



Background document: Available resources on data collection on women and men in decision-making and gender-sensitive parliaments

EIGE's Gender Statistics Database:

In line with Commission's longstanding priority of achieving gender balance in decision-making and Commission's priority "A new push for European democracy", EIGE regularly monitors the representation of women and men in decision-making through its [Gender Statistics Database](#). Data on women and men in key decision-making positions across several different domains including in politics are collected for the 27 EU Member States (¹).

Indicators related to political decision-making at European and national levels are updated quarterly allowing effective and sustainable monitoring of women and men's representation throughout relevant topics such as Parliaments, Governments and Political parties. The data set also supports monitoring of the Sustainable Development Goals, with two indicators related to women in management positions and seats in national parliaments and governments (²).

Regional and local level indicators include:

- [Regional assemblies: president and members by region](#)
- [Regional assemblies: president and members](#)
- [Local/municipal councils: mayors or other leaders and members](#)
- [Regional executives: president and members by region](#)
- [Regional executives: president and members](#)

Each year EIGE publishes a statistical brief with an overview of state of play on gender balance in politics, including at regional and local level (you can see [here](#) the 2023 publication here. The 2024 publication with most updated data will be published mid-May).

Gender-sensitive parliaments toolkit

The toolkit includes two tools that support parliaments to plan and monitor progress towards transformative change for gender equality.

Online self-assessment tool on gender-sensitive parliaments. The [self-assessment](#) allows parliaments to assess how gender sensitive they are, identify the areas where further efforts should be made and monitor their progress towards achieving gender equality. This

¹ Data on women and men in decision making is also collected for the United Kingdom, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Albania, Serbia and Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo* and the remaining three EEA countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway).

² Both indicators are published by Eurostat on Eurobase under Sustainable Development indicators framework: Positions held by women in senior management positions https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/sdg_05_60/default/table?lang=en and Seats held by women in national parliaments and governments https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/databrowser/view/sdg_05_50/default/table?lang=en

tool was launched in 2018 (see [here](#) more information on how the tool was developed). The tool is structured around 5 areas measuring different aspects of gender-sensitivity of parliaments:

- [AREA 1](#) – Women and men have equal opportunities to ENTER the parliament.
- [AREA 2](#) – Women and men have equal opportunities to INFLUENCE the parliament's working procedures.
- [AREA 3](#) – Women's interests and concerns have adequate SPACE on parliamentary agenda.
- [AREA 4](#) – The parliament produces gender-sensitive LEGISLATION.
- [AREA 5](#) – The parliament complies with its SYMBOLIC function.

Each of the areas is then composed of domains, sub-domains and indicators with relevant questions to assess the level of gender-sensitivity in the specific area. Once the questionnaires are filled in, results with scores for each area and domain are generated which clearly indicate what works well and more importantly, where further efforts are needed. The description of indicators and scoring model is available [here](#).

The tool is available in five different versions: General, shorter version, which includes sub-set of questions that can be filled in largely using publicly available data, and four versions tailored to different levels of parliaments: European, national, regional with legislative capacity and regional without legislative capacity.

Tool on gender equality action plans for parliaments. This tool provides practical step-by-step guidance to parliaments at the EU, national and regional levels to develop, implement, monitor, and evaluate a gender equality action plan. Gender equality action plans are a vital gender mainstreaming tool to help parliaments address gender inequalities identified during the self-assessment and hold parliaments responsible for their gender equality commitments.

The tool describes how to:

- Plan the **process** of establishing a gender equality action plan from start to finish.
- Set up the necessary **support structures and conditions** that are required to successfully execute a gender equality action plan.
- Design the **contents** of a gender equality action plan, including the measures that parliaments can adopt.
- Recognise the key **challenges** they may encounter throughout the process, and potential **solutions** to prevent and address these concerns.

The tool supports parliaments to achieve gender-responsive institutional transformation. If you have assessed the gender-sensitivity of your parliament, develop a gender equality action plan as a next step towards achieving a gender-sensitive parliament. The tool will be available on EIGE's Gender Mainstreaming Platform on 30 April 2024.

Evidence on gender-sensitive parliaments

As part of the 2024 thematic priority on "A New Push for European Democracy", EIGE continues to support parliaments to better deliver on gender equality and transform their practices, processes, and outputs in a gender-sensitive manner. In 2023, EIGE collected evidence on gender equality and gender sensitivity of the European Parliament and national parliaments in the EU. This is EIGE's second data collection on gender-sensitive parliaments (the first one took place in 2019, see results [here](#) and [here](#)). Based on the collected data, EIGE is preparing a comparative assessment report structured along the five areas of EIGE's self-assessment framework for gender-sensitive parliaments, and where possible, highlights progress or regress in comparison to the 2019 state of play. The report will be available ahead of the 2024 European Elections.

Beijing Platform for Action and Area G - Women in Power and Decision-making: EIGE provides support to the Presidencies of the Council of the EU. EIGE does so by delivering high-quality reports on the progress of gender equality in the critical areas of concern of the Beijing Platform for Action (BPfA) chosen by the Presidencies. The findings and recommendations of EIGE's reports feed into the policy-making process through Council Conclusions. See [here](#) available resources on Area G – Women in Power and Decision-making and see [here](#) Beijing +25: the fifth review of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action in the EU Member States.