



Parliamentary Gathering on the Occasion of the Ninth Summit of the Americas
“Building a Sustainable, Resilient, and Equitable Future”

June 6-7, 2022

The Biltmore Hotel, 506 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, California

Monday, June 6, 2022

8:30 AM **Sign in & pre-program coffee**

9:00 AM **Opening Session & Official Photo**

This session is an opportunity to touch upon the importance of the role of the legislature in effective and resilient democracies.

MC: Derek Luyten, HDP Executive Director

Moderator: Kristen Sample, Director of Democratic Governance, NDI

Welcome:

Amb. Derek Mitchell, President, NDI

Dr. Dan Twining, President, IRI

Justin Wein, Chief of Staff, HDP Chairman David Price

Spotlight attendee:

The Honorable Bridgid Annisette-George, Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Vice-President of ParlAmericas

10:00 AM Delegate Introductions

Each delegate will have the opportunity to introduce themselves, and provide general salutation, including their name, title, parliamentary affiliation, country, and any short greetings they wish to provide to the full group. Please note that due to the size of the event, and in order to allow all delegates to speak, introductions will be limited to 1 minute per delegate.

***Moderator:** Deborah Ullmer, Regional Director for Latin American and Caribbean Programs, NDI*

Speakers:

Representatives from Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Dominica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, Peru, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and the United States

11:15 AM Strengthening Democratic Resilience to Combat Corruption

In recent years, the Americas, like many regions globally, have experienced democratic erosion. Parliaments can be instrumental in protecting civic space, ensuring checks and balances and legislative oversight, and guaranteeing access to information, all of which are critical to enabling democratic freedoms. This panel will highlight challenges, while also recognizing solutions in legislative oversight, transparency, open government, and anti-corruption that safeguard against fraud and waste, empower citizen engagement, and enable legislative oversight, in turn strengthening democratic capacities to prevent executive overreach and open two-way citizen portals for engagement, scrutiny, and access.

***Moderator:** Tony Garrastazu, Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean Programs, IRI*

Speakers:

- *Rep. Norma Torres (D-CA), Member of the U.S. House of Representatives*
 - *Rep. Ted Lieu (D-CA), Member of the U.S. House of Representatives*
 - *Hon. Joseph Isaac, Speaker of the House of Assembly of Dominica*
 - *Hon. Fatima Mena, Member of the National Congress of Honduras, Chair of Anti-Corruption Committee*
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12:30 PM **Break for lunch**

1:30 PM **Remarks and Q&A with Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the OAS**

Moderator: Hon. Christopher Dodd, Special Advisor for the IX Summit of the Americas

2:00 PM **Application of Democratic Principles to Improve Green Energy Commitments**

A key theme of the Summit is mobilizing behind building a more sustainable world for future generations. This session will discuss successes and challenges that legislators may face when it comes to protecting our environment and combating climate change, and the ways in which approaching these commitments through a democratic lens can improve sustainable outcomes. Participants will discuss trends in green energy, emerging climate issues for parliaments to consider, and green energy as it relates to preparing for crises as a result of climate change. Participants will also explore the application of democratic principles, including how parliaments can apply anti-corruption, transparency, and inclusion principles to improve environmental resilience.

Moderator: Kristen Sample, Director of Democratic Governance, NDI

Speakers:

- *Senator Veronica Camino Farjat, Senator of the Republic of México*
 - *Senator Rosa Galvez, Senator of Canada*
 - *Senator Anthony Vieira, Senator of Trinidad and Tobago*
 - *Senator Carolyn Trench-Sandiford, President of the Senate of Belize*
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3:00 PM **Trends in Digital Transformation to Promote Transparency and Counter Disinformation**

This session will discuss how digitizing legislatures can promote transparency, accountability, and citizen participation. Speakers will highlight strategies for engaging citizens using technology and how these tools can provide new avenues of engagement and communication between members of parliament and their constituents. The panel will also discuss digital transformations following the pandemic, and how parliaments adapted and promoted transparency through online platforms. This panel will also touch upon countering disinformation to promote responsible public discourse.

Moderator: *Denisse Miranda, Chief of the Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM), Open Government Partnership*

Speakers:

- *Rep. Linda Sanchez (D-CA), Member of the U.S. House of Representatives*
- *Rep. Germán Blanco, Member of the Chamber of Representatives of Colombia*
- *Hon. Margarita Stolbizer, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina*
- *Senator Javier Macaya, Senator of the Republic of Chile*

4:00 PM COFFEE BREAK

4:15 PM Building Consensus to Support Inclusive Democratic Engagement

Democratic resilience is incumbent on the inclusive engagement of key and diverse voices among the citizenry. This year's Summit themes underscore the importance of the inclusion of the *Civil Society Forum, Young Americas Forum, and the CEO Summit*. How can members of parliament in the Americas and the Caribbean collaborate, not only between themselves, but also with multilateral institutions, the private sector, and civil society, to prioritize inclusion of such groups in democratic decision making? This session will address the ways in which legislators can increase the participation of youth, social movements, including those involving women and indigenous communities, and the private sector in the legislative process, as well as collaborate with those representatives to advance innovative and informed agendas for democratic strengthening.

Moderator: *Brad Smith, Former Chief of Staff, Chairman David Dreier*

Speakers:

- *Hon. Wilma Andrade, Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador*
- *His. Hon. Arthur Holder, Speaker of the House of Assembly of Barbados*
- *Hon. Sonia Gutiérrez, Deputy of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala*
- *Senator Andrónico Rodríguez, President of the Senate of Bolivia*
- *Hon. Radjendreckoemar Debie, Member of the National Assembly of Suriname*

5:15 PM End of Official Programming (Day 1)

5:15 PM Welcome Reception for Visiting Legislators

Shortly following the conclusion of programming for the day, all program participants and partnership representatives and staff are invited to join HDP for a welcome reception. Refreshments will be served. The reception will be held in the Biltmore hotel in an adjacent room.

Keynote:

Hon. David Dreier, Founding Chairman, House Democracy Partnership

Tuesday, June 7, 2022

9:15 AM Democratic Resilience During Health Crises

Democracies faced numerous challenges in the COVID-19 pandemic. Lessons learned point to the vital importance of democratic principles that ensure swift crisis response, management, and recovery. In this session, speakers will discuss innovations utilized during the pandemic that supported health infrastructure in the Americas, and of which can be applied to improve democratic resilience in the management of health crises moving forward.

Moderator: *Justin Wein, Chief of Staff, HDP Chairman David Price*

Speakers:

- *The Hon. Claudius Francis, Speaker of the House of Assembly of Saint Lucia*
 - *Hon. Maria José Plaza, Member of the National Assembly of Ecuador*
 - *Senator Patrice Dumont, Senate of Haiti*
 - *Hon. Vlado Mirosevic, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile*
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10:30 AM Empowering and Enhancing Women's Inclusion in Parliament

This panel will allow for the opportunity to discuss the importance of women's political participation in parliaments worldwide. Participants will engage in dialogue on challenges and successes in gender mainstreaming in their parliaments, best practices for mainstreaming gender in parliamentary debate, and how to effectively collaborate across party lines to advance shared goals and create decision-making space for women in parliament.

Moderator: *Alisha Todd, Director General, ParlAmericas*

Speakers:



- *Congresswoman Mimi Walters, former member, U.S. House of Representatives*
 - *Hon. Maria del Carmen Alva Prieto, President of the Congress of Peru*
 - *Hon. Claudia Ortiz, Member of the Legislative Assembly of El Salvador*
 - *Senator Natalie Campbell-Rodrigues, Senate of Jamaica*
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11:45 AM Closing Remarks

Speakers will close out and thank the group on behalf of HDP.

Speakers:

- *Deborah Ulmer, NDI Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean Programs*
 - *Tony Garrastazu, IRI Regional Director for Latin America and Caribbean Programs*
 - *Justin Wein, Chief of Staff, HDP Chairman David Price*
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12:00 PM End of Official Programming (Day 2)

12:00 PM Lunch

Lunch will be provided to all program participants following the conclusion of the event.
