



AKATEEMISET NAISET
KVINNLIKA AKADEMIKER
UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Rt Honourable Mr. Hugo Martinez
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Calle El Pedregal
Blvd. Cancellara
Ciudad Merliot
Antiguo Cuscatlan
El Salvador
C.A

26 July 2016

Dear Minister,

Finnish Federation of Graduate Women (FFGW) wishes to express deep concern at the unjustified severity of the penalties proposed in the motion submitted by the Nationalist Republican Alliance (Arena) to reform article 133 of the penal code. This represents a complete imbalance of justice: responsibility is a joint issue for men and women.

The FFGW calls on the parliament of El Salvador to observe the country's commitment to eliminating discrimination against women as in Article 1 of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) ratified by El Salvador on 19 August 1981.

The FFGW therefore urges the government of El Salvador not to proceed with punitive measures, but rather to implement and strengthen compulsory education programmes, which include sexual health education in order to change social attitudes and provide girls and women with multiple opportunities throughout their life cycle, including access to education up to the highest levels.

On the behalf of the FFGW board,
Yours sincerely,

Susanna Sulkunen
Ombudsman
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