

## EMPOWERING WOMEN IN ARMENIA



In Armenia, women make up more than 50 percent of the population and nearly 60 percent of those with higher education. But despite these high percentages, their representation in decision-making processes remains low, with women holding only 24 percent of parliamentary seats and comprising less than ten percent of local government.

In the United Nation's Women in Politics Report, Armenia ranked just 76 out of 191 countries – reflecting the relatively small number of women in parliament. In the current government, the lack of female leadership remains a problem, with only one woman rising to the rank of minister and just 12 out of 46 deputy minister positions occupied by women.

## IRI's Approach

To empower women and leverage their policymaking skills, IRI aims to integrate them into all levels of governance and amplify their grassroots activism. IRI's mission is to enhance women's inclusion in government and integrate gender awareness into policymaking throughout the country. Our three-step approach:



**1. Increase the number of women in government.**



**2. Protect and promote women's rights.**



**3. Focus on women's economic empowerment.**



## IRI's Recommendations



- 1. Establish a committee to integrate gender sensitive policymaking at the central and regional levels of government.**



- 2. Collaborate with the National Assembly Budget Office and government ministries to implement protocols and practices for gender sensitive budgeting.**



- 3. Partner with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs to identify, reduce and redistribute unpaid work and care in Armenia.**



- 4. Focus on women's economic empowerment, their rights protection and promotion programs.**

## INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

A nonprofit, nonpartisan organization, the International Republican Institute (IRI) advances freedom and democracy worldwide by helping political parties to become more responsive, strengthening transparent and accountable governance, and working to increase the role of marginalized groups in the political process – including women and youth. More information is available at [www.iri.org](http://www.iri.org).

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