

## Call

### Why the Kurdish World Conference?



#### **Vision: Who are we and what do we want?**

We are one of the first civil wills in the diaspora and we believe in the dominance of civil society organizations and think that: Kurds have taken the strategy to develop and rely on hard power to this day that led to failures several times throughout history. It is now the time for Kurds to explore soft power in addition to that and mark a new era in their history. Constructing soft power in diaspora is the strategy to guarantee the civil society that is in Europe.

From our perspective, since Kurdish parties have not managed to unify Kurds, only civil will is able to achieve national unity. We also believe that the role of a political party is different from that of a civil society, hence they function differently. Neither can political parties take the place of a civil society nor are social organizations alternatives to political parties. So the civil will can make a big difference in the diaspora as a soft power.

We, as representatives of the civil will, believe that Kurdish women are the missing link in Kurdish society, whose participation in strategic decisions as well as political administration is at its lowest rate and very close to naught. This means deprivation and inactiveness of more than half the population of Kurdish society. We believe that at this time in the diaspora as the center of soft politics, the time has come for women to rise and with the young generation's support become the propellant to organize civil society organization in the diaspora. Women play the role of the civil politics' engine in the diaspora.

#### **The Kurdish question is a global matter:**

The Kurdish question is both national and global issue, as all regional and global powers are involved in and create obstacles for it. This means the Kurdish movement has a global message. As it has been addressed in the reasons below, the Kurdish question is also a matter of concern in the Middle East and the World:

**Firstly** - Geopolitically, the Kurdish question is the question of four states in the Middle East and dozens of Turkish, Arab, Shiite, Sunni states and regional and global superpowers. As

the most recent example, in the referendum on the independence of the Kurdistan Region in Iraq, most of the regional and international forces took a stand against the Kurdish nation's will, which proved that the Kurdish question is an international matter.

**Secondly** - Today the Kurdish diaspora is spread all over the world. About five million Kurds live in the distant diaspora and more than eight million Kurds live in the diaspora near the Middle East, which marks the first time in the history when such a huge number of Kurds are spread all over the world.

**Thirdly** - If the Kurdish issue is a global one, it must be resolved through international mechanisms. To do so, women as the propellant of the Kurdish movement play determinant roles. Women need to correlate with the young and Kurdish intellectuals to reconstitute the Kurdish diaspora, while expanding lobbying.

### **Strategic goals**

The number of Kurdish people in diaspora has exceeded five million people in the world. Three million Kurdistanis live in EU countries. If the attacks and massacres against the Kurds continue, this number may reach four million in Europe in the next five years. The Kurdish diaspora is fragmented, disorganized and lacking strategy. Such a human resource must be activated and managed through these strategies:

- The Kurdistan diaspora should be organized through civilian procedures and within the framework of the strategy of building soft power. It also needs to be recognized by a global message having a global, political and strategic goal administered by humanitarian and competent force.
- National institutions of the Kurdish diaspora should be unified. The Kurdish Diaspora can achieve national unity through the use of civilian methods as well as the strategy of using soft power.
- The Kurdish diaspora must revive the goal of independence. If goal of independence is met with countless obstacles in Kurdistan, the Kurdish diaspora can raise the flag of autonomy.

## Base and structure

The goals and strategies of the Kurdish diaspora can be achieved with the following tools:

- The Kurdish World Conference is a national diaspora organization that will function as a foreign parliament. The Kurdish World Conference is an annual meeting that will be held to define the goals, strategies and policies of the Kurdish Diaspora and will include confederations, federations, centers, foundations, organizations, communities, institutions, associations and elected members led primarily by women as the pioneer force.
- The Kurdish World Organization is the active branch of the Kurdish diaspora and will be a key part of the decisions and tactics of the Kurdish World Conference. The Kurdish World Organization is the main organization to transfer the capabilities of the Kurdish diaspora from mind to practice. Women in all countries of the world need to establish a Kurdish international organization.

## Slogan: Our red lines

The following principles gather us and everyone who believes in them under the same umbrella:

- Struggle of the diaspora is a civil, non-governmental and non-partisan achievement, and various forces cannot assert their hegemony on it.
- The struggle of the diaspora is a national - Kurdistanî achievement. Regional, dialectal, tribal, religious-denominational and partisanship concepts shall under no circumstances be precedent to the struggle nor shall they affect it.
- Belief in national symbols: The rule of Kurdistan, the national anthem and the national flag are our red lines. Discussion over the map of Kurdistan and the independence of Kurdistan shall not be negotiable.

## Our main slogans are:

- 1- National unity shall be achieved through civil will.
- 2- Kurdish question is a global issue.

**Action steps:**

The preparatory committee, which is also the founding board, is appointed by the Kurdish World Organization to carry out the work of the first Kurdish World Conference.

**The tasks of the preparatory committee are:**

- Establishing the Kurdish World Organization in the countries where Kurdish diaspora exists.
- Establishing a federation of Kurdish associations in the countries where there are enough number of Kurdish associations.
- Holding the first Kurdish women's conference to prepare for the Kurdish World Conference.
- Preparing to orchestrate a conference for young generation and a conference of Kurdish entrepreneurs to support the project of the Kurdish World Conference.

**Best regards,**

**Preparatory Committee**