



International Women's Day Debate on 7 March 2019

Summary

This briefing has been prepared in advance of the debate due to take place in the House of Lords on 7 March 2019 on the motion moved by Baroness Williams of Trafford (Conservative) to mark International Women's Day.

International Women's Day takes place on 8 March each year. The day is celebrated in many countries worldwide and aims to recognise women's achievements, regardless of national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences. Both the United Nations and the International Women's Day Digital Hub have announced annual themes for 2019 which aim to highlight specific issues faced by women, such as the gender digital divide, and innovative encourage solutions to reduce gender disparity.

Global and domestic gender disparities remained in 2018. The World Economic Forum's *Global Gender Gap Report* found that across the themes of economic participation and opportunity, education, health, and political participation, the average progress made on closing the global gender gap stood at 68%, a "marginal" improvement on 2017. In addition, the United Nations reported that "the disadvantages facing women and girls are a major source of inequality and one of the greatest barriers to human development progress". The UN also highlighted that in 2017: 21% of women between 20 and 24 years of age were married or in an informal union before they were 18 years old; 1 in 3 girls aged 15 to 19 had been subject to female genital mutilation in 30 countries; and in around 90 countries women spent roughly three times as many hours in unpaid domestic and care work as men between 2000 and 2016.

Domestically, the World Economic Forum placed the UK as the 15th most gender-equal country of the 149 assessed in 2018. Data produced by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) found that the gender pay gap in the UK fell to 8.6% among full time employees in 2018. However, the gap among all employees was higher (17.9%), which the ONS attributed to the number of women working in part-time jobs, with these often lower paid. In addition, in 2018, the number of women in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) occupations in the UK grew by 44,040 women compared to 2017. However, a larger increase in the number of men joining the sector meant that the percentage of women in the core STEM workforce decreased from 23% in 2017, to 22% in 2018. The National Audit Office reported that in terms of education, "females are under-represented in most STEM subjects at every stage of the STEM skills pipeline."

Table of Contents

1. Themes
2. Issues
3. UK Anniversaries in 2019
4. Origins and Development of International Women's Day
5. Further Reading

Table of Contents

1. Themes	1
2. Issues	1
2.1 Global Gender Inequality	1
2.2 Economic Participation and Opportunity.....	3
2.3 Education.....	5
2.4 Health.....	6
2.5 Politics and Government.....	8
3. UK Anniversaries in 2019	9
4. Origins and Development of International Women’s Day	10
5. Further Reading	10

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1. Themes

International Women's Day (IWD) takes place on 8 March each year. Each year both the IWD digital hub and the UN adopt an annual theme. In 2019, the IWD hub announced the '#BalanceforBetter' hashtag¹ as its theme to encourage building a gender-balanced world and stress that collective responsibility is essential for economies and communities to thrive:

Balance is not a women's issue, it's a business issue. The race is on for the gender-balanced boardroom, a gender-balanced government, gender-balanced media coverage, a gender-balance of employees, more gender-balance in wealth, gender-balanced sports coverage [...]²

'Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change' is the UN's theme for 2019.³ It focuses on innovative ways to advance gender equality and the empowerment of women, particularly in the areas of: social protection systems; access to public services; and sustainable infrastructure. The theme also stresses that while innovation and technology "provide unprecedented opportunities", trends indicate a growing gender digital divide where women are under-represented in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and design.

2. Issues

2.1 Global Gender Inequality

The World Economic Forum's (WEF) annual *Global Gender Gap Report* benchmarks 149 countries on their progress towards gender parity.⁴ In 2018, it found that globally, the average (population weighted) distance completed to parity is 68%: a "marginal" improvement over the previous year. All eight regions covered in the report were found to have achieved at least 60% gender parity, with two progressing above 70%: Europe (75.8%) and North America (72.5%). The report also broke the benchmarking down across four themes. Of these themes, the largest gender disparity was in political empowerment (a gap of 77.1%), followed by: economic participation and opportunity (41.9%); health and survival (4.6%); and educational attainment (4.4%).

Looking to the future, the report predicted that the overall global gender gap will close in 108 years across the 106 countries covered since the first

¹ [Oxford English Dictionary](#) definition of 'hashtag': word or phrase preceded by a hash sign (#), used on social media websites and applications, especially Twitter, to identify messages on a specific topic.

² International Women's Day, '[International Women's Day 2019 Campaign Theme: #BalanceforBetter](#)', accessed 29 January 2019.

³ UN Women, '[International Women's Day 2019: Think Equal, Build Smart, Innovate for Change](#)', 16 October 2018.

⁴ World Economic Forum, '[The Global Gender Gap Report 2018](#)', 17 December 2018, p vii–viii.

edition of the report in 2006 (the current report covers 149 countries).⁵ However, the areas of economic participation and political empowerment will take the longest to close: 202 and 107 years respectively. In contrast, it stated that the education-specific gender gap is on track to reach parity within the next 14 years, while the health gender gap—although slightly larger than it stood in 2006—is nearly closed globally, with it already fully closed in a third of the countries assessed. The report estimated that western Europe will take the least amount of time (61 years) to close the gap, compared to East Asia and the Pacific which would take the longest (171 years). However, the authors stressed that policy-makers and other stakeholders can “fast-forward” this process. The UK was the 15th most gender-equal country of the 149 countries assessed.⁶ In 2018 it was placed: 38th in terms of educational attainment; 52nd in economic participation and opportunity; 110th for health and survival; and 11th for political empowerment.

The UN's Human Development Programme (UNDP) also produces an annual report providing data on gender inequality. The Human Development Report examines the state of human development around the world and contains the human development index (HDI) measure, which focuses on three aspects of human development, the ability to lead a long and healthy life, acquire knowledge and achieve a decent standard of living.⁷ The 2018 statistical update reported that “the disadvantages facing women and girls are a major source of inequality and one of the greatest barriers to human development progress”. It found that the average HDI value for women was 5.9% lower than it was for men, stating that the difference was mainly due to women's lower income and educational attainment in many countries. This gender gap was widest in South Asia (16.3%) and the Arab states (14.5%). The report also stated that while gender gaps appeared to be closing in early formative years—due to enrolment in primary and secondary education—the gender gap in adulthood remained high. Even though women on average live longer, more men receive a pension, reflecting “deficient social security schemes” and insufficient non-contributory pension benefits for women who do primarily unpaid care work. The UNDP Gender Inequality Index placed the UK as 25th out of 189 countries in 2017.⁸

The UN also tracks gender inequality through goal five of the UN sustainable development goals (SDGs): “achieve gender equality and empower all

⁵ World Economic Forum, [The Global Gender Gap Report 2018](#), 17 December 2018, p viii.

⁶ *ibid*, p 10.

⁷ United Nations Development Programme, [Human Development Indices and Indicators: 2018 Statistical Update](#), 2018, p 1–7.

⁸ United Nations Development Programme, ‘[Table 5: Gender Inequality Index](#)’, accessed 1 February 2019.

women and girls".⁹ Reporting on the progress made towards the goal in 2018, the UN stated:

While some forms of discrimination against women and girls are diminishing, gender inequality continues to hold women back and deprives them of basic rights and opportunities. Empowering women requires addressing structural issues such as unfair social norms and attitudes as well as developing progressive legal frameworks that promote equality between women and men.¹⁰

Based on data from between 2005 and 2016 across 56 countries, the UN reported 20% of girls aged 15 to 19 who have been in a sexual relationship experienced physical and/or sexual violence by an intimate partner in the twelve months prior to the survey.¹¹ It also found that, in 2017, an estimated 21% of women between 20 and 24 years of age were married or in informal union before they were 18 years old. However, rates are declining: in Southern Asia, a girl's risk of marrying in childhood had dropped by over 40% since 2000. In 2017, 1 in 3 girls aged 15 to 19 had been subjected to female genital mutilation in the 30 countries where it is most concentrated. This had improved from a rate of nearly 1 in 2 in 2000. The UN also found that in around 90 countries, between 2000 and 2016 women spent roughly three times as many hours in unpaid domestic and care work as men.

2.2 Economic Participation and Opportunity

The WEF's 2018 study found that "the world still has a long way to go" in relation to parity of political and economic leadership.¹² Women were found to hold 34% of managerial positions (in countries where data was available), with this figure decreasing to less than 7% in the four worst performing countries (Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Yemen and Pakistan). However, it also reported some "bright spots", for example full parity in managerial positions has already been achieved in five countries (Bahamas, Colombia, Jamaica, Lao PDR and Philippines). In terms of broader economic power, the report stated that "gaps in control of financial assets and in time spent on unpaid tasks continue to preserve economic disparities between men and women". Women have as much access to financial services as men in 60% of the countries assessed and to land ownership in 42%. Comparing the findings to previous years, it reported that the economic opportunity gap had slightly reduced this year, "although progress has been slow". It stated this was especially the case for participation of women in the labour market. Although the study found that "average progress on gender parity in

⁹ United Nations, [The Sustainable Development Goals Report 2018](#), 2018, p 6.

¹⁰ *ibid.*

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² World Economic Forum, [The Global Gender Gap Report 2018](#), 17 December 2018, p vii.

education is relatively more advanced than in other aspects”, it also reported that there are 44 countries where over 20% of women are illiterate.

In the UK, each year the Office for National Statistics (ONS) uses data from the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings to analyse the size of the gender gap in the UK. In 2018, it found that the gender pay gap fell to 8.6% among full-time employees.¹³ However, the gap among all employees was higher (17.9%), which the ONS attributed to the number of women working in part-time jobs, which are often lower paid. An annual analysis of the gender pay gap is produced by the consultancy firm PwC. In April 2018, it reported that the UK's mean gender hourly pay gap stood at 12.2%, a 1.5% decrease from 2017.¹⁴ This figure reduced to 2.1% when adjusted for the fact that there are more men in senior higher paid roles. However, it found that the mean gender bonus gap, had increased to 37.8%, a 0.3% rise from 2017.

In addition, four in ten private companies that had published their latest gender pay gap were reporting wider gaps than they did last year.¹⁵ Focusing on the companies median pay gap—the difference in pay between the middle-ranking woman and the middle-ranking man—the BBC reported that around 10% of employers had reported their latest figures (the deadline to do so for the private sector is 4 April). The BBC's analysis found that of those 1,146 companies the median gender pay gap was reported at 8.4%, a “slight improvement” from 9.7% last year. It also identified several companies whose gender pay gap had grown. For example, at energy supplier Npower, the gap increased from 13% since it last reported to 18% this year.

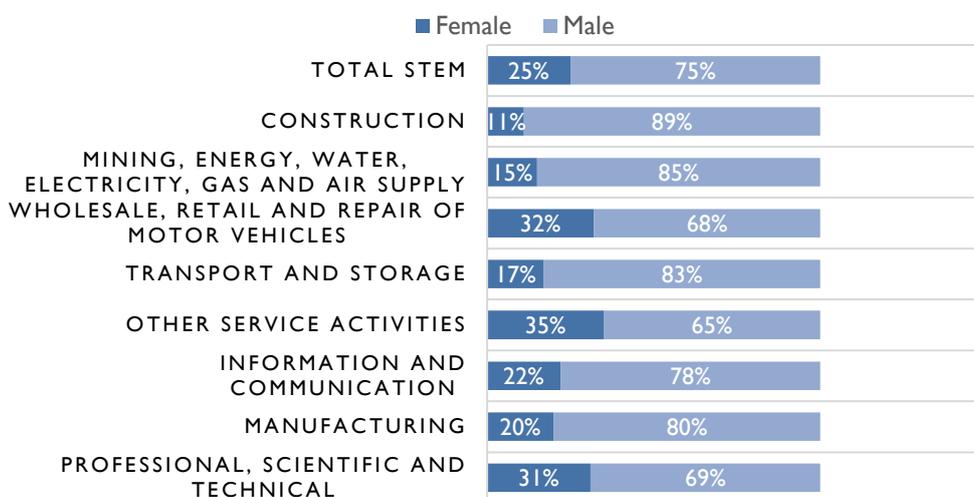
Focusing on the number of women in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) occupations in the UK, the organisation WISE publishes annual workforce statistics. In 2018, it reported that over 900,000 women were employed in a variety of STEM occupations, an additional 44,040 since 2017.¹⁶ However, with just under 200,000 men entering STEM occupations, the percentage of women in the core STEM workforce decreased from 23% in 2017, to 22% in 2018.

¹³ Office for National Statistics, [Gender Pay Gap in the UK: 2018](#), 25 October 2018.

¹⁴ PricewaterhouseCoopers, [Diversity Pay Report 2018](#), September 2018, p 3.

¹⁵ Eleanor Lawrie and Clara Guibourg, [Gender Pay Gap Grows at Hundreds of Big Firms](#), BBC News, 20 February 2019.

¹⁶ WISE, [2018 Workforce Statistics](#), accessed 4 February 2019.

Figure One: Female Employment by STEM Industry 2018 (10 June 2018)¹⁷

Note: organisations are grouped by the 2007 United Kingdom Standard Industrial Classification of Economic Activities (UKSIC) code.

An analysis of labour markets in 2018 by the World Economic Forum focused specifically on the gender gap in artificial intelligence (AI).¹⁸ It found that, globally, 22% of AI professionals were female, compared to 78% who were male. This produced a gender gap of 72%; the WEF stated this remained constant and “does not at present indicate a positive future trend”. The study ranked the UK 10th globally for its AI talent pool, with 20% female.

These findings prompted several concerns for the WEF.¹⁹ First, that the AI skills gender gaps may exacerbate gender gaps in economic participation and opportunity, as AI represents an increasingly in-demand skillset. Second, the AI skills gender gap implied that general-purpose technology across various fields was being developed without diverse talent, thereby limiting its innovative and inclusive capacity. Third, low integration of women into AI talent pools represented a missed opportunity in a sector where there is an insufficient supply of adequately qualified labour.

2.3 Education

Continuing the focus on women in STEM fields, the National Audit Office (NAO) has reported that “females are under-represented in most STEM subjects at every stage of the STEM skills pipeline”.²⁰ It found that in 2016/17, females made up 42% of all STEM A-Level entries. However, this figure is not consistent across the different STEM subjects, with females

¹⁷ WISE, ‘[2018 Workforce Statistics](#)’, accessed 4 February 2019.

¹⁸ World Economic Forum, [The Global Gender Gap Report 2018](#), 17 December 2018, p viii.

¹⁹ *ibid.*

²⁰ National Audit Office, [Delivering STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\) Skills for the Economy](#), 17 January 2018, HC 716 of session 2017–19, pp 8 and 26.

representing: 9.4% of entries in computing; 21.1% in physics; 39% in mathematics; and 61.8% in biology. In addition, females made up only 8% of STEM apprenticeship starts, despite representing more than 50% of apprenticeship starts overall.

Regarding undergraduate study of STEM subjects, females were again found to be underrepresented, accounting for 38% of enrolments on STEM courses, despite making up more than 50% of all enrolments.²¹ However, statistics published by Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA) reported that women made up 57% of all higher education enrolments and 52% of enrolments in science subjects in 2016/17.²² It found that the number of women studying science varied by subject, for example, women made up 77% of veterinary science and 63% of biological science students, but only 18% of engineering and technology and 17% of computer science students.

The UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) found that in 2015, 28.8% of the world's researchers were women (this figure includes both full-time and part-time staff).²³ Regionally, Central Asia had the highest number of female researchers (48.1%), while South and West Asia had the least (18.5%). It also reported that "numerous studies have found that women in STEM fields publish less, are paid less for their research and do not progress as far as men in their careers".²⁴ However, the UIS argued that more data, including qualitative research, was needed to fully understand the issues

2.4 Health

The World Economic Forum's 'health and survival' sub-index was found to have a global gender gap of 4% on average.²⁵ Although no country has yet achieved full parity, 74 countries have already closed 98% of their gap and all 149 countries have closed at least 90% of the gap. In all but three countries—Kuwait, Bhutan and Bahrain—women live longer. In addition, gender parity on sex ratio at birth is advanced, with the share of girls at the natural birth level in 113 countries. However, in four countries—India, Azerbaijan, Armenia and China—the ratio is below the level expected, highlighting the issue of 'missing women'. For example, in India, the Government found 63 million women were 'missing' statistically, with the skewed ratio of men to women a result of sex-selective abortions and better nutrition and medical care for boys.²⁶

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has also highlighted health issues

²¹ National Audit Office, [Delivering STEM \(Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics\) Skills for the Economy](#), 17 January 2018, HC 716 of session 2017–19, p 8.

²² Higher Education Statistics Agency, ['What Do HE Students Study?'](#), accessed 12 February 2019.

²³ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, [Women in Science: Fact Sheet No 51](#), June 2018.

²⁴ UNESCO Institute for Statistics, ['Women in Science'](#), accessed 20 February 2019.

²⁵ World Economic Forum, [The Global Gender Gap Report 2018](#), 17 December 2018, p 12.

²⁶ *Guardian*, ['More Than 63 million Women 'Missing' in India, Statistics Show'](#), 30 January 2018.

relating to women's reproductive rights, with research showing that approximately 830 women die every day from preventable causes related to pregnancy and childbirth, with 99% of deaths occurring in developing countries.²⁷ However, between 1990 and 2015, the maternal mortality rate dropped worldwide by 44%. Goal three of the SDGs aims to tackle the issue further by reducing the rate to less than 70 per 100,000 births. In addition, it aims to have no country with a rate of more than twice the global average. To continue to improve this rate, the WHO has called for the presence of skilled health workers during childbirth.²⁸ It has also argued that this largely female workforce be allowed to participate in leadership and decision making, access formal employment, make a fair wage, and work in a place free from violence.

New research conducted by the UN has also shown that almost 6 in 10 women intentionally killed are murdered by an intimate partner or family member.²⁹ This equates to 137 women killed every day. These statistics, in addition to the finding that 1 in 3 women worldwide have experienced either physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence or non-partner sexual violence in their lifetime, has led the WHO to state that violence against women was a major public health problem. The UN has argued that "women need access to a comprehensive range of services provided by the police and justice system, health and social services, which need to be coordinated to be effective".³⁰

In 2016, the UK Government published an updated violence against women and girls strategy. The approach is based on four pillars—prevention, provision of services, partnership working and pursuing perpetrators—which were originally in its 2010 strategy.³¹ Discussing the aims of the strategy, the Government stated:

We are clear about the overall outcomes we want to achieve by 2020—a reduction in the prevalence of all forms of violence against women and girls, matched by increases in reporting, police referrals, prosecution and convictions for what can still be hidden crimes. We want to see earlier intervention and prevention so that fewer women reach crisis point and every victim gets the support she needs—and the support her children need—at the right time. Through our plans to bring all services up to the level of the best, we will ensure that women get the support they need to ensure long-term changes to their lives and the lives of their children.³²

²⁷ World Health Organisation, '[Maternal Mortality](#)', 16 February 2018.

²⁸ World Health Organisation, '[International Women's Day Statement by WHO Director-General Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus](#)', 7 March 2018.

²⁹ World Economic Forum, '[Why Home is the Least Safe Place to be a Woman](#)', 27 November 2018.

³⁰ *ibid.*

³¹ HM Government, '[Ending Violence Against Women and Girls: Strategy 2016–2020](#)', March 2016, p 8.

³² *ibid.*, p 9.

In addition, following a consultation, the Government recently published a new draft domestic abuse bill, its purpose being to:

Raise awareness and understanding of domestic abuse and its impact on victims, to further improve the effectiveness of the justice system in providing protection for victims of domestic abuse and bringing perpetrators to justice, and to strengthen the support for victims of abuse provided by other statutory agencies.³³

Dr Hannah Bows, assistant professor in criminal law at Durham University, has argued that the bill “has a number of strengths”, such as the inclusion of a statutory definition of domestic abuse.³⁴ However, she also noted that the bill has faced criticism for not going far enough. For example, the additional conditions available for perpetrators released on licence are limited to those serving sentences of at least twelve months. In addition, Dr Bows stated that the whilst the bill proposed to improve frontline provision for victims, there were concerns about the money available to support survivors of violence and domestic abuse in light of “significant cuts” in funding since the economic crash. As a result, she argued that if “adequate” funding and resources are not provided, “many of the grand ambitions of the bill will not be realised”. The Joint Committee on Human Rights is currently scrutinising the bill.³⁵

The draft bill would also make amendments allowing the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence—also known as the Istanbul Convention—to be ratified. The Government has previously received criticism on this issue, as although it signed the Convention in 2012, it has yet to ratify it, with necessary amendments needed to domestic law cited as the reason for the delay.³⁶

2.5 Politics and Government

The UN has stated that, at both the local and global level, women's leadership and political participation are restricted.³⁷ It also found that women are underrepresented as voters, as well as in leadership positions, with structural barriers acting as obstacles to their participation. These barriers include: discriminatory laws and institutions; lack of contacts and resources; lower levels of education; gender stereotypes; and the disproportionate effect of poverty on women. The importance of women's participation in government and politics has been highlighted by research

³³ HM Government, [Transforming the Response to Domestic Abuse: Consultation Response and Draft Bill](#), 21 January 2019, CPI5, p 3.

³⁴ Hannah Bows, [‘The New Domestic Violence Laws Sound Good But They Could Be Utterly Useless—Here's Why’](#), *Independent*, 21 January 2019.

³⁵ UK Parliament, [‘Legislative Scrutiny: Draft Domestic Abuse Bill’](#), accessed 20 February 2019.

³⁶ Hannah Bows, [‘The New Domestic Violence Laws Sound Good But They Could Be Utterly Useless—Here's Why’](#), *Independent*, 21 January 2019.

³⁷ UN Women, [‘Women's Leadership and Political Participation’](#), accessed 12 February 2019.

from the US, which argued that women spend more time and effort communicating with their constituents, deliver more government spending to the areas they represent, and more closely represent their constituents' interests and needs when participating in the legislative process.³⁸ They are also likely to increase the amount of time spent on 'women's issues', such as education, sexual harassment and family leave.

In 2018, political empowerment was where the gender gap remained the widest globally, with no country having fully closed the gap.³⁹ Even the best performer in the rankings, Iceland, still had a gap of 33%, which had widened significantly over the past year. Regarding heads of state and government, only 17 of 149 countries had a woman in this position—including Romania, which elected a female prime minister in 2018—meaning the global gender gap in terms of head of state had only closed by 19%. The figures for ministerial positions were slightly higher, with an average 18% of ministerial positions and 24% of parliamentary seats globally held by women.⁴⁰ However, in six countries, there were no women in ministerial positions. Looking at overall trends, it was found that after significant improvements over the last decade, the trend had reversed in 2018, with progress stalling in Western parliaments.⁴¹ In the UK, 208 women MPs were elected to the House of Commons in the 2017 general election, a record high of 32%.⁴² In addition, as of January 2018, there were 206 female peers, 26% of the total membership of the House of Lords.

3. UK Anniversaries in 2019

In the UK, 2019 marks the centenary of the Sex Disqualification (Removal) Act 1919. The Act enabled women to become barristers, solicitors, jurors and magistrates, as well as to enter professions such as accountancy and the higher ranks of the civil service.⁴³ It also allowed women to be admitted to incorporated professional societies and enabled universities to admit women. However, Dr Mari Takayanagi notes that the Act has since been criticised by some for failing to end the marriage bar: the practice of requiring women to leave paid employment on getting married in certain professions. Women were also still unable to join certain parts of the civil service and could be excluded from juries by judges. In addition, during the bill's progress, the House of Lords removed the clause which would have enabled women to sit in the House, delaying the change until 1958.⁴⁴ Despite this, Dr Takayanagi has argued that it was an achievement in its time and "a

³⁸ Jeffrey Lazarus and Amy Steigerwalt, '[Why You Should Vote for a Woman in 2018](#)', The Conversation, 2 March 2018.

³⁹ World Economic Forum, '[The Global Gender Gap Report 2018](#)', 17 December 2018, p 8.

⁴⁰ *ibid*, p vii.

⁴¹ *ibid*, p 15.

⁴² House of Commons, '[Women in Parliament and Government](#)', 20 July 2018, p 3.

⁴³ Dr Mari Takayanagi, '[The Sex Disqualification \(Removal\) Act 1919](#)', First Hundred Years, 10 September 2015.

⁴⁴ Women were enabled to sit in the House of Lords by the Life Peerages Act 1958.

big step forward in many ways". This year is also the centenary of Nancy Astor (Viscountess Astor) becoming the first woman to take her seat in the House of Commons following the passing of the Parliament (Qualification of Women) Act in 1918.⁴⁵

4. Origins and Development of International Women's Day

International Women's Day emerged from the activities of labour movements at the turn of the 20th century in North America and Europe. It was marked for the first time in 1911 in Austria, Denmark, Germany and Switzerland.⁴⁶ Several years later, on the eve of the first world war in 1913, Russian women campaigning for peace observed their first IWD on the last Sunday in February. The decision was then made to mark the day on 8 March the next year, a tradition which has remained since.⁴⁷ The United Nations began to celebrate IWD in 1975, during International Women's Year. More recently, in 2001, the IWD digital hub was created to "re-energise the day", provide a platform to celebrate the successes of women and continue calls for gender parity.⁴⁸ Today, IWD is celebrated in many countries worldwide and aims to recognise women's achievements, regardless of national, ethnic, linguistic, cultural, economic and political differences.⁴⁹ According to the UN, it also serves as a "rallying point to build support for women's rights and participation in political and economic arenas".

5. Further Reading

- House of Lords Library, [International Day of Women and Girls in Science: 11 February 2019](#), 8 February 2019
- House of Commons Library, [Women in Parliament and Government](#), 20 July 2018
- Sophie Ridge, [The Women Who Shaped Politics: Empowering Stories of Women Who Have Shifted the Political Landscape](#), 2018
- Angela Saini, [Inferior: How Science Got Women Wrong](#), 2017
- Kate Grosser et al, [Gender Equality and Responsible Business: Expanding CSR Horizons](#), 2016

⁴⁵ UK Parliament, '[Nancy Astor—First Women to Sit in the Commons](#)', 30 November 2015.

⁴⁶ United Nations, '[International Women's Day 8 March: History of the Day](#)', accessed 30 January 2019.

⁴⁷ International Women's Day, '[About International Women's Day](#)', accessed 30 January 2019.

⁴⁸ *ibid.*

⁴⁹ United Nations, '[International Women's Day 8 March: History of the Day](#)', accessed 30 January 2019.