



Deutscher Frauenring eV, Sigmaringer Str. 1, 10713 Berlin

**Überparteilich und überkonfessionell**

To  
UNSG A. Gutierrez and SR UNSG VAW in Conflicts P. Patten  
The United Nations Security Council, UN; New York  
The Human Rights Council of the United Nations, OHCHR, Geneva  
The NATO, Secretary General J. Stoltenberg  
The European Parliament- The European Commission  
The German Government - The German Foreign Office  
The Embassy of the Republic Turkey, Berlin  
The Embassy of the United States of America  
and other relevant bodies or persons  
- published on our DFR and FNF webpages-

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Berlin, 20. Oct. 2019

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen

For the registered non-governmental organisations the Deutsche Frauenring, Georgia Langhans (Executive Board) and Marion Böker (Chairwoman DFR-Committee for International Issues) and the Women's Network for Peace, Bonn (FNF), Heide Schütz ( 1st Chairperson) and Margret Otto (Vice-chairperson) are joining the call by WOMEN DEFEND ROJAVA which was published 15.10. 2019, and which you will find attached in German and English:

### **WOMEN'S DECLARATION**

#### **STOP TURKEY'S OCCUPATION WAR AGAINST NORTH AND EAST SYRIA – IMMEDIATELY !**

We ask you to immediately implement the claims as well in our name:

**To prevent new genocides and femicides in the 21st century we urge the UNSC, all relevant bodies of the international community and governments to take urgent actions to**

- **Stop Turkey's invasion and occupation in North and Eastern Syria immediately**
- **Establish a No-Fly-Zone for the protection of the people's lives in North and East Syria.**
- **Prevent further war crimes and ethnic cleansing by Turkish army forces, ISIS, El Nusra and other jihadist terror groups**
- **Take all war crimes and war criminals to justice**
- **Stop weapon trade with Turkey**
- **Implement political and economical sanctions against Turkey**
- **Acknowledge the democratic Autonomous Administration of the people of North and East Syria**
- **Take immediate steps for a political solution of the crisis in Syria with the representation and participation of women and people representatives from all different national, cultural and religious communities in Syria**

Mitglied der International Alliance of Women IAW und des International Council of Women ICW •

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We, the undersigned, have been working for many years in the Alliance of Civil Society for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY in Germany. Under NAP I and II, we participate in the consultations of the federal ministries. In addition, we are committed to UNSCR 1325 WPS and its follow-up resolutions by the International Alliance of Women (IAW) at the United Nations or within the CEDAW ALLIANZ GERMANY. The DFR e.V. has been working with Ezidi women and their community in Celle for a long time. The Federal Association of the DFR and the DFR-Association of the Land of Berlin have since 04/2017 cooperation agreements with Ezidi women's associations. Thus, a joint traveling exhibition financed by UN WOMEN Germany was created to inform about the femicide of ISIS against Ezidi women in 2014 and their survival and claims.

We saw on 9.10. with horror that North and East Syria were attacked by Turkey in violation of international law in order to be occupied.

The current unacknowledged ceasefire and Turkey's call to the local people to withdraw and the threat of further destruction have not defused the conflict. Civil society is being attacked and everything that it has built up. This includes women's health and participation projects, which we have supported.

The Kurds in northern and eastern Syria had been and still are an ally for Germany, the EU and the NATO which includes Turkey. They not only fought the IS, saved people, but provided for our security. They have cooperated with our courts under the Paris Statute of the ICC to punish IS war crimes. They did not threaten Turkey or other.

In the interests of our security, you must ensure that the UN CHARTER is respected and that joint binding agreements of international law and humanitarian law are adhered to.

All levels of peaceful conflict resolution can only be achieved with all participants and an adequate representation of women

With kind regards

Georgia Langhans

Marion Böker

Heide Schütz

Margret Otto

Executive Board  
DFR e.V.

Chair AIA DFR e.V.

1. Chairperson  
FNF e.V.

Vice chairperson-  
FNF e.V.



signed on behalf of all

Marion Böker, Berlin, 20. Oct. 2019



# WOMEN DEFEND ROJAVA

## WOMEN'S DECLARATION

### STOP TURKEY'S OCCUPATION WAR AGAINST NORTH AND EAST SYRIA – IMMEDIATELY!

On 9 Oct 2019 the Turkish state started its invasion and occupation war on the territory of Northern Syria. The Turkish army has been attacking all major towns and settlements along the border with airstrikes and mortar shelling. According to figures published by the Kurdish Red Crescent during only the first five days of the attacks at least 46 civilians were killed and 139 wounded – including many women and children. At present the Turkish army together with a so-called 'National Syrian Army' composed of mercenaries from different terror groups are attempting to invade on the ground. At the same time ISIS sleeper cells have started new attacks across North Syria. SDF and YPJ-YPG forces that liberated North and East Syria from the IS terror regime, are dedicating their lives to protect the people from new occupation and massacres. Women who liberated thousands of women from slavery under IS are now bombed by a NATO army.

Millions of people's lives from all different ethnic and religious communities in this region are under threat. Tens of thousands of families have been displaced. Beside mainly Kurdish and Arabic populated villages, Christian neighborhoods have been specifically targeted. It is obvious that these attacks are carried out with the aim of ethnic cleansing and demographic change. Turkish occupation and war crimes in Afrin starting in January 2018 have been condoned by the international community until today. Therefore, Turkey now strives to expand its territory and impose its rule on further regions of North and East Syria, breaching international law and the sovereignty of Syria.

At the same time Turkey neglects the will of the peoples in the region that have been living peacefully together under democratic self-administration. Turkey's attacks are directed against the gains of the women's revolution in Rojava that has been a source of inspiration for women from all over the world. Women who have been a vanguard in building up an alternative social model of democratic, ecological society which is based on women's liberation are targeted by jihadist killer teams. The co-chair of the Syria Future Party Hevrin Xelef was assassinated in an ambush on 12 Oct. when she was on her way to visit injured and displaced people in the Til Temir region. Despite 8 years of continuing war in Syria, the regions of the Autonomous Administration in North and East Syria has succeeded in ensuring human needs and democratic rights for all people in this region. Hundreds of thousands of war refugees from different regions of Syria found refuge here. Without any noteworthy support of UN organisations these refugees have been welcomed, protected and supported by the structures of the Autonomous Administration.

While the Erdogan government openly announced this war and his occupation plans, the international community – including UN bodies – did not take any adequate measure to stop this from happening. Furthermore, hegemonic powers like Russia and the US encouraged Turkey's aggression. The genocides of the Ottoman Empire against the Armenians and Syriac people in 1915 and the massacres against the Kurdish people in Dersim, Halebeje, Nussaybin, Cizire, Afrin... are still in our minds. Today again, crimes against humanity have been prepared and carried out openly as the calculation of war profits counts more than international laws, human rights and values.

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# WOMEN DEFEND ROJAVA

Women in Rojava have always emphasized: "We have defended the women's revolution with our sacrifices. We lead our struggle on behalf of all women in the world." Turkey's war against women and peoples of North and East Syria as an aggression against all of us. It targets the gains and values of our struggles for women's rights, freedom and justice - everywhere. With the international campaign Women Defend Rojava we unite against fascism, occupation and patriarchy. We raise our voices for the recognition of the autonomous self-administration in North and East Syria, for peace and justice in Syria.

To prevent new genocides and feminicides in the 21st century we urge the UNSC, all relevant bodies of the international community and governments to take urgent actions to

- Stop Turkey's invasion and occupation in North and Eastern Syria immediately
- Establish a No-Fly-Zone for the protection of the people's lives in North and East Syria.
- Prevent further war crimes and ethnic cleansing by Turkish army forces, ISIS, El Nusra and other jihadist terror groups
- Take all war crimes and war criminals to justice
- Stop weapon trade with Turkey
- Implement political and economical sanctions against Turkey
- Acknowledge the democratic Autonomous Administration of the people of North and East Syria
- Take immediate steps for a political solution of the crisis in Syria with the representation and participation of women and people representatives from all different national, cultural and religious communities in Syria

Women Defend Rojava Campaign Committee  
15th October, 2019

## First signatures:

### Organisations:

Women's Council of North and East Syria; Kongra Star; Council of Women in Syria MJS, Union of Free Women East Kurdistan KJAR, Organisation of Freedom Seeking Women Kurdistan RJAK, East Kurdistan Women's Association Ronak, Kurdish Women's Public Relation Office REPAK, Kurdish Women's Movement in Europe TJK-E; International Representation of Kurdish Women's Movement IRKWM, Kurdish Women's Peace Office CENÎ; Kurdish Women's Student Union JXK; Young Women's Movement Jinên Ciwan; Êzidi Women's Freedom Movement TAJÊ; Alevit Democratic Women's Movement; Free Women's Foundation Rojava (WJAR); Initiative of Democratic Muslim Women; Jineoloji Academy; Palestine Women's Association Lebanon; Women's Branch of Syriac Union Party Lebanon; Social and Cultural Association NEWROZ Lebanon; Mujeres Terretorios y Resistancias (Santa Cruz / Bolivia); Southall Black Sisters (UK); Revolutionary Association of the Women of Afghanistan (RAWA); Women's Strike Poland; Mujeres Libres (CNT / Spain); Union Syndicale Solidaires France; International Labour Network of Solidarity and Struggles; Feminist Assembly of Madrid (Spain); Feministas de Abya Yala (Uruguay); Centro de Intercambios y Servicios Cono Sur CISCOSA (Argentina);

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# WOMEN DEFEND ROJAVA

## **Individuals:**

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# WOMEN DEFEND ROJAVA

## ERKLÄRUNG DER FRAUEN: STOPPEN SIE DEN TÜRKISCHEN BESATZUNGSKRIEG GEGEN NORD- UND OSTSYRIEN – SOFORT!

Am 9. Oktober 2019 begann der türkische Staat seine Invasion und seinen Besatzungskrieg in Nordsyrien. Die türkische Armee hat alle größeren Städte und Siedlungen entlang der Grenze aus der Luft und mit Mörsergranaten angegriffen. Nach Angaben des kurdischen Roten Halbmonds (Heyva Sor a Kurdistanê e.V.) wurden in den ersten fünf Tagen der Angriffe 46 Zivilisten getötet und 139 verletzt - darunter viele Frauen und Kinder. Gegenwärtig versucht die türkische Armee zusammen mit der von ihr aus Söldnern verschiedener Terrorgruppen aufgebauten "Nationalen Armee Syriens" am Boden vorzudringen. Gleichzeitig haben IS-Schläferzellen neue Angriffe in Nordsyrien gestartet. SDF- und YPJ-/YPG-Truppen, die Nord- und Ostsyrien vom IS-Terrorregime befreit haben, widmen ihr Leben nun dem Schutz der Menschen vor neuen Massakern und Besatzung. Frauen, die Tausende von Frauen aus der Sklaverei des IS befreit haben, werden jetzt von einer NATO-Armee bombardiert.

Millionen von Menschenleben unterschiedlichster ethnischer und religiöser Gemeinschaften in dieser Region sind bedroht. Zehntausende Familien wurden vertrieben. Neben den hauptsächlich kurdisch und arabisch besiedelten Dörfern wurden auch christliche Viertel gezielt angegriffen. Es ist offensichtlich, dass diese Angriffe mit dem Ziel der ethnischen Säuberung und der Veränderung der demografischen Gesellschaftsstrukturen durchgeführt werden. Im Januar 2018 besetzte die Türkei Afrin. Diese Besatzung und die dort stattfindenden Kriegsverbrechen werden von der internationalen Gemeinschaft bis heute toleriert. Daher möchte der türkische Staat sein Territorium erweitern und weitere Regionen Nord- und Ostsyriens unter seine Herrschaft bringen, wobei er gegen das Völkerrecht und die Souveränität Syriens verstößt.

Gleichzeitig missachtet die Türkei den Willen der Bevölkerung in der Region, die unter demokratischer Selbstverwaltung friedlich zusammenleben. Die Angriffe der Türkei richten sich desweiteren gegen die Errungenschaften der Frauenrevolution in Rojava, die eine Quelle der Inspiration für Frauen aus der ganzen Welt sind. Frauen, die eine Vorreiterrolle beim Aufbau eines alternativen demokratischen und ökologischen Gesellschaftsmodells und auf der Grundlage der Frauenbefreiung gespielt haben, werden von jihadistischen Kilterteams angegriffen. Die Ko-Vorsitzende der Syrien Zukunftspartei Hevrin Xelef wurde am 12. Oktober, als sie auf dem Weg war, verletzte und vertriebene Menschen in der Region Til Temir zu besuchen, durch einen Hinterhalt ermordet. Trotz des 8 Jahre andauernden Krieges in Syrien ist es den Regionen der Autonomen Verwaltung in Nord- und Ostsyrien gelungen, die menschlichen Bedürfnisse und die demokratischen Rechte für alle Menschen in dieser Region zu gewährleisten. Hunderttausende von Kriegsflüchtlingen aus verschiedenen Regionen Syriens fanden hier Zuflucht. Ohne nennenswerte Unterstützung von UN-Organisationen wurden diese Geflüchteten von den Strukturen der Autonomieverwaltung aufgenommen, geschützt und unterstützt.

Während die Regierung Erdogans diesen Krieg und seine Besatzungspläne offen ankündigte, ergriff die internationale Gemeinschaft - einschließlich der UN-Organe - keine ausreichenden Maßnahmen, um dies zu verhindern. Darüber hinaus förderten Hegemonialmächte wie Russland und die USA die Aggression der Türkei. Der Völkermord des Osmanischen Reiches an den Armeniern und dem syrischen Volk im Jahr 1915 und die

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# WOMEN DEFEND ROJAVA

Massaker gegen das kurdische Volk in Dersim, Halebje, Nussaybin, Cizire, Afrin, .... sind uns noch in Erinnerung. Auch heute werden Verbrechen gegen die Menschlichkeit offen vorbereitet und durchgeführt, da die Berechnung der Kriegsgewinne mehr zählt als internationale Gesetze, Menschenrechte und Werte.

Die Frauen in Rojava haben immer betont: "Wir haben die Frauenrevolution mit unseren Opfern verteidigt. Wir führen unseren Kampf im Namen aller Frauen der Welt." Der Krieg der Türkei gegen Frauen und die Bevölkerung Nord- und Ostsyriens ist ein Angriff gegen uns alle. Er zielt auf die Errungenschaften und Werte unserer Kämpfe für die Rechte von Frauen, Freiheit und Gerechtigkeit – überall ab. Mit der internationalen Kampagne Women Defend Rojava vereinen wir uns gegen Faschismus, Besetzung und Patriarchat. Wir erheben unsere Stimme für die Anerkennung der autonomen Selbstverwaltung in Nord- und Ostsyrien, für Frieden und Gerechtigkeit in Syrien.

Um neue Völkermorde und Feminizide im 21. Jahrhundert zu verhindern, fordern wir den UN-Sicherheitsrat, alle zuständigen Gremien der internationalen Gemeinschaft und die Regierungen auf, unverzüglich Maßnahmen zu ergreifen, um

- die Invasion und Besetzung Nord- und Ostsyriens durch die Türkei sofort zu stoppen.
- eine Flugverbotszone zum Schutz der Leben der Menschen in Nord- und Ostsyrien zu errichten.
- weitere Kriegsverbrechen und ethnische Säuberungen durch türkische Streitkräfte, den IS, Al Nusra und andere dschihadistische Terrorgruppen zu verhindern.
- alle Kriegsverbrechen und Kriegsverbrecher vor Gericht zu bringen.
- jeglichen Waffenhandel mit der Türkei zu stoppen.
- politische und wirtschaftliche Sanktionen gegen die Türkei durchzusetzen.
- die demokratische autonome Verwaltung der Bevölkerung Nord- und Ostsyriens anzuerkennen.
- sofortige Schritte für eine politische Lösung der Krise in Syrien unter Beteiligung von Frauen und Volksvertretern aus allen verschiedenen nationalen, kulturellen und religiösen Gemeinschaften in Syrien zu unternehmen.

*Women Defend Rojava Campaign Committee*  
15th October, 2019

## Erste Unterschriften:

### **Organisations:**

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