

Women and men should have equal quotas in party lists - Survey

Ukrainian voters strive to better involvement of women in politics and power, and they could achieve it, if men and household chores don't prevent. Such conclusions can be made of the survey conducted by Ukrainian Women's Fund together with Democratic Initiative Foundation on the eve of local elections. The survey was supported by [IGPN \(International Gender Policy Network\)](#) as its activity on political participation of women.

Supporters of the idea to increase representation of women in local governance bodies are twice more (47%) than their opponents (25%). At that, male respondents almost equally divide to those who approve the idea of more active involvement of women, and those who don't. As for female respondents, they are stand unambiguously for their active participation in local governance (58%).

The survey results deflated the stereotype that voters do not elect women. In fact, for major respondents (59%) it does not matter what is the sex of candidate to local council or mayor's seat.

Among the reasons why women are underrepresented in politics, the most popular answers were "lack of time because of household" (31%) and "men prevent women from taking up politics" (24%). And if in the first answer the respondents of both sexes were similarly, in the second one women were more certain (31%) than men (15%).

The least supported is the answer in the list of reasons for low political involvement of women – statement that "women are not capable of politics" (10%). Indeed this statement was more supported by men (15%), than by women (6%).

The idea of introducing legally the obligatory representation of women and men at tops of parties' lists is supported by both women and men. Totally 53% supported this European practice.

Respondents from different regions of Ukraine answered similarly to the majority of questions, regional peculiarities were rare. However, respondents from Donbas and the Crimea were more active in stressing the importance of candidate's sex, at that they were ready to vote particularly for women, not men.

At that Donetsk and the Crimea less than other regions support introduction of equal quotas for women and men in party lists.

Respondents from the West Ukraine showed themselves brightly while answering the question why women are less involved in politics. They are convinced (more than other regions) that the main reason is business of women at home.

The National survey of the Ukrainian population was conducted on the request of Ukrainian Women's Fund and performed by Democratic Initiatives Foundation named after Ilko Kucheriv and Ukrainian Sociology Service from October 3 to October 15, 2010. Totally 2011 respondents were questioned by sampling that represents adult education of Ukraine by such indices as sex, education level, type and region of residence. Sampling error does not exceed 2.1%.