

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

“International Women’s Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The day also marks a call to action for moving towards gender parity.”

- International Women’s Day website



## FOR OVER 100 YEARS

Held every year, International Women’s Day (IWD) has taken place on **8 March** for over 100 years.

*In 1975, IWD was adopted by the United Nations as an official, world-wide celebration of women’s rights and world peace.*

While IWD celebrates inspirational contemporary and historical women, the day also aims to start conversations about gender equity issues.

## Did you know?

- Globally, women make up less than **25%** of people in national parliaments worldwide.<sup>1</sup>
- Women, on average, earn **25–40%** less than men who do the same job.<sup>2</sup>
- Across the world, over **60%** of the people who cannot read are women.<sup>3</sup>

## THE MAIN AIMS OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ARE:



to celebrate the achievements of women around the world



to encourage action on issues of gender equality



to empower women and girls around the world

The International Women’s Day website says that the day “belongs to all groups”. People of all genders, cultures, ages, languages and religions can take part in International Women’s Day. Some of the important topics that are thought about on International Women’s Day are:



gender equality



girls and women in leadership



personal and family safety



poverty



access to education



empowerment

<sup>1</sup> <http://archive.ipu.org/wmn-e/world.htm>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017>

<sup>3</sup> <http://uis.unesco.org/sites/default/files/documents/fs45-literacy-rates-continue-rise-generation-to-next-en-2017.pdf>