



G7 GERMANY 2015

G7 Forum for Dialogue with Women

Women's Political Participation

Key Messages

- **Women face different obstacles in each country depending on e.g. culture, political and electoral system**
- **Safe environment and enforced equal rights are necessary (women are specifically vulnerable to (sexual) violence)**
- **Quotas can be helpful to get a critical mass of women in leaders' positions (controversial discussion)**
- **Electoral system could make a difference (proportional system) and support of political parties to women is needed (help in campaigning, finance)**
- **"Equal pay for equal play"**
- **Skills training for women from childhood on (e.g. debate), training for teachers, economic training, role models (education of women and men) and female solidarity are important**
- **Supportive legislation and structural changes are necessary: affordable quality child-care, maternity leave etc.**
- **Making the economic case is important to convince all**
- **Stand-alone SGD goal for gender equality important for visibility**
- **Increased youth participation in political life through investment in a gender smart next generation can be a vehicle for advancing gender equality**
- **The ability of women to participate fully and equally in political, economic and social life is dependent on the ability to control their reproductive rights.**

Women's political participation benefits the whole society!