

# Women's Political Progress in 2015

## GLOBALLY

The political gender gap is wide. To encourage and inspire you in 2016 as we work to close it, here are several 2015 events to celebrate.



### Canada

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau when asked why he wanted a gender balanced cabinet: "Because it's 2015."

### Croatia

Kolinda Grabar-Kitarovic, former foreign minister, elected first female president.

### Saudi Arabia

Women get right to vote. Promptly decide to run for election.

### United States

Hillary Clinton, Carly Fiorina and Jill Stein announce their presidential candidacy.

### Bolivia

Doubles participation for women in parliament per the World Economic Forum.

### Mauritius

Scientist and ethnobotanist Ameenah Gurib-Fakim becomes first female president.

### Nepal

Bidhya Devi Bhandari, long-time women's rights campaigner, elected first female president.

## Political Representation

The 4th World Conference on Women, Beijing, 1995, was like the Big Bang for gender equality. It led to a 'gender balance' target for political participation. Entities like UN Women support implementation of international agreements to achieve it.

Representation rose from 11.3% to 22.1% according to the Inter-Parliamentary Union. We are making headway to 30%--considered an important benchmark.

11.3%

1995

22.1%

2015