

**Dear friends,**

As the world adapts to the COVID-19 pandemic and the new realities it brings, we are pleased to share with you this newsletter for the latest news and resources on women's leadership and political participation in light of the current context. Click on the buttons below for the Arabic, French, and Spanish versions. We hope you enjoy this update!

Take care,  
Team iKNOW Politics

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## In the Spotlight

### Our latest e-Discussion



Representation always matters, especially in times of crisis. The ways we respond to the COVID-19 pandemic and its ramifications will challenge democratic institutions in an unprecedented way if the appropriate steps are not taken.

To ensure an optimal relief and recovery responses without compromising women's safety and rights, governments and decision-makers across all sectors must include a gender perspective in all decisions. More than ever, this crisis has shown that people's safety and wellbeing is determined by decision makers, both elected and unelected. We are all as vulnerable as the most vulnerable among us.

To help raise awareness about the lack of women's leadership and representation in

relief and recovery decision-making and the importance of incorporating gender-sensitive responses during and after the crisis, we organized an [e-Discussion](#) from 15 April to 8 May and a Twitter Chat on 29 April 2020. Women in politics, civil society activists, practitioners and researchers shared their knowledge, experiences, and recommendations. Click [here](#) to read the summary.

[Read the summary](#)

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## Useful resources

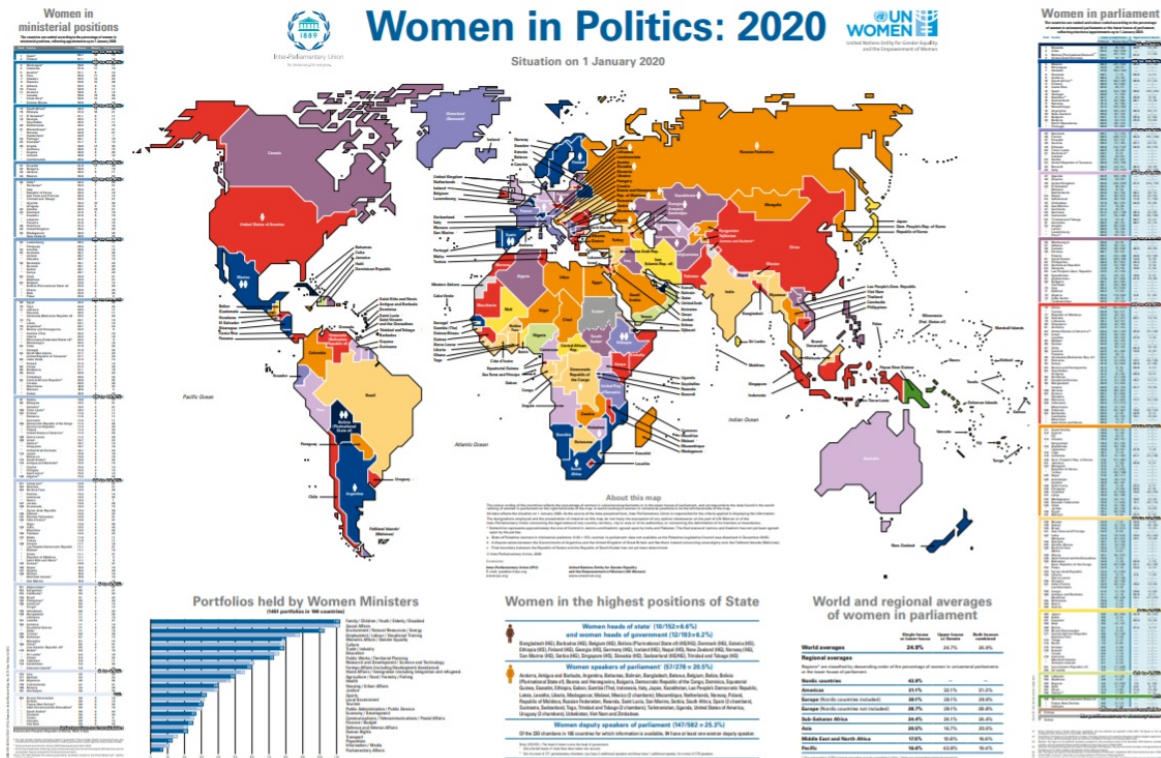


As the impact of COVID-19 continues to intensify globally, we have curated a selection of resources and information on gender-sensitive responses and women's leadership in times of pandemic. Click [here](#) to find a list of relevant resolutions, useful tools, virtual meetings, and calls and stories from the frontlines of the institutional and policy responses to the pandemic and its effects.

[See the list](#)

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## The latest news



- Published in March 2020, the above IPU-UN Women map presents global rankings for women in executive and government positions as of 1 January 2020. It shows all-time highs for the number of countries with women Heads of State and/or Heads of Government, and for the global share of women ministers, parliamentary speakers, and parliamentarians. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- Countries with women in leadership have suffered six times fewer confirmed deaths from Covid-19 than countries with governments led by men. Will these positive outcomes influence our collective readiness to elect and promote more women into power? Click [here](#) to learn more.
- Many women world leaders who have won recognition as voices of reason amid the pandemic. They have attracted praise for effective messaging and decisive action, in stark contrast to the bombastic approaches of several of the world’s most prominent male leaders. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- In the midst of widespread civil unrest in the United States, black women mayors have taken the lead in speaking out against police brutality, standing in solidarity with protesters, and helping to protect the safety and wellbeing of their communities. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- Somali women's urge to engage in politics was tremendously boosted after the Lower House unanimously endorsed a 30% quota proposal for women’s representation in the house. Click [here](#) to learn more.
- South Korea’s first feminist party is set to launch a political school to train aspiring female candidates, as it vowed to fight on for the 2022 municipal and provincial elections after failing to win a seat in national elections in April. Click [here](#) to learn more.

Go to the Library for more news



# Interviews



**Eri Tokunaga**  
Member of Parliament  
**Japan**



**Naomi Masitsa Shiyonga**  
Member of Parliament  
**Kenya**



**Teres Lindberg**  
Member of Parliament  
**Sweden**

[See more interviews](#)



# News and Resources

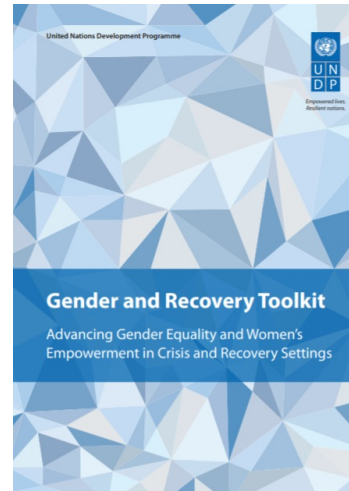
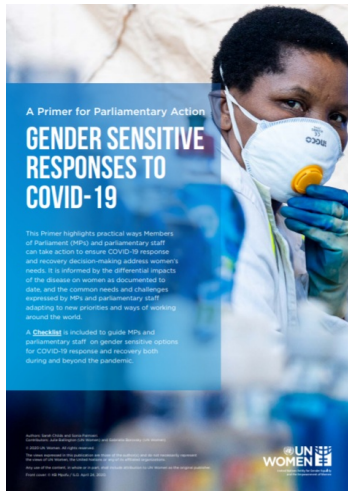
We share news and resources in four languages for and about women in politics daily on our platform and social media pages. Our online library features nearly 20,000 news and resources, including world news, reports, research papers, training material, videos, case studies, databases, and blogs. Check out our library with new filtering options for enhanced access to resources on women's participation in politics. Do not hesitate to share your feedback with us by replying to this email at [connect@iknowpolitics.org](mailto:connect@iknowpolitics.org).

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# 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.



See more Partner Updates



# 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

