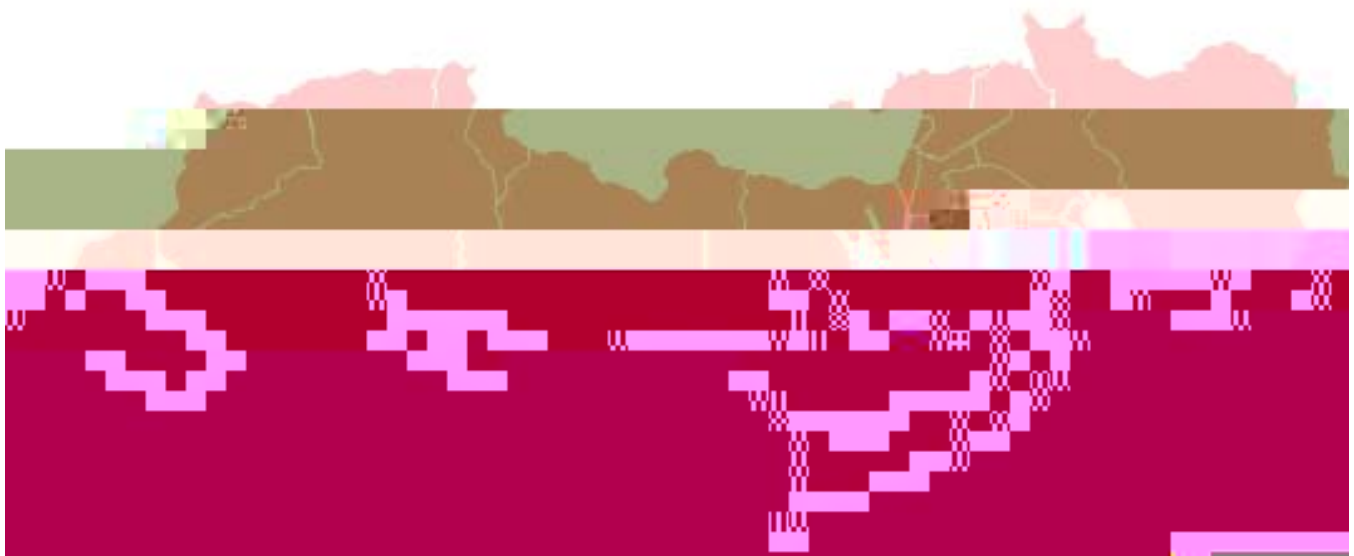


# MENA Women's News Brief



“Although the percentage of women MPs in the world has nearly doubled in the past 20 years, ambitious and concerted political action is needed globally to overcome the slow pace of progress to equality,” says the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).”

<http://www.ipu.org/press-e/pressrelease201503051.htm>



The Accenture report is available here: [http://www.accenture.com/us-en/company/people/women/Pages/insight-2015-womens-research-listen-learn-lead.aspx?c=car\\_rmiwdfy15\\_10000062:otc\\_0215](http://www.accenture.com/us-en/company/people/women/Pages/insight-2015-womens-research-listen-learn-lead.aspx?c=car_rmiwdfy15_10000062:otc_0215)

## **Gallup**

### **March 4: Nearly 2 Billion Women Worldwide Are Struggling, Suffering**

“While International Women's Day on Sunday, March 8 will focus mostly on how the world thinks women are doing, it's important to understand how the women of the world think they are doing. The best way to find this out is to ask them. 61 percent of women polled said they are ‘struggling.’”

[http://www.gallup.com/poll/181790/nearly-billion-women-worldwide-struggling-suffering.aspx?utm\\_source=alert&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=morelink&utm\\_campaign=syndic](http://www.gallup.com/poll/181790/nearly-billion-women-worldwide-struggling-suffering.aspx?utm_source=alert&utm_medium=email&utm_content=morelink&utm_campaign=syndic)



## **Israel**

### **March 8: International Women's Day 2015 - Israeli statistics**

“At the end of 2013, there were 2,986,000 women aged 15 and up living in Israel. Life expectancy was 80.3 years for men and 83.9 for women. Women constituted 57.8 percent of people employed in academic professions in 2014.”

<http://mfa.gov.il/MFA/AboutIsrael/Spotlight/Pages/International-Women-Day-2015-Israeli-statistics.aspx>

## **United Arab Emirates**

### **June 2014: The National Report of the UAE on Beijing+20**

“The UAE, since its endorsement of the recommendations of the 4th International Conference on Women, held in Beijing in 1995, has worked on developing national strategies, plans and programs of actions in order to implement the Beijing Platform for Action.”

<http://www.escwa.un.org/sites/BeijingPlus20/docs/UAEEn.pdf>

## **United Kingdom**

### **March 3: House of Commons Library: International Women’s Day 2015 Background and statistics**

“In the United Kingdom, on average, women working full-time earn 9.5 percent less than men. Although women make up 51 percent of the population in the UK, only 23 percent of MPs, 25 percent of judges and 21 percent of Financial Times Stock Exchange 100 company directors are female.”

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/publications/research/briefing-papers/SN02936/international-womens-day-2015-background-and-statistics>

Newspapers

## **The Independent**

### **March 6: The statistics that show why International Women’s Day is still important**

“International Women’s Day is fast approaching and this year’s theme is ‘make it happen.’ And we do need to make it happen; in the workplaces where women still earn less than men; in the offices where women are rarely promoted; in the countries where women are regularly sexually abused and forced into marriage, and for the girls who are still forced to undergo female genital mutilation. Here are just a few of the many reasons why we still need International Women’s Day.”

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/international-womens-day-2015-the--shameful-statistics-that-show-why-it-is-still-important-10091504.html>

## **Opinions/Analysis**

### **December 2014: ‘Beijing+20: Looking Back and the Road Ahead’**

By Various Authors

“In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (Beijing+20), the Middle East Program and the Women in Public Service Project at the Wilson Center are proud to

share pieces from women who have been instrumental in realizing the goals of the Beijing Platform for Action in different parts of the world with the publication *Beijing+20: Looking Back and the Road Ahead.*”

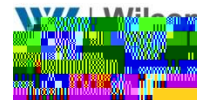
<http://wilsoncenter.org/publication/beijing20-looking-back-and-the-road-ahead>

**March 6: Expansion or Contraction? Women’s Rights in the MENA Region in 2015**




stymied by discriminatory laws, customs, and structural barriers that restrict women from full participating in the formal economy. In no country is the gender equality gap completely closed.”  
<http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2015/mar/08/international-womens-day-equality-prosperity>

**By Julia Craig Romano**



**Additional MENA Women’s News Briefs are available [here](#).**

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