



#DONES VISUALS

## **THE IMPORTANCE OF FEMINISMS IN THE SOLUTION TO THE CRISIS**

**For a balanced, diverse and strengthened audio-visual sector**

**The introduction of the viewpoint of gender in the negotiations and decisions made about impending future measures in the audio-visual sector is indispensable for a good solution to the crisis and the reconstruction of the cultural and economic worldwide model .**

“Women have shown that they are essential for the construction of bridges, more than of walls. They have been key to the preservation of social order when communities begin to topple.”

Kofi Annan

Secretary General of the United Nations (1997-2006)

“The active participation of women must be a priority,  
Not a last-minute idea.”

Louise Fréchette

Vice-secretary of the United Nations (1997-2005)

### ***DONES VISUALS* warn that**

- in every crisis, as became evident with the economic crisis of 2008, women are the ones who are most affected and whose problems grow worse before those of others.
- professional women working in the audio-visual sector were already in an imbalanced situation on various levels before the beginning of the crisis provoked by COVID-19.
- the way out of this crisis must not be at the cost of possibilities of employment for these professionals, and neither should it take a toll on the liberty of women.



## For these reasons we contend:

- **We must have the leading roles in the solutions.** As is indicated in resolution 1325 of the Security Council of the United Nations, the importance of the participation of women as well as the inclusion of the perspective of gender must be included in the negotiation and the levels of adoption of decisions in the solution of conflicts and in peace processes. This resolution speaks of the value and potential that the incorporation of women in decision-making signifies. This was verified in the economic crisis of 2008 and the role of women as the motor force of the recovery was acknowledged.
- **We are the ones to discuss what we need.** As the part of the population which will be the most affected by the crisis, we are the most appropriate persons to discuss and suggest measures for the reconstruction and construction of a more just professional fabric and one more adapted to reality, and which will include leading positions for women, trans and lesbians of different races, origins, identities, religions, and women with intellectual or physical disabilities.
- **Transformation must not stop.** We wish to emphasise that our sector had begun a process of transformation which was just in its early days. That process was not just a one-off episode; rather it was part of a series of actions which will need years of on-going policies and which must not come to a halt. Feminism is the motor of this transformation and it is an unstoppable dynamic.
- **We are organised.** We declare that in this situation we will continue to be organised and maintain the rhythm and the demands of the feminist programme of creation and cinematographic practice.
- **A new scenario is possible and will benefit everyone.** The elimination of imbalance between men and women, with special attention to diversity, is a new scenario where many potentials join force. The distribution of opportunities is a motor which fosters. A diversity of productions, forms of creation and content, the growth in quality and the transformation of an andro-centric culture which has limited all of us.
- **Networking is the key.** We stand for networking which is the way to combine individual efforts. The greatest number of different outlooks is necessary for us to be able to find solutions from a general perspective and not just from immediate urgency. The fabric with most threads is the most resistant.



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With these premises, we demand

**That committees, councils and bodies of official intervention debating and taking decisions on the present and future state of the audio-visual sector must include representatives of feminist associations concerned with the audio-visual sector. And we demand that the policies put in place always take into account the perspective of gender.**

**Only in this way will we be able to build a future for the audio-visual sector which is balanced, diverse and really strengthened.**

This declaration is signed by the *Dones Visuals Board Members*  
**Barcelona, April 17, 2020**

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[SUPPORTERS \(alphabetical order\)](#)