



FEMINISTAS AL CONGRESO

**A feminist is someone who recognizes the
same humanity and dignity of women and
men and fights for equality**

INTRODUCTON OF THE *FEMINISTAS AL CONGRESO* PARTY

To the media:

We, Pilar Aguilar, Fátima Arranz, Puri Liétor, Juana Gallego and Sandra Moreno, along with all the other founders, have the pleasure of introducing you to the *Feministas al Congreso* party (FAC). Party from which we have been elected Executive Committee.

FAC is made up of women with different backgrounds and origins, but united by a deep conviction: the absolute necessity of having representation in Parliament and other institutions, in order to defend women's rights and develop the feminist agenda.

We have the energy, sense of commitment and enthusiasm to promote a project that makes our voice heard, **the voice and the vote of women, currently orphaned of political representation.**

In order to facilitate the task of informing public opinion, we present our political project, ideological line and fundamental aims.

La voz y el voto de las mujeres



Puri Liétor

Pilar Aguilar

Fátima Arranz

Juana Gallego

Sandra Moreno

Feministas al Congreso

Fundamental ideological lines

It has been a long time since we have faced such a profound questioning of who we women are and what we represent in society, as well as an involution that relegates the most crucial problems that affect us almost to irrelevance.

The current anti-feminist drift pursued by Western governments aims to annul the feminist agenda, openly contradicting current international and national norms. For this reason, we, as feminists, are obliged to defend our rights and take our stand:

1. We refuse to redefine human nature, what it is to be a woman and a man, based on unscientific theories and ideological postulates that contradict the biological evidence.
2. We reject the instrumentalization and adulteration of feminism to give shelter to ideologies that harm women and promote practices that attack, dehumanize and commercialize us: sexual and reproductive exploitation, pornography and sexist advertising, among others.
3. We demand respect for our dignity and oppose the oppression, exploitation and violence we suffer because of our gender. Poverty is feminized and we are the most affected by the different causes of social exclusion and labor discrimination, and we are the ones who bear the greatest burden of family responsibilities.
4. We demand that the hypersexualization of women and girls, based on extremely sexist and stale roles and stereotypes, be combated, and we flatly reject that these roles be considered our identity.
5. We reject the disqualification, harassment, boycott or persecution of feminists for defending our rights, or for holding positions that are supported by scientific knowledge. The legitimate defense of our rights is an exercise of democratic freedoms recognized in the Constitution, so it cannot be considered hate speech.
6. We will oppose laws and public, educational and other policies that dismantle the rights of women and girls and put the desires of other groups before our rights, freedoms and dignity.

In this statement we only include the most relevant ones, because the list would be endless.

We commit ourselves to take feminism wherever it is needed, to the streets, to schools, to universities, to workplaces, to the media, to social networks, to homes throughout Spain, until our voice, the voice of women, is heard in Parliament and in all the places where decisions are made that concern us as full citizens.

We cannot wait any longer. **If not now, when?**

FAC, a party with real presence and continuous activism

We want to have an active presence, with continuous and notorious public echo. A party with the capacity to analyze, to make feasible proposals, to defend with conviction what it considers appropriate and to act whenever it is necessary to do so. We aspire to be a realistic but exciting party that participates in all areas of life that affect women. A party such as ours –so radically opposed to the patriarchal system and which does not have financial or propaganda support, may find it very difficult to win in an electoral contest, but it can be capable of reaching political bodies and influencing public decisions, in daily life, in improving the living conditions of women and, by extension, of all citizens, because what is good for women is good for the whole of society.

FAC, a party open to cooperation and conducive to the united strength of the Feminist Movement

Our party will seek close collaboration with all women's associations and organizations in all areas and territories, trying to establish synergies with other national and international groups, as we believe that feminism, by definition, is internationalist.

We are aware that it is part of the democratic normality that in the Feminist Movement there are diverse points of view (always within the basic principles of feminism) that, sometimes, give rise to frictions or disagreements that can weaken our struggle.

Therefore, we intend that our party assumes as an express identity the will to try to join efforts, smooth out differences and harmonize positions within the Feminist Movement. We will maintain an attitude of dialogue, open to alliances, in order to achieve our common goals. And we commit ourselves to make harmony a fundamental value of our political party.

Internal organizational characteristics and dynamics

Our idea of a party is based on encouraging the active participation of all militants, because we hope and aspire that many feminists will join us and bring with them their knowledge, their proposals and their experiences, so that together we can develop the feminist agenda, which has been stagnant for a long time.

We want to build a solvent, dynamic and participative party.

We will be structured in territorial groupings that will develop proposals and activities and implement feminist policies in their own areas.

The importance of training in our party

We intend our party to be also a training school in political feminism, since to fight for our rights, we must have a solid feminist basis.

Joint reflection as a mechanism for cohesion

We know that different currents and points of view coexist in feminism, but we all pursue the same objectives. Therefore, we are open to alliances and greatly value the importance of dialogue and joint critical reflection.

Fundamental basis of our political program:

It is essential to recover the objective of equality policies, understood as the protection of women's and girls' rights, formally recognized in current laws.

We will demand compliance with the "integrated gender approach", that is, the mainstreaming of equality policies, evaluating the impact and designing social interventions in all areas of governmental action from the perspective of women and girls.

We will also demand that the degree of compliance with the Equality Law (L. 3/2007) and the State Pact against Gender Violence be audited and, if necessary, corrected, from the perspective of the objectives pursued in its formulation.

In collaboration with socially organized women in all spheres, we commit ourselves to carry out an exhaustive review of the state of compliance with the laws on equality, against exclusion, discrimination and violence against women in all its dimensions:

- 1º In relation to the rights and specific needs related to the right to a dignified life as citizens, strengthening and expanding the welfare state and restoring public services that have been dismantled in the last two decades.
- 2º Paying special attention to labor sectors and vital situations that have a disproportionate impact on the impoverishment and precariousness of women's living conditions, which have worsened even more with the recent economic and health crises (housing, employment, health, training, transportation, social services, culture, digital divide, environment, and any other area of intervention of social policies).
- 3º Working energetically to strengthen the development of the feminist agenda of women's emancipation recognized in the regulations, and supporting the initiatives of the organized Feminist Movement in relation to:

- The abolition of all forms of sexual exploitation and its harmful promotion, such as prostitution, pornography and sexist advertising.
- The prohibition of reproductive exploitation in all its dimensions, within and outside our borders.
- The many forms of violence against women: physical, sexual, psychological, institutional, vicarious, economic, obstetric, etc.
- Commitment to coeducation, an education for equality and from the prevention of machismo, androcentrism and sexist violence in all stages and educational offerings.

We are enthusiastically embarking on this exciting adventure that we hope will benefit all women and, by extension, all of society, because without the active participation of women there is no democracy.

Executive Committee

Pilar Aguilar, President



I have been a teacher and, since the early 90's, I have been writing about audiovisual fiction with a very definite purpose: to educate the gaze of the new generations to get them out of passivity, turning them into intelligent and active viewers and, of course, focusing on feminist analysis and criticism.

I have experience in political militancy since I joined a party at the end of the 60s. I have considered myself a feminist for a very long time (no exaggeration, given my age). I have written several books and numerous articles on feminism. For my feminist activism I have received several awards, such as the *Meridiana Award* from the *Junta de Andalucía*.

For the last 14 years I have been active in French feminist organizations because I lived in Paris, although I have always followed the Spanish Feminist Movement very closely. Thus, for example, I collaborated in the front row so that in France powerful demonstrations were called in support of ours against the so-called 'Gallardón law' (a 2014 draft bill to reform the current Abortion Law). For this, I was named *Comadre de Oro* in 2015.

I am a persistent activist in some social networks because, in spite of all the difficulties, I believe that we have to be there, raising debate and doing pedagogy. I believe that I will be a transitional president, but, of course, I will strive to carry out the position as well as possible, counting on your support and the collaboration of the entire management team and all the militants. Now that I am retired, I have full availability.

Fátima Arranz, Vice President



I am Professor of Sociology at the Faculty of Political Science and Sociology of the Complutense University of Madrid (UCM). Specialized in Social Research Methodology, since the 90's, all my work has had a gender-feminist approach.

In the exercise of my dedication to teaching and research, and after observing that in a faculty as politicized and progressive as the one I was in, women of any category were still considered subordinate to men (when we were not sexually harassed), it became essential for me to become a university feminist activist. Together with other feminist colleagues, and after a few political fights, we managed to get the Faculty Board to incorporate an Equality Commission in 2004.

Also with them, in the 1996-97 academic year, we promoted and got the UCM to approve the first PhD program entitled "The gender perspective in the Social Sciences", which was also the first in this line in the rest of Spanish universities. Since then, I have continued organizing and teaching courses and masters oriented in the pursuit of gender equality. And, of course, given my academic vocation, I have continued and continue to research and publish in this field of utmost social importance.

Thinking about it, I believe that the organizing experience acquired in my work as a feminist academic is what has led me to present myself, together with my colleagues, to lead the Executive of *Feministas al Congreso* party.

Puri Liétor González, General Secretary



I am a health psychologist and feminist activist. I have developed my professional work in the private clinic, precisely due to the enormous deficiencies that the Public Health has in the area of Mental Health, and in which the sex variable, in the case of women, has meant an added deficit when it comes to establishing the diagnosis and the most appropriate treatment.

Within the feminist activism my work is developed at different levels: I am the secretary of the Feminist Collective of my locality and its representative in the Regional Platform *Front Abolitionista-PV*, where I am integrated in different Work Commissions and I am one of its spokespersons; the Front is also part of the state Platform PAP. I also act as a representative of my collective in the state Platform Confluence of the Feminist Movement, in *CEDAW Sombra del País Valencià* and in the *Coordinadora Feminista Valenciana*.

For all of the above, I have extensive experience in the Spanish Feminist Movement, with whose members and organizations I have tried to cultivate fruitful and close relationships. Likewise, I actively collaborate in the publication of articles in the newspapers *El Común* and *Tribuna Feminista*.

In the exercise of these managerial responsibilities and my dedication and vocation as a feminist activist, I believe that I have the experience, training and skills necessary to lead the Party, along with the rest of my fellow members of the management team.

Juana Gallego, First Assistance Secretary



I have been a Professor at the Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona since 1989 and I teach in the Faculty of Communication. In this center I have developed my entire academic career. In 1990 I published my first book, *Mujeres de papel*, which is a reference in this subject, since at that time there were very few books about women in the press. Since then, I have published a lot about gender and media, always from a feminist approach. In 2001 I won the First Research Award of the *Consell Audiovisual de Catalunya* for a research published under the title *La prensa por dentro*.

Born in Malaga and living in Barcelona, I lived the ebullition of the Feminist Movement in this city in the late 70's and early 80's, in which I actively participated as a young grassroots activist. I have no other militancy than this, because for me feminism has been the way of being and analyzing the world.

For two years I wrote a weekly column in the newspaper *Público*, in which I poured my reflections on the drift I observed in the left and in feminism regarding gender identity, and I openly positioned myself against this concept. Currently, I write in my blog *Eva devuelve la costilla* (Eva Returns the Rib) about everything human and divine and, if I can, with a touch of humor, so necessary in these dark times.

I have just published a novel that explores violence against women entitled *Muere una mujer* (A Woman Dies) and I would like to devote myself solely to writing, which I may be able to do if I decide to retire from teaching. I believe it is essential that the voice of feminists be heard in Congress and wherever it is needed, and although I have no political experience, I believe I can bring to this incipient party my enthusiasm and my total commitment to feminism, which for me has no surname or country. As Virginia Wolf said: "as a woman, my country is the whole world".

Sandra Moreno, Second Assistance Secretary



I have a PhD in Law, specializing in Constitutional Law, Labor Law and Feminist Studies. I have worked as a lawyer and legal advisor in the private sector. I have also held teaching and research positions in universities and public bodies, including the European Commission, as a research assistant in The European Group of Experts on Combating Sexual Orientation Discrimination.

I have been a feminist for as long as I can remember, although my activism for our cause began when I learned that there were plans to pass laws that dismantled the legal category of 'sex'. Since then, I have actively collaborated as a constitutionalist in the service of organizations that work in favor of the feminist agenda and against laws that harm the rights of women and girls.

To date, my political experience had been limited to the exercise of my political rights as a citizen. And, precisely because of this, conscious of my responsibilities as such, of my duty of loyalty to those of my sex -among them, the women of my family and all those who have paved the way for us- and my determined vocation as a jurist and feminist, I have placed myself at the service of the political party we are building, because I am fully convinced that in order for us to be able to exercise the proper defense of our rights and interests it is essential that we take not only legal action, but also political action, and bring feminism and our agenda to all the relevant spaces where political decisions are made.

With the participation of all the people who are part of this project, we will be able to take FAC to Parliament and to all the relevant social and political spaces that correspond to us as full citizens and members of the majority human group. The time for women is now, and it is our duty to claim the protagonism that also corresponds to us in society, because without women, there is no democracy.