

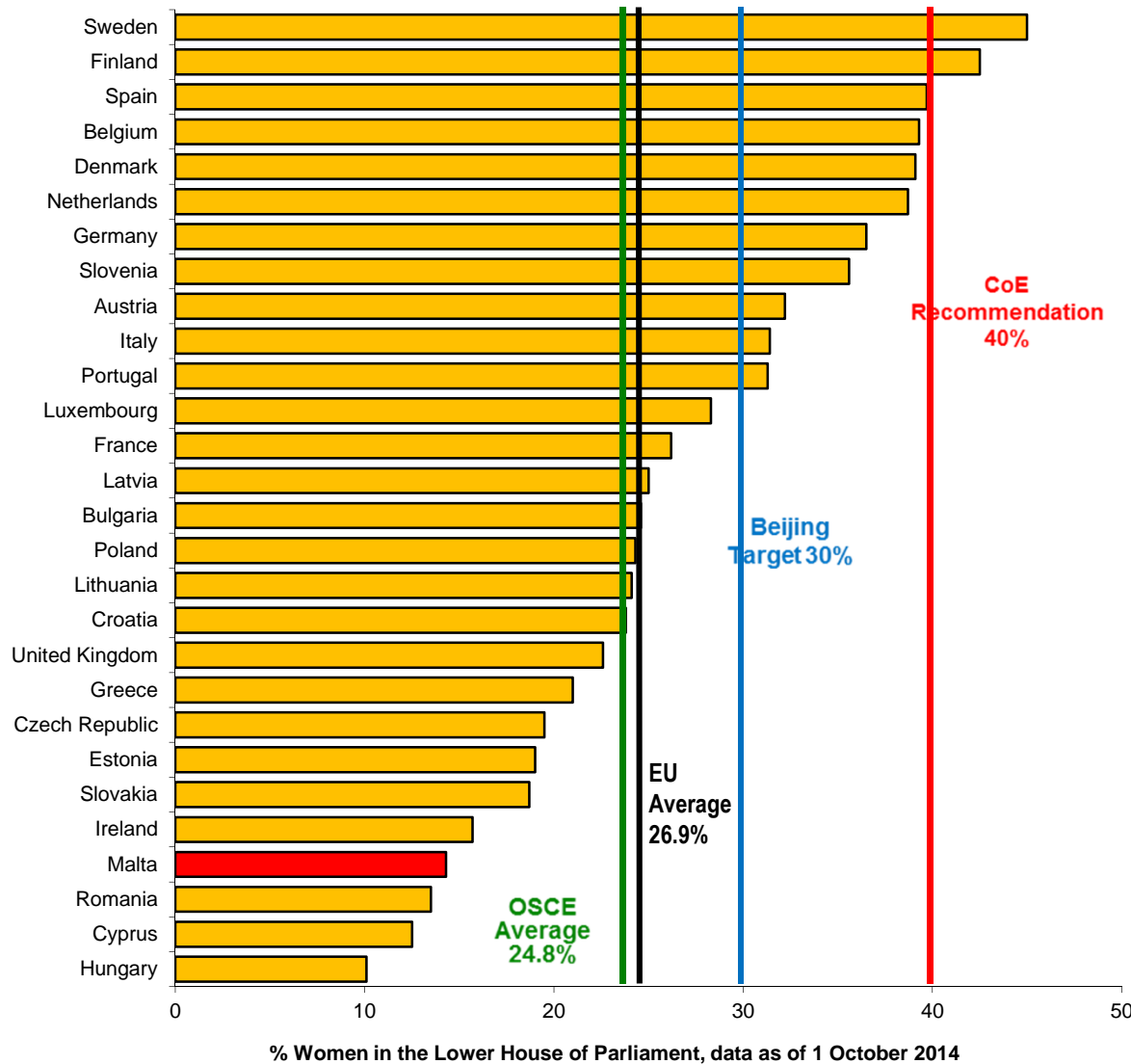


Promoting Women's Political Participation

*Ajla van Heel
Valletta, 3 November 2014*



Women's Representation in Parliaments of EU Member States



Current rate in EU Member States: 26.9%

Current rate in Malta: 14.3%

If current trends persist, equal representation will only be achieved in

- 50 years in the OSCE

- 150 years worldwide

Gender Equality in Elected Office: A Six-Step Action Plan

1.
Constitutional
Rights

2.
Electoral
Systems

3.
Legal
Quotas

4.
Party Rules
and
Recruitment
Procedures

5.
Capacity
Development

6.
Parliament
Reform



Gender Equality
in Elected Office:
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WOMEN WORLDWIDE AND WOMEN LEADERSHIP
INSTITUTE
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S YEAR 2015

4. The Role of Political Parties

- **Regulatory Environment: Legislation**

- Laws on Political Parties, Campaign Financing, Elections

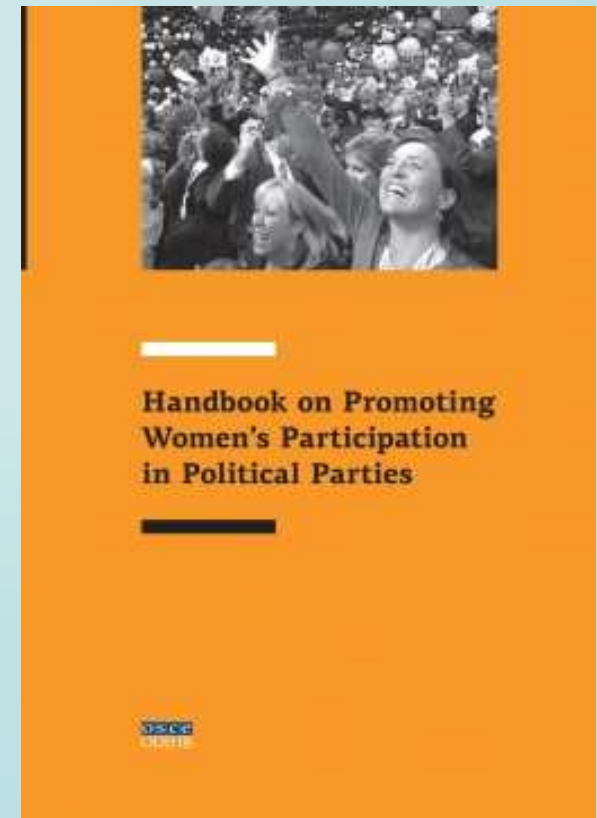
- **But what about *inside* parties?**

- Transparent candidate selection process
 - Equal access to party/campaign resources
 - Appropriate times, venues for party activities
 - Accessible party culture

- ***“Internal Party Democracy”***

Citizens/governments have a stake in how parties

- as public associations - function *internally*



5. Capacity Building

What do we *really* mean by **CAPACITY**?

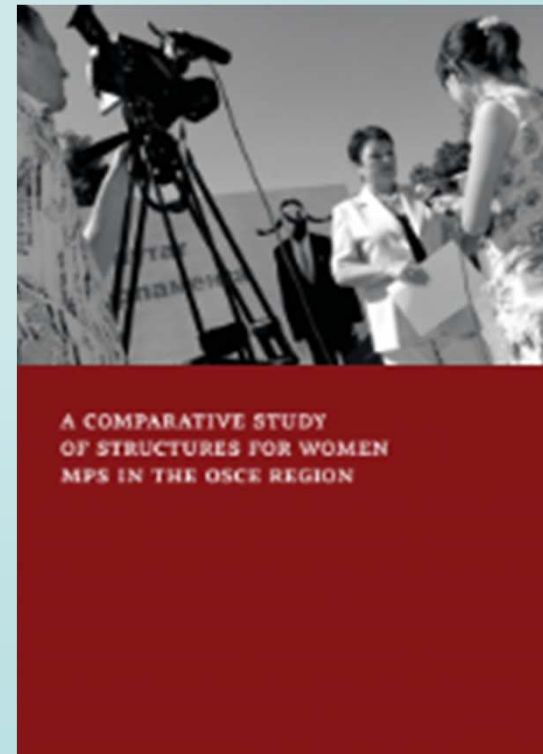
- Capacity in terms of education, skills, political knowledge and experience?
- OR**
- Capacity to access networks, patrons, money, political gatekeepers?



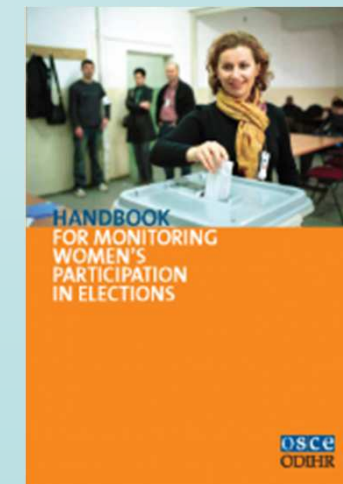
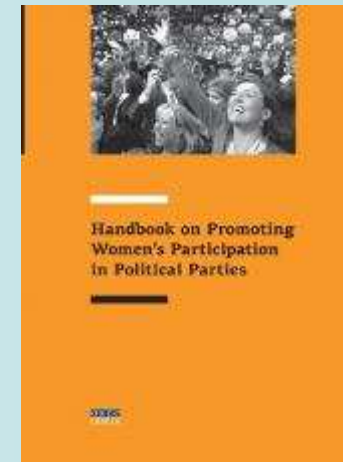
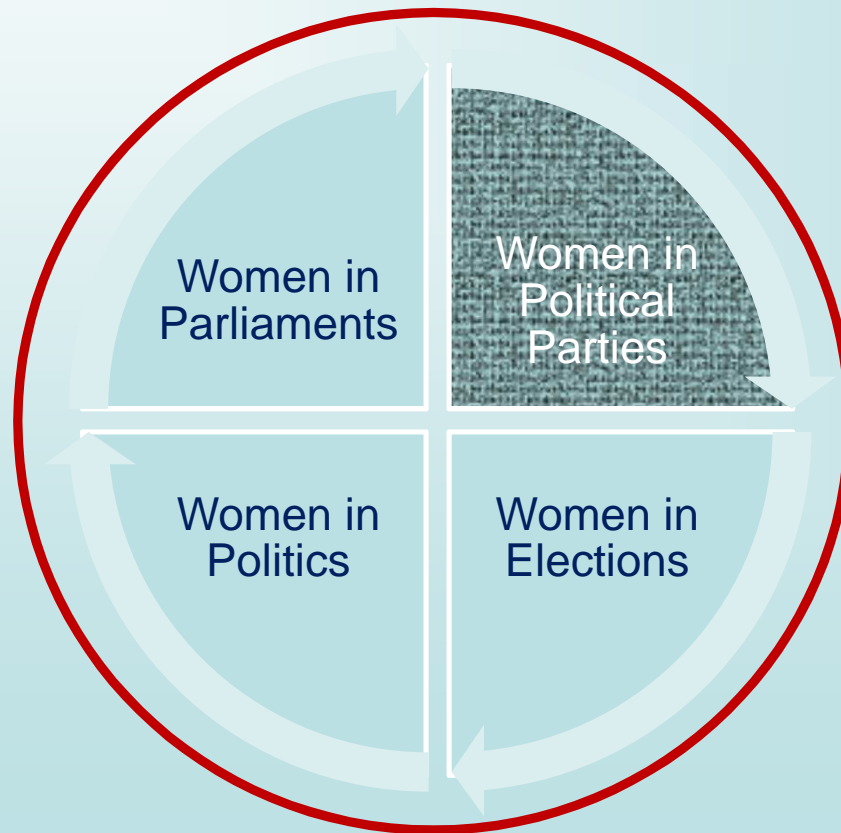
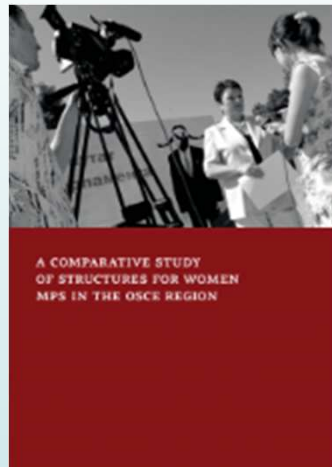
Czech politics: Do you really have a choice?

6. Gender-Sensitive Parliaments

- Gender Mainstreaming of Parliaments
- Parliamentary Working Conditions and Cultures
- Parliamentary Structures for Women MPs



ODIHR and Women in Politics



Thank you!

Ajla van Heel
Gender Adviser
Ajla.vanHeel@odihr.pl

OSCE/ODIHR

Office for Democratic Institutions
and Human Rights

ul. Miodowa 10
00-251 Warsaw
Poland

www.osce.org/odihr/gender

