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JULIE BALLINGTON is the Manager of the Gender and Political Participation Project at International IDEA, based in Stockholm, Sweden. Prior to joining International IDEA in 2001, she was a researcher and Gender and Elections Project Manager at the Electoral Institute of Southern Africa (EISA) based in Johannesburg, South Africa. She has written widely on issues relating to the political representation and participation of women, voter turnout and electoral politics. She is currently completing a PhD on the participation and representation of women in South African elections since democratization in 1994.

ELISA MARÍA CARRIO is an Argentine attorney, with a graduate degree in public law, and is full professor of constitutional law at the Universidad Nacional del Nordeste. She was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1994. She is a federal deputy (1995–2003), vice-chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, and member of the Committee on Impeachments. Mrs Carrio presided over the Money-laundering Inquiry Commission. Author of over 100 bills (including major constitutional initiatives) and books and articles in specialized legal reviews and political journals, she is currently president of the Bloque Parlamentario ARI (third largest grouping, in terms of number of representatives in the Chamber of Deputies). In addition, she is a member of the Argentine Constitutional Law Association, the Argentine Philosophy of Law Association, the Women’s Leadership Conference of the Americas (WCLA), and the Society for International Development, Emerging Leaders of the Western Hemisphere Conference.

PIEDAD CÓRDOBA RUIZ has been a Colombian senator since 1994, member of the Senate’s committees on human rights and peace, author of Law 294 of 1996, which punishes family violence, and of Law 649 of 2001, on the political representation of ethnic and political minorities in Congress. She made presentations at the Population Conference in Cairo and at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing. She has promoted gender equity in the Colombian Congress, and in the Andean Parliament and the Latin American Parliament.

DRUDE DAHLERUP is Professor of Political Science at Stockholm University, Sweden. She has undertaken extensive research on women in politics, social movements, the history of the women’s movement, sex segregation of the labour market and feminist theory. She has published many articles and books in Danish including, most recently: *Rødstrømperne: Den danske Rødstrømpebevægelses udvikling, nytænkning og gennemslag 1970–1985*. Bd. I-II, Gyldendal 1998. [The Redstockings: The Rise and Fall, the New Ideas and Impact of the Danish Women’s Liberation Movement, 1970–1985.] In English, among other things, she has published: *The New Women’s Movements, Feminism and Political Power in Europe and the USA*, Sage 1986; “From a Small to a Large Minority: Women in Scandinavian Politics”, *Scandinavian Political Studies*, Vol. 11, No. 4. She has also written a handbook on women’s representation, which was published by the Nordic Council of Ministers in all five Nordic languages.

LOURDES FLORES NANO is a Peruvian attorney who studied law at the Pontificia Universidad Católica de Lima and did graduate studies at the Instituto de Empresa of Madrid (master’s) and the Universidad Complutense of Madrid (doctorate). In 1990, was elected to the National Congress that was shut down in 1992. As a deputy she chaired the committee on energy and mines (1990), and the committee on the Constitution, organic laws, and regulations (1991). In 1993, she was elected as a member of Congress to the Democratic Constituent Congress, and re-elected as member of Congress for the 1995–2000 term. Dr Flores was a presidential candidate for the Alianza Unidad Nacional in the presidential elections of 8 April 2001.

Dr FRENE GINWALA was elected as Speaker of the National Assembly of South Africa after the country’s first democratic elections in 1994. She was re-elected as speaker in 1999. A former researcher and spokesperson for the

African National Congress in exile, Dr Ginwala returned to South Africa in 1991. She is a member of the African National Council (ANC) National Executive Committee and National Working Committee. Dr Ginwala has focused her work on issues of democracy, development and the empowerment of women. Dr Ginwala is a Co-Chair of the Global Coalition for Africa and serves as a Commissioner on the Human Security Commission.

MALA N. HTUN is Assistant Professor of Political Science at the Graduate Faculty of Political and Social Science of New School University. She has conducted extensive research on women and politics and gender-related laws and policies in Latin America. She is the author of *Democracy, Dictatorship, and Gender Rights in Latin America* (forthcoming from Cambridge University Press) and numerous articles and book chapters on gender politics and women's leadership in the region (several of these are available on line at www.thedialogue.org). Htun serves as an advisor to the Women's Leadership Conference of the Americas and the Inter-American Dialogue. She holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from Harvard and a B.A. degree in International Relations from Stanford University.

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Dr JONI LOVENDUSKI is Professor of Politics at Birbeck College, London University, in the United Kingdom. She researches the political behaviour of British and European women and is especially interested in women's representation in politics. Her main books are *Women and European Politics* (1986), a comparative study of the impact of women and feminism in Europe; *Political Recruitment* (with Pippa Norris, 1995), a study of the British candidate-selection process; *Contemporary Feminist Politics* (with Vicky Randall, 1993), a study of the British women's movement in the Thatcher years; and *Politics and Society in Eastern Europe* (with Jean Woodal, 1989). She has co-edited *The Politics of the Second Electorate* (1981), *The New Politics of Abortion* (1986), *Gender and Party Politics* (1993), *Different Roles, Different Voices* (1994) and *Women in Politics* (1996) and is Editor of *Feminist Politics* (1996).

Dr RICHARD E. MATLAND is an Associate Professor of Political Science at the University of Houston, Texas, and is an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Administration and Organizational Theory at the University of Bergen, Norway. Dr Matland's research interests include the fields of women and politics, comparative politics and public policy. His work on women and politics has been published in several leading political science journals including the *British Journal of Political Science*, *The Journal of Politics*, *Comparative Political Studies*, and the *Canadian Journal of Political Science*, among others. A common theme in Dr Matland's work has been the effects of electoral systems on women's representation. He has done research on questions of electoral systems and women's representation in Canada, Costa Rica, Norway, Sweden and the United States, and is co-editing a book *Women's Access to Political Power in Post-Communist Europe* to be published in 2003.

MAVIVI MYAKAYAKA-MANZINI is currently working in the President's Office of the African National Congress as Head of International Affairs. She is formerly a member of the South African National Assembly, and was a parliamentary advisor to the Deputy President until 1999. She has worked as an editor of the *Voice of Women*, and the Journal of the ANC Women's Section. Her work there and elsewhere has covered broad areas related to gender equality and women organizing for change. She has been involved in the Constitutional negotiation process which came up with the Interim Constitution and the new final Constitution of South Africa. She has written widely on various issues related to women in general and the experience of South African women in particular.

MYRIAM MÉNDEZ-MONTALVO is a Colombian attorney who did her legal studies at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana of Bogotá. She holds post-graduate degrees in International Relations and Development, Human Rights, and a Master's degree in Public Administration and Public Policy from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. At present she works in International IDEA's Latin American Programme, where she runs capacity-building projects in Guatemala, Peru and Paraguay, among other projects. In addition, Ms. Méndez-Montalvo served as Head of the Legal Office at the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Cali, Colombia, and worked for Mujeres por la Democracia, a Colombian non-governmental organization that promotes women's political rights. Internationally, she has worked as legal assistant at the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia in the Hague.

NINETH MONTENEGRO has a degree in legal and social sciences from Guatemala. In 1984 she founded the Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo (GAM), an organization an organization of relatives of people who have disappeared; she is a member of the Instancia Nacional de Consenso, and of the directing council of the Asamblea de la Sociedad Civil (1994). Ms. Montenegro has been a deputy in the national Congress since 1996; she was re-elected for the 2000–2004 term.

KAREN OLSEN DE FIGUERES is a former first lady, ambassador and member of Congress from Costa Rica, and a former presidential adviser. She currently holds the post of Women's Representative in the leadership body of the Partido de Liberación Nacional. She has promoted women's political representation in Costa Rica and throughout Latin America.

NINA PACARI is a Kichwa indigenous attorney from Ecuador. She has been legal adviser (1989–1993) and Leader of Lands and Territories (1993–1996) of the Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador. In 1997, she was elected to the National Constitutional Assembly, where she succeeded in seeing to it that the Constitution includes the collective rights of indigenous peoples and their recognition by the administration of justice. She is a founder of the Movimiento Pachakutik, and was elected national deputy for the 1998–2002 term. Ms Pacari was deputy speaker of the Ecuadoran Congress from 1998 to 2000. As a legislator, she has accorded priority to economic and social issues and to upholding the rights of indigenous peoples and women. She has participated actively in international events, and several of her papers have been published in Ecuador and internationally.

JACQUELINE PESCHARD has been an elections adviser to the general board of the Instituto Federal Electoral of Mexico since 1996. From 1979 to 1991, she was a full-time professor in the School of Political and Social Sciences of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México, and from 1992 to 1998, she was professor and researcher at the Colegio de México. She has published several articles on political parties, elections and political culture in academic journals in Mexico, the United States and Spain. From 1990 to 1996, she published articles in Mexican dailies including *Uno más Uno*, *La Jornada*, *El Nacional* and *La Crónica*.

CHRISTINE PINTAT has for many years been the Officer in Charge of the Programme on the Status of Women of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the world organization of parliaments. In this context, she has carried out extensive research on the issue of women's participation in political and parliamentary life and is the drafter or co-drafter of all IPU's publications on this issue. Among the latest such publications is a report on *Politics: Women's Insight* (2000), an information kit *Women in Politics: 1945–2000; Participation of Women in Political Life* (2000); a world *Bibliography on Women in Politics* (1998); a world comparative survey and a poster entitled *Men and Women in Politics: Democracy Still in the Making* (1997), and a survey entitled *Women in Parliaments: 1945–1995* (1995). She is also IPU's Programme Officer in three other fields: Inter-Parliamentary Process for Security and Co-operation in the Mediterranean; International Humanitarian Law, and the Cyprus Issue.

Dr SHIRIN RAI is Reader in the Department of Politics and International Studies at the University of Warwick, UK. She is the author of *Gender and the Political Economy of Development: From Nationalism to Globalisation* (2001); co-author of *Chinese Politics and Society: An Introduction* (1997); and the co-editor of *Women in the Face of Change: Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and China* (1992), and *Women and the State: International Perspectives* (1997). She has written extensively in the area of women and democratic politics in the developing world.

Dr NADEZHDA SHVEDOVA is an international specialist on Russian women in Russian politics. She is a leading researcher at the Institute of the USA and Canada Studies, at the Russian Academy of Sciences in Moscow, Russia. She has worked as a consultant to the State Duma of Russia, the Supreme Soviet, the Ministry of Health Care and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, among other institutions. She is also author of numerous works on various aspects related to women in politics in Russia, the former Soviet Republics, and the USA. Her publications include *The Code of Honour of the Russian Women Movement* (1993) and *The Abyss* (1988), and she is co-author of a chapter on women in Russian elections in *Women in Politics and Society* (1996).

Dr HEGE SKJEIE is Professor at the Department of Politics at Oslo University, Norway. Her current research is on social democratic political leadership. She has published extensively on Nordic equal opportunity legislation and policies, trade union politics and women's political participation. She has been the Norwegian representative to the UN, UNESCO and Council of Europe committees on issues of women's political participation. She has recently been appointed to a governmental research group to investigate new trends of power distribution in Norwegian state/society relationships. Among articles published in English are: "The Rhetoric of Difference: On Women's Inclusion into

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