

Implementation of women's right to participate in cases of political violence in Ecuador

Implementación del derecho de participación de la mujer en casos de violencia política en Ecuador

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Abstract

This study explored the situation of women's rights to participate in politics in Ecuador, focusing on gender-based political violence and the obstacles that hindered the effective exercise of these rights in the political arena. **Objective:** To analyze the barriers and advances in the implementation of Ecuadorian women's political rights, considering the impact of gender-based political violence and recent legislative reforms. **Methodology:** This research responds to a qualitative and theoretical approach based on the analysis of the nation's regulatory framework, including the Democracy Code and its amendments of 2009 and 2020. In addition, in the study of relevant judicial cases resolved by the Electoral Disputes Tribunal (TCE, from their Spanish initials), which illustrate the application of sanctions and restorative measures in contexts of gender-based political violence. **Results:** The analysis revealed that, although legal reforms represent advances towards equity in political participation, a significant gap persists between legislation and its effective implementation. Despite the judicial precedents established by the TCE in support of victims of political violence, the lack of visibility and public awareness limit the reach of these measures. **Conclusions:** Although Ecuador made progress in legislation on women's political rights, challenges persist in its implementation. Gender-based political violence continues to affect equity in participation, demonstrating the need for greater visibility and public awareness so that women's political rights are fully exercised in democracy.

Key words: Fundamental Rights; Ecuador; electoral infringement; women's participation; political violence.

Resumen

Este estudio exploró la situación de los derechos de participar en política de la mujer en Ecuador, enfocándose en la violencia política de género y los obstáculos que dificultaron el ejercicio efectivo de estos derechos en el ámbito político. **Objetivo:** Analizar las barreras y avances en la implementación de los derechos políticos de la mujer ecuatoriana, considerando el impacto de la violencia política de género y las recientes reformas legislativas. **Metodología:** Esta investigación responde a un enfoque cualitativo y teórico a partir del análisis del marco normativo de la nación, entre ellos el Código de la Democracia y sus enmiendas de 2009 y 2020, y en el estudio de casos judiciales relevantes resueltos por el Tribunal Contencioso Electoral (TCE), que ilustran la aplicación de sanciones y medidas restaurativas en contextos de violencia política de género. **Resultados:** El análisis reveló que, aunque las reformas legales representan avances hacia la equidad en la participación política, persiste una brecha significativa entre la legislación y su implementación efectiva. A pesar de los precedentes judiciales establecidos por el TCE en respaldo a las víctimas de violencia política, la falta de visibilidad y sensibilización pública limita el alcance de estas medidas. **Conclusiones:** Aunque Ecuador avanzó en la legislación sobre derechos políticos de las mujeres, persisten desafíos en su implementación. La violencia política de género sigue afectando la equidad en la participación, evidenciando la necesidad de mayor visibilización y concientización pública para que los derechos políticos femeninos se ejerzan plenamente en democracia.

Palabras clave: Derechos Fundamentales; infracción electoral; participación de la mujer; violencia política.

INTRODUCTION

Since Ancient Greece, women played an important role in procreating, caring for the health of their children and dedicating themselves to the family. From this role, they became accomplices, by action or omission. In such circumstances, men, from the public space, have made decisions that affect women's lives (Baldez & Brañez, 2005). Thus, scientific advances, liberal thinking, and access to education are what have allowed women to control their fertility and the struggle for equal rights deployed by the women's movement worldwide, allowing women to go out into the public space; on the understanding that the struggle for the vindication of women's rights is very old (Del Campo & García Luengo, 2018).

In the context of the global social mobilizations promoted by women in their demands to the States, important advances have been made with respect to the recognition of women's political rights, particularly the right to vote, in other words (to vote or be elected through voting) in an environment free of violence. In this context, it is relevant to highlight that Ecuador has established a historical precedent in Latin America by becoming the first country in the region to enshrine the rights of women to live free of political violence, by typifying this violence as a serious electoral infringement in the reform of April 2022. Therefore, it is essential that the main legal instrument, the Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, incorporates and strengthens this objective (Del Campo, 2005). Many people, as well as different organizations in Latin America, have worked so that the contents related to gender equity are urgently taken into account in the legal compendiums of the respective countries. In this sense, they seek to harmonize these improvements in the legal system with the socio-cultural and economic improvements of modern societies. In this way, the Constitution of Ecuador becomes a tool through which the powers and institutions of the State must address the processes of gender violence in the area of women's political participation, thus guaranteeing a fundamental human right.

Human rights are born as a measure that seeks to reconcile equality and peace among people, through a series of universal values proposed in the Declaration of Human Rights (United Nations, 1948), whose objective is to unify human coexistence from a moral and political

perspective (Aldana Zavala & Isea, 2018). The Universal Declaration of Human Rights establishes that all human beings can enjoy the fundamental freedoms and rights without any discrimination based on factors such as religion, sex, race, language, color, political or any other opinion, as well as nationality, social origin, economic position, birth or any other personal or social condition. Likewise, the protection of these rights has been strengthened, both in the recognition within the domestic legal system of each country and in the international sphere, understanding fundamental rights as the set of powers conferred on people, either individually or collectively, which must be positively registered (López Moya, 2021).

In this regard, it is essential to be familiar with the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (United Nations, 1996) and the American Convention on Human Rights (OAS, 1969), instruments that guarantee all citizens fundamental rights and opportunities.

- To participate in the direction of public affairs, directly or through freely elected representatives;
- To vote and to be elected at genuine periodic elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret ballot, guaranteeing the free expression of the will of the electors, and
- To have access, on general terms of equality, to public service in their countries.

Citizen participation is considered a tool to involve the public in the management of government decisions, with the purpose of protecting collective interests and reducing individualism that can harm the general population. However, the mechanism for its understanding and implementation is still fragmentary and unclear (Linares Cabrera, 2023). According to Linares Cabrera, citizen participation seeks to strengthen and give continuity to a solid and lasting democratic structure, in which government and citizens work together, and allow citizens a direct integration with control mechanisms and public policies.

The participation rights reflect the citizen's capacity to carry out acts of public importance without state intervention, and the State is obliged to guarantee their free exercise (Gorozabel Intriago & Gorozabel Intriago, 2022). In this sense,

the rights of participation allow the exercise of direct and representative democracy and political activity (López Moya, 2021). These rights are framed to promote material equality that benefits both members of selected groups and society as a whole. This special treatment has an impact on the redistribution of spaces for democratic representation and contributes to mitigating how stereotypes and masculine norms generate disadvantages for women in the political, social and economic spheres (León Loza, 2023).

At the present time, approaches to citizen participation coexist and form a new starting point on the political agenda in Latin America. This cycle has been characterized by changes in power relations and transformations in the economy, national and international politics, public and private financing of political organizations, the different types of democracy, forms of direct and indirect democracy and the conformation of electoral bodies and organizations (Arnaiz, 2010). According to Andrango (2013), the democratic system in Ecuador and its representativeness is facing a crisis of legitimacy in its exercise. Thus, although democratic institutions have been consolidated based on universal suffrage, the regular holding of elections, the division and independence of powers, the rule of the majority, the existence of an opposition, among other factors, they seem to have been hindered, which has generated dissatisfaction among the population towards representative institutions.

In this sense, Ecuador has one of the most relevant and advanced constitutions in terms of gender in Latin America, guaranteeing the full exercise of human rights for both men and women (Martínez Flórez *et al.*, 2016). The Ecuadorian Constitution enshrines the primacy of international human rights instruments, with respect to domestic legislation, which represents a significant advance in the guarantee and protection of the provisions established in international agreements on non-discrimination and equal opportunities. This normative hierarchy strengthens the Ecuadorian legal framework by integrating in a binding manner the principles and obligations of international treaties, promoting a more robust legal environment consistent with global human rights standards, which seek to neutralize the construction of prejudices and social stereotypes (IACHR, 2009).

Consequently, international entities, such as the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment and Eradication of Violence against Women (Organization of American States, 1994) and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), impose on States the responsibility to rectify the social and cultural trends that perpetuate the differentiation of roles between women and men. This reconfiguration is fundamental to eliminate biases and stereotypical gender constructions, ensuring that women have the freedom to exercise, without impediments, their political rights in a context of substantive equality.

As of 2015, the Belém do Pará Convention of 1994 incorporated the Declaration on Political Violence and Harassment against Women in Latin America, becoming the first comprehensive normative framework at the regional level that specifically addresses this issue (Organization of American States, 1994). Subsequently, the Organization of American States (OAS) developed the Inter-American Model Law on Political Violence against Women in 2017. However, one of the obstacles to the effective implementation of this type of instrument is its lack of binding nature, which leaves the creation of substantive tools to prevent, identify and punish the concrete expressions of this political violence in the hands of the States (Morales Alfonso & Pérez Cárdenas, 2021).

With respect to the public policies developed to guarantee the full right of women to participate in Ecuador, in 1997 the National Women's Council (CONAMU, from their Spanish initials) was established by Executive Decree No. 764, published in Official Register No. 182 of October 28 of that year. This body, which reports to the Executive, was created with the purpose of coordinating the necessary public policies on gender issues. Consequently, it is essential to analyze the state of gender parity and to analyze the level of equity in political representation between women and men. It is also crucial to identify and examine the specific factors that affect access to opportunities for all in the area of political participation, given that these elements have a direct impact on the exercise and performance of the functions attributed to women in positions related to popular election.

In this context, women, both in Ecuador and globally, face a series of complexities and obstacles throughout their political trajectories. Among these are deeply rooted socio-cultural factors, discrimination and stereotypes present in political organizations, as well as the fragility in the application and interpretation of current regulations. These elements, in addition to affecting them, place them in a position of structural disadvantage, exposing them to a greater risk of suffering discrimination or political violence in the electoral process.

This study set out to analyze the implementation of women's rights to political participation in Ecuador, specifically in the context of gender-based political violence. It also sought to analyze in detail the cases of political violence resolved by the Electoral Contentious Tribunal (TCE).

METHODOLOGY

This study adopted a qualitative approach of a theoretical nature, focused on the critical analysis and synthesis of information on women's right to participate in Ecuador, with special attention to gender-based political violence. The State-of-the-Art method was used, allowing the identification and evaluation of advances and challenges in the recognition of women's political rights.

Thematic analysis was the technique used to organize the patterns and categories emerging in the literature and normative frameworks. This facilitated a coherent and informed synthesis of the different perspectives on the topic. For this purpose, recent bibliographic, legal and jurisprudential sources were selected, including academic studies, reports from international organizations, Ecuadorian legislation and judicial resolutions. The selection was based on current criteria, jurisdiction and thematic relevance.

The sources were evaluated according to criteria of academic rigor, relevance and contribution to the topic of study. After the evaluation, the sources were organized thematically, allowing a comparative analysis between the different theoretical approaches and legal frameworks reviewed.

Although this research was based exclusively on theoretical information and documentary sources, it did not involve direct interaction with human participants. However, ethical criteria were respected in citing and referencing all theoretical references consulted, guaranteeing academic integrity and responsibility in the treatment of sensitive information.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

There are three milestones that have marked Ecuador's history in terms of regulatory reforms in this area: the imposition of quotas as an affirmative action measure in the 1998 Constitution (Peralta Zambrano, 2005); the incorporation of the constitutional mandate of vertical parity in 2008; and the inclusion of the mandate of women as heads of lists (horizontal parity), as well as the improvement of vertical parity in the presidential binomials in the same year (Constituent Assembly of Ecuador, 2008). In this context, the women's movement in Ecuador has fought for the fulfillment of the 20% percentage of female participation in the public sphere, in accordance with the Women's Labor Protection Law (1997), known as the Quota Law. In 1996, without the quota law, the National Congress had 5 women deputies out of a total of 82 seats, representing 6.09%. In 1998, following the implementation of the Quota Law, a minimum participation of 20% of women in the National Congress was established. However, only 16 women were elected out of a total of 121 legislators, which represented only 13.22% of the parliamentary composition, showing a discrepancy between the percentage required by the law and its effective application in the electoral reality. Finally, in 2002, the electoral quota applied was 35%, which concluded that the inclusion of affirmative actions guaranteed the equitable participation of women in various public spaces (Peralta Zambrano, 2005).

Then, the 2008 Constitution marked a new era in Ecuadorian constitutionalism, enshrining direct citizen participation and strengthening the principle of guaranteeing individual rights (Constituent Assembly of Ecuador, 2008). In this sense, the Organic Electoral and Political

Organizations Law of the Republic of Ecuador, Democracy Code (2009), obliges compliance with strict vertical parity 50-50 between men and women in the lists for multi-person elections at the national level (Assembly and Andean Parliament) and in the Decentralized Autonomous Governments: provincial, municipal and parochial. In addition to the application of the parity rule, the rule of sequence or alternation is mandatory in the complete lists that include principal and alternate candidates, where a woman must be followed by a man, or vice versa (National Assembly, 2009).

On the other hand, the reform of the Democracy Code in February 2020 poses a complex legal analysis scenario, since it is essential to contrast the results of the 2019 sectional elections, held under a different regulatory framework and electoral system than the one currently in force. Likewise, it is imperative to examine the development of the 2021 elections for national authorities, carried out in accordance with the Democracy Code, in order to draw informed conclusions and formulate strategic recommendations in anticipation of the electoral process held in February 2023.

As of 2020, the Democracy Code strengthened the principle of vertical parity by making it mandatory for nominations in binominal formulas to include both genders, applying to presidential and vice-presidential formulas, as well as prefectures and vice-prefectures. Under this same premise, a provision was introduced that requires guaranteeing that women head single-member lists, through a quota whose purpose is to increase progressively in successive electoral events, with the objective of achieving true horizontal parity in the future.

However, sixteen years after the Quito Consensus (2007), signed by Latin American and Caribbean countries in the framework of the X Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, parity, as a mechanism to promote democracy and a tool to eradicate the structural exclusion of women, continues to be a pending challenge for Ecuador. Ecuador must prioritize equality in the exercise of power, decision-making, and in the mechanisms of social and political participation and representation, as well as in family, social, economic, political and cultural relations (Peralta Zambrano, 2005).

Thus, it seeks to generate information, analysis and specific recommendations that promote the exercise of women's political rights within the process that Ecuador joined in 2021, within the framework of the development of Atenea: Acceleration Mechanism for Women's Political Participation, a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) (United Nations, 1979) and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA). In this way, the implementation of the so-called Atenea Political Parity Index (IPP), together with its complementary data, provides a detailed representation of the country's political landscape, contributing to strengthening democracy and equality.

In Ecuador, Art. 280 of the Democracy Code defines gender-based political violence as the type of violence committed directly or indirectly against a woman in the course of her political activities, whether as a candidate, militant, elected, appointed, public official, human rights defender, feminist, or political or social leader (CNIG, 2020). It is also established that this type of violence includes actions aimed at "shortening, suspending, preventing or restricting" the actions of women in the exercise of their functions (National Assembly, 2009).

Within this framework, the administration of electoral justice in Ecuador, under the jurisdiction of the TCE, has established jurisprudential precedents on gender violence. There are two cases of special relevance: No. 024-2022-TCE (Ruling Case No. 024-2022-TCE, 2022) and No. 026-2022-TCE (Ruling Case No. 026-2022-TCE, 2022). In Case No. 024, a sanction of a fine equivalent to 25 unified basic salaries was imposed, as well as the suspension of the right to participate for 2 years. In case No. 026, the Mayor was removed from office, his participation rights were suspended for two years and a fine of 25 unified basic salaries was imposed. In addition, restorative measures were included such as the issuance of public apologies and the realization of training workshops, among other actions aimed at repairing the damage caused.

As a result, the TCE ruled in favor of Verónica Saritama, former Deputy Mayor of Orellana, in the framework of case No. 180-2022-TCE. The

action was supported by Mega Mujeres, an allied organization of the Violet Coalition. This sentence represents a milestone in the path towards the consecration of women's participation rights, as they face several obstacles and actions brought by the aggressors that limit their full development.

In accordance with the principle of gender parity and constitutional guidelines, the TCE judge, Dr. Angel Torres, ordered the National Electoral Council (NEC) to implement measures to guarantee equitable gender representation in the presidential binomials and in the lists of candidates for the Assembly in the context of the early elections of August 20, derived from the legal figure known as "Muerte Cruzada" (Crossed Death). The resolution issued in joined case No. 159-2003-TCE, issued on June 2, 2023, establishes a term of 24 hours for the NEC, under the direction of its highest representative, to ensure compliance with the principles of sequentiality, equity, alternability and parity between men and women, both in the main and alternate candidacies, in the presidential and pluripersonal lists, at the time of the corresponding registration.

The aforementioned decision was issued after the presentation of several subjective appeals filed by Mega Mujeres and other social entities before the TCE, objecting to Article 11 of the Regulations for Early Presidential and Legislative Elections 2023. For organizations such as the Regional Human Rights Advisory Foundation (RHRAF), this resolution of the TCE, within the framework of the Muerte Cruzada, acquires the character of immediate execution in the electoral field, establishing a precedent of obligatory observance. The NEC and EDT have the obligation to guarantee the participation of women as established in the law and, therefore, the sentence must be applied without waiting for a possible appeal (Gaona, 2023).

Following this same approach, the TCE, in the exercise of its institutional competencies of training and dissemination of electoral regulations from a gender perspective, carried out in 2023, in cooperation with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and with the support of the European Union in Ecuador, the Spanish Agency of International Cooperation for Development and the Embassy of Switzerland in Ecuador, the workshop entitled "Strategies

for the dissemination of regulations on gender-based political violence". This forum, held in the Provincial Electoral Delegations, was aimed at civil society organizations, legal professionals, public defenders, university law schools and the Ombudsman's Office, where TCE officials and UNDP experts promoted the application of electoral regulations, with emphasis on effective access to judicial mechanisms in contexts of gender-based political violence.

On the other hand, in terms of formal equality, all persons are subject to the application of the Law in the same way and are entitled to protection by the Law without any distinction whatsoever. In contrast, material equality and non-discrimination promote the achievement of real and effective equality, requiring the intervention of the State and society at the economic and social levels to eliminate situations of inequality through various mechanisms, such as affirmative actions (León Loza, 2023, p. 69).

Material equality aims to create a favorable environment both for members of specific groups and for society in general (Rey Martínez, 2011). Through material equality, it impacts the redistribution of democratic representation spaces and corrects the effects of male stereotypes and norms that create disadvantages for women in the political, social and economic spheres (Machado Arévalo, 2012).

By positivizing material equality in the legal system, it is necessary to structure governance through a variety of mechanisms and tools that reflect different criteria and political positions. The right of participation is one of the possibilities offered by law to involve society in this real and effective equality, which is based on the right to elect and be elected. The presence of citizens through their elected candidates for political and public affairs is an essential condition to achieve adequate democratic governability (Arteaga Moreira & Gutiérrez Cevallos, 2023).

In this way, the last decade has seen the strengthening of women's rights, with a view to the effective application of material equality, especially in the eradication of abuse and violence. In fact, since 1996, the World Health Assembly has considered violence against women as a public health problem, establishing specific goals and prevention measures (PAHO,

2003). Subsequently, the United Nations defined violence against women as any act of gender-based violence that causes, or is likely to cause, physical, sexual or psychological harm to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether in the public or the private sector (WHO, 2021).

Violence against women is defined as any act of gender-based violence that may cause physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women and girls, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether in the public or private sphere, as well as in digital environments and in the work context, whether during work, in relation to it or as a consequence of it. Likewise, the economic and social damages produced by this form of violence are also evaluated (Valverde Caman, 2019).

The phenomenon of political violence directed against women encompasses all actions and inactions (including tacit acceptance) that, informed by gender considerations, occur in the context of the exercise of political-electoral rights, with the aim of undermining or denying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise of political rights and privileges inherent to positions of public authority (Alanis Figueroa, 2017).

As for women's participation in politics, this emerging public sphere, influenced by social networks, has unfortunately been transformed into an antagonistic environment, where individuals are subject to attacks - anonymously or openly - that test their leadership skills (...). These aggressions and threats are manifested through various channels, including email, phone calls, direct messaging, WhatsApp, websites or blogs, as well as platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram or TikTok (Albaine, 2020).

Therefore, gender-based political violence against women is considered a human rights problem that affects the quality of development of democracies as a whole. Thus, it is necessary to interpret this issue as a specific manifestation of gender-based violence that transgresses the rights of political participation, including suffrage, eligibility, political association and the performance of roles in public service. In this regard, a study conducted for the Electoral Violence Education and Resolution program

of the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), which examines more than 2,000 incidents of electoral violence in six countries in Africa and Asia (Bangladesh, Burundi, Guinea, Guyana, Nepal and Timor-Leste) between 2006 and 2010, shows that men and women experience political violence differently. The study shows that women are up to three times more likely to experience sexual assault and non-physical violence, while men are up to three times more likely to face more visible forms of violence, such as political assassination and street violence (Bardall, 2016).

In 2011, the United Nations General Assembly ratified resolution 66/130 on women's participation in political spheres, urging all Member States to take the necessary measures and notifying the United Nations system, together with other entities, to increase its support to States in their national initiatives aimed at: examining complaints related to incidents of violence, aggression or harassment directed at women who have been elected or appointed to public office, as well as those competing for political office; fostering an environment characterized by absolute intolerance towards such crimes; and ensuring that those responsible are held accountable for their actions by implementing all necessary measures to prosecute them (UN, 2011).

In Latin America, there has been a drive to adopt legal frameworks on gender-based political violence against women, in a gradual and varied manner according to its type and scope (Albaine, 2015). In general terms, the legal reforms implemented to address gender-based political violence against women can be grouped into two categories: the enactment of specific laws and the incorporation of its conceptualization in gender-based violence laws (Albaine, 2015). This implies that gender-based political violence against women must be addressed promptly through the institutional framework that dictates action, especially during elections, when cases must be dealt with immediately. This context raises the question of the possible powers that should be granted to electoral authorities to develop legal texts that prevent, sanction and eradicate gender-based political violence against women at this critical stage of democratic dynamics (Albaine, 2021).

Finally, the attribution of a structural character to gender-based political violence, accompanied by its normalization process, makes its detection, localization and the application of sanctions difficult. It should be noted that, although it is not intended to arrive at a general definition, it is necessary to specify the conceptual bases so that they can be evaluated and measured (Guadarrama Sánchez & Aguilar Pinto, 2021). Therefore, the reflection lies in the recognition that men and women are culturally different. However, prioritizing, everyone has the right to access the principles of justice and equality.

Contribution to knowledge

One of the potentials of this study is that it unravels, from a critical perspective, the challenges and gaps in the implementation of women's political rights in Ecuador, as key aspects to effectively combat gender-based political violence and give way to fairer and more inclusive societies.

Limitations

Although this study is focused on documentary sources and offers a solid theoretical basis, it should be noted that it does not include direct empirical data. Therefore, further research could enrich these findings by integrating current testimonies and extending the analysis to other Latin American contexts for a more generalizable perspective.

CONCLUSIONS

Despite significant regulatory advances in Ecuador, political violence against women continues to be an obstacle to the full exercise of their political rights. Although the legal framework, including the 2020 reforms to the Democracy Code and TCE resolutions, has taken important steps, challenges persist, particularly in the effective implementation and public visibility of these norms.

Among the main barriers observed is the disparity between legal theory and daily practice. Although the TCE has set important precedents with sanctions and restorative measures, its impact tends to be diluted due to the lack

of social awareness and the insufficiency of educational programs aimed at sensitizing citizens about the fundamental role of women's political participation. It has been demonstrated that structural, cultural and social barriers continue to be a gap in achieving effective parity in Ecuadorian politics.

In addition, women who decide to participate in public life face specific violence ranging from harassment and disqualification to threats and institutional isolation. These practices not only limit their access to and permanence in spaces of power, but also undermine the democratic quality of Ecuador, affecting the principles of plurality and equitable representation.

To address this problem, it is recommended, in the first place, that the CNE and the TCE implement national awareness and education campaigns in collaboration with civil organizations and international agencies. These campaigns should focus on disseminating current regulations and raising awareness of the effects of gender-based political violence. It is also suggested that an observatory on gender-based political violence be created in Ecuador to record, analyze and disseminate cases and resolutions in this area. This would make it possible to monitor the impact of legislation and support affected women. Finally, it is essential to strengthen the mechanisms for denouncing and following up on cases in order to create an environment of security and institutional trust.

Contribution of the authors:

Ana Jessenia Arteaga Moreira: Conceptualization, Formal analysis, Research, Methodology, Supervision, Validation, Writing: Original draft, Writing: Review and editing.

Giannella Anahí Gorozabel Bailón: Conceptualization, Research, Methodology, Project management, Visualization, Writing: Original draft, Writing: Review and editing.

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that there are no conflicts of interest.

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