

Kazakhstan's Combined 30% Quota for Women, Youth & Persons with Disabilities on Party Lists — A Cautionary Case

Gender Equality · Good practice · Kazakhstan

Quality score: 37/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

Kazakhstan's 2020 law requires 30% of party-list candidates be women, youth or disabled combined, not women specifically. A 2024 peer-reviewed study found women's Mazhilis seats fell from 27.4% to 17.6% after 2023; UN Women urges a women-only quota instead.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Transferability / replicability	1/3
Impact on gender equality	0/1
Effectiveness	0/1
Efficiency	0/1
Evaluated outcomes	1/1
Sustainability	1/1
Achievement / evidence	0/1
Gender-mainstreaming embedding	0/1
Curator validation	1/1

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

C-NAPSE web research — accessed 2026-07-12

Government of Kazakhstan (Central Election Commission, Election Law amendments); critically monitored by UN Women Kazakhstan — accessed 2026-07-12

Public Administration and Policy (Emerald) — peer-reviewed 2024 study — accessed 2026-07-12

International IDEA — Gender Quotas Database, Kazakhstan — accessed 2026-07-12

UN Women Europe and Central Asia — Kazakhstan — accessed 2026-07-12

The Astana Times — UN Women calls for further measures on gender gap (2023) — accessed 2026-07-12

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