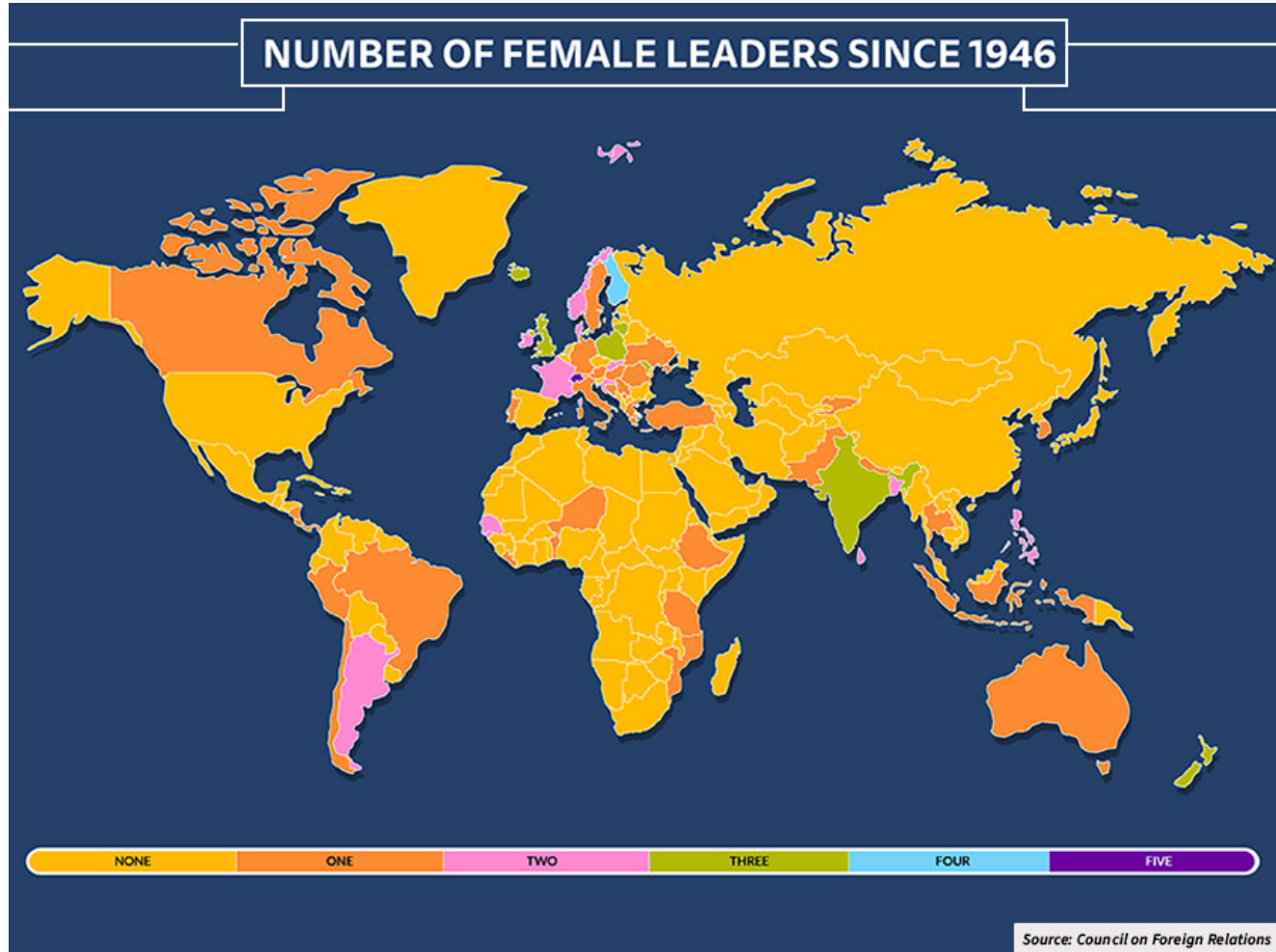


# Imagine every nation on Earth run by a woman

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*Men in charge: A majority of the world's modern nations have never been run by a woman.*

**Would the world be a better place? Most countries have always been run by men. For International Women's Day, some say we should give women the chance to take over.**

## What's happening?

The year is 2024. But even today, there are only 26 countries in the world that are run by a woman. And in fact, many countries have never been run by a woman at all.

Some say it is time for a change. Would the world be a better place if every country had a woman in charge?

## Find out more

What would women bring to the table? Recent **Harvard** research showed that women are rated more positively than men in 13 of the 19 leadership skills. The research also suggested that women may be better able to deal with **crisis** situations.

And the **public** think that women are more honest and more organised than men.

The world has some big problems to solve. There is the risk of **climate change**, another **pandemic**, new technology and rising prices. If women can handle **stress** better than men, perhaps we need more female leaders.

But, as others suggest, these problems may also need everyone to work together — and that includes men and women. Calling for more women in politics is one thing. But suggesting that we do away with male leaders could do more harm than good.

Would the world be a better place?

## Girl power

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Yes! The world has been run by men for hundreds, if not thousands, of years. There have been big problems. It is time for women to have a chance to fix them.

## Others think

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No! The world will only be a better place when the world is equal. And that means an equal number of male and female leaders — not a world run only by women.

## Some people say

*"I do not wish women to have power over men; but over themselves."*

**Mary Wollstonecraft (1759 – 1797),**  
British writer, philosopher and  
women's rights advocate

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*What do you think?*

## Six steps to discovery

### 1. Connect

**How do you feel about this story?** - Can you think of any female leaders in your life?

### 2. Wonder

**What questions do you have?** - For example: What percentage of people think that women can be better leaders than men?

### 3. Investigate

**What are the facts?** - Pick out one thing we know for certain from this story and one thing we cannot say for sure.

### 4. Construct

**What is your point of view?** - Do you live in a country run by a woman? If not, would it be better if it was?

### 5. Express

**What do others believe?** - Should women run the world? Discuss as a class.

### 6. Reflect

**What might happen next?** - Make a poster about a female leader.

## Glossary

**Harvard** - A top US university, founded in 1636.

**Crisis** - A very serious moment of great danger.

**Public** - Ordinary people in the community or a place where everyone is allowed to go.

**Climate change** - Long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns. Human action is a major cause of climate change.

**Pandemic** - An outbreak of disease which occurs across a wide geographic area, as opposed to an epidemic, which is confined to a particular region.

**Stress** - Feelings of worry or pressure.