



## Final Declaration of the International Conference KIMIYYA

*Naples, 14th September 2017*

The participants in the **KIMIYYA** regional conference held on 12 – 14 September 2017 in Naples (Italy), organized by Fondazione Mediterraneo, supported by the Anna Lindh Foundation in partnership with more than 20 countries

- became aware of the engagement of ALF taken in Marseille on April 2013 - and renewed in October 2016 in Malta - towards women and equal rights between men and women at all levels of decisions and public policies;
- were equally acquainted with the Sousse Declaration about the role of artistic expression in the conflict zones and paying tribute to war victims, especially women;
- listened with great attention to the views and testimonies of associations, experts, institutions on the different themes of women's everyday life, and identified obstacles for the emancipation of women and their resistance capacities.

At the end of their works, the participants

- recall that women's rights are an integral part of the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights" and note that these rights are too often infringed in the Mediterranean region;
- emphasize that women's rights are fundamental to a democratic functioning, and to any development process, that they are indispensable for the construction of participatory citizenship and a fair society based on solidarity;

- affirm that the promotion, emancipation of women and the recognition of their rights require access to schooling, training and education «and long-life education processes», including the absence, non-respect and insufficiency that affect the whole society;
- strongly denounce the fate of women in the name of the principles of traditional culture and denounce the so-called honour crimes, physical harm, humiliation and physical or verbal abuse;
- pay tribute to all the women who, on both sides, are in the frontline in the fight for peace and democracy and express their deep solidarity;
- express their deepest concern about globalization which leads to a devaluation of the human person and of the woman in particular, not respecting her physical integrity or her dignity;
- also welcome the role and place that women have in all the Mediterranean countries in the voluntary sector and in civil society, placing them at the forefront of the struggle for development and against violence, sexism, racism and all forms of intolerance;
- Insist on the promotion of women in scientific culture and ask for a better access to European funding by NGOs working for women's rights, taking into account in the calls for projects the need to give them opportunities;

For these reasons and in light of these findings and analyses, the participants call for a broad mobilization to work for:

- **a just and equitable peace between countries of the Euro-Mediterranean region ravaged by war and violence;**
- **a better consideration of women's projects and creations and active support for intercultural exchange initiatives;**
- **the integration and enhancement of women's potential in the development of the Mediterranean countries;**

- a real participation of women in political life and decision-making;
- the government and human rights associations should take into account the double discrimination experienced by migrant women;
- the recognition of juridical and social rights of migrant women and their individualization for their economic integration;
- a special support for refugee women;
- equal relations between the North and the South and a genuine circulation of knowledge, skills and technologies across these countries;
- the advent of authentic democracies and new solidarities in all countries around the Mediterranean,
- to put an end to all forms of barbarity and exclusion, sexual exploitation and humiliation of women.