

# Women in Politics: Challenges and Obstacles

Lenka Hrbková  
Masaryk University

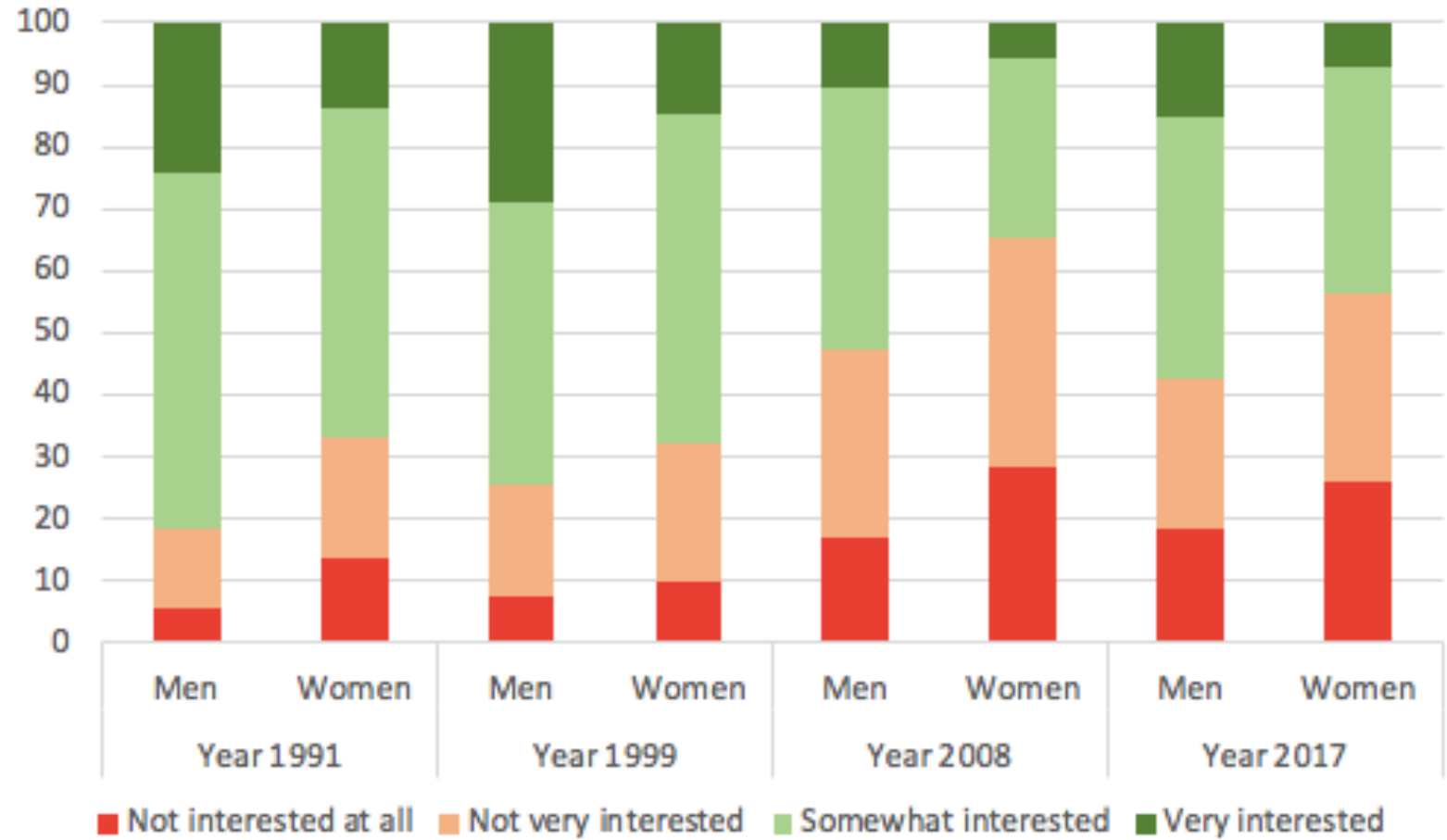
Proč to tak trvá? Aneb účast žen na politickém rozhodování po sto letech  
11. června 2019, Poslanecká sněmovna PČR

**MUNI**

# Question 1

- *Are women interested in politics less than men?*

# „How interested would you say you are in politics?“



Data: European Value Study

# *Women are less interested in politics than men*

But where's the catch?

- Women more knowledgeable on issues related to their interest
- The direction of relationship: confidence -> interest and knowledge
- Are men overconfident and over-interested?

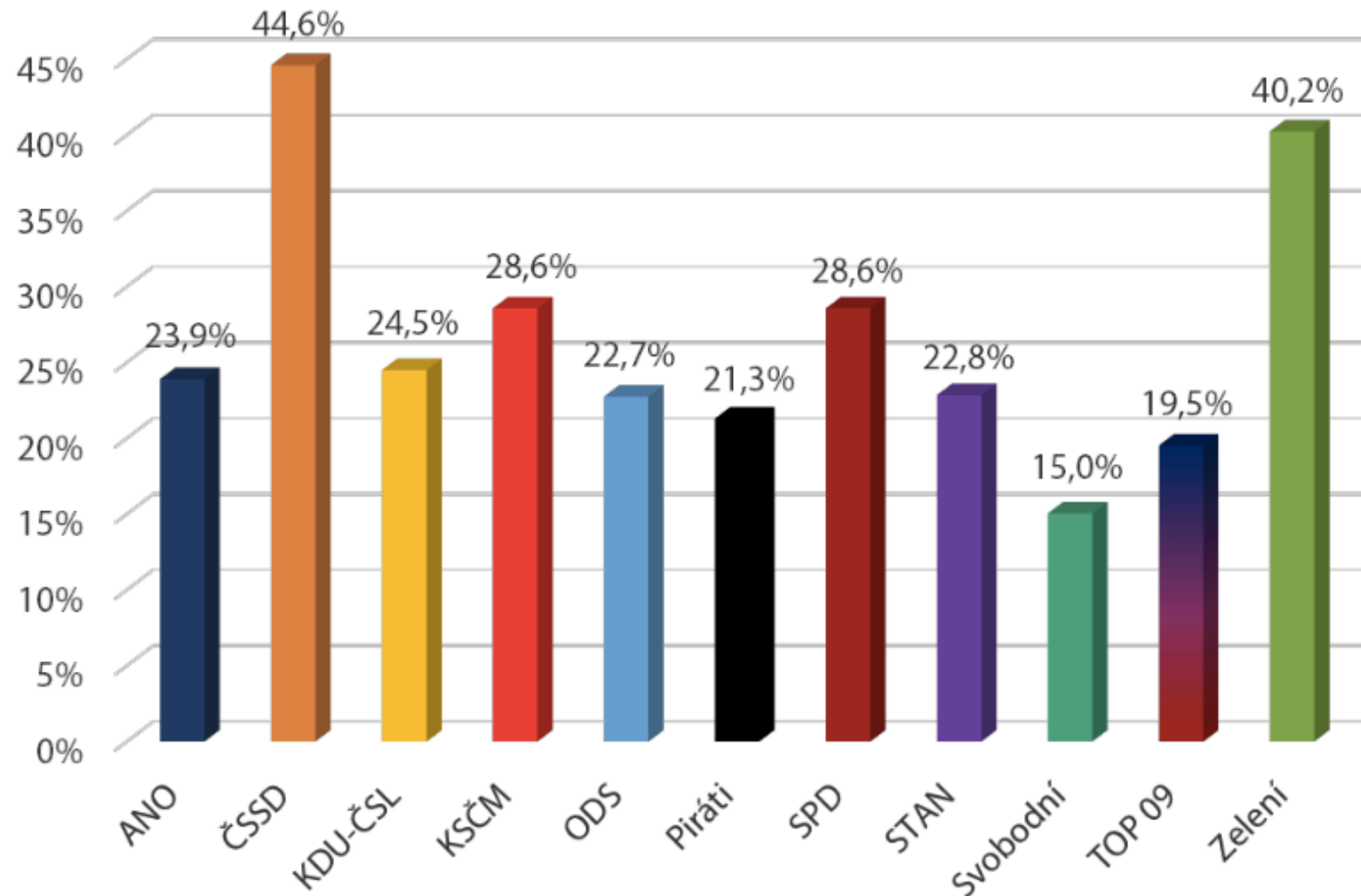
# Question 2

- *What challenges and barriers women in politics have to face/tackle?*
- Supply side
  - Resources
  - Socialization
  - Family arrangements
  - Political and social culture
- Demand side
  - Voters: do they vote for women?
  - Parties: do they nominate women?

# Question 3

- *Do political parties and their internal procedures directly or indirectly discriminate against women?*

# Women on the ballots in 2017



Source: Forum 50 %

# Women on the ballots

Tabulka č. 1: Zastoupení žen na kandidátních listinách do PS PČR v letech 2013 a 2017

Politická strana	2013				2017			
	Lídryně	Do 5. místa	Do 10. místa	Celkem	Lídryně	Do 5. místa	Do 10. místa	Celkem
<b>ANO</b>	2 (14,3%)	16 (22,9%)	29 (20,7%)	71 (20,8%)	4 (28,6%)	20 (28,6%)	45 (32,1%)	82 (23,9%)
<b>ČSSD</b>	1 (7,1%)	12 (17,1%)	29 (20,7%)	84 (24,5%)	2 (14,3%)	18 (25,7%)	47 (33,6%)	153 (44,6%)
<b>KDU-ČSL</b>	1 (7,1%)	11 (15,7%)	23 (13,5%)	75 (21,9%)	2 (14,3%)	14 (20%)	28 (20%)	84 (24,5%)
<b>KSČM</b>	4 (28,6%)	21 (30%)	37 (26,4%)	96 (27,9%)	2 (14,3%)	23 (32,9%)	44 (31,4%)	98 (28,6%)
<b>ODS</b>	3 (21,4%)	14 (20%)	34 (24,3%)	81 (23,6%)	2 (14,3%)	14 (20%)	28 (20%)	78 (22,7%)
<b>TOP 09</b>	1 (7,1%)	12 (17,1%)	31 (22,1%)	63 (18,4%)	1 (7,1%)	13 (18,6%)	29 (20,7%)	67 (19,5%)
<b>Úsvit / SPD*</b>	1 (7,1%)	16 (22,9%)	35 (25%)	77 (22,4%)	3 (21,4%)	19 (27,1%)	39 (27,9%)	98 (28,6%)

\*Vzhledem k tomu, že v průběhu volebního období 2013–2017 opustil původní Úsvit jeho lídr Tomio Okamura, který v letošních volbách kandiduje za SPD, je do srovnání zařazen tento subjekt, který povahou i preferencemi odpovídá srovnání lépe.



# *Do political parties and their internal procedures directly or indirectly discriminate against women?*

- ‘If parliament is the warehouse of traditional masculinity . . . political parties are its major distributors ’ (Joni Lovenduski 2005: 56)
- The “secret garden of politics”
- Gender bias also resulting from all the structural factors

# Question 4

- *How can the political parties / state motivate women to start their political engagement and facilitate their political careers?*
- Raising awareness (campaign, media coverage)
- Training and mentoring
- Active search for candidates and encouragement
- Rhetorical emphasis on gender equality
- Strong women's sections/organizations
- Work-life balance
- Quota politics

Getting women into politics requires  
conscious intention and effort!

(Quota with placement mandates helps)

[hrbkova.len@gmail.com](mailto:hrbkova.len@gmail.com)

**M U N I**