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Gender equality in the functioning of the Assembly

Progress report¹

Bureau of the Assembly

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1. Since 2012, following a Bureau decision, statistics on the gender breakdown of Assembly positions are prepared every year and included in the Progress report on the activities of the Assembly's Bureau and Standing Committee presented during the January part-session. They provide a picture of the situation as of December of any given year. The publication of this information aims at enhancing transparency and raising awareness.

2. In September 2021, the Assembly adopted [Resolution 2394 \(2021\)](#) on gender representation in the Parliamentary Assembly, which aimed to introduce more balanced representation of women and men in all its structures. Its provisions will apply as from the opening of the January 2023 part-session. They require delegations to include at least the same percentage of women as their national parliament, or, if this is more favourable to the representation of women, to respect the minimum "one in three" principle for the representation of women in national delegations and to include a minimum number of women as full members.

3. In order to encourage the effective role of women in the decision-making process and in parliamentary work, the resolution introduces another important new feature which states that delegations will only be authorised to propose vice-presidents of the Assembly who are men if the delegation is composed of at least 40% women. Rapporteurs in committees and ad hoc committees will henceforth comprise at least one-third of women, and the Bureau will ensure the principle is applied for institutional representation. Political groups are also invited to follow the same principle, in particular when appointing committee bureaux, members of ad hoc committees, spokespersons, group leadership and ad hoc election observation committees, and are required to do the same when appointing members to the Monitoring Committee, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs and the Committee for the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights.

4. Therefore, all national delegations appointed as of 2023 must reflect the minimum "one in three" principle for gender balance set out in this text, and, as regards encouraging women's effective participation in decision-making roles and in parliamentary work in the Assembly, it will be interesting to examine the results of the implementation of [Resolution 2394 \(2021\)](#) over 2023. The text also includes a formal undertaking by the Assembly to require a minimum of 40% of women in all delegations as from the opening of the 2026 session.

5. In 2022, the total number of women members of the Assembly represented 40%, an increase compared to 37% in 2021. According to data collected by the Inter-Parliamentary Union,² the total share of women members of parliament in the national parliaments of Council of Europe member States dropped slightly during the last year, from 31.1% in January to 30.9% in November 2022 (against 30.5% and 31.2% in January and November 2021). The provisions laid down in Rule 6.2 a. of the Assembly's Rules of procedure, namely that "*national delegations should include members of the under-represented sex at least in the same percentage as in their national parliaments*" and the adoption of [Resolution 2394 \(2021\)](#) which introduced

1. The figures provided represent the situation on 6 December 2022.

2. <https://data.ipu.org/women-averages>.



amendments to Rules 6.2 a. and 6.2 b. seem therefore to have had a positive effect on nominations to the Assembly, since in many cases the national delegations to the Assembly have a higher representation rate of women than national parliaments.

6. In 2022, the Assembly's presidency was held by Mr Tiny Kox. Three of the last ten Assembly presidents have been women (Anne Brasseur, Stella Kyriakides and Liliane Maury Pasquier). The percentage of women as Vice-Presidents of the Assembly rose significantly in 2022, from 32% to 42%, one point above the previous highest level of 41% in 2019. The low number of women Bureau members also rose, from 26% in 2021 to 35% in 2022 (lower than the 42% achieved in 2019). The number of women chairpersons of committees rose from 2 out of 9 in 2021 to 3 in 2022. One woman was a member of the Presidential Committee in 2022 alongside 6 men, after two years without any women members in 2020 and 2021. One of the objectives of [Resolution 2394 \(2021\)](#) is to encourage the appointment of women in the more prominent echelons of the Assembly, where levels have decreased in recent years (see paragraph 3 above).

7. As regards the composition of committees, an overall 41% of full members in 2022 were women, up four percentage points from 37% in 2021; likewise, women alternates counted for 42% in 2022, up from 38% in 2021. The rise in the percentage of women full members was observed in all committees except the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy (stable at 35%) and the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs (a decrease from 36% to 29%). The proportion of women full members of the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights rose to 32%, just above its 2020 level of 30%, after having dropped to 19% in 2021.

8. The consistent drop observed in the representation of women as rapporteurs for the reports debated in plenary in the previous three years was reversed in 2022, returning to the 2019 level of 36%. The number of women rapporteurs was spread more evenly among committees, and those from which women were absent as rapporteurs in 2021 (Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and Monitoring Committee) now register women rapporteurs. The representation of women as rapporteurs for the opinions debated in plenary dropped from 82% in 2021 to 60% in 2022 (the representation of rapporteurs for opinion is very unbalanced, moving from 100% women to 0% from one year to the other and the other way around – statistics lose significance because of the small and variable number of opinions prepared each year).

OVERVIEW ASSEMBLY							
Position	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
President	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Presidents	11	8	19	68%	58%	32%	42%
Presidential Committee	6	1	7	100%	86%	0%	14%
Assembly Bureau	24	13	37	74%	65%	26%	35%
COMMITTEES	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy ³							
Full Members	52	28	80	65%	65%	35%	35%
Alternates	57	19	76	80%	75%	20%	25%
Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons	1	2	3	100%	33%	0%	67%
Rapporteurs for report	8	4	12	100%	67%	0%	33%
Rapporteurs for opinion	1	1	2	0%	50%	100%	50%
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights							
Full Members	50	31	81	65%	62%	35%	38%
Alternates	47	29	76	67%	62%	33%	38%
Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons	2	1	3	100%	67%	0%	33%
Rapporteurs for report	10	3	13	75%	77%	25%	33%

3. Figures for the bureau of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy reflect the situation on 24 November 2022. Following changes to the composition of the Lithuanian delegation, the position of 2nd Vice-Chairperson became vacant on 25 November 2022.

Rapporteurs for opinion	2	0	2	100%	100%	0%	0%
Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights							
Full Members	13	6	19	81%	68%	19%	32%
Alternates	12	8	20	73%	60%	27%	40%
Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons	2	1	3	50%	67%	50%	33%
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development							
Full Members	42	37	79	57%	53%	43%	47%
Alternates	34	42	76	58%	45%	42%	55%
Chairperson	0	1	1	100%	0%	0%	100%
Vice-Chairpersons	1	2	3	67%	33%	33%	67%
Rapporteurs for report	4	6	10	33%	40%	67%	60%
Rapporteurs for opinion	0	2	2	0%	0%	100%	100%
Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons							
Full Members	49	28	77	70%	63%	30%	37%
Alternates	45	31	76	60%	59%	40%	41%
Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons	3	0	3	67%	100%	33%	0%
Rapporteurs for report	3	3	6	89%	50%	11%	50%
Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media							
Full Members	48	27	75	70%	64%	30%	36%
Alternates	38	36	74	53%	51%	47%	49%
Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons	1	2	3	33%	33%	67%	67%
Rapporteurs for report	4	1	5	80%	80%	20%	20%
Rapporteurs for opinion	1	0	1	-	100%	-	0%
COMMITTEES	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination⁴							
Full Members	27	50	77	39%	35%	61%	65%
Alternates	40	35	75	48%	51%	52%	49%
Chairperson	0	1	1	0%	0%	100%	100%
Vice-Chairpersons	2	1	3	0%	67%	100%	33%
Rapporteurs for report	4	5	9	44%	44%	56%	56%
Rapporteurs for opinion	0	2	2	25%	0%	75%	100%
Committee on Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States (Monitoring Committee)							
Members	52	27	79	75%	68%	25%	32%
Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons	3	0	3	33%	100%	67%	0%
Rapporteurs for report	11	3	14	100%	79%	0%	21%
Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs							
Members	17	7	24	64%	71%	36%	29%
Chairperson	0	1	1	0%	0%	100%	100%
Vice-Chairpersons	1	2	3	100%	33%	0%	67%
Rapporteurs for report	0	0	0	67%	-	33%	-
Rapporteurs for opinion	0	1	1	0%	0%	100%	100%
OVERVIEW COMMITTEES⁵							

4. Figures for the bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination reflect the situation on 24 November 2022. Following changes to the composition of the Swedish delegation, the positions of Chairperson and 2nd Vice-Chairperson became vacant on 25 November 2022.

Position	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
Full Members / Members	350	241	591	63%	59%	37%	41%
Alternates	273	200	473	62%	58%	38%	42%
Committee Chairpersons	6	3	9	78%	67%	22%	33%
Committee Vice-Chairpersons	16	11	27	62%	59%	38%	41%
Rapporteurs for report	44	25	69	71%	64%	29%	36%
Rapporteurs for opinion	4	6	10	18%	40%	82%	60%
GENERAL RAPPORTEURS			2021		2022		
			Men	Women	Men	Women	
General Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders			0	1	0	1	
General Rapporteur on the abolition of the death penalty			1	0	1	0	
General Rapporteur on local and regional authorities			0	1	1	0	
General Rapporteur on science and technology assessment			1	0	1	0	
General Rapporteur on media freedom and safety of journalists			1	0	1	0	
General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance			1	0	0	1	
General Rapporteur on violence against women			0	1	0	1	
General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people			1	0	1	0	
General Rapporteur on the budget and intergovernmental programme			1	0	-	-	
Total			6	3	5	3	
Percentage			67%	33%	62%	38%	
GENDER BREAKDOWN, BUREAUX OF SUB-COMMITTEES							
Committees	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy							
Sub-Committee Chairpersons	3	0	3	50%	100%	50%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	1	0	1	0%	100%	100%	0%
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights							
Sub-Committee Chairpersons	1	2	3	100%	33%	0%	67%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	1	1	2	50%	50%	50%	50%
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development							
Sub-Committee Chairpersons	1	2	3	25%	33%	75%	67%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	2	2	4	33%	50%	67%	50%
Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons							
Sub-Committee Chairpersons	2	1	3	50%	67%	50%	33%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	1	1	2	100%	50%	0%	50%
Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media							

5. Figures for rapporteurs for report and for opinion relate to the reports debated by the Assembly and the Standing Committee in 2022.

Sub-Committee Chairpersons	1	1	2	67%	50%	33%	50%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	1	1	2	0%	50%	100%	50%
Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination							
Sub-Committee Chairpersons	1	2	3	50%	33%	50%	67%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	1	0	1	0%	100%	100%	0%
GENDER BREAKDOWN, BUREAUX OF SUB-COMMITTEES							
Committees	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
Committee on Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States (Monitoring Committee)							
Sub-Committee Chairperson	1	0	1	100%	100%	0%	0%
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	1	0	1	-	100%	-	0%
Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs							
Sub-Committee Chairperson	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Vice-Chairpersons of Sub-Committees	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
OVERVIEW – SUB-COMMITTEES							
Position	Men	Women	Total	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
Sub-Committee Chairpersons	10	8	18	59%	56%	41%	44%
Sub-Committee Vice-Chairpersons	8	5	13	30%	62%	70%	38%
GENDER BREAKDOWN – NATIONAL DELEGATIONS							
National Delegations (Representatives and Substitutes)	Total	Men	Women	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
Albania	8	3	5	38%		62%	
Andorra	4	2	2	50%		50%	
Armenia	8	6	2	75%		25%	
Austria	12	7	5	58%		42%	
Azerbaijan	12	8	4	67%		33%	
Belgium	14	8	6	57%		43%	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	10	4	6	40%		60%	
Bulgaria	12	8	4	67%		33%	
Croatia	10	5	5	50%		50%	
Cyprus	4	3	1	75%		25%	
Czech Republic	14	10	4	71%		29%	
Denmark	10	8	2	80%		20%	
Estonia	6	4	2	67%		33%	
Finland	10	3	7	30%		70%	
France	36	21	15	58%		42%	
Georgia	9	7	2	78%		22%	
Germany	36	21	15	58%		42%	
Greece	14	10	4	71%		29%	
Hungary	14	9	5	64%		36%	
Iceland	6	3	3	50%		50%	
Ireland	8	4	4	50%		50%	
Italy	36	23	13	64%		36%	

Latvia	6	4	2	67%	33%
Liechtenstein	4	3	1	75%	25%
Lithuania	7	5	2	71%	29%
Luxembourg	6	3	3	50%	50%
Malta	6	3	3	50%	50%
Republic of Moldova	10	5	5	50%	50%
Monaco	4	2	2	50%	50%
Montenegro	5	4	1	80%	20%
Netherlands	14	7	7	50%	50%
North Macedonia	6	3	3	50%	50%
Norway	10	4	6	40%	60%
Poland	24	17	7	71%	29%
Portugal	14	6	8	43%	57%
Romania	20	15	5	75%	25%
San Marino	4	2	2	50%	50%
Serbia	14	6	8	43%	57%
Slovak Republic	7	4	3	57%	43%
Slovenia	6	2	4	33%	67%
Spain	24	12	12	50%	50%
Sweden	12	6	6	50%	50%
Switzerland	12	8	4	67%	33%
Türkiye	36	27	9	75%	25%
Ukraine	24	11	13	46%	54%
United Kingdom	36	26	10	72%	28%
Total	604	362	242	60%	40%

GENDER BREAKDOWN – NATIONAL DELEGATIONS (REPRESENTATIVES ONLY)

National Delegations (representatives)	Total	Men	Women	Percentage of men	Percentage of women
Albania	4	1	3	25%	75%
Andorra	2	1	1	50%	50%
Armenia	4	3	1	75%	25%
Austria	6	4	2	67%	33%
Azerbaijan	6	5	1	83%	17%
Belgium	7	6	1	86%	14%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	1	4	20%	80%
Bulgaria	6	3	3	50%	50%
Croatia	5	2	3	40%	60%
Cyprus	2	1	1	50%	50%
Czech Republic	7	4	3	57%	43%
Denmark	5	4	1	80%	20%
Estonia	3	2	1	67%	33%
Finland	5	1	4	20%	80%
France	18	11	7	61%	39%
Georgia	4	3	1	75%	25%
Germany	18	12	6	67%	33%
Greece	7	5	2	71%	29%
Hungary	7	4	3	57%	43%
Iceland	3	2	1	67%	33%
Ireland	4	3	1	75%	25%
Italy	18	10	8	56%	44%
Latvia	3	2	1	67%	33%

Liechtenstein	2	1	1	50%	50%
Lithuania	3	2	1	67%	33%
Luxembourg	3	1	2	33%	67%
Malta	3	2	1	67%	33%
Republic of Moldova	5	3	2	60%	40%
Monaco	2	1	1	50%	50%
Montenegro	3	2	1	67%	33%
Netherlands	7	3	4	43%	57%
North Macedonia	3	2	1	67%	33%
Norway	5	2	3	40%	60%
Poland	12	10	2	83%	17%
Portugal	7	3	4	43%	57%
Romania	10	8	2	80%	20%
San Marino	2	1	1	50%	50%
Serbia	7	3	4	43%	57%
Slovak Republic	4	2	2	50%	50%
Slovenia	3	0	3	0%	100%
Spain	12	6	6	50%	50%
Sweden	6	3	3	50%	50%
Switzerland	6	3	3	50%	50%
Türkiye	18	13	5	72%	28%
Ukraine	12	4	8	33%	67%
United Kingdom	18	14	4	78%	22%
Total	302	179	123	59%	41%

GENDER BREAKDOWN – NATIONAL DELEGATIONS (SUBSTITUTES ONLY)

National Delegations (substitutes)	Total	Men	Women	Percentage of men	Percentage of women
Albania	4	2	2	50%	50%
Andorra	2	1	1	50%	50%
Armenia	4	3	1	75%	25%
Austria	6	3	3	50%	50%
Azerbaijan	6	3	3	50%	50%
Belgium	7	2	5	29%	71%
Bosnia and Herzegovina	5	3	2	60%	40%
Bulgaria	6	5	1	83%	17%
Croatia	5	3	2	60%	40%
Cyprus	2	2	0	100%	0%
Czech Republic	7	6	1	86%	14%
Denmark	5	4	1	80%	20%
Estonia	3	2	1	67%	33%
Finland	5	2	3	40%	60%
France	18	10	8	56%	44%
Georgia	5	4	1	80%	20%
Germany	18	9	9	50%	50%
Greece	7	5	2	71%	29%
Hungary	7	5	2	71%	29%
Iceland	3	1	2	33%	67%
Ireland	4	1	3	25%	75%
Italy	18	13	5	72%	28%
Latvia	3	2	1	67%	33%
Liechtenstein	2	2	0	100%	0%

Lithuania	4	3	1	75%	25%
Luxembourg	3	2	1	67%	33%
Malta	3	1	2	33%	67%
Republic of Moldova	5	2	3	40%	60%
Monaco	2	1	1	50%	50%
Montenegro	2	2	0	100%	0%
Netherlands	7	4	3	57%	43%
North Macedonia	3	1	2	33%	67%
Norway	5	2	3	40%	60%
Poland	12	7	5	58%	42%
Portugal	7	3	4	43%	57%
Romania	10	7	3	70%	30%
San Marino	2	1	1	50%	50%
Serbia	7	3	4	43%	57%
Slovak Republic	3	2	1	67%	33%
Slovenia	3	2	1	67%	33%
Spain	12	6	6	50%	50%
Sweden	6	3	3	50%	50%
Switzerland	6	5	1	83%	17%
Türkiye	18	14	4	78%	22%
Ukraine	12	7	5	58%	42%
United Kingdom	18	12	6	67%	33%
Total	302	183	119	61%	39%

OVERVIEW – NATIONAL DELEGATIONS

National Delegations	Total	Men	Women	Percentage of men		Percentage of women	
				2021	2022	2021	2022
Total	604	362	242	63%	60%	37%	40%
Representatives	302	179	123	62%	59%	38%	41%
Substitutes	302	183	119	63%	61%	37%	39%