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**Women in Social and Political Life of Ukraine:
Prejudice, Opportunities and Prospects***Results of the national poll conducted within the project
"Empowering Women"*

In the society, there is no consensus on the issue of female representation in the politics and national government: 37% of responders consider that women are represented in these areas enough, meanwhile 33% – not enough, and 30% have no opinion on this issue. Men feel more certain of the statement that women in politics and governance are represented enough (39% of them think the level of women's participation is sufficient, while another 30% – insufficient). Opinions of women are divided (35% find women's participation sufficient and 36.5% – insufficient).

The same thoughts are shared about the level of women's participation in local government and politics: 36.5% believe that women are represented in these areas enough, 32% are sure that it is not enough, the rest of 31.5 % could not give an answer to this question. Men feel more certain of the statement that women in politics and governance at the local level are represented enough (39% of responders think the level of women's participation is sufficient as well as 27.5% – insufficient). Women estimate the issue quite differ (34% rated women's participation as sufficient as well as 35% – as insufficient).

The traditional social pattern (27.5%) and unwillingness of women (27%) are defined as the main factors, which prevent them from more intensive involvement into the social and political life. According to public opinion, other factors influence less significantly on situation: housework (20%), intolerant attitudes (14%), and incompleteness of the Ukrainian legislation (12%). There is little difference between men and women opinions except for the following: men consider women unwillingness as the primary obstacle (30% of men and 25% of women), and women blame for the traditional social pattern (29% of women and 26% of men).

The society does not support the proposal to fix quotas for women neither in the party lists of the parliamentary candidates (supported by 14% in general, 11% of men and 17% of women), nor in the state bodies (supported by 14% in general, 12% of men and 16% of women) as well as in the private companies (supported by 11% in general, 8.5% of men and 11% of women). However, one third of the population, both men and women, is opposed to quotas in all these spheres, and another third believes that this is not the right time for solving this problem.

The national survey has been conducted by the [Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation \(DIF\)](#) in collaboration with the sociological service "Ukrainian Sociology Service" during the period from December 25, 2014 to January 15, 2015 on request of the [International Centre for Policy Studies \(ICPS\)](#). 4 413 of responders have totally taken part in quota sampling, representing the adult population aged 18 and over. The survey has not been conducted in Luhansk region and the annexed Crimea.