

**Debate****THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE TEACHING-RESEARCH OF ANATOMY IN MEDICINE:  
THE GENDER ISSUE****THE SITUATION AT THE INSTITUTE OF ANATOMY, MEDICAL  
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The number of women among students studying medicine at the Medical Faculty of Comenius University in Bratislava (Slovakia) prevails, and a similar is for the teaching staff at our Institute of Anatomy (Medical Faculty, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia).

The percentage of women entering the medicine in years 2022-2018 shows Table 1:

The situation among students who graduated from Medicine in the years 2022-2018 is approximately the same: around 65% are women (see Table 2).

At our Institute of Anatomy (Medical Faculty, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia), the teaching and research staff consists of 25 teachers and researchers completely (full-time or partial-time appointments), including 15 females (60%). Of these 15 females, 9 graduated in

medicine. Three (3) of them are in partial (temporary) positions. In the past 10 years, there were 3 women in positions of associate professors (Anatomy or related fields) at our Institute, all of whom are medical doctors. There is no (nor was ever at our Institute) female Professor of Anatomy (all the Professor were male in the history of our Institute). According to my opinion, our situation (at our Institute) does not reflect the overall situation in the field of Anatomy in the whole of Slovakia, as I know 4 female Professors (of Anatomy) in Košice (Medical Faculty, University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik)- an eastern city of Slovakia.

year	total number of students	number of women	percentage of women
2022	612	386	63,1%
2021	543	349	64,3 %
2020	556	351	63,1 %
2019	508	323	63,6 %
2018	476	305	64,1 %
2017	424	253	59,7 %

**Table 1-** Students entering the Medicine study at our Faculty in the years 2022-2017.

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<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Graduated</b>	<b>Women</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
2018	421	268	64,70%
2019	414	274	66,20%
2020	466	303	65,10%
2021	464	297	64,00%
2022	461	304	65,90%

**Table 2-** Students graduated from Medicine at our Faculty in yrs. 2022-2018.

Many teachers and researchers at our Institute are members of the Slovak Anatomical Society (SAS) (a member of the Slovak Medical Society). In the past 10 years always the Chairman (President) of SAS was a female Professor of Anatomy, only from the end of last year there was a change and the chairman is a female Associate Professor (but she is in consideration for professorship). Also, the other 3 SAS Committee members are female and also further 3 females are members of the Supervisory Board.

The explanation of the prevailing number of female medical students on our faculty is related to the fact that medicine is a quite difficult study

requiring a considerable amount of diligence, probably not very popular among men. And also, a further career as a physician (clinician) demands lifelong study and sacrificing personal free time.

Our teaching and research staff (Institute of Anatomy, Medical Faculty, Comenius University, Bratislava, Slovakia) also prevails women-but this situation reflects the overall situation among the teachers: women are more frequent than men. This is also due to the fact that the salaries in the field of education are not the highest. That is also the explanation for the fact that not all teachers are medical doctors.