



MISSION AND GOALS

WHO WE ARE

Established in July 2020, the CEDAW People's Tribunal is a grassroots organisation aiming to attain the full implementation of CEDAW (Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women) into domestic law in the UK, in order to achieve transformative substantive equality for all women and girls.

A People's Tribunal is extremely powerful because it enables Civic Society, and in particular those who may not have an arena in any other form, to ensure that their voices are heard. The tribunal works outside of Government processes, but in conjunction with any other hearing, tribunal or process that may be taking place, to get to justice and truth. It will facilitate the correlation of evidence into one document which importantly is in the ownership of Civic Society.

In concrete terms, we seek to set up a tribunal made up of independent judges, which will pilot a process culminating in a hearing over a number of days. The tribunal will examine the failure to integrate CEDAW into domestic legislation, decide whether those delays are legitimate or not, and make necessary recommendations as to how the Convention can be given full effect in the UK, advancing women in all aspects of society and recognising historic inequalities.

Our organisation is made up of the Steering Committee, chaired by Dr Davina Lloyd (<https://www.cedawpt.com/the-steering-group>), our Advocacy Team

(<https://www.cedawpt.com/advocacy-team>), which is backed by our team of approx. 40 volunteer Legal Assistants from diverse backgrounds (<https://www.cedawpt.com/legal-assistants>).

John Cooper QC has been instructed as Counsel to the People's Tribunal. We are also supported by a range of esteemed people dedicated to Women's Rights (Professor Christine Chinkin, Dr Meghan Campbell, Esuantsiwa Jane Goldsmith, Dr Annette Lawson OBE, Professor Andrew Byrnes, Lesley Abdela MBE, Margaret Owen OBE, Dr Koldo Casla, Sam Smethers CEO

Fawcett Society) and an army of volunteers and supporters on our social media platforms.

We are welcoming support from all those interested in women's rights. On our website, we have a series of interviews with esteemed supporters who are World Leaders in the fields of Women's Rights and Human Rights (<https://www.cedawpt.com/events-1>).

OUR MISSION AND GOALS

Every woman and girl born in the UK should be able to realise, as of right, her true potential. There is no reason why CEDAW cannot be transposed into domestic law and the delay in doing so is nothing short of unconscionable.

The CEDAW People's Tribunal evolved amid austerity and the pandemic because women's rights are being further diminished and women are suffering a disproportionate impact in both financial and social terms. There are increasing levels of extreme poverty amongst women and violence towards women. Support services for women have been reduced. There is a lack of political representation, with only 29% women Members of Parliament in the UK, and not a single woman initially included on the leadership team for COP 26 which the UK is hosting next year, although one woman has since been added as a result of pressure from women's groups. This means that women's voices will not be clearly and fairly heard on this issue. It is feared that Brexit and climate change will exacerbate these issues, making our situation increasingly urgent.

Women, girls, men and boys are affected differently by climate change and disasters, with many women and girls experiencing greater risks, burdens and impacts. Situations of crisis exacerbate pre-existing gender inequalities and compound the intersecting forms of discrimination against, among others, women living in poverty, indigenous women, women belonging to ethnic, racial, religious and sexual minority groups, women with disabilities, refugee and asylum-seeking women, internally displaced, stateless and migrant women, rural women, unmarried women, adolescents and older women, who are often disproportionately affected compared with men or other women.

The specific activities we want to undertake and for which the funding will be used are the following: evidence gathering, witness statements in legal format, hearings with independent judges, writing of reports and other outcomes from the hearings, a book, a film, lobbying Parliament, drafting legislation to be transposed into domestic law. Most of our witnesses will be leaders of organisations but a small number of vulnerable witnesses may require psychosocial support, which due diligence will require us to provide. They will be interviewed by our trained team of volunteer legal assistants as part of the evidence gathering process.

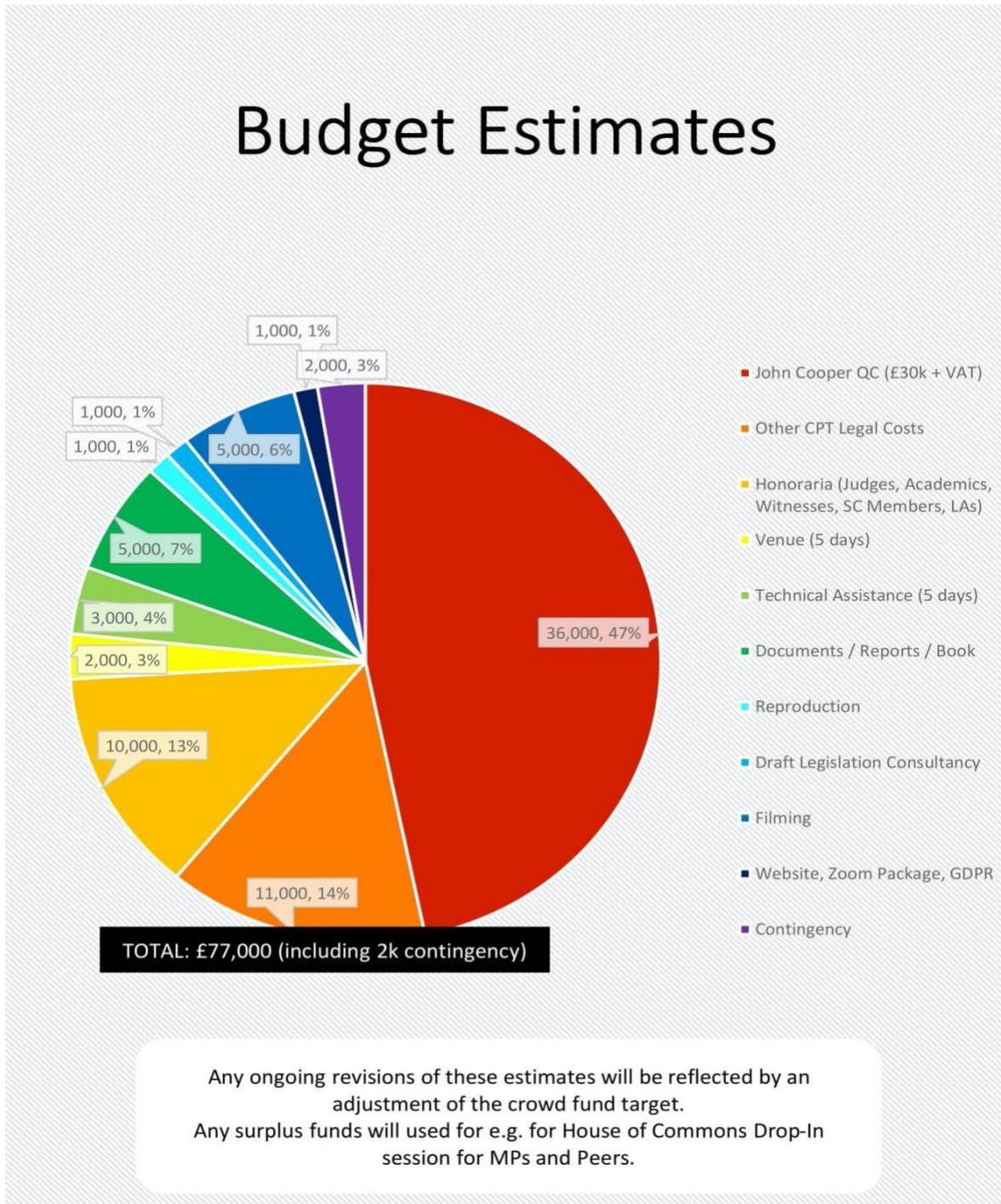
Our goals, in summary, are as follows:

- A report from the Hearings with Independent Judges that will make recommendations as to how CEDAW can be given full effect in the UK in the shortest possible time
- Draft legislation
- The implementation of CEDAW into domestic law and to secure a recommendation for a UK representative on the CEDAW Committee
- ***Substantive Transformative Equality for all women and girls in the UK***

The CEDAW Peoples Tribunal will leave a lasting legacy by providing a body of evidence for individuals, women's campaign groups and politicians to hold current and future Governments to account. This will lead to changes in laws and the creation of new laws to bring about a Women's Bill of Rights and substantive, transformative equality for all women and girls.

BUDGET

We aim to achieve the sum of £75,000 for the organisation of the tribunal. As can be seen in the chart below, we have accounted for all expenditure, including a £2,000 contingency estimate. Currently, we are fundraising through crowdfunding (<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/cedaw-peoples-tribunal>) as well as making applications for grants to various organisations supporting human rights.



SOURCES

Our aim is to address the injustices which women and girls face today, as highlighted most recently in the 2019 UN report and the Submission of Evidence to the Women and Equalities Committee (2020). The elimination of discrimination against all women and girls is our priority.

- *Concluding observations of the eighth periodic report of United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland*

<https://digitallibrary.un.org/record/3801131?ln=en>

- *Submission of Evidence to the Women and Equalities Committee by BackTo60: Addressing the economic and social impact of COVID-19 on 1950s born women*

<https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/3028/pdf/>

- *UK report of The Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights*

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23881>

With kind regards,

Dr Davina Lloyd, Chair of the Steering Committee

on behalf of

Prof Christine Chinkin (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l_1THhLH6-s)

Professor Christine Chinkin, Emerita Professor International Law LSE Christine Chinkin, FBA is Emerita Professor of International Law, Professorial Research Fellow and Founding Director of the Centre of Women Peace & Security at LSE. She is a barrister, a member of Matrix Chambers

Prof Andrew Byrnes (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vB2yfqmmkl>)

Andrew Byrnes is Professor of Law at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia, where he served as Chair of the Australian Human Rights Centre from 2005

to 2017. He teaches and writes in the fields of public international law, human rights, and international criminal/humanitarian law.

Dr Meghan Campbell (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0AaGxM3euZE>)

Dr Meghan Campbell, Senior Lecturer in Law at the University of Birmingham. Her research explores how the international human rights system can best respond to gender inequality and poverty. Her monograph *Women, Poverty, Equality* (Hart Publishing, 2018) explores how the concept of equality in the UN Convention on the Discrimination on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women can be interpreted to address gender-based poverty.

More information on the CEDAW People's Tribunal is available on our website and social media pages:

WEBSITE: <https://www.cedawpt.com/>

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/74781637604321>

INSTAGRAM / TWITTER: @cedawPT

CROWDFUNDING PAGE: <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/cedaw-peoples-tribunal>