

The achievement of democracy presupposes a genuine partnership between men and women in the conduct of the affairs of society in which they work in equality and complementarity, drawing mutual enrichment from their differences.

Universal Declaration on Democracy, 1997, Principle N° 4

Without the active participation of women and the incorporation of women's perspective at all levels of decision-making, the goals of equality, development and peace cannot be achieved.

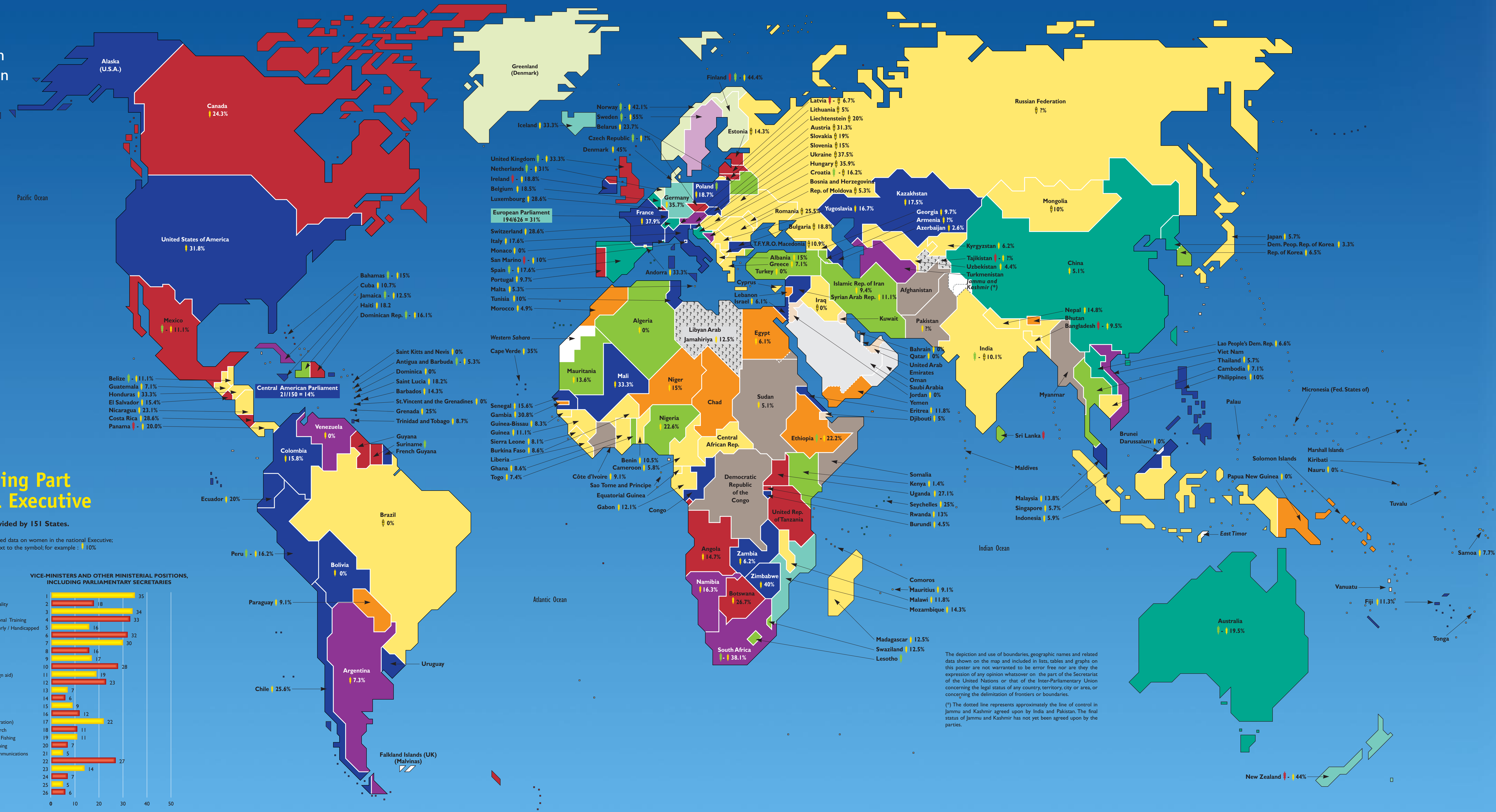
Beijing Platform for Action, Fourth World Conference on Women, 1995



Women in Politics: 2000



Situation in March 2000 as per official data



Women in Parliament

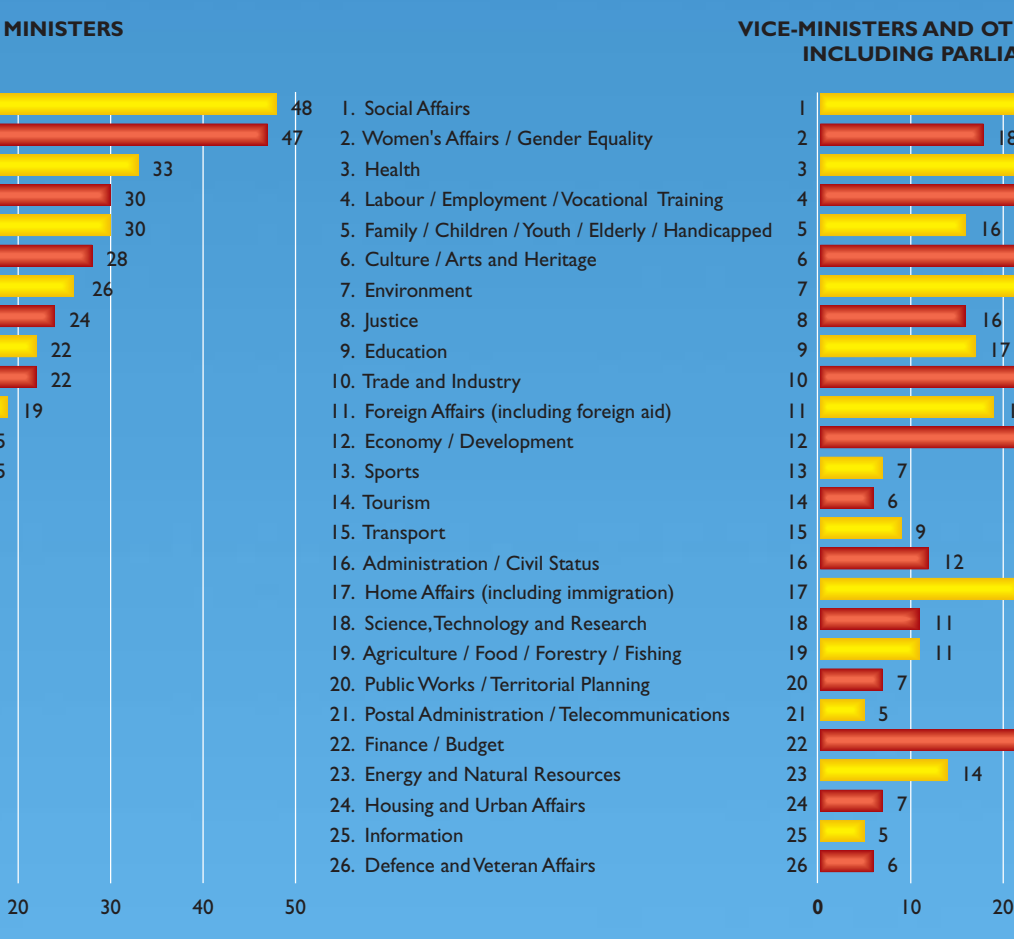
The countries are colour-coded according to the percentage of women members of the national parliament

Rank	Country	Lower or Single House % W	Upper House or Senate % W	Both Houses or Senate % W	
1	Sweden	42.2%	49 / 349	— / —	
2	Denmark	35 to 39.9%	— / —	— / —	
3	Finland	36.5%	7 / 200	— / —	
4	Norway	36.0%	103 / 150	— / —	
5	Netherlands	36.0%	54 / 150	26.7%	20 / 75
6	Iceland	34.9%	22 / 63	— / —	
7	Germany	30.9%	207 / 669	59.4%	41 / 69
8	New Zealand	30.8%	37 / 120	— / —	
9	Mozambique	30.0%	75 / 250	— / —	
10	South Africa	29.8%	119 / 399	32.1%	17 / 53*
11	Bosnia and Herzegovina	28.4%	12 / 42	0.0%	0 / 15
12	Cuba	27.4%	166 / 601	— / —	
13	Austria	26.8%	49 / 181	30.3%	13 / 43
14	Grenada	26.7%	4 / 15	2.7%	1 / 4
15	Argentina	26.5%	68 / 257	2.8%	2 / 72
16	Turkmenistan	26.0%	13 / 50	— / —	
17	Viet Nam	26.0%	17 / 450	— / —	
18	Namibia	25.0%	18 / 72	7.7%	2 / 26
19	Seychelles	23.5%	8 / 34	— / —	
20	Belgium	23.3%	35 / 150	28.2%	20 / 71
21	Switzerland	23.0%	46 / 200	19.6%	9 / 46
22	Australia	22.4%	33 / 144	28.8%	19 / 76
23	Monaco	22.2%	4 / 18	— / —	
24	China	21.8%	650 / 2971	— / —	
25	Spain	21.6%	75 / 348	13.2%	34 / 257
26	Latvian Democratic Rep.	20.0%	31 / 155	— / —	
27	Croatia	20.3%	31 / 151	6.0%	4 / 67
28	Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	20.1%	118 / 487	— / —	
29	Canada	19.9%	60 / 301	30.5%	32 / 105
30	Costa Rica	19.3%	9 / 46	— / —	
31	Portugal	18.7%	43 / 230	— / —	
32	United Kingdom	18.4%	121 / 659	15.8%	105 / 666
33	Mexico	18.2%	91 / 500	17.2%	11 / 128
34	Uganda	17.9%	50 / 279	— / —	
35	Lao People's Democratic Rep.	17.5%	24 / 137	— / —	
36	Lithuania	17.0%	8 / 47	— / —	
37	Botswana	17.0%	10 / 105	— / —	
38	El Salvador	16.7%	14 / 84	— / —	
39	Laos	16.7%	10 / 125	— / —	
40	United Republic of Tanzania	16.4%	45 / 275	6.7%	2 / 30
41	Dominican Republic	16.1%	24 / 149	6.7%	2 / 30
42	Suriname	15.5%	34 / 220	— / —	
43	Angola	15.0%	6 / 40	31.3%	5 / 16
44	Bahamas	15.0%	30 / 200	11.1%	9 / 81
45	Eritrea	14.7%	22 / 150	— / —	
46	Ecuador	14.6%	18 / 123	— / —	
47	Burundi	14.0%	17 / 118	— / —	
48	Slovakia	14.0%	21 / 150	— / —	
49	Zimbabwe	14.0%	21 / 150	— / —	
50	Poland	13.8%	40 / 460	11.1%	100 / 100
51	United States of America	12.9%	56 / 435	9.0%	9 / 100
52	Israel	12.5%	19 / 120	— / —	
53	Mali	12.2%	18 / 147	— / —	
54	Senegal	12.1%	17 / 140	18.3%	40 / 40
55	Uruguay	12.1%	12 / 99	9.7%	3 / 31
56	Colombia	11.8%	19 / 161	12.7%	13 / 102
57	Bolivia	11.8%	10 / 125	17.6%	48 / 48
58	Philippines	11.3%	25 / 222	17.4%	4 / 23
59	Cape Verde	11.1%	8 / 72	— / —	
60	Italy	11.1%	70 / 636	8.0%	26 / 326
61	St. Kitts and Nevis	11.1%	2 / 18	18.2%	2 / 11
62	Barbados	10.9%	6 / 57	5.9%	19 / 321
63	Kazakhstan	10.8%	26 / 240	— / —	
64	Malaysia	10.8%	13 / 120	4.2%	2 / 48
65	Chile	10.8%	13 / 120	— / —	
66	Peru	10.8%	13 / 120	— / —	
67	Trinidad and Tobago	10.7%	3 / 28	29.0%	9 / 31
68	Madagascar	10.7%	3 / 28	33.3%	7 / 21
69	Maldives	10.4%	20 / 193	26.1%	18 / 69
70	Sri Lanka	10.4%	26 / 250	— / —	
71	Zambia	10.1%	16 / 158	— / —	
72	Sierra Leone	10.1%	9 / 90	— / —	
73	Senegal	9.9%	7 / 71	— / —	
74	Nicaragua	9.4%	12 / 128	— / —	
75	Honduras	9.2%	6 / 65	— / —	
76	Malta	9.2%	6 / 65	— / —	
77	Bangladesh	9.1%	30 / 333	— / —	
78	Sao Tome and Principe	9.1%	5 / 55	— / —	
79	China	9.0%	49 / 543	8.6%	19 / 220
80	India	8.9%	101 / 1123	— / —	
81	Republic of Moldova	8.9%	10 / 114	— / —	
82	Guatemala	8.8%	10 / 114	— / —	
83	Kyrgyzstan	8.8%	5 / 57	2.3%	1 / 43
84	Sierra Leone	8.8%	7 / 80	— / —	
85	Hungary	8.2%	32 / 386	— / —	
86	Mali	8.2%	16 / 193	— / —	
87	Mauritius	8.2%	5 / 61	— / —	
88	Samoa	8.2%	4 / 49	— / —	
89	Burkina Faso	8.1%	9 / 111	11.0%	21 / 176
90	Indonesia	8.0%	40 / 500	— / —	
91	Madagascar	8.0%	12 / 150	— / —	
92	Mongolia	7.9%	6 / 76	— / —	
93	Guinea-Bissau	7.8%	35 / 450	19.2%	5 / 26
94	Ukraine	7.8%	5 / 64	— / —	
95	Russian Federation	7.7%	34 / 441	0.4%	1 / 178
96	Cambodia	7.4%	9 / 122	13.1%	8 / 61
97	Central African Republic	7.3%	8 / 109	— / —	
98	Romania	7.2%	25 / 344	1.4%	2 / 143
99	Georgia	7.2%	17 / 235	— / —	
100	Uzbekistan	7.2%	18 / 250	— / —	
101	Andorra	7.1%	2 / 28	— / —	
102	Cyprus	7.1%	4 / 56	— / —	
103	Belarus	6.9%	2 / 29	— / —	
104	The F.Y.R. of Macedonia	6.7%	8 / 120	— / —	
105	Iran	6.4%	16 / 250	— / —	
106	Greece	6.3%	19 / 300	— / —	
107	Benin	6.0%	12 / 205	15.0%	9 / 60
108	Maldives	6.0%	3 / 50	— / —	
109	Laos	5.9%	12 / 205	15.0%	9 / 60
110	Brazil	5.7%	29 / 513	7.4%	6 / 81
111	Antigua and Barbuda	5.5%	1 / 19	11.8%	2 / 17
112	Albania	5.2%	0 / 155	— / —	
113	Equatorial Guinea	5.1%	7 / 138	10.0%	4 / 40
114	Yemen	5.0%	4 / 80	— / —	
115	Japan	5.0%	25 / 500	17.1%	43 / 252
116	Kiribati	4.9%	2 / 41	— / —	
117	Sri Lanka	4.9%	11 / 225	— / —	
118	Togo	4.9%	4 / 81	— / —	
119	St. Vincent and the Grenadines	4.8%	1 / 21	— / —	
120	Thailand	4.8%	10 / 374	8.0%	1 / 243
121	Belarus	4.5%	5 / 110	29.0%	18 / 62
122	Singapore	4.3%	1 / 23	— / —	
123	Turkey	4.2%	23 / 550	— / —	
124	Liechtenstein	4.0%	12 / 299	— / —	
125	Republic of Korea	3.8%	3 / 79	22.3%	0 / 31
126	Lebanon	3.8%	3 / 79	0.0%	0 / 56
127	Haiti	3.6%	3 / 83	— / —	
128	Kenya	3.6%	8 / 224	— / —	
129	Algeria	3.4%	13 / 380	5.4%	8 / 144
130	Iran (Islamic Republic of)**	3.4%	12 / 351	2.8%	3 / 108
131	Armenia	3.1%	4 / 131	— / —	
132	Swaziland	3.1%	2 / 65	13.3%	4 / 30
133	Marshall Islands	3.0%	1 / 33	— / —	
134	Paraguay	2.5%	2 / 80	17.8%	8 / 45
135	Ethiopia	2.4%	3 / 125	— / —	
136	Lebanon	2.3%	3 / 128	— / —	
137	Egypt	2.0%	9 / 454	— / —	
138	Bhutan	2.0%	1 / 49	— / —	
139	Solomon Islands	2.0%	1 / 49	— / —	
140	Papua New Guinea	1.8%	2 / 109	— / —	
141	Niger	1.2%	1 / 81	— / —	
142	Yemen	0.7%	2 / 301	0.7%	2 / 270
143	Morocco	0%	2 / 325	0.7%	2 / 270
144	Djibouti	0.0%	0 / 65	7.5%	— / 10
145	Kuwait	0.0%	0 / 65	— / —	
146	Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.0%	0 / 18	— / —	
147	Nauru	0.0%	0 / 18	— / —	
148	Tonga	0.0%	0 / 35	7.1%	1 / 14
149	Tuvalu	0.0%	0 / 12	— / —	
150	United Arab Emirates	0.0%	0 / 12	— / —	
151	Vanuatu	0.0%	0 / 52	— / —	
152	Yemen	0%	— / —	— / —	
153	Dominica	7 / 32	— / —	— / —	
154	Liberian Arab Republic	7 / 760	— / —	— / —	
155	Tajikistan**	7 / 63	121 / 4 / 33	— / —	
156	Albanian, Bahraini, Cambodian, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Myanmar, Pakistan, Somalia, Sudan	No functioning Parliament	— / —	— / —	
157	Brunei Darussalam, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia	Never a Parliament	— / —	— / —	
158	South Africa	The figures on the distribution of seats do not include the 36 special representative delegates appointed on an ad hoc basis and all percentages given are therefore calculated on the basis of the 54 permanent seats.	— / —	— / —	
159	Venezuela	Interim institutional situation.	— / —	— / —	
160	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Provisional figures corresponding to the results of the first round of elections.	— / —	— / —	
161	Tajikistan	Two Chambers of Parliament as of 23 March 2000.	— / —	— / —	

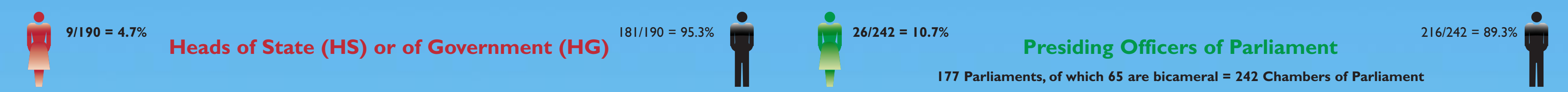
Women Forming Part of the National Executive

Based on fully verified data provided by 151 States.

The yellow symbol indicates those countries that provided data on women in the national executive; the corresponding percentage is shown on the map next to the symbol; for example: 10%



Women in the Highest Positions of State



Country	Head of State (HS) or Government (HG)	Presiding Officers of Parliament
Bangladesh (HG)	Sheikh Hasina	
Finland (HS)	Tarja Halonen	
Ireland (HS)	Mary McAleese	
Latvia (HS)	Vaira Vike-Freiberga	
New Zealand (HG)	Jennifer Shipley	
Antigua and Barbuda	House of Representatives	
Czech Republic	Senate	
Lesotho	National Assembly	
South Africa	National Assembly	
Albania (DHG)	Fiji (DHG)	
Austria (DHG)	Honduras (DHS)	
Belgium (2xDHG)	Indonesia (DHG)	
Costa Rica (2xDHS)	Ireland (DHS)	
Croatia (DHG)	Netherlands (2xDHG)	
Denmark (DHG)	Philippines (DHS)	
Ukraine (DHG)	Russian Federation (DHG)	
Uzbekistan (2xDHG)	Sweden (DHG)	
Yugoslavia (DHG)	Tajikistan (DHG)	
	The FYR of Macedonia (DHS)	
	Uganda (DHS)	
	Republic of Moldova (DHG)	
	Ukraine (DHG)	
	Russian Federation (DHG)	
	Sweden (DHG)	
	Tajikistan (DHG)	
	The FYR of Macedonia (DHS)	
	Uganda (DHS)	
	Republic of Moldova (DHG)	
	Ukraine (DHG)	
	Russian Federation (DHG)	
	Sweden (DHG)	
	Tajikistan (DHG)	
	The FYR of Macedonia (DHS)	
	Uganda (DHS)	
	Republic of Moldova (DHG)	
	Ukraine (DHG)	
	Russian Federation (DHG)	
	Sweden (DHG)	
	Tajikistan (DHG)	
	The FYR of Macedonia (DHS)	
	Uganda (DHS)	

Category	Percentage
Both houses combined	13.4%
Total MPs	40256
Statistics available for Men	39338
Women	34078
Single house or lower house	13.5%
Total MPs	34240
Statistics available for Men	33385
Women	4511
Upper house or senate	12.6%
Total MPs	6016
Statistics available for Men	5953
Women	5204