Gender-sensitive Parliaments

Self-assessment, scoring and interpretation of parliament gender-sensitivity

In order to make gender-sensitivity a measurable concept, five areas defining specific aspects of parliament gender-sensitivity have been identified through literature and further developed according to experts' recommendations.

These five areas aim to address the complex and multifaceted nature of the concept of gender-sensitivity within parliaments. Each area is further divided into domains, sub-domains and distinct indicators with related questions to assess the level of gender-sensitivity within a particular area or activity. Criteria are designed to address the key issues, while – at the same time - restricting the number questions to enable the construction of a clear and accessible online tool. The indicators and related questions that are included in the tool have been selected because they allow the objective measurement of policies and interventions that can enhance gender equality in a parliament's work and outputs.

The scoring of the answers is done at the scale from 0 to 100 (e.g. yes = 100, no = 0). For the numerical answers, the tool calculates a ratio; some questions measure gender parity, which is a numerical concept related to gender equality. It concerns relative equality in terms of numbers and proportions of women and men, and it is calculated as the ratio of female-to-male values for a given indicator. Further information on gender parity and ratios can be found in EIGE’s Gender Equality Glossary & Thesaurus.