The Women in Public Service Project (WPSP) is dedicated to accelerating global progress towards women’s equal participation in policy and political leadership to create more dynamic and inclusive institutions that leverage the full potential of the world’s population and change the way global solutions are forged.

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50x50 Update
The latest news from the Women in Public Service Project

Fall 2016

Looking to the Future of Global Gender Parity

This fall, events around the world pushed the importance of women in policy and politics to the forefront of global conversations: Renho Murata became the first female leader of Japan’s biggest opposition party; Buenos Aires passed a much-anticipated gender quota law; Liberia passed a law reserving five parliamentary seats for women; and in Iceland, women won 48% of the parliament’s seats. But many glass ceilings remain intact: the United States saw no increase in women’s representation in the national legislature, and campaigns to elect the first woman UN Secretary-General were unsuccessful. These setbacks highlighted the barriers facing women’s policy and political participation, but they also sparked new movements and conversations.

The Women in Public Service Project continues to drive this momentum. With WPSP support, The Wilson Center became the first think tank to be awarded the worldwide Economic Dividends for Gender Equality (EDGE) Certificate. We sat down for conversations with Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs, and Michelle Bachelet, President of Chile. December also marked five years since WPSP’s inception, and we celebrated by convening leaders from the public and private sectors to discuss the future of the 50x50 mission.

Now is the time to ensure even more women find a place at the decision-making table at the local, national, and international levels. We invite you to join us as WPSP launches into another year of accelerating the progress of women in public service, and working toward our goal of 50% representation by 2050!

Highlights

The Women in Public Service Project Presents:
50 x 50 @ 5 Years

Wednesday, December 7, 2016
12:00pm-1:30pm
The Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Five Years of 50x50

The WPSP turned 5 years old in December! We celebrated with an event that explored the future of the 50x50 movement through three panels about the importance of data, the role of the private sector in gender parity, and the influencers driving the movement toward global gender parity. The event also featured a performance by artist and activist Madame Gandhi.

WEF Global Gender Gap Report

What is the current state of global gender equality? The 2016 Global Gender Gap Report found that it could take 170 years for the sexes to achieve economic parity given the current pace, that economic progress toward parity has slowed, and that Nordic countries are the most gender-equal societies. Read the full report online at reports.weforum.org.

A Conversation with Michelle Bachelet

On September 22nd, WPSP and the Wilson Center Latin American Program hosted a conversation with Michelle Bachelet, the President of Chile and the current President of the Pacific Alliance. President Bachelet focused on the importance of representation, the obstacles women running for office encounter, and how Chile encourages women’s political participation.
New Content from the Women in Public Service Project

**VIDEO:**
“Women on the Move: Hadeel Ibrahim”

**BLOG:**
“Reclaiming Our Place at the Table: Empowering African Women Leaders”

**BLOG/VIDEO:**
“What Does the World Expect from President-Elect Trump: Women’s Leadership”

Trending News in Women’s Leadership

**Japan’s Steel Ceiling and the Women Cracking It**
Tobias Harris, *Foreign Affairs*
October 5, 2016

**Can Cities be Feminist? Inside the Global Rise of Female Mayors**
Susanna Rustin, *The Guardian*
October 12, 2016

**The Real Impact of a Female President? More Women in Politics.**
Marie O’Reilly, *Public Radio International*
October 25, 2016

**FILM: 50/50: Rethinking the Past, Present, and Future of Women + Power**
Dir. Tiffany Shlain, Let it Ripple Film Studio
October 27, 2016

**Women Win 30 Seats in Iceland’s Parliament - More than Any Party**
Bill Chappell, *NPR*
October 30, 2016

**Interview with Gwen K. Young**
Natalie Brand | KING5 Seattle

**Clinton’s Defeat Means Lost Chances for Many Women on the Rise**
Jennifer Epstein | *Bloomberg*

**Much of the World has a Woman Leader. Why not the US?**
Devon Haynie | *U.S. News & World Report*

WPSP in the News:

50x50 Preview: Spring 2017 Program Activities

**Upcoming Events:**
“50/50” Screening and Q&A with Director
January 19 | The Wilson Center

A Conversation with H.E. Dr. Joyce Banda
January 24 | The Wilson Center

**Other Activities:**
Launch of the Global Women’s Leadership Index
Report Release: Women’s Networks

The Women in Public Service Project | www.50x50movement.org