

# REGIONAL WOMEN'S LOBBY FOR PEACE, SECURITY AND JUSTICE IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE

Founded in 2006, the *Regional Women's Lobby for Peace, Security and Justice in Southeast Europe* brings together women politicians and activists from the region who are committed to the goals of deepening human security, promoting women's rights and participation in decision-making processes and breaking barriers of ethno-centric politics. The Lobby has a total of 27 members from the seven different countries of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

The RWL's activities focus on lobbying and advocacy at the national, regional and international levels through meetings with politicians, seminars, roundtables, international conferences, press releases and other actions. The RWL is open to requests for information, media inquiries and expertise and advising on a wide range of issues related to Women, Peace and Security in SEE.

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## Press Release

March 12, 2010

The Regional Women's Lobby for Peace, Justice and Security in Southeast Europe condemns the government institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina for including the women's NGO "Women for women" in a list of suspected terrorist organizations in Bosnia. RWL condemns these unfounded allegations against one of the most respected women's organizations in Bosnia that is known for its many years of uncompromised work on building a multi-ethnic and multicultural Bosnia.

We demand from the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina that they:

- Urgently and with no conditions retract this list of terrorist organization from the UN Security Council;
- Establish responsibility of public administration and all other authorities in this matter;
- Take all legal measures against those held responsible for making these false allegations and sending false information from a government body;
- Make a public statement from the Presidency, government and parliament on the responsibility of the Ministry of Security and all relevant individuals;
- Make a public apology to all groups on this list that are not connected to any terrorist acts.

The RWL calls the attention of the international community to these attempts to criminalize the Federation of BiH, and the Bosnian nation, with the aim of justifying Serbia's theories of Islamic fundamentalism. The RWL calls for the international community to take appropriate measures (UN, EU, Council of Europe et al) to stop the trend of radicalization by quickening the pace of visa liberalization and NATO membership action plan negotiations for Bosnia.

***UNSC Resolution 1325 "Urges Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels..."***

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