
**BACKGROUND ON TUNISIA’S NATIONAL DIALOGUE (2013-2015)**

In early 2015 public protests against the Tunisian Government erupted in the south and central regions of the country and spread rapidly to the coastal regions and central Tunes. In what became the first movement of its kind in the region, protesters called for an end to corruption, and inequality and in opposition to President Ben Ali’s Government. The Government collapsed after a month of protests in January 2011.

After a series of interim governments, a constitutional drafting process was set up in mid-2011 and elections held at the end of 2011. However, by the time the new constitution was drafted, the drafting process destabilised, and public support at a level that seemed more (15%). On the other hand, the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet, the so-called “Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet”, instigated and successfully mediated a high level of civil-based dialogue process to open talks and set the path for the drafting of a new constitution and paved the way for democratic elections in late 2014.

**WOMEN’S INCLUSION IN THE PROCESS**

**Mass action**
- 1 million cohabitation at 100
- 1 million on National Women’s Day in 2011

**Consultations**
- 100,000 consultations with National Consultative Assembly

**Influential voice of gender and women’s rights in constitution**
- Provisions for women's rights and gender equality in draft constitution

**Direct Representation**
- 2/3 women voting delegates
- 1 woman mediator of the 4 mediators

**Inclusive Commissions**
- Constitutional Committee set up to overcome ideological and constitutional drafting process
- 2/3 of the Comm. committee were women

**WOMEN’S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE PROCESS**

- Women’s mass actions, including a march on National Women’s Day in August 2011, influenced how gender was addressed in Tunisia’s new constitution, including gender parity, gender sensitive language with respect to work and political rights.
- Women’s mass action also played a role in denouncing controversial Article 28 from the initial draft. This Article referred to women as ‘complementary’ to men.
- One of the mediators in the National Dialogue Quartet was a woman, Oudjda Bouchnakchi.
- 8 out of 22 members of the National Constituent Assembly’s women members were and they played an important role in working out technical details and drafting language of the constitution, including in relation to the treatment of gender and women’s rights.

**FACTORS ENABLING WOMEN’S INFLUENCE**
- Social networks, communication, and advocacy strategies
- Despite attempts, lack of effective coalition building
- Heterogeneity of women’s identities
- Elites resistance

**FACTORS CONSTRAINTING WOMEN’S INFLUENCE**
- Lack of support of conflict parties and mediators
- Affiliates and minorities regarding social gender roles

This infographic is based on a case study published by the Inclusive Peace & Transition Initiative (IPTI) as part of the series “Women in Peace and Transition Processes” that analyzes the conditions under which women participated in and influenced peace, political reform, and constitution-making processes worldwide. To discover other case studies and our case study series, visit our website: www.inclusivepeace.org

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**REFERENCES**

- ** depicted as a red circle with a slash through it.