

Mission and Vision of WoMen of Orange (WOO)



Finding Each Other in a Digital Era

In a time where digital contact is on the rise, we at times miss the connection physical contact brings. Although new technologies make the ones far just a videocall away, they also tend to make us to spend more time on our screens daily and make the ones close to us less approachable. While we are surrounded by many people all the time, reaching out to the right person may be overwhelming. It is this very notion that pushed us to start the web of 'WoMen of Orange' under the umbrella of the Dutch consulate in Istanbul in October 2018. WOO brought various women from different backgrounds and sectors together. Connection and solidarity are WOO's priorities.

Connections Based on Equality and Sincerity

We all differ from each other may it be concerning sex, gender, sexuality, nationality, ethnicity, education, class, religion, age or ability. Some aspects of our identity give us privileges in a certain context and in another situation the same aspect, or others, are constraining us. At WOO, connections made are based on respect and admiration of our differences. We aim to facilitate heart-to-heart connections from one human to another. We are trying to be an example, but not a flawless one. We all have faults and biases but we are ready to reflect upon ourselves and try to change them in order to challenge cultural dogma and social constructs that no longer serve us. We are trying to free ourselves from glass ceilings and sticky floors. We do not claim that we have all the answers nor that we are right. We are just trying to live what we believe: the common and universally accepted principles that all human beings are born free and of equal worth. Human rights are women's rights and women's rights are human rights. We are trying to do some sustainable good in this world, trying to speak the unspoken, trying to start conversations on difficult topics, trying to have positive impact on people's lives with our work at 'WoMen of Orange', while also being and improving ourselves with each passing day.

An Organically Growing Network

It is our wish to imitate nature by letting this network grow organically and create cobwebs all around the country and perhaps later on all around the world. So come, whomever you may be, whatever you might be doing, to share and listen and connect!