

TITLE PAGE

**THE ADVOCACY PROCESS OF UN WOMEN, UAE GOVERNMENT
AND THE UAE'S GENERAL WOMEN'S UNION
TO INCREASE WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION
IN THE PARLIAMENT IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
2004-2017**

Presented as the Requirement for Bachelor Degree

Department of International Relations

Faculty of Social and Political Science

Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

by:

**SITI HAYYUNNAS SURYADITA
20130510351**

Advisor:

Dr. Nur Azizah, M.Si.

**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM FOR
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS (IPIREL)
FACULTY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITAS MUHAMMADIYAH YOGYAKARTA**

2017

STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY

I hereby declare that my thesis is original and has not been asked to get an undergraduate academic degree at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta, and/or at the other universities.

In this undergraduate thesis, there is no work or opinions that have been written or published by other people, unless it is clearly written and included as a reference in the script to mention the name and listed in the references.

If there is an untruth in this statement in the future, I am willing to accept the academic sanctions in accordance with the rules that apply at Universitas Muhammadiyah Yogyakarta.

Yogyakarta, August 23rd 2017

Siti Hayyunnas Suryadita

20130510351

DEDICATION PAGE

I dedicate this undergraduate thesis for

My mother as the first woman, my first teacher and example

My sister as the second woman in my life for me to learn about life

My Ibu as a woman as well as my aunt who had been taking care of me

My deceased Grandmother for all of her love, patience, and affections

Adinda Galih Tiarany (Cotton Wolfgang)

Putri 'pipop' Permatasari (Cotton Wolfgang)

Bella 'mistis' Antika Putri (Cotton Wolfgang)

AND ALL OF THE WONDERFUL AMAZING LOVELY BEAUTIFUL AND

STRONG WOMEN

IN THE UNIVERSE!

Bois in tha Club

Gill Chandra Hayuningrat (Cotton Wolfgang)

Gusti Besar Mahardika (Cotton Wolfgang)

Kontrakan Squad a.k.a Taman Kanak-kanak Tirtonirmolo Asri

KOMAHI UMY

Mufid Baloulli for his moral support and speedy response all the way from

Bucharest

Wakie users for the fun, peculiar and sweet experience

MY LAPTOP AND FLASH DRIVE. I'm nothing without you both.

MOTTO

“A place without women is a place without spirit”

Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In this opportunity, I would like to express my gratitude for all of the people who have been supporting me in accomplishing this undergraduate thesis.

I thank Allah subhanahu wata'aala for His Greatness and His countless blessings that has brought me where I am and made me who I am now. No one could ever give me strength as much as He do, to keep me full of spirit in writing this undergraduate thesis.

For my beloved mother Asih Purwanti, who has been there for me, who will always be my teacher and example. From her, I have learned so much things in life. She taught me to be strong and assertive, to be brave in taking any decisions.

For my beloved father Muhammad Djunaedi, who will always be the first and last love of my life. He will always be the first and the last man who keeps me from falling. From him, I learn wisdom, I learn to be a patient and forgiving person. He has also taught me how to be a person with full of affection.

For my beloved sister Siti Zianadia Amiriliani, who argued with me a lot when we were younger. We all have now changed as time goes by. Knowing that we grow closer and closer has made me feel supported in living my life, including to finish my study. Sister, you have been teaching me a lot in life. Let's grow closer even more and keep supporting one another!

For the Honorable Advisor Dr. Nur Azizah, M.Si. , without her noble task, I would not be able to finish my undergraduate thesis. She has brought me to the end of my journey as an undergraduate student in this university. Ibu, thankyou for being my academic mother for the last ten months, despite from the unnecessary hard times. You have been my inspiration ever since.

For KOMAHI UMY, who I have been longing for a long time. KOMAHI UMY has been my home where i gained countless experience, where i shared the

feelings, emotions, as well as the hardwork. This student corps has given me a beautiful spectrum of indescribable sphere with the amazing persons. Nothing can replace KOMAHI in my heart, now and forever. Thankyou for giving me once-in-a-lifetime chance to meet and work with all of you!

For my best of the best Cotton Wolfgang, Bella, Gill, Pipip, Adindi, and Gusti who have been there since we were high school. You are all literally my second home whenever I'm down and done. We have been sharing plenty joys and sorrow, we have come through those things together. Thankyou for giving such a technicolor company for the last five years and still counting. This is priceless!

For my IPIREL fellows who have been sharing the laughters and professional teamwork whenever we had a class presentation. I will miss throwing jokes with you all at the studyhall! I wish you all successful life ahead. See you on top, fellas!

For the Kontrakan Squad, Luthfi, Resan, Fathin, Farhan, Bang Wi, Gif, Aldo, Solihan. Primarily Farhan who suddenly invited me to the group chat back then. I have never thought that I could be a part of these coolkids' lives. I thank you all who have been sharing the stupidity, inside jokes, the pet-caring days and the wisdom *a la mahasiswa ngontrak* with me. Let's hope that my future husband will say yes to have you all as the bridesmaids in my wedding day! Fingerscrossed!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

TITLE PAGE	i
ENDORSEMENT PAGE	ii
STATEMENT OF ORIGINALITY	iii
DEDICATION PAGE	iv
MOTTO	v
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	vi
ABSTRACT.....	viii
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	ix
LIST OF FIGURES	xi
LIST OF TABLES	xii
ABBREVIATIONS	xiii
CHAPTER I.....	1
INTRODUCTION	1
A. Background	1
B. Research Question	9
C. Theoretical Framework.....	10
D. Hypothesis.....	12
E. Purpose of Writing.....	13
F. Research Methods.....	13
G. Scope of Research.....	14
H. Writing Methods	15
CHAPTER II.....	17
THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, EMIRATI WOMEN.....	17
AND THE ADVOCACY ACTORS INVOLVED	17
A. The History of United Arab Emirates	18
1. UAE Political System	21
2. Women in the United Arab Emirates	26
B. UN Women in the United Arab Emirates	30
C. UAE’s General Women’s Union (GWU)	32

CHAPTER III	34
THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS, AGREEMENTS	34
AND DECLARATIONS TO INCREASE THE AWARENESS OF UAE WOMEN’S REPRESENTATION IN POLITICS	34
A. International Conventions.....	34
1. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, CEDAW (1979)	34
2. Beijing Declaration and Platform of Action (1995).....	35
3. UAE Statement on High-Level Thematic Debate: Advancing Gender Equality and Empowerment of Women and Girls for a Transformative Post-2015 Development Agenda.....	36
4. UAE on the International Convention on the Political Rights of Women (1952) 38	
B. Women in Parliaments.....	39
CHAPTER IV	48
THE ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN IN THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO POLITICAL PARTICIPATION.....	48
A. Raising the awareness and shaping public opinion.....	49
1. UN Women	50
2. UAE Government	53
3. General Women’s Union (GWU) of the United Arab Emirates	60
B. Opening the access to an accurate data related to the women in the parliament ..	62
1. UN Women’s website publication on Gender Gap Index 2014 for UAE.....	63
2. The UAE Government’s Publication System	64
3. UAE General Women’s Union	66
C. Funding the needs of women’s empowerment.....	67
1. UN Women’s Donor Funding.....	67
2. UAE Funds for UN Women.....	68
3. GWU’s donors	70
CHAPTER V	72
CONCLUSION.....	72
References.....	75

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. 1 Coordination Lines among Actors in Advocacy Process	11
Figure 3. 1 Arab states saw its significant progress from 1995 to 2016.....	41
Figure 3. 2 The amount of Emirati women ran for candidates	44
Figure 3. 3 The UAE's bar moved to the right side shows its progress.....	46

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. 1 The Advocacy Structure shows three stages of advocacy actors.....	10
Table 4. 1 UAE’s political empowerment ranked 96 out of 142 countries.....	63
Table 4. 2 List based on total income received for regular and other resources in 2016.....	69

ABBREVIATIONS

APU	: Arab Parliamentary Union
CEDAW	: Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women
CSW	: Commission on the Status of Women
DAW	: Division of Advancement of Women
DWE	: Dubai Women Establishment
ENPI	: European Neighborhood Partnership Instrument
FIDH	: The Committee of International Federations for Human Rights
FNC	: Federal National Council
FSC	: Federal Supreme Council
GCC	: Gulf Cooperation Council
GWU	: General Women's Union
INSTRAW	: International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
IPU	: Inter-Parliamentary Union
MENA	: Middle East and North Africa
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organization
OHCHR	: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSAGI	: Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women
SDGs	: Sustainable Development Goals
UDHR	: United Declaration for Human Rights
UNDP	: United Nations and Development Programme
UNIFEM	: UN Development Fund for Women
UN Women	: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women
UAE	: United Arab Emirates
WAM	: Wakalat Anba'a Al Emarat
WPC	: World Population Clock