

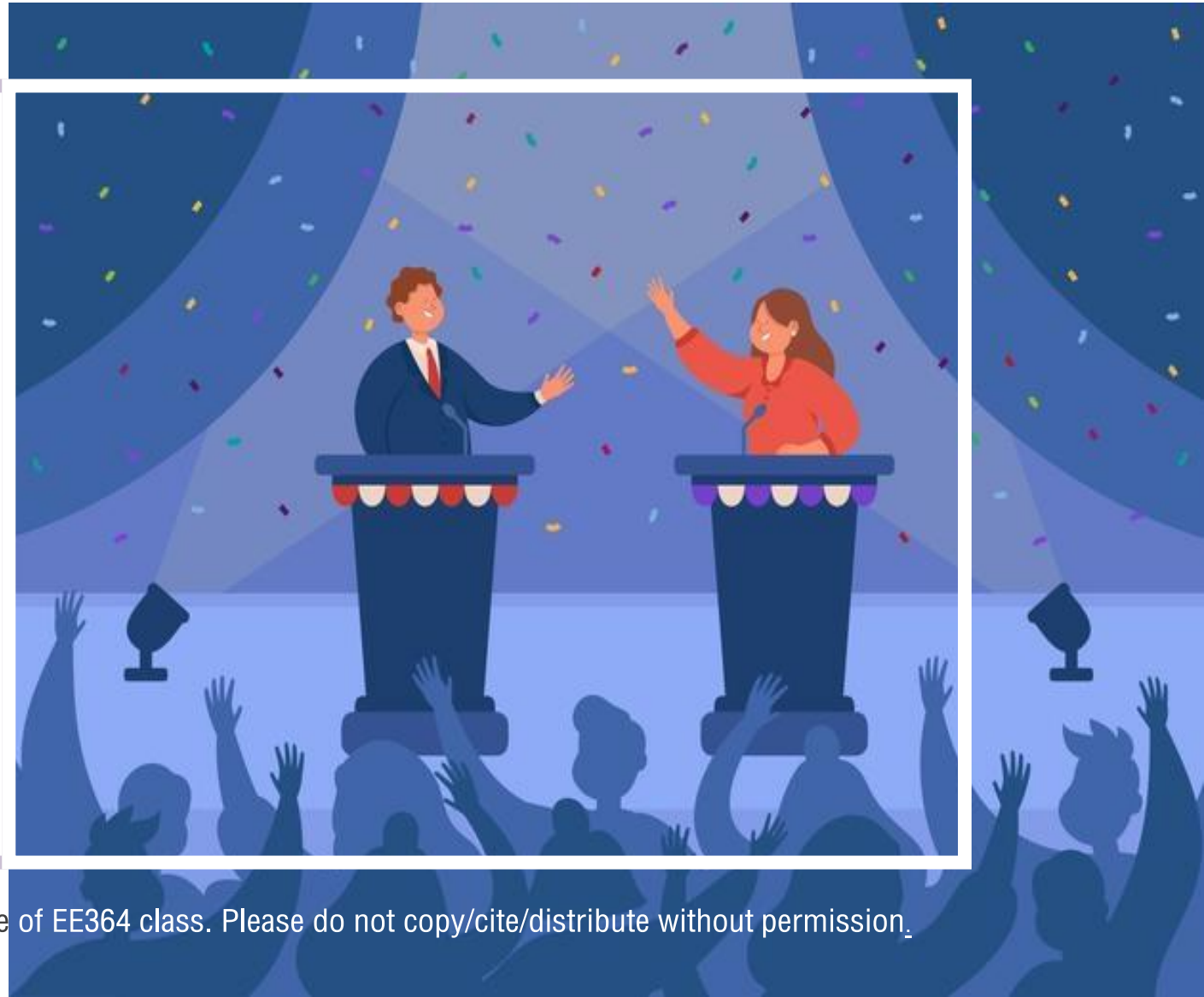


Chapter 6

The role of women in society, economy and politics

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The role of **women** in society, the economy, and politics



Blau and Winkler (2018) - women's roles change over time and change the nature of society. Several factors determined the women's roles



(1) The role in production is determined by the level of technology society uses to produce daily essentials.

In agricultural societies, labor is needed in production. Men tend to provide the labor in agricultural areas, while women work in the household.



The role of **women** in society, the economy, and politics

- (2) Participation in activities outside the household (public space or sphere) or opportunities to participate in activities outside the household
- Society allows women to play a role in public spaces, improving their status in that society.



The role of women in Thai society



Since 1867 in the reigns of King Rama IV, V, and VI, the term “modernity” has been used by European countries.



Concepts and practices have changed from a male-dominated society to addressing the issue of equality - having only one husband and wife.



National reforms, especially in education during the reign of King Rama V, gave women the right to study.



After World War II, an image of a Thai woman was created to serve nationalist ideology.



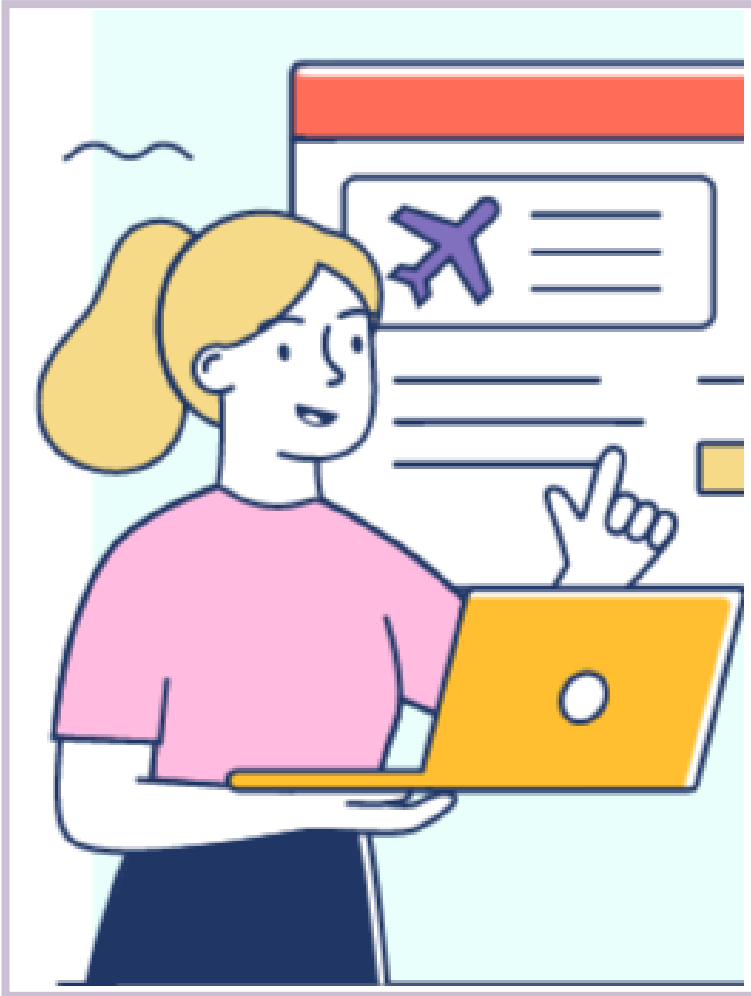
The state creates an image of a “good Thai woman” who upholds the virtues of family and nation as a good mother and wife.

The role of women in Thai society



- ❏ The National Economic and Social Development Plan No. 1 (1961) provided opportunities for women to enter the labor market and play a more significant role in the economy. .
 - The government's promotion of female participation in the labor market drove Thai women to play a more substantial role in society
- ❏ The concept of rights, liberties, and equality according to the gender equality principle “Men and women have equal rights” first appeared in the 1974 Thai Constitution.

The role of women in Thai society



- ⬢ Thailand developed from an agricultural to a manufacturing economy (high labor demand).
- ⬢ An increasing number of women are entering the labor market and are considered a vital part of the economy
 - Before the 1997 economic crisis, labor migrated from rural areas to cities (or urban areas) to serve a highly industrialized economy

The role of women in Thai society



A movement for women's rights with a 90-day maternity leave law in 1993.



The enactment of Article 53 of the 1997 Constitution to protect family members from violence and unfair treatment



Convention on the Elimination of The Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)



Beijing Declaration and Action Plan Declaration on the Advancement of Women in the ASEAN Region ; and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women in the ASEAN

The role of **women** and the level of economic development

- ⬡ The role of women's participation in economic development varies from country to country.
- ⬡ Differences in economic growth, social norms, education level, fertility rate, and access to childcare, and other support services.
- ⬡ Goldin (1995) - The relationship between women's labor market participation and economic development is U-shape.
 - The level of development is measured by GDP per capita
 - The role of women in economic development as measured by Female labor force participation

Women's participation in the labor market



Economic development.
(GDP per capita)

U-Shape relationship between women's participation in the labor market and economic development.

Francine D. Blau and Anne E. Winkler, *The Economics of Women, Men, and Work*, Copyright © 2018 Oxford University Press

Why is the relationship U-shape



Women's participation rates are highest in poor countries – They are required to participate in economic activities for subsistence.



Economic participation is high during the early stages of development.



Women are workers or help in farming areas or in the household business (paid or unpaid household production).



During the declining range of the U-line, the level of economic development changed from household to non-household production



There was a shift in employment to earn wages.

Why is the relationship U-shape



Basic economic concepts - The level of economic development increases, but women's participation in the labor market decreases.



Income effect - a change in women's labor supply is related to changes in household income. An increase in household income is due to the increasing level of economic development.

-> Increase in demand for household goods. Households have increased utility.

-> A wife's welfare may increase without participating in the labor market.

This makes women less likely to participate in the labor market.

Why is the relationship U-shape



Substitution effect - A change in women's labor supply is related to changes in the wages received in the labor market. An increase in wages increases the opportunity cost of staying at home.

As a result, women are more likely to participate in the labor market.



Women's participation in the market (declining range of the U-line) may decrease based on household income.



The income effect is very high according to the level of economic development and reduce participation in the labor market.

Why is the relationship U-shape

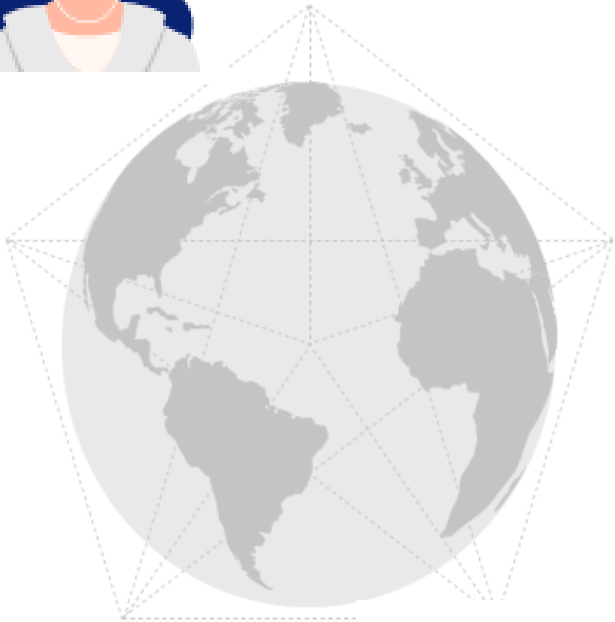
- Later, as economic development progresses, the level of education improves and women have the opportunity to work as part of highly skilled groups.

Participation in the labor market will also increase (increasing range along the U-line).

- Due to higher wages resulting in an increased substitution effect, more women join the labor force. Female participation rates increase alongside higher levels of development.

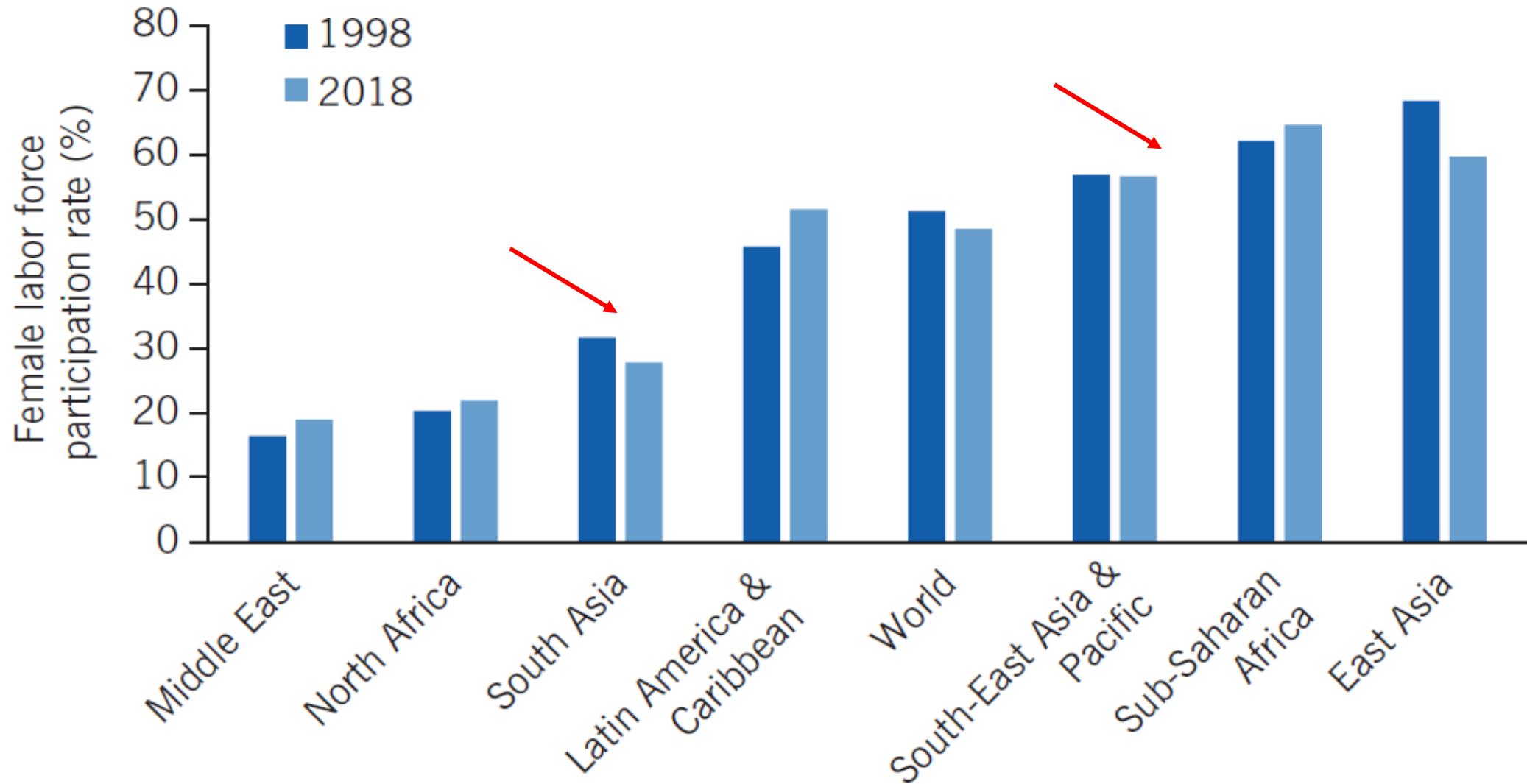
Goldin's (1995) social norm is one determinant of married women's participation in the labor market. In some societies, if the wife works, her husband will be considered a "poor provider."

Trends in female labor force participation are diverse.



- Over the past two decades, the global female labor force participation rate (age 15 years and older) has been declining despite significant growth in emerging and developing countries.
(51.3 % in 1998 to 48.5% in 2018).
- The gender gap narrowed slightly from 27.5% in 1998 to 26.6% in 2018.
- The participation of women varies greatly in developing countries
 - The rate in Southeast Asia is high - countries experienced a high level of economic development (shift from agriculture to manufacturing & the expansion of educational opportunities).

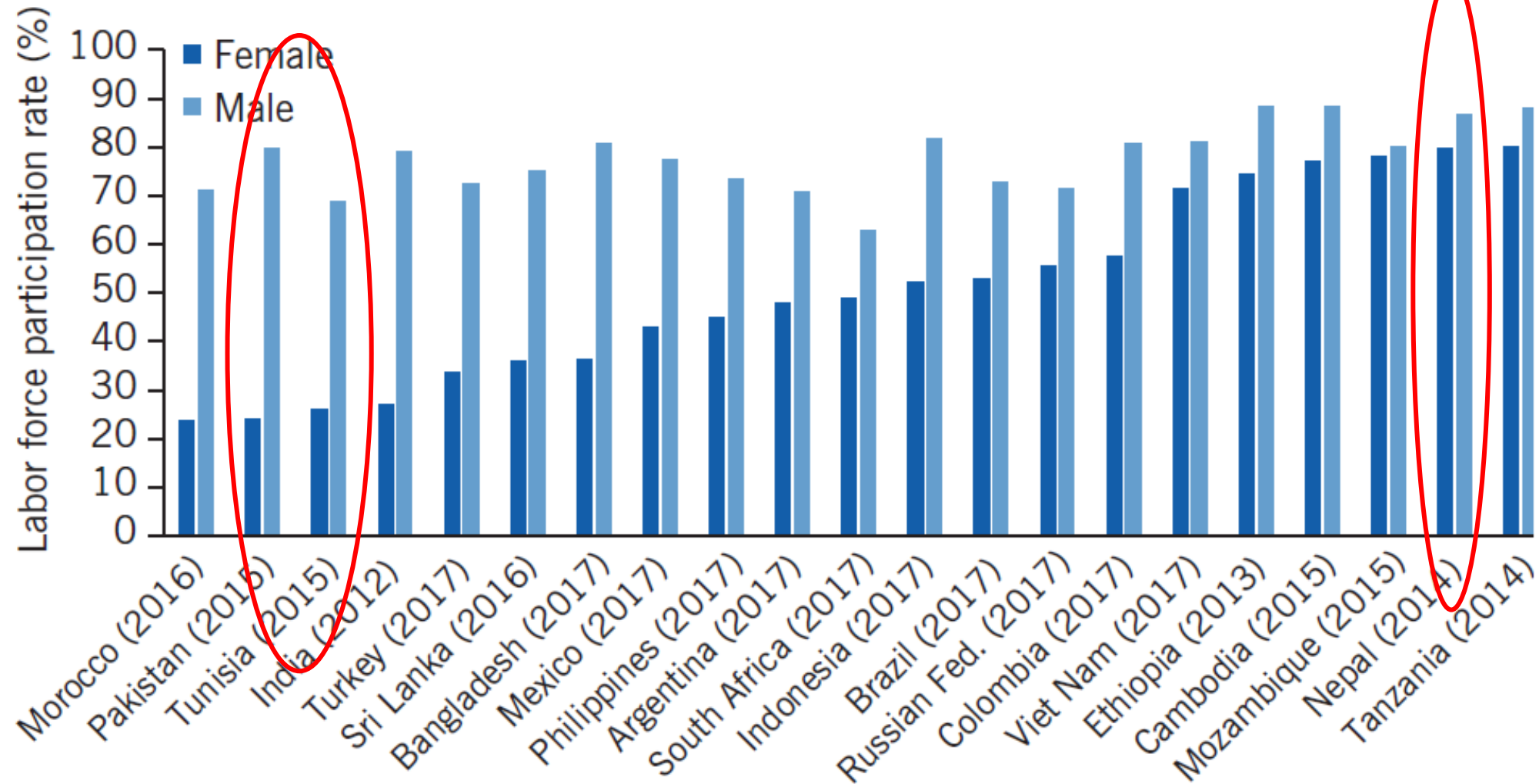
Figure 1. Regional estimates of female labor force participation rates (adult population 15 and older)



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Source: ILO Statistical Database, ILOSTAT. Online at: <http://www.ilo.org/ilostat>

Figure 2. Gender disparities in labor force participation rates in selected developing countries, various years (2012–2017)



Source: National estimates from ILO Statistical Database, ILOSTAT. Online at: <http://www.ilo.org/ilostat>

Trends in female labor force participation are diverse.



🏠 South Asian countries have low participation rates and are very diverse.

The attendance rate is 30% in Pakistan and India, while 80% in Nepal.

🏠 The U-shape concept is not applied in all countries.

■ Bangladesh is a low-income country. The economy grows through developments in the garment industry.

- The female participation rate increased from 23.9% in 1990 to 36.0% in 2010.

■ India's female workforce participation rate is unexplained trends - rate dropped from 34.1% in 2000 to 27.2% in 2010.

Criticism



- Verick (2014) “Participation is only part of the picture: The quality of employment also matters”

The nature of women’s work.

- In developing countries, the labor force participation rates between men and women are not significantly different.
 - But inequalities in terms of quality of employment and job opportunities.
- Women tend to have lower wages than men - gender wage gap.
 - Most are unpaid family workers.

The role of women in politics



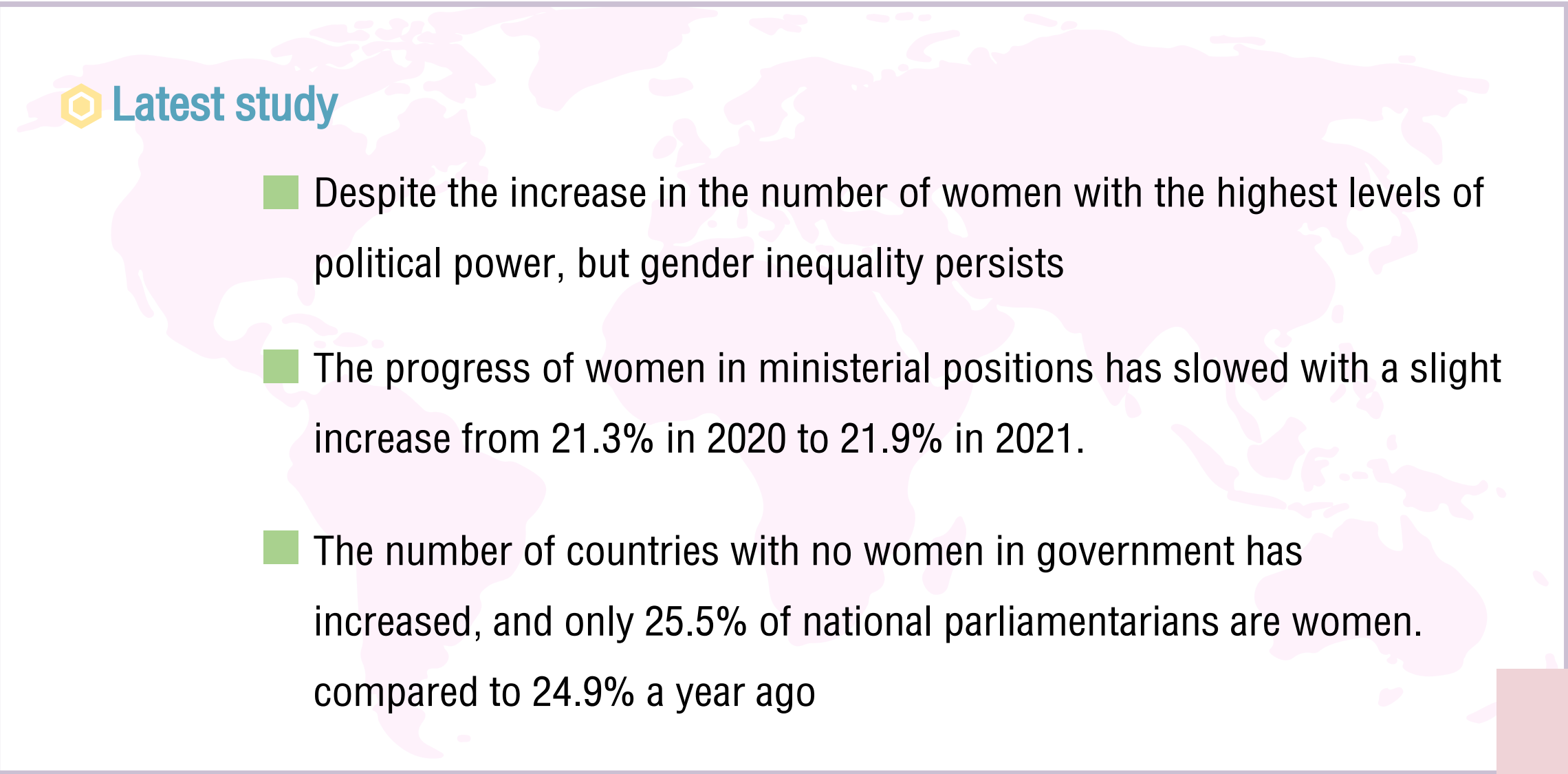
The role of women in politics - Women in politics 2021 map



The “Women in politics: 2021” map created by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and UN Women

- Global ranking of the number of women in executive, government, and parliamentary positions as of January 1, 2021.
- The data shows a record for the number of women-led countries as well as the proportion of women serving as ministers worldwide.

The role of women in politics - Women in politics 2021 map



Latest study

- Despite the increase in the number of women with the highest levels of political power, but gender inequality persists
- The progress of women in ministerial positions has slowed with a slight increase from 21.3% in 2020 to 21.9% in 2021.
- The number of countries with no women in government has increased, and only 25.5% of national parliamentarians are women. compared to 24.9% a year ago

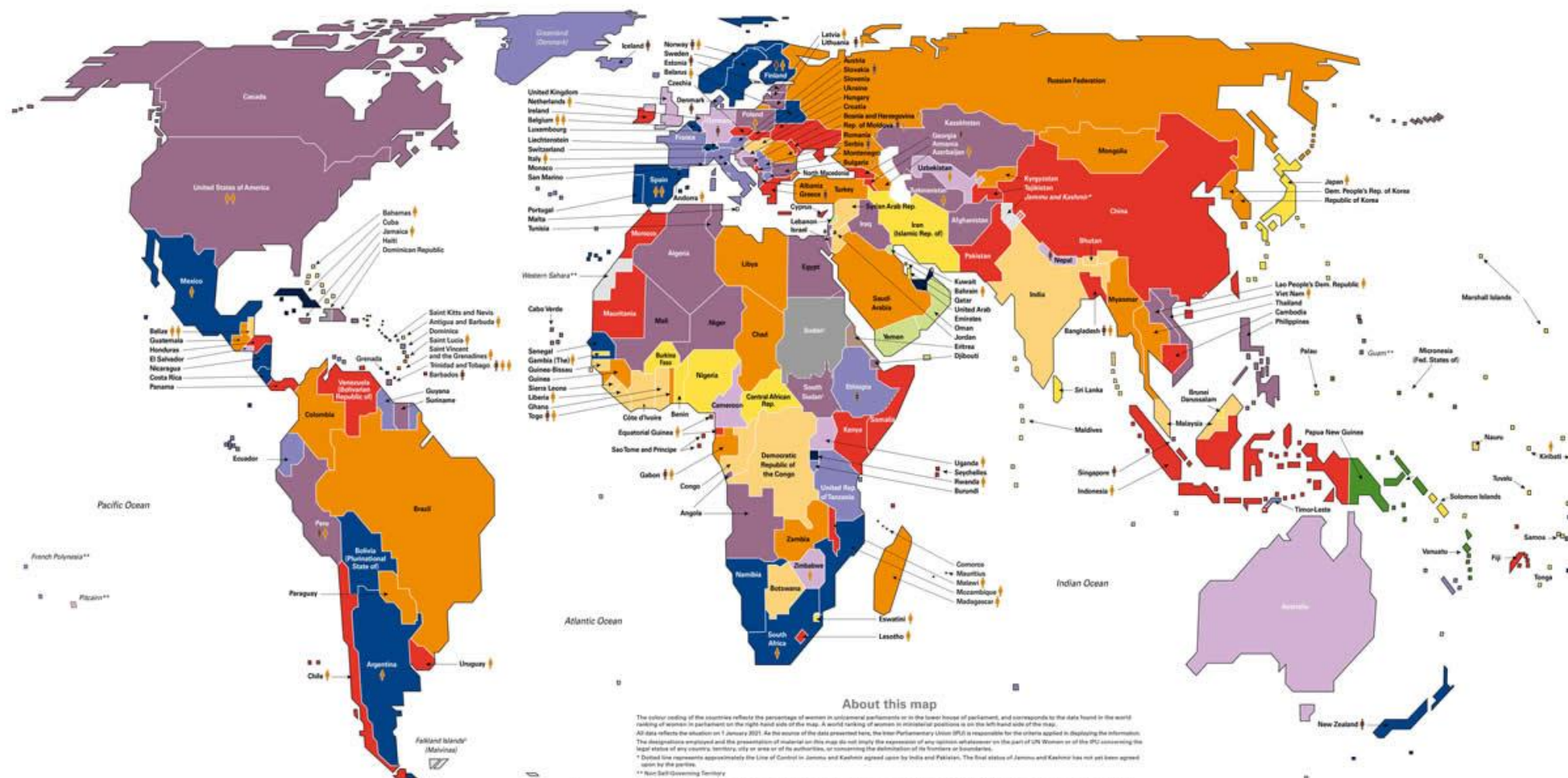


Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy, for equality

Women in Politics: 2021



Situation on 1 January 2021



About this map

The colour coding of the countries reflects the percentage of women in unicameral parliaments or in the lower house of parliament, and corresponds to the data found in the world ranking of women in parliament on the right hand side of the map. A world ranking of women in ministerial positions is on the left hand side of the map.

The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of UN Women or of the IPU concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

* Dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties.

** Non-Self-Governing Territory

• State of Palestine (women in ministerial positions: 3/33 as of 1 January 2020) women in parliament: the Palestinian Legislative Council was dissolved in December 2016.

• A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).

• Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined.

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United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)
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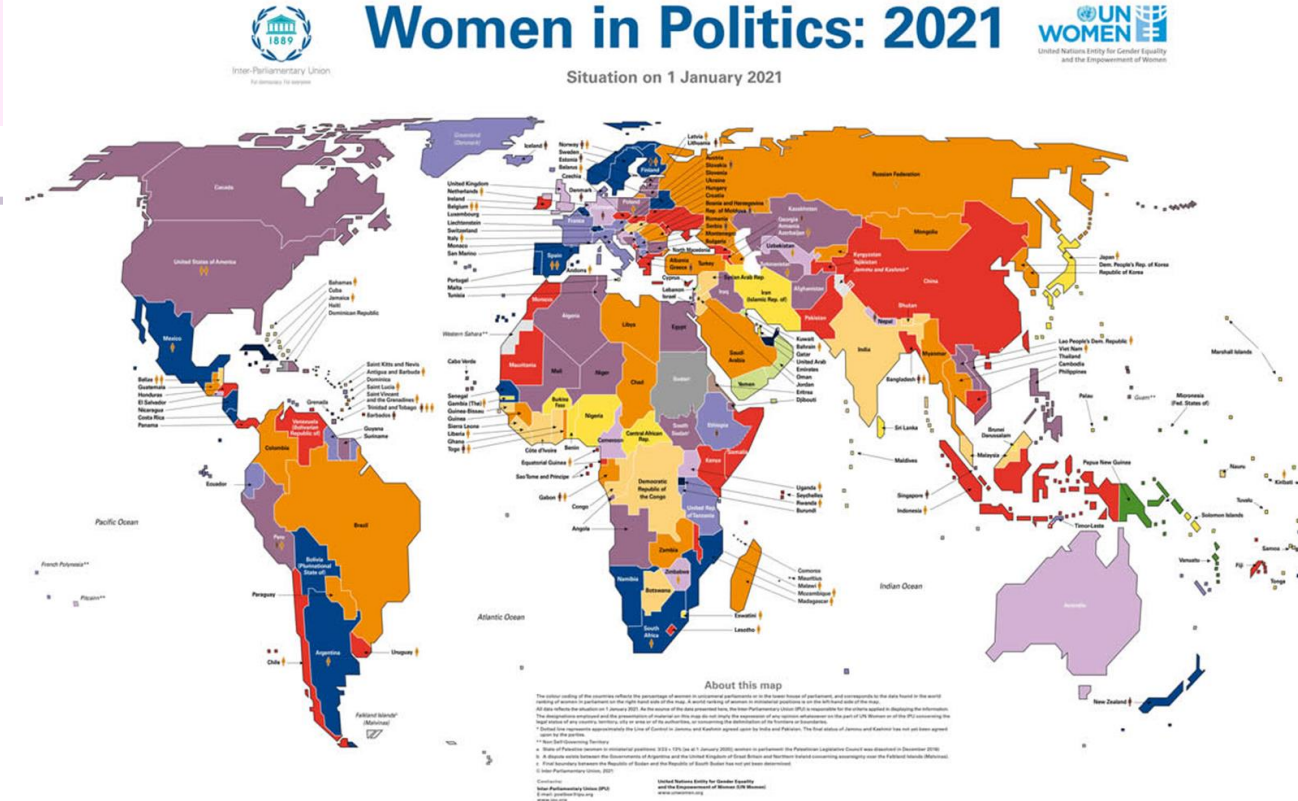
World and regional averages of women in parliament

	Single house or lower house	Upper house or Senate	Both houses combined
World average	25.6%	24.8%	25.5%
Regional averages			
Regions* are classified by descending order of the percentage of women in unicameral parliaments or the lower house of parliament.			
Nordic countries	44.5%	—	—
Americas	32.2%	33.0%	32.4%
Europe (Nordic countries included)	30.5%	30.2%	30.4%
Europe (Nordic countries not included)	29.1%	30.2%	29.3%
Sub-Saharan Africa	25.0%	23.9%	24.9%
Asia	20.8%	17.6%	20.4%
Middle East and North Africa	19.3%	11.2%	17.8%
Pacific	18.0%	44.9%	20.9%

* The composition of IPU regional groupings may be consulted at <https://data.ipu.org/content/regional-groupings>.

Latest study results

- 87 countries had female leaders
- Currently, there are 23 female leaders worldwide (Germany, United Kingdom, Iceland, Norway, New Zealand and Ethiopia, etc.).
- The highest record for female leaders is in key political positions during this period.



Thailand (IPU as of January 1, 2021)



Data on the proportion of women's participation in political areas.

- number of seats in both the House of Representatives and the Senate

Thailand has only 5.3% of women in the House of Representatives, ranking 10 behind all ASEAN countries. (and ranks 184th in the world)

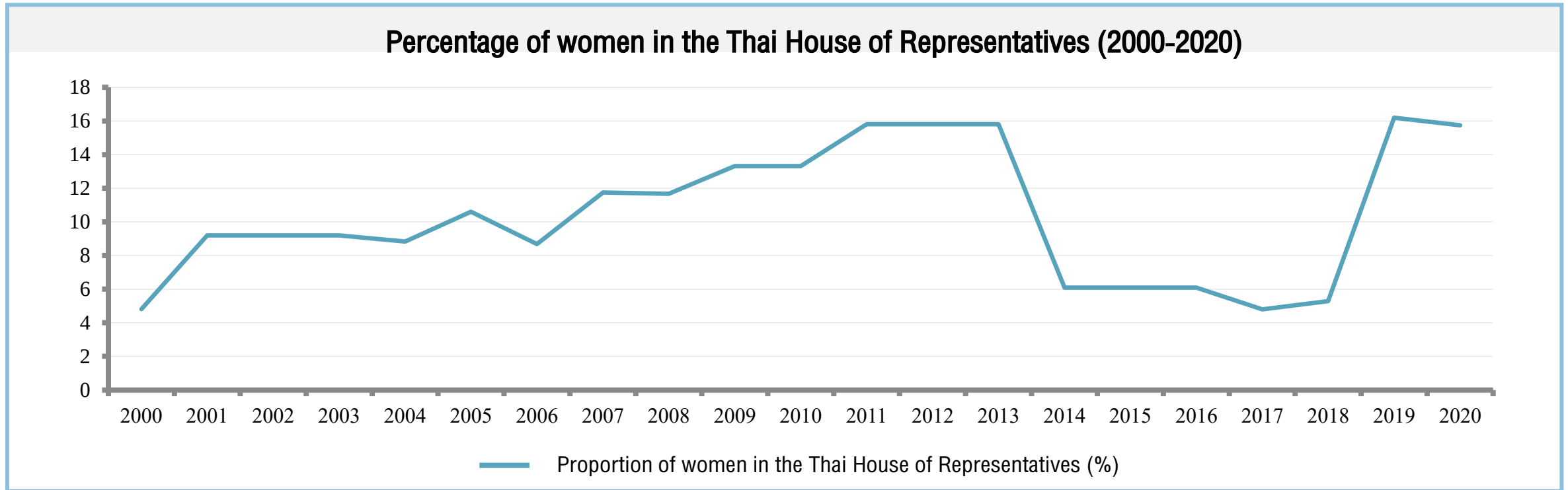


The 1st place went to Rwanda. where women sit in 49/80 seats, or 61.3%, followed by Cuba and Bolivia.

- The last few countries are Micronesia, Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu and Yemen, where there is not a single woman in members of parliament

Political Participation

Thai women remain underrepresented in terms of political participation.



Of the 35 ministers, only three were women (accounting for 8.6% of the cabinet), while there was only one female governor in Phrae, which is one of 77 provinces

Women in Thai politics



The percentage of Thai women in parliament is low compared to other countries.



Recent information on the number of women in parliament from the IPU (2020), which publishes the percentage ranking of women in parliament (as of October 1, 2020).

Thailand has only 15.7% of the House of Representatives (77) of the 489 members of parliament and 10.4% of the senators are women - just 26 of the 250 senators (as of May 2019).



Percentage of women in parliament (as of October 1, 2020)

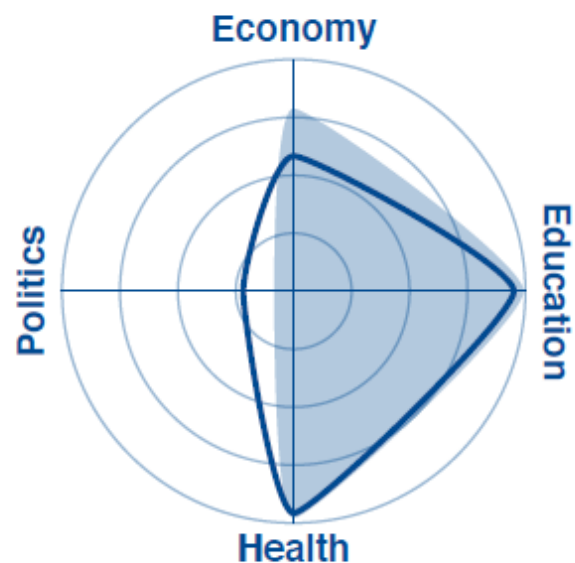
Country/Region	Lower chamber and unicameral	Upper chamber	Average
Thailand	15.7	10.4	13.05
Malaysia	14.9	19.1	17.0
Philippines	28	29.2	28.6
Asia	20.6	17.4	20.2
South East Asia	20.6	13.2	19.3
Global	25.2	24.8	25.1

Source: Parline database on national parliaments (<https://data.ipu.org>).

Thailand

rank **79**
out of 156 countries

score **0.710**
0.00 = imparity
1.00 = parity



■ Thailand score
— average score

Global Gender Gap Index

Economic participation and opportunity
Educational attainment
Health and survival
Political empowerment

	2006 score	2021 score
40	0.683	79
13	0.722	22
72	0.973	74
1	0.980	41
89	0.058	134

Political empowerment

Women in parliament , %	118
Women in ministerial positions, %	148
Years with female/male head of state (last 50)	45

Thai Women in politics

🏠 Thai women now have an increasing role in the business sector, but the number of women in parliament has declined because of various restrictions and conditions.

🏠 According to Poojinapan (2020):

■ Churi Vichitvatakarn said the reason for the decline stemmed from the structure of political party.

- Majority of political positions in the past were occupied by men, unlike the business sector where women involved from the beginning.

■ Historically, along with men, Thai women have had the right to vote in the election of members of the House of Representatives since 1932.

- Development of women's roles in national politics and access to parliament has been slow.

Women in politics

- ⬡ The number of women holding political offices is very small
 - Efforts have been made to enforce gender quota systems for political participation.

During the 2017 constitution drafting process - discussion on gender quota system (DWF, 2563)

- ⬡ Article 90 of the 2017 Constitution - Women's political participation and decision-making and requires that political parties consider gender equality in preparing their list of candidates

However, it is voluntary and not regulated.



Women and corruption

The inverse relationship between the number of women in parliament and the level of corruption in the country.

- ⬡ Dollar, Fisman, Gatti (2001) provides empirical evidence to determine the relationship between the number of women in parliament and the level of corruption.

Publication –Dollar, D., Fisman, R. and Gatti, R. 2001. “Are Women Really the “Fairer” Sex? Corruption and Women in Government, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, vol. 46, issue 4, 423-429

Women and corruption : (Dollar, Fisman, Gatti, 2001)

- 🏠 The relationship between women's participation in parliament and the perceived level of corruption in a sample of more than 100 countries
- 🏠 The key variable used as the main measure of corruption is the International Country Risk Guide's corruption index (ICRG).
 - The measure of women's participation in government is based on a survey of Inter-parliamentary Union's survey of Women in Parliaments 1945-1995.
 - The degree of corruption and political opportunity for women would be affected by the level of overall social and economic development of the country.

Women and corruption : (Dollar, Fisman, Gatti, 2001)

- ⬡ The inverse relationship between the percentage of women in parliament and the level of perception of corruption.

A higher proportion of women is associated with a lower level of corruption.

- ⬡ Increasing the number of women and encouraging women to play a higher role also promotes gender equality
 - Presence of more women representatives, or bringing more women into politics will benefit society as a whole

Women and corruption : (Dollar, Fisman, Gatti, 2001)

-  Over the past few decades, several studies found systematic differences in the behavioral characteristics of different sexes.
-  The basic assumption proposed by several studies – Men are more selfish than women.
 -  Women are more likely to exhibit 'helping' behaviors (Eagly and Crowley, 1986).
 -  Vote concerning social outcomes (Goertzel, 1983).
 -  High scores for honesty (Ones and Viswesvaran, 1998).
 -  Ethics (Glover et al, 1997; Reiss and Mitra, 1998).
 -  Generosity (Eckel and Grossman, 1998)

Social science research indicates that women may have higher standards of ethical behavior and focus on social benefit, which can link the role of women in government and development.

Women and corruption



- After Dollar et al. (2001), governments of various countries paid an attention on promoting gender roles and implementing policies promoting the role of women in politics.

The gender quota system has become popular. Today, more than half of the countries in the world use gender quotas as a tool to increase the number of women involved in politics (Bonomi et al., 2013).

Women and corruption **have no relationship**

 However, the results of studies on women and corruption vary greatly (based on time period and country)

- Sung (2003) and Goetz (2007) did not find a relationship between women and corruption. It also stated that the system was a matter, not the gender.
- Shukralla and Allan (2011) added the foreign aid variable found that women in parliament or foreign aid had no effect on corruption.
- Samimi and Hosseinmardi (2011) - The involvement of women in parliament affects corruption, including an increase in the workforce and other social factors (such as the Human Development Index (HDI)), democracy will help reduce corruption.
- Ades and Di Tella (1999) found that countries with high levels of trade openness showed low levels of corruption.

Women and corruption in Asia



- ✦ The inverse relationship between the number of women in parliament and the level of corruption.

The gender quota is taken into account in this study.

- ✦ Paweenawat (2018) provides empirical evidence to determine the relationship between the number of women in parliament and the level of corruption in Asian countries.

Publication – Paweenawat, S.W. (2018). “The gender-corruption nexus in Asia”, Asian-Pacific Economic Literature, 2018, 32(1): 18-28

Women and corruption in Asia

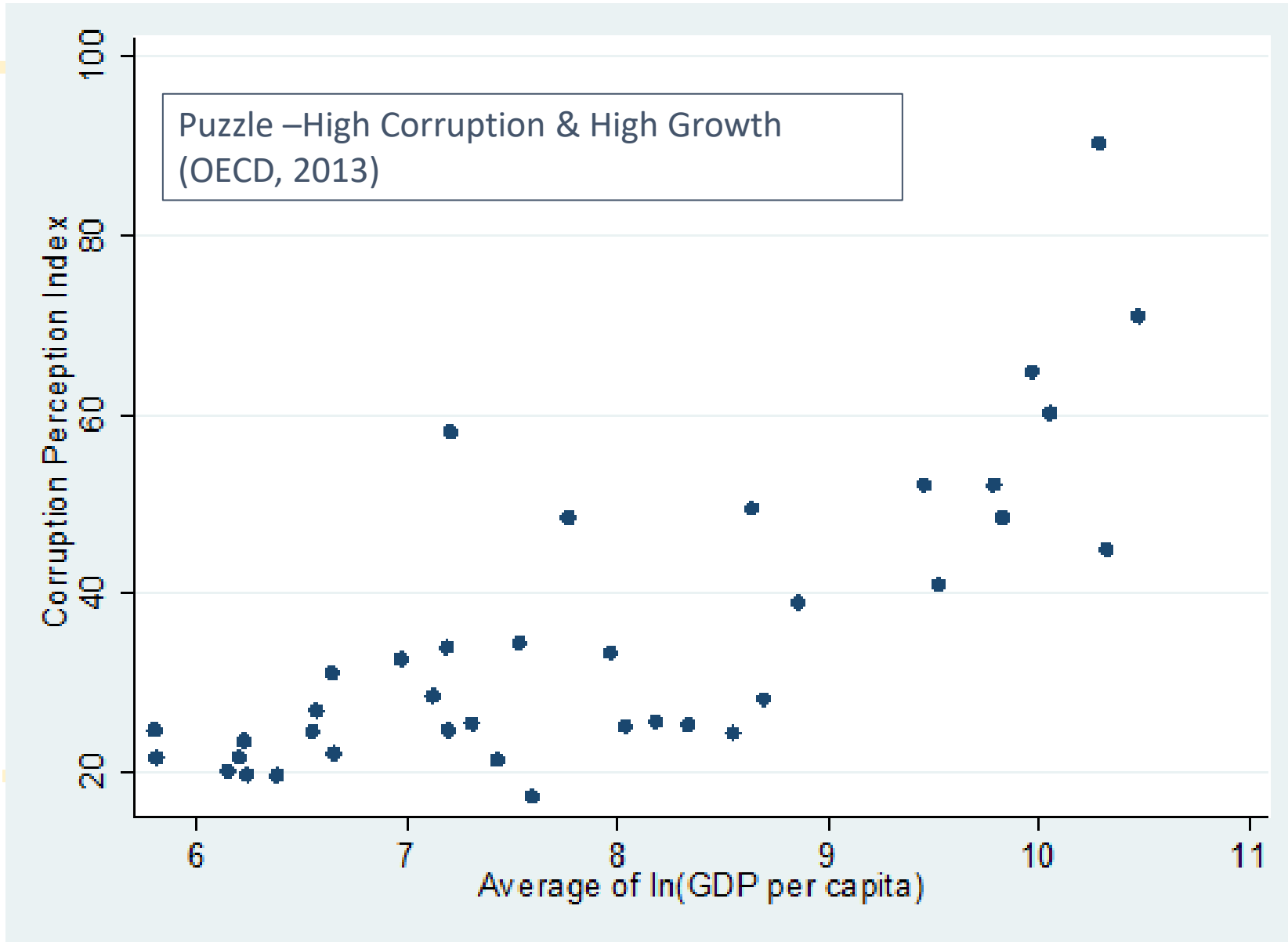
(Paweenawat, 2018)



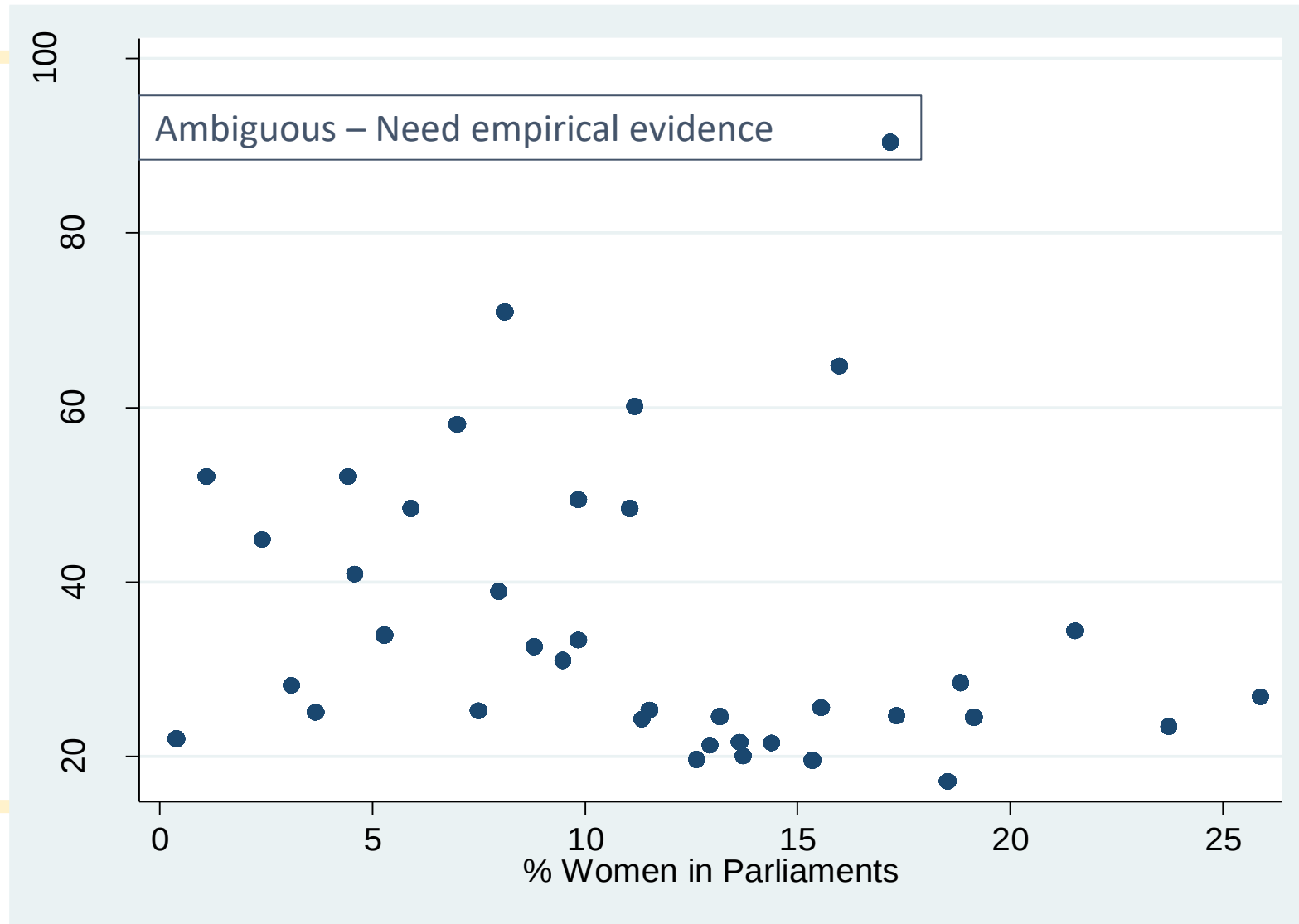
Several empirical studies indicate that levels of corruption decline as more women hold office in parliament at the national level

- Although the number of women in parliament and women's leadership roles in Asian countries has increased dramatically over the past 30 years, the region continues to suffer from corruption, which is a major obstacle to the development of the country in this region
- To study the relationship between the percentage of women in parliament and the level of corruption with an emphasis on Asian countries in the period 1997–2015.

Corruption and Economic Growth - “Asian Paradox”



Corruption and the number of **women** in parliament



Women and corruption in Asia

(Paweenawat, 2018)



Main Finding

- The inverse relationship between the share of women in parliament and the level of corruption.
- Increasing women's political participation reduce level of corruption in Asian countries.
- The results are consistent with the findings of Dollar et al. (2001).
- The situation in Asian countries support the policy on promoting women as the key mechanisms in reducing corruption

Policies that support the role of women in politics, such as gender quotas, should be widely promoted and implemented in regional countries as they are an important tool in developing women's roles in society.

Women's quota in politics (Gender Quota)



Gender Quota - fixed percentage or percentage of women in politics at all levels (national, community or local level), as well as in political parties,

- To give women more opportunities and increase number of women in politics.

Dahlerup (2003) – Why we need quota system?

- (1) The population of women is greater than that of men.
- (2) Women have different physical characteristics and social experiences than men. Being an agent can make a difference.
- (3) Women and men have different needs/preferences for benefits, so adding diversity will cover all the benefits the society should have.

Gender Quota



Gender Quota [International IDEA], 2009)

- 1) Voluntary quotas- Voluntary quotas- initiated by political parties (- determine the proportion of nominated political candidates which must be 20-50%) women.
- 2) Legislative quotas - legal quotas - require political parties to nominate a minimum percentage of female candidates.
- 3) Reserved seats - The number of seats in parliament are reserved for women
 - 10-20% of seats are reserved for women

Lessons learned from using the gender quota system

- ✧ Prior to 1995, only two countries, Argentina and Nepal, had a membership quota system.
 - Currently 81 countries use this quota system.

Quotas are a key factor in the advancement of women's participation in politics.

- ✧ 16 Parliaments - Out of the top 20 countries with the highest percentage of women in parliament in 2020, certain types of gender quota systems have been used in elections.
 - At least 40% of women are members of parliament in 28 countries (use the quota system)

The quota system requires other measures, such as incentives to encourage political parties to recruit and nominate women. The campaign highlights the importance of gender equality in politics.

Women's quota in politics in ASEAN (Pailin Phuchinaphun, 2020)

- ASEAN countries have a quota system for women in the form of stipulating that political parties have guidelines for allocation of quotas for women (Volunteer Party Quotas).

- Gender quota is a guide only, but there are no regulations like the Philippines and Thailand.

- Indonesia is specified in the political party law. It is a legal quotas (Legislative quotas).

- The number of candidates for the election is at least 30 percent of all candidates.

If this is not the case the party will be fined although still able to compete

Exercise

- 1) Describe the relationship between women's participation in the labor market and the level of economic development characterized by the U-shaped model according to Goldin (1995) based on the economic concepts of the income and substitution effects. Provide examples of countries in your discussion and indicate whether or not the relationship is U-shaped.
- 2) A study by Verick (2014) stated, "Participation is only part of the picture: The quality of employment also matters." Discuss what you think of the following statement. Do you agree or disagree, and why?
- 3) Thai women remain underrepresented in terms of their political participation. What are the main obstacles women face in Thai politics? How can the proportion of women be increased? To this end, what policies can be implemented?

Exercise

4) According to the Paweenawat (2018) study, policies supporting the role of women in politics, such as gender quotas, should be widely promoted and implemented in countries as an important tool for improving women's societal role. Give examples of countries wherein this policy has been successfully implemented.

5) From the article Women in Parliament (Inter-parliamentary Union, 2021), which compiles the results of the use of gender quotas in the politics of countries. Is the quota policy appropriate to apply in Thailand or not? Discuss with examples.

(https://www.parliament.go.th/ewtadmin/ewt/parliament_parcy/ewt_dl_link.php?nid=77208&filename=index)

6) Based on the issue of implementing a gender quota to increase women's political participation, give an example of a situation in countries using voluntary quotas, legislative quotas, and reserved seats. Were the desired results achieved based on using this quota system? Why or why not?