

50:50 Parliament at Women's March London "Bread & Roses" Rally

The Fight For Political Equality Is Still On

#WeAreTheChange

19 Jan 2019

[Political turmoil can lead to change!](#) Brexit may be a catalyst not only to rebuild the facades of the buildings at Westminster, but also for us to consider the fabric of our democratic systems and assess their inclusivity and accessibility. Sometimes upheaval leads to renewal. This Saturday, 19 January, [50:50 Parliament](#) will be at the [Women's March](#) "Bread & Roses" Rally calling for women to have equal seats and equal say. Representation shapes policy. 50:50 want women to have an equal say on all policy. Women's experience and opinions count as much as men's and women should play an equal part in running the country and planning the future.

Women have played a minority role in all the key political policy decisions that have led us up to this point, including [Brexit](#) and Austerity. Currently men dominate the corridors of power. We may have a female Prime Minister but men outnumber women 2:1 in the Commons and 3:1 in the Lords. In the 2017 election only 12 extra women gained seats, at this rate it will take over 50 years to have equality of representation. In the last hundred years of the 5000 MPs elected less than 500 have been women.

50:50 are taking action with our **#AskHerToStand** and **#SignUpToStand** programmes to inspire, support and encourage women along the path to Parliament. We are the new girls network! We want our Parliament to draw upon the widest possible pool of talent and experience. Diversity leads to better decisions. Only 116 more women need to be elected to achieve gender balance in the Commons. Having 325 female MPs from a population of 32 million is not a big ask, it would amount to one in every 100,000 women so let's start finding those precious people and support them along the path to Parliament. Join 50:50 - let's build a better democracy together.

Amanda Carpenter, Founding Director of 50:50 speaking at the rally says

"The current political turmoil can lead to change! 50:50 are proud to be with Women's March at this Bread and Roses Rally. Austerity disenfranchises women, it deters political participation and puts barriers in the way of engagement. 50:50 campaign for equal seats and equal say in Parliament to redress the balance ensuring women's voices and experience contribute equally to policy and the law making process."

JOIN 50:50 at www.5050Parliament.co.uk. It costs nothing to join our campaign for change. [#AskHerToStand](#) [#SignUpToStand](#) [#5050Parliament](#)

***About 50:50 Parliament** 50:50 Parliament is a cross party campaign taking action to get more women elected to Westminster. With their [#AskHerToStand](#) and [#SignUpToStand](#) initiatives 50:50 aims to inspire, encourage and support political engagement. The 50:50 petition is a call to action for our Parliament to make gender*

equality of representation a priority. Join 50:50 at www.5050parliament.co.uk; [50:50 Parliament on Facebook](#); [50:50 Parliament on Twitter](#); [50:50 Parliament YouTube](#); sign <http://www.change.org/5050parliament>.

For more information or to set up interviews, please contact:

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