



PLATAFORMA PORTUGUESA
PARA OS DIREITOS
DAS MULHERES

PLATAFORMA PORTUGUESA PARA OS DIREITOS DAS MULHERES (Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights)

The Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights is a non-governmental organisation whose members are associations active in the promotion of gender equality and women's rights.

It was founded on November 12th 2004 by the Portuguese women's rights NGOs *Associação de Mulheres contra a Violência* (Association of Women Against Violence), *Graal* (Grail) and *Rede Portuguesa de Jovens para a Igualdade de Oportunidades entre Mulheres e Homens* (Portuguese Network of Young People for Gender Equality).

The Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights is independent from political parties, religious institutions or governmental structures. It represents Portugal in the **European Women's Lobby** (an NGO that brings together over 4000 women's organisations from all over Europe) and the **Association des Femmes de l'Europe Méridionale** (an NGO whose members are women's rights organisations from France, Italy, Greece, Portugal and Spain).

RESPECTING DIVERSITY - UNITING STRENGTHS - PROMOTING GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN'S RIGHTS

The Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights aims to provide to its members – women's rights NGOs - an organisational instrument that:

- contributes to their empowerment and increased visibility, at all levels;
- facilitates their articulation and mobilisation for collective actions;
- promotes joint reflection and discussion about strategies to achieve gender equality;
- defends their interests in institutional interlocution and structured civil dialogue;
- organises common actions to promote the introduction of a gender equality perspective in the organisational cultures and the action plans of NGOs working in other fields;
- promotes transnational cooperation, particularly in the European Union.

In so doing, the Portuguese Platform for Women's Rights wishes to strengthen and support these NGOs' important social role as actors in the process of implementation of gender equality in Portugal and, more widely, in Europe.

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