

**50th meeting of the Conference of
Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of
Parliaments of the EU (L COSAC)**

COSAC Women's Forum

29 October 2013, Vilnius

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Director of the European Institute for Gender
Equality

Intersecting inequalities

*Discrimination
other social
groups*

Work

*Participation
Segregation
Quality of work*

Money

*Financial
resources
Economic
situation*

Violence

*Direct
Indirect*

**Gender Equality
Index**

Power

*Political
Social
Economic*

Health

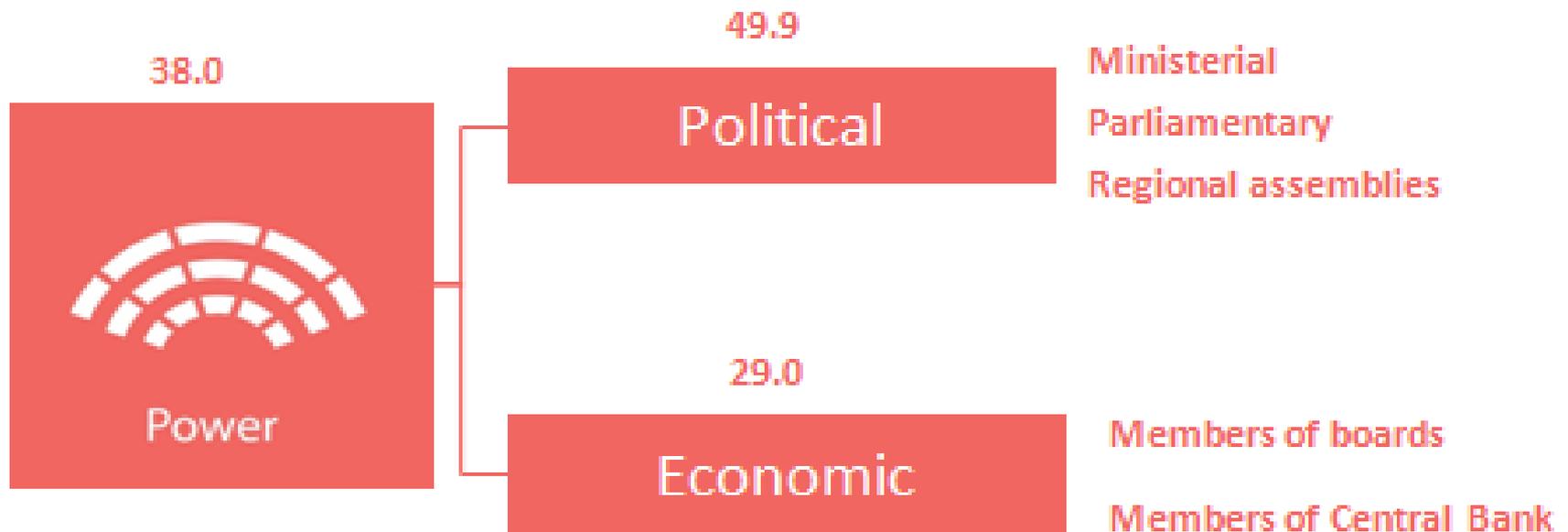
*Status
Behaviour
Access*

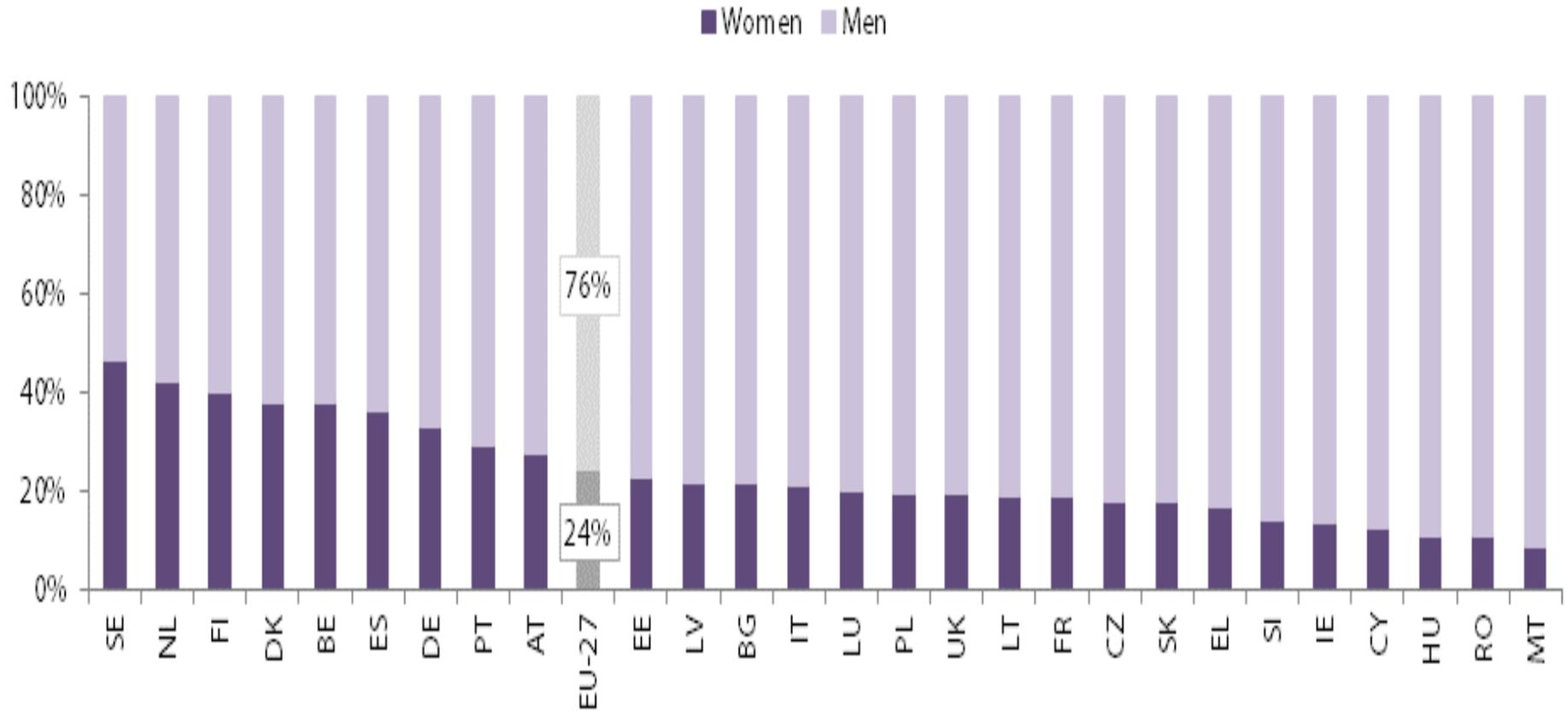
Knowledge

*Attainment
Segregation
Lifelong learning*

Time

*Economic
Care
Social*

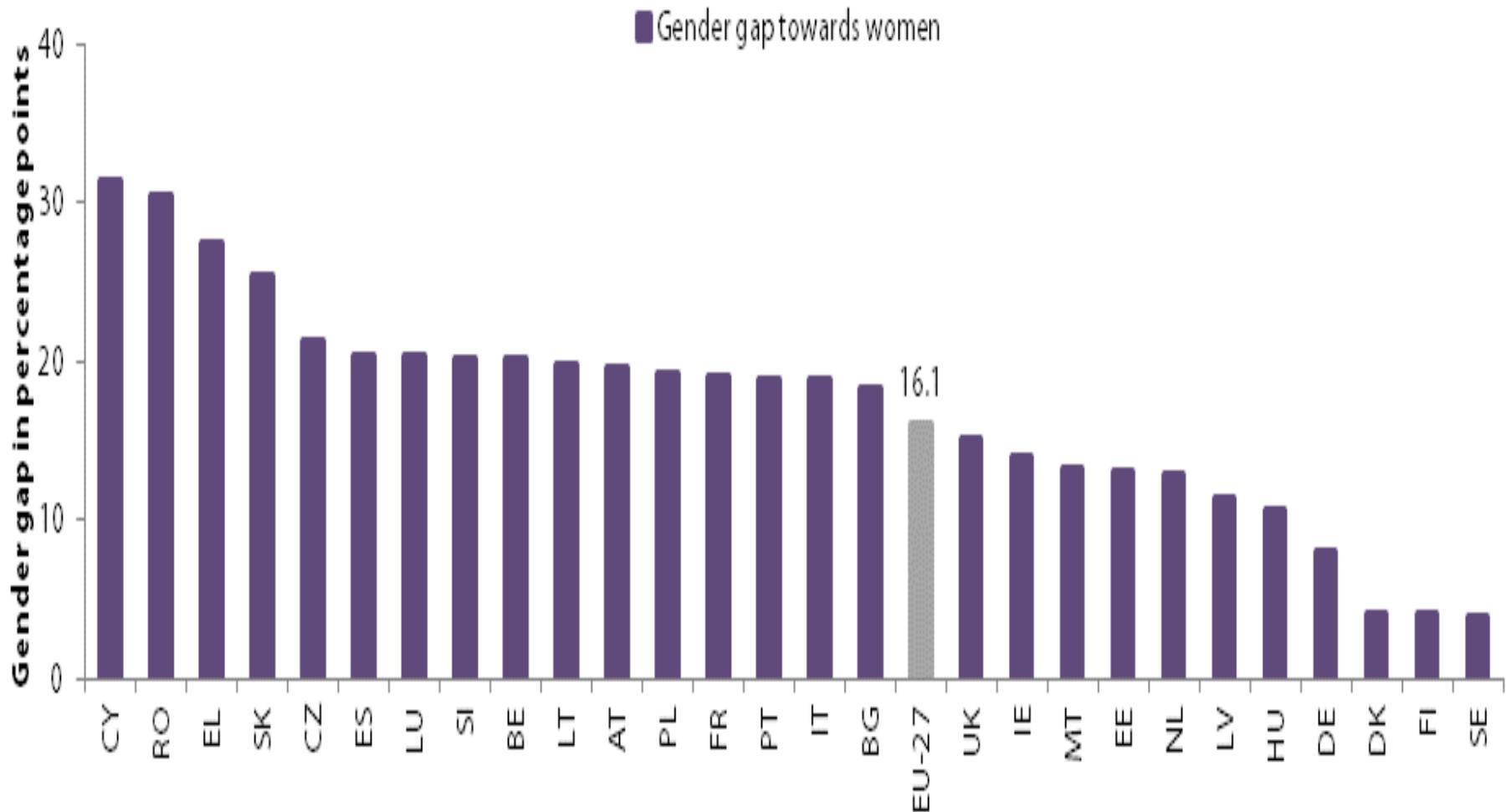




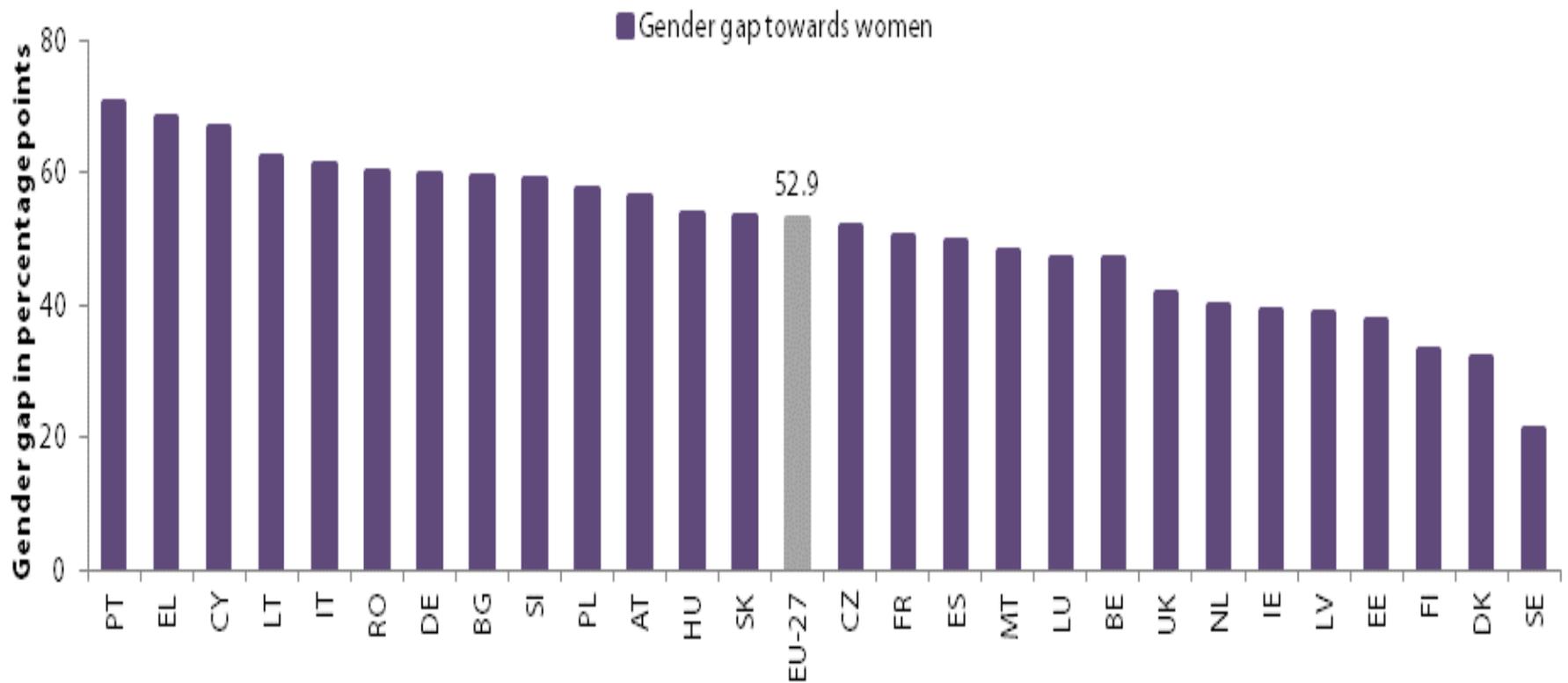
Members of parliaments in EU Member States, 2010

Glass ceiling in politics

- Prevailing culture and stereotypes
- lack of resources
- unequal sharing of household and caring work
- Low self-confidence
- values and attitudes of political parties
- Lack of role models



Care and education of children and/or grandchildren



Involvement in the cooking and housework

“Winning is what influences political parties. If by encouraging women and helping them to be elected, parties believed that they would benefit, they will act.” ALDE gender equality network

Role models:

Having stood for election at city level - where I was undefeated for 26 years - at national and EU level, I understand how hard it is to be elected. Political parties have a duty to ensure that women are given real possibilities to become elected representatives. That will be difficult in a situation where men predominate.”
ALDE gender equality network

Shaping the parliamentary agenda

Experience shows that in those countries where we have more women in political decision-making have better welfare societies. That is essential for the people but for the political stability too.” Sirpa Pietikäinen MEP

Cross-party network

“The hardest part was the incomprehension from the high-level political circles of what I do and why I'm doing it. Formally, we are all for equality and gender mainstreaming, but in fact men always managed to have the dominant position when it comes to actual policy-making. As if solidarity between men was stronger than solidarity between women.” Marusya Lyubcheva, MEP