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## 5 GENDER EQUALITY – Alea Sužnević

Same rights, save lives, same opportunities for women and men: these things are unfortunately not self-evident for women in the most countries of the world. Gender Equality deals exactly with that. To end discrimination against women and girls is a big issue all over the world and it should also be an issue that is improving everywhere now. Some countries are more developed than others, but they also must continue their improvement. A good example is Austria. Here women have the same rights and mostly the same opportunities as men, but that is exactly the problem: just mostly. All over the world women get on average 10 to 30 percent less money paid for the same work. While there has been some development in Austria, there are many countries where the situation is catastrophic like in Afghanistan. There the female population has no human rights. Women are not allowed an education and it is dangerous for them to go outside their homes. This situation must change, and some projects exist to help it.

Project idea:

Sometimes people don't know how they can change the current situation. My project idea begins in Austria, but if the idea is successful, I would be pleased if it took place in other countries as well. The idea is to have a restaurant where you can eat local cuisine from a different country each month. Half of the income from the month would go to the women in the country that your food was from. This would be used to fund schools for girls and to financial support women in these places.

Small things you can do by yourself:

- Donate to charity organizations, which deal with gender equality.
  - If my project is actualized, come to the restaurant to enjoy fantastic food, and help female persons achieve a better education;)
  - Don't have prejudices!
  - Make sure that you stay informed on the current situation surrounding gender equality.
  - Stand up against harassment.
  - If full gender equality isn't reached, keep pushing for it, even if you are just mostly there.
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