



OFFICE OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDER
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
PUBLIC RELATIONS UNIT



Statement of the Human Rights Defender of Armenia related to the speech of the vice-speaker of the Armenian Parliament on a woman parliamentarian

It is absolutely unacceptable to insult a woman by targeting her gender and doing it in a way that insults woman's private or family life.

Similarly, it is unacceptable to do the same within political or any other discourse and even more unacceptable, when it takes place at a parliamentary session, especially against a woman parliamentarian.

Respect towards women, guaranteeing their dignity and fighting against stereotypes should be a mission for all of us.

To prevent similar situations in the future, we must target on the topic of discussion, instead of the opponent's gender during a debate.

Ms. Ani Samsonyan is the Deputy Chair of the National Assembly's Standing Committee on Protection of Human Rights and Public Affairs; she is our important partner and has a significant role in human rights protection in Armenia.

A dignified and equal attitude towards women in our society should prevail. We should encourage women's participation in the country's political life.

These rules are to be applied in the most absolute manner.