



**Parliamentary Forum in the framework of the  
XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean  
*"The Care Society as a Horizon for Sustainable Recovery with Gender Equality"***

**Conclusions of the Parliamentary Forum**

**XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean**

Buenos Aires, November 8, 2022

Within the framework of the **XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean**, which is being held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from November 7 to 11, 2022, and whose theme for debate is "The Care Society as a Horizon for Sustainable Recovery with Gender Equality," a regional Parliamentary Forum was held for the first time on November 7 and 8, with the participation of more than 100 women parliamentarians from 19 countries and regional parliaments.

During these past two days of productive exchange, we have shared experiences and challenges of the Regional Gender Agenda in the parliamentary sphere through the development of regulatory frameworks that advance gender equality and integrate the right to care, due public financing, comprehensive care policies, and systems, as well as maternity, paternity and parental leave, and measures towards social and gender co-responsibility.

In the region, the achievements in regulatory development were developed in accordance with the global framework of international pacts and treaties, mainly the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), ratified by all the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, the 2030 Agenda and the Regional Gender Agenda. This has been possible thanks to the support of organizations, feminist and women's movements in their diversity, and the concerted action of women in the political system and parliaments, as well as men committed to advancing gender equality. The parliamentary committees and groups working on women's rights in national and regional



congresses and assemblies, networks of women parliamentarians, jurists, academics, and specialized organizations have been and continue to be catalysts for this change.

The progress towards parity democracy that is being consolidated in some countries of Latin America and the Caribbean has allowed the expansion of women's representation in decision-making and has boosted the elimination of discriminatory legislation against women and girls, as well as the development of pioneering regulations for the eradication of violence and femicides, and for the achievement of women's physical, political, and economic autonomy.

However, while congratulating these advances, we note that there are still challenges to consolidate parity in all branches of government, the institutional framework for gender equality through ministries with specific and sufficient budgets, to eliminate the multiple discriminations that affect women in all their diversity. It remains a challenge that can no longer be postponed to ensure the political participation of indigenous women, Afro-descendant women, rural women, and women from different territories, as well as migrant women and women with disabilities.

The structural inequalities derived from the multiple interlinked crises, which exacerbate the limitations to women's autonomy, require legislative responses and transformative public policies to effectively move towards a care society. We highlight the need to:

- **To advance** plans with affirmative actions that promote policies and Comprehensive Care Systems, decent work, and the full and effective participation of women in strategic sectors of the economy for a transformative recovery with gender equality and sustainability.
- **Adopt** regulatory frameworks that promote the creation of universal Comprehensive Care Systems that, based on inter-institutional articulation and social and gender co-responsibility, guarantee the right to care, to receive care, and to self-care under conditions of equality and quality in our countries and their different territories.



- **Incorporate** in these regulatory frameworks an intersectional approach that recognizes the diversity of situations and forms of care, including Afro-descendant, indigenous, rural, migrant, disabled, young, and elderly women.
- **Design and implement** State policies that favor co-responsibility and the overcoming of gender stereotypes, including regulations to establish or extend parental leave for varied kinds of families, as well as other leaves of absence to care for dependent persons. Incorporate inalienable and non-transferable paternity leaves, allowing the full participation of men in the path towards the construction of a care society.
- **Call** for extending breastfeeding regimens to two years favoring breastfeeding according to World Health Organization (WHO) standards.
- **Ratify and comply** with International Labor Organization (ILO) minimum standards on leave, integrating family diversity.
- **Adopt** measures to ensure the promotion and adequate protection of the human rights of all women workers in the expanded care sector, with particular attention to domestic and household workers, in accordance with the provisions of ILO Convention No. 189 and urge governments that have not yet done so to ratify and implement this Convention.
- **Ensure** the periodicity of time-use surveys and facilitate the comparability of data and the construction of indicators on gender inequalities in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- **To decisively promote** progressive fiscal policies and budgets with a gender focus that ensures the financing of Care Policies and Systems, guaranteeing sufficient, non-transferable, and sustainable resources that cover all levels and areas of public policy aimed at reversing the unfair sexual division of labor.
- **Advance** in the approval and implementation of comprehensive laws for the prevention and elimination of gender-based violence and femicides.
- **Continue** consolidating regulatory frameworks for the prevention and elimination of gender-based political violence.



**We congratulate** the holding of the First Parliamentary Forum within the framework of the XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean and urge the promotion of future editions of the Parliamentary Forum.

**We express** our appreciation to the Argentine State, the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) for their joint work in the organization and implementation of the Parliamentary Forum.

Finally, **we manifest** our willingness to follow up on the implementation of the Buenos Aires Commitment and the agreements adopted in the framework of the XV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean from the parliamentary sphere.