

# WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE

**A World Chronology of the Recognition of Women's Rights to Vote and to Stand for Election**  
*Unless otherwise indicated, the date signifies the year women were granted the right both to vote and to stand for election. The countries listed below currently have a Parliament or have had one at some point in their history.*

- 1788** United States of America (to stand for election)
- 1893** New Zealand (to vote)
- 1902** Australia\*
- 1906** Finland
- 1907** Norway (to stand for election)\*
- 1913** Norway\*\*
- 1915** Denmark, Iceland
- 1917** Canada (to vote)\*, Netherlands (to stand for election)
- 1918** Austria, Canada (to vote)\*, Estonia, Georgia<sup>1</sup>, Germany, Hungary, Ireland\*, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Russian Federation, United Kingdom\*
- 1919** Belarus, Belgium (to vote)\*, Luxembourg, Netherlands (to vote), New Zealand (to stand for election), Sweden\*, Ukraine
- 1920** Albania, Canada (to stand for election)\*, Czech Republic, Slovakia, United States of America (to vote)
- 1921** Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium (to stand for election)\*, Georgia<sup>1</sup>, Sweden\*\*
- 1924** Kazakhstan<sup>1</sup>, Mongolia, Saint Lucia, Tajikistan
- 1927** Turkmenistan
- 1928** Ireland\*\*, United Kingdom\*\*
- 1929** Ecuador\*, Romania\*
- 1930** South Africa (Whites), Turkey (to vote)
- 1931** Chile\*, Portugal\*, Spain, Sri Lanka
- 1932** Maldives, Thailand, Uruguay
- 1934** Brazil, Cuba, Portugal\*, Turkey (to stand for election)
- 1935** Myanmar (to vote)
- 1937** Philippines
- 1938** Bolivia\*, Uzbekistan
- 1939** El Salvador (to vote)
- 1941** Panama\*
- 1942** Dominican Republic
- 1944** Bulgaria, France, Jamaica
- 1945** Croatia, Guyana (to stand for election), Indonesia, Italy, Japan<sup>1</sup>, Senegal, Slovenia, Togo
- 1946** Cameroon, D.P.R. of Korea, Djibouti (to vote), Guatemala, Liberia, Myanmar (to stand for election), Panama\*\*, Romania\*\*, The F.Y.R. of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yugoslavia
- 1947** Argentina, Japan<sup>1</sup>, Malta, Mexico (to vote), Pakistan, Singapore
- 1948** Belgium\*\*, Israel, Niger, Republic of Korea, Seychelles, Suriname
- 1949** Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chile\*\*, China, Costa Rica, Syrian Arab Republic (to vote)\*
- 1950** Barbados, Canada (to vote)\*\*, Haiti, India
- 1951** Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Nepal, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines



*British suffragette poster of 1905*

- 1952 Bolivia\*\*, Côte d'Ivoire, Greece, Lebanon
- 1953 Bhutan, Guyana (to vote), Mexico (to stand for election), Syrian Arab Republic\*\*
- 1954 Belize, Colombia, Ghana
- 1955 Cambodia, Eritrea<sup>2</sup>, Ethiopia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Peru
- 1956 Benin, Comoros, Egypt, Gabon, Mali, Mauritius, Somalia
- 1957 Malaysia, Zimbabwe (to vote)\*\*
- 1958 Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Lao P.D.R., Nigeria (South)
- 1959 Madagascar, San Marino (to vote), Tunisia, United Republic of Tanzania
- 1960 Canada (to stand for election)\*\*, Cyprus, Gambia, Tonga
- 1961 Bahamas\*, Burundi, El Salvador (to stand for election), Malawi, Mauritania, Paraguay, Rwanda, Sierra Leone
- 1962 Algeria, Australia\*\*, Monaco, Uganda, Zambia
- 1963 Afghanistan, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Fiji, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kenya, Morocco, Papua New Guinea (to stand for election)
- 1964 Bahamas\*\*, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Papua New Guinea (to vote), Sudan
- 1965 Botswana, Lesotho
- 1967 Democratic Republic of the Congo (to vote), Ecuador\*\*, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Yemen (D.P. R.)
- 1968 Nauru, Swaziland
- 1970 Andorra (to vote), Democratic Republic of the Congo (to stand for election), Yemen (Arab Republic)
- 1971 Switzerland
- 1972 Bangladesh
- 1973 Andorra (to stand for election), Bahrain<sup>3</sup>, San Marino (to stand for election)
- 1974 Jordan, Solomon Islands
- 1975 Angola, Cape Verde, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Vanuatu<sup>1</sup>
- 1976 Portugal\*\*
- 1977 Guinea Bissau
- 1978 Nigeria (North), Republic of Moldova<sup>1</sup>, Zimbabwe (to stand for election)
- 1979 Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Fed. States), Palau
- 1980 Iraq, Vanuatu<sup>1</sup>
- 1984 Liechtenstein, South Africa (Coloureds + Indians)
- 1986 Central African Republic, Djibouti (to stand for election)
- 1989 Namibia
- 1990 Samoa
- 1993 Kazakhstan<sup>1</sup>, Republic of Moldova<sup>1</sup>
- 1994 South Africa (Blacks)

*Women in **Kuwait** do not yet have the right to vote or to stand for election. In the **United Arab Emirates**, where the Parliament is officially appointed, neither men nor women have the right to vote or to stand for election.*



\* Right subject to conditions or restrictions  
 \*\* Restrictions or conditions lifted

1. Reference to several dates reflects the stages in the granting of rights. It is not uncommon, in countries previously under colonial rule, for women to have been granted the rights to vote and be elected by the colonial administration and to have had them confirmed at the time of accession to independence. Similarly, it is not uncommon, in countries that were formerly part of a federation and in which women were entitled to vote and be elected under the federal legislation, for women to have had these rights confirmed under the Constitution of the newly independent State.
2. In November 1955, Eritrea was part of Ethiopia. The Constitution of sovereign Eritrea adopted on 23 May 1997 stipulates that "All Eritrean citizens, of eighteen years of age or more, shall have the right to vote."