



Irish Countrywomen's Association
Bantracht na Tuaithe

8th March 2023 – International Women's Day

What: To mark the International Women's Day, ICA Central Office came up with a very simple but powerful initiative: a photo-action. As reported by the National Women Council of Ireland, since Ashling Murphy's murder, 15 women have been killed just for their being women. This is why, Central Office thinks that the ICA should dedicate this important day to the fight against Gender-based Violence.

All we ask you to do is to take yourself a picture holding a sign saying "EndGenderBasedViolence". The pictures will be collected by Central Office by the 1st of March 2023. They will put together in a collage and a post with an official text will be published on ICA social media pages (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and the ICA website).

How to take the picture:

1. Take the picture in a vertical way.
2. Hold the sign in a horizontal way.
3. Write the sign in a readable way, using a dark marker.
4. Check the light, try to take the picture in a dark room.
5. Send the picture to Alice, from ICA Central Office, T: 085 250 7496 or E: office@ica.ie
6. Have a look at the example below (Attachment 1)

Attachment 1:

Sample picture will be provided

International Women's Day History

International Women's Day's genesis goes back to February 28, 1909, New York, U.S.A., with a prophetic focus on women's rights. Known originally as "National Woman's Day" it was first proposed by Theresa Malkiel and loosely based on the urban legend commemorating a protest by women garment workers in New York City, on March 8, 1857.

Inspired by Malkeil and other American activists, German Socialist Luise Zietz suggested there be an annual Women's Day which was quickly seconded by sister activist, Clara Zetkin and supported by Kate Duncker. One hundred women delegates from 17 countries agreed with the suggestion as a means to continue promoting the rights of women, including suffrage (the right to vote).

On March 19, 1911, International Women's Day was officially marked for the first time. More than one million people celebrated in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland. Women demanded the right to vote, to fight against sex discrimination in the workplace, and to hold public office.

The demand for women's rights continued to grow, gain support, and shine a much-needed light on the poor conditions under which too many women continued to live.

In 1967, the notion of women's rights was taken up by the next generation of female activists who called for equal pay, equal economic opportunity, equal legal rights, reproductive rights, subsidized childcare and the prevention of violence against women.

The United Nations began celebrating International Women's Day in 1975, which was declared "International Women's Year". In 1977, the United Nations invited members to proclaim March 8th as the UN Day for Women's Rights and World Peace.