



THE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL FOR
WOMEN IN NATIONAL SECURITY

LCWINS Delivers Over 850 Names of Well-Qualified Women to Serve in Senior National Security Positions in 2021

Conclusively shattering the claim that there aren't enough qualified women to fill key national security roles, this week the [Leadership Council for Women in National Security \(LCWINS\)](#) delivered to the Biden-Harris and Trump-Pence teams two databases including a total of over 850 exceptional women ready to serve in the most senior national security and foreign policy positions of the next Administration. These roles include some 200 Senate-confirmed Presidentially-appointed national security positions.

LCWINS launched in June 2019. This group of nearly 100 bipartisan national security professionals is dedicated to ensuring that women, in all their diversity, have equal space at the policy-making table. Because we know, and study after study shows, that including women at the top produces better outcomes.

The lists LCWINS provided are made up of talented, experienced women from across the United States who were nominated by former senior government officials, professional colleagues, and others. The women on these lists collectively have 15,000 years of career experience and have represented America in nearly every country in the world. Thirty-seven percent of the women in the LCWINS lists are women of color, including 14% who are Black. Women who identify as LGBTQ make up five percent of those included.

To build the lists, LCWINS cast a wide net, reaching out across the country to ensure government, academia, think tanks, nonprofits, and the private sector were all represented. Women on the lists indicated whether they were interested in serving in the Trump Administration, a potential Biden Administration, or both.

While delivering these databases is a key strategic priority for LCWINS, the organization's work doesn't end here. LCWINS will continue to offer to collaborate with both political teams, and after the election outcome is known, LCWINS will track gender diversity in senior appointments to hold the next Administration accountable on inclusion.

Drawing on diversity and inclusion experts, including presidential personnel alumni and veterans of the Senate confirmation process, LCWINS also provided the Trump and Biden teams [recommendations for processes to help ensure gender parity and diverse outcomes in hiring](#). The group is also holding a series of [webinars](#) to help prepare candidates to navigate the political appointment process, featuring women leaders who have done it successfully in previous Administrations of both parties.

All of this work builds on LCWINS's 5050in2020 Initiative, which began in 2019, when the organization launched a [pledge for presidential candidates to sign](#), committing them to strive for gender parity in senior national security roles should they win. The pledge was signed by 18 candidates, including Joe Biden. It encouraged the next President to strive for gender parity in their national security nominations, nominate women to senior positions in national security that have never been filled by women before, and to ensure that women of color are well represented in senior ranks.

For more information, contact press@lcwins.org or visit <https://www.lcwins.org/>. LCWINS Executive Director Lindsay Rodman, as well as other LCWINS Executive and Steering Committee members, may be available for interviews.

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The Leadership Council for Women in National Security improves national security by ensuring that women, in all their diversity, have equal space at the policy-making table. LCWINS is an organization of women and allies from across the political spectrum working to advance gender inclusion at the highest levels of the U.S. national security and foreign policy workforce.

For more information, contact:

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