

## Gender equality - solutions

In cases where the country is not specified, the fact applies to Germany.

- 1791 Olympe de Gouges, a French writer and revolutionary, calls for women to have the same human and civil rights as men.
- **1822** El Salvador decriminalizes homosexuality.
- **1853** After Pitcairn Island, the Colombian city of Veléz provides women with voting rights.
- **1893** Women are allowed to take the *Abitur* (German high school diploma).
- 1897 An LGBTIQ+ movement begins to form in Germany with the founding of the Scientific-Humanitarian Committee and the submission of a petition against Paragraph 175 of the German Penal Code, which criminalizes same-sex relationships between men.
- **1899** Women are permitted to study medicine, dentistry and pharmacy for the first time.
- **1902** Australia becomes the first sovereign state to provide women with active and passive voting rights.
- **1903** Marie Curie, originally from Poland, becomes the first woman in the world to receive the Nobel Prize.
- 1908 Women are now permitted to join political parties.
- **1917** Women working as 'male replacements' on the railways are given trousers.
- 1918 Women's suffrage is enshrined in law..
- **1918** Ninety percent of women vote.
- **1920** Women are permitted to complete their habilitation.
- **1929** Ecuador provides women with limited voting rights.
- **1930** Inspired by Marlene Dietrich, women increasingly wear trousers.
- **1949** Equal rights for women are included in the constitutions of East and West Germany.
- 1957 The West German Federal Labor Court abolishes the celibacy requirement for female teachers who, until then, had not been trusted to balance family and working life. Until this point, female teachers who married not only lost their teaching posts, but also their right to a pension.

- **1960** Sirimavo Ratwatte Dias Bandaranaike becomes Prime Minister of Sri Lanka. She is the world's first female freely elected head of government.
- **1971** A movement emerges that promotes sexual self-determination. It uses the motto: 'My belly belongs to me'.
- 1972 East Germany enacts a law permitting abortion.
- 1972 Christopher Street Day takes place in West Germany for the first time.
- **1974** The Ministry of Youth, Family and Health is officially assigned the remit for women's issues.
- **1974** Paragraph 218 permits women to have abortions in the first three months of pregnancy.
- **1977** Women in West Germany no longer need their husband's consent to work.
- **1987** East Germany completely decriminalizes homosexuality.
- **1990** The WHO (World Health Organization) removes homosexuality from its list of mental illnesses.
- 1994 Germany strikes down Paragraph 175, which criminalized sexual relationships between men. As such, homosexuality is no longer criminalized in the former federal states of West Germany either. (Approximately 50,000 men were convicted in West Germany under Paragraph 175, which had been enacted by the National Socialists.)
- **1994** Women who marry now have the same right to use their surname as men.
- **1996** South Africa becomes the first country in the world to explicitly enact a constitutional ban on discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation.
- 1997 Marital rape becomes a criminal offense.
- 2003 Qatar permits women to vote.
- 2005 Angela Merkel becomes chancellor.
- **2012** Argentina allows people to choose their own gender.
- **2017** The Bundestag passes the Marriage for All Act.
- 2018 'Diverse' is now recognized as a third gender.
- **2021** Argentina introduces a legal quota for transgender people in the public sector.

Olympe de Gouges, a French writer and revolutionary, calls for women to have the same human and civil rights as men.



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