

## AMUMRA

### Civil Association of Human's Rights for Migrant and Refugee Women in Argentina

Participación de Natividad Obeso

Interactive Hearings of the High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development

Warm greetings to all. I am here today as a migrant women, “ **TO RECOVER WHAT NO ONE CAN TAKE FROM US, THE BELONGINGS WE BRING WITH US, OUR BODIES, OUR EMOTIONS, AND OUR STORIES**”. I want to remind you that as migrant women, we are suffering from an extreme violation of our rights, rendering us to be considered as merchandise, victims of torture, labor exploitation, murder, sexual abuse, trafficking, slave work, reproductive health violence, extortion, and all other levels of subordination. These abuses take place before the inaction and thus implicit complicity of authorities.

These crimes are particularly affecting the more vulnerable victims on the migratory routes, which are women, children, refugees, and disabled individuals, as a consequence of neoliberal politics that have provoked the increased and forced migration of millions of people whom are often faced with migration as their only option in response to the impoverishment of their original homes.

I want to urge all of the authorities present here that migration must be considered from a perspective of gender and that migrational policies cannot be pushed to the margin of Human Rights considerations. Migrant women are agents of political, economic, and social development, who's right to a dignified life must be respected and valued. Furthermore, we want for our dominant roles as migrant women to be recognized and valued, beyond the vision of us as victims.

I want to call the attention of exclusionary and receptor states on the prompt necessity to improve the international instruments in place to protect Human Rights, the living and working conditions of migrant and refugee women, and the normative frameworks regulating this activity.

We want to encourage the member states of the European Union to assure that the fundamental rights of migrant workers and their families are guaranteed, and thus we summon the 27 member states of the EU to ratify the International Convention, urging as well the ratification of the 189th Covenant of the International Labor Organization and any other member state which has not yet done so.

Before closing, I also ask God to bless the U.S. authorities and to give them the wisdom to approve the migrational reforms that millions of migrants desperately need in order to lead a dignified life in this country, and also to be able to return to their countries and be reunited with their families.

“MIGRANT WOMEN ARE NOT MERCHANDISE WE ARE HUMAN BEINGS”

“WE MIGRATE TO LIVE”

“WITHOUT US THE WORLD DOES NOT MOVE”

“AS MIGRANT AND REFUGEE WOMEN, WE ARE WOMEN WITH RIGHTS”

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