



CIM and the OAS School of Government to train women electoral candidates in Ecuador

The training will take place from November 16 to December 4, 2020 and will be attended by women from all over the country.

November 16, 2020 - The [Inter-American Commission of Women](#) (CIM/OAS) and the [School of Government](#) (SoG/OAS) of the Organization of American States (OAS), with the support of the [National Electoral Council of Ecuador](#) (CNE), are offering the tenth edition of the Course for Women Electoral Candidates aimed at women who will compete for the positions of presidential candidates, national assemblywomen and Andean parliamentarians in the upcoming elections of February 7, 2021. This is the first High Level Course in the region that offers practical tools on political rights and strengthens women's abilities to reach and remain in positions of power and decision-making, free from violence and discrimination.

"Based on the conviction that women transform politics and that without women democracy is incomplete, from the CIM we offer this Course as a tool that focuses on strengthening women's leadership, delivering practical tools to combat stereotypes and gender attacks, and ensuring that women not only reach power, but remain. Of course, from a gender and human rights approach, and through an international teaching team. Because we know that our political systems must guarantee the exercise of political rights for half of the population, without discrimination or violence," said Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the CIM/OAS.

"Women's political rights have always been an issue of concern for the OAS Member States and for our General Secretariat. That is why the School of Government and the CIM have promoted the Course for Women Electoral Candidates, to provide practical tools with a gender perspective to strengthen women's leadership in the electoral campaign. The OAS slogan of 'more rights for more people' expands into more rights for

more women," said Maria Fernanda Trigo, Director of the Department of Effective Public Management and the OAS School of Government.

Meanwhile, the president of the CNE, Diana Atamaint, highlighted that the institution has achieved important results in favor of women's political leadership. She recalled that "the electoral body promoted in the reforms to the Code of Democracy, the heading of women in 50% of the national lists in all dignities, as well as sanctions for gender political violence. This is the result of a trajectory of struggle for equal opportunities", she assured.

After a successful national call, the 50 women selected will have access to all the tools offered in this course to face a successful electoral campaign: political leadership with a gender perspective, organization of an electoral campaign, political communication and media management, simulation of interviews and electoral debates, and strategies to identify and face violence against women in politics. At the end, participants will have acquired tools, skills, confidence and also new perspectives that will add value to their electoral campaigns.

This edition is named "Tránsito Amaguaña", in honor of the memory of the Cayambe leader who fought for intercultural bilingual education and to recover the dignity of the indigenous movement. She is also considered a pioneer of feminism in the country. In the quest to strengthen democracy in the region and promote a collective commitment on the part of States, political parties and international organizations, the CIM Course for Women Candidates and the School of Government has trained more than 500 participants from 12 countries in the hemisphere.

The [CIM/OAS](#) is the region's principal political forum for the recognition of women's human rights and gender equality. Since its creation in 1928, the CIM has played a predominant and strategic role in the promotion of women's rights in the hemisphere.