



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE WOMEN'S FULL AND EFFECTIVE PARTICIPATION AND DECISION- MAKING IN PUBLIC LIFE

CSW65 PRIORITY THEME



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1. Global Framework for Women's Political Representation
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Context

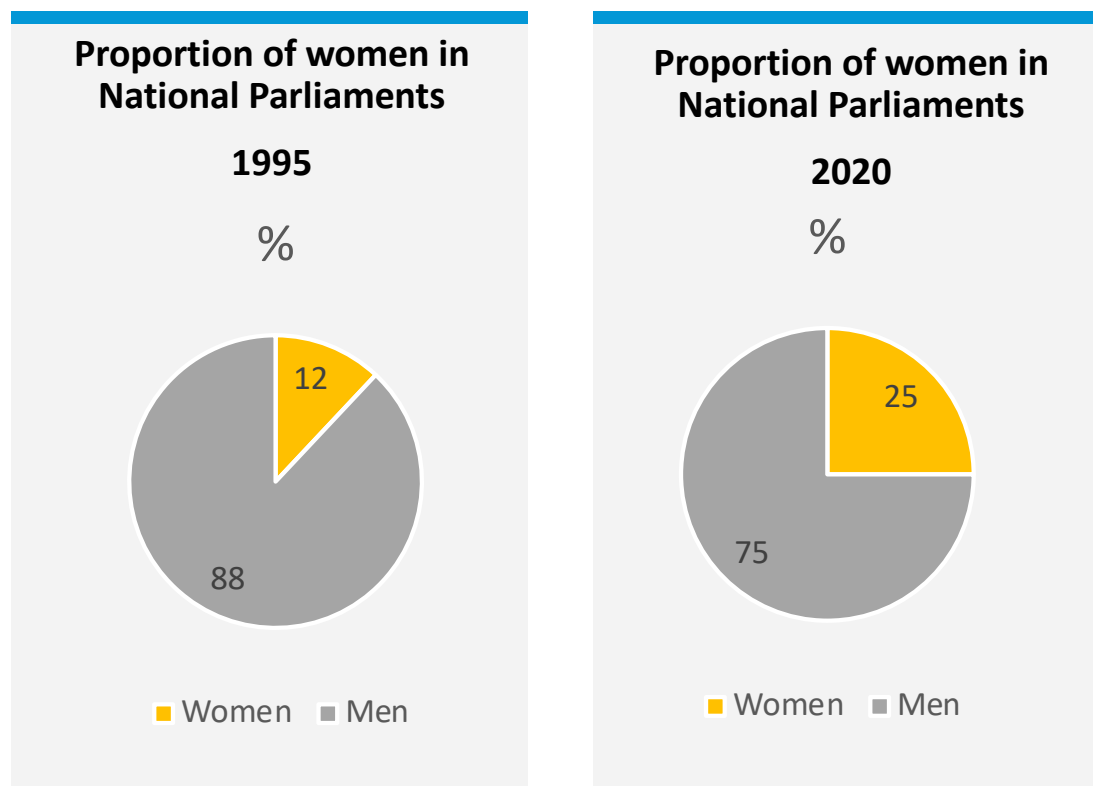
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| INTERNATIONAL NORMATIVE FRAMEWORKS FOR **WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC LIFE**

- 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals,
- Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (para. 10-23-58-80)
- CEDAW (art. 7 – 8)
- SDG indicator 5.5.1a: Proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments
- Additional SDG indicator on women's representation in local government, 5.5.1b: Proportion of seats held by women in local governments

| Women's Participation in Public Life – Global trends



At that rate, gender parity in national legislative bodies will only be achieved by... **2063**

| Women's Participation in Public Life – National Level Data

Women Heads of Government and Heads of State (as at 1 February 2021)

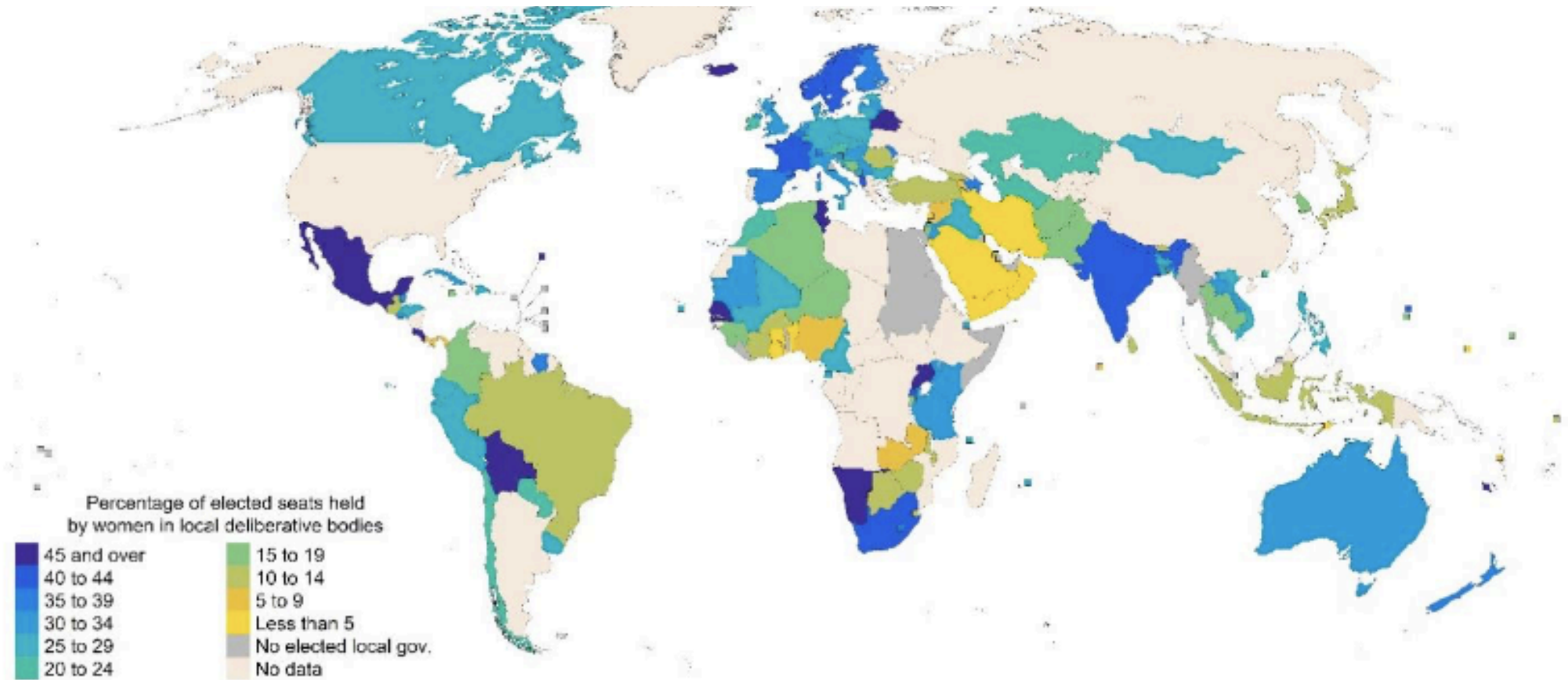
Total number of countries	22
Proportion Women Heads of States	5.9%
Proportion Heads of Governments	7.3%

Regional averages of Women in National Parliaments (as at 1 January 2021)

Region	Lower chamber and unicameral	Upper chamber	All chambers
Americas	32.3%	33%	32.4%
Europe	30.5%	30.2%	30.4%
Sub-Saharan Africa	25.1%	23.9%	24.9%
Asia	20.8%	17.6%	20.4%
Middle-East and North Africa	19.3%	11.2%	17.8%
Pacific	18.0%	44.9%	20.9%

IPU data, accessed on 2 February 2021

| Women's Participation in Public Life – Local Data



Women's representation in local deliberative bodies, as at 1st of January 2020

Source: UN Women, 2020a



BARRIERS

Photo | UN Women/P Regional Office for Arab States

| Barriers



Discriminatory legislations deny women equality before the law



Social norms constrain women's participation in public life



Violence against women in public life threatens women's participation



Women's civil society activism supports change but is challenged by shrinking civic spaces





PROPELLERS

Photo | UN Women/Regional Office for Arab States

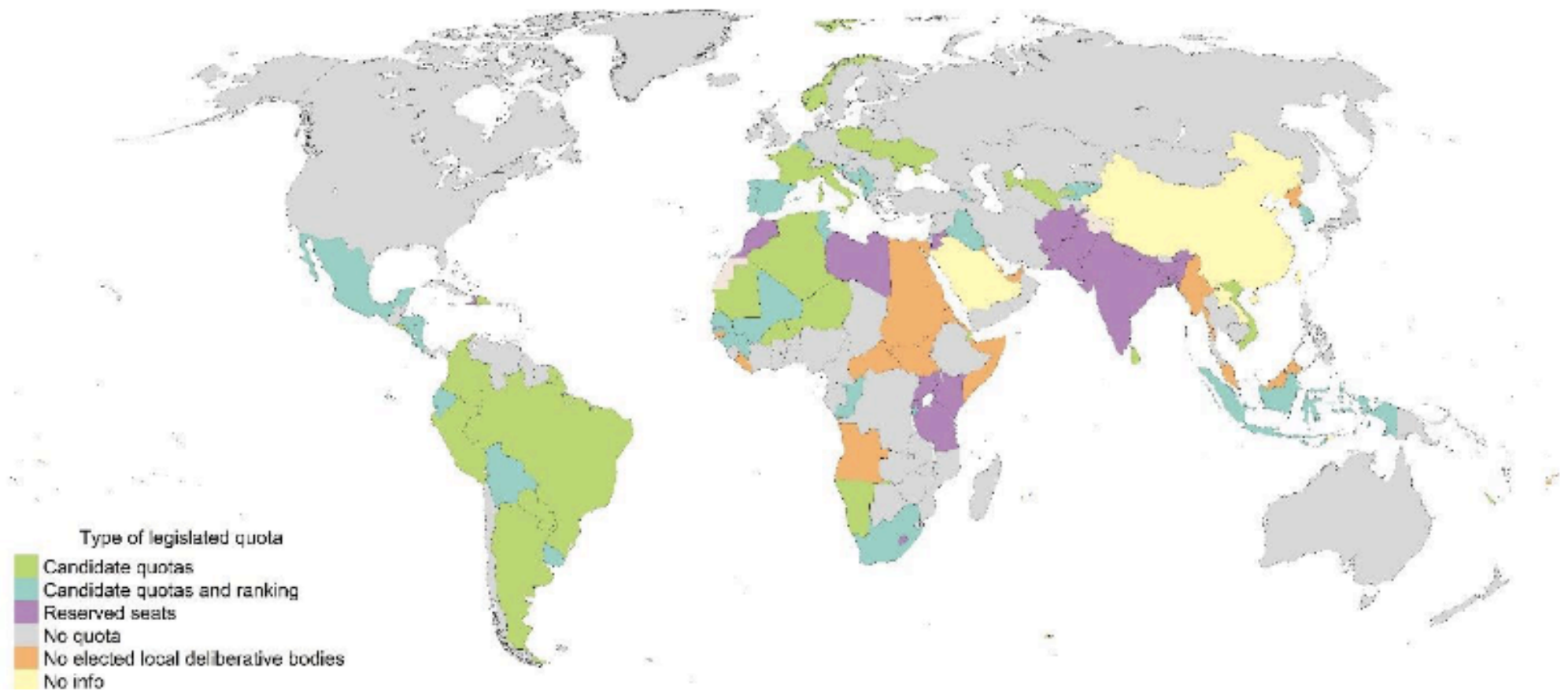


| ACCELERATORS AND PROPELLERS

- Strengthen normative, legal and regulatory frameworks
 - Accelerate the Elimination of laws, policies and regulations that discriminate against women
 - Temporary Special Measures
 - Enforcement and implementation
- Increase the availability of high-quality financing in support of women's participation in public life
 - Direct, flexible, and sustainable funding for women's activists and women's organizations
 - Generation Equality Forum

Photo: UN Women Regional Office for Arab States

A Propeller: Temporary Special Measures – Legislated Gender Quotas



Types of legislated gender quotas used by countries, as at 1st of January 2020

Source: UN Women, 2020b



| RECOMMENDATIONS – REMOVE BARRIERS

- Prevent and eliminate violence against women in public life
 - Offline and increasingly online
 - Women politicians, rights defenders, women's organizations
 - Standalone law on violence against women in politics in one country
- Combat structural obstacles and discriminatory norms about gender roles in politics and corporately
 - Social norms, cultural and attitudinal barriers
 - Gender-biased public institutions
 - Advocacy is needed: Media, advertising, TV and film industries

Photo: UN Women Regional Office for Arab States

RECOMMENDATIONS | Leaving No One Behind

- Strengthen women's voice and leave no one behind in public life
 - Women and men
 - Women's network and civic space
- Support structures and civic space are less accessible to vulnerable groups:
 - Urban vs. rural
 - Women with disabilities,
 - Women in economically marginalized groups,
 - Ethnic minority groups,
 - Indigenous populations,
 - Youth