

The Commitments of the Republic of Albania

The Government of the Republic of Albania considers women's rights and gender equality a priority acknowledging its importance in terms of economic and social development of the country and in collaboration with all stakeholders and actors have influenced the role of women in all spheres.

Commitments of year 2015-2016 are implemented with measures as follows:
- "National Strategy for Gender Equality and Action Plan 2016- 2020" with DCM Nr.733 dated 10.20.2016 was approved with four strategic objectives aiming at consolidating of the status of Albanian women in all areas.

-Economic empowerment of women is considered as a necessity for sustainable development. There is an increase in rate of profitability in the country from the grants funded from the state budget. There are 40 enterprises which are led by women and benefited from creative economy fund; competitiveness fund and start-up fund. Recently adopted Law "On crafts in the Republic of Albania", creates opportunities for women in order to qualify in craftsmanship with an orientation in the labor market.

56% of unemployed job-seekers have participated in employment promotion programs with funds from the state budget are women and girls.

The Ministry of Social Welfare and Youth with the support of UN-WOMEN & UNDP in Albania continues to coordinate the national campaign "I choose to live without violence." At the national conference, on November 24, 2016, at the opening of the campaign and all the days of activism against violence against women was a powerful message "Violence is unacceptable, denounce it!" This campaign will be extended until March 8, International Women's Day .

Support services for the integration and reintegration of victims of domestic violence are consolidated and will continue to expand across the country. National shelter, free legal aid, referral mechanisms at the municipal level have been consolidated and have recently were backed by the National Counseling Line for Victims of Domestic Violence 116-117. This is in line with standards required by the Istanbul Convention and will provide an immediate assistance for anyone who is a victim of domestic violence.

Increase of representation of women has brought forth new developments. For the first time, a woman general was promoted in Albanian Armed Forces.