

Federación Española de Universidades Populares

CONGRESS OF DIGNITY

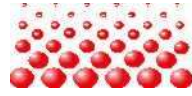
Albacete, May 3 and 4

Reasons for the Congress of Dignity:

1. To pay tribute to the ethics and dignity of the women who have made this Congress possible: women in the resistance who gave rise to the cohesive struggle which fostered feminism; who sowed the seeds of the freedom we now enjoy.
2. To recover our historic memory, ensuring that "all that was silent now has a voice". To promote women's battles for their rights and equal opportunities. This memory will help us reject atrocities and continue to defend what was good about the past; for instance, a concept of libertarian and democratic life which has not been lost and the testimonies of which have been presented at this Congress. They wanted them to be seen as victims, but without success. They never lost their dignity or their hope. They defended their passion for liberty, rejecting the passion for slavery.

Conclusions:

1. Women are Humanists and Universalists and we strongly refuse violations of human rights, especially against women and girls. We reject and struggle to combat war and war-like activities. We publicly reject human rights violations disguised as traditions or customs (ablation, use of the burka, stoning and other forms of social and psychological violence).
2. Women are in politics because we have to be, because if we are not in politics, as Antonio Machado said, "they will make politic against us".
3. The Aztecs used to say that "our heritage is a net of holes". We have inherited those holes in the form of ignorance and dismissal... But we are not like Penelope, busy weaving to fill in those holes. We are going to open these holes ad infinitum, so that all worlds can pass through them.
4. We will not rest as long as one woman or girl is condemned to live without dignity somewhere in the world.



Proposals:

“Plant a tree even if you will never sit in its shade”.

1. Systematisation and dissemination of the contents of this Congress.
2. Dissemination of the conclusions of the Congress in the different networks and institutions related to or involved in its organisation.
3. Preparation of educative materials (DVDs, communications, papers, etc.) which can be used for informative and formative purposes.
4. The network of the Spanish Federation of Popular Universities undertakes to publish the subjects discussed in this Congress together with all those arising in the future in relation to equal opportunities.

We assume that our proposals in favour of Dignity and Human Rights will be supported by all Democratic Governments.