



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.



WYDE
Women's Leadership

SAVE THE DATE

No woman left behind: Dialogue on the representation of women in all their diversity in politics

Side event during UNGA, 25 September 2025, 13:00–15:00

Church Center for the United Nations, 8th floor

777 United Nations Plaza (entrance on 44th Street, near 1st Avenue), New York, United States

(light refreshments will be served from 13:00 to 13:30)

Background

In 1995, governments adopted the landmark Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, a global blueprint for advancing women's rights. As the world marks the thirtieth anniversary of this commitment in 2025 (Beijing +30), progress toward women's equal political participation remains slow and uneven. Only 27.2% of members of parliament (MPs) globally are women, reflecting minimal gains in recent years. These gains have also been unequal, particularly for women from marginalized groups, including young women, indigenous and minority women, and those in vulnerable situations, who continue to face significant barriers to political participation. The Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU) research shows that violence, harassment and intimidation of women MPs are more prevalent among women under 40, as well as among unmarried women and those from minority groups.

Through the Women and Youth Democratic Engagement (WYDE) | Women's Leadership Initiative, the IPU aims to advance women's participation in parliaments globally, leveraging its convening power and established platforms. As part of this effort, the IPU places particular emphasis on the representation of women from marginalized and vulnerable groups, an area that remains significantly under-explored. To promote more inclusive representation, the IPU plans to develop evidence-based policy guidance and an advocacy strategy.

To ensure this work is informed and grounded in diverse perspectives, the IPU aims to engage in dialogues with MPs, WYDE partners, civil society organizations and academics. These discussions will explore what policies and approaches have been effective in enhancing representation and inclusion of diverse groups of women in parliament, and what lessons can be drawn from such efforts.

Objectives

- To gather insights and good practices from MPs, civil society organizations, academics and WYDE partners on policies and approaches that have successfully enhanced diverse women's participation in political processes and representation in parliaments.
- To inform the development of IPU's future guidance and advocacy strategies for MPs aimed at promoting the political participation of women from diverse backgrounds.

Format: In-person. Presentations will be followed by a moderated discussion. The event will be held in English and French.

RSVP: Please register by 24 September at the following link: <https://forms.gle/tsbDVUsQYpYEEStt6>.

The side event is being held in parallel to the IPU 2025 Parliamentary event at the United Nations General Assembly High-Level Week. The Parliamentary event will take place in New York, on 24 September 2025 under the theme *Beijing +30 – Parliaments leading the way*. The side event is organized under the WYDE | Women's Leadership Initiative, a collaborative effort funded by the European Union and led by UN Women, together with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the IPU and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG). These four partners are implementing WYDE in alignment with the Generation Equality Action Coalition 6 (AC6) on Feminist movements and leadership, promoting women's political participation and leadership through social norm change, intergenerational networking and global advocacy.



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