

# Stemmerettsjubileet

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Festforedrag med **DR. SHIRIN EBADI**

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## Norwegian centennial anniversary of female vote International perspectives on women's political rights and participation

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Tuesday 11 June 2013, 12:00–15:00

Venue: Student Centre, Parkveien 1, Aud. "The Egg"

When Norway celebrates the centennial anniversary of Norwegian women's right to vote, the University of Bergen wishes to draw attention to the struggle for women's democratic rights and political participation globally. We have invited the Nobel Peace Prize laureate **Dr. Shirin Ebadi** to give a keynote speech on the political participation of women in Islamic countries especially in Iran. The keynote speech will be followed by a panel debate chaired by professor **Siri Gloppen**, with expert commentators from different disciplines, countries and fields of expertise.

### PROGRAM

*Sirenene, the female students choir at the University of Bergen will open the seminar.*

Welcome by Astri Andresen, Head of the Jubilee committee.

Keynote speech by Dr. Shirin Ebadi.

Panel debate with the following participants:

- Idelta Rodrigues, Secretary of State for the Promotion and Equality of East Timor
- Helga Hernes, Senior Adviser at PRIO
- Heikki Eidsvoll Holmås, Minister of International Development
- Drude Dahlerup, Professor em., Stockholm University
- Anne Hellum, Professor, University of Oslo

*There will be a short break between Dr. Ebadi's address and the panel debate.*



UNIVERSITY OF BERGEN



**DR. SHIRIN EBADI** is an Iranian lawyer and human rights activist. She was awarded the Rafto Prize in 2001 and the Nobel Peace Prize in 2003 for her work for democracy and human rights. Dr. Ebadi became one of the first female judges in Iran. She was appointed Chief Magistrate of 26th Divisional Court in Tehran in 1975. In 1979, immediately after the Islamic revolution in Iran, all female judges were dismissed. She was demoted to the post of a magistrate's clerk. In 1992, she set up a private practice handling contentious cases. Dr. Ebadi left Iran shortly before the June 2009 presidential. She did not return to Iran owing to the severe restrictions imposed on human rights activists. She continued her activities in de facto exile. The Iranian government, disapproving of her actions, filed a case against her in the revolutionary court.

**IDELTA MARIA RODRIGUES** has been the Secretary of State for the Promotion and Equality of East Timor since 2007. Before 2007 she was the Gender Program Coordinator for the World Bank Project for vulnerable groups (2003-2004) and Project Assistant for Gender Base Violence for the UNFPA (2003-2007). In 2007 she was the National Program Coordinator and Vice President for Commission E at National Parliament.



**HELGA HERNES** is a senior adviser at Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO) since 2006. From 2006 to 2011 she chaired the Norwegian Parliamentary Intelligence Oversight Committee. From she started her academic career within comparative politics she has devoted her professional life to both research and politics. Hernes has been a diplomat and politician for the Labour Party. She has been Secretary of State for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for two periods (1988-1989 and 1990-1993). Her research has primarily focused on the welfare state, women's studies and armed conflicts.

**HEIKKI EIDSVOLL HOLMÅS** is the Norwegian Minister of International Development in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2012. He is representing the Social Left party. In the Storting he has since 2009 chaired the Standing Committee on Local Government and Public Administration. Other positions in the Storting are as Second Vice Chair, Socialist Left Party Group Steering Committee.



Bernt Hoald, Scampix



**DRUDE DAHLERUP**, Danish citizen, has since 1998 been professor of political science at Stockholm University. Her main research areas are the history of women's movements, women's political representation in the Nordic countries and gender quota systems globally. Dahlerup has also been consultant for UNDP, IPU and UNWomen in Sierra Leone, Cambodia, Kosovo, China, Tunisia and Egypt on the design on gender quota systems.

**ANNE HELLUM** is professor at the Department of Public and International Law at the Faculty of Law at the University of Oslo. She is director of the Institute of Women's Law, Child Law, Discrimination and Equality Law. She is visiting professor at the Southern and Eastern Regional African Center of Women's Law at the University of Zimbabwe. How women's human rights are protected, adopted or resisted at the intersection of international, regional, national and local norms in different parts of the world is one of her main research areas. She has written a number of articles and books on women's human rights and legal pluralism in Africa, Southern Asia and Northern Europe.



**SIRI GLOPPEN** is a political scientist and professor of Comparative Politics at the University of Bergen. She is also a senior researcher at Chr. Michelsen Institute (CMI). With a research focus in the intersection between law and politics her work spans: legal mobilization and the role of courts in social transformation, democratization and institutionalization of accountability structures, constitution-making, election processes, human rights, transitional justice and reconciliation. Main empirical focus is southern and eastern Africa. Gloppen is also a board member of the Rafto Prize Committee.

