

WOMEN AT POWER

ELIZABETH II Queen of the UK

In 2012 she will celebrate its 60 anniversary as queen. During 11 years she cohabited with the *premier* Margaret Thatcher.

MARGARETH II Queen of Denmark

She succeeded its father, Frederic IX, in January 1972. She is quite popular among Danish.

BEATRIX Queen of the Netherlands

This year she celebrated 20 years as queen after succeeding Queen Juliana. She has no executive power but strongly participates in state matters.

MARY McALEESE Ireland's President

She represents the most long-lived mandate of an elected woman. She succeeded Mary Robinson and defeated other 5 women candidates in its first elections

TARJA HALONEN Finland's President

She started its career in 1979 and before she became President worked in different ministries.

DALIA GRYBAUSKAITE Lithuania's President

She has been a key piece for Lithuania's integration into the EU and gained a very good reputation in Brussels. When she came back she won with 69% of the votes.

DORIS LEUTHARD Switzerland's Pres.

She is the living example for meritocracy and she currently presides the Helvetian Confederation. The presidency rotates every year.

PRATIBHA PATIL India's President

She has been Vice-president in the sixties, ministry in the seventies, head of the political opposition until 1980 and governor of Rajasthan until 2007 when she was elected.

ROZA OTUNBAYEVA Kirghizstan's President

After the civil confrontations of 2009 she will hold this office until the end of 2011

E. JOHNSON-SIRLEAF Liberian's President

Right now she is the only African woman president. This woman, with an excellent curriculum, has been elected 5 years ago

LAURA CHINCHILLA Costa Rica's President

She is the fifth Latin-American woman president and the first one in her country. She has a conservative ideology and won elections with almost 50% of the votes.

CRISTINA FERNÁNDEZ Argentina's President

When her husband was at power people said she was the real power in the shade. Just widowed, she symbolizes the resistance.

JADRANKA KOSOR P. Min. of Croatia

She lost the presidential elections in 2005 but after the sudden resignation of her predecessor she became primer minister in 2009.

HASINA WAJED P. Min. of Bangladesh

Hasina Wajed and Jaleda Zia have been alternating at power since 1991. The result has been a strong improvement of life conditions

J. SIGURDARDOTTIR Prime Minister of Island

She is chief of the Island's executive since 1978.

MARI KIVINIEMI P. Min. of Finland

With her 42 years she is the youngest leader of the list. With 23 she already was deputy and with 35 she achieved a ministerial position.

IVETA RADICOVA P. Min. of Slovakia

After the civil confrontations of 2009 she will hold this office until the end of 2011

JULIA GILLARD P. Min. of Australia

This member of the Labour Party won elections by a narrow margin and had to negotiate to get sworn in.

KAMLA PERSAD P. Min. of Trinidad

She is the first *premier* of this country and has been elected in 2010. She has captured several women for decision-making positions in government.

ANGELA MERKEL Germany's Chancellor

She is the first woman who leads the German state and she is at power since 2005.