Brief Description WIDE+

WIDE+ is a European feminist network of women’s rights advocates, gender specialists, women’s rights organizations and development NGOs. It works through interlinked strategies of analysis and capacity building (feminist literacy), innovative movement building and advocacy informed by a feminist perspective.

The protection of women’s human rights is WIDE+’s key objective. Members call for gender justice in combination with social justice, since gender justice can only be brought about if intersecting unequal power relations are addressed. WIDE+ strongly believes that women are not homogeneous and that without respect for the multitude of feminisms, we can’t build agency. WIDE+ is a European network that works in solidarity with women’s rights organizations in the Global South and other associations in the North, such as grassroots groups or migrant networks, representing different regions and identities.

Not only an intersectional critical perspective that stands for a diversity of feminisms is important, also a participatory, empowering and holistic approach – that is what a feminist vision means to WIDE+. WIDE+ is a democratic association with 20 organizational and around 40 individual members. The number of associations involved is indirectly much greater, bringing together approximately 300 associations; at least half of the members organizations are national platforms or other kinds of networks that bring together a group of other associations.
WIDE+ has the following aims:

- Create and widen spaces to multiply the impact of feminist activism;
- Influence and transform institutional settings, power relations, policies and practices;
- Act in solidarity with feminist and human rights movements.

An overview of its past activities can be found here: https://wideplus.org/about/herstory/.

Highlights from our Action Plan 2021-2023:

- European Forum for Feminism in 2023

WIDE+ is planning an European Forum for Feminism, which aims to bring something completely new to Europe: a huge catalyst meeting space between women's rights advocates, feminists and allies, including other civil society agents, in order to work together to share & build our knowledges and strategies. It will create a new momentum for feminist movement(s) in Europe as an answer to the current crisis we face in Europe and globally.

- Continuation of Working Groups and Alliances

WIDE+ has four working groups with members, volunteers and partners working from across Europe: migration and gender working group, gender and trade working group, feminist economics working group and feminist movement building working group.

WIDE+ will also continue to building trans-sectoral alliances/collaborations with different groups and social movements in Europe as well as partnering with women rights's coalitions from other continents. Currently it collaborates with CONCORD, the Gender Trade Coalition. Women’s Group on Financing for Development, among ad hoc alliances.

- Feminist Literacy and Advocacy

WIDE+ organizes regularly international webinars to build the capacity on topics relevant for feminism, especially around digital processes, feminist economic literacy, trade and migrant women rights, including online gender based violence. WIDE+ makes feminist voices also heard online: www.wideplus.org, facebook, twitter and through its newsletter, and publishes regularly information in the form of publications. It will strengthen this aspect in its work through collaborative projects with members, especially relating to female migrant rights and feminist economic literacy. Its collective knowledge and capacity building is often tied to specific advocacy efforts towards the EU to influence policy processes.

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