



Call for Applications: the Young Women's Political Academy

Application open to young women politicians from Georgia, North Macedonia, Poland and Uzbekistan

WHEN: 6 November - 10 November 2022 (five full days)

WHERE: Warsaw, Poland (TBC) Due to the Covid-19 regulations the academy might be conducted online.

ORGANIZED BY: The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

Content:

ODIHR is organizing the second edition of the Young Women's Political Academy in the framework of the ODIHR project "Capitalizing on the Human Dimension Mandate to Advance Gender Equality" (CHANGE). The five-day training Academy aims at improving skills, knowledge and capacities of young women in politics or entering in politics to strengthen their meaningful participation in elected public offices at all levels of decision-making in line with OSCE/ODIHR commitments.

This Academy brings together about 20 young women politicians to set up a creative space for exchanges and capacity building. The programme will provide insights into the democratic processes, women's political participation, as well as on violence against women in politics. Participants will engage with peers in interactive sessions on leadership, campaigning and lobbying, building alliances and networks, negotiating and much more. Young women will have a chance to participate in the simulation exercise to test their political drafting, negotiation and presentation skills in action. Prominent women politicians will share their experiences and lessons learnt with participants.

The Academy will cover following topics:

- International standards and OSCE/ODIHR commitments on gender equality, women's political participation and decision-making as well as on violence against women in politics;
- OSCE and country-related information on gender equality in politics;
- Insights into the democratic process and politics;
- Relevant skills and knowledge development, including leadership skills, strategies for advocacy and lobbying, building alliances and networks, fundraising for campaigns, presentation and communication skills, engaging with the media.

Background:

The [2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality](#) sets out OSCE priorities in promoting gender equality in the Organization and in all 57 participating States. The Action Plan mandates ODIHR to "assist participating States in promoting women's political participation" and "assist in the development and implementation of specific programmes and activities to promote women's rights, to increase the role



of women at all levels of decision-making, and to promote equality between women and men throughout the OSCE area, particularly through education in gender awareness”¹.

Eligible candidates:

Women politicians, up to the age of 35, residing in one of the following OSCE participating States: Georgia, North Macedonia, Poland and Uzbekistan are invited to apply. Ukrainian nationals who are currently residing in any of the afore-mentioned countries and meet the eligibility requirements below are particularly encouraged to submit their application.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Women born after 1 January 1987;
- Residency in one of the following countries: Georgia, North Macedonia, Poland, or Uzbekistan AND a nationality of one of the OSCE participating State;
- Elected in the Parliament or regional/local governances OR run at least once in national, regional or local elections OR political party members OR civil initiatives running for elections;
- Preferably with professional proficiency in English or Russian.

The working languages of the Academy will be English and Russian. Interpretation in other languages will be considered depending on the needs of participants. It is essential that prospective participants secure their in-person presence for the full duration of the training.

Costs:

Accommodation, meals, travel and visa costs will be covered by the ODIHR.

COVID-19 safety measures:

Participants are required to provide a proof of COVID-19 vaccination OR a proof of having had COVID-19 disease within the last six months OR showing a proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR/antigen test every morning before entering the training venue at their own expense. Personal protective equipment for COVID-19 is obligatory and will be provided by ODIHR. COVID-19 related safety measures for the training may be updated in line with the regulation by the Polish authorities and/or ODIHR.

Application process:

Please use the following link to fill in the application forms:

- In English: <https://forms.gle/u1ZcpJmRG31ZEFYCA>
- In Russian: <https://forms.gle/Cb6SyyHzEdWVXyGZ8>

¹ The 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality. Available at: <https://www.osce.org/files/f/documents/7/d/23295.pdf>



Extended deadline for applications: 6 October 2022, 23:59 CET.

The organizers encourage all candidates, including Roma and Sinti candidates and other persons belonging to national minorities, women with disabilities, women from different religious and ethnic backgrounds to apply. Please let us know should you require interpretation or assistance related to disability in order to complete the application process.

All applicants will be informed about the outcome of their application by 10 October 2022.

For further information and enquiries, please contact sara.haapalainen@odihr.pl