Fademur denounces the precarious pensions of rural women

In the current context of concern about the future of pensions, the Federation of Rural Women's Associations has pointed out that rural women are the poorest face of the pension system, the "most fragile" element, as stated in a press release. In the opinion of this organization, this is due to the gender gap that characterizes the Spanish rural environment, where the work of women "has been and is still invisible". Thus, the work of this group in front of agricultural operations is not mostly collected in the Social Security system, without losing sight of the fact that their job opportunities in the field are less than those of men or women in the cities. As a result of all this, when reaching the retirement age, rural women receive the lowest pensions: non-contributory and widowhood.

The Federation of Rural Women's Associations (Fademur) has called attention to the situation of poverty that many rural pensioners experience. "The gender gap is greater in the rural world, which has been a perfect breeding ground for our pensioners are now the poorest in the country," said Fademur.

> The women of the towns are one of the collectives in which the non-contributory and widow's pensions abound the most. The first can even be just over 90 euros. The second, less than 370

The organization has explained that, on the one hand, this is because rural women have fewer job opportunities. *They support an unemployment rate of 42.8%, a percentage seven points higher than the national average rate, and even almost four points higher than the average unemployment rate for women throughout Spain*.

From Fademur have also indicated that the work of rural women is mostly invisible. "We spend our lives working, but on many occasions it is not a recognized work". The organization has set the example of women in many farms whose work is not recognized by Social Security, only that of their spouses.

> Seven years ago they tried to get their work to light through the Law of shared ownership that, however, has been inefficient

"*The problem has not been the Law itself but the apathy of the Administrations at the time of executing it", they stressed in Fademur. It is not by chance that in all of Spain there are still fewer than 360 farms that have accepted this scheme and that even in two Autonomous Communities (Andalusia and Madrid) not even a register of holdings in a shared ownership has been opened"*.

Finally, women have been and are the support of rural society. Fademur has indicated that this situation has reached the extreme after the cuts in services in the villages. "Without public transport, nursing homes, health centers, schools ... Women become carers of this neglected society. Care that is essential so that the rural world does not fall apart and disappear, yes, but also invisible and that when we grow older and need it more, they take their toll".

> Fademur warns that we must banish the idea that you can live with less money in the villages, "you live but at the cost of much personal sacrifice and give up many services that are much more expensive because, in the absence of public services, they are scarce or private"

As stressed from this Association, "to live well in a town you need a decent income level; and, of course, the pensions of women in the rural world do not reach far that level ".

Source: Fademur

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