

STATEMENT

In March 2020 we issued a statement that pointed out to all the challenges, fall-outs and issues exposed by the COVID 19 pandemic:

- all the shortcomings of the current social welfare and economic order
- deficiencies, ineffectiveness and incompetence of institutions (at national and EU levels)
- all the false and shameless promises of those in power
- all the misery and impotence of impoverished, unappreciated, discriminated against and left behind citizens

Corruption today is not only monetary theft, but a perversion of social justice, solidarity, equality and appreciation of human life. While the state, political and other élites vaccinate themselves, citizens remain stranded waiting for vaccines promised by the EU (@von der Leyen), albeit drop-by-drop.

Nobody, at national and EU levels, seems to bear the responsibility for and the consequences of the current situation. Because solidarity seems to be a forgotten virtue. And in this situation women are again stranded. They bear the brunt catering for their personal, family and societal wellbeing making up for the care which should have been provided by the state institutions.

All the glitter and all the misery of this moment in history has been exposed: failing and weak institutions and of the neo-liberal economic and social systems we have. Our countries are split in half living on two tracks- of the haves and the have nots, of the privileged and the discriminated.

It is time we get things right – not build back better but build forward better. Women should have a clear, loud and recognised voice in this future decision making process.

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