

## WHY IS THERE A NEED FOR A MEDITERRANEAN WOMEN'S FUND ?

Belonging to the same cultural sphere, under the influence of three mono-theocratic religions, the women of the Mediterranean region are subjected to a common form of patriarchy and despite living in apparently very different situations, share many similar aspects of their condition.

### THE NEED TO WIN NEW STRUGGLES AND TO CONSOLIDATE GAINS IN A REGRESSIVE CLIMATE

Whether they come from the southern or the northern shores of the Mediterranean, women from the region know that they have not only to win new battles in favor of equality in many different aspects but also to consolidate their gains, won thanks to their tenacity and their struggles. Above all else, they have to act in a social climate which is generally in regression, due to the flourishing of radical conservative movements in societies undergoing change, and the more they invest the public sphere, the more they are confronted with violent reactions directed towards them.

### STRENGTHENING SOLIDARITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN REGION

For several decades, those associations engaged in the defense of women's rights stress the importance of promoting a Mediterranean identity in order to provide mutual support and to create networks between women's movements from the countries around the Mediterranean.

At the same time they express their difficulties in raising funds which are necessary for the development of their projects, whether at a national or a local level.

### A FUND TO SUPPORT WOMEN'S STRUGGLES IN THE REGION

Starting from this analysis, women from North Africa and southern Europe, inspired by the experiences of funds created by women in other regions of the world, took the initiative in January 2008 to create The Mediterranean Women's Fund.

## OUR AIMS

The Fund aims to help improve the condition of women and to promote equal rights in all the countries of the Mediterranean basin, by contributing to the reinforcement of the women's movement in the region, whether this be at a local or regional level.

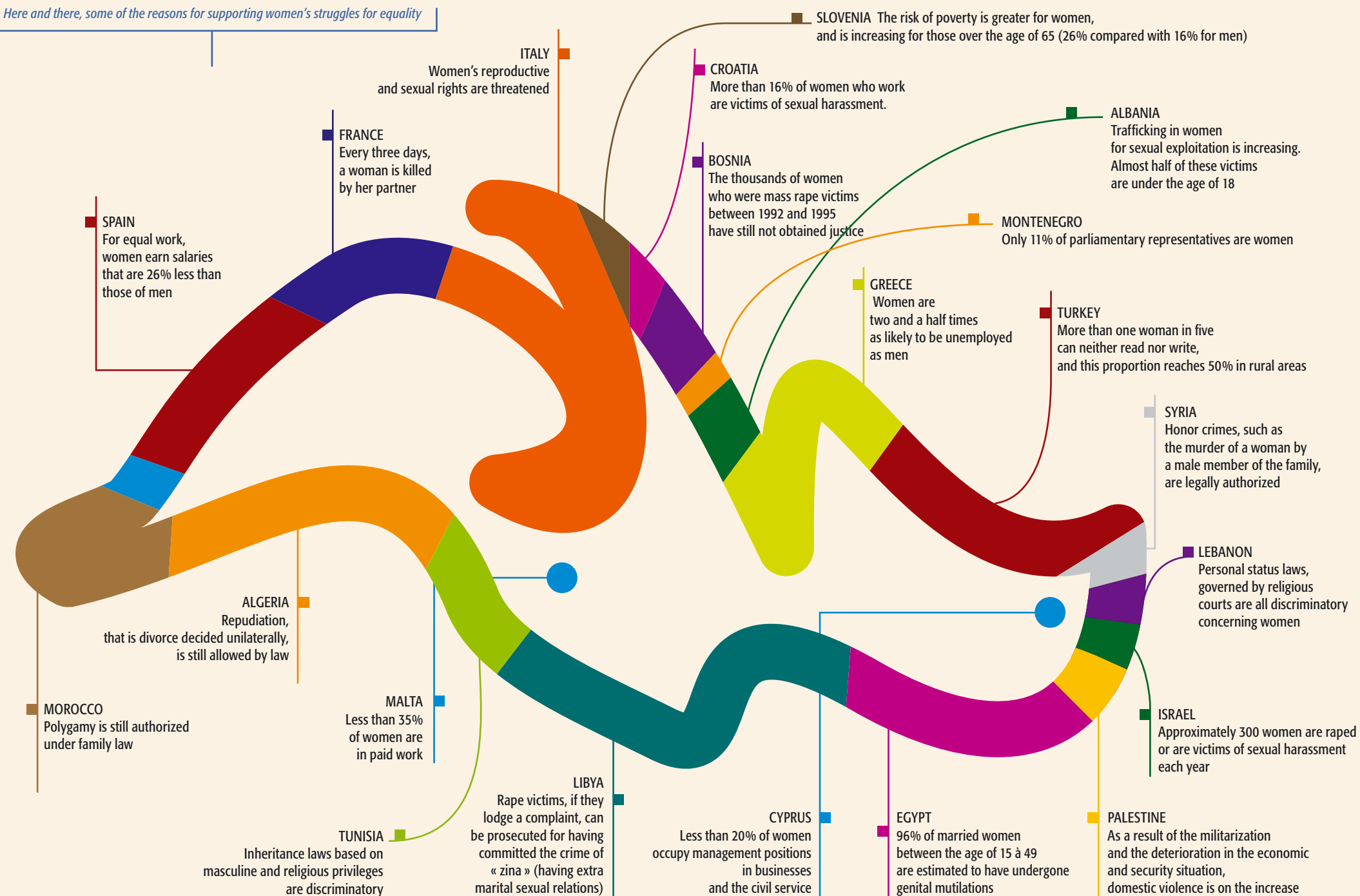
## OUR MISSION

To provide, or to help to find, the financial or technical means which are necessary in order to support actions planned by groups, associations, organizations and individuals from Mediterranean countries who work towards equal rights for men and women.

## OUR PRINCIPLES

The activities of the Fund have as their point of reference a lay ethical approach based on the principles of equality and the respect for human beings and the environment, as well as having an engagement for peace. The Fund is based on the principles of international law, and also on a holistic vision of society held by the international women's movement.

Here and there, some of the reasons for supporting women's struggles for equality



## OUR PROGRAM

The Fund has provided itself with two types of actions in order to achieve its objectives

### 1 / GRANT-MAKING PROGRAM

- > Strengthening of regional networks
  - Support for the exchange of information and experiences between women from the region
  - Support for the coordination of networks
- > Strengthening of women's movements at a local level
  - Aid for the functioning of associations
  - Support for new and innovating projects
  - Support for projects directed towards young women and girls

- > Strengthening individual capacities
  - Individual donations (grants, participation at meetings, training sessions)
  - Urgent aid for the defense or the protection of those individuals in need

### 2 / PROGRAM FOR STRENGTHENING THE FUND-RAISING CAPACITIES OF ASSOCIATIONS

- > Aid in the training for setting up projects and fund-raising
- > Aid for setting up local funds
- > Provision of information and documents concerning existing regional donors

## HOW CAN YOU HELP US ?

You can help to participate in the creation of a society where women and men have equal status and the same opportunities. Your support, at whatever level, will help women and girls from the Mediterranean region to give up their isolation and to take action to improve their situation.

You can support the Mediterranean Women's Fund in various different ways :

### BY MAKING A FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

> You can participate financially to our funding program, to specific project appeals and/or to individual projects by making :

- A grant allocation (for foundations or businesses)
- An individual donation on a one-off or regular basis (monthly, quarterly or annually)
- A planned donation such as an inheritance, a life insurance or by other means

Cheques or bank orders to be made out to « Fonds pour les femmes en Méditerranée » Credit Coopératif, Montpellier, France Account number 00034-41020006089 Iban : FR76 4255 9000 3441 0200 0608 961

### BY MAKING A PRACTICAL CONTRIBUTION

> You can support our activities by making a practical donation, by offering the use of equipment, by organizing a fund-raising event, by providing services or technical assistance and/or in many other even more creative ways.