

**FEMALE DIRECTORS AND GENDER ISSUES REPORTING: THE IMPACT OF
STAKEHOLDER-ORIENTATION AT COUNTRY LEVEL**

Isabel-María García-Sánchez*

Universidad de Salamanca

Jennifer Martínez-Ferrero

Universidad de Salamanca

Marcelle Colares Oliveira

Universidad Federal del Ceará

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Abstract

Recent studies have investigated how women on boards impact sustainability reporting, a voluntary strategy clearly influenced by board composition in general and gender diversity in particular. However, this research goes further and proposes to provide evidence about how female directors influence gender issues reporting. Moreover, this research also examines the moderating effect between gender diversity on boards and country-level factors related to stakeholder orientation. For an international sample from 2007-2016, it was found that female directors increase the probability of voluntary reporting on gender issues. Moreover, the findings also suggest that institutional forces related to stakeholder pressures reinforce this effect; the greater reporting on gender issues that female directors achieve is even higher when firms are located in stakeholder-oriented countries.
