

**ANNUAL REPORT 2017**

- 4 The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation
- 5 Frequently asked questions
- 6 Foreword
- 6 Our work around the world
- 8 This is Kvinna till Kvinna
- 10 Sustainability and partnership
- 11 Risks and challenges
- 12 Peacebuilding
- 13 Central and West Africa
- 18 Western Balkans
- 22 South Caucasus
- 26 Middle East and North Africa
- 31 Research
- 32 Fundraising
- 36 Communication and advocacy
- 38 Volunteers
- 40 Board
- 41 Administrative report
- 52 Auditor's report

Girlpower in the DRC! Deborah Sesa, Charlotte Kazeye, Francine Kasimba, Tina Mawazo and Riziki Eliza learn about women's rights by participating in activities arranged by Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation CEDEJ-GL.

Photo: Bertin Mungombe

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation is a peace and women’s rights organisation without any political or religious affiliations.

Kvinna till Kvinna works to promote women’s rights in 20 countries, and we support more than 100 women’s rights organisations around the world. We work together to create safe zones along escape routes and make sure that women subjected to violence get the help they need. We create the conditions that help women take control of their own lives.

Kvinna till Kvinna works to give women a voice. In war and conflict-affected regions, women are subjected to violence and abuse, and the world is still far from equal for women and men. We empower women in society and help them take control of their own lives.

**Vision**

- A world of sustainable peace based on democracy and gender equality where conflicts are dealt with through non-violent means.
- A world in which human rights are respected and where all people can feel safe and secure.
- A world in which women have power and influence over decision-making, and enjoy full and effective participation in the development of society.

**Purpose**

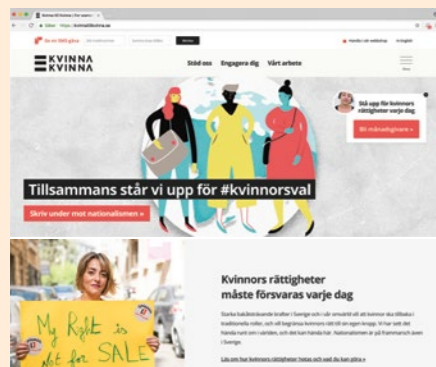
Kvinna till Kvinna supports and cooperates with women’s rights organisations that work for women’s rights and peace. We do advocacy on women’s rights and the importance of women’s inclusion in discussions and decision-making on peace and security. Kvinna till Kvinna also promotes studies and research to increase awareness of how war and conflict impact women’s roles and conditions in society.

**History**

Kvinna till Kvinna was founded in 1993, when reports of mass rapes in the Balkan wars reached Sweden. The peace and women’s movement made a joint appeal under the name of Kvinna till Kvinna (Woman to Woman), which was followed by a series of fundraising initiatives to support women’s rights organisations operating in the Balkans. Since then, we have grown considerably. We now support 111 women’s rights organisations and women’s rights defenders all over the world.

**Our work in Sweden**

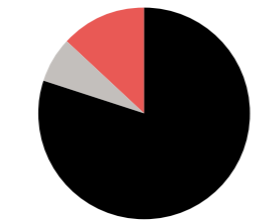
- We encourage people to take a stand and promote peace and women’s rights in regions affected by war and conflict.
- We raise money to support the work carried out by our partner organisations.



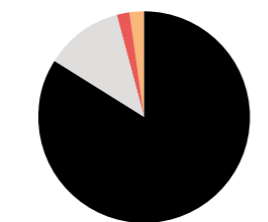
**New website**

In 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna launched a new Swedish website. It is now easier to find out about what our organisation and our partner organisations are doing, and support our work in promoting women’s rights in Central and West Africa, the Western Balkans, the Middle East and North Africa, the South Caucasus and Ukraine. Visit [kvinnatillkvinna.se](http://kvinnatillkvinna.se).

HOW WE GET FUNDING | 15.2 MEUR



HOW WE USE THE MONEY | 15.2 MEUR



OPERATIONS IN CONFLICT REGIONS | 13 MEUR



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here is a list of frequently asked questions about Kvinna till Kvinna, as well as information about where to find out more about our organisation, our work and our results.

**What does Kvinna till Kvinna seek to achieve?**

Information about our vision, purpose and history can be found on page 4. On page 8, we explain what we would like to do for women, as well as our broader goals. The goals for our work are also detailed on pages 14–29 with information about our work in the various regions. The goals for our fundraising and communications work can be found on pages 32 and 36.

explain how we handle the risks associated with working in conflict-affected areas.

**How is your work funded?**

Kvinna till Kvinna is able to support women in conflict-affected regions through grants from institutional and private donations (see page 8). Our fundraising activities, both with respect to private and corporate donors, are described on pages 32–35.

**Why was Kvinna till Kvinna founded?**

The history of the organisation is presented on page 4. More information about when we started working with different women’s rights organisations can be found on pages 13–29.

**How do you inform the general public about your work?**

We spread information about women’s rights and the work we do through various communication channels, especially via print media and social media. Our volunteers are also important for Kvinna till Kvinna’s fundraising and communication work, see pages 38–39. In addition to this, we engage in advocacy work, and you can find out more about this on pages 8 and 36–37.

**Where does Kvinna till Kvinna work?**

We work in regions affected by war and conflict. There is a map on pages 6–7, which shows the countries in which we operate.

**How do you know whether your organisation is making progress?**

Find out how we plan and follow up on our work on pages 9–11.

**What does Kvinna till Kvinna do?**

Our work model and the way we collaborate with women’s rights organisations is describe on pages 8–9. Our partner organisations are presented by region on pages 13–29.

**What have you achieved so far?**

The model on page 9 shows how our work leads to both societal and personal change for women. Our results for each region are detailed in the regional sections: Central and West Africa on pages 13–17, Western Balkans on pages 18–21, South Caucasus on pages 22–25 and the Middle East and North Africa on pages 26–30. The main results of our research efforts are detailed on page 31. The impact of our advocacy work is described on pages 36–37.

**What capacity and knowledge do you have to achieve your goals?**

An overview of our organisation can be found on page 8. Here we also provide information about our offices and our employees. Our partner organisations are described on pages 13–29. For information about our Board of Directors, see page 40.

**What strategies do you employ to achieve your goals?**

The direction and focus of our work is described on page 8. Our working method to achieve our goals and results is outlined on pages 8–11, where we also

**Can I volunteer for Kvinna till Kvinna?**

Yes, in Sweden you can! Read about our fantastic volunteering activities on pages 38–39.

IMPACT REPORTING | 2017

Kvinna till Kvinna is a member of the Swedish Fundraising Council (FRII), which works to increase trust in the fundraising sector by working with quality assurance among organisations that raise money. As a member, Kvinna till Kvinna is required to report on the impact of its work on an annual basis. On this page, we present questions that FRII requires us to answer, and we give references to where in the report we have done so.

# OUR WORK AROUND THE WORLD

Kvinna till Kvinna operates in Central and West Africa, the Middle East and North Africa, South Caucasus and the Western Balkans.



- Western Balkans**
- Albania
  - Bosnia and Herzegovina
  - Kosovo
  - Macedonia
  - Montenegro
  - Serbia



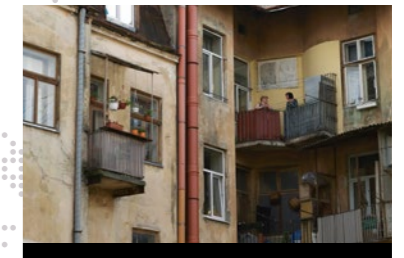
- Central and West Africa**
- The Democratic Republic of Congo
  - Liberia
  - Rwanda



- Middle East and North Africa**
- Iraq
  - Israel
  - Jordan
  - Lebanon
  - Palestine
  - The Syria crisis
  - Tunisia



- South Caucasus**
- Armenia
  - Azerbaijan
  - Georgia



- Ukraine**
- In 2017, preparations were made to start our work in Ukraine. An agreement for a 4-year program was signed with Sida.

For security reasons, we are not able to mention all the countries in which we operate. Equally, we cannot list all the organisations that we support. Read more about security risks and challenges on page 11.

## WE NEED TO STAND UP FOR OUR RIGHTS

**Human rights defenders are being stopped from organising themselves and expressing their opinions in more and more countries around the world. The space for democracy and human rights is shrinking. Human rights activists are being affected severely by repressive and nationalistic governments. Kvinna till Kvinna's work is affected by these restrictions every day.**

Our partner organisations receive threats, are issued with travel bans, have their assets frozen and are vilified in the media. The results of an online survey performed in the autumn, which included responses from 123 women human rights defenders from 32 countries, showed that more than 60 percent feel that their space to act for change has shrunk. Kvinna till Kvinna has worked hard to highlight this acute situation and the way it affects women human rights defenders. We see an increasing need to stand up for the human rights perspective in this harsher climate.

These developments are deeply concerning and it becomes all the more important to focus on the glimmers of hope. These include our efforts in contributing to new legislation in Jordan, Tunisia and Lebanon that prevents rapists escape punishment by marrying their victims. In Kosovo, Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation Medica Kosova has, after years of advocacy work with other organisations, managed to obtain

compensation for survivors of rape and abuse during the war. These are great achievements resulting from many years of hard work, something that we and our donors have facilitated by being a long-term and secure partner for women's organisation in these countries.

Kvinna till Kvinna continues to grow with new programmes in both Rwanda and Ukraine. In Sweden, we are reaching out to newly arrived girls with the Gemaket programme that was initiated by our volunteers.

I would like to extend my sincere and heartfelt thanks to all those of you who have provided donations. Your support is absolutely crucial to enable us to work for women's rights.

**Petra Tötterman-Andorff**  
Acting and Deputy Secretary General



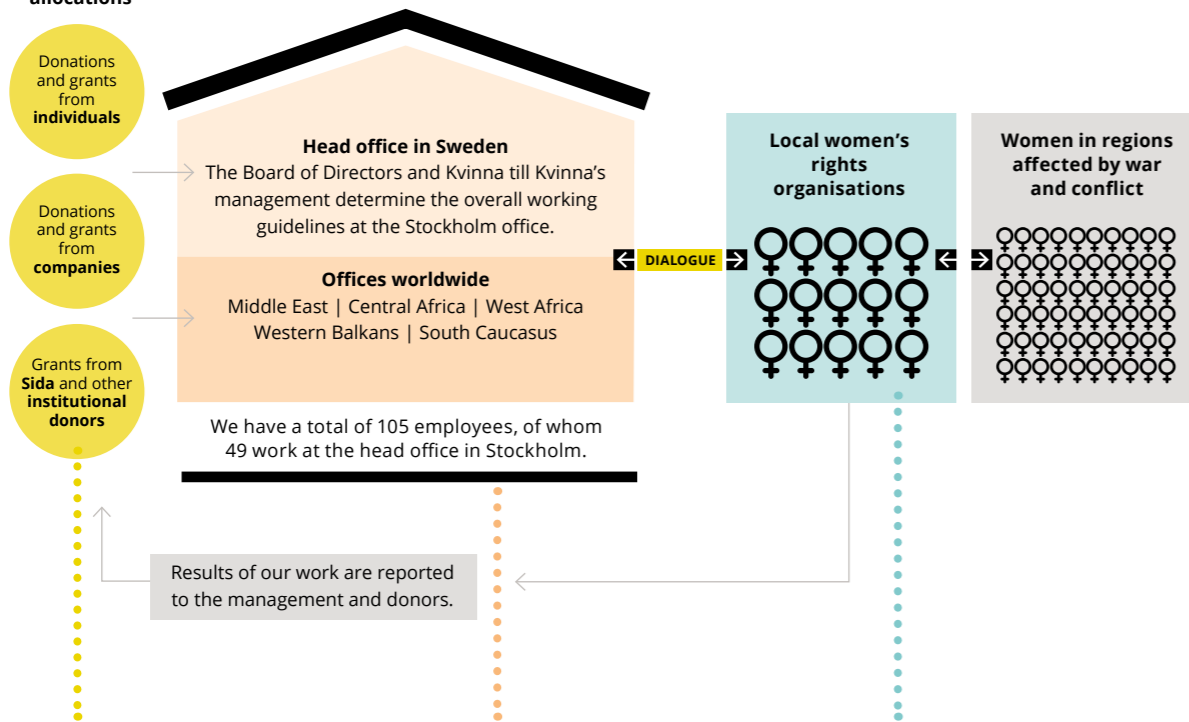
Photo: Viktor Galdstær

## WE SUPPORT AND EMPOWER WOMEN

Kvinna till Kvinna works for women's rights in 20 countries, and supports more than 100 women's rights organisations all over the world. We are represented in many of the countries where it is hardest to be a woman. We work together to create safe zones along escape routes, and make sure that women subjected to violence get help. We empower women so they can gain control over their own lives.

Kvinna till Kvinna provides financial support, education and facilitates networking, and our working model is based on dialogue and long-term partnership. Our strength is that we get to know our partner organisations, we listen to them and support their priorities.

### Donations and allocations



### How our work is financed

Kvinna till Kvinna is able to support women in regions affected by war and conflict with the help of donations and allocations.

- The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) is our main source of funding. We also receive grants from the Swedish State Inheritance Fund, the EU, the Folke Bernadotte Academy, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs, as well as Norway and UK.
- Donations and grants from private individuals and companies are absolutely crucial sources of funding for our organisation. Our main private donor is the Swedish PostcodeLottery.

### Communication, advocacy, education and research

- Kvinna till Kvinna's communication work seeks to raise awareness about the situation facing women's rights defenders in areas affected by war and conflict, and how their work changes women's lives. We also work to influence decision-makers and legislation to improve women's rights.
- We target the Swedish public to raise awareness and encourage involvement in women's rights issues through our digital communication, and with events, media appearances and volunteering activities.
- We work to develop research, and cooperate with individual researchers and research institutes.
- We provide education to increase knowledge and skills about women, peace and security.

### Partner organisations

In 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna cooperated with 111 women's rights organisations in five conflict-affected regions:

- Central Africa
- Middle East/North Africa
- South Caucasus
- West Africa
- Western Balkans

### Strategic focus

Our focus for 2016-2021 is to:

1. Reduce violence against women.
2. Increase women's political participation.
3. Contribute to changes in security policy with a prominent role for women's rights.

## KVINNA TILL KVINNA MAKES A DIFFERENCE!



### Example | How Maral broke the circle of violence

- 1 We provide support to women's rights organisations such as the Women's Rights Center (WRC) in Armenia. In 2017, for example, the organisation provided psychological and legal aid to women subjected to violence, and they also worked on trying to improve legislation to counter gender-based violence in the country.

### How Kvinna till Kvinna measures results:

We analyse key performance indicators at the end of the year. We assess how much of our budget goes to supporting partner organisations with financial means, networking opportunities and training.

- 2 The WRC applies for and receives funding from us for its activities in helping women subjected to violence, to strengthen women's position in society and to provide education about women's rights. Kvinna till Kvinna has been providing financial support to the WRC since 2004.

We meet representatives from our partner organisations on a regular basis. We maintain a close dialogue, and engage in discussions about their organisation and their work.

- 3 The WRC builds its own capacity through education and networking, which is facilitated by our long-term support. The WRC is a strong civil actor that helps women subjected to violence, for example.

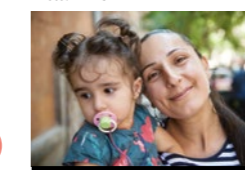
We follow up on our partner organisations' ability to:

- Plan and follow up on projects.
- Run projects in a transparent and efficient way.
- Network with relevant actors.

- 4 The WRC cooperates with other actors, including a coalition of women's rights organisations, to spread knowledge about women's rights and to get Armenia to ratify the Istanbul Convention.

We work with our partner organisations to analyse their results, and the impact they have had in society with the aim of learning and developing together.

Photo: Pi Frisk



**Maral**  
35 years old, Yerevan | Armenia

- 5 When Maral attempted to leave her violent husband, he refused to pay maintenance for their children. With the WRC's help, Maral managed to take him to court. She also received psychological guidance from the WRC. Since then, she has been pursuing university studies in physical education, with a focus on people with disabilities. Maral is proud to have broken the circle of violence and show that she can provide for herself. The WRC and Kvinna till Kvinna have supported Maral through a difficult situation, to enable her provide a safe home to her four children and for her to get an education. She continues to be an active member of the WRC.



Photo: Bertin Mungonke

Francine Kasimba is involved in Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation CEDEJ-GL in the DRC.

## SUSTAINABILITY!

**Kvinna till Kvinna strives to be a sustainable organisation, by focusing on a healthy working environment and good security routines, among other things.**

Kvinna till Kvinna's strategy, which is to guide the organisation until 2021, focuses on three thematic areas where Kvinna till Kvinna will push for progress together with its partners. Read more about this on page 8. There is also a fourth area that guides the organisation's internal development:

- Kvinna till Kvinna is a sustainable organisation that is well-known in Sweden and internationally for its work in supporting women in conflict-affected regions.

### Decentralisation

The process of decentralising the organisation as part of an expansion of operations has very much defined the year. The focus has been on finding more efficient ways of collaborating and communicating between regions and departments. This has included placing greater responsibility for administration and accounting on programme offices outside Sweden, where financial managers have been recruited and trained.

Regional and development cooperation managers met in Amman to exchange experiences of creating strong regional and decentralised offices.

### Digital development

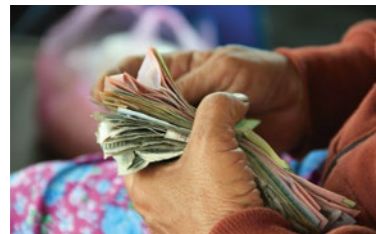
As part of the decentralisation process, we are holding more and more of our meetings online, so that all our offices can receive the same information. This is also an important part of building a more sustainable and climate-friendly organisation. We are continuing our digital development, by building a new intranet and a project management system that can be accessed by all our employees, for example. In pace with this increased digitalisation, we are also reviewing our own data security systems and in contact with our partners.

We are continually reviewing our partners' security needs and we are developing methods to enable us to be a relevant and secure partner in the digital development process, with all the threats and opportunities that this presents. In a harsher climate for women's rights defenders, we also specifically work with online threats. For example, we invited all our Serbian partners to attend a week of training on online threats in Stockholm.

### Financial training to prevent corruption

Corruption is a global problem and Kvinna till Kvinna has a zero-tolerance policy on this. We engage in preventative work on several levels, which includes maintaining a close dialogue with our partner organisations. During the year, our finance managers at the head office, and in national and regional offices, underwent a customised training session on how to review partner organisations' financial capacities. This is an important aspect when we build partnerships with local organisations, as well as for our long-term work in strengthening our partner organisations' skills.

Photo: Nils Stenroos



## RISKS AND CHALLENGES

**Identifying risks helps Kvinna till Kvinna to organise its work in a secure, sustainable and long-term way. We are continuously analysing our surroundings to try to find ways to operate, even in difficult circumstances.**

During the past year, Kvinna till Kvinna's ongoing work on risk management and security has intensified. We are working to be better and faster at adjusting to changes that affect our organisation. An external review of the organisation's security has resulted in a strategy on how we should continue to develop our security work. Kvinna till Kvinna is continuing to improve its work on information security, and there have been more security training sessions for staff members.

### Risk analysis resulted in a tough decision

The restrictions on the democratic space now affect the possibilities for human rights defenders to act and make their voices heard. The security situation for women's rights activists is becoming increasingly difficult, and in some countries, people risk their lives just being open about the fact that their organisations stand up for human rights.

This is the reason why Kvinna till Kvinna decided to withdraw the Femdefenders logo in 2017, even though it was launched only a year earlier. The decision was based on internal analysis and an independent evaluation performed by a security company. The strong message in the logo, which is of course strongly supported by Kvinna till Kvinna, risked posing a security threat to employees and partner organisations in certain countries.

"It was difficult, but I am convinced that it was a necessary and correct decision. The security of our employees and partner organisations, and our possibilities of continuing our work in difficult contexts, is the key priority for Kvinna till Kvinna," says Petra Tötterman Andorff, Acting Secretary General.

## AWARDS AND PRIZES



### Opinion Creator of the Year

Kvinna till Kvinna's then Secretary General, Lena Ag, was named *Årets Opinionsbildare 2016* (Opinion Creator of the Year). She was given the prize for "having shown that long-term and stringent opinion-forming about women's rights eventually leads to international breakthrough, like a feminist foreign policy, when it is needed most of all". The prize is awarded by Dagens Opinion.



Photo: Marcus Strömquist

### Swedish government awards women human rights defender

We are proud to see that Gégé Katana Bukuru, from Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation SOFAD in the DRC, was honoured with the *Per Anger Prize*. In Sweden, Gégé Katana Bukuru met with the minister of culture Alice Bah Kuhnke (to the left above) and with the minister of foreign affairs Margot Wallström. Read more on page 16.

### More praise for the Annual Report

Kvinna till Kvinna's Annual Report was nominated for the prestigious *Publishing Prize 2017*. We are so glad that our reporting is being recognized. In 2016, Kvinna till Kvinna won the award for the *Best Annual Report within the non-profit sector*, an annual Swedish award presented by the international audit firm PwC.





**It felt like I was at a global summit for women.**

Quote from one of the participants.

## BUILDING PEACE ACROSS REGIONS

**Kvinna till Kvinna started its work 25 years ago in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Since then, we have supported organisations that cooperate across borders to build peace and create meeting places. In 2017, twenty activists from different regions came together in Stockholm to share their experiences.**

The meeting created a platform for sharing experiences and working methods for women's peacebuilding activism. The participants compared challenges that are specific for each region and discussed how they could work more efficiently. The meeting revealed a broad spectrum of methods. For example, feminist storytelling was discussed as a tool for empowering women affected by conflict, as was the way that documentation which highlights women's differing experiences of conflict can be used for advocacy. The meeting also focused on activities that increase women's political participation and promote peacebuilding.

"The meeting was defined by a strong sense of solidarity, and paved the way for direct exchanges and mutual support among the organisations that Kvinna till Kvinna will continue working with," says Charlotte Booth, Kvinna till Kvinna's advisor for women's role in peacebuilding processes.

### Peacebuilding collaborations in the Balkans

Kvinna till Kvinna has supported two successful collaborations between Kosovo and Serbia in 2017. For several months during the year, the official dialogue between Kosovo and Serbia had ground to a halt due to political conflict. Nevertheless, our partner organisations, Sandglass in Serbia and Mitrovica Women's Association for Human Rights in Kosovo, managed to arrange several meetings between women decision-makers and activists. Young women from Kosovo and Serbia also met during the Feminist Spring School that was arranged by Artpolis in Kosovo and the Alternative Girls' Center in Serbia. Both collaborations are a direct result of Kvinna till Kvinna's networking support in the region and they are encouraging examples of collaborations across borders.



## SUPPORT TO WOMEN IN RWANDA

Rwanda ranks number one in the world when it comes to the number of women in parliament. A total of 64% of seats are occupied by women. Despite this, there are still strong social and cultural norms that prevent women's full participation at all levels.

During 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna opened an office in Kigali, Rwanda. Funded by Sida, through the Swedish Embassy, Kvinna till Kvinna will implement a three-year programme aiming to prevent gender-based violence and to increase women's participation in politics, economics and in conflict resolution.

In 1994, the genocide against the Tutsi took place in Rwanda. In three months, over one million people were murdered and an estimated three million fled their homes. Rwanda's women's rights organisations helped rebuild society again after the genocide and were instrumental in drafting a new constitution that guarantees that women hold at least 30% of all positions in decision-making bodies. A number of laws strengthening women's rights and political participation have been passed since the genocide. However, harmful traditions, norms and values still act to prevent women from enjoying their rights in practice.

### Improving gender equality

Violence against women is another area that Kvinna till Kvinna is addressing in Rwanda. According to the Rwandan National Institute of Statistics, 41% of women have experienced physical violence and one in five have been sexually abused, often at the hands of a family member.

Policies and laws enhancing women's power and influence are increasing gender equality in Rwanda. Through our work, Kvinna till Kvinna wants to ensure that these benefits reach all women, including the most marginalized.

– We want to support women's organisations to address the remaining challenges, including gendered power structures, ensuring that women's representation moves beyond numbers, says Abigail Booth, Kvinna till Kvinna's Head of Office in Kigali.

## MEET OUR PARTNER ORGANISATIONS IN RWANDA

**Association of Rwanda Women in Sports (Akwas)** works to promote gender equality and women's leadership through sports activities, in particular football. In Rwanda, women have not traditionally taken part in sports. In fact, until the 1990s physical education at school was reserved for boys only. Akwas has worked to change this through organising various sporting events for women as well as promoting and training female coaches. Participation in team sports has been shown to enhance women's self-esteem and leadership skills and the events themselves can be used to provide safe spaces to discuss contentious issues such as gender-based violence or sexual and reproductive rights.

**Haguruka**, meaning 'stand up', is an organisation focusing on gender-based violence prevention and response and have paralegals throughout the country supporting survivors of gender-based violence through legal aid and counselling. They also do advocacy work and carry out awareness raising activities on the legal framework for both duty bearers and rights holders.

**Rwanda Women's Network (RWN)** works for the empowerment of women. With Kvinna till Kvinna, RWN will expand their safe spaces to include young women and girls. In these spaces, girls will be provided with trainings and discussion forums covering themes such as life skills, intergenerational dialogue, financial literacy, leadership and sexual and reproductive rights.

**Réseau des Femmes Oevrant port le Développement Rural (Réseau des Femmes)** is one of the oldest women's organisations in Rwanda. They work specifically with rural women through mobilisation and capacity building. Among other things, Réseau des Femmes works to promote leadership capacities of rural women, sharing of unpaid care work between husbands and wives, financial inclusion as well as sexual and reproductive rights.

**Umuryango Nyarwanda w'Abagore Bafite Ubumuga (Unabu)**, the Rwanda Organisation of Women with Disabilities, was founded in 2004 by 14 women living with disabilities. They work to empower women with disabilities to demand their rights and participate fully in the community. In Rwanda, women and girls with disabilities face stigma due to stereotypes. They often do not attend school, are not seen fit to work and are isolated in their homes. Their dependence on others and their isolation makes them particularly vulnerable to violence. Unabu works through community mobilisation, awareness raising and legal aid.

### FACTS | How do we select partner organisations?

Kvinna till Kvinna enters into collaborations with organisations that share our values, are committed to creating change, and are located in conflict-affected regions. In order to obtain financial support, organisations also need to fulfill a range of other criteria, such as being transparent about their finances.

# INCREASE WOMEN'S POLITICAL INFLUENCE



The work to counter gender-based violence and to promote women's political participation and financial independence remained key priorities for Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations in Central and West Africa.

Despite a political agreement at the end of 2016 for elections to be held in the DRC during 2017, the elections were delayed yet again and the political crisis deepened. This both impacts the humanitarian situation, one of the most severe in the world, and has caused the violence to increase in intensity in several of the country's provinces. Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations work hard to promote peacebuilding and to empower women to become more involved in politics on a local level.

Peaceful elections were held in Liberia, and George Weah succeeded Ellen Johnson Sirleaf as president. However, there is concern over the security situation in the country after the exit of the United Nations Mission in Liberia. People's confidence in the country's own security forces is low.

#### Women standing for election in Liberia

Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation, the South-eastern Women Development Association (SEWODA) in south-eastern Liberia reported that 16 women in the region were running for seats in the 2017 elections. This is a result of SEWODA's work to encourage more women to become actively involved in politics and peacebuilding work. Since women are underrepresented in politics, and social norms dictate that there is no room for women, it takes a great deal of courage and experience for women to stand in elections. SEWODA's training sessions empowered these women to dare to run.

#### Support to women in Rwanda

Elections were also held in Kvinna till Kvinna's new programme country Rwanda. You can find out more about the role of Rwandan women in politics on page 12-13.

**Image:** Liberian women in action before the elections in October 2017.





Photo: Berit Mungambe

## THE PER ANGER PRIZE FOR GÉGÉ KATANA BUKURU

The Per Anger Prize is an international prize established by the Swedish government to be awarded to activists who work to promote democracy and human rights around the world. In October 2017, the prize was awarded to Gégé Katana Bukuru, the head of Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation Solidarité des Femmes Activistes pour la Défense des Droits Humains (SOFAD) in the DRC. She was nominated for her long-term efforts in trying to reduce sexual violence against girls and women. Despite being imprisoned, forced in exile and living under constant death threats, her fight continues.

### TRADITIONAL LEADERS AGAINST VIOLENCE IN MONROVIA

Kvinna till Kvinna's Liberian partner organisation, the West Point Women for Health and Development Organisation (WPWHDO), operates in West Point, the largest slum area in the country's capital city, Monrovia. They organised a seminar on violence against women for more than a hundred men and boys, which resulted in the formation of an action group to counter gender-based violence among traditional leaders, who have a great deal of influence on a district level. *The Male Action Group* includes men who wish to volunteer to help solve problems or refer matters to the WPWHDO. They also meet once a month, and the WPWHDO is further able to reinforce its activities through them to prevent violence against girls and boys in that part of the city.



Douce Namwezi and Gisele Baraka from the organisation AFEM broadcast radio on women's rights in the DRC.

Kvinna till Kvinna arranged an advocacy seminar with women's rights activists in the isolated Shabunda region in eastern DRC. We also arranged a meeting with local decision-makers to follow up on gender equality commitments. The efforts to empower local leaders are an important part of the long-term work to promote women's rights in the DRC. More women have been voted into local leadership positions since the project began.



Photo: Berit Mungambe

Research shows that a strong and independent women's movement is the most critical factor for improving women's rights.

### REGIONAL EXCHANGES TO COMBAT VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

Kvinna till Kvinna arranged a regional networking meeting in Kampala, Uganda, for its partner organisations from the DRC and women's rights organisations from Burundi, Uganda and Rwanda. The focus of the meeting was on preventative work to combat violence against women. For three days, organisations learned about proven methods of countering men's violence against women. They also discussed how they could develop their own working methods. One of the most important outcomes of the meeting was that it strengthened the regional cooperation.

Funding was provided by the Swedish Postcode Lottery.



Yamah Kormah, a participant of women's economical empowerment trainings, organised by Rural Women Rights Structure in Liberia.

**Now I have self-esteem, respect and dignity and I know I can contribute to society.**



Photo: Etienne Karungu/RSUF

## A RESPECTED MOVEMENT FOR GENDER EQUALITY

A large number of civil society organisations in the DRC have joined forces in a campaign called *Riens Sans Les Femmes* (Nothing without women) to strengthen women's political participation.

The campaign started in 2015. At that time, organisations involved gathered support to bring about a change in the country's electoral legislation. In just a few weeks, they collected more than 200,000 signatures with a proposition that electoral lists should include as many women as men. Since then, a new gender equality law has also been adopted in the DRC. The large number of organisations backing the campaign makes the authorities listen.

When *Riens Sans Les Femmes* presented a review of the gender equality laws, many members of parliament attended, as did the Governor of South Kivu, who gave his support to the campaign. After years of hard work, the *Riens Sans Les Femmes* campaign has grown into a movement, and its members are now being viewed as experts on matters of gender equality. Kvinna till Kvinna has been supporting *Riens Sans Les Femmes* since it was founded in 2015.

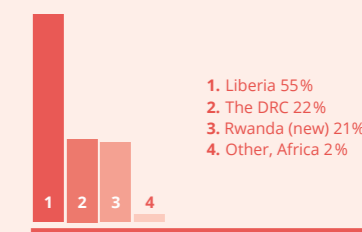
Funding was provided by the Swedish Postcode Lottery.

### WOMEN'S FESTIVAL IN LIBERIA

Women's forums from three districts brought together more than 200 people at a festival to promote women's participation in politics and decision-making. The festival was organised by Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation, the Liberian Women Empowerment Network (LIWEN), which works to empower women through education on peacebuilding and political advocacy work.

### DISTRIBUTION OF MEANS

The region was allocated 2.1 million EUR in 2017



### THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

- Number of employees: 4
- Cooperation with organisations since 2009
- Office in Bukavu

#### 3 partner organisations:

Association des Femmes des Médias (AFEM), Cercle d'Échange pour le Développement des Jeunes dans la Région des Grands Lacs (CEDEJ-GL), Solidarité des Femmes Activistes pour la Défense des Droits Humains (SOFAD)

### LIBERIA

- Number of employees: 8
- Collaboration in Liberia since 2007
- Office in Monrovia

#### 9 partner organisations:

Liberia Female Law Enforcement Association (LIFLEA), Liberian Women Empowerment Network (LIWEN), Southeastern Women Development Association (SEWODA), West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP), West Point Women for Health and Development Organization (WPWHDO), Women NGOs Secretariat of Liberia (WONGOSOL), Women Rights Watch (WORWA), Rural Women Rights Structure (RWRS), Women Empowerment for Self-Employment (WE4SELF)

### RWANDA

- Number of employees: 6
- Collaboration in Rwanda since 2017
- Office in Kigali

#### No formal partnerships during 2017 although letters of intent were signed with 5 organisations:

Rwanda Women's Network (RWN), Haguruka, Réseau des Femmes Oevrant port le Développement Rural (Réseau des Femmes), Umuryango Nyarwanda w'Abagore Bafite Ubumuga (Unabu), Association of Rwanda Women in Sports (Akwos)

### GOALS

#### Long-term goals

Contribute to a future where women in conflict-affected countries in Africa are able to participate equally in all aspects of society. A society where women are not subjected to gender-based violence, and where conflicts are solved non-violently.

#### Short-term goals

- Prevent and respond to violence against women.
- Support the development of women's rights organisations.
- Increase women's participation in all parts of society.



## THE SUCCESS OF LONG-TERM EFFORTS

### GOALS

#### Long-term goal

Ensure that gender equality, women's participation and women's rights are on the agenda when the countries in the Western Balkans apply for EU membership. Contribute to the continuation of peacebuilding work in the region.

#### Short-term goals

Improve the protection of women subjected to violence. Ensure that women participate in all existing and future negotiation processes.

25 years have passed since Kvinna till Kvinna began supporting women's efforts to promote peace in the former Yugoslavia. Two decades after the war, the region is still troubled by ethnic conflict, both within and between the countries. Several of the conflicts remain unresolved, including Bosnia and Herzegovina, where divisions between the ethnic groups define the country's politics and there are renewed threats of the country splitting up as a result.

**Image:** A women's march was organised in Skopje, Macedonia, on 8th of March, the International Women's Day. The participants put forward demands for gender equality in politics, social issues and economics.

Macedonia's naming dispute with Greece, and the relations between Kosovo and Serbia are creating a situation of political deadlock. The latter conflict was exacerbated considerably in early 2017 after a train painted in Serbian colours bearing the text "Kosovo is Serbia" travelled from Belgrade towards northern Kosovo. The Kosovar authorities stopped the train from crossing the border. The incident sparked an extremely tense situation, which also had impact on many of our partner organisations. Activities had to be postponed and activists who were due to participate in a regional meeting in Belgrade didn't feel safe to travel.

Dialogue and cooperation within and between the countries in the Balkans continue to be a key priority. Several of our partner organisations in Kosovo and Serbia have collaborations that promote contact between people, with a particular focus on women in politics, and they criticise nationalist politics. In Macedonia, upper secondary school pupils from minority and majority groups have met, despite the language barriers, in a project that challenges prejudicial attitudes about gender and ethnicity. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, we are supporting several initiatives that seek to bridge divisions and build sustainable peace in the country.

There are strong nationalist political currents in the region that seek to limit women's rights and civil society's ability to act freely. Moreover, women's rights organisations are facing

increasing difficulties in getting financial support for their activities from international donors.

"The political developments in the Balkans highlight just how important it is that Kvinna till Kvinna continues to provide long-term support. Supporting a strong and independent women's movement is a wise investment in a peaceful and democratic future in the Balkans," says Ristin Thomasson, Kvinna till Kvinna's Regional Manager for the Balkans.

#### Greater protection against violence

The work against gender-based violence is a key priority in all the countries. Our partners are using different methods, such as monitoring trials, providing protection and support to victims of crime, and engaging in political advocacy work. We support several networks that work with this issue, and in Serbia, one of these networks has managed to institute a national memorial day on 18 May for women who have lost their lives as a result of domestic violence. And a new law against domestic violence was adopted by the Serbian parliament. It is partly intended to be preventative, by providing victims with greater protection and it is a result of several years of political advocacy work. In Montenegro, the Women's Rights Center has managed to get the word "consent" to be included in rape legislation, thereby further clarifying the definition of rape.

#### Sought-after experts within the EU

Kvinna till Kvinna is focusing a great deal on political advocacy work as the Balkan countries take further steps towards the EU in hope of accession. One important element is that national legislation needs to be harmonised with the EU's legal framework, where we work for gender-perspectives to be included.

In 2017, we saw the positive effects of several years of working to raise awareness about women's rights and the importance of listening to local women's rights organisations. Both relevant EU institutions in Brussels and EU delegations in the Balkans, view Kvinna till Kvinna and our partner organisations as experts on gender equality in the Western Balkans.

"We have built up cooperation on questions concerning women's rights and how the EU can improve its gender equality integration. During the year, Kvinna till Kvinna commenced specific dialogue meetings with the EU delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Sweden's Sida, in which women with dramatically different backgrounds can present their views on what they regard as important as Bosnia-Herzegovina moves closer to the EU," says Stina Magnuson Buur, Kvinna till Kvinna's Head of Office in the Western Balkans.

## VICTORY FOR RAPE VICTIMS

During the Kosovo War 1998-1999, thousands of women were subjected to rape. Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation, Medica Kosova, offers these women rehabilitation, as well as legal and psychosocial support.

Since 1999, more than 6,700 women have received help from Medica Kosova. More still needs to be done and it is hard to reach the most vulnerable victims, due to the shame associated with rape, but Medica Kosova is not giving up. In 2014, a law was adopted that recognised all those subjected to sexual violence during the war as civilian victims, and in 2017, a specific amount of the government's budget was dedicated to providing financial support to these women in the same way as war veterans. This is a major victory for Medica Kosova and Kosovo's women's movement. The surviving victims now have the right to claim 230 EUR per month.



Photo: Medica Kosova

## COLLABORATION WITH THE EU DELEGATION

Photo: EUSR in Bosnia and Herzegovina



Kvinna till Kvinna has joined forces with the EU delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina to ensure that women's perspectives are seen and heard in decision-making processes in the country. The aim is to make sure that there are regular and genuine consultations with women who are involved in political, economic and social issues in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The collaboration, which is also supported by the Swedish Embassy in Sarajevo, is the result of Kvinna till Kvinna's advocacy work to push women's rights higher up on the political agenda, and to get the EU to fulfil its human rights and non-discrimination commitments.

"This collaboration makes Kvinna till Kvinna an important actor with respect to strengthening women's rights and political participation in reform processes in the country," says Ristin Thomasson, Kvinna till Kvinna's Regional Manager for the Balkans.

Several round table discussions are due to be held as part of the project to address issues such as the legal system, sustainable peace, women's situation in the labour market, and access to health care and social rights.



## YOUNG PEOPLE CAN STOP NATIONALISM

Several municipalities in Bosnia and Herzegovina have adopted strategies for young people's peacebuilding during the year. This is a result of advocacy work by Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations and youth organisations as part of the support we provide to peacebuilding activities. Nationalism is still a driving political force in the country, but young people's peace work can change this.



Photo: Aleksandra Tracić/Bujrum

## YOUNG PEOPLE BREAKING STEREOTYPES IN MACEDONIA

In 2017, pupils from eight secondary schools met to discuss gender equality issues and stereotypes concerning gender and ethnicity. Pupils came from both majority and minority groups in Macedonia.

The pupils met despite the language barriers and the gridlocked political situation that has defined the country for so long. Awareness about gender equality issues was low when the project began, but the participants were willing to challenge themselves. Many pupils also chose to get involved and raise awareness in their municipalities. The project is due to run for more than two years, and it is a collaboration between women's organisations in five municipalities.

Our project, *Strengthening cooperation and inter-community dialogue through the Ohrid Framework Agreement*, in Macedonia is largely funded by the EU. Learn more about our peacebuilding work in the Balkans on page 12 and about studies and research on the Balkans on page 31.

Our goodwill ambassador Linnéa Claeson (with rainbow hair) met several of Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations in the Balkans in 2017.



Photo: Majlinda Hoexha

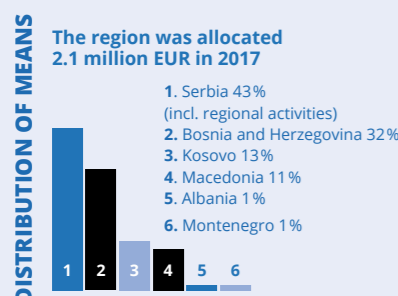
## DEEPENED PARTNERSHIPS

In the Balkans, we have entered into a new kind of partnership with several of our partner organisations. In Macedonia, Kvinna till Kvinna has, together with the national organisation Reactor, managed to get a project proposal approved by the EU. The joint project is about promoting women's rights in Macedonia. In Kosovo, we have joined forces with the Kosovo Women's Network in a regional project about women's rights in the labour market, which is run by them and is due to commence in 2018.



Photo: Majlinda Hoexha

Linnéa Claeson gave visibility to Kvinna till Kvinna when participating in the Gjakova Highland Marathon in Kosovo.



**SERBIA** | Employees: 3

- Cooperation with organisations since 1994
- Office in Belgrade

**9 partner organisations:**  
*Alternative Girls' Center, Association of Women Sandglass, ASTRA – Anti-Trafficking Action, Autonomous Women's Center, Center for Women's Studies, Center for Education and Counselling – Catalista, Reconstruction Women's Fund, Women in Black, Women's Space*

**BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA** | Employees: 3

- Cooperation with organisations since 1994
- Office in Sarajevo

**11 partner organisations:**  
*Association of Citizens Buducnost, Centre for Women's Rights, CURE Foundation, Forum Zena, Helsinki Citizens' Assembly, HO Horizonti, Lara Foundation, Rights for All (Prava za sve), TRIAL International, United Women, Zenski Centar Trebinje*

**KOSOVO** | Employees: 2

- Cooperation with organisations since 1994
- Office in Pristina

**8 partner organisations:**  
*Artpolis – Art and Community Center, Kosovar Gender Studies Center, Kosova Women's Network, Medica Kosova, Mitrovica Women Association for Human Rights, Network of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Women's Organizations of Kosovo, Open Door (Dera e Hapur), Ruka Ruci*

**MACEDONIA** | Employees: 3

- Cooperation with organisations since 1999
- Office in Skopje

**7 partner organisations:**  
*Association "Ilirija", Association of Women "Iskrenost", Association of Women "Spectrum" Kratovo, Center for Rural Development "Bujrum", National network to end violence against women and domestic violence – Voice Against Violence, Organisation of Women "Kumanovka", REACTOR – Research in Action*

**ALBANIA**

- Cooperation with organisations since 1999
- Work is coordinated from the Belgrade office

**1 partner organisation:**  
*Albanian Women Empowerment Network*

**MONTENEGRO**

- Cooperation with organisations since 1999
- Work is coordinated from the Belgrade office

**1 partner organisation:**  
*Women's Rights Center*

Photo: Society Without Violence



Anna Barseghyan and Tatevik Ghumashyan at FemCamp in Armenia 2017. The camp was organised by Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation Society Without Violence. More than 30 young women took part in it.



## SUPPORT TO DIALOGUE

The conflicts in the South Caucasus region continue to be unresolved and without any visible tendencies towards peace. The conflicts are pieces in broader geo-political tensions in regions outside of South Caucasus, which makes peacebuilding on a local level even more challenging.

Still, dialogue between women human rights defenders in different parts of the region continued during 2017 and contributed to building trust across conflict lines.

### Partnership in a closed space

The focus of Kvinna till Kvinna's work in the region was women's participation in peacebuilding, advocacy for women's rights and sustainable partnership. In parts of the region a shrinking space for civil society is a challenge and requires flexibility in the partnership.

"Conservative, nationalist and patriarchal groups are organising against women's rights and gaining influence in parts of societies. Despite a repressive climate where non-governmental organisations, NGOs, are forced to close down, Kvinna till Kvinna has managed to provide continued support to women human rights defenders", says Elisabet Brandberg, Regional Manager for South Caucasus.

### Steps forward to prevent violence

Our partner in Georgia, the Anti-Violence Network of Georgia, AVNG, was actively involved in supporting the process of making national legislation more tai-

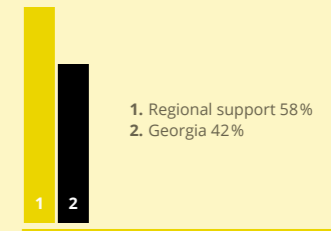
lored to the real needs and challenges of domestic violence victims/survivors, and in line with the Istanbul Convention, which was ratified during the year. AVNG also opened a new women's shelter in a house donated by the city of Tbilisi with new income-generating activities. Cooking classes have led to survivors opening a catering business, to mention one example.

In Armenia, a law on domestic violence was finally passed in the end of 2017 after years of advocacy and many heated debates.

**Despite a repressive climate where NGOs are forced to close down, Kvinna till Kvinna has managed to provide continued support to women human rights defenders.**

### DISTRIBUTION OF MEANS

The region was allocated 1.5 million EUR in 2017



### SOUTH CAUCASUS

- Work is coordinated from Kvinna till Kvinna's office in Tbilisi, Georgia
- Employees 2017: 6

### ARMENIA

- Collaboration with organisations since 2004
- 7 partner organisations:** Democracy Today, Society Without Violence, Women's Resource Center Armenia, Women's Rights Center, Nalbandyan Women's Club (Democracy Today), Spitak Helsinki Group human rights NGO, the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women

### AZERBAIJAN

- Collaboration with organisations since 2004
- 6 partner organisations:** Association for the Protection of Women's Rights named after D. Aliyeva, Sumgayit Discussion Club, Women Problems' Research Union, Women's Institute, WARD Women's Association for Rational Development, YUVA Humanitarian Center

### GEORGIA, INCLUDING ABKHAZIA AND SOUTH OSSETIA

- Collaboration with organisations since 2002
- 10 partner organisations:** Anti-Violence Network of Georgia, Association "Imedi" IDP women's movement for peace, Association of Women of Abkhazia, Cultural - Humanitarian Fund "Sukhumi", Democrat Women's Organization of Samtskhe-Javakheti, Nongovernmental women's organization "Avangard", StudioMobile - Accent on Action, Development Center of Gagra, Union of Wives of Invalids and Lost Warriors, Women's Initiatives Supporting Group

### GOALS

#### Long-term goal

Our goal for the South Caucasus is a sustainable women's movement that influences and improves women's rights and participation.

#### Short-term goals

- Greater protection to women at risk of violence.
- Increase women's participation in peacebuilding activities.
- Counter discrimination.
- Support the development of women's rights organisations.

## EMPOWERED WOMEN IN AZERBAIJAN



Photo: Sumgayit Discussion Club

Our partner Sumgayit Discussion Club works to raise awareness about violence against women and the causes of violence. Women who come to their activities are often in a difficult situation, subjected to violence and without economical independence.

That was the situation for Valida Aliyeva when she started attending meetings for women subjected to violence. The meetings changed her life, she says. She started to believe in herself and took a nursing course provided by Sumgayit Discussion Club. Thanks to the training, she managed to get a job. So, in 2017 Valida was able to buy an apartment and she can now provide for her herself and her three children.

The Discussion Club in Sumgayit has activist groups in various smaller towns and in areas outside Sumgayit inhabited by IDPs (internally displaced persons).



The meetings changed my life. I started to believe in myself. Thanks to the training I managed to get a job.

Image: Valida Aliyeva (right) was a victim of violence. Support meetings organised by Sumgayit Discussion Club changed the direction of her life. Here with Halida Salimova that has been a great support to Valida.



Photo: Radfion Kutsaev

MORE WOMEN IN POLITICS

In Georgia, our partner organisation Imedi's work on empowering women to take part in politics has shown results. In the local elections in October, the number of elected women almost doubled in the area where Imedi operates. This is a result of a summer school organised with the specific purpose to increase the number of women in politics. There are now 7 women among the 50 members of the Zugdidi municipality. 12 women ran for election.



Photo: Dato Norkkashvili

## VICTORY IN COURT

On May 17, 2013 a demonstration in Tbilisi dedicated to the International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia (IDAHOT) was violently attacked. Our partner Women's Initiatives Supporting Group, WISG, has since been in a judicial process that ended in 2017. WISG requested remuneration from the Ministry of Internal Affairs since the police could not safeguard the manifestation. The Tbilisi City Court ruled that the Ministry of Internal Affairs has to pay the remuneration of 1000 GEL (340 euro) per person to the persons who were subjected to moral harm and 1500 GEL (500 euro) to one person who was physically injured.

In 2017, a small manifestation was held on the 17th of May, with heavy police protection in front of the government Chancellery building in Tbilisi. Despite the fact that the manifestation was tightly controlled, this was the first time that the LGBTI community and allies were able to mark IDAHOT in public since the violence in 2013.



### SUCCESSFUL MEETING

Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations from Georgia and the disputed region of Abkhazia met in Yerevan in November 2017. At this networking meeting, partners in Abkhazia discussed their priorities and the specifics of advocacy work in an unrecognized country, while the Georgian partner organisations discussed their response to a recent EU country report. The meeting also provided space for information exchange and talks about everyday life, which is important as both sides are targeted with strong propaganda about each other.



Research shows that a strong and independent women's movement is the most critical factor for improving women's rights.



Years of struggle by the women's movement in Armenia has finally resulted in a law on domestic violence.

### NEW LAW TO PREVENT VIOLENCE IN ARMENIA

After a decade of advocacy efforts, education and awareness raising from the women's movement, Armenia has adopted its first stand-alone domestic violence legislation. Kvinna till Kvinna's partner, the Coalition to Stop Violence Against Women, has coordinated the efforts.

This is an important step as the law means recognition of the problem with violence against women, something that until recently was a disputed fact in Armenia. However, many women's rights organisations are critical to the shift of focus in the legislation from providing protection to women survivors to upholding family values, as a result of conservative pressure. For example, the title of the law starts with preventing violence and ends with "restoring the harmony in the family". On the positive side, there is an increased function of law enforcement agencies to provide protection.

Kvinna till Kvinna's partners within the Coalition, as well as the Coalition itself, will continue their efforts in terms of monitoring the implementation of the law as well as lobbying for amendments.

### Follow us on social media!

Do you want to receive updates on women's rights? And would you also like to be the first to hear about job opportunities at Kvinna till Kvinna? Follow our English Facebook page: **The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation.**

# CIVIL SOCIETY UNDER PRESSURE

The Syria crisis continued to have a major impact on the whole region during 2017 with a hardening situation for refugees in neighbouring countries, closed borders and a failure to end the conflict.

**In Jordan, Israel, Palestine and Iraq** civil society is faced with increasing restrictions. Difficulties in receiving foreign funding and obtaining permissions from authorities to operate are two examples. The passing of different anti-terrorism laws is restricting freedom of speech and has strengthened the state's security grip. In response to the shrinking political space across the region, Kvinna till Kvinna has in 2017 continued to support partners with access to relevant networks and advocacy opportunities. Kvinna till Kvinna's intensified work on safety and security enables us to be a better partner in a context of increasing security risks for women's rights organisations.

– Where women's rights organisations in the past were seen as just a group of women coming together to chat and do handicraft, they are now perceived as a human rights defenders that have power to influence and bring change. This is a success based on decades of work by our partner organisations, but it also makes it more challenging for them to do their work, says Linda Säll, Regional Manager for the Middle East and North Africa region.

In Tunisia, which has been going through a democratisation process since 2011, Islamist voices have gained more power, which causes new conflicts about how to legislate about women's rights. Kvinna till Kvinna has taken steps towards setting up a country office in Tunisia to be able to provide support in a more consistent and timely manner. This process is expected to be finalised in the beginning of 2018.

## Important achievements by the women's movement

In Iraq, the political and security situation in 2017 was dominated by the fall-out between the Kurdistan Region of Iraq (KRI) and the Government of Iraq after KRI's launch of a referendum on an independent Iraqi Kurdistan. The dispute between the two entities has affected the work of Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations, mainly in Kirkuk and Suleimaniyah, where the security situation temporarily required the partner organisations to reorganize project activities.

Despite conflicts and restricted space to act, 2017 was a year of great achievements. Coordinated efforts by the women's movement led to the abolishment of the law that gave rapists a possibility to avoid punishment if they married the victim in Tunisia, Jordan and Lebanon. The work on implementing the UN resolution 1325 on women's participation in peace processes is moving forward and national action plans have been adopted in Jordan, Iraq and Palestine, thanks to the efforts of the women's movement. Women's rights organisations and coalitions in Lebanon, Tunisia, Libya, Egypt and Yemen are relentlessly consolidating their efforts to follow suit.

## GOALS

### Long-term goals

Our goal for the Middle East and North Africa is a strong and sustainable women's movement that improves women's rights and opportunities for participation, at all levels, whether local or international.

### Short-term goals

- Reduce violence against women.
- Counter discrimination.
- Increase women's participation at all levels of society, including participation in peacebuilding work.
- Strengthening women's rights organisations and women's rights defenders' ability to seek shelter and to organise.



Photo: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe

## ACTION PLAN FOR 1325

The adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (UNSCR 1325) in 2000 was a ground-breaking achievement for the recognition of women's vital contribution to peace and security.

In the Middle East and North Africa region, the resolution has facilitated the formation of coalitions, established advocates, and improved interactions between women's NGOs and government actors. **The feminist movements in Jordan, Iraq and Palestine have succeeded in establishing National Action Plans for 1325 in their respective countries.**

In 2017, the Iraqi women's rights organisation Hawa, through project support from Kvinna till Kvinna, has worked together with the governorate authorities in Diyala Governorate to develop an action plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325. Representatives of the local council, the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Defense, NGOs and groups of civilians representing internally displaced women, have participated in the process. The action plan was officially adopted by Diyala Governorate in December 2017. In 2018, Hawa Organization will support the governorate authorities' work with the action plan through advice, and monitor and follow up its implementation.

### VISIBILITY OF SYRIAN WOMEN IN MEDIA

Kvinna till Kvinna is supporting The Syrian Female Journalists' Network, SFJN, which has been working to promote a better understanding of the role of women in the Syrian uprising and break the stereotypes surrounding female journalists in the region. SFJN also works on improving the representation of women in the media. In 2017, SFJN ran major campaigns in connection to the World Press Freedom Day on May 3rd and 16 days of activism with the support of Kvinna till Kvinna. The network also produced an exhibition on the topic of sexual violence against women in conflict in Beirut, Lebanon, in May.



Rasan Organization painted messages about gender equality on the walls of Sulemaniyeh during the campaign 16 days of activism against violence against women.

In 2017, our partner Rasan Organization for Women's Rights managed to reach out to more than **40,000 women** through awareness raising activities, capacity building and distribution of kits. Most of the women were refugees in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

**„[The shrinking space] really pushes women to go back. It deletes them, it takes them out of the public space. With that we lose a lot of achievements we have accomplished in recent years.**

Sara Abou Ghazal at the WHRD MENA coalition.



**Kvinna till Kvinna supports** the Beirut based WHRD MENA coalition (Women Human Rights Defenders Middle East and North Africa coalition). It ensures that women human rights defenders have better access to support networks and protection mechanisms and that the violations of their human rights are better documented. Adapting to the constant changes of the contexts, we have been able to provide tailored support to women who are being increasingly pushed out of the public spaces, in areas of conflict where organising can in itself be a great challenge.



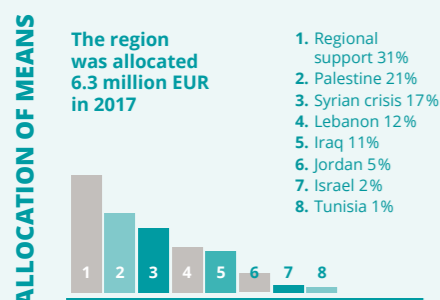
Proud participants in Aswat Nissa's Political Academy in Tunisia.

Photo: Aswat Nissa

### WOMEN ENTER POLITICS

In Tunisia, our partner organisation Aswat Nissa works on strengthening women politicians through their *Political Academy for Women Candidates*. Kvinna till Kvinna supports the project, where 15 young women candidates are given training to equip them to run in municipal elections.

The women come from different political parties. The topics range from leadership, public speaking and campaigning skills to gender mainstreaming in public policies. There is a special focus on policies and international conventions that Tunisia ratified related to the protection of women's rights. All graduates from the program are planning to run in the municipal elections in May 2018.



**IRAQ** | Number of employees (2017): 3

- Cooperation with organisations since 2005
- Office in Erbil

**7 partner organisations:**  
 Amez Organization, Baghdad Women's Association, Hawa Organisation for Relief and Development, Iraqi Organization for Women and Future, Iraqi Women's League, Pana Center for Combating Violence against Women, Rasan Organization for Women's Rights

**ISRAEL**

- Cooperation with organisations since 2001
- Office in Jerusalem

**5 partner organisations:**  
 Al-Tufula Centre, Al Zahraa Organization for the Advancement of Women, Achoti for Women in Israel, Coalition of Women for Peace, Isha L'Isha

**TUNISIA**

- Cooperation with organisations since 2016
- Work is coordinated from our office in Amman

**1 partner organisation:** Aswat Nissa

**JORDAN** | Employees (2017): 9

- Cooperation with organisations since 2005
- Office in Amman

**5 partner organisations:**  
 Arab Women Organization, Families Development Association, Jordanian Women's Union, Kura Women Voluntary Society, Sisterhood is Global Institute

**REGIONAL PARTNER ORGANISATION**

- WHRD MENA Coalition

**LEBANON** | Employees (2017): 5

- Cooperation with organisations since 2005
- Office in Beirut

**6 partner organisations:**  
 Association Najdeh, Kafa (Enough) Violence & Exploitation, Lebanese Council to Resist Violence Against Women, Collective for Research & Training on Development – Action, Palestinian Women's Humanitarian Organization, The Lebanese Women Democratic Gathering

**PALESTINE** | Employees (2017): 5

- Cooperation with organisations since 2001
- Office in Jerusalem

**9 partner organisations:**  
 AISHA Association for Woman and Child Protection, EMHRM, Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Monitor, Palestinian Centre for Human Rights, Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy, Palestinian Working Women's Society for Development, SAWA Organization, Stars of Hope Society for the Empowerment of Women with Disabilities, Women's Affairs Center, Women's Studies Centre

## SHADOW REPORTS MAKING IMPACT



When Israel reported to the CEDAW\* convention, our partners Palestinian Working Women's Society for Development and Al-Tufula (representing a coalition of Palestinian organisations inside Israel) both presented shadow reports to Israel's official report. One result was that the coalition of Palestinian organisations managed to influence the committee's use of language when describing minority groups inside Israel and that there is a distinction to be made between calling it an Arab minority vis-à-vis Palestinian minority.

"The biggest achievement was the unofficial meeting with the committee members", says Nabila Espanioly from Al-Tufula center. She continues:

"The Geneva trip was a great opportunity to have discussions on different issues with the members, such as house demolishing, women under occupation, and women's political participation."

\*CEDAW = Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women



**Tahani Shahatit**, a young woman from Al-Majd village in Hebron, won the election to her local council during the local elections in 2017. She had been participating for two years in the activities of our partner organisation Palestinian Centre for Peace and Democracy, PCPD, improving her capacities and communication skills. First, she became a youth activist leader and later decided to enter politics. Despite challenges such as traditional views on women in politics, Tahani Shahatit was able to succeed.

## IMPORTANT VICTORY IN JORDAN



After massive efforts from the feminist movement in Jordan, including Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations, the parliament abolished article 308 that permits pardoning rape perpetrators if they marry their victims and stay with them for at least three years.

"The new law is not only a protection from rape, it is an important step in the work to prevent sexualised violence against women in general in Jordan", says Amani Rizq, Program Officer in Amman.

This is a great victory for our partner organisation SIGI and the women's movement in Jordan.



Photo: Rasan Organization for Women's Rights

Mural painting in Iraq by Rasan Organization for Women's Rights.

### SUCCESSFUL DEFENCE IN IRAQ

The Jaafari law, a draft law that would allow girls to get married from the age of nine, legalize marital rape, and make the man the legal guardian of the woman, was put forward for discussion in Iraq's parliament again. Again the women's movement reacted and succeeded in preventing it from being adopted – just like they did in 2014 when the law was also put forward.

To stand firm and manage to prevent a backlash for women's rights is a success in this context.

## REGULAR UPDATES FROM KVINNA TILL KVINNA!

Do you want to receive updates on women's rights? Would you also like to be the first to hear about job opportunities at Kvinna till Kvinna? Follow our English Facebook page: **The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation.**

## FEMINISM AND ISLAM

**One focus of** Kvinna till Kvinna's work in 2017 was to build the capacity of our partner organisations on feminist interpretations of Islam, which has been a topic matter in high demand by partner organisations for a long time. In February 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna organised a six-day training on Islam, gender equality and justice for members of partner organisations. The training was facilitated by experts from the organisation Musawah – For Equality in the Muslim Family. Feedback from the participating partner organisations was very positive. In Iraq, Kvinna till Kvinna is following up closely with partners on how to apply the new knowledge in their work.

### Long-term support to the Syrian civil society

Kvinna till Kvinna is supporting Syrian civil society organisations with a women's rights agenda. In this specific context, we are focusing on organisational capacity building and advocacy as a tool for change and participation of women on all levels. An external study, which was carried out in the beginning of 2017, concluded in its key findings that **Kvinna till Kvinna plays an essential strategic mentorship role to support emerging smaller women's rights organisations** alongside larger more established organisations, to help capacitate them and strengthen Syrian civil society.

Feedback from partner organisations included the value added by Kvinna till Kvinna in providing the opportunity to meet peer organisations and increasing the structured opportunities for networking.



Photo: Christopher Herwig

Many women who have fled the war in Syria have received support by Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation Kafa in Lebanon.

### REGIONAL MODEL TO COMBAT VIOLENCE

Our partner organisation Kafa in Lebanon launched a regional model law to combat violence against women and girls. The model law will be used as a tool for lobbying on a regional level to enhance the legal frameworks and protection mechanisms of women and girls from violence. Kvinna till Kvinna has facilitated a regional exchange workshop gathering partner organisations from Palestine, Jordan and Lebanon on advocacy strategies for legislations related to gender-based violence.

Kvinna till Kvinna wants the knowledge and experience gained through our work with women in conflict-affected regions to benefit others. We therefore regularly publish reports and articles on subjects concerning women's rights, peace and security.

## WOMEN AS PROMOTERS OF PEACE IN SYRIA



In May 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna published a comprehensive report about Syrian women's political participation in the peace process. The report is based on a review of existing publications on the subject and summarises conclusions, questions and obstacles associated with Syrian women's participation in politics. The report also provides recommendations to the UN and other international organisations, including our own organisation, for the continued process of ensuring women's participation in peace processes, both globally and in Syria.

### Some of the conclusions detailed in the report:

- Women's role in peace processes is undermined by traditional values.
- Most of the reviews of peacebuilding efforts in Syria lack a gender perspective.
- There is a limited presence and low participation of women in local decision-making councils.
- Women's peacebuilding activities have a positive impact on peace and equality.
- In addition to efforts to protect the population, women's role as actors of change for sustainable peace must also be recognised.

The report is titled *Syrian Women in Political Processes – a Literature Review of the Participation of Syrian Women in Political Processes 2012–2016* and can be downloaded at [kvinnatillkvinna.se](http://kvinnatillkvinna.se)

### FOCUS ON WOMEN IN THE SECURITY DEBATE

For many years now, Kvinna till Kvinna has been collaborating with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), in pushing for women's participation and security to be included in the security policy debate. In 2017, we participated in SIPRI's *Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development* by hosting a seminar that addressed the shrinking space for civil society and the gender-based threats against peacebuilding and human rights.

### GOALS

#### Long-term goals

- To promote research and studies on how war and armed conflict affects women's situation in society, and the importance of women's participation in peace processes.
- To get researchers and academic institutions to include a gender-perspective in studies that affect women, peace and security.

#### Short-term goal

- In 2018, Kvinna till Kvinna will produce studies and participate in relevant forums, such as SIPRI's *Stockholm Forum on Peace and Development*. By doing so, we will raise awareness and increase knowledge about the issues we work with.

## NEW RESEARCH FROM THE BALKANS

Within the framework of the regional programme for the Western Balkans, Kvinna till Kvinna and its partner organisations contribute to research in areas such as gender-based violence and equality in the EU integration process. Here are two reports that we published in 2017:

**The Gendered Matter of Violence** report describes good examples and experiences of work against gender-based violence in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo and Serbia.

**Women's Rights in Western Balkans** includes indicators on three subject areas (women's political participation, gender-based violence and the safety of women's rights defenders) in six countries in the Balkans. The report seeks to promote women's rights as the countries forge closer links with the EU.

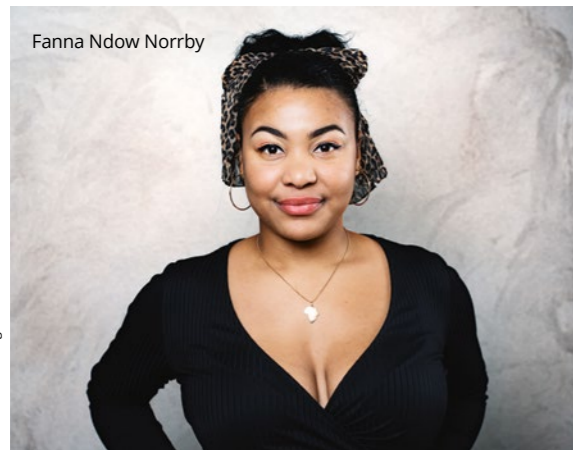


The reports can be downloaded at [kvinnatillkvinna.se](http://kvinnatillkvinna.se)





Linnéa Claeson



Fanna Ndow Norrby

Photo: Moa Karlberg

## NEW AMBASSADORS!

In 2017, we had the pleasure of teaming up with two fantastic Goodwill Ambassadors – handball pro Linnéa Claeson and journalist Fanna Ndow Norrby.

Both of our new ambassadors are women's rights defenders with a huge number of followers on social media. Fanna Ndow Norrby has a popular podcast called *Raseriet*, and runs the *svartkvinna* Instagram account. Linnéa Claeson's Instagram account *assholesonline* is dedicated to the fight against sexism and cyber hate.

Their support has helped Kvinna till Kvinna achieve a real breakthrough in social media, resulting in thousands of new donors.

106%

In total, we received 265,188 SEK in donations via Swish in 2017 – an increase of 106 % in comparison to 2016!

## AN EQUAL CHRISTMAS

Our Christmas campaign highlighted numerous injustices and showed that the world is far from equal. Thanks to our faithful donors and more than 2,000 new donors, we managed to raise an amazing 671,671 SEK for our work on equality.

In 2017, there was a major increase in the use of Swish, a Swedish mobile payment system. This was most noticeable during the Christmas campaign – up to **3,255 people**, including many new donors, chose to use Swish to make a Christmas donation, thereby raising 134,491 SEK for our work! **More than 95%** of these Swish donations were made after Goodwill Ambassador Linnéa Claeson encouraged her Instagram followers to donate to Kvinna till Kvinna via Swish.

### GOALS

**Long-term goal**  
To be a well-known fundraising organisation in Sweden

**Short-term goals**

- To increase the number of monthly donors
- To facilitate corporate donations



Photo: The Swedish Postcode Lottery

## 10 MILLION TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS!

Since its founding in 2005, the Swedish Postcode Lottery has generated more than 9.4 billion SEK for its beneficiaries, including Kvinna till Kvinna, which has received a total of 82 million SEK. Kvinna till Kvinna received 10 million SEK from the Swedish Postcode Lottery in 2017.

The Swedish Postcode Lottery is run by Novamedia Sverige on behalf of the Swedish Postcode Association. The organisation's aim is to contribute to a stronger civil society by offering entertaining lotteries, the profits of which go to the non-profit sector.

**Image:** Lena Ag and Christina Hagner from Kvinna till Kvinna receiving the cheque wearing pussy hats, a symbol for 2017's fight for women's rights.



### PRO BONO SERVICES

In 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna received pro bono services worth around **4 million SEK** from companies including Hemma, Österbergs Tryckeri, ETC and Likehouse.

## BE A CORPORATE FRIEND!

In 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna received donations from 27 companies. Today it is even easier for companies to support our work for women's rights and an equal society. Being a corporate friend means investing in women's future, as well as providing essential support to our fight to reduce violence against women. Your donations enable us to implement long-term strategies that create sustainable change for women. Find out more about becoming a corporate friend on our website.

### Here are some of the companies that supported our work in 2017:

- Linklaters Advokatbyrå
- Public Partner
- Faggot Apparel
- Vizrt Sweden
- Tryckakuten
- Kod Arkitekter
- Vero Kommunikation
- Trygg Hansa Biståndsförening



### GAMERS RAISED MORE THAN 70,000 SEK!

Spelhjälpen is an organisation for gamers that donates money to charity. In 2017, the organisation chose to donate all the money it raised to Kvinna till Kvinna, which amounted to more than 70,000 SEK!



**THANKS, ANDERS!**

During the year, a number of people started their own fundraisers for Kvinna till Kvinna using BetterNow, an online fundraising platform. Anders Johansson raised the largest amount of all by celebrating his 60th birthday cycling from Haparanda to Ystad – thereby supporting women’s rights with a whopping 53,638 SEK!

“I believe that deep down, people want to do something good for other people. Now I have the chance to do so in a relatively easy way,” Anders Johansson told Kvinna till Kvinna when he was in the city of Mora during his bike ride through Sweden.

**Would you like to start a fundraiser for women’s rights like Anders?**

Organising a fundraiser is both fun and easy! You can either start your own or use the BetterNow website. To increase donations, make sure to tell people why you are raising money and share your fundraiser on social media. It’s also a good idea to update people on how much money you’ve already raised and how much more you need to reach your goal. This will inspire others to make a donation!



Photo: Luke Ellis Craen

**YOUR DONATION MAKES A DIFFERENCE**

- 150 SEK can pay for a woman in the western Balkans who has been subjected to violence to have a session with a psychologist.
- 250 SEK can enable a woman in Bosnia and Herzegovina who has been raped to meet a psychologist and to get professional counselling.

“Many women all over the world are struggling to get control over their own lives. Yet there is hope, thanks to the important work of Kvinna till Kvinna on reducing and countering violence against women. It is thanks to our customers that we are able to support their efforts.”

Robert Hårdh, Head of Charities at Novamedia Sverige, which runs the Swedish Postcode Lottery.



**NEW ONLINE SHOP!**

Did you know that you can buy our lovely bracelets, T-shirts and bags in our online shop? Show your support for women’s rights by wearing the message *Femdefender*. [kvinnatillkvinna.se/shop](http://kvinnatillkvinna.se/shop)

Percentage of donations that go straight to our projects and activities:

**96,5%**



Photo: Paul Inesvito

**JEWELLERY THAT TELLS A STORY**



Caroline Nordlund founded Snippa Smycket (vagina jewellery) in 2011 to raise awareness about female genital mutilation and women’s efforts for peace and equality. Right from the start, Caroline started donating the sales profits of her Snippa Smycket to Kvinna till Kvinna, thereby raising an incredible 329,308 SEK!

Thank you for your valuable support to Kvinna till Kvinna’s work, Caroline!

**MAKING YOUR LEGACY LAST**

Your final wish can make a difference. Kvinna till Kvinna is tremendously grateful for all kinds of bequests and wills providing donations to the organisation. You can either decide to give a particular amount of money or an item that Kvinna till Kvinna can use for its activities. Kvinna till Kvinna is not subject to capital gains tax, meaning all donations go directly to the work we do.

If you would like to include Kvinna till Kvinna in your will, please make sure to mention our organisation number: 802401-6134.

**In case you have any questions, please contact us via email: [testamente@kvinnatillkvinna.se](mailto:testamente@kvinnatillkvinna.se)**



Photo: Justin Kauffman

# WOMEN'S RIGHTS DEFENDERS FACE HARD RESISTANCE

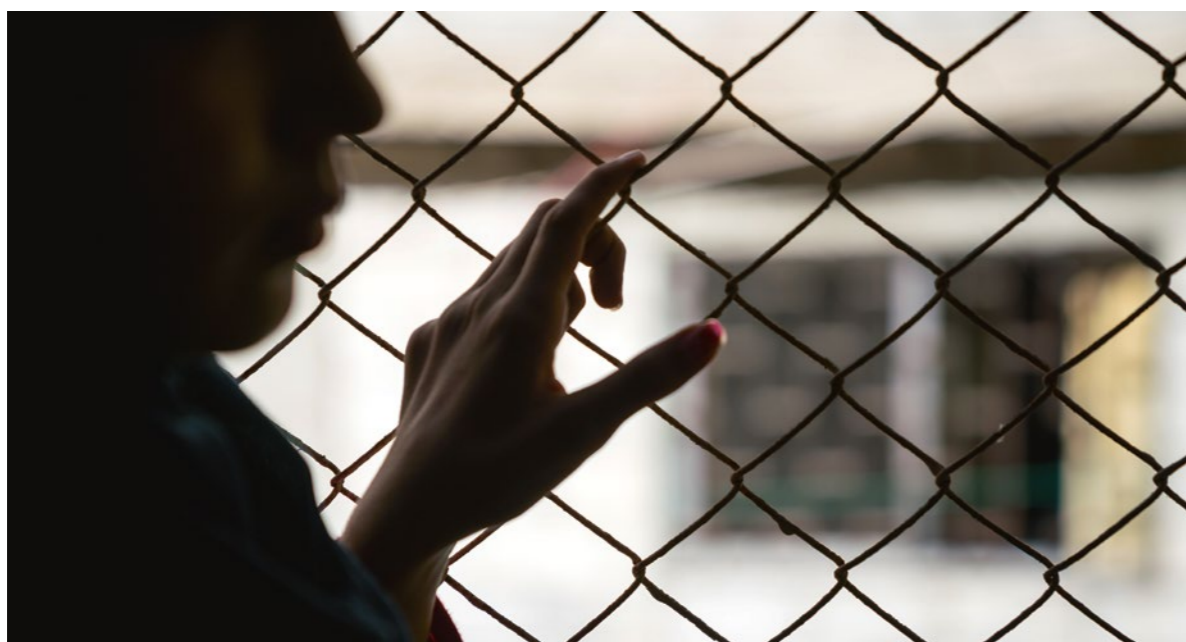


Photo: Christopher Hennig

One of Kvinna till Kvinna's goals is to increase people's understanding of and commitment to women's rights. In recent years, we have witnessed how women's rights defenders and their organisations find it increasingly difficult across the world to meet, organise themselves and express their views.

The space for civil society is shrinking. Women are particularly affected by this: in many countries, civil society is the only arena where they can be heard, as they are often excluded from political forums. When civil society is under attack, so are women's voices. Women's rights defenders are also more often subjected to sexual violence or threats of sexual violence and it is not uncommon for them or their families to face slander by authoritarian regimes seeking to silence them. Kvinna till Kvinna talked about this issue in numerous ways throughout the year, as one of only very few actors

who raise the gender aspect of the shrinking space problem. We organised and attended seminars, and ensured both Sida and Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs received information about gender perspectives, with respect to any action plans and conferences they arrange.

Events at which we highlighted the impact of shrinking space on women's rights defenders include: **SIPRI Security Forum in April**, **Stockholm Civil Society Days in September** and **Sida's Development Days in October**

## GOALS

### Long-term goals

- To increase knowledge about and involvement in women's rights
- To increase awareness and knowledge about the effects of war on women, and the importance of women's participation in society to ensure peaceful and democratic development

### Short-term goals

- To develop Kvinna till Kvinna's digital communication to raise awareness about our organisation
- To introduce our new visual profile, including a new logo, both in Sweden and abroad



Photo: Julia Deniff Östergren

## COURAGE IN FOCUS

On International Women Human Rights Defenders Day on 29 November, Kvinna till Kvinna arranged a seminar that was attended by Sweden's Foreign Minister Margot Wallström and partner organisations from Liberia, Serbia and Lebanon. With more than 300 participants registering, the seminar had to be moved to a larger venue. The conversation came to centre on courage and what it means to fight for women's rights in a world where resistance is growing. Sweden's role as donor and UN member was also discussed.

## SUPPORT TO WOMEN IN IRAQ

In 2017, several of our partner organisations in Iraq worked together to develop proposals on how the Swedish government, the EU and the international community can provide better support to women in Iraq. The proposals were submitted to Sweden's Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Kvinna till Kvinna also attended a dialogue meeting in Brussels with its Iraqi partner organisations, to develop a new EU strategy on support for Iraq. The focus here was on highlighting the increasingly difficult situation for women's rights defenders and the security situation for women and girls in Iraqi Kurdistan.

# 65 000

Our social media channels are attracting ever more followers: by the end of the year, 65,000 people followed us.



**“ One of the dirtiest and strongest tools is to threaten the activist by saying they have compromising material about her. Calls may be tapped, apartments bugged; this is how the authorities silence us. This is how the space to operate shrinks. And there is no way to resist it; it's like closing the oxygen. You cannot resist and you cannot fight back.**

A women's rights activist in Azerbaijan interviewed for our report on the shrinking space for human rights defenders.

## SWEDEN IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Kvinna till Kvinna closely follows the work of the Security Council. We assist the Ministry for Foreign Affairs by providing expert knowledge on women, peace and security, as well as by monitoring and disseminating information on how these questions are discussed in the Security Council.

**Image:** Klara Backman from Kvinna till Kvinna just before a meeting with UN Women in New York.

## FACTS | Social media

**Twitter:** Our number of followers increased from 9,035 (2016) to 9,767. **Facebook:** Our number of followers increased from 37,200 (2016) to 40,049. **Facebook (English):** Our number of followers increased from 3,130 (2016) to 3,675. **Instagram:** Our number of followers increased from 6,406 (2016) to 11,318.

## FACTS | Media appearances

In 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna was mentioned in the media more than 800 times, including around twenty TV and radio appearances. This represents an increase of 13 percent compared to 2016.

## GEMAKET: A SAFE SPACE FOR GIRLS

Our experience of working with women in conflict-affected regions is now making a difference in Sweden too.

Our new project Gemaket allows newly-arrived girls and girls who have been in Sweden for a while to share experiences. Gemaket focuses on girls aged 15–25, and promotes dialogue on social issues and gender equality. The meetings provide support and encouragement to girls, so they can claim their rightful place in society and realise their dreams. During the year, we provided leadership training and developed material together with the Sensus Study Association, and we have also provided leadership training. In Gothenburg, a group of ten newly-arrived girls started working together. In 2018, further groups will be launched in other cities around Sweden.

### Initiative by the volunteers

The Gemaket project originally sprung from an initiative by our volunteers.

“There is a holistic perspective that supports this long-term programme. Our hope is that participants will later become volunteers through Gemaket. This both strengthens their commitment and the volunteer base itself,” says Najla Ahmed, Project Manager for Gemaket at Kvinna till Kvinna.

Gemaket is financed by the Swedish Inheritance Fund and is run in close collaboration with the Sensus Study Association.



Photo: Deniz Örtgen

Women’s rights have always been important to me, says Saba Barmayehvar (right) who is active in the project Gemaket. Armena Sadat also participates in Gemaket.



Would you like to volunteer in Sweden? Visit our website [kvinna.tillkvinna.se](http://kvinna.tillkvinna.se) and click on:  Support us



Kvinna till Kvinna’s volunteers at the democracy event *Järvaveckan* in Stockholm.

## VOLUNTEERS REACH OUT TO THOUSANDS

Despite the fact that we do not have any specific funding for our volunteering activities, our six local volunteering groups have kept up their excellent work this year. Several simultaneous held all over Sweden on International Women’s Day on 8 March and on International Women Human Rights Defenders Day on 29 November. Local media in cities such as Umeå and Linköping reported on our volunteering activities.

**Together, our fantastic volunteers enabled us to reach out to around 6,000 people. A warm thank you for this great effort!**



### GOALS

#### Long-term goal

To raise awareness about Kvinna till Kvinna through sustainable volunteering groups.

#### Short-term goal

To develop the Gemaket project as a meeting place where newly-arrived girls in Sweden can meet other girls who have been in the country for a while. Together they can learn about women’s rights and feel empowered to gain control over their own lives.

Carolina Martinsson (25) from Gothenburg has been volunteering for Kvinna till Kvinna since early 2016. She is now one of the leaders at Gemaket.

**You’ve done the leadership training and now you’re leading a study circle in the Gemaket programme. Tell us more.**

– Gemaket is a really amazing project! We’ve shared lots of experiences with each other and we’ve had loads of fun! You can tell that the project has been a success, and I wish that I myself had had a forum to talk about things like human rights and norms when I was younger. I’ve gained new perspectives and I feel more confident in planning and leading groups. I’m already noticing that I’m benefitting from this in my professional life.

### Why do you volunteer for Kvinna till Kvinna?

– I want to support women’s rights all over the world. One of the main reasons that I became a volunteer was also because I wanted to find a safe space to discuss feminism and other issues with people who share the same values as I do.

### What does your volunteering mean to you?

– It’s great to be part of an organisation that fights for issues I myself care so passionately about. It gives me strength to know that there are so many of us working with women’s rights issues. My volunteering has also given me a context for my activism, and the chance to meet some amazing people.



**It gives me strength to know that there are so many of us.**

Carolina Martinsson



### FACTS | Kvinna till Kvinna’s volunteers

**Start:** The work with volunteers began in 2010.

**Local groups:** Gothenburg, Linköping, Malmö, Stockholm, Umeå and Uppsala.

Kvinna till Kvinna cooperates with the Sensus Study Association in the cities where we have local groups.

**Number of volunteers in 2017:** 100 (2016: 200).

In 2017, our volunteers reached out to 6,000 people through their external activities.

The work done by our volunteers roughly corresponds to that of two full-time employees.

**Kvinna till Kvinna** was founded by the Swedish Section of the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF). The Board is appointed by WILPF Sweden and the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Association. The Board bases its work on the Rules of Procedure together with the long-term strategic plan and annual work programmes that are evaluated every year. The Secretary General runs the operations of Kvinna till Kvinna as directed by the Board.

**CHAIRMAN**

**1. BIRGIT HANSSON**

Active on the Board since 2010. Lives in Stockholm. Licensed psychologist. Has been President of the Swedish Psychological Association and Rector of the Swedish National Police Academy. Holds an honorary doctorate from Stockholm University.

**DEPUTY CHAIRMAN**

**2. VIOLA FURUBJELKE**

Active on the Board since 2011. Former Member of the Swedish Parliament (Social Democrats) and President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Ambassador in Syria/Lebanon and Secretary General for the Olof Palme International Center. Previously served as Chairman of the Swedish UN Association.

**SECRETARY**

**3. JESPER HANSÉN**

Active on the Board since 2012. Lives in Stockholm. Area Director for Asia and Europe at Save the Children Sweden. Former Secretary General at the Swedish Foundation for Human Rights.

**REGULAR BOARD MEMBERS**

**4. MARIA APPELBLOM**

Active on the Board since 2007. Lives in Stockholm. Master of Laws and Master in Human Rights. Has held a number of strategic and managerial positions within the Swedish Police. Since 2014, Chief of the UN Standing Police Capacity.

**5. LARS JALMERT**

Active on the Board since 2012. Lives in Stockholm. Emeritus Professor of Education at Stockholm University. Board member of Men for Gender Equality, the Fredrika Bremer Association and Feministiskt Perspektiv. Politically active in the Swedish feminist party, Feminist Initiative.

**6. DEVRIM MAVI**

Active on the Board since 2014. Lives in Stockholm. Head of the Feminist Initiative party’s registry at the Stockholm City Hall. Actively involved in gender equality and anti-racism issues. Former editor-in-chief, journalist and debater.

**7. MARIE SUNDBERG**

Active on the Board since 2015. Lives in Stockholm. Degrees in economics and journalism. Financial journalist for more than thirty years and has spent the last ten years as a foreign correspondent, largely in Brussels.

**DEPUTY BOARD MEMBERS**

**8. KAJSA WEJRYD**

Active on the Board since 2014. Lives in Uppsala. Teacher and retired administrative manager. Actively involved in gender issues for many years. President of Women in the Church of Sweden 1995–2003.

**9. BANAFSHE HEJAZI**

Active on the Board since 2015. Lives in Stockholm. Human rights strategist for the City of Stockholm. Works with a range of issues concerning gender, human rights, peace and conflict. She has a BA in Gender Studies and a postgraduate degree in international security.

**10. KARIN KARLSBRO**

Active on the Board since 2015. Lives in Norrtälje. Sustainability Manager at the Swedish Property Federation. Former Permanent Secretary at the Swedish Liberals Parliamentary Secretariat and Chief-of-Staff at the Government Offices of Sweden. Licensed lawyer.

**11. LENA BACKHAUSEN**

Active on the Board since 2017. Registered Psychologist, former HR manager, and leadership and organisation consultant. Has for many years been involved in WILPF. Seeks to support women’s possibilities to organise themselves.



# ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT FOR 2017

THE KVINNA TILL KVINNA FOUNDATION  
ORG NR 802401-6134

**Contents**

Administrative report	41–53
Income statement	46
Balance sheet	47
Cash flow statement indirect method	48
Notes	49

Unless otherwise specified, all amounts are reported in TSEK. The figures in brackets represent last year’s values.

**Information about our operations**

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation’s vision is a world with sustainable peace based on democracy and gender equality, where conflicts are dealt with through non-violent means. A world in which human rights are respected and where all people can feel safe and secure. A world in which women have power and influence over decisions and are actors in the economic and political development of society to the same extent as men.

Kvinna till Kvinna operates without religious, political, national or ethnic affiliations. These demands also apply to Kvinna till Kvinna’s partner organisations.

**Kvinna till Kvinna’s established mandate**

- To conduct projects in war and conflict-affected regions that promote women’s self-reliance and self-esteem, women’s psychosocial and/or physical health, or contribute to promoting women’s participation in building a democratic civil society.
- To foster studies and research on the effects of war and armed conflict on women.
- To publicise facts and information about the effects of war and to build public support for peaceful conflict resolution through the use of civil methods.

**Widespread support in Swedish society**

Kvinna till Kvinna is supported by a number of Swedish organisations. These organisations (see below) take it upon themselves to inform their members about our work:

1.6 Million Club, Centerkvinnorna (The Centre Party Women’s Organisation), Farmaciförbundet (Swedish Association of Pharmacies, since 2014 part of the Unionen trade union), Feminist Initiative, The Fredrika Bremer Association, The Swedish Disability Federation, Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom, The Christian Democratic Party Women’s Association, The Swedish Fellowship of Reconciliation, Kvinnor för Fred (Women for Peace), Church of Sweden women’s organisation, The Swedish Federation of Liberal Women, The Swedish Trade Union Confederation (LO), Swedish Green Party, Moderate Women, Riksförbundet Hem och Samhälle (Society for Home and Community), The Swedish Federation of Immigrant Women’s Associations (RIFFI), National Organisation for Women’s Shelters and Young Women’s Shelters in Sweden, Save the Children Sweden, Social Democratic Women in Sweden, Socialist Party Women, Soroptimist International of Sweden, United Nations Association of Sweden, The Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society, Swedish women’s left-wing association, The Swedish Ecumenical Women’s Council, The Swedish Confederation of Professional Employees (TCO), Bang Magazine, UN Women Sweden, Verdandi (Swedish Workers’ Association for Fellowship and Solidarity), Women’s Policy Committee of Sweden’s Left Party

### Significant events in 2017

In 2017, it became clear just how fast the civic space is shrinking around the world. Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations are affected by obstructive legislation and unreasonable bureaucratic demands, they receive threats, are issued with travel bans, have their assets frozen and are vilified in the media. The results of an online survey performed in the autumn, which included responses from 123 women human rights defenders from 32 countries, showed that more than 60 percent feel that their space to act as an activist has shrunk. Kvinna till Kvinna has worked hard to highlight this acute situation and the way it affects women human rights defenders. This worrying trend demands changes to working methods, not least from a security perspective.

In spite of these rather concerning developments, the long-term efforts that most of our partner organisations focus on have continued throughout, and there were a number of positive results in 2017 with respect to creating long-term change for women's rights.

In Jordan, Tunisia and Lebanon, the law that gave rapists the chance to escape punishment by marrying their victims has been abolished. This is the result of a global effort to campaign for change, and Kvinna till Kvinna has played a key role in this.

In the DRC, a civil society movement called *Rien Sans Les Femmes* (Nothing Without Women) has had increasing success with its fight to improve the representation of women in political assemblies. This is the result of long-term efforts to change norms and attitudes towards the role of women in society.

In the South Caucasus, women's organisations from Azerbaijan, Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh engaged in a dialogue meeting as part of the EPNK project (European Partnership for the Peaceful Settlement of the Conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh). The situation in Azerbaijan continues to be difficult for civil society, with restrictions on the possibilities to accept financial support, digital security risks and cyber-attacks on email accounts. A new law has been introduced in Armenia to regulate violence against women. This comes after several years of advocacy work by our partner organisations. In Georgia, there are now more women candidates standing in local elections as a result of a summer school for women in politics organised by one of our partner organisations.

In 2017, the Balkans have been marked by political crises in several countries, as well as tense relations with neighbouring countries, political campaigns promoting traditional gender roles and a generally more difficult situation for civil society. In Macedonia, a new government could finally be appointed, giving hope for an improved situation for civil society to act. The many years that Kvinna till Kvinna has spent working on systematically reviewing and providing recommendations for country reports have been noted by the EU delegations and they have received very positive reviews. Kvinna till Kvinna has developed gender equality indicators in all six candidate countries in the Western Balkans, in addition to regional and country-specific assessments. In Bosnia and

Herzegovina, Kvinna till Kvinna has launched a collaborative project with the country's EU delegation seeking to ensure that women participate in the consultations about current political and social questions. In Kosovo, Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation Medica Kosova has, after years of advocacy work, managed to obtain compensation for survivors of rape during the war.

Kvinna till Kvinna continues to expand. During the year, a new office opened in Rwanda and there has been a survey of potential partner organisations in the country. Preparations have also been made for Kvinna till Kvinna to establish itself in Ukraine, and a four-year agreement for our programme in Ukraine was signed with Sida (Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency).

The new logo and design profile have now been established, and a new Swedish website was launched during the autumn, which immediately resulted in an increased number of visitors to the site.

More and more people are noticing Kvinna till Kvinna in social media with almost 70,000 followers in our various channels. We have Swedish and English Facebook pages, as well as Twitter and Instagram accounts. Our two new goodwill ambassadors, Fanna Ndow Norrby and Linnéa Claeson, have had a major impact in attracting more followers and funding. Kvinna till Kvinna featured in the media more than 800 times in 2017, with about 20 appearances on radio and television. The #metoo movement also meant there was increased demand for Kvinna till Kvinna's expertise during the year.

The documentation from the review of partner organisations' work with gender-based violence (GBV) was published in 2017, detailing Kvinna till Kvinna's experiences of working with GBV, with a particular focus on the Balkans. The document has since become a sought-after publication. In May, Kvinna till Kvinna arranged a four-day meeting for partner organisations from MENA and the Balkans that work with GBV. In total, 34 women came together to network, share experiences and learn more about the work against violence. In addition to an exchange of experiences, the women also participated in various study visits and a training session on response-based practice.

A networking meeting on peacebuilding was held in Stockholm at the end of the year. It was attended by 21 partner organisations from all four regions where Kvinna till Kvinna operates. The meeting created a platform for exchanging experiences and sharing great examples of women's peacebuilding activism. As part of the meeting, Kvinna till Kvinna also arranged a well-attended seminar in Stockholm with Sweden's Foreign Minister Margot Wallström and three women's rights defenders from Serbia, Lebanon and Liberia.

We signed a new agreement with the Swedish Police Authority for the International Training Programme (ITP) on gender-based violence. This five-year programme will run in Albania, Kosovo, Montenegro, Ukraine and Moldova in collaboration with the Swedish Police Authority.

Gégé Katana Bukuru, from Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisation SOFAD in the DRC was honoured with the *Per Anger Prize*. This is an international prize established

by the Swedish Government to promote initiatives supporting human rights and democracy, and all aspects of the prize are managed by the Living History Forum.

Secretary General Lena Ag was named *Årets Opinionsbildare 2016* (Opinion Creator of the Year) and Kvinna till Kvinna's Annual Report was nominated for *The Publishing Prize*.

*Quality assurance work:* Since 2009, Kvinna till Kvinna has issued a separate report in compliance with the guidelines of the Quality Code adopted by the member organisations of the Swedish Fundraising Council (FRIL). The purpose of this report is to improve transparency and to benefit management and control within the Council's member organisations. The Quality Code is the consolidation of all that is deemed good practice within FRIL's member organisations.

*Follow-up and evaluation:* Kvinna till Kvinna's vision and three mandates indicate the direction of the organisation. Kvinna till Kvinna also has three thematic strategic aims with corresponding goals that have been presented in Kvinna till Kvinna's six-year strategy for 2016-2021. The strategy is monitored annually by all parts of the organisation's operations to assure compliance. In 2017, work started on developing a strategic framework with ten indicators to be reported to the board of directors at the end of a two-year period. The first report to the board is due in September 2018.

In addition to Kvinna till Kvinna's six-year strategic plan, the organisation monitors and evaluates each programme to determine whether Kvinna till Kvinna and its partner organisations are on track to reaching their goals. Goals and indicators are specific to each programme. Both quantitative and qualitative indicators are used to help evaluate a programme's progress. Kvinna till Kvinna uses these indicators to follow up and subsequently understand its organisation, learn from experiences, and update its working methods and frameworks where needed in order to stay relevant. A number of different methods are used to achieve this, including reports from partner organisations, field visits, workshops and dialogue. Some goals are linked to specific activities (such as a training in sexual and reproductive health and rights) and the results are then measured directly in the form of an increase in participants' knowledge on the subject. Other goals are linked to long-term social change, such as greater respect for women's rights. These kinds of results are less quantifiable and are measured over a longer period of time.

### Profit/Loss and financial position

Kvinna till Kvinna's activities have been implemented in compliance with our Articles of Association. This applies to the support of women's organisations in conflict-affected regions and our advocacy work. Since mid-1993, Kvinna till Kvinna has disbursed monetary aid of 1,574.8 million SEK. Of this amount, 138.5 million SEK was disbursed in 2017.

### Fundraising and donations

Money from fundraising and donations amounted to 13.7 million SEK in 2017, and including probono work the amount is 18.1 million SEK. Kvinna till Kvinna has been one of the beneficiaries of the Swedish Postcode Lottery since 2010 and received 10 million SEK in 2017.

The Swedish Postcode Lottery is run by Novamedia Sweden as directed by the Swedish Postcode Foundation. The aim of the organisation is to contribute to a stronger civil society by offering lotteries. The surplus goes to the non-profit sector. Since it began in 2005, the Swedish Postcode Lottery has generated 9.4 billion SEK for its beneficiaries. Kvinna till Kvinna has received 82 MSEK.

### Allocations and grants

In 2017, Kvinna till Kvinna supported 111 women's organisations in Central and West Africa, the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), the South Caucasus and the Western Balkans. The allocations amounted to 132.9 MSEK in 2017. During the year, we extended our agreement with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) for the MENA region, and have also received regional Sida funding for Rwanda and Ukraine.

The United Kingdom's Foreign and Commonwealth Office approved Kvinna till Kvinna's application for the regional MENA programme worth 1.95 million GBP. Since it is a new donor, we will renegotiate the terms of the agreement to ensure that it works well with our administrative systems and capacity.

### Profit/Loss for the year

We have a deficit of -491 TSEK this year (901 TSEK surplus in 2016). For detailed financial accounting, see the following income statement, balance sheet, cash flow statement and notes.

### The work for sustainability

The process of decentralising the organisation as part of an expansion of operations in new countries and new forms of cooperation has very much defined the year. The focus has been on finding more efficient ways of collaborating and communicating between regions and departments. This has included placing greater responsibility for administration and accounting on programme offices, where financial managers have been recruited and trained. Regional and development cooperation managers met in Amman to exchange experiences of creating strong regional and decentralised offices.

Kvinna till Kvinna was included in Givarguiden's Green List for 2017. We also worked with an external consultant to put together a security review of the entire organisation, which resulted in a strategy for future security work.

At the end of 2017, we had a total of 105 employees. Adjusted for those on leave of absence, temporary employees and short-term projects, this figure comprised 98 full-time positions. Of these, 61 were at the head office in Stockholm and there were 49 people working at the offices in the organisation's programme countries.

The offices in the Middle East are located in Erbil, Beirut, Jerusalem and Amman. The office in the South Caucasus is located in Tbilisi in Georgia. In Africa, we have offices in Monrovia in Liberia, in Bukavu in the DRC and in Kigali in Rwanda. Our offices in the Western Balkans are located in Belgrade, Pristina, Sarajevo and Skopje. Of the employees at the programme offices, 38 were locally and nationally employed staff.

Lena Ag, who had been Kvinna till Kvinna's Secretary General for more than a decade, was appointed Director General of the new Swedish Gender Equality Agency. She left Kvinna till Kvinna at the end of 2017. We have since started a recruitment process to appoint a new Secretary General.

### Voluntary work

For a few years now, Kvinna till Kvinna has focused on raising awareness about, and widening the possibilities for, doing voluntary work at or for the organisation. The volunteers create meeting places for all those wanting to get involved in women's rights. There are local volunteer groups in six cities: Gothenburg, Malmö, Stockholm, Umeå, Uppsala and Linköping. There are 200 volunteers involved in these groups around the country, and they have arranged a number of events including 8 March, Femdefenders Day and the 50th anniversary of the occupation of Palestine. We have thus managed to reach out to more than 6,000 people, not including participation in the Pride Parade. Volunteers have represented Kvinna till Kvinna in local media across Sweden including Umeå, Västerbotten and Linköping. The project *Gemaket* that was initiated by volunteers now has a full-time employee to manage the project. We also started the first group for newly arrived women in Gothenburg with a volunteer-led study group for eight young women. We also put together method material for both leaders and participants in collaboration with the Sensus Study Association, and 21 leaders in four cities had training. More groups are planned to be launched in different cities in 2018.

### Future progress

Kvinna till Kvinna's strategy, which is to guide the organisation until 2021, focuses on three thematic areas where Kvinna till Kvinna will push for progress together with its partner organisations.

#### The three thematic strategic goals:

- A future where women are not subjected to gender-based violence.
- A future where women participate fully and effectively in the development of an equal and democratic society.
- A future where global security is based on human security and where women's human rights are respected.

#### The strategy also has a fourth theme that guides the organisation's internal development:

- Kvinna till Kvinna is a sustainable organisation that is well-known in Sweden and internationally for its work in supporting women in conflict-affected regions.

We are continuing our digitalisation process, which includes building a project management system in SharePoint that can be accessed by all our employees. We have also developed our intranet in 2017, with a planned launch in early 2018. There have been more meetings held via Skype that enable us to provide the same information to all our offices. In pace with this increased digitalisation, we are also reviewing our own data security systems and the contact with our partners.

### Programme development in Sweden

In 2017, we explored the possibilities of developing a programme here in Sweden directed at the women currently in the asylum process. As part of developing a methodology for such activities, we arranged a consultation with partner organisations from Jordan and Lebanon as they were visiting Sweden.

### Administration

Kvinna till Kvinna was initially formed as a network of women's organisations in 1993. The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation was founded by the Swedish Section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF) in 1995.

The organisation is headed by a Secretary General. Kvinna till Kvinna has three departments (Resource Department, Communication Department and Field Department) and each department is managed by a Head of Department (the Deputy Secretary General, the Head of Communication and the Head of Development Cooperation). The Resource Department comprises three units: Methodology, Finance and Human Resources. The Head of Finance and Human Resources is part of the organisation's overall management team, along with the Secretary General and the other Heads of Department.

During the year, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General were co-opted members of the Board. A Board Secretary and a staff representative, with a personal deputy, were also co-opted to the Board. The Secretary General reports to the Board, and the Board appoints and dismisses her.

The Board is elected every fourth year by WILPF Sweden (6 members) and the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society (1 member). The current Board took up office in May 2015.

The Board's Rules of Procedure and Annual Plan are revisited annually. The purpose of the Rules of Procedure is to specify procedures for the Board's work, allocate responsibilities among Board members, and to clarify the division of responsibilities between the Board and the Secretariat. The Rules of Procedure also outline the organisation's long-term strategy, the management and control systems, as well as the systems for managing and administering funds. The Rules of Procedure also control matters relating to the accounts and budget decisions, and that Kvinna till Kvinna's auditors must attend at least one Board meeting each year, which they have indeed done in 2017.

### Boardmembers

2017

In total, 8 board meetings were held in 2017.	Present
Birgit Hansson	8
Viola Furubjelke	7
Jesper Hansén	7
Maria Appelblom	5
Lars Jalmert	8
Devrim Mavi	8
Marie Sundberg	8
Kajsa Wejryd	6
Banafshe Hejazi	6
Karin Karlsbro	4
Lena Backhausen, elected 29 March	5

### Multi-year overview

2017

2016

2015

2014

2013

General conditions	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Average number of employees	98	93	98	92	78
Number of partner organisations	111	108	104	130	133
<b>Income and cost-benefit analysis (TSEK)</b>					
Operating income	14 086	13 228	13 048	12 831	11 725
Operating expenses	-14 112	-13 124	-12 691	-12 711	-11 854
Profit (loss) from financial items	-21	-17	-13	-31	1
Tax on economic activities	-	-	-63	-71	-
<b>Net profit (loss) for the year</b>	<b>-47</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>339</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>-129</b>
<b>Financial position</b>					
Equity (TEUR)	379	426	340	14	-81

Unless otherwise specified, all amounts are reported in TSEK. The figures in brackets represent last year's values.

### Changes in equity

	Specific-purpose donations	Retained equity	Net profit (loss) for the year	Total equity
Equity 01-01-2017	182	3 381	886	4 449
Donor-specified purpose 2017 not utilised	240	-	-	240
Utilised donations	-94	-	-	-94
Transfer to net profit/loss for the year	-	886	-886	-
Net profit (loss) for the year	-	-	-637	-637
<b>Equity 31-12-2017</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>4 267</b>	<b>-637</b>	<b>3 958</b>

### Specification of specific-purpose funds

The following funds are included: Bosnia and Herzegovina 58 TSEK, Syrian refugees 131 TSEK and the DRC 139 TSEK.

Income statement	Note	2017	2016
<b>The Foundation's income</b>	2		
Donations		13 708	14 636
Grants		132 877	120 721
Other operating income		470	2 742
<b>Total income for the Foundation</b>		<b>147 055</b>	<b>138 099</b>
<b>Operating expenses</b>	3, 4		
Programme service expenses		-138 499	-129 755
Fundraising expenses		-2 845	-2 153
Administrative expenses	4	-5 983	-5 108
<b>Total operating expenses</b>		<b>-147 327</b>	<b>-137 016</b>
<b>Profit (loss) from operations</b>		<b>-272</b>	<b>1 083</b>
<b>Profit (loss) from financial items</b>			
Other interest income and similar income statement items		508	687
Interest expenses and similar profit/loss items		-727	-869
<b>Total profit (loss) from financial investments</b>		<b>-219</b>	<b>-182</b>
<b>Profit (loss) after financial items</b>		<b>-491</b>	<b>901</b>
<b>Net profit (loss) for the year</b>		<b>-491</b>	<b>901</b>
<b>Allocation of net profit (loss) for the year</b>			
Net profit for the year according to the income statement (see above)		-491	901
Utilisation of designated/unrestricted reserves from the previous years		-	16
Reservation of designated/ unrestricted funds received but not utilised during the year		-146	-31
<b>Amount remaining for the year/funds carried forward</b>		<b>-637</b>	<b>886</b>

Balance sheet	Note	2017-12-31	2016-12-31
<b>Assets</b>			
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible fixed assets			
Equipment	5	80	193
Long-term securities holdings	6	321	-
<b>Total fixed assets</b>		<b>401</b>	<b>193</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks etc.			
Merchandise		7	33
<b>Current receivables</b>			
Accounts receivable – trade		18	788
Other current receivables		5 445	1 917
Prepaid expenses and accrued income		3 398	4 163
<b>Total current receivables</b>		<b>8 861</b>	<b>6 868</b>
<b>Cash and bank balances</b>		59 684	87 665
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>68 552</b>	<b>94 566</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>68 953</b>	<b>94 759</b>
<b>Equity and liabilities</b>			
<b>Equity</b>			
Funds brought forwards		4 450	3 548
Net profit (loss) for the year		-491	901
<b>Total capital and reserves</b>		<b>3 959</b>	<b>4 449</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable		2 987	3 025
Liability from received but not utilised grants	7	55 096	18 785
Other current liabilities		1 268	1 702
Accrued expenses and deferred income	8	5 643	66 798
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>64 994</b>	<b>90 310</b>
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<b>68 953</b>	<b>94 759</b>
Pledged assets and contingent liabilities	9		



Cash flow statement indirect method	Note	2017	2016
<b>Operating activities</b>			
Profit (loss) from operations		-272	1 083
Adjustment for items for included in cash flow, etc.		113	236
Interest received		-	1
Interest paid		-1	-2
Paid income tax		-30	18
		<b>-190</b>	<b>1 336</b>
<b>Changes in working capital</b>			
Increase/Decrease in stocks		26	-33
Increase/Decrease in accounts receivable – trade		770	-170
Increase/Decrease in other current receivables		1 252	-207
Increase/Decrease in accounts payable – trade		-38	656
Increase/Decrease in other short-term operating liabilities		-29 262	42 485
<b>Cash flow from operating activities</b>		<b>-27 442</b>	<b>44 067</b>
<b>Investment activities</b>			
Investment in other fixed financial assets		-321	-
<b>Cash flow from investment activities</b>		<b>-321</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Financing activities</b>			
Exchange rate difference		-218	-181
<b>Cash flow from financing activities</b>		<b>-218</b>	<b>-181</b>
<b>Cash flow for the year</b>		<b>-27 981</b>	<b>43 886</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year</b>		<b>87 665</b>	<b>43 779</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	10	<b>59 684</b>	<b>87 665</b>

### NOTE 1 Accounting and valuation principles

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act, BFAR 2012:1 (K3) and FRII's Styrande riktlinjer för årsredovisning (Operating guidelines for annual financial statements).

#### Income statement

##### Operating income

Only the inflow of economic benefits that the organisation has received or will receive on its own account is recognised as income. Unless otherwise specified below, income is valued at the fair value of the benefit that is received or will be received (receivable).

##### Donations and grants

A transaction in which Kvinna till Kvinna receives an asset or service of value without providing something of comparable value is an exchange of a donation or a received grant. If the asset or service is received because Kvinna till Kvinna has met or will meet certain conditions and if Kvinna till Kvinna has a duty to repay the other party if the conditions are not met, this is a received grant. If it is not a grant, it is a donation.

##### Donations

Donations include donations received from the general public, companies, organisations, associations, private and non-profit funds and foundations, and sponsorship. Donations also include bequests, the value of donated assets, and income from donations with deeds of gift. Funds from the Swedish Postcode Lottery are also classified as donations. Donations received in the form of undertakings by companies to pay a certain percentage of their sales to a fundraising organisation are also deemed funds raised, because the third-party company is the seller – not Kvinna till Kvinna.

##### Grants

Funds that the organisation has received from the European Union, the Swedish state and formally independent bodies formed by the EU or Swedish state, and which are provided in the form of transfers of resources to an organisation in exchange for that particular organisation having met, or having pledged to meet, certain conditions relating to its activities, are deemed public grants and are to be recorded as grants (K3, Sections 36.8 and 37.10). This is also a requirement in relation to the obligation to repay such grants if the conditions are not met. The definition of a grant also applies to other organisations that provide funds under these conditions.

##### Other income

Primarily, income from successfully completed International Training Programme (ITP) courses, as well as the sale of products.

##### Operating expenses

###### Programme service expenses

Programme service expenses refer to expenses that have a direct connection with the fulfilment of the organisation's purpose and Articles of Association, namely:

- To support projects that promote women's self-reliance and self-esteem, women's psychosocial and/or physical health, or contribute to promoting women's participation in building a democratic civil society.
- To publicise facts and information about the effects of war and to build public support for peaceful conflict resolution through the use of civil methods.
- To foster studies and research on the effects of war and armed conflict on women.

Administrative expenses incurred as a direct result of an activity/project are programme service expenses. Examples of such expenses are our overseas offices, central project management and project governance, as well as the administration of grant applications.

#### Fundraising expenses

Fundraising expenses consist of expenses that have a direct connection to fundraising activities targeting any or all of the organisation's donors.

#### Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses that the organisation incurs to fulfil the quality requirements that we have for our purpose and for our donors, but that cannot be regarded as programme service expenses. In our allocations, around 7.3 percent finance the administrative expenses and these are accounted for as programme service expenses. Remaining expenses are those for certain managers and some staff within the finance and communication departments, as well as development expenses for administrative and organisational processes, accounting expenses and some of the common costs.

#### Common costs

The above costs include common costs that can be defined as follows: Common costs include IT, the finance and accounting functions, the cost of premises, and management in the form of the Board of Directors and the Secretary General.

#### Leasing

All the organisation's leasing costs are distributed evenly over the leasing term.

#### Payments to employees

Current payments to employees in the form of wages and salaries, social security contributions and the like, are recognised as expenses in pace with the employees carrying out their jobs. Since all pension obligations are classified as defined contribution plans, a cost is recognised in the year the pension benefits are earned.

#### Income tax

The tax expense for the year includes tax relating to this year's taxable income. This applies to our activities within the International Training Programme (ITP) that is classed as an economic activity. There are no temporary differences, which is why deferred tax is not reported.

#### Balance sheet

##### Fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are valued at their costs of acquisition less depreciation according to plan. Tangible fixed assets are systematically depreciated over their assessed economic life. In doing so, the following depreciation periods are used:

Equipment/Computers	5 years
---------------------	---------

Some equipment purchases are recorded as programme service expenses. This occurs when appropriations have been made for the purchase, or when, due to the high risk of theft in field work, the equipment is equated with expendable equipment. During the year, equipment purchases totalling 0 TSEK were recorded as programme service costs.

##### Receivables

Receivables are reported in the amounts that we estimate will be paid, based on individual assessment.

##### Foreign currencies

Receivables and payables in foreign currencies are valued at the closing day rate. Receivables in foreign currencies, foreign currencies in cash and bank balances in our field offices are valued at the exchange rate applied for the most recent transfer of funds from Sweden. These currencies are used in the field and are not intended to be returned to Sweden.

##### Liability, received but not utilised grants

If the organisation receives a grant but does not meet the criteria to receive it, this should be recorded as a liability.

**NOTE 2 Funds raised**

	2017	2016
<b>The Foundation's income is detailed as follows:</b>		
Donations	13 708	14 636
Grants	132 877	120 721
Other operating income	470	2 742
<b>Total</b>	<b>147 055</b>	<b>138 099</b>

**Donations are detailed as follows:****Donations reported in the income statement**

	2017	2016
General public	3 347	3 731
Companies	161	255
Swedish Postcode Lottery	10 000	10 000
Other foundations	200	650
<b>Total</b>	<b>13 708</b>	<b>14 636</b>

**Donations not reported in the income statement**

	2017	2016
Advertising (estimated amount)	1 253	228
Probono services (estimated amount)	3 181	2 200
<b>Total</b>	<b>4 434</b>	<b>2 428</b>

**Total donations**

	2017	2016
Donations reported in the income statement	13 708	14 636
Donations not reported in the income statement	4 434	2 428
<b>Total</b>	<b>18 142</b>	<b>17 064</b>

**Grants recognised as income****Sida grants for projects and activities**

	2017	2016
Western Balkans	15 268	9 432
South Caucasus	4 808	6 779
Middle East, Jerusalem	9 602	9 611
Middle East, Amman	15 140	22 005
Middle East, Iraq	-	1 343
Liberia	10 622	8 643
Afghanistan	-	529
Ukraine	345	2 822
Cross-regional framework allocations	30 313	26 825
Information contributions	2 305	2 352
Other Sida	12 662	7 391
Rwanda	4 104	-
Sida allocations for administration	8 321	7 802
<b>Total</b>	<b>113 490</b>	<b>105 534</b>

**Other grants for projects and activities**

	2017	2016
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-	1 600
Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs, FLOW project	-	534
Swedish Inheritance Fund	1 116	1 218
UN Trust Fund	1 092	-
EU	803	-
Folke Bernadotte Academy	399	1 598
International Alert EPNK project	2 041	1 041
Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1 152	3 677
Canada	2 854	-
British Foreign & Commonwealth Office	5 107	-
Swedish Postcode Lottery	4 823	5 519
	19 387	15 187
<b>Total</b>	<b>132 877</b>	<b>120 721</b>

**NOTE 3 Leasing**

	2017	2016
<b>Future leasing payments fall due according to the following:</b>		
Falling due and payable within 1 year	5 302	5 859
Falling due and payable later than 1 but within 5 years	2 471	1 664
Falling due and payable later than 5 years	300	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 073</b>	<b>7 523</b>

Expensed leasing charges during the period

	2017	2016
	5 959	5 618

Leasing charges include premises, and office and IT equipment.

**NOTE 4 Average number of employees, staff costs**

	2017	2016
<b>Number of employees (women only)</b>		
Sweden	61	62
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	2
Kosovo	2	2
Macedonia	2	2
Serbia	4	3
South Caucasus	3	3
Liberia and the DRC	10	8
Palestine and Israel	4	4
Jordan and Lebanon	7	5
Iraq	2	2
Rwanda	1	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>93</b>

**Salaries and other employee benefits:**

	2017	2016
Secretary General	876	776
Other employees	33 898	31 073
<b>Total salaries and benefits</b>	<b>34 774</b>	<b>31 849</b>
Payroll overhead	13 235	12 774
(of which pension costs)*	2 399	2 612
Pension costs Secretary General	276	295

\*Retroactive pensions for the period 2004–2013 amount to SEK 372,000.

**Board of directors and senior managements**

<b>Number of board members on the balance sheet date</b>		
Women	5	5
Men	2	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>7</b>

**Number of Secretary Generals**

	2017	2016
Women	1	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**Voluntary work**

During the year, a varying number of people worked voluntarily for the organisation e.g. packing dispatches and with information and collection box fundraising. The value of these efforts has not been recorded in the income statement.

**NOTE 5 Equipment**

	2017-12-31	2016-12-31
Costs of acquisitions brought forward	1 666	1 807
Purchases during the year	-	-141
<b>Closing accumulated costs of acquisitions</b>	<b>1 666</b>	<b>1 666</b>
Depreciation brought forward	-1 473	-1 378
Sales and disposals	-	141
Depreciation for the year	-113	-236
<b>Accumulated depreciation carried forward</b>	<b>-1 586</b>	<b>-1 473</b>
<b>Residual value according to plan carried forward</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>193</b>

**NOTE 6 Long-term securities held**

	2017	2016
Acquisition value brought forward	-	-
Year's acquisitions	321	-
<b>Closing accumulated acquisition value</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Closing residual value according to plan</b>	<b>321</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Securities specification</b>		
	Book value	Market value
Stocks	241 612 SEK	277 467 SEK
Money market fund	78 899 SEK	78 899 SEK
<b>Total</b>	<b>320 511 SEK</b>	<b>356 366 SEK</b>

**NOTE 7 Liability, received but not utilised grants**

	2017	2016
Sida South Caucasus	28	85
Sida Europe/Western Balkans	1 443	3 551
Sida Middle East	31 439	1 166
Sida Liberia	297	757
Sida Ukraine	9 655	160
Sida Rwanda	7 167	-
Sida framework grant	1 691	4 013
Sida information	182	172
Sida other	3 191	1 745
Other allocations	3	7 136
<b>Total</b>	<b>55 096</b>	<b>18 785</b>

**NOTE 8 Accrued expenses and deferred income**

	2017	2016
Holiday pay	2 002	1 996
Other items	2 789	3 131
Prepaid grants, Sida	852	61 671
<b>Total</b>	<b>5 643</b>	<b>66 798</b>

**NOTE 9 Pledged assets and contingent liabilities**

	2017-12-31	2016-12-31
Rental guarantee	849	849
Mortgages	664	664
<b>Total</b>	<b>1 513</b>	<b>1 513</b>

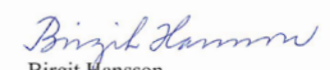
**NOTE 10 Cash and cash equivalents**

	2017	2016
Cash assets	323	283
Bank balances	59 361	87 382
Cash and cash equivalents in cash flow statement	59 684	87 665

**NOTE 11 Significant events after the end of the financial year****Funding**


Kvinna till Kvinna has signed an agreement with Sida CIVSAM for a bridging contract of 30 MSEK in 2018. During 2018, we will be submitting a framework application for 2019–2024. Kvinna till Kvinna managed to increase its grant from the Swedish Postcode Lottery in 2018 from 10 MSEK to 12 MSEK.

Stockholm 2018-03-21

  
Birgit Hansson  
Ordförande

  
Jesper Hansén

  
Lars Jalmert

  
Marie Sundberg

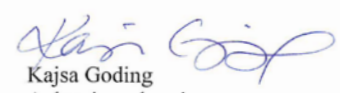
  
Viola Furubjelke


  
Maria Appelblom

Devrim Mavi



Vår revisionsberättelse har lämnats 2018-04-17.

  
Kajsa Goding  
Auktoriserad revisor

  
Monika Wannholm  
Auktoriserad revisor

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the board of  
Kvinna till Kvinna,  
Corporate Identity Number 802401-6134

### Report on the annual accounts

#### Opinions

We have audited the annual accounts of Kvinna till Kvinna for the year 2017. The Foundation's annual accounts can be found on pages 41–51 in this report.

In our opinion, the annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and they present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Foundation's financial position as per 31 December 2017, as well as its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act. The statutory administrative report is consistent with the other parts of the annual accounts.

#### Basis for opinions

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the section entitled Auditor's responsibilities. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden, and we have otherwise fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate as a basis for our opinions.

#### Information other than the annual accounts

The Board of Directors bears responsibility for other information. The other information consists of an annual report (but does not include the annual accounts and our audit report regarding this).

Our statement on the annual report does not include this information and we do not make a statement about this other information.

As part of our audit of the annual report, it is our responsibility to read the information identified above and consider whether the information is to a significant extent incompatible with the annual report. In this review, we also take into consideration the knowledge that we obtained during the audit, and we assess

whether the information, in general terms, seems to contain material misstatements.

If, based on the work done, we conclude that the other information contains a material deviation, we are required to report this. We have nothing to report in that regard.

#### Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the annual accounts and that these give a fair presentation in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act. The Board of Directors is also responsible for the internal control that it determines as necessary to enable the preparation of the annual accounts free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual accounts, the Board of Directors is responsible for the assessment of the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. They disclose, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting. The going concern basis of accounting is, however, not applied if the Board of Directors intends to liquidate the Foundation or to cease operations.

#### Auditor's responsibilities

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material, if individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these annual accounts.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatements of the annual accounts, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate

to provide a basis for our opinions. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, internal omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of the Foundation's internal control relevant to our audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures by the Board of Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Board of Director's use of the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the annual accounts. We also draw a conclusion, based on the audit evidence obtained, as to whether any material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual accounts or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinions in the annual accounts. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual accounts, including the disclosures, and whether the annual accounts represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We must inform the Board of Directors of, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit. We must also inform of significant audit findings during our audit, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we have identified.

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements and statutes

#### Opinion

In addition to our audit of the annual accounts, we have also audited the administration of the Board of Directors of Kvinna till Kvinna for the year 2017.

In our opinion, the Board of Directors has not acted in breach of the Foundations Act, the Foundation Regulation or the Annual Accounts Act.

#### Basis for opinions

We have conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the section

entitled Auditor's Responsibilities. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden, and we have otherwise fulfilled our ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate as a basis for our opinions.

#### Responsibilities of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors is responsible for the administration according to the Swedish Foundation Act and the Foundation Regulation.

#### Auditor's responsibilities

Our objective concerning the audit of the administration, and thereby our opinion, is to obtain audit evidence to assess with a reasonable degree of assurance whether any member of the Board of Directors, in any material respect, has:

- undertaken any action or been guilty of any omission that can give rise to liability to the Foundation, or if there are grounds for dismissal; or
- in any other way acted in breach of the Foundations Act, the Foundation Regulation or the Annual Accounts Act.

Reasonable security is a high degree of security, but no guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always detect actions or omissions that and give rise to liability to the Foundation.

As part of an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. The examination of the administration is based primarily on the audit of the accounts. Additional audit procedures performed are based on our professional judgment using risk and materiality as starting points. This means that we focus the examination on such actions, areas and relationships that are material for the operations and where deviations and violations would have particular importance for the Foundation's situation. We examine and test decisions undertaken, support for decisions, actions taken and other circumstances that are relevant to our opinion.

Stockholm, 17 April 2018

Kajsa Goding  
Authorised Public Accountant

Monika Wannholm  
Authorised Public Accountant

**Kvinna till Kvinna | 2018**

Editor: Christina Wassholm  
Impact reporting: Nadja Dolata  
Communication Officer: Ida Svedlund  
Production and Art Director: Fine and Dandy  
Translation: Hillary Parnfors  
Photos (unless otherwise stated):  
Stina Magnuson Buur, Anna-Carin Hall,  
Dijana Stojanovic Djordjevic, Ida Svedlund,  
Eugénie Katagata, Vita W. Kwarbo  
Publisher: Josefine Karlsson  
Printing: Österbergs Tryckeri AB

*Photo: Istock*



Kvinna till Kvinna has a 90-account, which is a special type of account granted by the Swedish Fundraising Control for donations. It is the public's assurance that the fundraising is monitored by the Swedish Fundraising Control. It guarantees that the fundraising is managed in an ethical and responsible way, and that the funds that are collected are used for the intended purpose.

The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation strengthens women in conflict-affected regions.  
Visit [thekvinnatillkvinnafoundation.org](https://thekvinnatillkvinnafoundation.org) to find out more about our work.