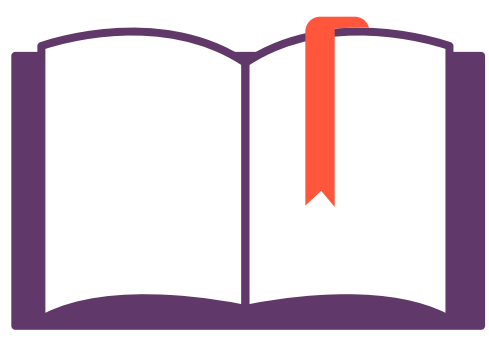


Gender parity, geographical balance and representation of legal systems in the Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights

As requested by the OAS General Assembly, the **Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)** presented in June 2023 a report on the status of gender parity, geographical balance and representation of different legal systems in the **Inter-American Commission and Court of Human Rights** and other bodies related to the Inter-American System

What the CIM report tell us:



GENDER PARITY, GEOGRAPHICAL BALANCE AND REPRESENTATION OF LEGAL SYSTEMS

These criteria respond to foundational values of the OAS; they derive from the principles of **representative democracy, participation, and equality.**



EQUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS

Consolidating gender parity, geographical balance and representation of different legal systems protects **the right to equality and strengthens the legitimacy and impact of the IAHRS's bodies.**

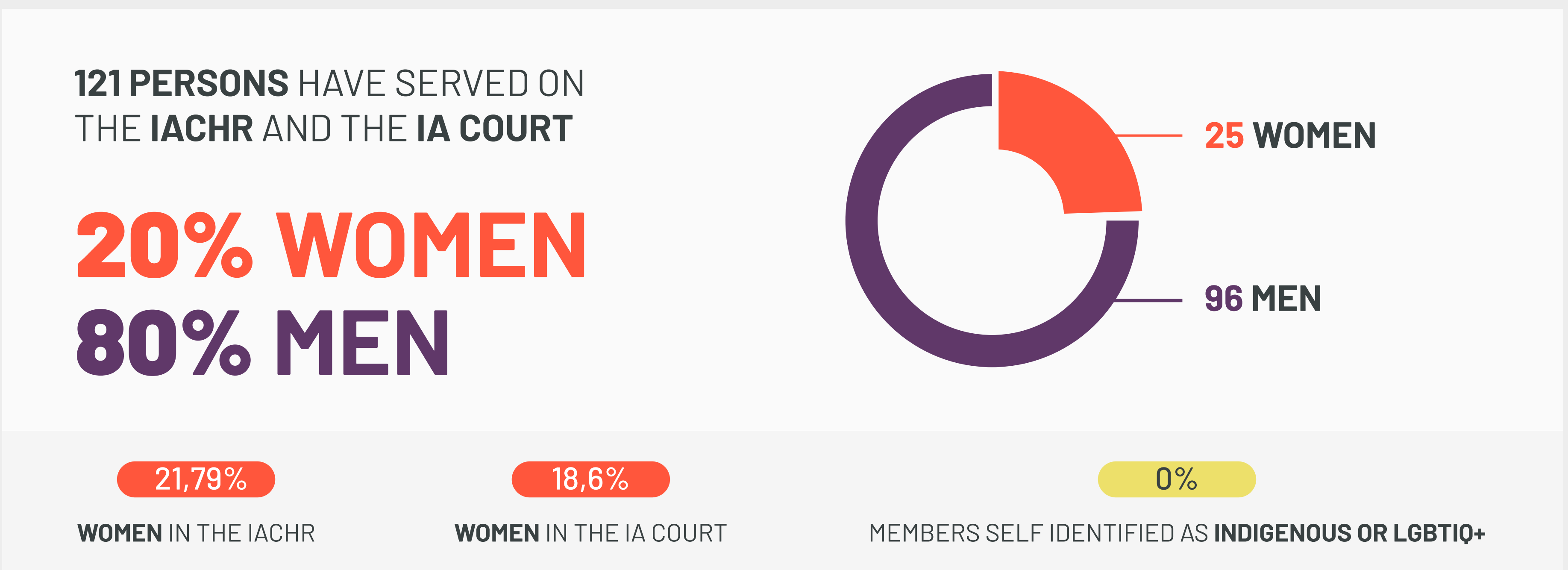


ROLE OF STATES

Member States ought to **consider these key criteria at the nominations and voting stages** of selection processes, alike.

“These three criteria should guide States’ decisions both in terms of nominating candidates and voting on membership, so that – once the criteria of independence, impartiality, moral authority and competence with regard to human rights are verified – States should add to this the selection of individuals who contribute to gender parity and the balance of geographical and legal systems.”

Data produced by the **CIM** report points to the reality of **women’s historical underrepresentation, as representative of the most glaring imbalance in the composition of the IASHR bodies under review:**



*These include several periods of total absence of women

At present, and for the first time in their histories, both the IACHR and the IA Court have achieved gender parity

But how do we ensure that this achievement is sustained over time and that we move towards **more representative bodies?**

The **CIM report’s recommendations** are addressed to Member States and to the OAS and IASHR institutions, and **propose a clear and significant roadmap** for progress

- | | |
|--|--|
| 01 | 02 |
| States should develop more transparent and participatory national selection processes that promote gender parity and data collection. | The OAS could advance clear guidelines and measures for nomination and voting procedures to ensure gender parity and representative compositions. |
| 03 | 04 |
| The OAS and States could implement measures to increase transparency, data collection and dissemination of vacancies , targetting more women and underrepresented groups. | The IACHR and the IA Court could advance standards and commitments regarding gender parity. |

[Complete inform](#)

[Complete annex](#)