



#### WHAT IS GENDER EQUALITY POLICIES?

The policy of gender equality and empowerment of women,

is one of the fundamental principles of democracy and social order.

Gender equality is guaranteed by the Constitution as the highest legal act in the country.

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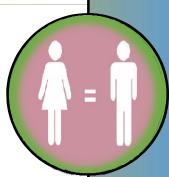
### Gender equality in Macedonia

• The law aims to regulate the basic and special measures to establish equal opportunities for women and men, as well as the tasks and responsibilities of the entities responsible for establishing equal opportunities.

The right to equality between men and women is prescribed by the

Constitution and gender equality as a social norm.

Unfortunately, women in our society do not always enjoy the same freedoms and rights as men, even if it is established with norms.



# Gender and family



The perception of roles in the home and family is still initially directed towards women, making housework and family care traditionally hers load. On a global scale, women, whether employed, unemployed or inactive, on average spend much more of their time in household than men. In Macedonia, still do exist the traditional form of sharing the obligations in the household. On average, employed women spend 3 hours more than employed men on household activities. Women in our country do work outside of the house, take care about the household, spent more time with the children than their other partner and still keep their heads up and smile and never complain about anything in the family. The sad thing about this whole story is that they are not always appreciated by the male population, just because they are different. But during the time, things get to change . Women in Macedonia raise their voice for the equality, because they deserve everything a men does.

• The first national Gender Equality Index presents an opportunity to reaffirm the commitment and dedication of the Republic of North Macedonia to promoting gender equality and equal opportunities. Women and men must have equal access to opportunities and services planned and created in compliance with their specific needs. The status of women in our society demands not only promises, but also progress and a clearly defined approach, since that is what both the national standards and the real needs of women oblige us to achieve," noted Jovana Trenchevska, State Secretary of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy.

The Gender Equality Index in North Macedonia was developed under the EU Instrument of Pre-Accession (IPA) and was funded by the European Union.





#### Feminism in Macedonia

- In Macedonia, feminism is interpreted as harmful and the word and the ideas behind it generally still have a negative connotation among many people.
- Women have been playing very important roles in building peace in their communities. Women have been trying to solve problems in peaceful way, including through appeals to national and international institutions and creating safe multiethnic spaces for dialogue and organizing public debates. We need women to participate in order to make changes in politics. As more and more women participate, they break down existing prejudices and stereotypes and prove their competence and skill in the political arena. They would be as great in the job as men. They already are. The status of the woman, maybe slowly but strongly will improve. Not only in Macedonia, but everywhere.

Women are already strong, it is about changing the way the world perceives that strength.

## Thank you for the attention!

