



Women in Politics



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Women in Politics



- «(...) a better democracy is a democracy where women do not only have the right to vote and to elect but to be elected. » (Michelle Bachelet, former President of the Republic of Chile)

Women in Politics



- When the French Revolution fought *for liberty, equality and fraternity*, but did not share the new found self-determination with the ladies, Olympe de Gouges wrote a *Declaration of the Rights of Women and the Female Citizen* (1791):

«Women, wake up; the tocsin of reason sounds throughout the universe; recognize your rights. The powerful empire of nature is no longer surrounded by prejudice, fanaticism, superstition, and lies (...) Women, when will you cease to be blind? What advantages have you gathered in the Revolution?»

Olympe de Gouges *apud* Brown, 2009: ix

Women in Politics

New Zealand was probably the first country to establish universal suffrage and Kate Sheppard lead a movement that granted females the right to vote (1893).



In Great Britain, Emmeline Pankhurst was the head of the *Suffragette Movement* and founder of the *Women's Social and Political Union* (1903) that pushed for the ladies' right to vote, recognized by the *Representation of the People Act* (1918).



The Right to Vote – Portugal

The first women to vote was Carolina Beatriz Ângelo only in 1911, four months before her death. She was a medical doctor, which means she had high level of education and financial means of her own. As a widow, she was *head of the family* and law was vague (did not specify gender). She went to court and won her claim. The judge that favored the cause was the father of Ana de Castro Osório, another *Suffragette*.



First Portuguese Female MP's



Domitila de Carvalho

Domitila de Carvalho (1871-1966) was the first women to graduate in Portugal, getting three degrees (*Licenciaturas*) at the University of Coimbra: Mathematics (1894), Philosophy (1895) and Medicine (1904).



Maria Parreira

Maria Cândida Parreira (1877-1942) got a law diploma at the University of Lisbon in 1919. She was a lawyer.



Maria Guardiola

In 03/10/1914, Maria Guardiola (1895-1987) was accepted at the University of Coimbra and had a degree in Mathematics by 1921



- They were three teachers.
- All single, not married.
- Their speeches at the National Assembly were mainly about education. They proposed the introduction of courses on general hygiene and childcare in secondary schools and the reform of the school system.
- Guardiola, who had a long career at the service of the New State, defended the introduction of a single history and philosophy text book. Of the three, she had the most political influence.

First Portuguese Female MP's

Deputies' Name	In office
Domitila Hormizinda Miranda de Carvalho	1935/42
Maria Baptista dos Santos Guardiola	1935/53
Maria Cândida de Bragança Parreira	1935/38

Women in Politics – Portugal After Revolution of 1974

In the twentieth century, Maria de Lourdes Pintasilgo was the first and so far the only female Prime-Minister of Portugal (1979).



Natalia Correia was a famous Member of Parliament between 1980/1991.



Women in Politics – Portugal – Quotas

- In November 1974 an electoral law introduced “for the first time total gender equality, just as many other laws were issued on that period to pave the way towards political, social and civic rights gender equality. » (Almeida, 2009: 8)
- In 1986, European integration implied the adoption of equality directives. «The idea of parity democracy was introduced by the European Parliament considering that democracy implied equality between women and men in political positions. » (Cabrera, Calero and Tejer, 2013: 209).
- In 1998, the PS was perhaps the first political party introducing a gender quota law (VII Legislature, 1995– 1999). A *law proposal* suggesting a minimum 25% gender representation in political lists applying to elections (legislative or European) was voted against by PSD, CDS, PCP and PEV in March 4th 1999 (Viegas, 2016: 16).
- Other bills were discussed in 2000 and 2003 by PS; in 2001 and 2003 by BE. In 2006 there was approved a 33% minimum representation.
- In April 2006, at the time of José Sócrates, four bills were approved (one proposal by the PS and three proposals by the BE) for no more than two consecutive candidates of the same sex, so that the third may have the opposite sex. » (Viegas, 2016: 16)

Members of Parliament in Portugal – Evolution

Years	Gender				
	Total	Male		Female	
		Number	%	Number	%
1975	250	231	92.4	19	7.6
1976	263	248	94.3	15	5.7
1980	250	233	93.2	17	6.8
1983	250	232	92.8	18	7.2
1985	250	234	93.6	16	6.4
1987	250	231	92.4	19	7.6
1991	230	210	91.3	20	8.7
1995	230	202	87.8	28	12.2
1999	230	190	82.6	40	17.4
2002	230	185	80.4	45	19.6
2005	230	181	78.7	49	21.3
2009	230	167	72.6	63	27.4
2011	230	169	73.5	61	26.5
2015	230	154	67.0	76	33.0

Source: PORDATA (2015)

Portugal – Legislatura XIII (desde 23-10-2015)

Members of Parliament

- PSD - MP's Number = 89
- PS – MP's Number = 86
- BE - MP's Number = 19
- CDS-PP – MP's Number = 18
- PCP – MP's Number = 15
- PEV – MP's Number = 2
- PAN – MP's Number = 1



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Readings

- SOUSA GALITO (2018). “Women in Politics – Portugal as a Case Study”. *Working Paper N.º 173*, CEsa/CSG (Centro de Estudos sobre África, Ásia e América Latina – Centro de Ciências Sociais e de Gestão) do ISEG/UL (Instituto Superior de Economia e Gestão, da Universidade de Lisboa), pp. 1-56. URL: <https://pascal.iseg.utl.pt/~cesa/RePEc/cav/cavwpp/wp173.pdf>

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<http://cblidf.org/2016/12/bbcs-100-women-includes-barrier-breaking-middle-eastern-cartoonists/>

Fim.
Muito obrigada pela atenção,
Maria Sousa Galito