



PARLAMENT DE CATALUNYA

THE WOMEN'S PARLIAMENT

The Women's Parliament was a joint initiative between the Parliament of Catalonia and the [National Women's Council of Catalonia](#) (Consell Nacional de les Dones de Catalunya, CNDC). The event consisted of an open plenary, with the participation of feminist entities, relevant women within Catalan society and sixty current Members of Parliament.

The project, which is supported by the presidency of the Catalan Parliament, was met with full engagement by all of the parliamentary groups and subgroups. The project forms part of the Parliament's commitment to the equality policies that the chamber carries out, of which the equality plan or the cycle of conferences entitled "Effective equality for women and men, a national challenge" are key examples.

The Parliament welcomed the "plenary session" which coincided with the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. The various key areas that were touched upon in Beijing were also explored during this conference.

The "plenary" was the main focus for a historic photograph of the Chamber, where decisions are made that have a direct influence over the country, which was filled exclusively with women, including some Members of Parliament, who are all representatives of Catalan society.

The idea for such an initiative came about from similar experiences put forward in other parliaments, such as in Portugal - during the Nineties -, as well as South Africa and Montenegro, where there have already been nine of these events.

The "plenary session" was held on the 1st of July, at 5 p.m., and the Women's Parliament Declaration was issued, which was the result of previous work carried out by the various working groups.

GOALS

To promote the participation of women's associations in institutions, and to further strengthen ties and network between women's groups and female Members of Parliament.

To ensure that policies with a gender perspective feature prominently on the political agenda.



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The Parliament of Catalonia has adopted and endorses the Women's Parliament Declaration, as put forward by all of the parliamentary groups. The text will be read at the plenary on the 24th of July as an institutional statement and will be presented at any forthcoming international summits where the CNDC is amongst the participants.

METHODOLOGY

All of the Members of Parliament who took part in the initiative were distributed across six working groups, all of which reflect the key areas from the action plan that came about during the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing:

- Human Rights for Women
- The Right to Education and Culture
- Labour and Economic Rights
- The Right to Political Engagement
- Health, and Sexual and Reproductive Rights
- The Right of Women and Girls to live free from Gender-Based Violence

Each working group was composed of two Members of Parliament or representatives from the parliamentary groups and subgroups, two coordinators from the CNDC as well as representatives from the entities relating the various areas selected by the same council.

The groups began working with a text that was put forward by the CNDC. This text served as the basis for agreeing on the three main ideas that were then incorporated into the Declaration, which was read and approved on the plenary day.

PLENARY SESSION

The plenary session took place on the 1st of July, 2019. The Board of the Women's Parliament was formed by Adriana Delgado Herreros, fourth secretary of the Board of the Parliament of Catalonia, acting as president with one representative from each group and parliamentary sub-group: Noemí de la Calle Sifré ([Parliamentary Group Ciutadans, Citizens](#)), Anna Geli i España ([Parliamentary Group Junts per Catalunya](#), Together for Catalonia), Jenn Diaz Ruiz ([Parliamentary Group Republicà](#), Republican Parliamentary Group), Bea Silva Gallardo ([Parliamentary Group Socialistes i Units per Avançar](#), Socialists and United to Advance), Susanna Segovia Sánchez ([Parliamentary Group Catalunya en Comú Podem](#), Catalonia Together We Can), Natàlia Sánchez Dipp ([Parliamentary Sub-group Candidatura d'Unitat Popular - Crida Constituent](#), Popular Unity Candidacy - Constituent Call) and



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Esperanza García González ([Parliamentary Sub-group Partit Popular de Catalunya](#), Popular Party of Catalonia). Laura Vílchez Sánchez, third secretary of the Board of the Parliament of Catalonia, also took part in the Women's Parliament.

The president and the vice president, Núria Balada Cardona and Montse Pineda Lorenzo respectively, took part on behalf of the Council. One of the co-coordinators that the CNDC established for each working group were then able to speak, explaining the content and the proposals for the texts from each of these groups, which served as the basis for working on the declaration. Then, beginning with the Board and then following the order from lesser to greater representation, the Members of Parliament from the parliamentary groups and subgroups explained their position regarding the Declaration.

Once everyone had been given a chance to speak, Adriana Delgado Herreros read out the [Declaration](#), which was approved by all.

The plenary session was attended by counsellors and members of the Government who have responsibilities relating to equality, gender-based or childhood violence, among others. Former members of the Board of the Parliament of Catalonia, former presidents of the CNDC and the main feminist leaders from Catalonia were also in attendance.

For more information, please visit:

<https://www.parlament.cat/pcat/parlament/parlament-genera/parlament-dones/>

The **Coordination Team** for the Women's Parliament has been led by:

- Adriana Delgado Herreros (Board)
- Noemí de la Calle Sifré (Parliamentary Group Ciutadans, Citizens)
- Anna Geli i España (Parliamentary Group Junts per Catalunya, Together for Catalonia)
- Jenn Díaz Ruiz (Parliamentary Group Republicà, Republican Parliamentary Group)
- Bea Silva Gallardo (Parliamentary Group Socialistes i Units per Avançar, Socialists and United to Advance)— Susanna Segovia Sánchez (Parliamentary Group Catalunya en Comú Podem, Catalonia Together We Can)— Natàlia Sánchez Dipp (Parliamentary Sub-group Candidatura d'Unitat Popular - Crida Constituent, Popular Unity Candidacy - Constituent Call) — Esperanza García González (Parliamentary Sub-group Partit Popular de Catalunya, Popular Party of Catalonia)— Montse Pineda Lorenzo (CNDC)



— Marina Garcia i Soler (Cabinet of the Presidency of the Parliament)

Each working group included two coordinators from the CNDC, who oversaw the creation of the relevant texts.

Group 1. Human Rights for Women

- Alícia Oliver Rojo (European Network of Female Journalists)
- Carme Riu Pascual ('Dones No Estàndards' Donnes Association)

Group 2. The Right to Education and Culture

- Mireia Bofill Abelló ('Ca la Dona' Association and Feminist Space)
- Mercè Otero Vidal ('Associació Dinamitzadora de la Xarxa Feminista')

Group 3. Labour and Economic Rights

- Maria Rovira Duran (Women from the Catalonia Farmers' Union)
- Núria Viñas Llebot (Catalan Association for Female Board Members and Business Women)

Group 4. The Right to Political Engagement

- Fàtima Ahmed ('Diàlegs de Dona' Intercultural Association)
- Mònica Torralba Fernández-Velilla (National Council of Young People of Catalonia)

Group 5. Health, and Sexual and Reproductive Rights

- Sílvia Aldavert Garcia (Family Planning Association of Catalonia and the Balearic Islands)
- Marta Busquets Gallego ('Dona Llum' – Catalan Association for Respectful Birth)

Group 6. The Right of Women and Girls to live free from Gender-Based Violence

- Laia Rosich Solé (Department for Gender, Diversity and Women's Psychology at the Catalan Official College of Psychology)
- Montserrat Vilà Planas (Unitary Platform against Gender-Based Violence)