

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

22nd ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly & 10th Gathering of Open Parliament Network

Parliamentary Leadership for Shared Prosperity: Advancing Trade, Innovation, and Security in a Changing World

May 19-22, 2026 | Ottawa, Canada

REGISTRATION FORM

This gathering takes place at a moment of geopolitical and economic reconfiguration in the Western Hemisphere, as shifting trade dynamics, socio-economic transformations, evolving citizen expectations, and rapid technological innovation are redefining how countries engage with one another and position themselves in the world. In this context, parliaments are not peripheral actors: they influence economic direction, reinforce democratic legitimacy, and strengthen states' capacity to respond strategically to change.

The meeting will offer parliamentarians opportunities to reflect on how democratic governance, trade, innovation, security, and development can reinforce one another amid these shifts, and to consider how parliamentary action and cooperation – grounded in an Open Parliament approach that emphasizes transparency, participation, and accountability – can help navigate structural transformations, anchor economic and social change in democratic principles, and ensure that trade and development contribute to social stability, equitable opportunities, and a shared sense of economic progress and prosperity across the Hemisphere.

Monday, May 18

Throughout the day Arrival of parliamentary delegations

Tuesday, May 19

Throughout the day Arrival of parliamentary delegations

09:00 - 12:30 **Bilateral Meetings for visiting delegations with Canadian Section of ParlAmericas**

12:30 - 14:00 **ParlAmericas Council Lunch**

14:00 - 17:00 **ParlAmericas Council Meeting**

Wednesday, May 20

- 08:30 Transfer of participants to the Parliament of Canada
- 09:00 - 10:00 **Inauguration, Land Acknowledgement, and Welcoming Remarks**
- 10:00 - 11:00 **High-Level Dialogue: Governing Through Change — Strengthening Rules-Based Trade, Democracy, and Sustainable Development Across the Hemisphere**
- This keynote dialogue will examine how parliaments can exercise leadership in responding to the economic, technological, and geopolitical transformations reshaping the Americas and the Caribbean. Drawing on regional development and trade perspectives, the discussion will consider how deeper, more inclusive, and rules-based trade integration can strengthen democratic governance and promote sustainable development and equality amid growing geopolitical and economic uncertainty.
- 11:00 - 11:30 **Official Photograph and Health Break**
- 11:30 - 13:00 **Parliamentary Perspectives: Contributing to Expanded and Reliable Regional Trade**
- This parliamentary panel will bring together legislators to share national perspectives on how parliamentary action – from reviewing trade agreements to advancing policies on investment and innovation – can contribute to expanded regional trade. The discussion will also explore how legislatures can address the social and environmental dimensions of economic integration, including climate change and the distributional impacts of trade.
- 13:00 - 14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30 - 17:00 **Open Parliament in Action: Strengthening Transparency, Public Engagement, and Oversight for Better Trade Outcomes**
- Building on the themes explored in the previous panel, this working table session will feature expert presentations offering an outlook on trade and regional integration. The presentations will highlight how transparency, public participation, integrity, and accountability – the core pillars of an open parliament – contribute to better trade outcomes that leave no one behind.
- Following the presentations, participants will engage in round-table discussion groups to share practical experiences and strategies for applying open parliament principles to strengthen parliamentary work on trade policy. These discussions will focus on concrete approaches to ensuring that legislation and policy frameworks shaping trade outcomes are well-informed, inclusive, and aligned with the public interest.
- 17:00 Transfer of participants to the official hotel
- 19:00 **Welcome Reception - *ParlAmericas 25th Anniversary Celebration***

Thursday, May 21

- 08:30 Transfer of participants to the Parliament of Canada
- 09:00 - 10:00 **Part 1: The Trade-Security Nexus: A Human Security Lens**
This dialogue session will explore how trade and security objectives can be mutually reinforcing, contributing to regional stability, food and energy security, and reliable economic exchange. Through a human security lens, the discussion will examine how trade systems can support livelihoods, reduce vulnerabilities, and strengthen resilience in the face of economic, environmental, and social pressures.
- 10:00 - 11:00 **Part 2: The Trade-Security Nexus: Addressing Illicit Economies and Strengthening Regional Stability**
This dialogue session will examine how transnational criminal networks exploit legitimate trade systems, including financial flows, logistics infrastructure, and global supply chains. Drawing on trade and security perspectives, the discussion will explore key risks to regional commerce – such as trade-based money laundering, port and supply-chain vulnerabilities, and illicit markets – and will consider how parliamentary action, through strengthened legal frameworks, effective oversight, and international cooperation, can help safeguard trade integrity and the public interest.
- 11:00 - 11:15 **Health Break**
- 11:15 - 13:15 **Collaborating with Industry and Government to Spur Innovation and Growth**
This panel session will bring together leaders from business, international development, trade promotion, and innovation networks to examine how policy frameworks can support investment, strengthen innovation ecosystems, and expand economic opportunities across the Americas and the Caribbean. The discussion will highlight the role of parliamentarians in shaping legislative and regulatory environments that enable effective partnerships, while ensuring that responses to economic and technological transformation are translated into policies that reflect the needs and aspirations of their constituents.
- 13:15 - 14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30 - 16:30 **Parliaments as Drivers of Resilient and Sustainable Trade Systems**
This interactive session will bring parliamentarians together in working tables to exchange experiences and practical insights on how legislatures can shape policies that strengthen resilient, shared, and sustainable economic integration across the Americas and the Caribbean while preserving democratic values. The working tables seek to generate concrete reflections on how parliaments can help ensure that economic integration contributes to long-term prosperity, stability, strong democratic institutions, and opportunity across the Hemisphere.
- 16:30 - 17:00 **End of Day Recap**
- 17:00 - 18:30 Tour of the Parliament of Canada (*optional*)

18:30 Transfer of participants to the official hotel

Friday, May 22

08:30 Transfer of participants to the Parliament of Canada

09:00 - 11:00 **Sustainable Futures: Youth Perspectives on the Future of Work and the Economy**

This dialogue session will examine how young leaders are contributing to more sustainable and inclusive economic models across the Americas and the Caribbean, highlighting the perspectives, priorities, and aspirations of younger generations. Drawing on youth, labour, and innovation perspectives, the discussion will explore how technological change is reshaping the future of work for young people – affecting skills development, entrepreneurship, and access to decent employment – and will consider how parliamentary action, grounded in listening, representation, and inclusive policy design, can help ensure that economic transitions genuinely respond to youth voices and expand fair and equitable opportunities for all.

11:00 - 11:15 **Health Break**

11:15 - 12:15 **Plenary Assembly Session**

12:15 - 12:45 **Reading of the Declaration of the 22nd Plenary Assembly and the 10th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network**

12:45 - 13:30 **Closing Ceremony**

13:30 **Lunch**

14:30 Transfer of participants to the official hotel
Cultural program (optional)



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Select sessions of this event will be recorded and turned into podcast episodes.



This activity is being undertaken with financial support from the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.