## WITH UNWAVERING DETERMINATION

KVINNA TILL KVINNA ANNUAL REPORT 2024

KVINNA KVINNA

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The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation is an international non-governmental organisation founded 1993 in Sweden. Today, we are one of the world's leading women's rights organisations, working to support women's rights and peacebuilding in conflict-affected areas and humanitarian contexts.

This annual report summarises the activities of The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation during 2024, detailing the allocation of funds and the resulting impact. It serves as both a financial overview and an impact report, in line with the guidelines of the Swedish Fundraising Association (Giva Sverige). Comprehensive information on Kvinna till Kvinna's organisation, mission, activities, and resource allocation is provided across the introduction, activity report, and annual report sections.

Kvinna till Kvinna has a 90-account—a special type of bank account granted by the non-profit organisation Swedish Fundraising Control. This account is an assurance to the public that the accountholder's fundraising activities are monitored by Swedish Fundraising Control. It guarantees that funds are raised in an ethical and responsible way and used for their intended purpose.

Kvinna till Kvinna is a member of Giva Sverige, which works to ensure Sweden's fundraising sector is transparent, accountable, ethical and professional. As a member, we are committed to demonstrating the impact of our operations each year.



### **ANNUAL REPORT 2024**

- 3 Foreword
- 4 Kvinna till Kvinna's mission
- 5 Our work around the world
- 6 Gender-based violence & SRHR
- 9 Stronger movements
- 12 Political & economic rights
- 15 Feminist peace
- 18 Emergency response 2024
- 19 Partnerships & support
- 20 Administrative report
- 22 The board
- 23 Multi-year overview
- 24 Income statement
- 24 Balance sheet
- 25 Cash flow statement
- 25 Notes
- 28 Auditor's report

#### Photo front page: Malek Al-Rifa'i

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### SUSTAINED SUPPORT DESPITE WORRYING STATE OF WORLD

Women's rights are under attack. The rollback on gender equality is accelerating: never has the need been greater to defend women and girls' rights to their own bodies, lives, and futures.

2024 was a year of intensifying conflicts, democratic backsliding, and increased repression against civil society. As war raged on in Gaza and Ukraine, a new war erupted in Lebanon. Syria's dictator fell after decades in power. Our colleagues and partner organisations in conflict zones were deeply affected by these events—yet they continued their tireless work to support women and push for peace.

Amid this turbulence, we launched our State of Women Human Rights Defenders report, *Hope and Resistance Go Together*, highlighting the alarming global rise in harassment of and threats against activists. We championed women's rights at the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women. As attacks on sexual and reproductive health and rights escalated, we ensured these fundamental issues remained at the top of the agenda, both at the national level and in global forums.

These past twelve months, authoritarianism tightened its grip in several countries, with severe consequences for women and marginalised communities. In Georgia, multiple restrictive laws drastically curbed civil society's influence and LGBTQIA+ rights were eroded. Meanwhile, Donald Trump's re-election as President of the United States will have worldwide ramifications for women's rights, international aid, and the global political order.

Despite these challenges, 2024 was also a year of mobilisation. We witnessed record engagement from

donors in response to our efforts to highlight the role that individuals, companies, and institutional funders can play in advancing women's rights. Strengthening alliances remained a priority for us, so we deepened our collaboration with institutions like the World Bank, Swedfund, and the private sector to increase resources for women's rights.

In a world where women's freedoms are increasingly under threat, sustained support and solidarity are more important than ever. Through strategic partnerships and relentless advocacy, we continue to drive change—together.

Petra Tötterman Andorff | Secretary-General



3

### **KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2024**

### Supporting more than 110,000 women and girls

These past twelve months, our partner organisations provided critical support, legal aid, psychosocial assistance, and capacity-building programmes to 86,267 women and 24,893 girls, in conflict-affected countries. These efforts strengthened women's leadership, advanced sexual and reproductive health and rights, and tackled gender-based violence, ensuring women and girls have the resources they need to live safer, more empowered lives.

### Expanding our work to Uganda

We now also operate in Uganda! In 2024, we began supporting two Ugandan organisations that focus on feminist peace and movement-building. Our new partners empower women peacebuilders, challenge harmful gender norms, and strengthen grassroots activism, which helps Kvinna till Kvinna make a greater impact in sub-Saharan Africa.

### Calling out obstetric violence in Gaza

We exposed the severe impact of obstetric violence in Gaza, where conflict and displacement have denied pregnant women access to safe childbirth and maternal healthcare. Through reports, awareness campaigns, and advocacy, we drew the world's attention to the crisis and called for urgent action to protect women's right to safe and dignified healthcare.

# KVINNA TILL KVINNA'S MISSION

As a non-profit organisation created by activists, Kvinna till Kvinna plays a vital role in the global women's rights movement. Our mission is clear: to contribute to an equal and peaceful world.

It all started as an act of solidarity. In 1993, when reports of mass rapes during the wars in Former Yugoslavia reached Sweden, the Swedish peace and women's movements made a joint appeal under the name of 'Kvinna till Kvinna' ('Woman to Woman'). They organised a series of fundraising initiatives to support women's rights organisations in the Balkans, triggering a massive response.

Since then, Kvinna till Kvinna has grown considerably—today, we work with over 100 partner organisations across 20 countries to end violence against women, reach lasting peace and close the gender gap. We do so by supporting local, women-led organisations, conducting and publishing research, and raising public awareness. All without attaching importance to religious, political, national, or ethnic affiliation.



### GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND SRHR

We advocate for the right of all women and girls to a life free from violence and call for their sexual and reproductive health and rights to be respected in conflict-affected contexts.

### **STRONGER MOVEMENTS**

We call for increased and tailored funding for feminist and women's rights movements to make them stronger and maximise their potential to be influential and push back against shrinking space and democratic backsliding.

### EQUAL POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

We call for women's effective and equal participation in political and economic decisionmaking at all levels.

### **FEMINIST PEACE**

We call for women's meaningful participation, leadership and perspectives in peacebuilding processes.



### Kvinna till Kvinna operates in the Middle East & North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and the South Caucasus.

ALBANIA • ARMENIA • BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA • DR CONGO • EGYPT • GEORGIA • IRAQ JORDAN • KOSOVO • LEBANON • LIBERIA • MONTENEGRO • NORTH MACEDONIA • PALESTINE RWANDA • SERBIA • SIERRA LEONE • SWEDEN • SYRIA • TUNISIA • UGANDA • UKRAINE



For security reasons, we can neither mention all the countries we operate in nor provide a complete list of partner organisations we support.

## **Our long-term goals** based violence and SRHR are improved • Women and girls can safely access services and justice at all levels • Gender-based violence is prevented and SRHR promoted by changing attitudes, behaviours, and social norms We advocate for the right of all women and girls to a life free from violence and call for their sexual and reproductive health and rights and bodily integrity and autonomy to be respected in

## BREAKING THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

There were more armed conflicts around the world this year than at any time since 1946. Global military spending has reached record highs. This is worrying, because we know militarisation reinforces patriarchal structures. Conflict-affected areas are a breeding ground for abuse of power, and the insecurity of war often leads to severe human rights violations, including gender-based violence.

When small arms circulate freely in a society, gender-based violence tends to worsen. This is something we've seen time and again in the conflict-affected countries we work in.

Failing to protect women's sexual and reproductive health and rights can be considered gender-based violence. This is a common problem during conflict. In Gaza this year, we witnessed atrocious obstetric violence, which refers to harm and mistreatment during pregnancy, childbirth, and the postpartum period. Our advocacy team shone a spotlight on what mothers in Gaza are being forced to go through.

Sextortion is another form of gender-based violence that frequently worsens during conflict. Unfortunately, it is all too rarely discussed. It may be recognised as a human rights violation and form of corruption, but few legal frameworks address it. In 2024, this issue too was central to our agenda.



AFEM's study was launched in Bukavu and at the Swedish ambassador's residence in Kinshasa. During the resulting discussions, many of the 100+ attendees shared their own experiences of sextortion.

### **7 IN 10 HAVE EXPERIENCED SEXTORTION**

Our partner organisation AFEM conducted research on the prevalence and effects of sextortion in the eastern DR Congo. Even though the topic is highly taboo, AFEM managed to interview 320 women in South Kivu, from students and teachers to small traders, journalists, and women working for private companies. The study revealed that sextortion is very common in the DRC: 69% of the women interviewed had experienced it.

Sextortion has devastating consequences. Victims may feel ashamed, helpless, or traumatised. Consequences can include STIs, HIV, or unwanted pregnancy. Some women drop out of school as a result, others quit their job. The practice also

has broader consequences: the normalisation of sextortion perpetuates gendered power imbalances and reinforces patriarchal norms. When women miss out on education or leave the workforce, this affects the economic growth and development of the entire country.

The term 'sextortion' is a combination of the words 'sex' and 'extortion'. It refers to a form of corruption whereby sex (rather than money or goods) is exchanged for something else—usually basic services that should be available to women as part of their human rights. Sextortion is often accompanied by threats or force.

### A ripple effect

Several of our partner organisations in the Middle East & North Africa region organised online workshops on SRHR this year. Participants came from Lebanon, Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan, Morocco, and Iraq. Afterwards, many of them expressed an interest in setting up their own SRHR initiatives. In response, our partner Al Muntada arranged for an SRHR consultant to mentor six participants, helping them translate their new-found knowledge into action.

The result? Workshops on sexuality, gender, and self-acceptance; awareness-raising sessions in Lebanese schools on sexuality and harassment; and community discussions about sexual violence and SRHR. These efforts highlight how important local leadership is. By equipping participants with the tools and confidence to lead change in their own communities, we create lasting engagement.



partner organisations provided SRHR services and/ or supported survivors/ victims of GBV.



and implement GBV/SRHR laws, policies, and protection mechanisms.

### **LEGAL VICTORY IN GEORGIA**

In the South Caucasus, our partner organisation AWD secured a legal victory for underage deaf girls who had been sexually abused. This sent a powerful

message about the importance of pursuing justice for women with disabilities.



### FEMICIDE PROTESTS IN SARAJEVO

For years, Eldin Hodžić from Bosnia and Herzegovina abused his wife, Alma Kadić. When he eventually murdered Alma, he was sentenced to 35 years in prison. A procedural error by the court reduced his term to 20 years, though—a serious blow to the fight against gender-based violence in the country.

In response, our partner CURE helped organise a protest in Sarajevo, to call on politicians and judges in Bosnia and Herzegovina to take femicide more seriously. "What happened was not just an error. It's a signal that will discourage victims from reporting violence, while killing the public's trust in the justice system," a spokesperson for CURE said.



We want a system that will protect victims, not free abusers because of technical errors!



### IMPROVED HEALTHCARE FOR WOMEN MINERS

Together with our partner SOFEDI, we launched an exciting new project in the DRC to support female miners. Women working in or near mines often face harassment and violence or end up in prostitution.

Through the initiative, 292 women and girls in mining areas received information about sexual and reproductive health and got referrals to health centres, for procedures like safe abortions and treatment for dysmenorrhoea. At the same time, 100 male miners learnt about positive masculinity and the importance of discussing SRHR (a major taboo in the mining community). These efforts have already tangibly improved the lives of female miners in the DRC!

### NORMS, MASCULINITY, AND CONSENT

In this year's edition of our international training programme, 77 professionals from civil society and the public sector in Ukraine, Moldova, Albania, Montenegro, and Kosovo sharpened their GBV prevention and response skills. During the multi-week programme, we covered topics like consent culture, victim-centred support, norms and masculinity, and ways of working with offenders. Participants also received practical coaching as they implemented concrete projects back home.



### **GIVING BIRTH IN A WARZONE**

According to the UN, around 55,000 women were pregnant in Gaza in October 2023. Once Israel launched its retaliatory military operation, an average of 180 women a day were forced to give birth under very dangerous conditions, with little to no maternal and postnatal care.

We wrote a policy brief on this obstetric violence in Gaza, calling on the international community to take it seriously. Our paper did not go unnoticed: we were interviewed live on Al Jazeera and in a podcast about feminism and war. Our external communication about the situation for pregnant women in Gaza sparked engagement among both our followers and private donors. In a follow-up paper, we urged those investigating the genocide in Gaza to also look at the obstetric violence being perpetrated.

### Anti-harassment training for bankers

Last year, Kvinna till Kvinna and Swedfund wrote a handbook on preventing and responding to sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment (SEAH). This year, we took concrete steps to implement it. SEAH training was organised for Swedfund's own staff, as well as fund managers and investment bankers in both Kenya and Côte d'Ivoire. The latter was arranged in participation with FMO, the Dutch equivalent of Swedfund.

### **REWRITING SENSATIONALIST STORIES**

Journalists in Bosnia and Herzegovina often face pushback when they cover sensitive topics like GBV. Many are also unaware of the institutional factors at play in GBV. At the same time, activists struggle to have their voices heard. As a result, GBV stories seldom make the news or are highly sensationalist.

To address this issue, we partnered with Mediacenter, a leading media development organisation. We organised two meetings for women journalists and activists, which led to more nuanced stories. One journalist said the quality of her investigative reporting had become much better. A well-known TV reporter saw audience engagement spike after including evidence gathered by activists in a news series on femicide.



#### Our long-term goals

- Feminist and women's rights movements are more diverse and inclusive
- Feminist voices are amplified through joint action and coalition-building
- Feminist movements are secure, have ample resources and counter shrinking space

We call for increased and tailored funding for feminist and women's rights movements to make them stronger, more diverse and more well connected, and to maximise their potential to be influential and push back against shrinking space.

## **BUILDING STRONG FEMINIST MOVEMENTS**

Global women's movements continued to navigate a hostile landscape in 2024. Anti-gender forces with wealthy backers posed a significant threat to activists. Crucial elections around the world fuelled a backlash against democracy and restricted funding for civil society. In this climate, supporting inclusive women's movements is more important than ever.

The rapid development and spread of AI and other new technology is enabling more insidious forms of gender-based violence. Online hatred is flourishing. In this environment, ensuring activists have safe spaces to meet and share strategies is essential. Many activists combine full-time jobs with trying to create such safe spaces. One project in the Western Balkans this year, for example, centred on enabling activists to meet face to face, strategise, and discuss ways to resist anti-gender movements. When building solidarity, it's crucial no one is left behind. To that end, women's disability organisations from Georgia, Armenia, and Ukraine came together to discuss shared challenges and victories.

Sustaining efforts like this requires resources. That is why flexible funding and targeted international support remain so important. It is one of the reasons we're very grateful for the support of donors that allow women's rights movements to run long-term projects for sustainable change.

2024 once again underscored the importance of unity and resilience. Through determination and advocacy, women's movements continue to advance the rights of women and girls worldwide.



## **CONFERENCE IN LIBERIA**

Together with our Liberian partner organisations and other allies, we hosted the ninth Women Movement-Building Consultative Conference in the northeast of the country. With the theme being 'Bridging the Gap', the event brought together more than 100 women from all over Liberia. The goal was to strengthen women's leadership, promote gender justice, and build solidarity. Participants identified action points like advancing women's economic empowerment, raising awareness about land rights, increasing women's representation in politics and agriculture, and developing safe spaces for political engagement. The conference resulted in a call to action that was presented to the President of Liberia.

### SERBIAN FEMINISTS COLLABORATE

Years of experience have taught us that feminist organisations working together is a brilliant way to achieve gender equality. This is why BeFem, one of our Serbian partner organisations, hosted a gathering of women's rights groups from across the country this year. Diverse groups attended the event, each with their own focus and approach.

The meeting provided a crucial space for dialogue, where participants got to identify shared challenges, discuss strategies, and lay the groundwork for collective action. By fostering cooperation, the gathering helped create a more unified approach to advocating for women's rights in Serbia.





partner organisations led and/or participated in joint feminist initiatives, coalitions, or networks.

56

partner organisations worked to counter shrinking democratic space.



We're flooded with hateful comments, even when we just post facts and stats about women's participation. When men risk losing power, they'll find a way to threaten you.



## SECURITY AND WELL-BEING FOR ACTIVISTS

Threats against human rights defenders are on the rise around the world, so security tools have never been more important.

In 2024, we revamped our Integrated Security Manual website. The platform contains free tools and practical advice on physical, digital, and emotional security for women activists who work in challenging environments. The updated website contains new content and interactive features designed to help activists manage risks effectively.

In a similar vein, our Iraqi team wrote a self-care manual (in English and Arabic) for women human rights defenders. The booklet contains practical tools to help activists in conflict-affected areas manage stress and prioritise their mental health. Hard copies were handed out to staff, partners, and activists, while a digital copy is available online.

Both projects will protect and strengthen the resilience of women activists who are leading change in their communities!



### Our long-term goals

- Women participate fully at all levels of leadership and decision-making
- Women effectively participate in political life
- Barriers to women's economic rights and justice (including access to and control over resources) are removed
- We call for women's effective and equal participation in political and economic decision-making at all levels, as well as in economic reforms and post-conflict economic reconstruction plans. We call for economic gender justice and for women's equal access to and control over resources.

## STRENGTHENING WOMEN'S POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC RIGHTS

The global economy remained in crisis in 2024. Rising inflation, higher food prices, and increased costs of living have deepened structural gender inequality. At the same time, worrying election results in several countries chipped away at democracy, sometimes even leading to outright political violence. This has curtailed women's decision-making power and economic agency.

Despite these seemingly insurmountable hurdles, women's rights activists continued to push for change these past twelve months. They stood up to anti-gender movements, called out authoritarian governments, and demanded greater political and economic influence. Many of our partner organisations spearheaded these efforts: organising around labour rights, women's entrepreneurship, land and inheritance rights, social protection, and legal awareness.

We are proud to report tangible progress as a result: from income-generating projects in Liberia, to Palestinian women farmers becoming financially independent by tackling climate change, and delegations of women's rights organisations lobbying European policymakers.

Still, upholding women's political and economic rights requires sustained commitment from civil society, international actors, and policymakers. We hope that the determination of our partner organisations will continue to inspire as we work toward more equal and just societies.

I feel like I suddenly have 19 sisters! This programme was such a boost for my self-confidence.



### **LEADERS OF TOMORROW**

We launched our first-ever leadership programme in Sweden this year, to empower young women from a migration background. The idea is to give participants valuable training and opportunities to boost their personal and professional growth.

The programme's 20 participants enjoyed leadership, project management, and communication workshops; collaborated with a mentor; and led projects in communities impacted by segregation and violence. Together, they reached more than 200 people! The girls also got to attend lectures with leaders, participated in Sweden's annual political gathering in Almedalen, and travelled to Serbia to meet some of our partner organisations.

## WHY THE EU MATTERS

The EU plays a crucial role in many of the regions Kvinna till Kvinna operates in. It influences peace, security, human rights policy, gender equality, and support to civil society. As the largest development aid donor in the world, its priorities have a significant impact on feminist organisations. The EU accession process is also a driver for change in the Western Balkans, South Caucasus, and Eastern Europe. It creates opportunities for our partners to influence decision-makers and call for greater respect for women's rights. This is important, because there is a growing anti-gender movement in several candidate countries.

As an expert on women's rights, Kvinna till Kvinna contributes to the EU's workings with crucial insight. We advocate for women's economic and political rights, access to justice for survivors of violence, and women's role in peacebuilding. In 2024, we:

- Invited a delegation of South Caucasus organisations to speak to the EU about women's and minority rights;
- Worked with partners in the Western Balkans and Ukraine to influence the EU accession process; and
- Took part in the EU's Women, Peace, and Security Taskforce, EU Human Rights Dialogue Consultations, and discussions on EU financing for gender equality and the EU's Gender Action Plan III.

### SUSTAINABLE WASTE SOLUTIONS

Plastic waste is a growing environmental and public health issue in Liberia. We've partnered with EcoPlast, a social enterprise founded by young women who are passionate about sustainability. The non-profit raises awareness of the dangers of plastic waste by going from door to door to educate Monrovians about sustainable waste-management. This year, 30 women and girls in the county took part in EcoPlast's project, highlighting the risks of plastic pollution and empowering people to take action for a cleaner, healthier Liberia. The organisation also gives women and girls who struggle to find work the opportunity to make a living from waste-collection and recycling.



supported women's political

participation.



contributed to women's increased income, stable employment, or improved working conditions.

### **STORIES FOR A MORE EQUAL ECONOMY**

To advocate for gender-sensitive economic justice in the Middle East and North Africa, we helped publish a booklet with personal stories on economic gender-based violence in the region. Titled *Hidden Voices*, the booklet is based on the lived experience of the 18 women researchers behind the project, and the more than 85 women they interviewed in Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine, and Tunisia.

The research is part of Feminist Power in Action for Women's Economic Rights (FemPawer), a Kvinna till Kvinna-

led consortium that supports young women's autonomy and strengthens their capacity to challenge economic injustice.



### **HIGH-LEVEL ADVOCACY AND LOBBYING**

This year, one of the issues our advocacy team focused on was the intersection of gender, climate, and conflict. At the 29th United Nations climate change conference (COP29) in Baku, we advocated a strong gender strategy under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and put pressure on Sweden and the EU to resist attempts by countries like Russia, Iran, and the Vatican to water down statements' language. We also spoke at high-level events like the OSCE conference Climate Action Through a Gender Lens and a meeting in Brussels on gender-transformative climate finance.

### LEGAL AID FOR MIGRANT DOMESTIC WORKERS

Lebanon's *kafala* system is an employment framework that ties migrant domestic workers' legal status to their employers. This leaves workers vulnerable to exploitation and abuse and restricts their rights, freedom of movement, and access to justice.

To address this problem, our Lebanese partner ARM published three research papers this year. The first analysed Lebanese citizens' perceptions of the *kafala* system, while the second shone a spotlight on the role that (corrupt) honorary consulates play in the abuse. The third paper looked at how the Lebanese economy exploits Syrian workers and how xenophobia has evolved in the country.

ARM provided more than 167 legal consultations at its community centre this year, advising migrant workers on their rights, sponsorship transfers, and ways of dealing with workplace discrimination. It also gave 54 referrals and held a workshop on labour law for 24 community organisers, further strengthening migrant-led advocacy.

### ACCESS TO FINANCE FOR BUSINESSWOMEN

Women are the fastest-growing group of entrepreneurs around the world, and Rwanda is no exception. According to the 2020 FinScope Gender Report, women lead more than half of micro, small, and medium enterprises in the country! Unfortunately, barriers still prevent women entrepreneurs in Rwanda from accessing financial services. Obstacles include high interest rates on loans and the requirement for collateral.

In 2024, Kvinna till Kvinna and Rwanda's Economic Policy Research Network mapped out potential financial services for women entrepreneurs in the country. We also developed a tool to help our partner organisations raise awareness about financial opportunities and promote women's economic empowerment. So far, partners report that the tool has helped point them in the direction of financial service providers that are geared more towards women.

Our work has also generated a debate at the national level. Two dialogues have already been held on the challenges that women entrepreneurs face: one with the technical working group of an international NGO network and another with financial service providers and several of our partners. In 2025, we'll work to implement the recommendations that these two

meetings resulted in—like meeting with Rwanda's National Bank and bank managers.





Climate-smart agriculture training in Ramallah for women farmers and their families.

### INNOVATIVE GREENHOUSES EMPOWER WOMEN FARMERS

One of our partners, the Palestinian Women Water Network, promotes climate-smart agriculture. This year, it supplied four women farmers in rural Palestine with hydroponic greenhouses, to help them grow crops in a way that requires much less water than traditional methods—perfect for an arid region! The women got technical support and training to better manage their business.

The result? The farmers drastically increased their agricultural output and became financially independent. This will have a ripple effect in their communities: as role models, these women will encourage other women to get involved in sustainable agriculture and decision-making around resource management.

In the long run, projects like this vastly improve food security and agricultural productivity. They also demonstrate how empowering women with the right tools and knowledge can foster resilience against climate change while promoting gender equality

#### **FEMINIST PEACE**

#### Our long-term goals

- Women meaningfully participate in conflict-transformation and peacebuilding in their societies
- Women access justice and shape justice frameworks
- Women have the agency to shape the WPS agenda and peace processes

We call for women's meaningful participation, leadership, and perspectives in peacebuilding processes, to make societies more peaceful, just and equal.

## **BUILDING PEACE ACROSS DIVIDES**

The world in 2024 felt more divided than it had in a long time. Geopolitical tension rose, the climate crisis fuelled economic uncertainty, and we witnessed an alarming surge in conflict. Authoritarianism and anti-democratic sentiment led to a 25% increase in political violence from 2023 to 2024.

Data shows that there are now twice as many armed conflicts in the world as there were five years ago, with 50 countries affected. In Gaza, nearly 50,000 Palestinians—including 18,000 children have been killed so far. Leading human rights agencies have labelled Israel's violence in Gaza genocide. Meanwhile, Russia's war against Ukraine continues to cause immense suffering and loss of life, with spiralling civilian and military casualties.

In the face of these horrors, Kvinna till Kvinna remains dedicated to addressing the root causes of conflict and advancing feminist peace. In 2024, our partner organisations participated in peace dialogues and mediation efforts. In post-conflict regions, they tirelessly promoted reconciliation and highlighted women's vital role in rebuilding processes. We amplified their efforts, addressing issues like the connection between small arms and genderbased violence, obstetric violence in Gaza, and feminist approaches to conflict-sensitivity.

When others resort to violence, we instead use our voice to fight for equality, justice, and lasting peace.

### SUPPORTING PEACE IN THE WESTERN BALKANS

Peacebuilding initiatives are going strong in Kosovo and Serbia. This year, our partner organisations AGC and Artpolis held their Feminist Spring School for the tenth time, welcoming students and attendees from the public sector and civil society.

There was cause for celebration in Bosnia and Herzegovina too, when the country's human rights ombudsman recommended introducing gender-sensitive language into the constitution. This was a significant win for Women Citizens for Constitutional Reforms, a collective initiative backed by Kvinna till Kvinna that has played a vital role for peace in the country.

## Teachers and students learn about feminist peace

Our Armenian partner organisation Frontline Youth Network worked with the country's Ministry of Education to integrate peacebuilding into the official school curriculum. Trial lessons were held at several schools, teaching both students and teachers about the concept of feminist peace. A crucial building block that will help advance sustainable peace in the region!



partner organisations worked with conflicttransformation and/or peacebuilding.



helped develop, improve, and/or uphold legal frameworks related to sustainable peace.

### **TALKING ACROSS DIVIDES**

In Armenia, our partner organisation The Women's Agenda brought together women from host communities in Armenia and displaced ethnic Armenian women from Nagorno-Karabakh to discuss the aftermath of the conflict in the region. The goal was to encourage healing, build mutual understanding, and lay the groundwork for conflict-transformation.

Similarly, younger and more experienced women's rights activists met in Georgia in October, for the first intergenerational, inter-community Armenia/Azerbaijan dialogue since the displacement of the Armenian community from Nagorno-Karabakh. This was a unique opportunity for different generations from both the capital and more rural areas to talk about their security needs and peace priorities in a safe, constructive way.

## **PEACEFUL ACTIVISM IN SYRIA**

Thanks to our partner organisations, more women in Syria are now actively engaged in peacebuilding and conflict-transformation, especially at the local level. By creating safe spaces for dialogue and influence, our partners empower women to raise their voice and shape their communities.

Badael has been a key player in this area. The organisation equips grassroots groups—especially women-led ones—with tools and knowledge to foster peace and engage in non-violent activism. Its Civil Society Support programme, for example, strengthens activists' capacity, making their efforts more impactful, inclusive, and sustainable. As a result, many new women's rights organisations have become reliable advocates for peace: they strengthen social cohesion and create opportunities for dialogue across dividing lines. By enhancing women's participation in peace processes, Badael's initiative contributes to a fair and sustainable future for Syria.

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### Defending the rights of displaced women

When violence spilled over from Israel into Lebanon after October 2023, more than a million people in Lebanon were forced to flee their homes. Several of our partner organisations stepped in to support them, focusing on women and girls. At the national level, a network of young women and the Arab Organization of Disabled People (one of our partners) produced videos to highlight the plight of displaced young women and displaced women with a disability, respectively.

Together with three of our partner organisations, we later attended the 57th session of the UN Human Rights Council, highlighting the insecurities in Lebanon and the impact they have on women in the country. Our submissions later contributed to a statement on Lebanon by the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons.



Aleksandra Petrić, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**Despite thirty years of peace,** citizens are burdened with fragile democracy, widespread discrimination, and lack of economic opportunities. As a woman human rights defender, I see my role on the frontline as fighting for peace and democracy, which are sorely needed in the whole Western Balkan region, not just in my country.



### **DIGNITY AND SAFETY FOR GAZA REFUGEES**

As genocidal war tore Gaza apart these past few months, our partner organisations did everything they could to alleviate the suffering of displaced Palestinians, with a focus on women and teenage girls.

Kvinna till Kvinna's emergency fund allowed organisations like Aisha to help meet people's basic needs by distributing hygiene supplies, food, shelter materials, baby nappies, and menstrual products. They made sure to do so in a safe and structured way, to preserve people's dignity and give everyone fair access to aid. Meanwhile, our partner WAC organised workshops, psychological support sessions, and recreational activities for girls temporarily living in camps or with host families, to protect them from gender-based violence, early marriage, and exploitation.

Together, these interventions not only provided life-saving relief, but also helped restore a sense of safety among women and girls in Gaza.

### **HUMANITARIAN AID IN LEBANON**

Lebanon has been in a state of heightened insecurity since Israel attacked Gaza in late October 2023. By September this year, the spillover violence had already displaced more than a million people in Lebanon. Many sought refuge in overcrowded shelters or were forced to sleep on the streets as the government struggled to respond to the situation. Civil society and grassroots organisations, including Kvinna till Kvinna's partners, played a vital role in addressing the population's needs. They provided shelter, handed out 2,217 food parcels, gave families cash to purchase essentials, prepared hundreds of hot meals, and donated 2,115 items, from blankets and medicine to menstrual products and baby formula. Our partners also helped relocate people when schools and community centres reached their capacity, and ensured those with urgent medical needs were cared for.

Some of those who are internally displaced in Lebanon come from marginalised groups, like Syrian refugees and migrant workers. These often face additional discrimination, meaning aid rarely reaches them. Kvinna till Kvinna's partners work to ensure emergency relief efforts include everyone.



### OPERATING ON THE FRONTLINE IN UKRAINE

As Russia continued its war against Ukraine, security rapidly deteriorated in Kharkiv and surrounding frontline areas. Our partner organisation Sphere fearlessly worked to deliver aid to women and LGBTQIA+ individuals in this high-risk zone. The organisation handed out plate carriers and helmets to protect humanitarian workers and volunteers as they assisted civilians. It also provided medical kits with life-saving supplies like tourniquets and chest seals, and back-up power stations to keep lines of communication open during power outages. Working on the frontline in an active warzone is extremely dangerous. We couldn't be prouder of Sphere for standing by Ukrainian women in their darkest hour.

### Kvinna till Kvinna's emergency fund

In 2024, we used our emergency fund to provide critical relief to partners in Gaza, Lebanon, and Ukraine—three places that are currently in humanitarian crisis due to escalating conflict. Thanks to generous support from private and corporate donors in Sweden, we were able to provide SEK 1.6 million in emergency aid to the women and communities that were hit hardest.

### NEW GOODWILL AMBASSADOR

Welcome to Alexandra Rapaport, our third goodwill ambassador! Together with fellow ambassadors Sarah Dawn Finer and Linnéa Claeson, the actor and executive producer will raise awareness of the ongoing fight for women's rights in the 20+ countries we operate in.





### **SWEDISH POSTCODE LOTTERY**

The warmest thank you to the Swedish Postcode Lottery for its generous donation of SEK 12 million this year! **"This long-term support means the world to us and our partner organisations,"** Kvinna till Kvinna's Secretary-General Petra Tötterman Andorff comments. **"It allows the organisations we work with to keep addressing gender-based violence and injustice in their communities, fostering sustainable social change."** 

I want to make a difference beyond my daily work, helping to make the world a more liveable place.

# +160,000

Kvinna till Kvinna continues to raise awareness of women's rights on social media. At the end of the year, a whopping 160,000 people followed us on our Swedish and international channels!

### WOMEN WITHOUT BORDERS

Ladies Circle International is a global network of over 13,000 women in 40 countries. The network's goal is to foster international friendship and advance gender equality. We've partnered with Ladies Circle International for a while now, to raise awareness of key women's rights issues.

This year, the network invited us to host webinars on women's economic empowerment and gender-based violence, especially in conflict settings. Ladies Circle members across the world in turn raised awareness of these issues and organised fundraisers to support our work for gender equality. A fantastic example of the power of global solidarity and collective action!



## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

The board of The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation hereby issues its annual accounts for the financial year of 2024.

The annual report is prepared in Swedish kronor (SEK). Unless otherwise stated, all amounts are reported in thousands of SEK. Figures in parentheses refer to the previous year.

### General information about the organisation

Kvinna till Kvinna was originally founded as a network of women's organisations in 1993 and became a foundation in 1995, established by the Swedish section of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (IKFF).

Since its inception, Kvinna till Kvinna has worked to strengthen women's rights, influence, and power in conflict-affected areas. Today, it is one of the world's leading women's rights organisations, collaborating with over 140 partner organisations in 20 countries. Kvinna till Kvinna works to combat genderbased violence, highlight women's struggles for peace and human rights, and ensure women's access to resources and decisionmaking processes.

The foundation is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden.

### Kvinna till Kvinna's established purpose

To implement projects in war- and conflictaffected areas that promote women's self-reliance and self-confidence, support their psychosocial and/or physical health, and contribute to women's participation in the development of a democratic civil society. To promote studies and research on the effects of war and armed conflict on women. To disseminate facts and information about the impact of war and advocate for peaceful conflict-resolution through civil means.

When Kvinna till Kvinna was founded, Sweden's peace and women's movements united, and around thirty organisations joined as supporting members.

### **Taxable activities**

Kvinna till Kvinna engages in the following taxable activities: Providing consultancy services, including expert knowledge and lectures and managing an online gift shop on the organisation's website. In December, however, all remaining stock was sold and the gift shop was discontinued. Below are some examples from Kvinna till Kvinna's work in 2024.

### Feminist peace

One of Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations in Armenia collaborated with the Ministry of Education to create a peace education curriculum. The curriculum was piloted in several schools and is expected to have a profound impact on teachers' and students' understanding of feminist peace, ultimately contributing to long-term change.

In 2024, Kvinna till Kvinna identified two new partner organisations in Uganda, conducted organisational assessments, and initiated partnerships with them. Both organisations focus on feminist peace and movement-building. One of the organisations supported was Uganda Women's Network (UWONET) through the programme *Empower Her: Advancing Feminist Organising and Peacebuilding.* As part of this initiative, an evaluation of Uganda's third National Action Plan (NAP III) was conducted, highlighting several key gaps, including insufficient resource allocation and lack of coordination among relevant stakeholders.

The Pushback against the Pushback project, funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, aims to ensure that the Swedish government remains a global advocate for gender equality. It also seeks to hold the parliamentary opposition accountable for maintaining its commitments in this area. In October, a roundtable discussion was held with representatives from the Gates Foundation, the Swedish government, and civil society, focusing on strategies to counter the growing anti-gender movement.

### Gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health and rights

A Ukrainian partner organisation advocating for the rights of women with disabilities organised a political participation workshop for young people. The workshop served as an important platform for building confidence and developing leadership skills. The partner also produced several informational materials, including a brochure on leadership for women with disabilities.

While progressive laws and policies exist in Rwanda, access to justice and support for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) remains a challenge. To strengthen protection efforts, national consultations were conducted on the role of civil society organisations in responding to GBV. These consultations revealed that while policies and guidelines exist, significant obstacles hinder their effective implementation. The findings informed capacity-building training for partner organisations, alongside technical support and guidance. All partners reported an increased understanding of how to respond to GBV.

As part of this initiative, CEDEJ established a collaboration with the gender equality department of the City of Uvira to compile statistics on teenage pregnancies, ensuring better-informed policies and responses.

### Economic and political rights

When the Palestinian Women's Water Network (PWWPN) launched its initiative for climate-smart agriculture and nature-based solutions, the goal was to empower women farmers in Palestine by providing sustainable solutions to climate change, water scarcity, and economic insecurity. The initiative focused on hydroponic greenhouses, a method that requires minimal soil and water, making it particularly effective in resource-limited areas.

As part of the project, four women from rural areas each received a greenhouse and practical training in hydroponic farming. This resulted in increased agricultural production, financial independence, and positive effects on their communities. The women have since become role models, encouraging more women to engage in sustainable farming and decision-making in the agricultural sector.

Kvinna till Kvinna's partner SOFEDI implemented a project to support women working in the mining sector by providing mining cooperatives with training on regulatory frameworks, economic rights, and gender equality. Training sessions were conducted for leaders from four mining cooperatives to ensure compliance with mining laws and the promotion of gendersensitive working conditions.

Additionally, information sessions were held, reaching women and girls. These sessions strengthened participants' understanding of economic rights, mining regulations, and pathways to financial independence, empowering women in the mining industry.

### A growing women's rights movement

In Serbia, BeFem organised a national gathering of women's groups, bringing together representatives from feminist organisations across different regions, each with their own unique focus and approach to advancing women's rights. The aim of the meeting was to strengthen collaboration and share strategies for furthering gender equality. The event created a vital platform to exchange knowledge and build alliances among feminist groups. Moving forward, the outcomes of this meeting will play a key role in shaping joint initiatives and actions to empower women in the region.

2024 also marked the first year of the project *Förändringsaktörerna – Women's Leadership for Inclusion,* funded by the Swedish Postcode Lottery. This initiative targets women in Sweden aged 20–30 who come from marginalised communities and migrant backgrounds. Throughout the year, participants took part in digital lectures and in-person workshops, including visits to Almedalen and Kvinna till Kvinna's office and partner organisations in Serbia.

Additionally, participants implemented community projects in their neighbourhoods in Sweden, aiming to promote gender equality, enhance safety, and combat violence and honour-based oppression. The programme received highly positive evaluations, highlighting its impact on leadership development and social change.

#### Key publications in 2024

Throughout the year, Kvinna till Kvinna published numerous policy statements, reports, and research compilations. The *Women's Rights in the Western Balkans* report was launched for the eighth consecutive year, continuing to provide an in-depth analysis of the situation for women in the region. The dramatic developments in Georgia, where both civil society and the rights of women and LGBTQIA+ individuals suffered significant setbacks, led to the publication of the report *No Time to Give Up*. Additionally, a research compilation on widespread sexual violence and extortion—known as sextortion—in the Democratic Republic of the Congo received considerable attention, highlighting the intersection of sexual violence and corruption.

### Significant events during the financial year

Globally, democratic space shrunk even further in 2024, particularly for the women's rights movement. In the South Caucasus and Eastern Europe, human rights deteriorated rapidly, forcing several of Kvinna till Kvinna's partner organisations to adapt their working methods. An increased focus on cybersecurity became necessary as a protection against threats and harassment. This development has made planning more difficult and made it more challenging to support partners, as the ability to securely and reliably transfer funds was affected in several countries. Ongoing conflicts continued to have a significant impact on operations in 2024. In the most affected regions, reporting and auditing processes were particularly challenging. Despite these difficulties, Kvinna till Kvinna's partners demonstrated great flexibility in their work in Gaza, Lebanon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Ukraine. Additionally, Kvinna till Kvinna underwent a major organisational restructuring during the year. Due to challenging economic conditions, the organisation was forced to lay off 20 members of staff.

#### **Financial instruments**

Kvinna till Kvinna's investment policy is based on a long-term perspective, with an increasing focus on positive selection criteria related to environmental and ethical considerations. Investments are permitted only in bank deposits, interest-bearing securities such as certificates and bonds, shares, fixed income and equity funds, and alternative investments. All investments must be guided by respect for the environment, human rights, and labour conditions, while also adhering to principles of good corporate governance.

### Expected future development and key risks and uncertainties

Kvinna till Kvinna continues to face significant uncertainty in terms of how to finance its operations. In the coming years, the focus will remain on strengthening both private and institutional fundraising. As part of this effort, a funding application for capacity-building within civil society will be submitted to Sida in early 2025. Additionally, Kvinna till Kvinna will continue to prioritise diversifying its funding sources to ensure long-term financial stability.

### **Organisational sustainability**

Kvinna till Kvinna took important steps throughout the year to make its HR efforts, security, and work environment more sustainable. The focus was on creating an inclusive, safe, and effective workplace where employees can thrive and develop. To improve the work environment and employee integration, a digital onboarding process was introduced, providing new

employees with a clear understanding of the organisation's values and guidelines. Internal procedures were enhanced to increase accessibility and understanding of policies, while leadership training programmes were conducted to further improve workplace well-being. Diversity and inclusion remain a priority, and a new salary policy was implemented to ensure fair and transparent remuneration practices. Additionally, new evacuation plans and security protocols were introduced to strengthen preparedness, and collaboration with the IT department resulted in enhanced cybersecurity and data protection guidelines. Psychosocial health and well-being were another focus area. Efforts were made to strengthen the work environment by raising awareness of psycho-social risks, improving mental health support structures, and providing training on conflict-resolution and leadership.

### Governance

Kvinna till Kvinna's board is appointed every four years. The Women's International League for Peace and Freedom (IKFF) nominates six board members, while the Swedish Peace and Arbitration Society appoints one member. The board holds the ultimate responsibility for decision-making and organisational governance. Kvinna till Kvinna is led by a Secretary-General, who is supported by a leadership team consisting of the Deputy Secretary-General and department heads for Programmes, Finance, Communications, HR, and Security. During the year, the Secretary-General and Deputy Secretary-General were adjunct members of the board, along with a Board Secretary and an employee representative with a designated alternate.

### Financial performance and position

In 2024, after two years of deficits, Kvinna till Kvinna achieved a positive operational result of SEK 2.9 million and a net result after tax of SEK 4.2 million. The result includes adjustments from previous periods amounting to SEK 3.4 million, which were recognised as income during the year, and a provision of SEK 2.2 million for a potential repayment to a donor.

Operationally, grant income decreased by 4.5% compared to 2023, while donation income increased by 15%. At the same time, total costs fell by 4%, contributing to the improved financial outcome. Financial income increased by nearly SEK 1 million compared to the previous year, significantly impacting the final result.

The goal for 2025 is to maintain this positive trend with a balanced budget. By strengthening financial sustainability, Kvinna till Kvinna can ensure the continued impact of its vital work.



### **THE BOARD 2024**

DEVRIM MAVI Chairperson | Born 1970 Office manager at The Swedish Disability Rights Federation. Active on the board since 2014.

MALIN ALMROTH Deputy chairperson | Born 1990 Coordinator at Victim Support Sweden. Active on the board since 2019.

CARINA ANDERSSON Secretary | Born 1963 Unit managerat the Swedish Red Cross. Active on the board since 2019.

TOVE AHLSTRÖM Board member | Born 1977 Sustainability expert. Active on the board since 2023.

LISEN BERGQUIST Board member | Born 1987 Advocacy manager at Friends. Active on the board since 2019. JOHANNA MANNERGREN Board member | Born 1966 Lecturer. Active on the board since 2019.

TSEHAINESH TEKLEAB Board member | Born 1970 Environmental strategist. Active on the board since 2019.

DAVID MILLER Substitute | Born 1974 Case officer at Save the Children. Active on the board since 2023.

SEINAB HILOWLE Substitute | Born 1987 Specialist at RFSU. Active on the board since 2023.

ANNA VIGDIS GUSTAVSSON Substitute | Born 1991 Business developer at the Swedish Red Cross. Active on the board since 2023. English translation of original document in Swedish.

### Multi-year overview

	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020
General conditions					
Number of partner organisations	156	151	140	140	151
Average number of employees	112	125	134	132	129
Result					
Operating income	217,642	221,282	217,516	196,370	201,562
Fundrasing and donations	27,740	24,050	23,848	22,845	24,611
Allocations and grants	185,851	194,742	192,671	172,569	172,475
Net turnover (webshop)	550	212	255	349	207
Other sources of income	3,501	2,278	742	608	4,269
Operating expenses	-214,719	-224,127	-218,551	-195,535	-192,004
Net operating result	2,923	-2,845	-1,035	836	9,558
Profit/loss from financial investments	1,369	398	763	202	159
Net profit/loss for the year	4,277	-2,535	-272	1,001	9,569

### **Changes in equity**

	Project- specific donations	Retained capital	Profit/loss for the year	Total capital
Equity 1 January 2024	1,171	17,744	-2,535	16,380
Allocation of the previous year's profit/loss:	-	-2,535	2,535	-
Donor-designated purpose 2024	593	-593	-	-
Designated funds to Emergency fund 2024	1,290	1,290	-	-
Transfer from/to restricted equity:				
Utilised donor-designated funds 2024	-343	343	-	-
Utilised funds of the Emergency fund 2024	-1,661	1,661	-	-
Net profit/loss for the year	-	-	4,277	4,277
Equity 31 December 2024	1,050	15,330	4,277	20,657

The foundation's financial result and position are further specified in the following income statement, balance sheet, and cash flow statement including notes.

### **Income statement**

	Note	2024	2023
Operating income	2		
Donations	3	27,740	24,050
Grants	3	185,851	194,742
Net turnover	4	550	212
Other operating income		3,501	2,278
Total operating income		217,642	221,283
Operating expenses	5,6		
Programme expenses		-188,182	-206,234
Sales expenses		-8	-224
Fundraising expenses		-10,769	-7,645
Administrative expenses		-15,760	-10,024
Total operating expenses		-214,719	-224,127
Operating result		2,923	-2,844
Profit/loss from financial items			
Profit/loss from other securities and receivables that are fixed assets	7	479	28
Interest income and similar profit/loss items	8	905	795
Interest expenses and similar profit/loss items		-15	-425
		1,369	398
Total profit/loss from financial items		4,292	-2,446
Profit before tax		4,292	-2,446
Tax	9	-15	-88
Net profit/loss for the year		4,277	-2,535

### **Balance sheet**

	Note	2024	2023
Assets			
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets			
Equipment	10	467	836
Financial fixed assets			
Other long-term securities holdings	11	85	620
Total fixed assets		552	1,456
Current assets			
Stocks etc.			
Merchandise		-	24
Total stocks etc.			24
Current receivables			
Accounts receivable		240	19
Other current receivables		31,660	22,73
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	12	2,011	2,72
Total current receivables		33,911	25,65
Cash and bank		124,932	114,44
Total current assets		158,843	140,11
Total assets		159,395	141,573
Equity and liabilities			
Equity			
Unrestricted Equity			
Donor-designated project funds		1,050	1,17
Retained earnings		15,330	17,74
Net profit/loss for the year		4,277	-2,53
Total equity		20,657	16,38
Provisions for liabilites	13		
Other provisions		2,200	
Total provisions for liabilites		2,200	
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable		1,428	3,19
Liability from received but not utilised grants	14	79,150	53,35
Other current liabilities		1,649	2,00
Accrued expenses and deferred income	15	54,311	66,63
Total current liabilities		136,538	125,19

### **Cash flow statement**

	Note	2024	2023
Operating activities			
Total profit/loss after financial items		4,292	-2,447
Operating result		4,292	-2,447
Adjustments for items not included in cash flow			
Depreciation and amortizations		368	586
Increase/decrease in provisions		2,200	-
Other non-cash items		-479	-
Paid income tax related to business activities		-88	-107
Cash flow from operating activities before			
changes in working capital		6,293	-1,968
Cash flow from changes in working capital			
Increase/decrease in stocks and ongoing work		24	58
Increase/decrease in current receivables		-8,186	3,533
Increase/decrease in current liabilities		11,344	30,899
Cash flow from operating activities		9,475	32,522
Investment activities			
Investments in financial fixed assets		-	-50
Sales of financial fixed assets		1,014	-
Cash flow from investment activities		1,014	-50
Cash flow for the year		10,489	32,472
Opening cash and cash equivalents			
Opening cash and cash equivalents		114,443	82,184
Exchange difference in cash and cash equivalents			
Exchange difference in cash and cash equivalents		-	-213
Closing cash and cash equivalents	16	124,932	114,443

### Notes

### **NOTE 1** Accounting and valuation principles

#### **General information**

The annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and BFNAR 2012:1 (K3), as well as GIVA Sweden's guidelines for annual reporting. The principles remain unchanged compared to the previous year. The accounting principles are unchanged from the previous year.

### Income statement

#### Operating income

Only the inflow of economic benefits that Kvinna till Kvinna has received or will receive for its own account is recognised as income. Income is valued, unless otherwise stated below, at the fair value of what has been received or will be received.

#### Net turnover

Income from the sale of products in the gift shop and consultancy services is included in net turnover. Income from the sale of goods is normally recognised at the time of sale.

#### Donations

A transaction in which Kvinna till Kvinna receives an asset of value without giving equivalent value in return is classified as a donation. Donations include those received from the public, companies, organisations, religious communities, private and non-profit foundations and funds, as well as sponsorships. Also included are bequests and gifts, donated assets, and income from donations with gift certificates. The basic grant from the Swedish Postcode Lottery is also classified as a donation. Donations in the form of a company committing to donate a percentage of its sales to Kvinna till Kvinna are also considered fundraising income, as the sale is carried out by an external party. As a general rule, donations are recognised as income when received. They are generally valued at fair value.

#### Grants

Funds received from the EU, the state, and formally independent bodies formed by these, which are provided in the form of resource transfers to an organisation in return for Kvinna till Kvinna fulfilling or committing to fulfil certain conditions related to its operations, are classified as public grants and must be reported as such (K3 36.8 and 37.10). There is also a requirement for repayment if the conditions are not met. The same definition applies to other organisations that provide funds under similar conditions. Grants are recognised as income when the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. Received grants are valued at the fair value of the asset received or to be received. Grants are reported as a liability until the conditions for recognition are fulfilled. Grants received to cover expenses are recognised in the same financial year as the related expense.

#### Other income

Primarily income from conducted training sessions and consultancy services. Income is valued, unless otherwise stated below, at the fair value of what has been received or will be received.

#### **Operating expenses**

Operating expenses are categorised as purpose costs, fundraising costs, and administrative costs.

#### Purpose costs

Purpose costs refer to expenses directly related to fulfilling Kvinna till Kvinna's objectives and statutes, namely:

- Support to projects that promote women's selfconfidence and self-esteem, women's psychosocial and/or physical health, or otherwise contribute to women's participation in building a democratic society.
- Dissemination of facts and information about the effects of war and advocacy for peaceful conflict resolution through civilian means.
- Promotion of studies and research on the impact of war and armed conflict on women.

Administrative costs arising as a direct consequence of an activity/project are considered purpose costs. Examples include Kvinna till Kvinna's field offices, central project management and administration of grant applications.

#### Fundraising costs

These costs are directly related to fundraising activities targeting all of Kvinna till Kvinna's donors. They include salaries, system costs, and donor management.

#### Administrative costs

Administrative costs include the expenses necessary to manage Kvinna till Kvinna, such as costs for board meetings, auditing, personnel, premises, and administrative systems.

#### Leasing

All of Kvinna till Kvinna's leases are classified as operating leases. Leasing costs include rent for premises and office equipment. Lease payments are expensed on a straight-line basis over the lease term (including initial increased rent).

#### Employee compensation

Ongoing remuneration to employees, such as salaries, social security contributions, and similar, is expensed as services are performed. Since all pension obligations are classified as defined contribution, the cost is recognised in the year the pension is earned.

#### **Results from financial investments**

Interest income is recognised as it is earned. Dividends are recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

#### Income tax

This year's tax expense includes tax related to the year's taxable profit. This pertains to Kvinna till Kvinna's activities involving sold products as well as completed trainings and consultancy assignments. There are no temporary differences, which is why deferred tax is not recognised.

#### **Balance sheet**

Assets and liabilities are valued at acquisition cost unless otherwise stated below.

#### Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are valued at acquisition cost less depreciation according to plan. Depreciation is applied on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful life. Tangible fixed assets are removed from the balance sheet upon scrapping, disposal, or when future economic benefits are no longer expected from their use.

The following depreciation periods are applied: Equipment 5 years Computers 3 years

Certain equipment purchases are reported as operating expenses. This applies when grants have been allocated for the purchase.

#### Inventory of goods for resale

Goods for resale are valued, using the first-in, firstout principle, at the lower of acquisition cost and net realisable value on the balance sheet date. In December, the remaining inventory was sold and the gift shop closed down.

#### **Financial assets**

At the time of acquisition, financial assets are valued at acquisition cost including direct transaction costs. After initial recognition, short-term investments are valued at the lower of acquisition cost and net realisable value on the balance sheet date.

#### Receivables

Receivables are recognised at the amount expected to be received after individual assessment.

#### **Foreign currencies**

In the annual accounts, cash, bank balances, and other monetary items are recognised at the exchange rate on the balance sheet date.

#### Equity

Retained earnings include all accumulated profits and losses from the current and previous periods. Donor-designated project funds within equity refer to unspent gifts allocated for specific purposes or other restricted funds.

Liability for received but not utilised grants If Kvinna till Kvinna has received grants for which the conditions have not yet been met, a liability is recognised. Decided but unpaid grants are reported as either a long-term or short-term liability.

### Cash flow statement

The cash flow statement is prepared using the indirect method and is based on the operating result from ongoing activities. Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, bank balances, and short-term investments with a maturity of less than three months.

#### **NOTE 2** Estimates and judgements

In preparing Kvinna till Kvinna's income statement and balance sheet in accordance with the applicable accounting principles, the following revenue adjustments and write-downs have been made, which affect the reported amounts of income and liabilities.

This year's revenue has been affected by the following decisions and judgements:

- · Reversal of a previous provision relating to refunds of taxes and fees on personnel costs for deployed staff during 2019-2020. The amount totals SEK 2.9 million.
- Recognition of a previously received gift amounting to SEK 594,000.
- · A provision of SEK 2.2 million has been recognised, which has reduced reported grants by the corresponding amount. This provision relates to missing financial reports from partner organisations in Gaza, where repayment claims from the public donor may arise.

#### **NOTE 3** Donations and grants

	2024	2023
Donations reported in the income statement		
General public	12,388	9,666
Companies	1,166	1,119
The Swedish Postcode Lottery	12,000	12,000
Ladies Circle International	734	-
Foundations and trusts	1,452	1,265
Total donated funds – Donations	27,740	24,050
Donated funds (estimated amounts – not accounted for)		
Advertising	1,130	156

Pro bono services (estimated amount) Total donated funds - Estimated amount

### Grants recognised as income

### **Private grants**

Radiohjälpen	4,268	3,915
The Swedish Postcode Lottery	2,616	1,133
Gates Foundation	914	-
Other organisations	97	-
Total donated funds		
– Private grants	7,895	5,048
Public grants		
SIDA	146,885	175,154
Other Swedish authorities	4,151	2,905
EU	368	1,796
Foreign Commonwealth &		
Development office (FCDO), UK	11,449	34
The Netherlands,		
Ministry of Foreign Affairs	8,081	8,572
Deutsche Gesellschaft für		
Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ)	3,119	1,339
UN	1,937	-,555
Irish Aid, Government of	1,557	
Ireland's development		
cooperation programme	56	-106
Other foreign/international		
authorities	1,910	-
Total public grant	177,956	189,694
Total grants	185,851	194,742
Total funds raised consist		
of the following:		
Gifts reported in the income statement	27,740	24,050
Gifts not reported in the income		
statement	1,739	1,514
Private grants reported as income	7,895	5,048
Total funds raised	37,374	30,612

### **NOTE 4** Net turnover

1.358

1,514

609

1,739

	2024	2023
Net turnover		
Consultancy service	535	1,008
Gift shop	15	212
Total	550	1,220

### **NOTES**

### **NOTE 5** Employees and staff costs distributed by country

	2024	2023
Average number of employees by country		
Sweden	56	69
Western Balkan	14	13
Other parts of Europe	1	1
Middle East	12	15
Sub-Saharan Africa	22	21
South Caucasus	7	6
Total	112	125
All employees are women.		

### Gender distribution among key management personnel

Number of women on the board	7
Number of men on the board	0

### Salaries and other remuneration

Total	68,076	73,906
(of which pension costs excl. payroll tax)	2,814	2,661
Social security contributions	11,925	13,336
Total	56,151	60,570
Other employees	55,217	59,661
Secratary-General	934	909

Social security contributions for employees outside of Sweden are included in the total salary cost and are not reported separately.

Of the pension costs, SEK 218 000 (236) refers to the organisation's Secratary-General.

### Salaries and other remuneration distributed by region are as follow:

Sweden	32,430	36,535
Western Balkan	6,325	5,744
Other parts of Europe	461	700
Middle East	7,535	9,042
Sub-Saharan Africa	5,797	5,831
South Caucasus	3,603	2,718
Total	56,151	60,570

#### 2024 2023 The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation primarily leases premises and other office equipment. Recognised leasing fees amount to SEK 7,371,000 (7,362). Future leasing fees fall due as follows: Within one year 6,718 6,628 Later than one year but within 15,377 14,784 five years Later than five years 1.736 5,186 Total 23,741 26,688 **NOTE 7** Profit/loss from other securities and receivables held as fixed assets 2024 2023 Dividends 479 28 Total 479 28 **NOTE 8** Other interests income

### and similar items

**NOTE 6** Leasing

7

0

	2024	2023
Interest income from bank deposit	774	583
Foreign exchange result	119	212
Interest expenses	-3	-1
Total	890	795

#### **NOTE 8** Tax on taxable profit for the year

Income tax is calculated based on taxable business activities.

	2024	2023
Income tax	-15	-88
Tax on profit for the year	-15	-88
Reported result in taxable operations before tax	74	427
Tax calculated according to current tax rate (20.6%)	-15	-88
Other	0	0
Total	-15	-88

### **NOTE 10** Equipment

	2024	2023
Opening acquisition cost	1,562	1,512
Purchases	0	50
Later than five years		
Closing accumulated		
acquisition cost	1,562	1,562
Net acquisition value	1,562	1,562
Opening depreciation	-726	-358
Depreciation for the year	-369	-368
Closing accumulated		
depreciation	-1,095	-726
Closing carrying amount	467	836

### **NOTE 11** Long-term securities

	2024	2023	
Opening acquisition cost	620	620	
Purchases	6	0	
Sales/disposals	-541	0	
Closing accumulated costs	85	620	
Closing carrying amount	85	620	

#### **NOTE 12** Prepaid expenses and accrued income

	2024	2023
Prepaid rent	1,119	934
Prepaid insurance premiums	266	78
Prepaid partner support	80	644
Other prepaid expenses and		
accrued income	546	1,070
Total	2,011	2,726

### **NOTE 13** Provisions

	2024	2023
Other provisions		
Opening balance	0	0
Provisions for the year	2,200	0
Total	2,200	0

### **NOTE 14** Liability from received but not utilised grants

	2024	2023
Swedish authorities	25,770	19,003
EU, UN and other foreign authorities	45,862	24,468
Foundations and organisations	7,518	9,884
Total	79,150	53,355

### **NOTE 15** Accrued expences and deferred income

	2024	2023
Accrued holiday pay	1,694	2,194
Accrued social security contributions	486	566
Deferred grants	45,787	56,071
Other items	6,343	4,879
Refunded employer contributions and pension premiums	0	2,927
Total	54,310	66,637

### **NOTE 16** Cash and bank balances

	2024	2023
Cash and bank		
Cash on hand	216	291
Bank balances	124,716	114,153
Total	124,932	114,444

### Signing of the Annual Report

Stockholm, on the date stated in our electronic signatures. Devrim Mavi / chairperson Malin Almroth / deputy chairperson Carina Andersson Tove Ahlström Lisen Bergquist Johanna Mannergren **Tsehainesh Tekleab** Our audit report has been submitted on the date stated in our electronic signatures. Micaela Karlström / Authorized public accountant Jesper Hansén / Lay auditor

## **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the board of Kvinna till Kvinna Corporate identity number 802401-6134. English translation of original document in Swedish.

### Opinion

We have audited the annual accounts for The Kvinna till Kvinna Foundation for the fiscal year 2024.

In our opinion, the annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and provide a true and fair view of Kvinna till Kvinna's financial position as of December 31, 2024, and its financial performance for the year in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act. The statutory administration report is consistent with the other parts of the annual accounts.

### **Basis for opinion**

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. The responsibilities of the auditors under these standards are further described in the sections The Responsibilities of the Authorized Public Accounting Firm and The Responsibilities of the Elected Auditor. We are independent of the foundation in accordance with generally accepted auditing practices in Sweden. As an authorized public accounting firm, we have fulfilled our professional ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Other information besides the annual report

The Board of Directors is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the administration report (but does not include the annual report and our auditor's report thereon).

Our opinion on the annual report does not cover this other information, and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the annual report, our responsibility is to read the information identified above and consider whether it is materially inconsistent with the annual report, or our knowledge obtained during the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement in this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Responsibilities of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is responsible for the preparation of the annual report and for ensuring that it gives a true and fair view in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act. The Board is also responsible for such internal control as it determines it is necessary to enable the preparation of an annual report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual report, the Board of Directors is responsible for assessing the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. Where applicable, the Board shall disclose matters that may affect the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern and apply the going concern assumption. The going concern basis of accounting is, however, not applied if a decision has been made to liquidate the foundation or to cease operations.

### Responsibilities of the Authorized Public Accounting Firm

We have conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the annual report is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISA and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the annual report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement in the annual report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentation, or the override of internal control.
- obtain an understanding of the foundation's internal control relevant to the audit to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the foundation's internal control.
- evaluate the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors.
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Board of Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the annual report.

We also conclude, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the foundation's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the annual report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion on the annual report. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the foundation to cease to continue as a going concern.

 evaluate the overall presentation, structure, and content of the annual report, including the disclosures, and whether the annual report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that gives a true and fair view.

We are required to communicate with the Board of Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit. We must also communicate significant findings from the audit, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify

### **Responsibilities of the Elected Auditor**

I am required to conduct an audit in accordance with the Swedish Auditing Act and thereby in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. My objective is to obtain reasonable assurance as to whether the annual report has been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and whether it provides a true and fair view of the foundation's financial performance and position.

### Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

#### Opinions

In addition to our audit of the annual accounts, we have also audited the administration of the Board of Directors of Kvinna till Kvinna for the fiscal year 2024. In our opinion, the members of the board have not acted in violation of the Swedish Foundations Act, the foundation's charter, or the Swedish Annual Accounts Act.

### **Basis for opinions**

We have conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibilities under these standards are further described in the section "The auditor's responsibilities." We are independent of Kvinna till Kvinna in accordance with professional ethics for accountants in Sweden and have otherwise fulfilled our professional ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate as a basis for our opinions.

### **Responsibilities of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors is responsible for the administration in accordance with the Swedish Foundations Act and the foundation charter.

#### The auditor's responsibilities

Our objective concerning the audit of the administration, and thereby our statement, is to obtain audit evidence with a reasonable level of assurance to assess whether any member of the Board of Directors has, in any material respect:

- undertaken any action or been guilty of any negligence that may give rise to liability to the foundation, or whether there are grounds for dismissal.
- in any other way acted in contravention of the Swedish Foundations Act, the foundation charter, or the Swedish Annual Accounts Act.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but it is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always detect actions or negligence that may result in liability to the foundation. As part of an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden, the authorized public accountant exercises professional judgment and maintains professional skepticism throughout the audit. The review of the administration is based primarily on the audit of the accounts. Any additional audit procedures performed are determined by the authorized public accountant based on professional judgment, with a focus on risk and materiality. This means that our audit is focused on those actions, areas, and circumstances that are of material importance to the operations, and where any deviations or violations would be of particular significance to the

foundation's situation. We review and assess decisions taken, the underlying documentation for such decisions, actions undertaken, and other relevant matters necessary for our opinion.

As of the date stated in my digital signature.

Jesper Hansen Elected Auditor

**Micaela Karlström** Authorized public accountant

### For all women's rights, in every corner of the world.

