

## Agenda

**14<sup>th</sup> ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly:  
Parliamentary Actions to Promote Responsible Political Discourse**  
November 15-17, 2017 | Medellín, Colombia

#PA14Col



*In order to reduce our ecological foot print, the gathering documents, resources and publications are available at [www.parlamericas.org](http://www.parlamericas.org). For easy access through your mobile phone, we invite you to download a QR reader application.*

Phenomena such as “post-truth” and “fake news” create a setting that seems to privilege confrontation, polarization and reductionism. The Plenary Assembly will foster the exchange of initiatives that can be implemented at the institutional and individual levels to promote responsible discursive practices that model tolerance, respect, and plurality, as part of a commitment to democratic strengthening.

*All meetings will be held at the Sheraton Hotel in the Colombia Room (Salón Colombia) unless otherwise specified. Address: Carrera 43C # 6 Sur 100, Medellín*

### Tuesday, November 14, 2017: Arrival

All day      Arrival of the members of the Board of Directors and skills training participants; transfer from the airport to the Sheraton Hotel

### Wednesday, November 15, 2017: Arrival, Board of Directors Meeting and Skills Training

All day      Arrival of participants and transfer from the airport to the Sheraton Hotel

09:00 – 12:45      **44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas**  
*Closed-door meeting for members of the Board of ParlAmericas*

12:45 – 13:00      **Official photograph of the Board of Directors**

13:00 – 14:00      **Lunch for the Board of Directors and skills training participants**  
Cooks Restaurant, Sheraton Hotel

14:00 – 18:00      **Skills Training: Navigating Information: Online Research Practices to Support Parliamentary Work**

Medellín Room  
Language: English

Colombia Room  
Language: Spanish

*The objective of these training sessions will be to offer parliamentarians a primer on online tools that can be utilized for research and political analysis in their daily work. The sessions will be held in collaboration with the Political Analysis Unit of the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy of the OAS.*

19:00 – 21:00 **Welcome cocktail offered by the host**  
Cooks Restaurant, Sheraton Hotel

**Thursday, November 16, 2017: 14<sup>th</sup> ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly**

08:00 – 08:30 **Participant registration**

08:30 – 09:30 **Inauguration**

- Representative Germán Blanco (Colombia), host of the 14th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly
- Senator Marcela Guerra (Mexico), President of ParlAmericas
- Dr. Luis Pérez Gutiérrez, Governor of Antioquia

09:30 – 09:45 **Official photograph**

09:45 – 10:15 **Transfer to the Metro of Medellin**

10:15 – 11:45 **Guided visit of the Integrated Transit System of Medellin**

*A point of pride for the inhabitants of the city, the system integrates metro, cable car, and trams*  
Address: Calle 44 #46-001 Bello, Antioquia

11:45 – 12:15 **Transfer to the Sheraton Hotel**

12:15 – 13:00 **Keynote address by Dr. Pablo Boczkowski**

Research Professor; Director of the M.S. in Leadership for Creative Enterprises program at Northwestern University

13:00 – 15:00 **Lunch offered by the host**

Cooks Restaurant, Sheraton Hotel

15:00 – 15:45 **Opening of the Plenary Assembly**

*This session will address the following topics:*

- *Approval of the agenda*
- *Annual Report presented by Senator Marcela Guerra, President of ParlAmericas*
- *Financial report*
- *Announcement of the election procedures*
- *Presentation of the Hub Space*

15:45 – 17:15 **Panel session: *Raising Awareness to Address the “Fake News” Challenge***

*Fake news and computational propaganda and their distribution through social media pose challenges to democratic processes and political representation. This session will consider different initiatives to raise awareness and counteract the impacts of these phenomena, taking as reference emblematic cases such as the referendums in the United Kingdom and Colombia, the presidential elections in the United States, and other regional experiences.*

- Moderator: Francisco Guerrero, Secretary for Strengthening Democracy at the OAS
- Natalia Arbeláez, Academic and business coordinator at *La Silla Vacía*
- Nicholas Monaco, Collaborator at the Oxford University Computational Propaganda Project and research associate at Google Jigsaw
- Kiran Maharaj, Director of the Media Institute of the Caribbean

19:30 **Transfer to the welcome dinner**

20:00 – 22:00 **Welcome dinner offered by the host**  
Restaurante San Carbón (Address: Calle 14 # 30-10 Av, Las Palmas, Medellín)

22:00 **Transfer to the Sheraton Hotel**

**Friday, November 17, 2017: 14<sup>th</sup> ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly**

09:00 – 10:30 **Panel session: *Parliamentary Practices to Facilitate Media Coverage of Legislative Issues***

*This session will outline successful institutional practices in parliaments to facilitate the access of journalists and the media to accurate, balanced, and comprehensive information on parliamentary issues, in order to promote balanced and comprehensive coverage of legislative work. This session will use the Road Map towards Legislative Openness of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network as a point of reference.*

- Moderator: Patricio Vallespín, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile
- Blanca Lilia Ibarra Cadena, Director General of the Television Channel of the Congress of Mexico
- Wesley Gibbings, President of the Association of Caribbean MediaWorkers
- Cristiane Brum Bernardes, Researcher at the Education, Training and Improvement Centre of the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil

10:30 – 13:00 **Panel session and roundtable work: *Promoting Responsible Political Discourse in Parliaments***

*Parliamentarians have the responsibility of promoting and modeling discourse that inspires public confidence and a climate of respect and tolerance. In an increasingly polarized political climate that tends to encourage reductionism, it is fundamental to promote discursive practices that are democratic, respectful, inclusive, and tolerant. This session will feature both a panel session and group discussions to exchange rhetorical or communication techniques that help to establish a standard for responsible discourse in parliaments.*

- Moderator: Norma Morandini, Director of the Human Rights Observatory at the Senate of Argentina and former parliamentarian
- Randy Boissonnault, Member of Parliament of Canada and Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on LGBTQ2 Issues
- Senator Irene Sandiford-Garner (Barbados)
- Miguel Jaramillo, Director at *Marketing Político y Gobierno Consulting*, Colombia

13:00 – 13:30 **Closing of the Plenary Assembly**

*This session will address the following topics:*

- *Voting and results of Board of Directors elections*
- *Announcement of the host country for the 15<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly*
- *Upcoming activities in 2018*
- *Evaluations*
- *Reading of the declaration*
- *Closing remarks*

13:30 **End of official program**