



**INTERNATIONAL ORDER OF
FREEMASONRY FOR
MEN AND WOMEN**

LE DROIT HUMAIN

LIBERTY - EQUALITY - FRATERNITY



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***Communiqué of the Supreme Council of the International Order of Freemasonry
for Men and Women LE DROIT HUMAIN***

**Council of Europe Convention on the prevention and the struggle against violence
towards women and domestic violence**

Istanbul Convention, concluded in Istanbul on 11th May 2011 / ratified by Turkey on 14th March
2012

The International Order of Freemasonry for Men and Women LE DROIT HUMAIN strongly deplores Turkey's denunciation of this Convention which, according to its preamble, condemns "all forms of violence against women and domestic violence, recognising that the achievement of *de jure* and *de facto* equality between women and men is a key element in preventing violence against women".

LE DROIT HUMAIN has been affirming the equality of men and women since its creation nearly 130 years ago. It can only strongly condemn the Turkish withdrawal from the Convention and considers it as a regression in the order of civilisation.

With this Convention, Turkish women could expect recognition of their rights and greater protection against all forms of violence. The Turkish political regime has decided otherwise, grossly violating the most basic human rights and by denying its own commitments, showing its contempt for international law.

The members of LE DROIT HUMAIN assure their Turkish Sisters of their admiration, support and solidarity. They know that they will not give up and will continue with determination their difficult progress towards equality, justice and security

Supreme Council
International Order of Freemasonry for Men and Women
LE DROIT HUMAIN