



**THEMES:** Parliamentary innovation, inclusive citizen participation, open parliament

**DATES:** December 3 and 4, 2024

**LOCATION:** Brasilia, Brazil

**PARTICIPANTS:** More than 50 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, civil society and international organization representatives

**ORGANIZING PARTNER:** Open Parliament e-Network (OPeN), represented by ParlAmericas, NDI, Directorio Legislativo and the Latin American Network for Legislative Transparency (RLTL)

**HOST:** Chamber of Deputies of Brazil



*This activity aligned with SDGs 9, 16, and 17.*



## Open Parliament Day and parliamentary participation in the Open America Regional Conference

The Open Parliament Day event “Open Parliament and Innovations for the Future,” co-organized by ParlAmericas, OPeN, and the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil, was held on December 3. It fostered dialogue on how innovative technologies and practices can strengthen interactions between parliaments and the public, reduce barriers to participation, and promote social equality, women’s empowerment, and trust in institutions. On December 4, members of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors and parliamentary networks participated in key Open America sessions addressing topics such as inclusive participation, parliamentary collaboration, strengthening of civic spaces, and participatory digital governance, highlighting the role of parliaments in promoting openness, inclusion, and the protection of rights in the region.



## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

### OPEN PARLIAMENT DAY

#### Opening remarks:

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Jack Rocha** (Brazil), Chair of the Special Subcommittee on Women in Industry of the Chamber of Deputies
- **Kristen Sample**, Director of Democratic Governance, NDI, representative of OPeN
- Senator **Javier Macaya** (Chile), President of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

#### Presentations:

- **Cristiane Brum Bernardes**, Technical Advisor of the Observatory of Women in Politics, Chamber of Deputies of Brazil
- **Rocío Noriega**, Advisor to the Bicameral Transparency Group of the National Congress of Chile
- Member of Congress **Eduardo Castillo** (Peru), Vice-President of the Committee on Decentralization, Regionalization, Local Governments, and Modernization of State Management
- **María Fernanda Avendaño**, President of ACCESA, a member of the Latin American Network for Legislative Transparency
- **Gustavo Pérez Ara**, Member Services Lead, Open Government Partnership

#### Closing remarks:

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Benedita da Silva** (Brazil), General Coordinator of Women's Rights, Secretary for Women of the Chamber of Deputies
- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Jilmar Totto** (Brazil), Secretary of Social Communication, Chamber of Deputies
- Member of the National Assembly **Luzmila Abad** (Ecuador), Second Vice-President for South America of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

### SESSION: OPEN PARLIAMENTS: STRENGTHENING INCLUSIVE AND COLLABORATIVE PARTICIPATION

#### Presentations:

- Member of Congress **Andrea Villagrán** (Guatemala), First Vice-President for Central America of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality
- **María Liz Sosa**, Director for Open Parliament, Chamber of Senators of Paraguay
- **Juan Francisco Krahl**, Coordinator of Citizenship and Government Institutions, *Directorio Legislativo*



[AGENDA](#)



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## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

### PARLIAMENTARY PARTICIPATION IN OPEN AMERICA

- Senator **Javier Macaya** (Chile), President of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network
  - *Session: High-Level Roundtable: The Future of Open Government*
- Member of the National Assembly **Luzmila Abad** (Ecuador), Second Vice-President for South America of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network
  - *Session: Strengthening the Civic Space for Open Government*
- Member of the National Assembly **Roberto Zúñiga** (Panama)
  - *Session: Ensuring Participatory Digital Governance in the Americas*



## KEY CONSIDERATIONS

- Ensure universal access to information and communication technologies, particularly for historically marginalized populations, to reduce social disparities and promote inclusion.
- Using the “[Virtual Congress](#)” tool, the Parliament of Chile has facilitated digital citizen participation in the legislative process. It is currently taking steps towards expanding and diversifying public participation through AI tools to simplify legislative information and improve how comments from the public are recorded, allowing for greater understanding and inclusion.
- Using information and communication technologies can strengthen and raise awareness about citizen rights, particularly those achieved through the women’s efforts, such as political participation and progress towards equality in decision-making spaces.
- The [National Observatory of Women in Politics](#) of the Chamber of Deputies of Brazil has raised awareness about women’s political activities and strengthened their political role. In addition, it has a monitoring system that publishes information on women’s participation in parliament.
- As part of an effort to strengthen inclusion, the Congress of Peru has adapted the [Digital Archive of Peruvian Legislation](#) to make it accessible in Quechua and for persons with visual and hearing disabilities. In addition, the Open Doors Congress project facilitates public participation, promoting more equitable access.
- Sovereign clouds represent a key strategy for countries to securely host public information, protecting the public from leaks and malicious cyber-attacks.

## COUNTRIES REPRESENTED



Argentina



El Salvador



Peru



Brazil



Guatemala



Spain



Chile



Panama



Ecuador



Paraguay

## ORGANIZING PARTNERS



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Is headquartered in **OTTAWA, CANADA**

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