

Women in Politics- Visit to Germany

An introduction to the political system in Germany

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Tolerance for ideas amongst political parties, a true democratic environment, people's participation in the development process, transparency in the parliament, equality among men and women: these were the overwhelming impressions that the delegates carried back home.



Delegation in FES-Afghanistan before leaving for Germany

Our project "Women in Politics" aims at supporting the participation of women in the changing political arena in Afghanistan. The constitution provides a 25% quota for women in the parliamentary seats. Our goal is to encourage the participation of democratically inclined women in the political scene.

During the end of May FES-Afghanistan in collaboration with the headquarter (FES-Germany) organized a trip for 8 parliamentary candidates. A glimpse into the political structure in the capital Berlin and into the activities in the life of a member of parliament was the main intention.

While in Germany the women participated in a workshop which was followed by a "mini internship" where the 8 women were split into 4 pairs and

each assigned to a member of parliament (MP Graf, MP Kortmann, MP Pflug, MP Ernstberger). Along with the MPs the delegates attended parliament sessions, realized the daily responsibilities of a MP and had the opportunity to observe the contact between the MP and his/her constituency.

The women were escorted by members of the FES staff and Afghan exile women.

The German organizers appreciated the diversity among the women; the fact that they came from different provinces and from diverse political, social and ethnic backgrounds.



Delegation in German parliament with MPs and Escorts

The women expressed satisfaction and appreciation for the efforts made by FES in organizing this trip at a time which is critical for the country and especially its women.

"After this trip we believe that women have enough power to achieve what they want", Habiba Danish, one of the delegates.