



International Women's Day Statement: "Yemeni Women: Resilience in the Face of Violations and Leadership in Decision-Making"

Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition

Yemen

8 March 2026

March 8, 2026 comes amid severe challenges faced by Yemeni women as a result of over a decade of ongoing conflict, which has led to the world's largest humanitarian crisis. Despite these hardships, Yemeni women continue to demonstrate **resilience and advocacy for their rights**, even in the face of violence, insecurity, and disruption of basic services. Women constitute nearly **80% of the internally displaced population** in the country, and they head approximately **one-quarter of displaced households**, compared to around 9% before 2015, reflecting the fragile protection environment and their reliance on self-support in confronting conflict and economic pressures.

On this day, the **Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition** reaffirms that **women's empowerment and respect for their rights are cornerstones** of any path toward peace, justice, and development.

According to **UN Population Fund (UNFPA) data**, nearly **6.2 million women and girls in Yemen faced multiple risks of gender-based violence and required protection and essential support in 2025**, while over 90% of rural areas lack effective response services for such violations.

Regarding health services, UN estimates indicate that around **5 million women of reproductive age urgently require basic health services**, and **1.3 million pregnant or breastfeeding women suffer from severe malnutrition**, amid weak healthcare infrastructure and declining basic facilities. Only **20% of hospitals** are capable of providing maternal and child health services.

These figures, which cannot be ignored, are compounded by documented rights violations: since the start of the conflict until the end of 2024, over **8,400 violations against women** were recorded, including approximately **1,900 cases of arbitrary detention**, while many violations remain undocumented due to limited monitoring and accountability capacity.



The challenges extend beyond physical violations to include **restrictions on freedom of movement, economic participation, and social engagement**, which undermine women's access to education, healthcare, work, and public life with dignity.

Despite some progress in governmental representation, **women's meaningful participation in decision-making** does not reflect the importance demanded by the current crisis, nor is it consistent with international standards of justice and equality, such as **UN Security Council Resolution 1325**, which emphasizes women's roles in peace processes and decision-making.

On this International Women's Day, the **Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition** honors the resilience of Yemeni women and affirms that **lasting peace cannot be achieved without justice and equality**. No political process can address society's needs without fully **including women, protecting them from violence, ensuring accountability for perpetrators, and guaranteeing access to essential services**.

The Coalition calls on the **new government and all partners in the political transition process** to:

- Immediately **cease all forms of violence and violations against women and girls**, ensuring investigation and accountability according to international human rights standards.
- **Remove discriminatory restrictions** on women's freedom of movement and enable full participation in public, political, and economic life.
- Ensure **safe and comprehensive access** to health services for women and girls in all governorates, particularly **reproductive health services and responses to gender-based violence**.
- Integrate a **gender perspective in economic policies and recovery programs** to improve livelihoods and strengthen women's protection amid the humanitarian impacts of conflict.
- **Empower women to fully participate** in peace negotiations and transitional justice mechanisms, ensuring representation at all decision-making levels.

On International Women's Day, the **Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition** renews its commitment to jointly protecting **women's rights in Yemen** and promoting **justice**,



dignity, and human rights, believing that a safe and stable Yemen cannot be achieved without ensuring women’s rights and full societal participation.

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Justice4Yemen Pact Coalition Members:

- Yemeni Coalition for Monitoring Human Rights Violations
- Center for Strategic Studies to Support Women and Children
- Studies and Economic Media Center
- Free Media Center for Investigative Journalism
- Abductees’ Mothers Association
- Watch For Human Rights
- SAM for Rights and Freedoms Organization
- Musaala Organization
- Al-Amal Women’s and Socio-Cultural Foundation
- Marib Dam Foundation