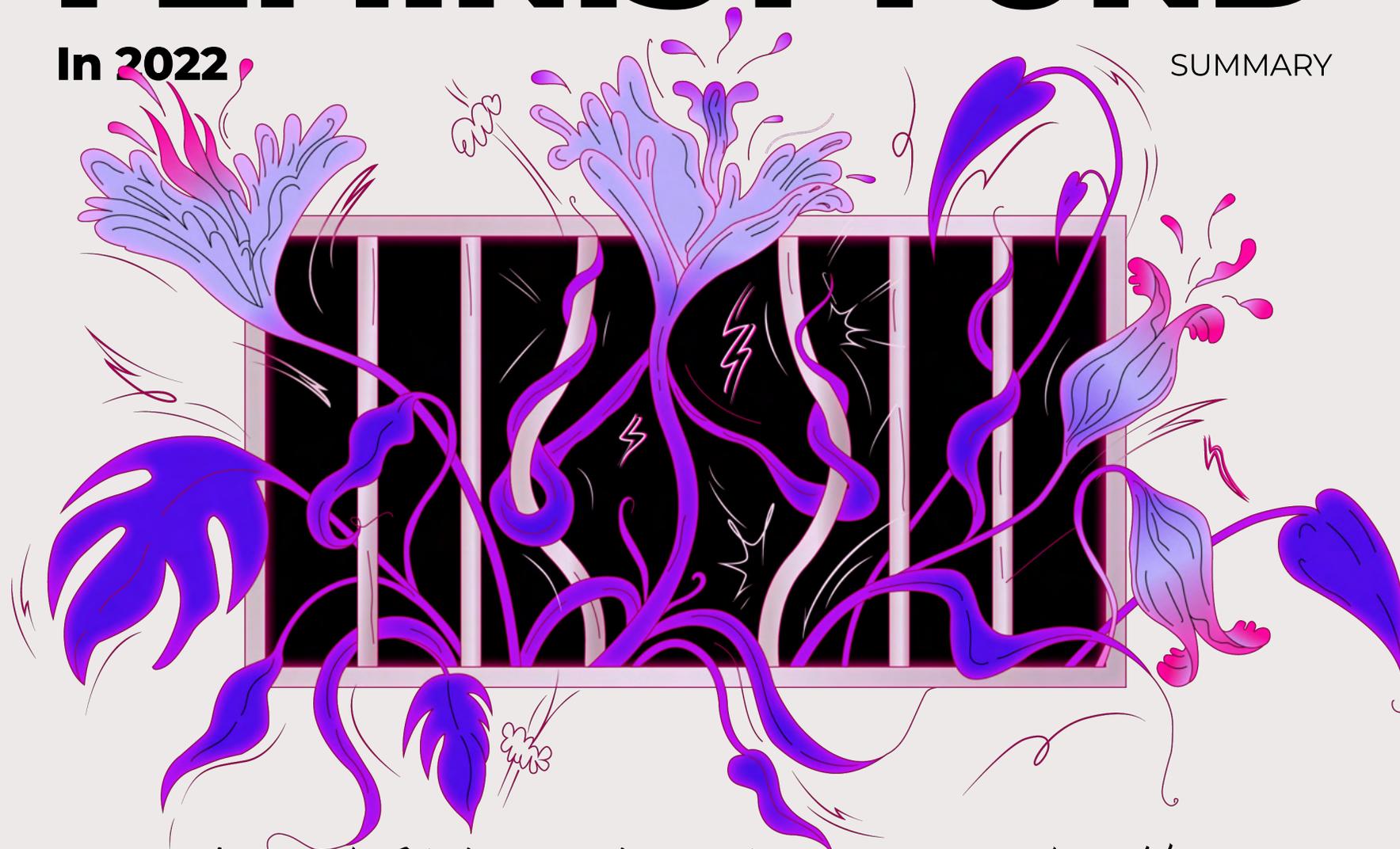


# FEMINIST FUND

In 2022

SUMMARY



*We resist. Solidarity and mutual support are our strength!*

# Dears,

we are saying goodbye to 2022 and, although we are already thinking about next year, filled with a whole lot of plans and dreams, today we want to stop and take a look at what is behind us.

The last twelve months have been an extremely difficult time, full of new worries and extremely important issues that required unprecedented mobilization and strength from all of us. It was a time of tension, turbulence, and radical change, accompanied by anger and fear, but also extraordinary mindfulness, solidarity, and empathy. We are finishing the year 2022, appreciating the huge amount of unplanned but well-done work, recognizing the strength and flexibility of feminist and queer movements in Poland and around the world. At the same time, we turn our care and empathy to the fatigue and the need for regeneration in our organization and the entire community.

On the day when Russia's invasion of Ukraine began, our world stopped for a second and then changed irreversibly. It was a moment of great fear for the lives of people from Ukraine and for the well-being of those fleeing the war. Also, the horribly destructive weave that combines nationalism, imperialism, patriarchy, unlimited exploitation of fossil fuels, and never-ending pursuit of profit became clear. The need for feminist solidarity and joint action has become more urgent than ever. The year 2022 was a time of unprecedented oppression, but also of maximum resistance – full mobilization to support organizations and groups operating in Ukraine and those that help refugees in Poland.

At the same time, in 2022, we did not give up on earlier plans and missions of the Feminist Fund. This year we have allocated the largest amount of money in FemFund's herstory for feminist activism: as much as PLN 1,590,241.53.

However, more first herstory events took place! We have published a report on feminism in Poland "Where there is oppression – there is resistance", which contains information collected from over 600 groups and organizations. The first herstory Congress of the Feminist Fund was also held, which was attended by over 90 persons from over 50 activist groups operating in Poland – FemFund grant recipients. Our dreams have come true! We dreamed that the feminist movement would have more space for getting to know each other, building relationships, cooperating, and learning from each other.

**We're closing another chapter in FemFund's life, but before we do, see how much feminist good happens with you and thanks to you every day. Let's relive it 😊**

*Ania, Do, Ilia, Gosia, Gosia,  
Justyna, Magda, Marta i Mona* 

The text is surrounded by several hand-drawn white scribbles. One is on the left side of the word 'Ukraine', another is above the hyphen, a third is below the word 'Ми', and a fourth is on the right side of the exclamation point.

**Ukraine –  
Ми з Вами!**

## Intervention support for groups operating in Ukraine

Since the beginning of the invasion of Ukraine, we have been in contact with the sister women organization's fund in Ukraine (Ukrainian Women's Fund – Український Міночий Фонд) and local feminist groups.

Although the main area of activity of FemFund is the feminist movement in Poland, in which we are rooted, we feel that our duty and expression of solidarity was to strengthen the activism of our sisters in Ukraine. Therefore, thanks to the support of partner organizations and after consultation with activists from Ukraine, we decided to hand intervention grants to the Ukrainian activist community. They will support both humanitarian actions and the daily work of groups and collectives that cannot obtain money from other sources.

In an accelerated mode, in March and April 2022, we donated a total amount of almost PLN 300,000 to four groups and organizations operating in Ukraine:

### ● Women's Perspectives (Громадська організація Центр Жіночі Перспективи)

A women's organization from Lviv, operating for more than 20 years. Currently, it creates temporary shelters for women and children who have fled to Lviv and the surrounding areas from the regions of intense fighting. Their first hostel was built in their own office, which they quickly adapted to bedrooms, kitchens, and other living spaces. During the first seven months of the war, 2,000 people lived in the intervention facilities: women with disabilities, elderly women, mothers with children – including newborns, for whom WP's shelter was the first apartment in their lives. In each facility, counselors provide support, and persons who use the accommodation can get help in everyday matters, such as finding a job in a new place.

### ● Feminist Workshop (Феміністична майстерня)

A young feminist organization from Lviv, which deals with networking activists and education about feminism. After the outbreak of war, the members of the Feminist Workshop created an apartment for activists (FemKwartira), where they can continue their activities. They also organize childcare, support groups for women and non-binary persons, and help relocate people who need to leave Ukraine.



### ● **Kharkiv Women Association Sphere (Харківське Жіноче Об'єднання «Сфера»)**

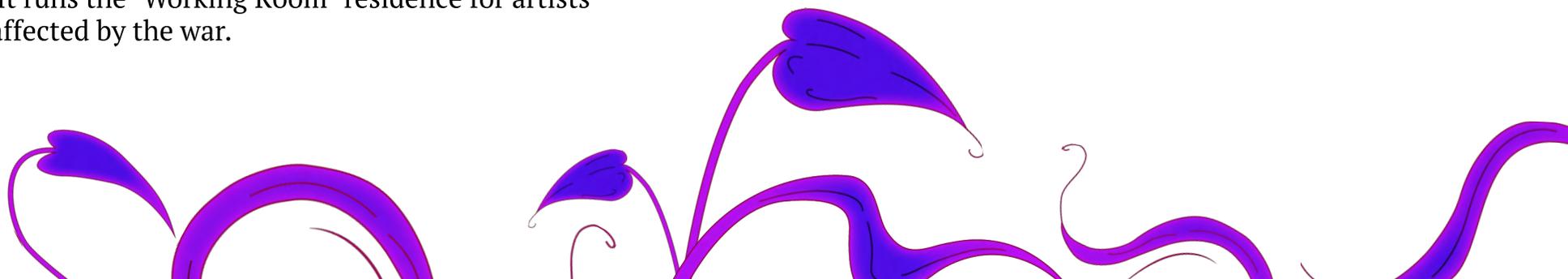
The only lesbian-feminist organization in Ukraine, currently runs support groups for women and persons who remain in the eastern part of Ukraine, provides financial assistance, helps to obtain gynecological and legal support. Members of the Sphere organized, among others, a protest in Kharkov against sexual violence and rape, the perpetrators of which are soldiers from Russia. Recently, the Sphere held the first (and the only since February 24) Pride Week on the territory of Ukraine, including the Metro Pride march in the Kharkov metro, which is presently the safest place in the city.

### ● **Assortment Room (Асортиментна Кімната)**

Assortment Room is a project that supports "art on the periphery" – including that created by young artists. Since the outbreak of the war, the team has been involved in the evacuation of art archives and the protection of cultural heritage from destruction and looting, salvaging works of art from various cities of Ukraine: Kiev, Odessa, Zaporozhe, Bila Tserkva and others. It runs the "Working Room" residence for artists from areas affected by the war.

In response to the war in Ukraine, the FemFund team also organized the first humanitarian transport in its herstory. A truck packed with thermos, solar lamps, power banks, power generators, charging stations, tourist heaters, portable stoves, chargers, sleeping bags, medicines, and hygiene products went to Lviv, to the Women's Perspective organization.

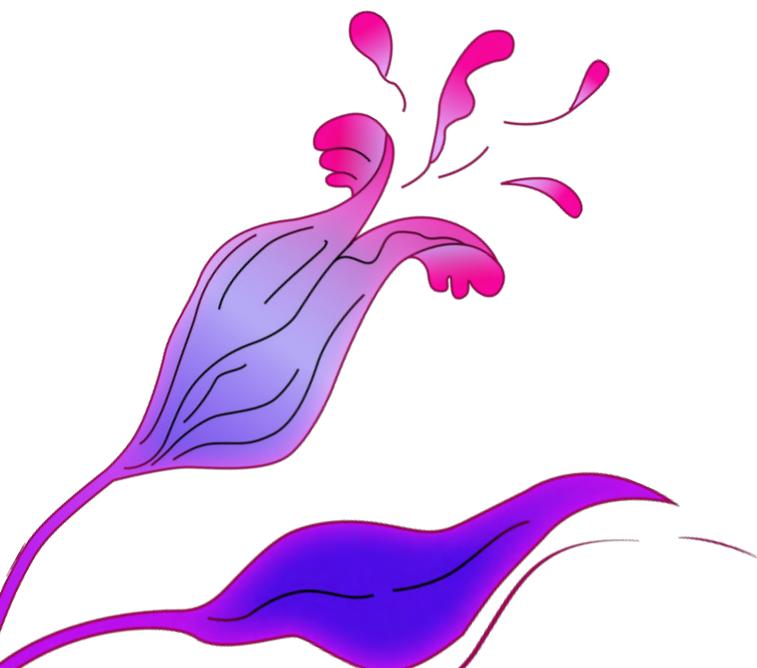
In 2022, we talked about war, humanitarian crisis, but also planetary feminism – cooperation and solidarity across borders with sister funds from the Prospero Network. It was not at random that Warsaw was chosen to be the meeting place. We see the need for personal, feminist conversations where feminism is needed the most. FemFund took on the role of the organizer of such an event for the first time, and the meeting was attended by great funds from Armenia, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Georgia, Spain, the Netherlands, Germany, Serbia, and Ukraine. The fact that our community also includes organizations from outside Poland, with diverse experiences of resistance and change, is a very big reinforcement for us.



## Support for persons fleeing the war

Since the outbreak of the war, we have wanted feminist and queer communities that form a network of solidarity and support to be able to focus on the most important thing – taking care of the needs of persons in crisis – without a rigid schedule, without planning separate projects, without excessive bureaucracy.

We have decided to donate Feminist Aid Grants to organizations and groups that have been mobilizing in connection with the war in Ukraine to protect the life, health, and safety of refugees and the activist community.



After accelerated talks with groups and organizations, we donated 10 grants to support refugees and activists. The grants went to:

● **Alliance for Black Justice in Poland**, a coalition of organizations, groups, and individuals whose goal is to support Black people fleeing the war in Ukraine; people of African descent, apart from the trauma associated with the war, have experienced racial discrimination in access to support.

● **Feminoteka Foundation**, which supports women with experience of violence in relationships and sexual violence, and after 24 February launched support in the Ukrainian language (including helpline, safe accommodation, legal and psychological assistance).

● **Foundation "Our Choice" / Фонд "Наш вибір"**, run by women from Ukraine, who have been living in Poland for years. After Russia's invasion, Our Choice became one of the main organizations supporting the Ukrainian community. In addition to aid activities, Our Choice reactivated Women's Clubs – a space for informal meetings, development, and relaxation.

● **RegenerAction Foundation**, which deals with the issues of activist burnout. With the mobilization of organizations, collectives, and individuals who have engaged in supporting persons from Ukraine, the risk of burnout has increased. RegenerAction gives tired activists the possibility of supervision, psychological consultation, or massage, among other things.

● **The Poland-Roma-Ukraine Group and the Foundation Towards Dialogue**, supporting refugees from the Roma community, who are experiencing enormous discrimination in access to help. The foundation helps with access to food, medicines, safe housing, as well as long-term integration.

● **NOMADA – Association for the Integration of Multicultural Society**, which for years has been supporting people with experience of migration and being a refugee, including Roma people, collaborating with entire communities. Currently, it runs, among others, the Blue Dot help centre in Wrocław for persons evacuated from Ukraine.

● **Association "For the Earth"**, which has been working with refugees for years in the center in Lukow, and this year launched intervention support for persons from Ukraine (assistance in finding an apartment, support in shopping, courses of the Polish language). For the Earth also focuses on strengthening grassroots self-help networks, such as the Women's Group of Support for Ukraine operating in their social garden.

● **Homo Faber Association**, which works for refugees in Lublin. After the outbreak of the war, HF launched intervention support for persons from Ukraine, but it also focuses on long-term integration, supporting the economic independence of people from Ukraine, and strengthening communities.

● **MUDITA Association**, i.e. an organization working for the rights of persons with disabilities and their carers. After the outbreak of the war, MUDITA opened two hostels adapted to the needs of persons with disabilities, and also runs support groups for their caregivers, and a helpline.

● **Association for Immigrant Families of Persons with Disabilities Patchwork**, founded by immigrant women raising children with disabilities in Poland. Since Russia's invasion of Ukraine, they have been involved in, among others, evacuation of families with persons with disabilities, organization of medicines and in-kind assistance, assistance in access to health care and accommodation.

But we decided to do more! Together with our buddy organization, Love Does Not Exclude, we created a temporary place of residence for refugees, who – due to their identity – were excluded from access to the assistance offer. The space has been equipped with all the necessary appliances and household items. People stayed with us from a few days to several months to relax, regain strength, and start settling in Poland or looking for a home in other places. From March to September, when the accommodation space operated, a total of 12 women, children, and persons, mainly from the Roma community and the LGBTQ community, benefited from it.





НОУ БОРДЕРС

author of the photo: Yulia Krivich

## **Feminist Emergency Service**

Last year, we started the Feminist Emergency Service, which allows us to quickly launch money to operate in new, unforeseen circumstances.

In the face of war and in the emergency mode of feminist activism, urgent grants turned out to be particularly important and necessary. Hence our decision to increase the amount of one grant to PLN 3,000.

This year, 17 informal groups and feminist organizations in Poland benefited from the support of the Feminist Emergency Service – 10 of them allocated money for urgent actions and direct assistance in connection with the ongoing war in Ukraine.

**Solidarity and mutual support are our strength** —————>

**“ For approx. five months we ran a grassroots transfer hostel for refugees. During the busiest period (February-March), the hostel was open non-stop throughout the week. We tried to provide our guests with unconditional support and everything they needed at the moment: a place to sleep, access to a bathroom with a bathtub, a washing machine, food, top-ups for phones, food for their further journey, as well as support with conversation and tips such as where the Ukrainian community meets in Warsaw. We have reaffirmed our conviction that grassroots, non-hierarchical, non-commercial initiatives in times of crisis are often the last resort. This experience has shown us that anarchists are able to organize and help intersectionally, not just “their own people.”**

*-Perpetual Help Group*

● **Requeer Collective**

Organizing the event SOLIDARY WITH UKRAINE and issuing a benefit publication, the profit from which was allocated to support transgender persons from Ukraine.

● **PassionSharing Foundation**

Creating a place of temporary shelter for people fleeing the war in Ukraine.

● **Perpetual Help Group**

Creating a bottom-up, non-commercial transfer hostel for mothers with children, large families, and queer persons fleeing the war in Ukraine.

● **Our Small Motherlands Foundation**

Purchase of starter packs for women, containing basic cosmetics and hygiene products, as well as school supplies for children.

● **Mothers On The Border**

Purchase of new underwear, personal hygiene products, mobile phones for women held in a closed center for refugees in Biala Podlaska.

” **In addition to solidarity works by artists in the zine, we also created stickers with works of persons of Ukrainian origin, who are an important part of our community. We are particularly interested in showing the works of people from Ukraine, because promoting their art is an additional way of supporting them.**

*-Requeer Collective*



● **Women Behind the Wheel**

Creating a network of drivers who deliver humanitarian aid and offer safe and free transport for women and children from the areas most affected by the war.

● **The needs of refugee mothers with children in Poland**

Conducting research: an online survey/series of individual interviews and focus groups allowing to determine the needs of refugee mothers and their children.

● **Upheaval Foundation**

Conducting the Queer Solidarity initiative, in which the group responds to the most urgent needs of queer refugees: among others, paying for medicines related to transition and medical visits.

● **Batty Aunts**

Purchase of hygiene products, underwear, equipment, and everyday items for refugees in local centres.

● **Instigators Collective**

Publishing and printing a zine about work, the income from which will be allocated to the Committee of Domestic Workers (among which a significant group are refugees from Ukraine).

” **Many women tell us how much peace of mind a female driver gives them and how much anxiety they feel when a ride is offered by a man. Although we know that most men have good intentions, we decided to ride alone to give these women, who have already experienced trauma, even a little respite and peace on the road.**

- *Women Behind the Wheel*



## **Social, intersectional, and rebellious feminism**

The urgent interventions of the Emergency Service were not limited to responding to the war. It was extremely important for us to be able to support the protest of persons with disabilities and their carers at the Presidential Palace in November 2022. #2119 PLN is the benefit received by a carer of a person with disabilities, which is combined with a prohibition of gainful employment. This is systemic discrimination, laughable support, and shifting responsibility for treatment, care, rehabilitation, and therapy to families, especially women. This protest is a struggle for a dignified life, a whole life, and an independent life – an obvious feminist cause! Equal treatment of persons with disabilities is our common struggle!

**Help us pass information  
about the Emergency Ser-  
vice to initiatives that  
may need urgent money.**

**Detailed information  
about the Emergency Ser-  
vice can be found at:**

**[femfund.pl/pogotowie](https://femfund.pl/pogotowie)**

**Because feminism is an  
urgent matter!**



**Even more  
feminism**



# Mini Grants

Since the beginning of FemFund, we have been committed to working with organizations and informal groups that include women and queer persons, including persons with disabilities, living in rural and smaller towns, migrants, refugees, and persons with no economic privilege. MiniGrants are an invitation to this cooperation ♥

This is our flagship and very popular program, allowing groups to receive PLN 4900 for a feminist start and fulfilling smaller or larger feminist dreams. It is also a change in the rules of the game adopted in traditional philanthropy: the groups that have submitted applications co-determine those to whom the money will go.

In 2022, MiniGrants supported a record number of 28 initiatives! Most of them were chosen by the groups and organizations who were seeking support themselves.

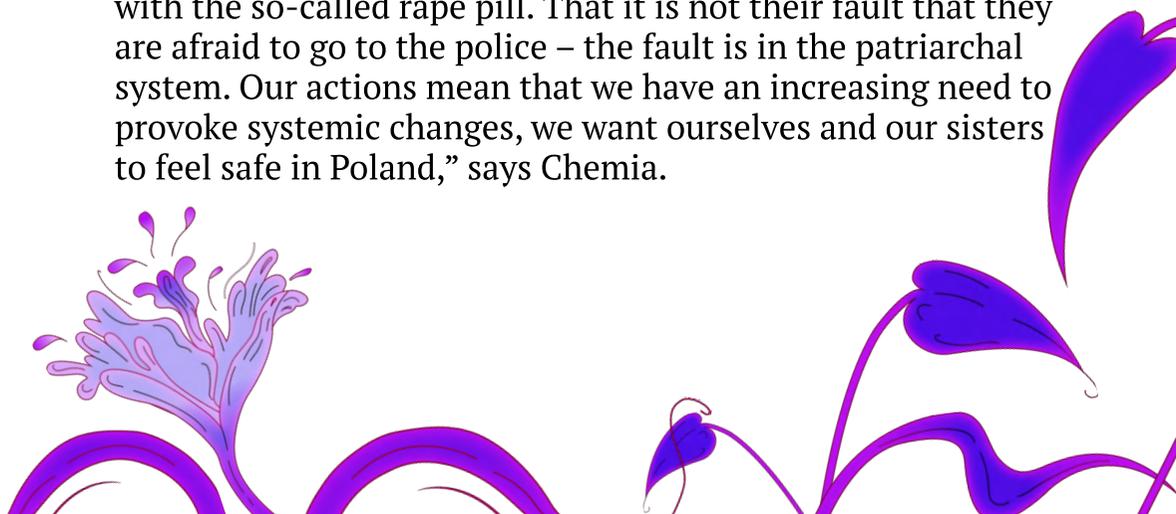
We are very happy that we have been able to support so many great initiatives, because we know how powerful MiniGrants are – both financially and non-financially: how many dreams can be fulfilled for just a little money and how much change they bring into the lives of individuals, groups, and entire communities.

**See how much feminist good happens thanks to MiniGrants. Here are some of them** →

## ● Chemistry Collective

Chemistry Collective is a network of persons who educate about sexual violence, or more precisely – the so-called rape pills. “We care about the availability of information and research, and the creation of a safe space to share stories about the experience of poisoning and violence – and their universality is frightening.”

The MiniGrant fund helped them create and send posters and information leaflets in Polish, English, and Ukrainian to schools, restaurants, and clubs in Poland. For the duration of the MiniGrant, they also helped 27 people who applied for support after experiencing poisoning. Now, members of Chemistry are creating the Safe Girl Summer podcast to reach the public even more widely with knowledge about this topic. “We feel that by sharing educational content, people become aware that it is not their fault that they have been drugged with the so-called rape pill. That it is not their fault that they are afraid to go to the police – the fault is in the patriarchal system. Our actions mean that we have an increasing need to provoke systemic changes, we want ourselves and our sisters to feel safe in Poland,” says Chemia.



## Mini Grants

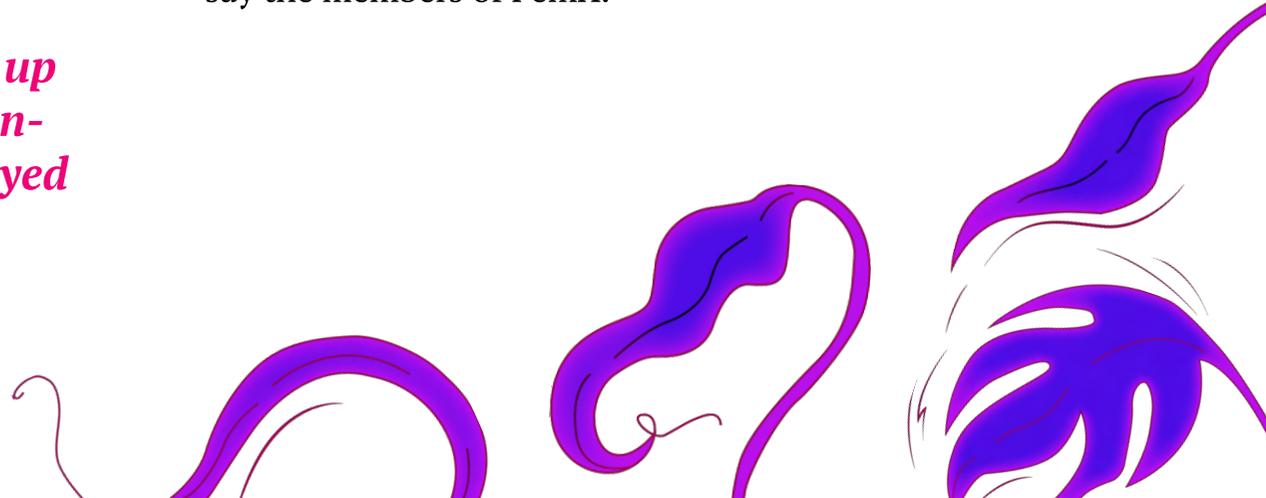
### ● Caretakers of Debak

As part of the MiniGrant, the group planned a series of activating and uplifting meetings addressed to women with refugee experience who recently left the facility in Debak and began their independent life outside it, and to those who are still in it. These are persons from, e.g., Afghanistan, Ghana, Cameroon, Kyrgyzstan, Congo, Somalia, Rwanda, and Tajikistan. The group's plans were verified by the needs of women – it turned out that the most important thing was to be together, establish relationships and rest, and that dancing together emboldens, breaks barriers, and builds trust, which is especially important in a group that gets to know each other without any common language. Caretakers of Debak organized a meeting in September, the main part of which were dances with an instructor from the Refugees Dance Club.

” *They want to dance to let off steam, to rest after difficult experiences. They came up with the idea themselves – they started dancing during the first meeting, to music played from a mobile phone.*

### ● FemX

The group consists of three women who came to Poland from Ukraine, Belarus and Russia. As part of the FemFund MiniGrant, the girls decided to invite other people who recently came to Poland to jointly prepare a performance in the spirit of Playback Theatre. Using theater therapy, they created a safe, comfortable space for women with different experiences, of different ages, coming from different countries (Ukraine, Russia, and Belarus); a safe, comfortable space in which they gained trust, strength, energy, and self-confidence, and transformed what is difficult into positive. They became a team that after only 8 meetings performed, on August 23 at the European Solidarity Centre in Gdansk, in front of a large audience with a completely improvised performance entitled “Where I feel good”, created on the basis of the stories of persons from the audience. “We are overjoyed. There is a sense of purpose and certainty that it is worth continuing” – say the members of FemX.







# Mini Grants

## ● Smart But Cold. Cold House

The activists purchased temperature and humidity sensors with data archiving for municipal apartments to give tenants (as well as tenant organizations) hard arguments, helpful in demanding an end to energy poverty as soon as possible.

They want to show how expensive it is to live in buildings without central heating and how difficult it is to maintain the right temperature inside them. "Municipal housing is supposed to be a form of help, and it turns out to be a big problem, because the costs of electric heating are very high, and an underheated apartment is susceptible to mold, which in turn causes diseases (...) The morning temperature in an apartment heated by an electric stove around the clock is around 15°C. There are older people who sleep in hats at a temperature of 8-10 degrees and do not open the windows to keep the heat inside", says a member of the Smart But Cold group. A cold house that guided us through Warsaw's Wlochy district and told us about the problem of "sick houses", i.e. buildings without central heating.

It is worth emphasizing that cold housing is a systemic problem resulting from gross negligence on the part of the local government. According to subsequent groups governing Warsaw, switching on central heating and taking care of communal housing is unprofitable, "it does not pay off".

As a result, the buildings stand unmaintained and underheated for years, and are deteriorating. The activists write that in this matter – decent living conditions – the city does nothing.

## ● Women Flowers of Kociewie Association

As part of the MiniGrant, the members of the group organized a workshop on urinary incontinence, thanks to which they could learn about the cause of the problem, its prevention, and treatment. An important part of the workshop was a conversation in a trusted group, because the problem is not only the ailment itself, but also (and perhaps above all) the shame associated with it, the withdrawal from social life, isolation, loss of self-esteem and perceived attractiveness. This situation is the result of systemic disregard for women's health problems and insufficient, poorly accessible health care for women living in the countryside.

"Let us have the courage to face what we are experiencing, but above all, let us have the courage to take care of ourselves. If doctors do not take us seriously now, let us take care of ourselves" – said the members of the Women Flowers of Kociewie Association during the workshop. Thanks to the activities of the association, women felt that they were not alone with their problem, that, contrary to institutional restrictions, they wanted to and could "fight for each other" together.







## Mini Grants

**” Thanks to our project, the participants saw that they had to fight for themselves, for their health, their dignity. They saw that they were not alone with the problem, that surprisingly, a friend or even a neighbor also had such a problem, "and yet she never spoke".**

### ● Neuroqueer

As part of the MiniGrant, the group financed adaptation accessories (such as weighted blankets, silencing headphones, sensory toys) for 24 neuroqueer persons. As many as 157 people applied to participate in the action of the collective – many more than could be supported using the MiniGrant – which is why the collective wants to continue its activities. Group members do not call what they are doing "activism", but mutual aid. It is not just about specific, material support, but also about creating a space – a neuroqueered space, as they say – in which neuroatypical persons, hitherto invisible, will be able to talk about their needs. “We want to share our own capability with others, build a culture of mutual support, implement activities that promote greater autonomy, independence, not needing care. When you talk about your needs once, twice, three times – it becomes easier, it builds the courage to look for solutions, for support” – they say.

### ● Menstrual Leave Team

The group issued a “Report on menstrual leave”, which included the voices of women employed in Poland based on various forms of agreements, a review of state initiatives and good practices of private enterprises, as well as information on countries where menstrual leave is legally established. “We want to create a more friendly workplace for menstruating persons. Our value as employees should not depend on our resistance to pain or physiological differences. Today, in Poland, a person who is unable to function at work due to menstrual pain has to take an on-demand leave, a holiday leave, or a sick leave (which is associated with the loss of part of the remuneration). As a result, menstruating persons put their health at risk”.

But the report is just a prelude to further action! The Menstrual Leave team plans to publish guides for companies and organizations, organize discussion panels, educational and awareness actions. They want to start a serious conversation about menstrual leave in Poland, because the research they have conducted has shown that there is such a need.

**” Each and every one of us can have agency in this subject – it does not have to be legally ordered. We can introduce menstrual leave in our small company or organization. Such individual success stories can really help you introduce this solution systemically.**





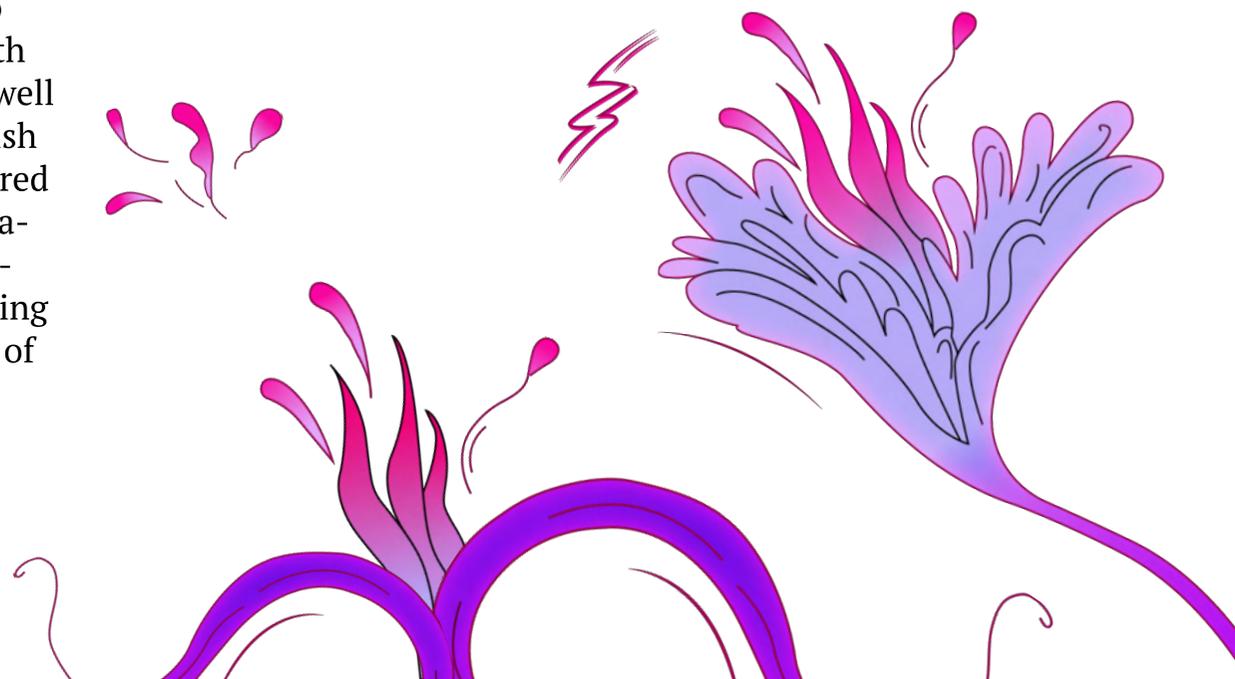
## More accessible feminism!

We want to increase access to feminist events, networks, and forms of support for persons who are usually systemically excluded from this type of activities and experience barriers in accessing feminist activism. These include, but are not limited to: persons with disabilities, deaf persons, persons who speak languages other than Polish, who are taking care of children and dependents. Therefore, in 2022, we piloted a new type of support for groups and organizations implementing MiniGrants – the Accessibility Fund. It can finance activities that make a given initiative more accessible for persons with disabilities or other people who would otherwise have difficulty accessing the event.

In 2022, using the money from the availability fund, video guides on abortion in the Czech Republic were created with a translation into Polish Sign Language (Aunt Czesia), as well as video materials on sex work with a translation into Polish Sign Language (Three Women). Vingardium Fatiosa prepared transcripts of episodes of their podcast about fat emancipation, and Tranzycja.pl increased the availability of its website. Caretakers of Debak paid for the costs of childcare using the availability grant, thanks to which women taking care of children could take part in the workshops.

## Feminist philanthropy across borders

In 2022, we did something for the first time once again. 😊 We hosted the filia.die frauenstiftung fund from Germany together with their key individual donors in Poland. The novelty was that the visit took the form of an intensive tour, and our guests were invited to see something outside Warsaw, i.e. also Kopacze and Lodz. These were some very interesting days of sharing knowledge about the situation of feminist and queer movements, the current political situation, and the growing importance of financial support for independent, autonomous activism. We talked about our – sometimes varied – experiences, changing perspectives, and what feminist activism might look like over the years or even several generations. It was super interesting and developing!







## Where there is oppression – there is resistance

In 2022, a unique report on feminism was published "Where there is oppression – there is resistance!" The publication is based on data collected from an impressive number of more than 600 groups and organizations that have applied for a Feminist Fund grant in the last 4 years. 😊

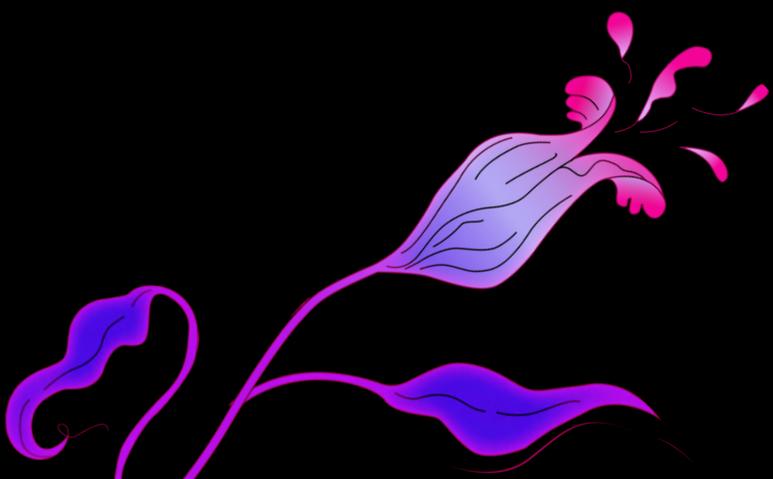
In the report, you can hear voices that are rarely considered. These are mostly the experiences of groups and organizations that have only recently been active in the feminist movement. As many as 30% of these groups operate in the countryside or in small towns. More than 80% of them act without any budget or external funding.

Thanks to this, we gained insight into the activism of hundreds of publicly unknown women and persons, operating away from major urban centers, as well as from outside the narratives of mainstream media and feminist debates taking place in social media.



**“ The Feminist Fund report is an invaluable source of knowledge about persons who identify as feminists and live and work in various places in the country. Moreover, diversity is the domain of the groups that apply to the Fund. The mere mention of areas of action, identities, or methods of action is already a fascinating map of Polish feminism**

- Dr. Sylwia Chutnik, writer and activist



**Where there is oppression –  
there is resistance**

**” I consider the presentation of feminism as a certain resource or capital, access to which is sometimes systematically difficult – for example to women from small towns or persons with disabilities – to be an extremely important topic in the report. I believe this is one of the more pressing issues [...]. Treating feminism as knowledge and/or practice, access to which becomes an end in itself, can help to significantly redefine the forms of mobilization and boundaries of feminism (e.g. by negotiating what “passes” as feminism and who decides on it).**

*- Dr. Justyna Struzik, researcher and activist*

The report proves that feminist activism goes far beyond street protests, loud media actions, or social media activities. Feminism is practical, focused on solving the problems of a specific group of women in a given community, responding to basic, often material problems. In each voivodeship, women and persons are active and changing the reality. A large part of this activism is related to the passivity of the state and the disappearance of public services. Women are also the main group responding to subsequent crises: the COVID-19 epidemic, the crisis on the Polish-Belarusian border, the humanitarian crisis related to Russia's aggression against Ukraine. Feminist activities are deeply rooted in the experiences of specific women and persons: oppression resulting from the social and political conditions of life here and now, in Poland. Feminism is resistance and it happens in very different places, in big cities, smaller towns, and in the countryside. We are dealing with a great autonomy of hundreds of different initiatives and the coexistence of various activities within the framework of an increasingly wider and more mobilized movement.

FEM  
FUND

# JEST OPRESJA – JEST OPOR

raport  
Funduszu  
Feministycznego



We encourage you to read the report "Where there is oppression – there is resistance". Full download at: <https://femfund.pl/raport/>





## I Congress of the Feminist Fund

In September 2022, the first herstorical Congress of the Feminist Fund was held, where we met with the Grantees of all editions of Mini Grants, Empowerment Grants and Aid Grants – this is one success and one FemFund dream come true. Another success, the most important for us, is the incredibly warm and positive reception of the Congress among persons participating in it and, at the same time, contributing to the agenda of the meeting.

The Congress's plan was based on proposals submitted within our community. It was a space for sharing knowledge, learning from each other, drawing from very different experiences. The congress has become a truly courageous and critical space for reflection on the feminism of deaf women, the needs and rights of persons with disabilities, antigypsyism, intersexuality, and workers' struggles. There were also workshops on cybersecurity and regeneration, there was silent disco, polyphonic singing, and joint forest Nordic walking. Briefly speaking, we have completed the first session of feminist "summer camp" (in Polish, Polish Sign Language, Ukrainian, and Russian) 😊

**” One of major emotional moments was the Congress of FemFund Grantees, in which I took part, representing Vingardium Fatiosa. It truly was a holiday. Persons acting AS and for queer, neurodiversity, female inmates, deaf, burned out, Roma, rural and urban activists, and fat – all in one place!**

*- Natalia of Vingardium Fatiosa*

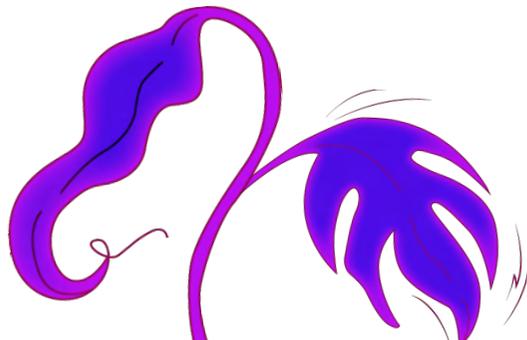
**” Thank you for your time and a lot of inspiration. “Intersectional activism, including feminism, is about competence, mindfulness, and dialogue.**

*- Poland - Roma - Ukraine*

## Summer camp for Feminists

” The reunion strengthened me during my moment of burnout. After this meeting, which was a combination of different worlds, I feel intersectionalism in my bones.

- Quote from the evaluation questionnaire

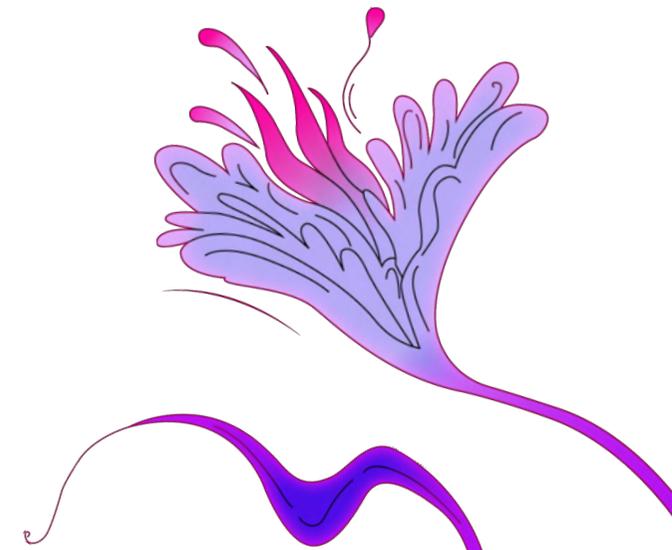


” I congratulate on the organization and atmosphere. Such a diversity of persons, and at the same time you (and the facilitator) have created such an atmosphere of acceptance and respect for this diversity and such a sense of security that probably everyone felt good there 😊

- Sensorically Sensitive

” I am grateful for participating in this reunion. I feel like I've rested doing activism – such a paradox.

- Quote from the evaluation questionnaire







# Empowerment Grants

In 2021, with great excitement and considerable tremor, we launched the Empowerment Grants – a solid reinforcement in the amount of PLN 60,000.

We know how necessary it is to build stability, independence, and institutional security of feminist organizations in Poland, which is why we do not stop at one-time support! The grant recipients can extend their cooperation with FemFund for another three years and eventually get support with a total amount of PLN 300,000.

Empowerment+ Grants, in the amount of PLN 80,000 for the following year, were received by:

- **Trans-Fusion Foundation**, working for transgender persons;
- **Association "For the Earth"**, working for refugees and migrants;
- **Stowarzyszenie Pracownia Różnorodności** – working for LGBTQ persons.

On September 1, 2022, we also launched the second edition of the Empowerment Grants. By votes of the community, i.e. twelve organizations that were in the second stage of the grant process, grants in the amount of PLN 60,000 in January 2023 will go to:

- **Stoneless Foundation**, supporting persons with MRKH syndrome;
- **Interaction Foundation**, working for intersex persons;
- **PassionSharing Foundation**, acting for the development and strengthening of women living in the countryside;
- **Pink Box Foundation**, working for access to free menstrual resources in public space;
- **Szpila collective**, supporting activist persons experiencing repression from the authorities.

But that's not the end of the good news! By decision of the Fund Team, additional strategic grant was awarded to:

- **Pro Abo Lawyers**, for access to legal and safe abortion.

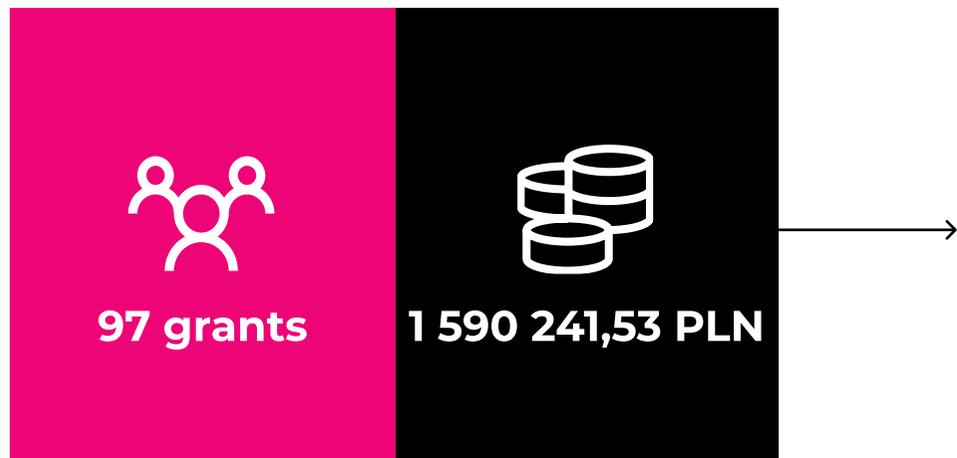
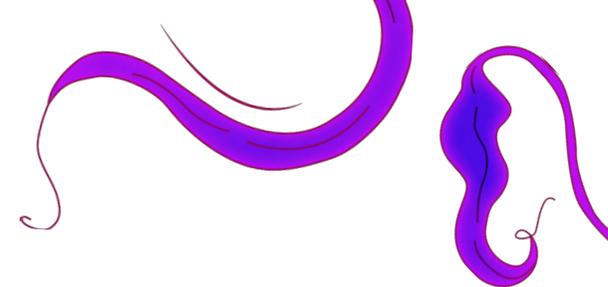
This means that the money from the Power Grants will support 9 groups, with a total amount of PLN 600,000. It would not have been possible without you ❤️

# FemFund in numbers

In 2022, a total of 89 feminist groups and organizations benefited from the financial support of FemFund. This is the highest number of grants awarded and the highest amount of support in FemFund's herstory. We donated as much as PLN 1,590,241.53 to feminist activism!

**In 2022, we supported 71 groups and organizations throughout Poland and 4 organizations in Ukraine**

See what it looked like in different programs!



## MINI GRANTS

max. PLN 4,900 for feminist activism



**28 grants**



**135 726 PLN**

## MINI GRANTS+

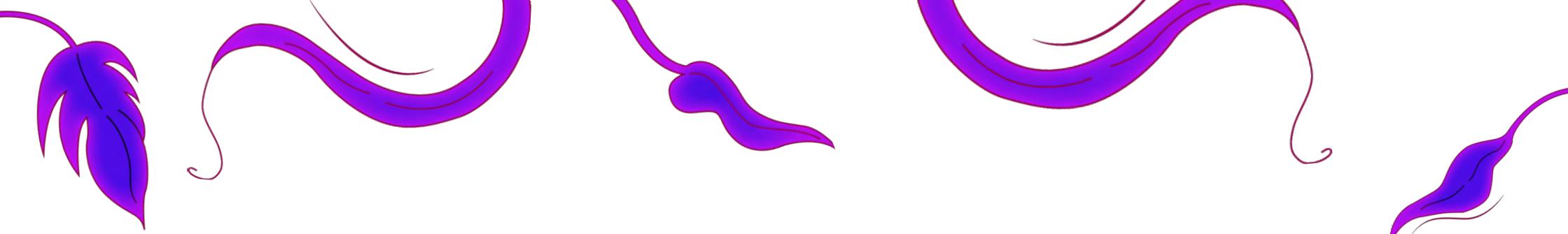
extended cooperation under MiniGrants



**33 grants**



**297 448,28 PLN**



## **FEMINIST EMERGENCY SERVICE**

max. PLN 3,000 for urgent  
actions and crises



**17 grants**



**49 200 PLN**

## **ACCESSIBILITY FUND**

for activities increasing  
the availability



**5 grants**



**16 400 PLN**

## **FEMINIST AID GRANTS**

for actions in connection  
with the war in Ukraine



**10 grants**



**800 000 PLN**

## **FEMINIST AID GRANTS FOR UKRAINE**

to support feminist groups  
in Ukraine



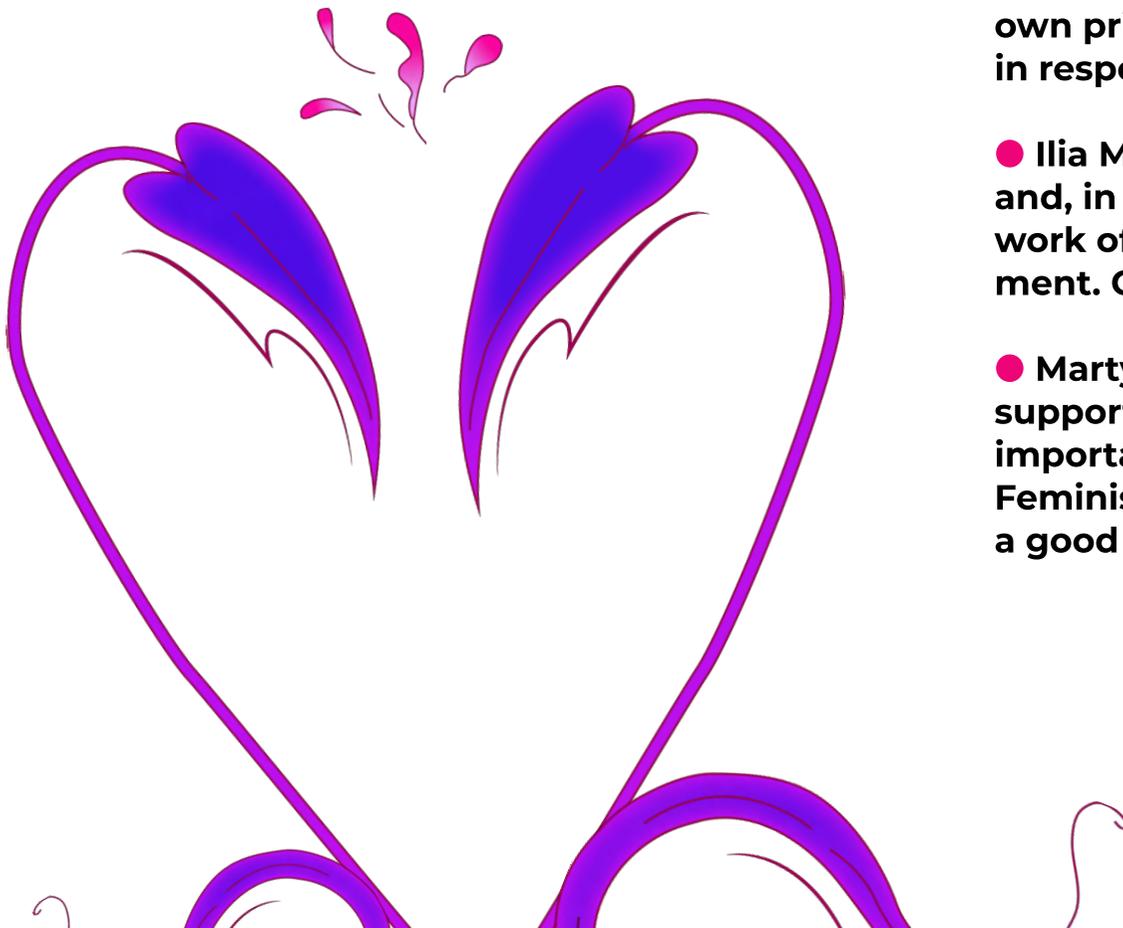
**4 grants**



**291 467, 25 PLN**

## Acknowledgements

We believe that the strength and future of FemFund lies in our growing community! These 12 months would not have been possible without a lot of great persons, groups and organizations. There are so many of you that it becomes impossible to mention all of you by name. However, we remember you and feel immense gratitude, knowing that we can rely on you and act thanks to your wisdom, generosity, and strength.



At this point, we want to give our warmest thanks to:

- **donors of FemFund ♥ It is thanks to your constant contributions that we can support the activities of groups that make a real, bottom-up change for the good of all of us,**
- **great partner organizations that have given us the confidence and financial support to act on our own principles, in accordance with our values and in response to current, critical challenges,**
- **Ilia Makówka, who joined our team permanently and, in this critically important year, supported the work of FemFund in the area of financial management. Glad to have you with us ♥**
- **Martyna Tokarska, who was for us an invaluable support and a wonderful companion of the most important activities, including the Congress of the Feminist Fund, which passed into herstory as quite a good summer camp for feminists ♥**



**With you,  
everything is  
possible!**



# Join us today!

**FEM  
FUND**  
fundusz  
feministyczny

**text:** Ania Deryło, Gosia Leszko, Marta Rawłuszko  
**photos:** Agata Kubis and Emilia Oksentowicz /.collective  
**correction:** Aleksandra Sekuła  
**graphic design and typesetting:** Sara Kral

Support feminist activities with us so that each of us can decide for themselves, be free and safe. Set up your monthly payment!

You can do this in two ways:

- **Through the PayU system on our website:** [femfund.pl/support](https://femfund.pl/support)

- **Bank transfer to our account:**

**IBAN: PL79 9011 0005 3030 0080 2000 0018**

**SWIFT: POLUPLPR**

**VistulaBank | title of transfer: donation for statutory purposes**

*Your money means even more feminism!*

