

Protecting and loving the land



“We are all YPJ”

Self-defense is our natural right!



Defending the land, the homeland, is a fundamental principle of the YPJ. Yet the homeland is not something enclosed by rigid borders and fenced in. The homeland is the earth on which we live, which nourishes us and with which we are closely intertwined. The homeland demands care and responsibility. Therefore the fighters of YPJ carry weapons not as act of violence, but as an expression of responsibility – they stand against destruction in order to preserve, or rather restore, a balance in which society and nature coexist in harmony. This includes the protection of all living beings.



Loving the land and one's homeland also means wanting to protect it from exploitation and occupation. In recent years, the YPJ has increasingly defended the land against occupation, whether against ISIS or the Turkish occupying state. Through the ethos of love for the land, the YPJ redefines the struggle: a struggle that protects without destroying. Defence here becomes an act of love and resistance an act of care. From this perspective, the 'Women's Protection Units' emerge as a living voice that understands the defence of the land as the defence of life itself.

