



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Valparaiso, Chile - September 14, 2016

Parliamentary delegations from the Americas participated in the first day of a study visit on legislative openness co-organized by ParlAmericas and the National Congress of Chile

ParlAmericas and the National Congress of Chile kicked off a study visit on legislative openness taking place in Valparaiso and Santiago, Chile from September 13 to 14.

Parliamentarians from Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Paraguay and Peru studied the Chilean experience, reflecting on ethics and probity in their own assemblies. They also examined codes of conduct and the functioning of ethics commissions in their respective parliaments. The objective of the activities was to exchange ideas and propose possible actions and initiatives that could be undertaken in their own countries to strengthen these commissions.

In the first part of the day, Senator Hernán Larraín and members of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile, Patricio Vallespín and Germán Verdugo, along with the secretary of the Senate, José Luis Alliende, and the secretary of the Chamber of Deputies, Miguel Landeros, presented the case of Chile. They analyzed the reforms and the newly approved regulations in the last years, including the law on lobbying and declarations of interests and assets. The session aimed to create greater understanding of the regulatory and policy changes undertaken to institutionalize principles of ethics and probity within the Chilean National Congress.

In the second part of the day, the delegates explored their own regulations and mechanisms in this area. They shared experiences on how these regulations work as well as the current results and challenges that they need to confront in order to reduce the incidence of corruption and unacceptable behaviours in their parliaments.

In reflecting on the discussions, the legislators recognized the level of complexity involved in evaluating ethical violations. They also highlighted the importance of the intersectionality of gender in ethical systems, one of the commitments included in the "Roadmap towards legislative openness", launched today by ParlAmericas.

For updates on the study visit, follow the event hashtag: [#VisitaOPN](#).

ParlAmericas is a network of the national legislatures of member states of the Organization of American States (OAS). It serves as an independent forum for parliaments of the Americas and the Caribbean committed to cooperative political dialogue and participation in the inter-American system. For more information, visit www.parlAmericas.org.