

This commitment necessitates ongoing and coordinated efforts, including:

- Raising awareness about violence through public education, particularly among young people, ensuring reliable statistics to measure the scale of violence, and establishing prevention and support mechanisms for women and their children.
- Collaborating and networking by sharing knowledge, expertise, and resources within a robust network, particularly through the UCLG Committee on Social Inclusion, Participatory Democracy, and Human Rights, and the Observatory on Violence Against Women of Seine-Saint-Denis.

We call on every local government to take responsibility in this crucial fight. We commit to becoming safe territories for women victims of violence, endorsing the principles of the Iztapalapa and Banjul declarations and adapting them to our local realities.

In solidarity with women worldwide!

Done in Bobigny, 28 November 2024