iKNOWPOLITICS
international Knowledge Network of Women in Politics

Women in Public Administration

Although there is no global baseline to measure women's participation in public administration, existing research from UNDP shows that **women are under-represented**, especially in leadership and decision-making roles. Diversity, including equal access of women to leadership roles, is not only the right thing to do but also the most productive.

A recent UNDP and McKinsey study found that **female participation** in public administration and in decision-making roles is **positively correlated with economic development and gender equality** in society. It also suggests that women's equal participation and leadership creates conducive environment for a **better and more effective government**. These findings are reinforced by another report by the Wilson Center that concludes: **"where there are more women in power, there is better governance, and where there is good governance, there are more women in power."**

We recently an e-Discussion to **promote a dialogue** on the role of women in public administration and **exchange knowledge and good practices** on ways to increase and strengthen their participation. **Click here** to read the summary of all contributions.

Read the summary of the e-Discussion

Political Participation of Women with Disabilities

The **12th session of the Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities** (CRPD) took place in the UN Headquarters in New York from 11 to 13 June 2019 and focused on the overarching theme of "Ensuring the inclusion of persons with disabilities in a changing world through the

implementation of the CRPD." It is estimated that 15% of the world's population live with some form of disability and that **prevalence is higher among women**, as about 1 in 5 women 18 years and older live with one.

Worldwide, only **24.3% of parliamentarians, 6.6% of heads of state, and 5.2% of heads of government** are women. Data on political participation of women with disabilities is scarce. According to the UN Flagship Report on Disability and Development, the limited available data shows an **"extremely low" participation and representation** of women with disabilities in political leadership roles.

Everyone has the right to take part in government, to vote, and to be elected. Women with disabilities are a **diverse group** who experience **various degrees of discrimination** and face many systemic **barriers to the exercise of their political rights** and empowerment because of their gender and disability. These barriers can be of legal, physical, and attitudinal nature, and include an **inadequate access to education, health care, employment, and justice**.

We will host an **e-Discussion** aiming to promote a dialogue on the political participation of women with disabilities, in all their diversity, and exchange knowledge and good practices on ways to increase and strengthen their representation in political institutions and national and local elected bodies from **from 14 June to 8 July 2019. Click here to join!**
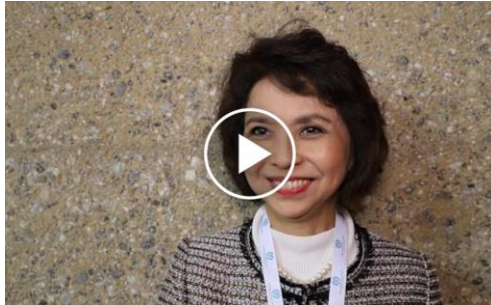
What's happening?

- The next **Australian** federal parliament is set to have a record number of women making up roughly 35% of legislators, but Australia still has a "long way to go" until it achieves gender parity in politics. Click here to learn more.
- The Republic of **Guinea** adopted a law on parity that says women must make 50% of candidate lists for national and local elections, as well as for elective offices in public institutions. Click here to learn more.
- Two women won seats on **Qatar**'s 29-member municipal council, the Gulf emirate's sole elected body. Five women were among the 85 candidates running in the April election. Click here to learn more.
- Women won just 10.4% of the seats up for grabs in **Japan**'s regional assembly races yet still recorded a record high, highlighting the slow progress of gender equality in the country's government. Click here to learn more.
- **South Africa**'s president named a trimmed-down cabinet that is 50% women, making the country's one of few in the world to be gender-balanced. Click here to learn more.
- At 47%, or 165 of 350 seats, **Spain**'s new parliament has the largest share of women in any European legislature. Click here to learn more.

Interviews

Margaret Kamar
Senator
Kenya

Suwannee Sirivejchapun
Member of Parliament
Thailand

Zeynep Yildiz
Member of Parliament
Turkey

See more interviews

News and Resources

We share news and resources in four languages for and about women in politics daily on our platform and social media pages. Our **online library features over 17,800 news and resources**, including world news, reports, research papers, training material, videos, case studies, databases, and blogs. We are happy to announce that with our enhanced **Elections Page**, users now have **easier and faster access** to news and resources related to elections! Browse our new Election timeline for unique access to insight on women's participation in elections. Do not hesitate to **share your feedback** with us by replying to this **email connect@iknowpolitics.org**.

Election timeline

| Country ▼ | Month ▼ | Day ▼ | Year ▼ | 🔍 |

MAY 27, 2019
Netherlands
Election for: Dutch Second Chamber

JUN 9, 2019
Kazakhstan
Election for: President

JUN 16, 2019
Guatemala
Election for: Guatemalan Congress of the Republic

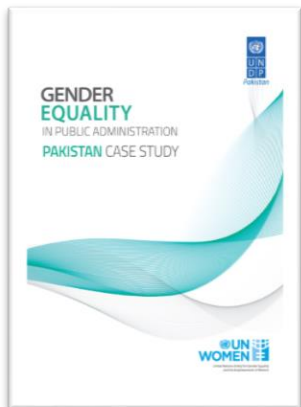**MAY 30, 2019**
Chad
Election for: Chadian National Assembly

JUN 16, 2019
Guatemala
Election for: President

JUN 30, 2019
Qatar
Election for: Qatari Advisory Council

May 2019

Jun 2019

See Elections Page

Partner Updates

Our partner organizations are contributing with their specific mandate and expertise to make advancements in women's political participation a reality. Find below some of the latest resources from **International IDEA**, **IPU**, **UNDP**, and **UN Women**.

About Us

iKNOW Politics is a unique platform on women in politics, designed to connect members and build knowledge through e-discussions, webinars, interviews, videos, a rich online library of resources, a calendar of events and daily world news. Created in 2007, iKNOW Politics is a joint project of the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the United Nations

Development Programme (UNDP), and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (UN Women).