



50|50 BY 2030
FOUNDATION

The BroadAgenda: NewsBrief

Welcome to the BroadAgenda NewsBrief - a weekly, curated snapshot of news and views around gender equality, with a keen eye on issues such as leadership, diversity, governance, economic empowerment and the political participation of women. It's a handy tool to help you keep across the latest media chat from Australia and around the globe, as well as an update on our latest blogs. Enjoy!

*Feel free to send us links to any stories you think we should include in NewsBrief
BroadAgenda@canberra.edu.au*

This week's radar ...

March Week 2

Is it time to declare March International Women's *Month*? The spread of IWD inspired stories around Australia and across the globe indicate we're on a roll, with some good news finally creeping in (see the latest IPU report). But the IWD media still serves as a stark reminder that no nation is even close to serious and sustainable gender equality.

The big news in Australia has been the resignation announcement of federal Shadow Minister Kate Ellis, who wants more time to be a 'mum'. Unsurprisingly, it's reopened a pandor's box of panic around women and political participation – can mother's really hack it in parliament? John Warhurst floated MP's job-sharing... and we'll have more on that on BroadAgenda in coming weeks.

This week on BroadAgenda

We're only 2 weeks old, and flying forward. More blogging on women in politics, and how what 'she' does is judged on a different scale to what 'he' does. We take a tough look at 'elite' feminism and what happens when personal progress masquerades as 'women's empowerment'... and we drop in to the Pacific Feminist Forum.

Happy reading!

In the news ...

Australia

Julia Gillard's tips for aspiring women leaders

20/03/2017 *The Mandarin*

- Insight from the former Prime Minister on what matters most when sharpening your leader's toolkit
- "Its vital to hone your own sense of purpose, what's driving you..."

Julia Gillard: call out the double standard for women leaders

19/03/2017 *The Mandarin*

- a sobering and frank assessment by the former Prime Minister of the inequities in perception and standard that wedge women in politics
- The "ugly ravings", "pornographic cartoons" and "vile words on social media", were "mainstreamed" according to Gillard

Kate Ellis, Labor frontbencher, to quit politics at next federal election

8/03/2017 *ABC News*

- Kate Ellis, a 13 year veteran of federal Parliament, announces her intention to retire at the next election, citing her need to spend more time with her young son who will soon start school

Can we change Parliamentary work to better suite MP's like Kate Ellis?

15/03/2017 *The Canberra Times*

- ANU Political Science Prof John Warhurst tackles the controversy around Shadow Minister Kate Ellis's decision to step down from politics
- The demands of parliament's sitting schedule in Canberra were key to Ellis's decision; "He'll need to be in Adelaide. And I will need to be in Canberra if I'm the member for Adelaide, and that's a really big problem for me and our family."
- Commentary around what needs to change, 'people' or 'politics'
- Warhurst floats the idea of 'job-sharing' for MP's – an idea gaining currency in the UK

Ipsos poll: One in five Australians think men are 'more capable' than women

07/03/2017, *Sydney Morning Herald*

- An IPSOS poll found 21% of Australians agreed that "men are more capable of doing things in society such as working, earning money, being educated and teaching than women"
- While that view is shared by 1 in 5 Australians, it's less than the international average of 25% or 1 in 4 people.
- According to the poll, released on the eve of International Women's Day, 8 in 10 women believe gender inequality exists in their country.

[Gender equality far from reality in Aust](#)

08/03/2017, *News.com.au*

- Australian Sex Discrimination Commissioner Kate Jenkins has uncovered widespread evidence of everyday sexism based on interviews with 1000 Australians
- Jenkins findings are detailed in the Australian Human Rights Commission's latest [report: A Conversation About Gender Equality](#)
- "Although there has been some progress in some areas, overwhelmingly I heard gender equality has not been achieved," she said

[Fewer women run top Australian companies than men named John — or Peter, or David](#)

08/03/2017, *ABC News*

- Consultant Conrad Liveris has gathered data on CEOs and Chairs at Australia's largest 200 companies for the third year running
- "Straight, white, able-bodied men aged 40-69 years, which represents the majority of Australian leadership, are 8.4 per cent of the population," he said
- Currently there are only nine female CEOs and 10 women chairing boards in the ASX 200 [Global](#)

[Racial inequality is 'factor in shaping gender pay gap', research finds](#)

06/03/2017, *The Independent UK*

- Black women in the UK have seen no progress on their pay gap since the 1990's, while white women have seen significant progress.
- "Black African women have been largely left behind, and in terms of closing the pay gap, Pakistani and Bangladeshi women are today only where white British women were in the 1990s."

[Women can't educate their way out of the gender wage gap](#)

06/03/2017, *Economic Policy Institute (USA)*

- In an economic snapshot released by the Economic Policy Institute women's pay was found to lag behind men's at every level of education
- Women who hold advanced degrees are often paid less than men with only a Bachelors degree

[Violence is Biggest Challenge Facing Women, Says Top Women's Rights Advocate](#)

06/03/2017, *VOA News (USA)*

- Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, says that no nation can currently call itself gender equal
- Mlambo-Ngcuka described the global gender pay gap of 24 percent as "the biggest robber" of women
- "Obviously, class and geography help some women to survive this issue differently, but everywhere in the world the big issue of violence against women is a reality, whether you are rich or poor, in a developed or developing country," she said.

[Why 2016 Was Actually a Record-Setting Year for Women in Politics](#)

08/03/2017, *Fortune*

- In the latest Inter-Parliamentary Union report we're shown that despite recent events, it's not all bad news.
- Worldwide, the average share of women in parliament rose from 22.6% in 2015 to 23.3%
- Individual countries have also had success, Ireland saw its share of women rise from 15.1% to 22.2%; Morocco doubled its share of seats held by women from 10.3% in 2007 to 20.5%

[International Women's Day: In world first, Iceland to require firms to prove equal pay](#)

09/03/2017, ABC News

- Iceland is set to become the first country world wide to make employers prove that they offer equal pay, regardless of gender, ethnicity, sexuality or nationality.
- All employers with more than 25 staff members will be required to obtain certification proving they offer equal pay for work of the same value
- Iceland is making this certification compulsory for both public and private firms

Dispatches from ...

[After rape, pregnancy, Senegal's 'pink house' helps women rebuild lives](#)

09/03/2017, Reuters

- An old court building, with its walls painted bright pink, has become a refuge in Senegal to support women who have fled abuse, rape and forced marriage
- While Senegal has a high proportion of women in parliament, critical issues such as domestic violence and strict abortion laws remain key factors to female disadvantage
- Most women who visit the pink house come to see out unexpected pregnancies and give birth

[Gender inequality in India leaving women standing alone](#)

11/03/2017, ABC News

- Khali Baoli is the largest wholesale spice market in Asia, with vendors numbering in the thousands. According to locals, only a handful of stalls are run by women
- Pri Fernando, chief executive of International Needs Australia, an organisation that provides support to women and children in third world countries, says India's largely patriarchal society is ingrained in their culture and values
- *"The girls and boys are raised differently, socialised differently,"* she said

Footnote fodder ...

[50 Women Who Made American Political History](#)

09/03/2017, Time

- In honour of both Women's History Month and IWD, Time Magazine reflects on 50 influential women who have helped define and shape American civil life

[People are disgusted by man defiling 'Fearless Girl' statue on Wall Street](#)

13/03/2017, Kansas City Star

- A photo of a man performing a simulated sex act on the new "Fearless Girl" statue on Wall Street has gone viral with disgust

- The statue, facing the famous Wall Street Bull was installed on the eve of IWD as a symbol calling for gender equality in the workplace