

# **Interner Newsletter - Zonta e-Bavaria**

Feb 2019

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## **Aktuelles im Deutschen Frauenrat**

### **#mehrfrauenindieparlamente**

#### **Brandenburg schreibt mit Paritätsgesetz gleichstellungspolitische Geschichte – Bund muss folgen**

Der Brandenburger Landtag hat Anfang Februar das deutschlandweit erste Paritätsgesetz verabschiedet und damit ein herausragendes gleichstellungspolitisches Signal gesetzt. Derweil die Frauenanteile im Bundestag und vielen Landesparlamenten zuletzt gesunken sind, stellt die neue Regelung einen ersten wichtigen Schritt in Richtung gleicher parlamentarischer Repräsentanz von Männern und Frauen in Brandenburg dar – zumindest bei den Listenmandaten.

Das gestern verabschiedete Brandenburger Paritätsgesetz verpflichtet Parteien, künftig gleich viele Frauen wie Männer auf ihren Wahllisten in abwechselnder Folge für die Landtagswahlen aufzustellen. Der DF bedauert, dass damit nur eine abgespeckte Version des Paritätsgesetzes umgesetzt wird, obwohl die Fraktion von Bündnis 90/Die Grünen im Brandenburger Landtag einen entsprechenden Entwurf mit quotierten Direktmandaten eingebracht hatte. Dem verabschiedeten Paritätsgesetz zufolge unterliegen die Wahlkreiskandidaturen keinen paritätsischen Regelungen, sodass Parteien weiterhin theoretisch ausschließlich Männer in den Kampf um Direktmandate schicken können.

## **Aktuelles bei UN Women**

### **International Women's Day in March - Agenda**

The theme for International Women's Day 2019, which will take place on 8 March, is **“Think equal, build smart, innovate for change”**.

The theme will focus on innovative ways in which we can advance gender equality and the empowerment of women, particularly in the areas of social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2018/10/announcer-iwd-2019-theme>

## **International Women's Day in March - Stories**

Women have always risen. Women are rising today. Women will always rise.

From the women who came together in Seneca Falls for the United States first women's conference, to the Mirabal sisters who protested dictatorship in the Dominican Republic and everyone who has shared their #MeToo story on social media, the women who've risen up to claim their rights and to protect the rights of others, have changed the world as we know.

On International Women's Day, we're celebrating women activists around the world who have insisted on a better world and persisted in the face of adversity.

Keep reading to learn how International Women's Day started, and about women rising, then and now:

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/3/compilation-womens-activism-thats-changed-the-world>

## **Aus aller Welt**

### **Ask a Senator: How does Bolivia have such a high representation of women in politics, and why is it important to include women's voices in politics?**

Women account for 53.1 per cent of Parliamentarians in the Plurinational State of Bolivia, the third-highest percentage globally. Adriana Salvatierra, a role model to many, became the fourth woman to be elected as the President of the Senate Chambers of Bolivia this year. The 29-year-old is also the youngest to hold this position in the country, and in Latin America.

Including women's voices in politics is a starting point of a process to question the privileges and biases that exist, based on gender and social class. It's a process to break down the patriarchy that frames the construction of this State.

Power has been traditionally wielded and preserved by men. When we look back at Bolivia's Independence Act of 1825, there were 48 signatures, all from men. These men were probably militant professionals, from a privileged economic class. It took hundreds of years to finally understand that this piece of history—our independence—was also a product of women's efforts.

It's still hard for women to get into politics today, especially if you are a young woman, because of all the prejudices we face. For example, there is the prejudice that women handle public services based on their emotions. There's over protection of women, which ultimately undervalues us and underestimates us.

Building equality is a process. In the case of Bolivia, the democratic and cultural revolution that started from bottom-up, transformed the economic base of the country. This transformation had to include those who had been traditionally excluded from state-building—the farmers, women, youth and indigenous people.

Bolivia's achievement in reaching gender parity in politics is an expression of both its political will and social mobilization by women. To achieve equality, in life and in politics, women needed to fully understand how they live and breathe inequality and identify with each other. It was possible to reach a high percentage of women in the parliament because there was a clear conviction that we had the obligation to construct conditions of equality under the government, at the same time as women were mobilizing for their rights. I don't think feminist movements alone will create change. It takes mobilizing and political will to make these changes.

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/1/feature-tackling-human-trafficking-in-myanmar>

### **In the words of Rajaa Altalli: “Women are leading efforts to push forward in Syria”**

Rajaa Altalli is a member of the Syrian Women's Advisory Board (WAB), established by the UN Special Envoy for Syria to ensure that women's perspectives and leadership is taken into account in the peace process. Altalli was 12 years old when her father was arrested by the Syrian government for being part of a political party. She thought she would never be involved in public life because “it was too costly for one family to have more than one person arrested.” In 2007, Altalli was working on her PhD in the USA, as the Syrian revolution began. She could no longer stand and watch the crisis unfold. She started documenting human rights violations, first at detention points, and eventually moving to Turkey to continue working with Syrian refugees in the region. In 2011, she co-founded the Center for Civil Society and Democracy, a Syrian NGO working to strengthen community engagement and advocacy for peace in Syria. Altalli attended the 2018 UN Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace and Security and spoke at the Multi-stakeholder Forum organized by UN Women, the Swedish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security.

Her Statement:

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/2/in-the-words-of-rajaa-altalli>