

# Women's Political Networks

## Defining



A RESOURCE GUIDE



## Acknowledgements

I'd like to gracefully acknowledge all the politicians, gender experts and managers

## Researching Women's Political Networks: A Resource Guide

### Background

This resource guide has been designed to complement the paper: *Women's Political Networks: Defining Leadership, Breaking Barriers And Fostering Change*, which explores the role and *modus operandi* of

## Women in Politics: Key Bibliography

This bibliography provides an overview of key resources available from feminist and non-feminist<sup>1</sup> literature on women and political participation: articles from some of the key scholars on this topic,<sup>2</sup> as well as policy papers, toolkits and manuals of best practices. Following a similar approach to the paper, it is arranged by issue-specific sections:

1. Women in Politics: Considerations On Descriptive and Substantive Representation
2. Women's Confidence and Ambition Gap: On Competition and Political Participation
3. Societal Expectations and Media Coverage of Women in Politics
4. Family Penalty: The Impact of Domestic Responsibilities on Women in Politics
5. Gender-Based Violence in Politics
6. Women and Financing of Political Campaigns
7. Women and Political Leadership
8. Fostering Women's Political Participation in Civil Society, Political Parties and National Legislatures: Best Practices and Manuals

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1 Methodological note: what is feminist research?

56th Annual Meeting of the American Political Science Association (APSA) in Washington, DC, September 1-5, 2012. <https://www.apsanet.org/annual-meeting/2012>

unanimously accepted definition, it is safe to say that feminist research tends to have a very strong social change agenda and use methods "which can best answer particular research questions, but always using them in ways which are consistent with broad feminist goals and ideology" (Jayaratne and Stewart, 1991)". Most of the existing research, however, does not identify as feminist, but follows a "gender approach", consisting, of a set of agreed principles, namely: consideration of the hierarchical power relations between men and women that tend to disadvantage women throughout the research process; integration of diversity, including the differing ways that race, ethnicity,

## Women in Politics: Considerations on Descriptive and Substantive Representation

Alexander, J., & Bratton, C. (2011). *The Jackie (and Jill) Robinson Effect: Why Do Congresswomen Outperform Congressmen?* *American Journal of Political Science*.

Alexander, J., & Bratton, C. (2006). *Engendering the Legislative Agenda With and Without the Quota: A Comparative Study of Argentina and Uruguay*. *Sociologia, Problemas e Práticas*.

Berger, M. (2007). *Numbers and Newness: The Descriptive and Substantive Representation of Women*. *Canadian Journal of Political Science/Revue Canadienne De Science Politique*.

Berger, M., & Chantler, C. (2007). *Sheer Numbers: Critical Representation Thresholds and Women's Political Representation*. *Perspectives on Politics*.

Chantler, C., & Berger, M. (2008). *57%*



Wilson, J. (2011). 'Miss representation'. (Film), (2011), <<http://therepresentationproject.org/film/miss-representation/see-the-film/buy-rent-stream/>>.

Wilson, J. (2006). 'The personal, the political and the popular. A woman's guide to celebrity politics', *European Journal of Cultural Studies* (2006), pp. 287-301.

*Ridden Societies*

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## Women and Financing of Political Campaigns

A. , B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2011) *Gender, Campaign Finance, and Electoral Success in Municipal Elections*. *Journal of Urban Affairs* 33:83–97.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2003) *Gender Equality in Political Party Funding in Funding of Political Parties and election Campaigns*. Stockholm: IDEA - Handbook Series.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2014) *Women in Politics: Financing for Gender Equality*, in Falguera, E., Jones, S. and Ohman, M. (eds), *Funding of Political Parties and Election Campaigns*. Stockholm: International IDEA.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2016) *Gender Inequalities in Campaign Finance*, *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*: Vol. 11: No. 2, pp 219-248.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2005) *Campaign Financing: Women's Experience in the Modern Era - Women and Elective*

*Office: Past, Present, and Future*. Oxford University Press.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2014) *Political Finance and Gender Equality*. IFES. IFES White Paper.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (1996) *Is there a Gender Gap in the Value of Campaign Resources? American Politics Research* 24:68–80.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. A (2013) *Funding of Political Parties and Election Campaigns: A Handbook on Political Finance*. International IDEA Handbooks series.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2007) *A Woman's Work Is Never Done? Fund-Raising Perception and Effort among Female State Legislative Candidates*. *Political Research Quarterly* 60:230.

B. , C. , D. , E. , F. , G. , H. , I. , J. , K. , L. , M. , N. , O. , P. , Q. , R. , S. , T. , U. , V. , W. , X. , Y. , Z. (2007) *Women Candidates and Campaign Finance*. WEDO. New York.



## Women and Political Leadership

**Baldwin, C. (2009)** *How Remarkable Women Lead: The Breakthrough Model for Work and Life*. New York: Crown Press.

**Baldwin, C. (2008)** *Powerful Women: Does Exposure Reduce Bias?* *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 124.4 MIT Press.

**Baldwin, C. (2014)** *From party leader to*



## Women's Political Empowerment: Mapping of National and International Actors

Since Beijing, a great number of networks, organizations and institutions have been created, aimed at

security processes, consulting with governments, conducting field research, and providing leadership development for women leaders in conflict zones around the world. Inclusive Security includes the Women Waging Peace Network, a network of more than 2,000 women peacemakers from conflict areas around the world, launched in 1999 to connect these women with each other and with policy shapers.

[Inter-Parliamentary Union \(IPU\)](#) is the world organization of parliaments, it has a membership of 170 Member Parliaments. Since 1985, at the initiative of women parliamentarians from different countries, it has established a Forum of women parliamentarians to enhance solidarity among women and advance the gender equality agenda.

[International Civil Society Action Network \(ICAN\)](#) is a registered non-profit, US based organization whose mission is to support civil society activism in promoting women's rights, peace and human security in countries affected by conflict, transition and closed political space. It offers a network of activists and women leaders working in the space of women, peace and security.

[International Foundation for Electoral Systems \(IFES\)](#) supports citizens' rights to participate in free and fair elections. IFES works to fortify women in political and electoral processes as candidates and elected leaders, technical experts in elections, engaged civil society leaders and in-

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[The United States Institute of Peace \(USIP\)](#) is a DC-based non-partisan, independent, federal institution that provides analysis of and is involved in conflicts around the world. The Institute was established by an act of Congress in 1984.

[The Women in Parliaments Global Forum](#) (WIP) is the global network of female Parliamentarians at national level, including the European Parliament, of whom there currently are around 9000.

[The Women's Democracy Network](#) (WDN) is an initiative of the [International Republican Institute](#) to increase women's political participation, leadership and representation in elected office. WDN accomplishes this goal by linking these women with their peers in other countries who share similar struggles, providing mentorship from experienced women who have are leaders in their fields,

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nance through conferences, effective seminars, educational programs, professional relationships, and networking at both the state and federal levels in nonpartisan ways.

[National Organization for Women Political Action Committees](#) supports feminist candidates, male and female, for federal office. The NOW Equality PAC (NEP) supports feminist candidates for state and local office in the US.

[National Women's Political Caucus](#) (NWPC) is a non-partisan national grassroots membership organization dedicated to increasing the number of pro-choice women in elected and appointed office in the US.

[Public Leadership Education Network \(PLEN\)](#) introduces college women to role models, career paths, and skills trainings before they enter the workforce. PLEN's mission is to increase the number of women in top leadership positions influencing all aspects of the public policy process.

[Running Start](#) introduces young women to role models, talks to young women about the importance of politics in their lives, and gives them the encouragement and skills to pursue a career in political leadership. Running Start's Young Women's

renowned center for advancing women in

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run for office or who want to move up the ladder to higher elective office. For five days, participants are put through an intense political immersion program designed to teach campaign skills, strategic assessment, and improvisation.

[Women's Initiative in Leadership](#) – Harvard Uni-

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## Regional and National Organizations and Networks





interaction and dialogue with national, regional and international decision-making structures and mechanisms to engage in conflict prevention, management and resolution.

[Collectif 95 Maghreb Egalite](#) is a network anchored in the women's movement of the countries of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia. The founders of this network, coordinators of women's organizations, intellectuals and researchers, believe that the struggle for equality between women and men is a determining factor in the achievement of full citizenship.

[The Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians \(CWP\)](#) was founded by women delegates at the 1989 plenary conference so women at future conferences could discuss ways to increase female representation in Parliament and work towards the mainstreaming of gender considerations in all CPA activities and programs. In 2004, the group was formally recognized in the CPA Constitution and its elected Chairperson added to the CPA Executive Committee.

[Femmes Africa Solidarite \(FAS\)](#) is an international non-governmental organization that works to promote and strengthen the role of African women in preventing, managing and resolving conflicts.

[The African Women's Development and Communication Network \(FEMNET\)](#) is a membership-based pan-African Network set up in 1988 to advance African women's development, equality and other human rights. Over the years FEMNET has played a central role in sharing information, experiences, ideas and strategies among African women's NGOs in order to strengthen women's capacity to participate effectively in the development processes on the continent.

[Forum for Women in Development \(FWID\)](#) is a network of Egyptian non-governmental organizations working for the emancipation of women and elimination of all aspects of discrimination

against women. Launched in 1997 by 15 civil society organizations, FWID advocates for the reform of policies and legislation that discriminate against women. It is made up of groups of activists, both male and female, from different social and professional backgrounds, who work together to build a democratic, just, and egalitarian society.

[Foundation for the Support of Women's Work \(FSWW\)](#) is a non-governmental organization in Turkey seeking to ensure women's equal participation in social, economic, and political decision-making by drawing on the expertise and potential of local women. Established in 1986, it supports low-income women's groups to improve the quality of their lives, their communities, and their leadership. KEDV/FSWW works in Istanbul, the Marmara earthquake region, and south-eastern Turkey. The organization also provides consultancy, training, and monitoring support to those local governments, non-governmental organizations, and other organizations that want to integrate FSWW programs into their activities.

[Kayan Feminist Organization](#), a feminist organization established by Palestinian-Israeli women, is a capacity-building non-governmental organization devoted to women's development.

[KIND](#) stands for the Kudirat Initiative for Democracy, a not-for-profit organization based in Lagos, Nigeria. We work primarily in Nigeria in the areas of leadership development for young women and on collaborative projects aimed at removing barriers to women's public participation and ending violence against women.

[Mano River Women's Peace Network](#) is an organization with a mission to advocate for and promote at all decision-making levels the involvement of women and youth in the prevention, management and resolution of conflict in the Mano River sub-region, throughout Africa, and the world.

[Moremi Initiative for Women's Leadership in Africa](#) strives to engage, inspire and equip young

women and girls to become the next generation of leading politicians, activists, social entrepreneurs and change agents. Moremi Initiative is a non-profit organization based in Nigeria and the United States and operating throughout Africa.

[Mowatinat](#) means 'Female Citizens.' is Arabic-language site of Sisterhood Is Global Institute/Jordan provides news, information and resources on women's political and public participation in the MENA and beyond.

[Nigeria Women Trust Fund](#)

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to empower women to assume decision-making positions in Palestine.

[Women's Self-Promotion Movement \(WSPM\)](#) is a grassroots organization created in 2001 in Zimbabwe. WSPM implements women's eco-

nomie empowerment programs and women's capacity-building programs that seek to improve the lives of disadvantaged women through education, economic development and leadership. The organization primarily works with refugee women and girls in the southern Africa region.

## *Regional and National Organizations, Asia*

[All Women's Action Society \(AWAM\)](#) is an independent feminist organization committed to improving the lives of women in Malaysia. Its vision is to create a just, democratic, and equitable society where women are treated with respect, and are free from all forms of violence and discrimination. To reach this goal, AWAM informs, connects, and mobilizes those interested in securing women's rights, bringing about equality between men and women, and supporting women in crisis. AWAM's activities include advocacy, training and education, and direct services to victims of violence, including counseling and legal aid.

[Asian University for Women](#) seeks to graduate women who will be skilled and innovative professionals, service oriented leaders, and promoters of intercultural understanding and sustainable human and economic development in Asia and across the globe.

[Aurat Foundation](#) is committed to working for women's rights and empowering citizens to participate in good governance for the purpose of creating a just, democratic, and humane society in Pakistan. The organization works in partnership with over 1,200 non-governmental and community-based organizations on activities related to advocacy, activism, and knowledge- and information-building for women's rights and gender equality in Pakistan.

[DidiBahini](#) is a non-profit non-governmental organization established with the goal of facilitating gender mainstreaming into the development process in Nepal.

[Human Rights Center/Citizens against Corruption \(CAC\)](#) in Kyrgyzstan focuses on the rights of women and refugees, provides legal consultation, conducts and disseminates research, convenes civic forums, participates in public hearings, and trains human rights defenders. CAC advocates against corruption in the government through monitoring elections and supporting election reform, supporting women in Parliament, and advocating against the use of torture and the death penalty.

[International Women's Rights Action Watch Asia Pacific \(IWRRAW Asia Pacific\)](#) is a non-profit international women's organization based in the South.

vision of Asian women leaders to explore creative ways in organizing a network of Asia Pacific women involved in politics, governance, decision-making, and transformative leadership.

[Shymkent Women's Resource Center \(SWRC\)](#)

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and women's empowerment. The IAPG is an independent parliamentary network and the only dedicated to advance the commitments made at ICPD, Beijing and the MDGs. The IAPG has supported parliamentarians in moving forward policies and promoting laws to advance and protect sexual and reproductive health, violence against women, HIV and AIDS and sex education for young people.

[Latin American Parliament](#)

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[facebook.com/wpsproject](https://www.facebook.com/wpsproject)  
[@WPSProject](https://twitter.com/WPSProject)