



Communique Committee of Experts

Committee of Experts expresses concern about the situation of women in Afghanistan and calls for all their rights to be protected.

Washington, DC September 1, 2021. The Committee of Experts of the Follow-up Mechanism of the Belém Do Pará Convention (MESECVI) follows the situation in Afghanistan with concern, and calls on all States, especially those in the region, to act with the objective of preventing the deterioration of the human rights of Afghan women and girls and to welcome them into their territories, providing them with safety and shelter, if necessary.

The Committee has been aware of and welcomes the offers of aid and refuge to the Afghan citizens made by Colombia, Costa Rica, Chile and Mexico, among other countries, recognizing their efforts in this regard and reminding them of the particularly vulnerable situation that women and girls in that country could be experiencing.

The whole world and all the organizations that watch over the human rights of women are alert and vigilant as the situation develops and we will not stop denouncing if the rights of women are eroded. Limiting totally or partially the recognition, enjoyment and exercise of human rights and fundamental freedoms constitutes an offense to human dignity, and its guarantee is an indispensable condition for the integrity and individual and social development of women and girls, as well as for the development of Afghan society as a whole, which must live in safety, protection and dignity, in the absence of any form of discrimination and abuse.

In this regard, the Committee of Experts expresses its solidarity with Afghan women and girls; recalls the obligation to ensure a life free of violence for all women, girls and adolescents; the enjoyment and exercise of their rights to education, work and freedom of movement; as well as their right to participate in political life and in making decisions that affect them; Likewise, it reiterates the mandatory compliance with international standards for the protection of all rights and freedoms, recalling that Gender Equality enjoys international consensus and urges us to discourage currents of thought, factual powers, positions and expressions that threaten these conquests.

The Committee of Experts is the technical body of the MESECVI, responsible for the analysis and evaluation of the implementation process of the Convention of Belém do Pará. It is made up of independent experts, appointed by each of the States Parties from among their nationals, who exercise their functions in a personal capacity.