

Beijing +30 in ARGENTINA

Document of women and feminists' NGOs

Argentina participates in the celebration of the 30th. anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women, which was a turning point in the gender equality agenda, in the most regressive scenario that has occurred in these 30 years, from the perspective of rights for the diversity of Cis and LGBTQI+ women, adolescents, young people and girls.

The Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in these years, have guided processes that, with lights and shadows, meant the advancement of the rights of women, girls and sexual and gender diversities reflected in legislation, institutions and benefits. The inauguration of President Javier Milei on December 10, 2023, involved the implementation of measures directed to eliminating all actions aimed at gender equality, the protection of the rights of women and girls and the LGBTQI+ population.

On December 10, 2023, a process began that destroyed the division of powers, the institutional structures, the international agreements duly signed, the commitments assumed by previous governments with the Argentine people, especially with women, and the plans and programs aimed at improving the situation of marginalized populations. The organizations created to fulfill these functions were dismantled, and the national state budgets aimed at covering the rights of women and girls as well as the LGBTQI+ population and those with disabilities were reduced. All hidden in the need to achieve a zero deficit in public accounts, without computing the costs it causes in terms of the deterioration of living conditions and access to basic human rights.

The Argentine society and not only women look at these changes with astonishment; introduced as part of the fight against the so-called national and now international "caste". With his actions, we understand that the caste whose rights he wants to repeal are those of the Argentine people as a whole, not those of a privileged elite for whose strengthening, he actually guides his actions. He is never wrong, he always destroys the rights of the majority and chooses to expand those of the dominant sectors.

A discourse demonizing actions and demands for subjugated and violated rights, despotic, insensitive, persecuting large groups of the population was installed. Human rights, the banner of marches and countermarches since the democratic recovery in 1983, especially based on the desire for change, were limited, and the rights of children and adolescents, women, people with disabilities and other identities, and also of retired older adults stopped being guaranteed.

Written journalism, radio, TV and some alternative media are the systematic spokespersons for these unjustified measures, and does not hesitate to attack by name and surname if their positions disagree with those of his interventions. Social networks, for their part, in their capillarity, their invisibility, their penetration, and their lack of oversight are the preferred means to spread his ideology. Hate speeches are a central mechanism of government policy, which exceeds communication. For the rest of the population, he does not hesitate to increase the levels of repression and persecution in front of any collective action by civil society. The spirit that replaces solidarity as a value with cruelty is promoted and also imposes fear through police repression due to the use of public space and the use of social networks to identify, denounce and persecute those who question their policies.

His presentation to world public opinion, at the Davos Economic Forum in 2025, made it possible to know the government's position in plural international spaces for debate and consensus building: "the objective of the trip is to plant the ideas of freedom in a forum that is contaminated with the 2030 socialist agenda that will only bring misery to the world"¹. The SDGs that were globally agreed upon by the majority of the world's nations are now denied by Argentina. His position questions the existence of climate change, the fight against the end of poverty, quality education including comprehensive sexuality education, and in particular, everything related to gender equality and the rights of women and girls in all their diversity, the LGBTQI+ population, indigenous peoples, the Afro-descendant population, migrants and people with disabilities. Furthermore, he associates homosexuality with pedophilia and rejects the rights recognized to this group. These principles, expressed in Davos, are the principles that guide the dismantling of these policies in Argentina since the beginning of its government.

At the United Nations General Assembly last year, Argentina announced the country's dissociation from the Pact for the Future, excluding itself from actions aimed at guaranteeing sustainable development, peace and international security. Arguing that the signing of international commitments represents a threat to national sovereignty, he decides to stay out of the way of humanity as a whole due to the abandonment of the 2030 Agenda. At the G20 meeting, he questioned the gender equality and women's empowerment document in which the signatory countries commit to encouraging programs and policy initiatives that promote equal opportunities and treatment. This violates the historical trajectory of Argentina before the international community and international organizations as well as the policies adopted; but it's not just about words. These statements are the basis for the measures taken at the national level to dismantle the institutional structures aimed at guaranteeing access to rights.

Among the most significant measures adopted are: the dissolution of the Ministry of Women, Genders and Diversity and the dismissal of practically all of its staff; the suppression of policies for the response and prevention of gender-based violence and the dismantling of the national structure and budgets, releasing these policies to the provinces, with the consequent deterioration and inequality of benefits. For example, the free telephone line 144 for information and support on gender-based violence, developed since the enactment of National Law 26,485 on the eradication, response and prevention of gender-based violence in 2009, was limited at the national level and now care falls on the provinces, which increases inequalities in quantity and quality of response. The Federal Administrative Litigation Court 1 partially granted a precautionary measure presented by NGOs that requested the Ministry of Justice to refrain from reducing the human resources and institutional infrastructure of the Undersecretariat for Protection against Gender-Based Violence and the Centers for Access to Justice. It also required that expired contracts be renewed in 2024. All of this until the Executive ensures and gives certainty regarding compliance with current laws and international commitments in the fight against gender-based violence. The judge highlighted that the State did not support its statements with documentation to demonstrate how the rights of women, girls and adolescents, victims and potential victims of gender-based violence, are guaranteed. He added that this lack of definition is incompatible with the principle of progressivity in the full satisfaction of these rights and the minimum threshold of compliance with the law throughout the country. The Executive Branch appealed and now the Federal Chamber must resolve.²

¹ Statement from the Office of the President, January 16, 2025. <https://twitter.com/OPRArgetina/status/1747265386004005260>

² "Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género Asociación Civil y otros c/ en-M Justicia-Ley 26485 s/proceso de conocimiento". Poder Judicial de la Nación. JUZGADO CONTENCIOSO ADMINISTRATIVO FEDERAL 1, Expediente 11167/2024. Sentence can be consulted at: <https://scw.pjn.gov.ar/scw/viewer.seam?id=3eBiltNOE5pgTlongduRN328t2BXBYF1OCh0piSR04Q%3D&tipoDoc=despacho>

Women of indigenous peoples are threatened in their territories since the government eliminated the Decree that extended law 26160 that prohibited the eviction of their territories.³ This eliminated one of the few guarantees they had to avoid being evicted. The Government downgraded the Ministry of Environment and defunded the Forestry Law and other vital programs⁴, in addition to promoting the extractivist model with public-private participation. This affects the possibility of persistence in the territories of indigenous and rural groups with their consequent persecution.

In the health area, the sexual and reproductive health program was reduced based on the budget reduction that limits the purchase of supplies and personnel, with the consequent shortage of supplies to the provinces, due to the refusal to send them since they consider that they should be the ones to cover this provision, despite the limitations of funds and human resource capacity that they have. The first measure was the closure of the Program for the Prevention of Unintentional Pregnancy in Adolescence (ENIA) and the gradual disappearance of this policy, since it is not included in the 2025 budget. In addition, the right to abortion is questioned and the possibility of revoking the national law passed in 2020 is openly raised.⁵ This process is accompanied by the systematic intervention on social networks by an army of anonymous trolls who act from the presidency of the Nation and who support a new legitimacy. This impacted the increase in barriers and stigmatization of women in health services when requesting an abortion.

In health, direct medication assistance to people without health coverage with chronic conditions due to rare diseases and palliative care for people with cancer were suspended.⁶ Regarding the coverage of HIV treatment and care, the closure and dismissal of personnel in the Tuberculosis and Leprosy coordinations took place, which compromises medical care and survival, especially of patients with tuberculosis, a health problem that increased due to its association with HIV, which will affect many people.⁷ In relation to HIV, since 2024 there is a lack of reagents, condoms and antiretrovirals; which is aggravated by the dismissal of part of the HIV Coordination staff and the reduction of the 2025 budget, which implies a 76% defunding for the purchase of supplies, something that compromises the lives of people living with HIV.⁸

The non-contributory pensions of people with disabilities, under the excuse of excesses committed, are being audited⁹ and benefits are jeopardized by low salaries that arrive at the wrong time or not at all, as in the case of pension holders who suffered the reduction or in families that have lost their jobs; generating serious risks for their health and socio-labor insertion. In addition, the requirements to obtain the pension changed without considering autonomy, since it is not granted when there are family members obliged to provide support, regardless of whether the family member is a violent spouse.¹⁰ To this must be added the suspension of the progress made in relation to care policies, an issue promoted by Argentina at the Regional Women's Conference, ECLAC 2022. As a result of its macroeconomic policies, in the

³ <https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/317918/20241210>

⁴ <https://farn.org.ar/menos-transparencia-y-mas-desfinanciamiento-un-decreto-que-atenta-contra-la-proteccion-de-los-bosques-nativos-de-argentina/>

⁵ <https://diputadosbsas.com.ar/gobierno-derogar-aborto-legal-en-2025/>

⁶ <https://palabrasdelderecho.com.ar/articulo/5155/La-Justicia-Federal-admitio-tramitar-un-proceso-colectivo-contra-la-paralizacion-de-entrega-de-medicamentos-a-personas-vulnerables>

⁷ https://www.tiempoar.com.ar/ta_article/menos-salud-el-ministerio-de-lugones-anuncio-1400-despidos-en-el-posadas-el-bonaparte-y-otros-hospitales/

⁸ <https://www.pagina12.com.ar/777019-el-gobierno-de-milei-recorta-un-76-los-fondos-para-el-vih-e>

⁹ <https://www.cronista.com/economia-politica/adios-a-las-pensiones-por-invalidez-el-tramite-que-debera-n-hacer-si-o-si-para-mantener-el-beneficio/>

¹⁰ <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/la-andis-ordena-los-criterios-de-evaluacion-y-otorgamiento-de-las-pensiones-no>

second half of 2024, 15,700,000 people (53%) residing in urban agglomerations were in poverty and 5,400,000 were indigent; both measures by income.¹¹ Older adults are the ones most affected in terms of impoverishment because in 2024, 25.3% of the adjustment in State spending was explained by the loss of purchasing power of retirements and pensions.¹²

Food insecurity is growing; to the point that one million boys and girls go to bed without dinner and this number increases to 4.5 million if we include boys and girls and adult members of their families who skip meals because they prioritize their sons or daughters being able to eat. Some 10 million boys and girls eat less meat and dairy compared to previous year; because the income of almost half of the households with girls and boys is not enough to cover basic expenses for food, health and education.¹³ The movement of women and sexual and gender diversities was directly attacked by the presidential figure on the occasion of the Davos 2025 Forum¹⁴. The president modified by Decree of Necessity and Urgency aspects of the Gender Identity Law passed in 2012 based on fallacious arguments; interrupting all programs and activities to support the Transvestite-Trans collective and the government prohibited hormone treatments and reassignment surgeries for children under 18 years of age, which were authorized from the age of 16 and were not performed on boys and girls under that age. This was used as an excuse to limit the provision of these treatments to the LGBTQI+ community.¹⁵

This is the situation in which our country and the movement of women and sexual and gender diversities and indigenous peoples find themselves. We know that there is a tough battle ahead but we want to spread this information so that, knowing your knowledge of our situation, the communities and women, can be, as always have been, a bastion in the defense of the rights of the Latin American and Caribbean peoples.

This document, prepared by women's and feminist organizations in Argentina, seeks to make visible and denounce the setbacks in all areas of concern related to the Beijing Platform for Action and the violation of rights that women, adolescents, young people and girls and sexual and gender diversities suffer daily.

Signing organizations:

Alianza Argentina de Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil en Seguimiento de Compromisos Internacionales; Fundación para Estudio e Investigación de la Mujer (FEIM); ADEM Asociación por los Derechos de las Mujeres; Akãhatã; Comunidad Argentina de mujeres con VIH ICW; Amnistía Internacional; Asamblea Permanente por los Derechos Humanos APDH de Argentina; Asociación Ciudadana por los Derechos Humanos (ACDH); Asociación Civil AMMAR Córdoba; Asociación Civil de Derechos Humanos Mujeres Unidas Migrantes y Refugiadas en Argentina (AMUMRA); Asociación Civil El Amanecer; Asociación Civil Enlaces Territoriales para la Equidad de Género; Asociación Civil FLORENTINA; Asociación Civil Fuerza de Mujeres de Participación Inclusiva; Asociación Civil Memoria de Mujeres; Asociación Civil Mujeres de la Ruralidad Argentina; Asociación Civil Razonar por los derechos de las Mujeres, Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes; Asociación Civil Tierra Violeta; Asociación de Género por la Paridad; Asociación de Travestis, Transexuales y Transgéneros de Argentina (ATTA); Asociación Gremial de Abogados del Estado; Asociación Lola Mora; Asociación Metropolitana de Equipos de Salud (AMES); Asociación por los Derechos de las Mujeres; AyC Memoria de Mujeres;

¹¹ Source: Instituto Nacional de Estadística y Censos. https://www.indec.gob.ar/uploads/informesdeprensa/eph_pobreza_09_241C2355AD3A.pdf

¹² Centro CEPA. <https://centrocepa.com.ar/informes/576-la-movilidad-jubilatoria-del-dnu-de-milei-al-debate-presupuestario-2025-noviembre-2024>

¹³ UNICEF Argentina: Situación de la niñez y la adolescencia 2024. Octava Ronda. Informe de resultados. <https://www.unicef.org/argentina/media/22216/file/Octava%20ronda.pdf.pdf>

¹⁴ <https://www.pagina12.com.ar/799106-milei-ataco-a-las-minorias-en-davos-y-recibio-un-aluvion-de>

¹⁵ <https://chequeado.com/el-explicador/el-gobierno-modifico-la-ley-de-identidad-de-genero-que-se-sabe-sobre-los-tratamientos-y-cirugias-de-cambio-de-genero-en-menores/>

Campaña Argentina por el Derecho a la Educación (CADE); Campaña Nacional por el Derecho al Aborto Legal, Seguro y Gratuito; Cátedra Regional UNESCO; Católicas por el Derecho a Decidir Argentina; Centro de Estudios de Estado y Sociedad (CEDES); Centro de Estudios Legales y Social (CELS); Centro De Intercambio y Servicios para el Cono Sur Argentina (CISCSA); Centro de la Mujer San Fernando (CEDEM); Colectiva Feminista Federal por la Democracia y los Derechos Humanos, Colectivo Juventudes por los Derechos Sexuales y Reproductivos; Comité Argentino de Seguimiento Aplicación de la Convención de Derechos de Niñas y Niños; Comité de América Latina y el Caribe para la Defensa de los Derechos de las Mujeres (CLADEM); Consejo Nacional de la Mujer Indígena (CONAMI / ECMIA); Equipo de Trabajo e Investigación Social (ETIS); Equipo Latinoamericano de Justicia y Género (ELA); Facultad de Humanidades, Ciencias Sociales y de la Salud, Universidad Nacional de Santiago del Estero; Federación Argentina de Medicina General; Federación CASACIDN; Feministas en Acción; Feministas sin Fronteras; Foro Pampeano por el Derechos al Aborto Legal, Seguro y Gratuito; Foro por los Derechos Reproductivos (Foro DDDR); Fundación Derechos Humanos, Equidad y Género (FUNDHEG); Fundación Global; Fundación Karakachoff; Fundación Más Paz, Menos Sida; Fundación Mujeres en Igualdad (MEI); Fundación por una Sociedad Empoderada; Fundación Siglo XXI; FUSA Asociación Civil; Ges Asociación Civil; Girl up; Grupo de mujeres de la argentina- foro de vih mujeres y familia - GMAF; Grupo de Mujeres de la Argentina Foro de VIH Mujeres y Familia; Hermanadas San Martín; Instituto de Género, Derecho y Desarrollo (INSGENAR); Movimiento latinoamericano y del Caribe de Mujeres Positivas; Mujer, Ciencia y Tecnología en América Latina; Mujeres Trabajando; Ni Una Menos Mendoza; Programa Sordas sin Violencia; Red Bonaerense de Personas Viviendo con VIH/sida; Red de Acceso al Aborto Seguro de Argentina (REDAAS); Red de Defensoras del Ambiente y el Buen Vivir (Red DABV); Red de Profesionales de la salud por el derecho a decidir; Red de Trabajadoras Sexual de Latinoamérica y el Caribe; Red Federal de Mujeres Abolicionistas; Red Nacional de Jóvenes y Adolescentes para la Salud Sexual y Reproductiva (RedNAC); Red por los Derechos de las Personas con Discapacidad (REDI); REDLACTRANS; Sindicato de Empleados de Comercio; Tierra Violeta; Sociedad de Ginecología Infantojuvenil (SAGIJ); Suma Veritas; Synergia; Teatro en Sepia / Área de Género de la Comisión 8 de noviembre Día Nacional de los Afro argentinas y de la Cultura Afro; Territorias Mujeres y Diversidades de Montaña; Unión de Trabajadores de Entidades Deportivas y Civiles (UTEDYC); Vecinas Feministas; Ana Gonzalez, consultora; Ana Núñez, sindicalista; Carmen Storani, Consultora; Dafne Sabanes Plou, activista; Diana Maffia, experta; Dora Barrancos, consultora; Isabel Díaz, activista; Julia Scarpino, Mujeres x Mujeres; Mabel Gabarra, activista; Marcela Peronja, activista; María del Carmen Feijoo, Investigadora Independiente; María Inés Costilla, sindicalista ; María Rosa Avila, feminista y profesora de la UBA; Marisa Malvestiti, Experta; Marita Perceval, Consultora; Martha Miravete Cicero, consultora; Martha Rosemberg, Consultora; Myrta Schalom, escritora; Nina Brugo, experta; Norma Sanchis, consultora; Patricia Pueblo, activista; Rosana Folino, consultora; Soledad Comini, activista; Susana Pastor; sindicalista; Susana Sanz, experta; Virginia Franganillo, Ex Presidenta Consejo de la Mujer; Diputada Nacional Alicia Tate m.c.; Diputada Nacional Juliana Marino m.c.; Diputada Nacional María José Lubertino m.c.; Diputada Nacional María Luisa Storani m.c.