# Women's Rights

Women make up approximately 50% of the world's population. Despite this, women and girls continue to face challenges and inequalities. Women's rights refer to a set of legal, social, and economic entitlements and protections that ensure equal treatment, opportunities, and freedoms for women and girls. These rights are rooted in the principles of human rights and are essential for achieving gender equality and justice, and include access to education, healthcare, employment, and political participation, as well as the right to live free from violence and exploitation. [1,2]

**2.4 billion women are not afforded equal economic opportunity**

and 178 countries maintain legal barriers that prevent their full economic participation. [3]

**Worldwide 129 million girls are out of school**

and only 49% of countries have achieved gender parity in primary education. [4]

**13% of deaths related to pregnancy and childbirth**

are caused by unsafe abortions. 73 million abortions occur globally each year and 45% are unsafe. [5]

**5 GENDER EQUALITY**

**10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES**

**4 QUALITY EDUCATION**

**Percentage of Women in Cabinet**

57%
64%
60%
64%
67%
63%
58%
55%

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**1 IN 3 WOMEN**

have been subjected to physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence, non-partner sexual violence, or both once in life. 3

**EVERY 11 MINUTES**

Globally 1 woman or girl is being killed in their home, where 58% of all killings are perpetrated by partners or other family members. 2

**158 COUNTRIES**

have passed laws on domestic violence, and 141 have laws on sexual harassment in employment, but it does not mean they are always implemented. 2

**7 IN 10 VICTIMS**

of human trafficking are women (5) and girls (2), mostly for sexual exploitation and also for forceful labour practices 2
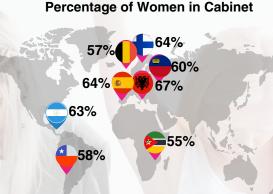
**100 MILLION GIRLS**

are projected to become child brides over the next decade. An additional 10 million girls are now at risk of child marriage by 2030 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. 6

**11.3% PARTICIPATION**

Globally only 11.3% countries have women Heads of State, and 9.8% have women Heads of Government. 7

**Index scores for equality guaranteed by law in selected countries in 2023**

| Country | Score |
| --- | --- |
| Belgium | |
| France | |
| Denmark | |
| Latvia | |
| Luxembourg | |
| Sweden | |
| Iceland | |
| Canada | |
| Portugal | |
| Ireland | |
| Greece | |
| Spain | |
| Germany | |
| Netherlands | |
| UK | |
| U.S. | 91.3 |
| China | 78.8 |
| India | 78.1 |
| | 74.4 |
| | 71.3 |
| Nigeria | 66.3 |
| Qatar | 29.4 |

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