A renewal of a political elite: 
a comparative study of Russia and France

The article is dedicated to an analysis of the place occupied by women in the power structures in Russian and France. The practices of promoting women and enhancing their position at the higher level in the executive and legislative branches of authority in both states are reproduced and the motivations which inspire women politicians are examined. The setting of two national cases, one against the other provides an opportunity to find out what is common and what is specific in the processes of the feminisation of the elites. The conclusions are based on the in-depth-interviews carried out by the authors in both countries.