

# Women in Black London

# Women's rights the world over are under threat.

Traditional patriarchal cultures and modern far right movements have resulted in erosion of women's rights.

And yet for strong civil society it is vital that women's voices are heard and that women take the lead in peace negotiations and peace building.

### In Afghanistan

women and girls are banned from:

- going to secondary school or university,
- · working for an NGO,
- · going to the park,
- travelling without a male companion,

Worst of all, since August 2024 women are banned from speaking in public.

### In Syria

women are rallying to demand that the new Islamist government (HTS) respect women's rights and freedoms. Since 2011, discriminatory laws have meant barriers to political opportunity, education, healthcare, and protection from gender-based violence.

### In Sudan,

women and girls once headed the pro democracy protests of 2019. Now deadly conflict means more than 4 million women and girls at risk of sexual violence, being forcibly disappeared, abducted, held in slavery, forcibly married and held for ransom.

## Women in Black London stand in solidarity

with women of the world who work to protect their rights and freedoms. It is 25 years since the introduction of UN Resolution 1325 which affirms the participation of women in peace negotiations and humanitarian and peacekeeping operations and peace building. We urge our government to uphold its commitment to this, especially in regions of conflict and where the rights of women are abused.



Women in Black hold vigils every Wednesday between 6-7 pm at the Edith Cavell Statue, opposite the National Portrait Gallery, St.Martin's Place, London WC2.

Our vigils are silent, women-only and if possible we wear black. We welcome all women who support our call for an end to militarism and war.

Twitter: @WIB London

Facebook: @womeninblack.london Website: london.womeninblack.org

Donations for leaflets welcome

January 2025