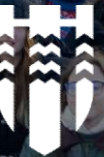


A large crowd of people, mostly women, are gathered outdoors for a Women's Day event. They are wearing winter clothing like coats, scarves, and hats. Some people are holding signs, including one that says "WOMEN'S RIGHTS ARE HUMAN RIGHTS" and another with a cartoon character and the text "JAFNRETTI NÚNA".

50 Years Since the Women's Day Off *Commemorating October 24, 1975 – Reykjavík, 2025*

Eva Bergþóra Guðbergssdóttir
City of Reykjavik



The Original Event (1975)

- In 1975, 90% of Icelandic women stopped all paid and unpaid work.
- Over 25,000 gathered in Reykjavík to demand equal pay and recognition.
- The event, *Kvennafrídagurinn*, made visible women's essential role in society.



Impact and Legacy


- Sparked national debate and changed legislation
- Paved way for election of first female president in the world
- Helped make Iceland global leader in gender equality policy and debate



The 50th Anniversary 2025

- National celebration in Reykjavik
- A walk through the history of this event
- Culminating in a large rally featuring trade union leaders, young people, music



A large crowd of people, mostly women, are gathered for a protest. They are wearing winter clothing like coats, hats, and scarves. In the center-right of the crowd, a white banner with purple text is visible. The text on the banner includes 'Kvennalistinn' and 'Lofur'. Other smaller signs are also held by some individuals. The background shows a grassy area and some trees in the distance.

Continuing Challenges

- Persistent pay gap – undervaluation of care work
- Unequal sharing of unpaid domestic work
- Ongoing gender-based violence



The Way Forward

- Strengthen pay transparency
- Recognise value of care work
- Promote leadership and inclusion for all genders
- Improve legislation in relation to gender-based violence



Gender Equality

- Important to make sure no groups feel left behind
- Equality is only reached when all people thrive in our society





"Equality is not an endpoint
— it is a shared and ongoing effort."

