



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Parliamentary Delegates from the Executive committee of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change attend COP25 and call for strong climate action**

A delegation of parliamentarians from the Executive Committee of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC) participated in official sessions of the UN Climate Change Conference COP-25, in Madrid, Spain on December 2-13. The delegation was composed of Member of the National Assembly (Ecuador) Ana Belén Marín, President of the PNCC; Senator Rosa Galvez (Canada), Vice President of the PNCC for North America; and Member of the Legislative Assembly Paola Vega (Costa Rica), Vice President of the PNCC for Central America.

This year the chief objective of the COP was to raise overall ambition of all parties in preparation for the updating of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in 2020. A common call from stakeholders, including the delegation's parliamentarians, at the COP25 was to make NDCs more inclusive by creating them in consultation with diverse actors, and with consideration to human rights, gender equality and other social dimension of proposed climate solutions.

Senator Galvez contributed parliamentary perspectives through attendance of high-level side sessions and bilateral meetings. "We were able to engage on the most pressing issues humanity faces today and focus our attention on how to transform energy, transportation, food and agricultural systems." Reflecting on the closing of the COP25, Senator Galvez concluded: "It is disappointing that countries could not come to an agreement on robust rules and financing mechanisms grounded in the respect for human rights and indigenous rights. The need to address the climate injustice suffered by island nations and many communities around the world already heavily impacted has never been more compelling. Still, this international set back only signals the need to engage deeper within our regions and communities. Legislators have unique responsibilities in helping raise the ambitions of their countries to foster the social dialogue necessary to address this urgent issue without furthering social divisions."

ParlAmericas was represented by Member of the National Assembly (Ecuador) Ana Belén Marín in the Action Hub event, *Voluntary Carbon Management Programs – A Contribution to Mitigation through the Carbon Markets*, where she described the organization's participation in the Climate Neutral Now initiative, and launched a new [consultative Guide on Green Parliaments](#). Ms. Marin also provided a legislative perspective to the high-level panel, *Just Transition towards an Inclusive Green Economy: A Driver for Ambitious Climate Action and SDGs*. "We are here representing ParlAmericas, sharing our knowledge, but [also] learning about highly relevant topics such as a just transition [...] how we can continue to build green economies, and [contribute] within our parliamentary spaces, policies that strengthen carbon neutrality".



ParlAmericas was represented by Member of the Legislative Assembly Paola Vega (Costa Rica) during the official side session, *Global Trends in Climate Legislation and Litigation: Enhancing Resilience and Adaptation*, where she shared the [Protocol on Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Adaptation](#) that ParlAmericas developed in collaboration with UNDRR. Ms. Vega also attended a Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the COP, organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, on December 10<sup>th</sup> that was held at the Congress of Deputies of Spain, where she showcased important work being advanced in the hemisphere on climate change and its linkages with gender equality and open parliament.

This delegation was made possible with support of the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada. For further information on our climate change work, visit [www.parlAmericas.org](http://www.parlAmericas.org) and follow us on social media with the hashtag #ParlAmericasCC.