March 8: International Women's Rights Day

Celebrate the resistance!

The socio-political context is difficult, both for individuals and organizations. This context has become more complicated since February 7, 2021, with the assumed authoritarianism of the power in place, the vertiginous decay of institutions, the incessant and murderous attacks by armed gangs, recurrent police violence, the continual deterioration of living conditions already precarious for the vast majority of the population, especially women.

Despite this deleterious situation, it is important for feminists to mark the symbolic date of March 8. It is indeed an opportunity to underline the meaning of this day and the scope of the struggles so that the rights of Haitian women are effectively recognized and respected. As a social movement, feminism is concerned with specific rights of women, human rights, as well as all other issues of national concern. The perspective being the building of a society stripped of the logics of exclusion and oppression. A society where the state is concerned about the fate of its citizens, is attentive to legitimate popular demands and works for the common good.

For this March 8, it is appropriate to celebrate the resistance.

• Resistance of the feminist movement which has managed to maintain and enrich itself continuously despite the difficulties;
• Resistance to the desire to erase the political dimension of the feminist struggle;
• Resistance to proposals for abstract equality and figurative participation;
• Resistance to anti-feminism which would like to disqualify the voice of women;
• Resistance to attempts to atomize social movements;
• Resistance to attacks on hard-won freedoms;
• Resistance to the desire to impose on the nation a destiny it did not choose.

Freedom, equality, solidarity!

Port-au-Prince, March 8, 2021.
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