UNCUT

Supporting the Fight against Female Genital Mutilation:
Promoting Women’s Rights by Demanding the Full Enforcement of Law

PHOTOGRAPHS BY SIMONA GHIZZONI
TEXT BY EMANUELA ZUCCALÀ

WEDNESDAY
6 FEBRUARY 2019
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, BRUSSELS

18:00:
VERNISSAGE OF THE EXHIBITION “UNCUT”
(LOBBY: ASP 00D)

18:30:
ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION
(ROOM: ASP A3H1)

HOSTED BY PIER ANTONIO PANZERI, MEP
Supporting the Fight against Female Genital Mutilation:
Promoting Women's Rights by Demanding the Full Enforcement of Law

6 February 2019
European Parliament, Brussels

18:00-18:30: Vernissage of the exhibition “UNCUT” (lobby ASP 00D)
18:30-20:00: Roundtable discussion (room ASP A3H1)

For 200 million women, in more than 30 countries in the world, the transition from childhood to adulthood is marked by the blood of a genital mutilation. This practice is internationally recognized as a serious violation of human rights.

With the growth of migration, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) has also spread to Europe. It is estimated that 500,000 women or girls living in Europe have undergone FGM and that 150,000 are at risk of undergoing it. The presence in Europe of women subjected to mutilation when they were girls raises the need to put in place prevention and support policies to guarantee them access to socio-health and legal services and the possibility to save themselves and their daughters from the practice or the risk of suffering it.

Against this backdrop and on the occasion of the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation, No Peace Without Justice (NPWJ), Differenza Donna NGO, l’Institut de Santé Génésique/Women Safe (France) and La Palabre (Belgium), in cooperation with MEP Pier Antonio Panzeri (President of the Sub-Committee on Human Rights of the European Parliament), organise a roundtable entitled “Supporting the Fight against Female Genital Mutilation: Promoting Women's Rights by Demanding the Full Enforcement of Law”, at the European Parliament in Brussels.

This event is organised as part of the BEFORE project (Best practices to Empower women against Female genital mutilation, Operating for Rights and legal Efficacy), supported by the European Union’s Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020). Bringing together civil society representatives, experts and institutional actors, the roundtable will allow for constructive dialogue on specific recommendations elaborated by the project partners to enhance effectiveness of political, legal and social responses to FGM in EU Member States.

The event will be preceded by the vernissage of the exhibition “UNCUT: The revolution of women against FGM”. UNCUT is a photographic exhibition and web-documentary that celebrates the courage of women from three African countries (Somaliland, Kenya and Ethiopia) who have formed coalitions to fight against the cruelty of FGM. The exhibition, which has already received several prizes and will be hosted at the European Parliament from 4 to 8 February 2019, gives a collective voice to testimonies of pain, but also highlights courageous battles against the patriarchal logic of FGM that violates the dignity of women.