

**English Translation - Report
Feminist Alliance for Rights (FAR)
Latin America Regional Meeting
June 27-29, 2017
Bogota, Colombia**

FAR is a project of the Global Center for Women's Leadership (Center for Women's Global Leadership - CWGL) at the University of New Jersey (Rutgers). Previously the alliance was called the Coalition of Women for the 2015 Agenda of the UN to influence the frameworks of Sustainable development and the 2030 agenda. In 2016 it was restructured and renamed to the Feminist Alliance for Rights (FAR).

FAR Priorities:

Open spaces so the voices of women from the global south are present at the UN and other international and regional advocacy arenas.

Decisions come from the south global.

Build a feminist architecture that transcends borders from existing processes in the regions.

Objectives of the meeting in Latin America:

- Establish an area of coordination and influence to defend women's rights.
- Criteria for participating in FAR Steering Committee: organization with concrete work at the national level, and also participating in regional and/or international networks.
- The organizing process is based on existing priorities in the region, especially at the grassroots level.
- Identify similar areas of struggle in other regions to strengthen the global feminist movement.
- Identify campaigns to support, for example the Declaration of Peasant Rights at the UN.

Work areas:

- The right to land and indigenous peoples
- Reproductive health and rights
- Economic and social rights
- Women, Peace and Security

Working groups on key issues:

UN DECLARATION OF PEASANT RIGHTS / WOMEN PEACE AND SECURITY
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS / REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS

Reflection on the themes:

Build a feminist architecture at a the global level

Interregional exchanges and facilitate a joint strategy at the international level.

Promote a regional perspective about the work areas.

Women from the global south participate in international advocacy spaces.

Women in Colombia are demanding the incorporation of gender perspectives and rights in the peace agreement. They have many difficulties because among 41 people appointed to the commissions there are 35 men and only 6 women. Women are demanding:

- Follow-up spaces that include a gender perspective.

- Women's participation in existing committees.
- End violence against social movements: from January until March 2017, 156 social leaders were killed and 33 were attacked.

It is necessary to be alert because the Peace Agreement does not guarantee the end of violence.

Some of the main problems are:

- Increasing violence after the signing of the peace accord.
- Impacts of extractive projects and the "development" model imposed.

How to create a "SELF-PROTECTION SYSTEM"? We need to address security from a human rights perspective, which guarantees the right to land and territories.

LAND RIGHTS / PEACE AND SECURITY

Connection between security, protection and the right to land and territory for women:

Identify actors who violate these rights for advocacy work on health and food sovereignty.

Connect with the campaign in defense of the UN Declaration of Peasant Rights.

Redefine "peace" as not only the absence of armed conflicts, but to prevent human rights violations from the perspective of women in the global south.

Denounce discrimination and defend self-determination.

Examples of actions: international human rights and extra-territorial application (it is important to hold northern countries accountable); CEDAW: hold governments accountable for gender-based violence in developing countries.

SECURITY, PROTECTION AND THE RIGHT TO LAND AND TERRITORY FOR WOMEN:

- Promote a feminist perspective based on rights and cultural diversity.
- Defend the rights of peasants and the international campaign at the UN.
- Monitoring the peace process in Colombia to defend women's rights.
- Support women from the global south in human rights advocacy spaces, including extra territorial responsibilities, in alliance with women from the global north to monitor corporations and cases of human rights violations.

SEXUAL AND REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND RIGHTS:

- Increase visibility to the feminist critique that already exists in the region.
- Denounce the fundamentalist ideology of religious groups against women's rights.
- Regional strategies with generational exchange to reach out to women of different ages in multiple contexts, to avoid setbacks, for example: the propaganda buses against reproductive health and rights, subcutaneous implants, etc.
- Build communication instruments to denounce these violations.

NEXT STEPS

- Support the UN Declaration of Peasant Rights.
- Build joint analyzes and recommendations on these issues.
- Build a joint process for advocacy at the UN.
- Build alliances with other movements at the international level.
- Support the protection of human rights defenders in the territories.
- Promote the perspective of Afro Women, considering representation and intersectionality of their agendas (for example in SDGs and CEDAW).
- Deconstruct the idea of the "universal woman".
- Promote a critical feminism with diverse voices in spaces of international advocacy.

From FAR:

- Promote the UN Charter of the Rights of Peasants.
- Prepare for CSW.
- Continue the process of dialogue with different regions to generate exchanges among organizations for advocacy at the international level.
- Promote the perspective of grassroots women's organizations in the discussion about sexual and reproductive rights.
- Promote a document of analysis on critical feminism with different voices.

Evaluation of the meeting:

Positive aspects:

Networking to deepen advocacy: the implementation of the alliance is a challenge, but it's necessary.

Possibility to learn from other organizations.

To meet and promote peasant women's movements and regional networks.

Need for networking to strengthen our actions.

Meet FAR and each other from the USA to Abia Yala.

Share experiences and take them to our organizations.

To know different realities of each country, and the peace process in Colombia from the perspective of women.

To know and recognize ourselves: there is a little of each in all of us because we are in the fight to defend women's rights.

This meeting was very powerful to look at the relationship of peace, the right to land, self-determination, and ESCR.

Different organizations in the region recognize feminism as transformative and liberating.

To know the context in which women live in other countries, and the opportunity offered by FAR for strengthening networks.

Challenges:

What is the bet? What is the horizon? Need to know a little more and have clarity to where we can go together.

Build an agenda that allows planning, evaluation, follow up and actions to see what can be provided by each organization.

Challenging to think about new projects and how they can be expanded to other voices to strengthen the processes that exist in the territories.

Don't duplicate efforts, but support the agendas of other networks and platforms.

Recognize that each of our organizations have particular experiences: do not fall into homogenize the subject of feminism.

Develop actions that are sustainable over time: international advocacy and support for local advocacy.

Continuing to knit a pretty blanket as a way of seeing things and holding on to time.

We have many tasks because we want to change the world, but we also need to take care of our health.

FAR greatly appreciates the participation of all organizations in the meeting. We appreciate the fundamental collaboration of FIAN Colombia in the conception and organization of the meeting.