THE GEIA WOMEN’S LEADERSHIP INDEX
The world’s most comprehensive data framework accelerating global gender parity

“Having women in leadership positions is breaking down cultural and structural barriers.”
Gwen Young, COO, Women Business Collaborative

“The more women we have in public leadership roles the more likely we are to have policies and laws that promote women’s rights and gender equality.”
Dr. Shirley Graham, Director of GEIA

Women in leadership drive economic growth and development, yet are traditionally underrepresented in government positions around the world. At the same time, there is a lack of data and analysis in determining why this lack of representation exists and how to improve it. The GEIA Women’s Leadership Index serves as a tool to highlight the current levels of women in public office positions while analyzing how much power they hold in these roles and how they got there. The index was created through a partnership of governments, nonprofits, and institutions to collect and analyze data from women in leadership roles from all levels, including the national down to the local and stretching across the executive, legislative, judicial, security, and civil service sectors.

The GEIA Women’s Leadership Index measures global gender parity by organizing more than 100 indicators into 3 pillars: tracking the Pathways available for women to pursue leadership, the Positions they currently hold, and what kind of Power they are able to exercise. Each country receives a composite score between 0 and 5 (5 best) from the average of all pillars and indicators, but also receives a separate score for each pillar. Through the online data platform, this crucial information is readily accessible and transparent to policymakers and stakeholders so that they can make gender-informed decisions and create institutional change.

Visit the index at: balanceupleadership.org
While the GEIA Women’s Leadership Index does not rank countries based on their index score, the scores are organized into four quadrants to visualize how each country’s gender parity progress compares to another (featured above). Balance Up Leadership has the goal of moving every country into the balanced parity section of the chart, meaning that women hold 50 percent of political and policy leadership positions. The GEIA Women’s Leadership Index uses its indicators to determine where each country is on the chart and identifies ways a country can move towards balanced gender parity.

Formerly at the Wilson Center as a part of the Women in Public Service Project, the GEIA Women’s Leadership Index is now a part of Balance Up Leadership and is sponsored by the Gender Equality Initiative in International Affairs (GEIA) at The George Washington University Elliott School of International Affairs. Under this new partnership, GW students and faculty will be able to contribute to updating and finding new data for the index, attend events based on index findings and trends, and utilize the index for their own research efforts and classrooms.

Find index updates and events:

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balanceupleadership.org

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