Seminário Internacional

**EQUIDADE DE GÊNERO: REPRESENTAÇÃO POLÍTICA DAS MULHERES**

**Diálogo Países Nórdicos, Brasil e América Latina**

Palestrante: Sigrun Moss
Mesa: Panorama da representação de mulheres na América Latina e Europa
Data: 12 de junho de 2018
Panorama of female representation in Latin–America and Europe: The case of Norway

International seminar on gender equality
– Female political representation

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A glimpse of Europe

Iceland: 2018 — equal pay for equal work

Switzerland: Women right to vote in 1971

France: Female political representation in parliament: 39 percent

Finland: Women right to vote in 1906

Sweden: A feminist foreign policy

Poland: Large-scale protests against 2016 near-total ban on abortions led to rejection of bill
Female political representation in Norway

Photo: Arthur Gran. Owner: Norsk Folkemuseum.
Some milestones

1913  Women get right to vote
1920s First woman representative in Parliament (Karen Platou)  1930s Women access to all types of work
1940s First female Minister (Minister for social affairs)
1950s Council for equal pay established
1960s First broad election campaign to increase female representation in local elections
1970s Established gender equality laws
1980s First female Prime Minister (Gro Harlem Bruntland)  1990s Established parental leave quota
   First female President of the Storting (Kirsti Kolle Grøndahl)  2000s Quota for 40 percent representation of each gender in public limited company boards
Gro Harlem Brundtland

Photo: Regjeringen.no
Women in parliament in Norway

• Following our elections in 2017
  – First time over 40 percent women in parliament: 40.8

• Varies between the parties
  – Labour party: 24 of 49 representatives
  – Government parties:
    • The conservative party: 23 of 45
    • The progress party: 6 of 27
    • The liberal party: 1 of 8

• 20 ministers: 9 female (including finance, foreign affairs)
Heads of three government parties
Minister of Finance (Frp), Prime Minister (H), Minister of Culture (V)

Photo: Hans Kristian Thorbjørnsen, Høyre
Compared to other countries

- Other Nordic countries:
  - Sweden: 43.6 percent
  - Finland: 42 percent
  - Iceland: 38.1 (down from 47.6 percent)
  - Denmark: 37.4

- International ranking:
  - Norway: 13th place
  - Ager, Rwanda, Cuba, Bolivia, Grenada, Namibia, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Sweden, Mexico, Finland, Senegal and South Africa...

Source: "Women in national parliaments"
Local level representation

- 1967-1995: from 9.5 till 32.7 percent
- 1995-2007: from 32.7 till 37 percent

- Elected representatives 2015 elections
  - 61 percent men
  - 39 percent women

In general, men prioritized to the most senior political positions e.g. Mayors: 28 percent female

Source: Statistics Norway
Political support

• Broad support for female political representation across the political board

• Several of the parties established voluntary gender quotas
  – Parties’ gender focus crucial

• The parties to the right: Wishes to reduce state interventions

• Conservative values e.g. Cash-for-care benefit (Christian Democratic Party; The Centre party)
Challenges for women in politics today in Norway

• Traditional roles
  – “When a woman becomes a politician she does not cease to be a woman”

• The role of social media
Challenges for women in politics today in Norway

• Traditional roles
  – “When a woman becomes a politician she does not cease to be a woman” (Shvedova, X, p. 45)

The role of social media

• Sexual harassment
  – “Me too”

• The role of mass media
  – Minimize coverage; stereotypes; objectification
Final comments

• A lot accomplished, a lot leg to be done

• Main challenge to gender equality:
  – The idea that we have achieved gender equality

• Important to work systematically to make society more equal

• Keep asking: What does this entail for men? What does this entail for women?
Protesting stricter abortion laws in Poland
Source: Knowyourmeme.com
Thank you!

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