



YPJ

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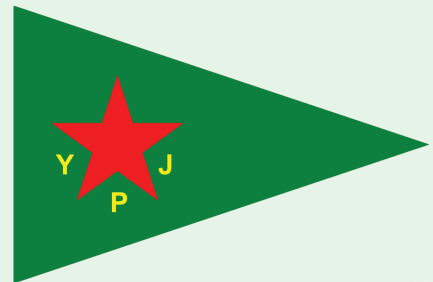
YPJ's mission statement

NAME:

YPJ, Kurdish: Yekîneyên Parastina Jin, English: Women's Defense Units, also Women's Protection Units

FLAG:

Red star on a green background, the name of the organization is written in yellow letters around the star



The YPJ is the main national military organisation, acting within the framework of the Democratic Nation paradigm based on ecology and women's liberation. The YPJ defends society, women, and democratic values, by exercising the people's right of legitimate self-defense to build a democratic Syria and a free Kurdistan. This involves fighting against the dominant system of patriarchal militarism, sexism, religious fundamentalism, nationalism, positivism, and the nation-state. A system that has attacked the peoples of the world and their values for 5000 years. The YPJ is the organization of women around the principle of self-defense, and therefore one of its main responsibilities is to guarantee women's freedom.

For this reason, the YPJ is organizing itself autonomously as a women's force. Its members are women of all religions, languages, or nations. The YPJ has its own General Command and is represented by female leaders within the General Command of the People's Protection Units (YPG). Decisions are made jointly together with the YPG. Decisions related to the YPJ however, are made independently by the YPJ leadership through conferences, extended meetings, or through its own military council. The YPJ is organizing within the YPG through a minimum gender of 40%.

Every member of the YPJ is advocating for women and society through her own self-expression, having a national consciousness, moral values, and a political understanding of the need to defend her lands. With this consciousness of legitimate self-defense, the YPJ's members are breaking the chains of slavery and conservatism. This is a fight against all forms of gender-based, physical violence as well as ethical and cultural attacks on women. The YPJ is organizing the defense of all women in Rojava (Western Kurdistan) and Syria. Thanks to its high levels of organization, the YPJ aims to become a vanguard force for all women across the world.



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To exercise the legitimate right to self-defense, the YPJ is developing its tactical strength according to the current situation. Therefore, the YPJ is working within a system that organizes itself into battalions and units and is dedicated to tasks related to the YPJ's various duties and principles. This includes a commitment to developing a disciplined and principled organization. These struggles are strengthened by joint collaborative operations, working alongside other organizations in the fight for the victory of ethical principles. A victory that will develop a new democratic culture for the Kurds, Arabs, Assyrians, Suryanis and all ethnicities.

Women from any nation or ethnicity within society – including Kurds, Arabs, Assyrians and Suryanis – can choose to fight against the obstacles to women's liberation such as regressive conservative values within society. Those who choose to join the YPJ and exercise their right to self-defence, are welcomed openly and given both ideological and military education to become a fighter within the YPJ's ranks.

These women are committed to any tasks or duties necessary to meet their responsibilities. They fight against attacks on women at all levels. Including the conservatism that is forced upon women. To be a YPJ fighter is to struggle with legitimate self-defense in mind, with a consciousness rooted in the paradigm of women's liberation. This develops the strength of women in a disciplined way, including the necessary tactical skills to handle any situation. Crucial to this is the creative and communal character of the YPJ fighter. According to her rights and principles, she engages in all spheres and activities of life.

YPJ fighters are being educated in academies, like the Martyr Silan Academy of Women's Defense. Academies that foster gender-awareness, instill love and understanding of the homeland, and teach the principles of a free life. Through such education, YPJ fighters deepen their ideological and military knowledge. This gives fighters personal strength, democratic ecological consciousness, and an understanding of freedom. Strengthening these ideological aspects, alongside tactical training, and technical expertise necessary for legitimate self-defense, enables women to become capable and skilled commanders.