In 2017, the various organizations measuring philanthropy in France revealed that 1,485 funds and foundations in the country, with combined assets worth €2.3 billion, donated €5.5 billion in the form of subsidies, grants, scholarships and prizes, and 3,700 companies reported giving a total of €2.7 billion.¹ The majority of individual donors also were reported to be female (53%), giving an annual total of €4.3 billion donations.²

Unfortunately, of the populations targeted by the 1.5 billion euros reported to be female (53%), giving an annual total of €4.3 billion donations.

In 2018, to delve more deeply into this matter, the Mediterranean Women’s Fund initiated a survey entitled “What is the philanthropic sector’s contribution to the advancement of women and girls in France?” It was first conducted among member foundations of the Centre Français des Fondations.³

The combined budget of the 35 foundations which responded to the survey was estimated to be at least €230 million in 2016. The combined budget of the foundations that focused only on activities related to women’s rights was €3 million, that of those with a more “general” profile was €152 million.

The generalist group nonetheless felt that it was important to fund in France projects specifically dedicated to women, with 20% declaring this to be a priority. Seventy-five percent of the foundations decided that they had funded a project for women and girls’ empowerment in France in 2016, mainly in the fields of education (40%), capacity-building (18%) and economic integration (15%), refugee women (15%), poverty (15%), and violence against women (10%).

This gives the impression that everyone is concerned about the question. Yet… the amounts invested in women and girls by 80% of the foundations surveyed represented less than 10% of their overall budget. In other words, just €3.5 million out of a total of €372 million.

Thus of the €220 million total reported in our survey, only €6.5 million was dedicated in 2016 to some form of support for women’s rights and gender equality, despite the fact that these are essential pillars for a more just society. Considering the size of the total, and that more than half the population is concerned, €6.5 million is a small sum.

One might assume that the situation is probably not so bad because associations in France, the 6th wealthiest nation in the world, can undoubtedly count on assistance from the government, which has declared equality to be state policy. But… that’s not really the case.

Another survey, entitled “Where is the money against violence against women?” indicates that in 2016 only €20 million, or 0.001% of the government’s total budget, was allocated to the Ministry of Women’s Rights for the program, “Equality Between Women and Men”.

Under a transversal policy, the government did mobilize €423.6 million for all programs implemented under various ministers. However, there is a general lack of transparency in how funds are allocated, and few associations working on the ground receive what they actually need. For example, while it was estimated that at least €906 million was required to provide quality care for women victims of domestic violence, only 0% of the targets were achieved. For example, while it was estimated that at least €506 million was required to provide quality care for women victims of domestic violence, only 0% of the targets were achieved.

The resources mobilized for this in 2017 was only about €79 million.

Well, you may say, women’s associations can always turn to the European Union… Sadly, no! They will not meet with much luck there, as shown in the report “Knocking on EU doors an exploration of EU funding for gender equality” initiated by 14 European feminist funds, of which the MedWf was one. In addition to highlighting a lack of data to quantify the share of funding actually dedicated to women, the report’s main findings show that EU funding tends to go to large consortia and seasoned practitioners, and that women’s organizations, which are widely considered as being the most qualified to work on gender equality, receive almost none of these funds.

Thus, while women’s associations need considerable, long-term support that is free of conditions, donors – both male and female – provide them very little financial assistance. These associations are nonetheless courageously working to establish a more balanced, harmonious, and peaceful society. It is high time that they are given greater and better support.

So… to make a difference, give to women.

On January 15, the powerful Spanish Feminist movement mobilized under the slogan “Ni una menos” (Not one woman less), protesting the call of the far-right party, Vox, to repeal a law against male violence while women continue to be killed by their spouses every month.

At the end of March, tens of thousands of Italiens, adopting the same slogan, “Non una di meno,” gathered in Verona to protest the international meeting of the ultra-conservative Christian World Congress of Family that was being held in the city.

They were joined by feminists from across Europe, deeply worried by the increasing attacks in their countries of the Istanbul Convention (the Council of Europe convention to prevent and combat violence against women and domestic violence) voiced by conservatives, with the support of the Catholic Church, which describes the Convention as a heresy.

On the other side of the Mediterranean, Tunisian feminists have been waiting since February for Parliament to finally adopt a law ensuring equal inheritance rights between women and men – the first in a Muslim country – a project that naturally is contested by Islamists, who consider it will destabilize the family and is an attack on the Koran. They also are mobilizing to maintain their rights to contraception and abortion, which have been undermined by conservatives at all levels.

As for Algerian feminists, who have been actively involved in the peaceful popular mass movement (Hirak) that began February 22, and which has been increasingly demanding the end of the existing political system, they have had the opportunity to fully measure the degree to which their society opposes their goals. Their desire, one expressed in their slogans, for liberty and equality in a new Algeria free of the Family Code, has run up against hatreds, death threats and acid attacks, acts typical of the extreme religious right, but which have now been adopted by ordinary citizens.

Everywhere, feminists defending freedom, equality, and respect for all women – and with them, all human beings – are encountering violent opposition from ultra-conservatives, ardent defenders of an immutable hierarchical order in which the strongest man subjugates those who are weaker, and systematically all women, to control their sexuality, their bodies and their intelligence.

Although it is difficult and sometimes discouraging in the face of such strong aggression, the conflict is clear and assumed. There are two diametrically opposing visions of society: one is profoundly democratic, inclusive and peaceful; the other, authoritarian and violent. In either words, a society that sings or one that does not.

But for these women, who are peacefully working to profoundly change society by liberating and developing the capabilities of half its members, what is much tougher, and indeed extremely painful, is that they rarely receive support from the defenders of democracy. Yet these women are always fighting by their sides on the fronts defending democratic freedoms, overall human rights, the preservation of the planet.

Algerian women went through this in April when they were attacked for having expressed a desire for an egalitarian society: the majority of the great defenders of democracy not only failed to defend them, they also accused these women of dividing the movement because it was not the right time to be discussing equal rights. Despite their solitude, they persevered and managed to introduce the question of women’s rights into the social debate.

Letter from the Mediterranean shores

But where is the money for women’s rights?

LETTER FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN SHORES

The Mediterranean Women’s Fund newsletter

6-8 Marcoussis - 93400 Montreuil - France

mailto:info@mediterraneanwomenfund.org

www.mediterraneanwomenfund.org

Tel. : 00 33 - 01 47 67 07 73

Free bimonthly newsletter

Authors: Carolina Salvia Brac de la Penière and Sarah Swajian

Translation: Grace Delobel

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The new Finance Act, has tripled. At the same time, doctors price of condoms, classified as a luxury good under the decussation pills are frequently out of stock and that the accesiveness-raising campaign on Tunisians’ reproductive rights are members of the network. They decided to extend their activities to rural areas of the country.

Greece in schools, nurseries, creative centres, cultural activities take the form of workshops in which participants learn by doing. They have held workshops across Greece in schools, nurseries, creative centres, cultural sites, social centres, and, thanks to our support, they hope to extend their activities to rural areas of the country.

End Violence Against Women

France

The Abida Network, established in 2017 in Toulouse, focuses on lesbians requesting asylum or who have obtained refugee status. This network, composed of lesbians in exile and Toulouse lesbians, provides concrete solidarity (assistance with administrative processes, translation, one-time financial assistance). It helps new arrivals connect with each other and with lesbians living in the city. The project’s objectives is to enable women interested in accessing militant lesbian and feminist events, such as conferences and national and international meetings, to do so.

Survivors Organization, established in Ramallah in May 2004, fights violence against women and children in Palestinian society. Survivors primary activity is a national support hotline providing medical and legal advice and referrals to specialists for women and children exposed to different forms of violence and abuse. The hotline is managed by a trained, qualified team which includes a medical unit that can provide emergency medical assistance. The team receives about 400 calls a day. The MedWF grant is intended to support the renewal of IT equipment to increase call reception capacity.

The Erzo Women’s Association, established in 2010 in Tirana, aims to strengthen the women’s movement at the local level in the rural region of Shqipëria-Barazhë, and, more specifically, to provide direct protection to women who are victims of violence. The association organizes cultural activities and provides legal assistance free of charge, a telephone hotline, and psychological support groups. MedWF’s grant is intended to support the association’s daily operations so that it can continue to work directly with rural women in an area that remains scarred by war and threatened by high fundamentalism.

Mas Public is a cooperative established in 2010 in Madrid. Since 2012, it hosts an exhibition about the site lamarrama.com, one of the first and the only media organization with a woman at its head and feminist as its leading principle (meaning, Tor all) as an extensive journalistic investigation into 44 cases of murdered women (femicides) the goal is to gather data on the investigations to produce awareness-raising and informational videos for the general public about femicides. The videos also will be used in schools and high schools as part of the program to fight violence against women.

Provide Safe Spaces

France

The project is an opportunity to promote self-confidence regarding technical work, solidarity between women, and the transmission of know-how. It is the start of a project to completely renovate the building, which will help to ensure that space is available for the associations feminist activities.

Algeria

Udruga Zena Vukovar (Vukovar Women Association) was established in 2013 in Vukovar, aims to promote day-to-day gender equality by helping to set up cultural, artistic and environmental projects. The “Women’s Roof” project is a women’s field school, supervised by construction professionals, that aims to renovate the roof and frame of a building located on the grounds of the association. Numerous women work together to renovate this building. It is an opportunity to promote self-confidence regarding technical work, solidarity between women, and the transmission of know-how. It is the start of a project to completely renovate the building, which will help to ensure that space is available for the associations feminist activities.

Croatia

In this remote part of Croatia in 1998, and aims to fight against women’s poverty and exclusion, notably with regard to work. The MedWF is helping to strengthen the capacity of the staff managing the associations social and legal aid services. Legal assistance will be given to women in the region free of charge once a week for 5 months by law specialists.

Algeria

Useful to Women, Communities and People in Need, established in 2017 in Algiers, aims to promote the rights of children, notably of young girls, and to fight against all forms of discrimination and exploitation of women. Efforts are focused in particular on the most vulnerable and discriminated against communities, such as the Roma. The project focuses on the personal strengthening of 20 young Roma girls and single mothers living in extreme poverty in order to give them renewed confidence in themselves and involve them in changing the way their community thinks about equality between men and women.

In Paris, from 5-11 November 2018, the training of trainers at last!

Since 2013, the MedWF has trained approximately 150 young women from Algeria, France, Morocco and Tunisia. The goal is to increase the number of young women trained and support them so that, in turn, can transmit this training in accordance with the MedWF’s principles and ethics. This first training of trainers gathered 14 young women who had already been trained: 2 from Algeria, 3 from Morocco, 2 from Tunisia, 1 from Spain and 4 from France. The program aimed to instil in those young women greater confidence in themselves and their capacity to change the world around them by learning to communicate, debate, and put into place strategies to carry out large-scale collective actions.
Radio Nissa FM was launched in 2009 in Ramallah to advance the status of women in society by highlighting their social involvement, success, and creativity. Radio Nissa FM trains and employs women, encouraging their involvement in a media sector that is dominated by men. The project aims to train 10 young women journalists from marginalized backgrounds with limited access to resources in order to deepen their understanding of news reporting through a gender perspective.

Genderhood was launched in 2017 at the initiative of two young women from Thessaloniki determined to change the societal mentality of their country. They developed an educational program on equality between girls and boys, power roles, human rights and the prevention of gender-based violence. Activities take the form of workshops in which participants learn by doing. They have held workshops across Greece in schools, museums, creative centres, cultural sites, social centres, and, thanks to our support, they hope to extend their activities to rural areas of the country.

The Ervov Women’s Association, established in 2010 in Torza, aims to strengthen the women’s movement at the local level and in the rural region of Osijek-Baranja, and, more specifically, to provide direct protection to women who are victims of violence. The association organizes cultural activities and provides legal assistance free of charge, a telephone hotline, and psychological assistance to all victims of violence based on gender or sexuality, and organizes events (discussions, readings, etc.) every Saturday to raise awareness about violence. It launched an application, ‘Markovos’, against sexual harassment.

The Izvor Women’s Association, established in Ramallah in May 2004, fights violence against women and children in Palestinian society. Izvor’s primary activity is a national support hotline providing medical and legal advice and referrals to specialists for women and children exposed to different forms of violence and abuse. The hotline is managed by a trained, qualified team which includes a medical unit that can provide emergency medical assistance. The team receives about 400 calls a day. The MedWF grant is intended to support the renewal of its medical unit that can provide emergency medical assistance and the construction of a new building in this remote part of Croatia in 1998, and aims to fight against women’s poverty and exclusion, notably with regard to work. The MedWF is helping to strengthen the capacity of the staff managing the association’s social and legal aid services. Legal assistance will be given to women in the region free of charge once a week for 5 months by law specialists.

Useful to Women, Communities and People in Need, established in 2017 in the town of Elbhawan, aims to promote the rights of children, notably of young girls, and to fight against all forms of discrimination and exploitation of women. Efforts are focused in particular on the most vulnerable and discriminated against communities, such as the Romas. The project focuses on the personal strengthening of 20 young Roma girls and single mothers living in extreme poverty in order to give them renewed confidence in themselves and involve them in changing the way their community thinks about equality between men and women.

The association “Affutée”, established in Mimos in 2005, aims to promote day-to-day gender equality by helping to set up cultural, artistic and environmental projects. The “Women’s Roof” project is a women’s field school, supervised by construction professionals, that aims to renovate the roof and frame of a building located on the grounds of the association. Having women work together to renovate this building is an opportunity to promote self-confidence regarding technical work, solidarity between women, and the transmission of know-how. It is the start of a project to completely renovate the building, which will help to ensure that space is available for the associations feminist activities.

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In 2017, the various organizations measuring philanthropy in France revealed that €4.38 billion in foundations and funds in the country, with combined assets worth €2.2 billion, donated €1.5 billion in the form of subsidies, grants, and €117 million.  

Of the populations targeted by the 33 foundations that focused only on activities related to women’s rights, giving an annual total of €1.3 billion was required to provide quality care for women victims of domestic violence, which was estimated to be female (53%), giving an annual total of €1.7 billion.

Unfortunately, of the populations targeted by the 33 foundations, which responded to the survey was estimated to be less than 10% of their overall budget. In other words, just €13.5 million of out of a total of €172 million. Thus of the €16.5 million total reported in our survey, only €5.4 million was allocated to women for 2016 to some form of support for women's rights and gender equality, despite the fact that these are essential pillars for a more just society. Considering the size of the total, and that more than half the population is concerned, €6.5 million is a small sum.

One might assume that the situation is probably not so bad because associations in France, the 6th wealthiest nation in the world, can undoubtedly count on assistance from the government, which has declared equality to be state policy. But that's not really the case.

Another survey, entitled “Where is the money against violence against women?” that in 2016-2017, only 20% of, or €16.5 million of the government's total budget, was allocated to support women's rights, the proportion of of Ministry's Rights program, “Equality Between Women and Men”. Under a transversal policy, the government did mobilize €411.6 million for all programs implemented under various ministries. However, there is a general lack of transparency in how funds are allocated, and few associations working on the ground receive what they actually need. For example, while it was estimated that at least €506 million was required to provide quality care for women victims of domestic violence, just €10 million was available for all programs implemented under various ministries. However, there is a general lack of transparency in how funds are allocated, and few associations working on the ground receive what they actually need. For example, while it was estimated that at least €506 million was required to provide quality care for women victims of domestic violence, just €10 million was available for all programs implemented under various ministries. However, there is a general lack of transparency in how funds are allocated, and few associations working on the ground receive what they actually need.

Thus, while women's associations need considerable, long-term support that is free of condition, donors – both male and female – provide them very little financial assistance. These associations are nonetheless courageous working to establish a more balanced, harmonious, and peaceful society. It is high time that they are given greater and better support.

But where is the money for women’s rights?

In 2017, the various organizations measuring philanthropy in France revealed that €4.38 billion in foundations and funds in the country, with combined assets worth €2.2 billion, donated €1.5 billion in the form of subsidies, grants, and €117 million. The majority of individual donors also were reported to be female (53%), giving an annual total of €3.6 billion donations. Unfortunately, of the populations targeted by the 33 foundations, which responded to the survey was estimated to be female (53%), giving an annual total of €1.3 billion was required to provide quality care for women victims of domestic violence, which was estimated to be female (53%), giving an annual total of €1.7 billion.

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Algerian women went through this in April when they were attacked for having expressed a desire for an egalitarian society: the majority of the great defenders of democracy not only failed to defend them, they also accused these women of dividing the movement because it was not the right time to be discussing equal rights. Despite their solitude, they persevered and managed to introduce the question of women’s rights into the social debate.
Les femmes de la Méditerranée ont besoin de vous !

JE FAIS UN DON AU FONDS POUR LES FEMMES EN MÉDITERRANÉE

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<td>CODE POSTAL</td>
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☐ PAR CHÈQUE

A l’ordre de : Fonds pour Femmes en Méditerranée
5 rue marceau - 34000 Montpellier France

☐ PAR VIREMENT BANCAIRE

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Le Fonds pour les Femmes en Méditerranée est une association reconnue d’intérêt général. Sur présentation du reçu qui vous sera envoyé avant la fin janvier, vous pouvez bénéficier d’une réduction d’impôt égale à 66% des versements pris en compte dans la limite de 20% du revenu imposable.

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D’avance, un grand merci pour votre soutien et votre générosité
Mandat de prélèvement SEPA

En signant ce formulaire de mandat de prélèvement, vous autorisez le Fonds pour les Femmes en Méditerranée à envoyer des instructions à votre banque pour débiter votre compte, et votre banque à débiter votre compte conformément aux instructions du Fonds pour les Femmes en Méditerranée.
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Prière de renvoyer cet imprimé au Fonds pour les Femmes en Méditerranée, en y joignant obligatoirement un R.I.B.