

# ParlAmericas and the OAS (2015-2025)

A Key Decade in a Continuing Partnership



### **INDEX**

Executive Summary	4
ParlAmericas and the OAS by the Numbers	4
Structure of the Report	4
Introduction	5
Looking Back Over the Last Decade	5
ParlAmericas and the OAS: Institutional Recognition and Agreements	7
References to the OAS and to Inter-American Instruments in ParlAmericas Declarations	8
Compilation of Annual Activities: Engagement Between ParlAmericas and the OAS (2015-2025)	.13
2025	.14
2024	.16
2023	.23
2022	.27
2021	.32
2020	.35
2019	.37
2018	.38
2017	.41
2016	.45
2015	.47

### **Executive Summary**

Over the past decade, ParlAmericas has consolidated a strategic and sustained relationship with the Organization of American States (OAS), fulfilling its founding mandate to facilitate parliamentary engagement within the Inter-American System. In response to Resolution AG/RES. 3029 (2024), which tasks the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD) with presenting a report on activities carried out with legislatures across the hemisphere, ParlAmericas is submitting this complementary document that systematizes its main contributions since 2015 to bring parliamentarians closer to the work of the OAS.



The institutionalization of ParlAmericas as a platform for parliamentary participation in the Inter-American System is marked by its formal and sustained nature, setting it apart from other parliamentary platforms and mechanisms which, although they contribute to shared goals, are not supported by equivalent institutional frameworks. This institutional legitimacy has been strengthened through the signing of Memorandums of Understanding with various OAS departments, the inclusion of ex officio representatives from the Organization on the ParlAmericas Board, and explicit recognition in General Assembly resolutions and mandates of the Summits of the Americas.

### ParlAmericas and the OAS by the Numbers

Between 2015 and 2025, ParlAmericas undertook 92 activities that connected parliamentarians with OAS actors. It participated in 9 General Assemblies, 3 Summits of the Americas, and 5 sessions of the Permanent Council. Additionally, 16 declarations adopted at hemispheric inter-parliamentary meetings made direct reference to instruments of the Inter-American System, reflecting a proactive alignment with regional normative frameworks on key issues such as democracy, human rights, gender equality, the environment, and migration.

### **Structure of the Report**

This report is structured into three sections that examine different dimensions of the inter-institutional relationship between ParlAmericas and the OAS:

- 1. the mandates and cooperation agreements that frame this collaboration;
- 2. references to inter-American instruments in hemispheric parliamentary declarations;
- 3. and a detailed compilation of activities carried out between 2015 and 2025.

ParlAmericas and the OAS between 2015 and 2025:

92 activities

9

General Assemblies

3 Summits of the

Americas

5

sessions of the Permanent Council

16

declarations referencing the Inter-American System

29

locations where events were held

### Introduction

The origins of ParlAmericas in 2001¹ stem from the successful implementation of the mandates adopted by the General Assembly of the Organization of American States (OAS) through resolutions <u>AG/RES</u>. <u>1599 (1998)</u>, <u>AG/RES</u>. <u>1673 (1999)</u> and <u>AG/RES</u>. <u>1804 (2001)</u>. In these resolutions, the member states recognized the strategic importance of establishing an institutional space to facilitate interparliamentary dialogue in addressing issues on the hemispheric agenda. They called on the OAS Secretariat to convene a meeting of the chairs of the foreign affairs committees or equivalent bodies of national congresses of parliaments to inform the creation of a mechanism to this end.

In the intervening 24 years through the steadfast commitment of the national parliaments, ParlAmericas has consolidated into an effective platform for parliamentary diplomacy and inter-parliamentary cooperation in the Inter-American system.

This foundational link between ParlAmericas and the OAS has been continuously strengthened<sup>2</sup>, evolving into a strategic partnership that enhances political dialogue across the region. This collaboration has helped to increase awareness and understanding by parliamentarians throughout the Americas and the Caribbean about the work of the OAS and the commitments adopted by OAS Member States and, in a complementary manner, has enabled stakeholders at the OAS opportunities to connect with parliamentarians and inform their work with legislative perspectives that reflect the needs and aspirations of millions across the region.

In recent years, ParlAmericas' mandate and its continued work with national parliaments to foster more systematic and structured parliamentary engagement at the OAS have been reaffirmed by Member States through successive resolutions, <u>AG/RES. 2989 (2022)</u>, <u>AG/RES. 3004 (2023)</u> and <u>AG/RES. 3029 (2024)</u>. These commitments have charted a clear roadmap for strengthening the relationship between ParlAmericas and the OAS as a means of bringing legislatures closer to the Inter-American System—not only to strengthen democracy in the hemisphere, but also to help build more inclusive and sustainable responses to the challenges of today and tomorrow.

### **Looking Back Over the Last Decade**

In line with the Charter of the Organization of American States, which in its preamble reaffirms "that representative democracy is an indispensable condition for stability, peace and development in the region," the 54th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, held on June 28, 2024, adopted Resolution <u>AG/RES. 3029 (2024)</u>. Among other matters, the resolution includes a section on the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the time, Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Americas (FIPA)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> ParlAmericas and the OAS Secretariat signed Memoranda of Understanding is <u>2012</u> y <u>2016</u>. Among other commitments, these agreements establish a framework for cooperation to "explore and develop ParlAmericas' role as a legislative forum to the Organization of American States."

"Promotion of Inter-American Parliamentary Engagement," which underscores the importance of interparliamentary organizations as forums for dialogue and recognizes the work of ParlAmericas as a hemispheric vehicle for cooperation and the exchange of parliamentary good practices.

In this section, under operative paragraph 4, the General Assembly instructs the General Secretariat, through the Secretariat for Strengthening Democracy (SSD), to submit to the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs (CAJP), in the first quarter of 2025, a detailed report on all ongoing activities, and those carried out since 2015, with the legislative powers of the Member States, parliamentary forums, and regional inter-parliamentary organizations.

ParlAmericas welcomes this initiative and, through this document, seeks to complement the SSD's report with a similar exercise to present a broader overview of the efforts carried out over the past decade to connect parliamentarians with the work of the OAS in pursuit of our founding mandate to facilitate parliamentary engagement with the OAS and the broader Inter-American System.

This report is structured into three sections, each examining a different dimension of the strategic relationship between ParlAmericas and the OAS over the past decade: (1) a summary of institutional mandates and existing cooperation agreements, (2) an overview of OAS and Inter-American Instruments referenced in the declarations adopted in ParlAmericas' hemispheric inter-parliamentary gatherings, and (3) a compilation of annual activities that have engaged parliamentarians with the OAS from 2015-2025.

#### Between 2015 and 2025:

- ✓ ParlAmericas engaged parliamentarians with OAS stakeholders through **91 activities**.
- ✓ **16 declarations** adopted at hemispheric ParlAmericas gatherings referenced Inter-American instruments and resources.
- ✓ ParlAmericas delegations participated in 9 OAS General Assemblies, 3 Summits of the Americas and 5 sessions of the OAS Permanent Council.

# ParlAmericas and the OAS: Institutional Recognition and Agreements

The OAS General Assembly has made explicit reference to the work of ParlAmericas in several resolutions<sup>3</sup> adopted in recent years. These acknowledgements underscore the value that Member States assign to parliamentary engagement in hemispheric affairs and further consolidate ParlAmericas as a key actor in advancing inter-parliamentary dialogue.

ParlAmericas' relationship with the OAS has also been formalised through the signing of several memoranda of understanding with various OAS bodies, which have strengthened inter-institutional ties around shared priorities. In 2012, ParlAmericas and the OAS General Secretariat signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that established a framework to strengthen cooperation and engagement between the two organizations. This commitment was <u>reaffirmed in 2016 with the signing of a new MoU</u> that further consolidated the partnership. Under these agreements, ParlAmericas' role as the legislative forum of the OAS was further developed, recognizing both its origins linked to the Organization and its institutional autonomy. In this spirit, the ParlAmericas Board of Directors incorporated an ex officio position for a representative of the OAS General Secretariat<sup>4</sup>, in an effort to foster more effective coordination between the two institutions.

Aligned with the re-signing of the MOU in 2016, <u>a complimentary agreement was signed with the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)</u> to further ParlAmericas-OAS collaboration on the promotion of women's rights and gender equality. More recently, in 2025, <u>a memorandum of understanding was signed with the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI)</u> to facilitate a more structured collaboration to advance evidence-based policy-making and legislative action that leverages scientific foresight, technology and innovation.

Recognition for ParlAmericas was likewise reaffirmed by the Heads of State and Government through mandates adopted at the eighth<sup>5</sup> and ninth<sup>6</sup> Summits of the Americas, emphasizing the role of ParlAmericas and the importance of parliamentary participation in the Summits of the Americas process.

The institutionalisation of ParlAmericas as a vehicle for parliamentary participation in the Inter-American System is defined by its formal and sustained character—setting it apart from other

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Resolutions <u>AG/RES. 2989</u> (2022), <u>AG/RES. 3004</u> (2023) and <u>AG/RES. 3029</u> (2024).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Upon designation by Secretary General Almagro, Secretary Francisco Guerreo assumed this position in 2016

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> <u>Lima Commitment</u> – VIII Summit of the Americas, paragraph 53 under the Follow-up and Reports section (Lima, 2018)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance</u> – IX Summit of the Americas, paragraph 24.f under the section on Citizen Participation and Inclusion (Los Angeles, 2022)

parliamentary platforms and mechanisms which, while contributing to shared objectives, are not supported by equivalent institutional frameworks.

These instruments further consolidate ParlAmericas' institutional standing as a parliamentary counterpart within the Inter-American System and underscore its distinct role in the broader ecosystem of inter-parliamentary organisations, which collectively build the space for collaboration among the parliaments of the hemisphere.

## References to the OAS and to Inter-American Instruments in ParlAmericas Declarations

Over the past decade, ParlAmericas has systematically incorporated references to the OAS, its political bodies, and Inter-American instruments in official declarations adopted by parliamentary delegations at hemispheric inter-parliamentary gatherings.

This practice reflects not only an enduring commitment to the principles and instruments of the Inter-American System, but also a clear intent to contribute actively to their effective implementation. By making this alignment explicit on key issues of the regional agenda—from democracy and anti-corruption to human rights, migration, and sustainable development—ParlAmericas has supported the involvement of parliamentarians as actors with agency in advancing the collective commitments adopted by States in multilateral spaces.

 Declaration – Parliamentary Meeting on the Margins of the VII Summit of the Americas (Panama City, Panama, 2015)

The declaration welcomed the agenda of the VII Summit of the Americas and underscored the shared commitment among parliamentarians to advance meaningful regional integration as a pathway to achieving sustainable development in key areas such as education, health, energy, the environment, migration, security, citizen participation, and democratic governance.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-Transparency-en.pdf

Declaration – 13th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly (Mexico City, Mexico, 2016)

The declaration acknowledges the Declaration on Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development in the Americas, adopted by the OAS General Assembly on June 15, 2016, as a hemispheric reference framework to guide institutional efforts toward the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It also encourages parliamentarians to advocate for their governments to reinforce these initiatives through collaboration and dialogue with organizations of the Inter-American System, such as the OAS, with particular emphasis on vulnerable and traditionally marginalized communities.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/PA13-Declaration-ENG.pdf

Declaration – 3rd Meeting of the Open Parliament Network of ParlAmericas (Lima, Peru, 2018)

The declaration references the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and its Follow-up Mechanism (MESICIC) as key instruments to facilitate cooperation among states in the fight against corruption. It also reaffirms the parliamentary commitment to upholding the agreements adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the VIII Summit of the Americas.

### Source:

https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration of the 3rd Gathering OPN ENG FINAL.pdf

 Declaration – 4th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network of ParlAmericas (Quito, Ecuador, 2019)

The declaration reaffirms the importance of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Inter-American Convention against Corruption as a tool to guide state efforts and strengthen international cooperation. It also commits parliamentarians to monitor progress and support their states' efforts in combating corruption, in alignment with the principles outlined in the Lima Commitment.

Source: <a href="https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-4th-Gathering">https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-4th-Gathering</a> of the Open Parliament Network- FINAL ENG.pdf

 Declaration – 11th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality (Mexico City, Mexico, 2019)

The declaration recognizes that coordination with and among regional and international organizations dedicated to gender equality—exemplified by the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Empowerment and Leadership—helps to build more effective agendas on this issue. It also highlights the commitment of the organizations comprising this inter-American space to continue advancing women's leadership in economic, political, and social life.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration PNGE 2019 en.pdf

Declaration – 16th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly (Asunción, Paraguay, 2019)

The declaration highlights the Declaration on Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development in the Americas, adopted by the OAS General Assembly in 2016, as a reference framework to guide institutional efforts in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Source: <a href="https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/16th\_Plenary\_Assembly\_Declaration\_ENG.pdf">https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/16th\_Plenary\_Assembly\_Declaration\_ENG.pdf</a>

 Declaration – 13th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality (Online Sessions, 2021)

The declaration acknowledges that the right to social protection is enshrined in various instruments, including the American Declaration of the Rights and Duties of Man, a core part of the Inter-American Human Rights System. This reference reinforces the importance of considering this regional framework in the development and strengthening of legislative frameworks on social protection.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/PNGE Gathering 2021 Declaration ENG.pdf

Declaration – 18th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly (Online Sessions, 2021)

The declaration highlights the Inter-American Democratic Charter, adopted by the OAS in 2001, marking the 20th anniversary of both the Charter and the founding of ParlAmericas. This reference reaffirms a commitment to cooperative political dialogue, the ongoing pursuit of consensus, and the promotion of democracy, peace, and development across the hemisphere.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/18 Plenary Session 2021 Declaration ENG.pdf

 Declaration – 6th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network of ParlAmericas (Online Sessions, 2022)

The declaration references the Lima Commitment and the OAS Inter-American Convention against Corruption as hemispheric frameworks that guide efforts to combat corruption and strengthen public integrity. It also promotes the adoption and enhancement of codes of conduct for public servants across all branches of the state, in accordance with the highest standards of ethics, integrity, and transparency, using these instruments as points of reference.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/6OPN gathering Declaration ENG.pdf

 Declaration – Parliamentary Participation in the Summit of the Americas Process (ParlAmericas Board of Directors, 2022)

This declaration, adopted by the ParlAmericas Board of Directors on June 16, 2022, formalizes the commitment to promote parliamentary participation, through ParlAmericas, as an integral part of the Summit of the Americas Process, in accordance with the mandate set out in section 24.f of the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance approved at the IX Summit. The declaration outlines concrete actions, including: facilitating substantive participation of parliamentarians in the Summit process; holding an official meeting of parliaments in coordination with the host country; fostering collaboration with the Summit of the Americas Secretariat and other actors of the Inter-American System; encouraging hemispheric inter-parliamentary dialogue on Summit themes; promoting

legislative actions aligned with the adopted commitments; and submitting reports on parliamentary contributions to their implementation.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration IXSummit of the Americas eng.pdf

 Declaration – 6th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change of ParlAmericas (Online Sessions, 2022)

In line with the mandate of the IX Summit of the Americas to promote parliamentary participation through ParlAmericas as an integral part of the Summit Process, the declaration incorporates themes aligned with the commitments "Accelerating the Just Transition to Clean, Sustainable, and Renewable Energy" and "Our Sustainable Green Future," also adopted at that Summit.

Source: <a href="https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/6PNCC">https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/6PNCC</a> Declaration ENG.pdf

 Declaration – 14th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality (Bogotá, Colombia, 2022)

The declaration calls for the consideration of the elements outlined in the Inter-American Model Law on Care by the CIM/OAS as a reference tool for developing legislation and policy on the recognition, regulation, redistribution, provision, and promotion of care work. It also encourages parliamentarians to urge their governments to take into account the current situation of unpaid care work when developing the Action Plan on Health and Resilience in the Americas, to be implemented by 2030, as part of a broader strategy to expand equitable access to comprehensive, quality, and people-centered health services, as agreed during the IX Summit of the Americas.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-PNGE2022-en.pdf

• Declaration – Parliamentary Participation in the Inter-American System through ParlAmericas (Bogotá, Colombia, 2022)

Adopted during the 19th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly, this declaration reaffirms the commitment of parliamentarians to contribute to the Summit of the Americas Process by promoting inter-parliamentary dialogue and legislative actions aligned with the commitments undertaken by Heads of State and Government. It also outlines actions to actively engage, through ParlAmericas, in the multilateral spaces of the Inter-American System to bring parliamentary perspectives to hemispheric discussions; exercise parliamentary oversight of the implementation of commitments and agreements adopted by States within the Inter-American framework; foster collaboration between parliaments and Permanent Missions to the OAS; and inform the development of the ParlAmericas Strategic Plan 2023–2030, including a vision for strengthening parliamentary diplomacy and participation in the Inter-American System, in accordance with shared democratic principles.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-19PA ENG.pdf

 Declaration – 7th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network of ParlAmericas (Santiago, Chile, 2023)

The declaration underscores the importance of parliamentary follow-up and oversight of the implementation of the commitments set out in the Regional Program for Digital Transformation, adopted by the Heads of State and Government of the Americas and the Caribbean during the IX Summit of the Americas. It also recognizes the program as a guiding tool for inclusive and sustainable digitalization processes that respect human rights.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-7OPN-en.pdf

 Declaration – Towards Equality: More Women Transforming Politics (Panama City, Panama, 2023)

The declaration recognizes that women's right to political participation is supported by a robust inter-American legal framework, including instruments such as the Inter-American Convention on the Granting of Political Rights to Women, the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, and the American Convention on Human Rights.

Source: <a href="https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-TowardsEquality-sp.pdf">https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-TowardsEquality-sp.pdf</a> (In Spanish)

 Declaration – 20th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly and 8th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network (Asunción, Paraguay, 2024)

The declaration references the Inter-American Democratic Charter, the American Convention on Human Rights, the Belém do Pará Convention, and the Inter-American Action Plan on Democratic Governance as foundational instruments supporting democracy as the most effective model to guarantee freedoms and achieve peace, equality, sustainable development, and security. It also reaffirms the parliamentary commitment to the vision and principles enshrined in the Inter-American Democratic Charter as the basis for democratic culture in the Americas and the Caribbean. Additionally, it emphasizes the importance of continuing efforts to prevent and combat corruption in all its forms by promoting international cooperation and incorporating into parliamentary frameworks the recommendations and commitments set out in instruments such as the Lima Commitment on Democratic Governance against Corruption and the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-20PA-80PN-Gathering-en.pdf

 Declaration – Migration in a Context of Social and Environmental Challenges (San José, Costa Rica, 2024)

The declaration references the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection as a key hemispheric instrument for promoting coordinated and comprehensive migration governance. It also encourages parliamentarians to support its adoption and implementation, and to monitor compliance with the migration-related commitments undertaken by States.

Source: https://parlamericas.org/uploads/documents/Declaration-PNCC8-PNGE16-CR-en.pdf

# Compilation of Annual Activities: Engagement Between ParlAmericas and the OAS (2015-2025)

The relationship between ParlAmericas and the OAS has expanded through thematic collaborations, technical exchanges, spaces for political dialogue and a variety of joint actions.

Throughout this process of engagement with the OAS, ParlAmericas has promoted initiatives that reflect its institutional mission—promoting parliamentary diplomacy within the Inter-American System, fostering cooperative inter-parliamentary political dialogue on hemispheric issues, and strengthening the institutional capacities of national legislatures. All of the activities outlined below share this common thread: they form part of a sustained institutional effort to bring the parliaments of the Americas and the Caribbean closer to the work of the OAS and to deepen their engagement with the Inter-American System.

The activities outlined below present a compilation of the initiatives undertaken by ParlAmericas that have involved, to varying degrees, engagement with the OAS over the past decade. Presented in reverse chronology by year, as with the SSD report, the activities listed for 2025 include current and planned work over the coming year.

To skip to another year, click the corresponding link: 2024 | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015.

### Date: March 19, 2025

Location: Virtual

Title: ParlAmericas Presentation to the OAS Permanent Council

Description: Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (*Paraguay*), President of ParlAmericas, and the Honourable **Bridgid Annisette-George** (*Trinidad and Tobago*), Speaker of the House of Representatives and Vice-President of ParlAmericas, addressed the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States (OAS).

Their participation was in line with the mandate established by OAS General Assembly Resolution 3029 (LIV-O/24) on strengthening democracy, which, among other provisions, includes the presentation of an annual report by ParlAmericas to the OAS Permanent Council.

The interventions reaffirmed ParlAmericas' commitment to continue serving as a bridge between national parliaments and the Inter-American System, contributing to a more representative, effective, and resilient multilateralism.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

### Date: March 25-27, 2025

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: Annual ParlAmericas Delegation to Washington D.C.

Description: A delegation of **28 parliamentarians from 18 national parliaments across the Americas and the Caribbean** held a series of high-level exchanges with officials from the Organization of American States (OAS), members of the United States Congress, representatives from international organizations, and subject matter experts. The meetings and dialogue sessions, held as a preparatory step for the X Summit of the Americas, focused on the central role of parliaments in shaping comprehensive security strategies and promoting a multidimensional approach to regional security.

During the visit, the delegation participated in a high-level dialogue session with representatives of the OAS Permanent Missions and held a meeting with Ambassador Héctor Enrique Arce Zaconeta, Chair of the OAS Permanent Council and Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

A meeting was also held with OAS Secretary General **Luis Almagro**, which was followed by a dialogue with **Francisco Guerrero**, Secretary for Strengthening Democracy and ex officio member of the ParlAmericas Board.

The sessions included the participation of senior officials from the OAS and other entities of the Inter-American System, including: Dr. Jarbas Barbosa, Director of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO); María Celina Conte, Director of the OAS Summit of the Americas Secretariat; Kim Osborne, Executive Secretary for Integral Development (SEDI); Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM); Lloyd Day, Deputy Director General of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA); Moises Benamor, Head of the OAS Legislative Institutions Support Unit; and Claudia González Bengoa, Head of the Migration and Forced Displacement Section of the Department of Social Inclusion at the OAS (SARE-OAS).

Source: Report (ParlAmericas

### Date: April 2025

Title: Publication - Contributions to the Implementation of the IX Summit of the Americas Commitments

Description: This document systematizes the work carried out by ParlAmericas to support, from national parliaments, the implementation of the commitments adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the IX Summit of the Americas (Los Angeles, 2022).

Source: Website (ParlAmericas)

### **Opportunities for Coordination in Upcoming Activities**

The following is a summary of upcoming ParlAmericas activities that seek to generate synergies and opportunities for collaboration with the OAS through its political bodies, secretariats, and departments.

This list is not exhaustive and therefore does not include all in-person and virtual activities scheduled for 2025, many of which may present additional opportunities for inter-institutional coordination, in accordance with shared priorities.

### Date: May 27-29, 2025

Location: Montevideo, Uruguay

Title: 21st ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly and 9th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network: Legislating for the Future: Anticipatory Governance in Parliamentary Action

### Date: June 25-27, 2025

Location: Antigua and Barbuda

Title: 55th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly

Description: A ParlAmericas delegation will participate in the 55th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly.

Date: September 24-25, 2025

Location: Brasília, Brazil

Title: 17th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality: Beijing+30 and Promoting Gender Equality in a Changing World

### Programming in the Lead-Up to the X Summit of the Americas

### Series of virtual meetings in preparation for the X Summit of the Americas (June, August, October, November)

Description: As part of ParlAmericas' consultative process to facilitate parliamentary participation in the Summit Process leading to the X Summit of the Americas—including the high-level dialogues held during the parliamentary delegation to Washington in March 2025—four virtual meetings will be organized to address priority topics identified by parliamentarians, particularly related to the Summit's central theme: regional security.

### Official Inter-Parliamentary Meeting of the X Summit of the Americas (Punta Cana, December 2025)

Description: ParlAmericas and the Senate of the Dominican Republic will co-host the Official Inter-Parliamentary Meeting of the X Summit of the Americas. This meeting will convene parliamentary delegates from national legislatures across the Americas and the Caribbean to engage in dialogue on the Summit's central theme: *Building a Safe and Sustainable Hemisphere with Shared Prosperity*.

2024

Date: March 5, 2024

Location: Virtual

Title: Meeting of Women's Forums of Political Parties: Building More Equitable Democracies – Women's Political Participation and Leadership

Description: More than **70** women parliamentarians, former parliamentarians, and representatives of women's wings of political parties from Central America and the Dominican Republic participated in the meeting. Inter-American standards to prevent and eradicate gender-based political violence were presented, and strategies were discussed to achieve gender parity in political representation, addressing challenges and opportunities for women in politics. **Luz Patricia Mejía**, Technical Secretary of the

Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) of the CIM/OAS, was one of the panelists.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: March 12-14, 2024

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: Annual ParlAmericas Parliamentary Delegation to Washington D.C.

Description: A delegation of **22 parliamentarians from 17 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean** met with senior OAS officials to further strengthen institutional collaboration between both organizations.

The delegation held a meeting with Luis Almagro, OAS Secretary General, and also participated in briefings with senior OAS officials, including: Francisco Guerrero, Secretary for Strengthening Democracy and ex officio member of the ParlAmericas Board; Gastón Schulmeister, Director of the Department against Transnational Organized Crime; Cesar Parga, Chief of the Competitiveness, Innovation and Technology Section; Jesús Giacoman, Director of the Department of Human Development, Education and Employment; María Fernanda Trigo, Director of the Department for Effective Public Management; Marta Martínez, Specialist at the Executive Secretariat of the CIM; Beatriz Piñeres, Specialist at the Executive Secretariat of the CIM; Yasmin Solitahe Odlum, Specialist and Caribbean Coordinator of the Executive Secretariat of the CIM; María Claudia Pulido, Deputy Executive Secretary for Monitoring, Cooperation and Promotion; María Clara Nazar, Specialist in Technical Cooperation and Public Policy; and Maricarmen Plata, Secretary for Access to Rights and Equity.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: March 14, 2024

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: Joint Extraordinary Session of the Committee on Juridical and Political Affairs and the Committee on Inter-American Summits Management and Civil Society Participation in OAS Activities

Description: This joint extraordinary session on legislative cooperation, held in follow-up to OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 3004 (LIII-O/23), provided Member States and the parliamentary delegation with the opportunity to examine the <u>proposal for parliamentary participation in the OAS</u> through ParlAmericas.

The proposal, which was positively received by the Member States, was presented by Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (*Paraguay*), President of ParlAmericas, and outlines a roadmap to formalize and strengthen parliamentary engagement with the OAS through ParlAmericas. Interventions were also delivered by the Honourable **Bridgid Annisette-George** (*Trinidad and Tobago*), Speaker of the House of Representatives;

Honourable Senator **Peter Boehm** (*Canada*); and Honourable **Ricardo de los Santos**, President of the Senate of the Dominican Republic.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: March 22, 2024

Location: Virtual

Title: Meeting of the Digital Caucus: The Future of Work and Labor Rights – Challenges and Opportunities of Artificial Intelligence

Description: This seminar brought together **69** parliamentarians, legislative staff, and representatives from international organizations and academia from **22** countries of the Americas and the Caribbean to analyze the effects of artificial intelligence (AI) and automation on labor markets. **César Parga**, Chief of the OAS Competitiveness, Innovation and Technology Section, and **Livia Gouvêa Gomes**, Specialist in the Labor Markets Division of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in Brazil, participated as panelists.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: May 8-10, 2024

Location: Asunción, Paraguay

Title: 20th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly and 8th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network: Building Alliances to Strengthen Democracy and Promote Human Rights

Description: This gathering, co-organized with the Senate of Paraguay, convened more than **90** parliamentarians, legislative staff, representatives of international organizations, civil society, and academia from **22** countries of the Americas and the Caribbean. The working sessions addressed various topics related to the role of parliaments and parliamentary diplomacy in promoting democratic governance, and participants adopted a declaration on these issues. **María Celina Conte**, Director of the OAS Summit of the Americas Secretariat, participated as a panelist in one of the sessions.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 25, 2024

Location: Asunción, Paraguay

Title: Event: Toward Parity – Strengthening the Political Participation of Women in Paraguay

Description: Co-organized by ParlAmericas and the CIM/OAS, this event gathered Paraguayan women legislators to analyze inter-American instruments and political strategies aimed at enhancing conditions

for women's political leadership in the country. **Alejandra Mora Mora**, Executive Secretary of the CIM/OAS, presented inter-American instruments to address political violence against women.

Source: Agenda - In Spanish (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 26-28, 2024

Location: Asunción, Paraguay

Title: 54th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly: Integration and Security for the Sustainable Development of the Region

Description: Senator **Blanca Ovelar**, President of ParlAmericas, and **Anabella Zavagno**, Deputy Director General, participated in the 54th OAS General Assembly, held under the theme "Integration and Security for the Sustainable Development of the Region."

Source: Participant List - In Spanish (OAS)

Date: July 10-11, 2024

Location: Lima, Peru

Title: Parliamentary Meeting: Beyond Borders – Regional Security Strategies

Description: This event brought together more than **60 parliamentarians, legislative staff, specialists, and representatives of international organizations and civil society from 13 Latin American countries.** It provided a space to analyze the complex security situation in the region and to share good legislative practices based on multidimensional, holistic, and human rights-based security governance models.

**Luz Patricia Mejía**, Technical Secretary of the MESECVI of the CIM/OAS, and **Carlos Charme Fuentes**, Public Security Expert from the Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean (CAF), participated as panelists.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: July 23, 2024

Location: Buenos Aires, Argentina

Title: Workshop on Asset Recovery from Illegal Mining in Latin America

Description: Organized by the OAS Department against Transnational Organized Crime, this meeting convened various stakeholders to analyze the challenges of illegal mining in the region and strengthen capacities for information-sharing, investigation, and asset recovery.

**Deputy Margarita Stolbizer** (*Argentina*), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change and Sustainability, represented ParlAmericas and offered insights on legal frameworks to address illegal mining and environmental crimes.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

Date: August 6, 2024

Location: Bogotá, Colombia

Title: Regional Workshop for Judges and Prosecutors on Combating Illegal Mining through the Judicial

System

Description: Organized by the OAS Department against Transnational Organized Crime (DDOT), this regional event addressed legal frameworks, investigative techniques, and prosecutorial tools to combat illegal mining.

Representative **Juan Carlos Losada** (*Colombia*), Co-Chair of the ParlAmericas Green Economy Caucus, participated as a speaker in the session "*Criminal Policy and Legislative Initiatives*."

Source: Social Media (Parlamericas)

Date: August 13, 2024

Location: Virtual

Title: Meeting of the Open Parliament Network Staff: Artificial Intelligence in Parliamentary Work

Description: This meeting provided a space to exchange best practices and experiences on the use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools in legislative processes. **Moises Benamor**, Head of the OAS Legislative Institutions Support Unit, participated as a panelist.

Source: Agenda (ParlAmericas)

Date: August 21, 2024

Location: Asunción, Paraguay

Title: Meeting with the OAS High-Level Group on Strengthening Women's Political Participation

Description: Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (*Paraguay*), President of ParlAmericas, met with **Laura Chinchilla**, former President of Costa Rica and Coordinator of the OAS High-Level Group, to exchange perspectives on multilateralism, democracy, and women's political participation.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

Date: September 5, 2024

Location: Washington D.C., United States

Title: 27th CAF Annual Conference

Description: **Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in the 27th CAF Annual Conference, co-organized by CAF – Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean, the Inter-American Dialogue, and the OAS.

Date: October 2, 2024

Location: Guatemala City, Guatemala

Title: Meeting: Toward Full Political Participation of Women in Guatemala

Description: This meeting brought together Guatemalan congresswomen and experts to discuss the challenges and opportunities for strengthening women's political leadership. **Alejandra Mora Mora**, Executive Secretary of the CIM/OAS, participated in the high-level panel.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: October 10-11, 2024

Location: Washington D.C., United States

Title: Conference: LegisTech – Artificial Intelligence in Parliaments

Description: **Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in the LegisTech conference on artificial intelligence in parliaments, organized by the OAS and Bússola Tech, hosted at the OAS and the U.S. House of Representatives.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

Date: October 23-25, 2024

Location: San José, Costa Rica

Title: 8th Meeting of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change and 16th Meeting of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality – Migration in a Context of Social and Environmental Challenges

Description: Co-organized with the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica, this event convened over 100 parliamentarians, legislative staff, women's organizations, youth leaders, and representatives from civil society and multilateral organizations from 18 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean.

Discussions addressed economic opportunities linked to migration, legislative best practices for migration governance, climate-induced migration, data collection, gender-differentiated impacts, social protection, and migrant integration.

**Melissa Pocasangre**, Regional Coordinator of the MIRPS Fund (OAS Department of Social Inclusion), and **Ignacio Odriozola**, Specialist of the IACHR Rapporteurship on the Rights of Migrants, served as panelists.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: November 18-19, 2024

Location: Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Title: Training for Women Candidates

Description: Organized by the CIM/OAS with support from ParlAmericas and CIWiL, this event brought together **40 women from 7 English-speaking Caribbean countries**. Sessions addressed campaign financing, political violence against women, campaign strategies, and effective political messaging.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

### Date: November 22, 2024

Location: Panama City, Panama

Title: Meeting: Building Safe, Inclusive, and Violence-Free Digital Spaces

Description: This meeting brought together women parliamentarians, legislative and government staff, party representatives, and civil society from Panama to discuss women's political empowerment in digital spaces.

Participants included **Minister Niurka Del Carmen Palacio**, Minister for Women and President of the CIM/OAS, and **Gloria Camacho**, President of the Committee of Experts (CEVI) of the MESECVI.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

### Date: December 12-13, 2024

Location: Punta Cana, Dominican Republic

Title: 30th Anniversary of the Summit of the Americas

Description: In its role as pro tempore presidency of the 2025 Summit of the Americas, the Dominican Republic convened regional leaders, former heads of state, academics, and thought leaders to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the first Summit of the Americas held in Miami in 1994.

**Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, represented the organization and highlighted the critical role of parliaments in the national implementation of Summit commitments.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: December 12-13, 2024

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: 7th Meeting of Ministers and High Authorities on Science and Technology

Description: This event, organized by the Executive Secretariat for Integral Development of the OAS, convened prominent authorities and specialists in science and technology from across the hemisphere. Critical topics were addressed, such as governance, regulation, and institutional frameworks for artificial intelligence (AI) in the Americas and the Caribbean. Discussions included the ethical and safe deployment of AI, its role in fostering innovation while addressing social challenges such as climate change and inequality, and the importance of public-private collaboration.

ParlAmericas was represented by Deputy **Rodrigo Goñi** (*Uruguay*), Chair of the Future Commission and member of the ParlAmericas Digital Caucus, and by **Anabella Zavagno**, Deputy Director General.

Source: <a href="Press Release">Press Release</a> (ParlAmericas)

2023

Date: February 22, 2023

Location: Virtual

Title: ParlAmericas Presentation to the OAS Permanent Council

Description: During this session, Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (*Paraguay*), President of ParlAmericas, and the Honourable **Claudius J. Francis** (*Saint Lucia*), Speaker of the House of Assembly, presented to the Permanent Missions a summary of ParlAmericas' work in 2022 and the organization's outlook for 2023, including key activities from its annual work plan and its strategic alignment with OAS priorities.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: April 20-22, 2023

Location: Santiago, Chile

Title: 7th Meeting of the Open Parliament Network – Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Democracy

Description: Co-organized with the National Congress of Chile, this event brought together more than 90 legislators, parliamentary staff, civil society organizations, international organizations, and academic institutions to analyze the opportunities and challenges posed by artificial intelligence (AI) for legislative work and democratic governance.

**María Celina Conte**, Director of the OAS Summit of the Americas Secretariat, participated in the session "Democracy in the Age of Artificial Intelligence."

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: May 19, 2023

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: Extraordinary Session of the OAS Permanent Council: Good Practices and Recommendations to Improve Inter-American Parliamentary Dialogue

Description: The extraordinary session "Good Practices and Recommendations to Improve Inter-American Parliamentary Dialogue" was convened in response to OAS General Assembly Resolution AG/RES. 2989 (LII-O/22) on Strengthening Democracy. This resolution includes, among its mandates, the convening of a special meeting with parliamentarians through ParlAmericas and other parliamentary organizations in the hemisphere to share good practices and recommendations from a gender perspective, in support of strengthening inter-American parliamentary dialogue.

ParlAmericas was represented by Senator **Verónica Camino Farjat** (*Mexico*) and former Assembly Member **Wilma Andrade Muñoz** (*Ecuador*).

As part of the ParlAmericas agenda in Washington D.C., a dialogue session was also held in the U.S. Senate, organized by the Permanent Mission of the United States to the OAS with the technical support of the Department for Strengthening Democracy (DSD). The meeting brought together Senators **Ben Cardin** and **Roger Wicker**, along with representatives of the Permanent Missions to the OAS. The session included a panel discussion on inter-parliamentary work currently underway in Latin America and the Caribbean by the House Democracy Partnership, the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute, and ParlAmericas, represented on the panel by its Director General, **Alisha Todd**.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

### Date: June 15, 2023

Location: Virtual

Title: Virtual Parliamentary Exchange on Artificial Intelligence and Digital Rights

Description: This virtual meeting brought together more than **90 parliamentarians, legislative staff, and** representatives of international organizations and academia from **19** countries in the Americas and

**the Caribbean**. The session focused on key elements that regulatory frameworks related to artificial intelligence should consider, and participants shared experiences on the work being carried out by parliaments across the hemisphere in this area.

Ambassador **Washington Abdala** (*Uruguay*), Permanent Representative of Uruguay and Chair of the Permanent Council of the Organization of American States, participated as a panelist.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: June 21-23, 2023

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: 53rd Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States: Strengthening a Culture of Democratic Responsibility with the Promotion, Protection and Equality of Human Rights in the Americas

Description: **Anabella Zavagno**, Deputy Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in the 53rd OAS General Assembly, held under the theme "Strengthening a Culture of Democratic Responsibility with the Promotion, Protection and Equality of Human Rights in the Americas."

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

### Date: August 16, 2023

Location: Panama City, Panama

Title: Event: Towards Equality – More Women Transforming Politics

Description: This event, organized by ParlAmericas and the Ministry of Women of the Republic of Panama, brought together parliamentarians, former parliamentarians, civil society representatives, and national experts to strengthen women's political participation and leadership. **Juana Herrera Araúz**, Minister of Women and President of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM/OAS), delivered the keynote address.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

### Date: August 23-24, 2023

Location: San José, Costa Rica

Title: First Regional Meeting of Women's Forums of Political Parties

Description: Over **60 representatives from women's forums and wings of political parties** from Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, and the Dominican Republic, as well as sitting and former parliamentarians, and representatives of international organizations and civil society, shared

experiences and discussed topics of common interest related to the regional agenda on gender equality and women's political rights.

The keynote address was delivered by Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the CIM/OAS.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: September 28-29, 2023

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Title: 15th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and 7th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change: A Future with Food Security – People- and Planet-Centered Strategies

Description: Co-organized with the Senate of the Republic of Mexico, this event convened over 60 parliamentarians, legislative staff, youth, and representatives of civil society and multilateral organizations from 18 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean. Participants analyzed strategies to guarantee the right to food through the promotion of innovative and multisectoral best practices that foster sustainability, inclusion, and resilience. A declaration was adopted by the attending parliamentarians.

**Diego Montenegro Ernst**, representative of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Mexico, participated as a panelist.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: October 31 – November 1, 2023

Location: Gros Islet, Saint Lucia

Title: Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue on Gender Equality and Sustainable Development

Description: More than **80 parliamentarians, legislative staff, specialists, and representatives of national gender mechanisms and civil society organizations from 17 Caribbean countries** participated in the event.

The participants engaged in dialogue on gender equality as a catalyst for achieving sustainable development, recognizing all forms of gender inequality—especially violence against women and girls, and in particular domestic violence—as threats to the ability of Caribbean Small Island Developing States to achieve sustainable development.

**Roberta Clarke**, Commissioner of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), participated in the keynote panel.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: December 13, 2023

Location: Virtual

Title: 7th Meeting of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Staff Network for Gender Equality: Care Policies within Parliaments – Sharing Best Practices in the Americas and the Caribbean

Description: Over 65 parliamentary staff, representatives of national gender mechanisms, and international organizations from 20 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean gathered to exchange strategies and good practices for implementing care policies in parliaments.

Alejandra Mora, Executive Secretary of the CIM/OAS, was one of the invited panelists.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

2022

Date: February 2, 2022

Location: Virtual

Title: ParlAmericas Presentation to the OAS Permanent Council

Description: Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (*Paraguay*), President of ParlAmericas, and the Honourable **Bridgid Annisette-George** (*Trinidad and Tobago*), Speaker of the House of Representatives and Vice-President of ParlAmericas, participated in the regular session of the OAS Permanent Council.

Their participation aimed to present to diplomatic delegations the achievements of ParlAmericas across the hemisphere during its first 20 years, as well as to share future visions.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: March 18, 2022

Location: Virtual

Title: Roundtable on the Inter-American Democratic Charter: Learning through Dialogue with Academics, Civil Society, and Democratic Leaders

Description: This event, organized by the Department of Political Science and the School of Public Policy and Global Affairs at the University of British Columbia, featured the participation of Senator **Rosa** 

**Galvez** (*Canada*), representing ParlAmericas, and **Andrew Stevenson**, Special Advisor at the OAS Summits of the Americas Secretariat.

In her remarks, Senator Galvez shared her perspective on the role of parliaments in building strong and inclusive democracies, and how parliamentarians are integrating an intersectional perspective to achieve an equitable and sustainable future.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

**Date: May 2022** 

Title: Publication – Contributions to the Implementation of the Lima Commitment

**Description:** This document systematizes the work carried out by ParlAmericas to contribute, from national parliaments, to the implementation of the commitments adopted by the Heads of State and Government at the 8th Summit of the Americas (Lima, 2019).

Source: Website (ParlAmericas)

Date: May 17, 2022

Location: Virtual

Title: Briefing with Senior OAS Officials Ahead of the 9th Summit of the Americas

Description: **22** parliamentarians from **15** countries of the Americas and the Caribbean, members of the ParlAmericas Board and the executive committees of its thematic networks, participated in a meeting with senior OAS officials in preparation for the 9th Summit of the Americas.

**Francisco Guerrero**, Secretary for Strengthening Democracy of the OAS, provided an overview of the regional political context, and **María Celina Conte**, Director of the OAS Summit of the Americas Secretariat, shared a summary of the Summit processes and the official forums and stakeholders involved.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 1, 2022

Location: Virtual

Title: High-Level Dialogue on the Occasion of the 9th Summit of the Americas: Advancing Multilateralism through Parliamentary Diplomacy

Description: This dialogue convened **43 parliamentarians from 18 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean** ahead of the 9th Summit of the Americas, to discuss multilateralism, parliamentary

diplomacy, and the role of parliaments in implementing the agreements and commitments arising from the Summits.

Panelists included **Cecilia Vilchis**, Coordinator of the Youth Forum of the Americas; **Marta Blackwell**, Vice-President of the Canadian Council for the Americas and former Business Forum participant; and **Marcos Urupá**, Project Consultant at ANDI and Coordinator of the Citizen Forum of the Americas (FCA) in Brazil.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: June 6-7, 2022

Location: Los Angeles, United States of America

Title: Parliamentary Meeting: Building a Sustainable, Resilient, and Equitable Future – In the Framework of the 9th Summit of the Americas

Description: Held in collaboration with the House Democracy Partnership of the U.S. House of Representatives, the National Democratic Institute, and the International Republican Institute, the event convened **46 parliamentarians from 22 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean**.

Participants shared good legislative practices in thematic panels aligned with the core topics of the 9th Summit of the Americas.

**Luis Almagro**, Secretary General of the OAS, participated in a fireside chat moderated by the Honourable **Christopher Dodd** (United States), former Senator and Special Advisor for the 9th Summit of the Americas.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: June 9, 2022

Location: Los Angeles, United States

Title: High-Level Panel: Women's Leadership in Care Agendas – From "Why" to Strategies (Side Event at the 9th Summit of the Americas)

Description: **Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in this high-level panel organized by the Government of Canada, the OAS Summit Secretariat, the CIM, and the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership.

The event addressed progress and challenges regarding the full and effective participation of women in public life.

Source: Publicación web - In Spanish (Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership)

### Date: June 9, 2022

Location: Los Angeles, United States

Title: Multi-Stakeholder Panel: Democratic Institutions and the Rise of Authoritarianism in the Region (Side Event at the 9th Summit of the Americas)

Description: MP **Vlado Mirosevic** (*Chile*) participated in this multi-stakeholder panel organized by the Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (REDLAD) and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) as part of the Citizen Forum of the Americas.

The event included presentations and dialogue sessions that analyzed the worrying democratic setbacks in some countries of the region and emphasized the importance of legislative powers in defending and promoting equity, rights, and human dignity.

Source: Web Publication - In Spanish (REDLAD)

### Date: October 5-7, 2022

Location: Lima, Peru

Title: 52nd Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly: Together Against Inequality and Discrimination

Description: A delegation from ParlAmericas participated in the 52nd Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, held under the theme *"Together Against Inequality and Discrimination."* 

In this context, **Senator Blanca Ovelar** (*Paraguay*), President of ParlAmericas, and **Senator Verónica Camino Farjat** (*Mexico*), President of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality, held a meeting with **Luis Almagro**, OAS Secretary General, and other OAS representatives. The meeting served to exchange ideas on strengthening inter-institutional collaboration and exploring opportunities for joint work.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

### Date: October 6, 2022

Location: Lima, Peru

Title: Meeting: Advancing Women's Full Political Participation – Building Consensus (Held in the Margins of the 52nd OAS General Assembly)

Description: This meeting, co-organized by ParlAmericas and the Congress of the Republic of Peru, was held in the margins of the 52nd OAS General Assembly to share proposals and reflections aimed at the political empowerment of women.

Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the CIM/OAS, participated in the dialogue sessions.

Source: <a href="Press Release">Press Release</a> (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 30 – December 1, 2022

Location: Bogotá, Colombia

Title: 14th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality: Legislative Perspectives for Inclusive Economic Growth – Investing in the Care Economy

Description: This gathering, co-organized with the Congress of the Republic of Colombia, brought together more than 85 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, youth, and representatives of civil society and multilateral organizations from over 18 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean.

Participants explored good legislative practices to recognize, redistribute, and regulate care work, incorporating gender, intersectional, intercultural, and human rights perspectives. **Alejandra Mora Mora**, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), presented the Inter-American Model Law on Care and its Implementation Guide as key tools for advancing legal frameworks that guarantee care-related rights.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: December 2, 2022

Location: Bogotá, Colombia

Title: 19th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly: Parliamentary Diplomacy – Multilateralism in Service of the People

Description: This assembly, co-organized with the Congress of the Republic of Colombia, brought together more than **85** parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, youth, and representatives of civil society and multilateral organizations from over **18** countries of the Americas and the Caribbean to discuss the role of parliamentary diplomacy in the complex economic, social, and political context of the region.

Participants adopted the *Declaration on Parliamentary Participation in the Inter-American System through ParlAmericas*, reaffirming their commitment to strengthen legislative presence in the hemisphere's multilateral spaces.

**Epsy Campbell Barr**, former Vice President of Costa Rica and then Chair of the High-Level Commission on Mental Health and COVID-19 of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), delivered the keynote address.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

### Date: March 15, 19, and 26, 2021

Location: Virtual

Title: 5th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network: Countering Disinformation to Promote Responsible Public Debate

Description: This gathering, co-organized with the Parliament of Canada, brought together more than **200** parliamentarians, legislative staff, experts, and representatives from civil society and youth organizations from **30** countries across the Americas and the Caribbean. Participants examined the effects of disinformation and computational propaganda on democracy and social dialogue—topics on which the parliamentarians adopted a declaration. **Pedro Vaca Villarreal**, Special Rapporteur for Freedom of Expression at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), participated in the working sessions.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: March 22, 2021

Location: Virtual

Title: 3rd Meeting of the ParlAmericas Network of Parliamentary Staff for Open Parliament: Countering Disinformation to Promote Responsible Public Debate

Description: The 3rd Meeting of the ParlAmericas Network of Parliamentary Staff for Open Parliament, co-organized with the Parliament of Canada and held in the framework of the 5th Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network, convened **parliamentary staff from 19 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean** to exchange experiences and good practices on technological innovation and its effects on democracy and public discourse. **Diego Subero**, consultant for the Cybersecurity Program of the OAS Inter-American Committee against Terrorism, participated in a panel on technological innovation in parliaments.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: March 25, 2021

Location: Hybrid

Title: Event: Accelerating Efforts to Achieve SDG 5.5 in the Americas

Description: As part of the 65th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW65), ParlAmericas participated in a side event organized by the Inter-American Task Force on Women's

Leadership and the OAS Summits Secretariat, with support from the Government of Canada. ParlAmericas was represented by the Honourable Senator Valerie Woods (Belize), Senator Martha L. Micher (Mexico), and Member of Congress Sonia M. Gutiérrez (Guatemala), who shared their experiences and perspectives on concrete actions and strategies in support of women's leadership across the region.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: May 7, 2021

Location: Virtual

Title: Webinar: Inter-American Model Law 2.0 on Access to Public Information for the Parliaments of the Americas and the Caribbean

Description: This meeting brought together more than **100** parliamentarians, legislative staff, experts, and representatives of oversight bodies from the Americas and the Caribbean and provided a space to strengthen collaboration between parliaments and oversight institutions in the region to address access to information and transparency. In this context, **Dante Negro**, Director of the Department of International Law at the OAS, presented the OAS Inter-American Model Law 2.0 on Access to Public Information.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 10-12, 2021

Location: Virtual, with Guatemala as host country

Title: 51st Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States: For a Renewed America

Description: The President of ParlAmericas, Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (Paraguay), and the Director General, **Alisha Todd**, participated in the 51st General Assembly of the OAS, held under the theme *"For a Renewed America."* 

Source: <u>List of Participants</u> (OAS)

Date: November 23, 2021

Location: Hybrid

Title: Event: Women's Economic Empowerment as a Tool to Address Discrimination and Gender-Based Violence

Description: This event, organized by the Permanent Mission of the Dominican Republic to the OAS and the Observing Mission of Spain to the OAS, addressed the importance of empowering women and girls as a way to eradicate gender-based violence. ParlAmericas was represented by Senator **Verónica Camino Farjat** (Mexico), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 26 and 29, and December 10, 2021

Location: Virtual

Title: 18th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly: Rebuilding the Social Contract

Description: The ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly brought together parliamentarians, legislative staff, and representatives of youth and civil society organizations from 23 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean to reflect on the need to renew the social contract in the context of post-pandemic recovery efforts and in response to calls from civil society to reinvent and transform governance and development models—topics on which the parliamentarians adopted a declaration.

The keynote address was delivered by **Luis Almagro**, Secretary General of the OAS. The event also marked the 20th anniversary of the founding of ParlAmericas and the adoption of the OAS Inter-American Democratic Charter.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: December 14, 2021

Location: Virtual

Title: CIM Parliamentary Consultation: Legal Frameworks, Economic Autonomy, and Women's Economic Empowerment: Proposed Inter-American Model Law on Care

Description: Senator **Verónica Camino Farjat** (Mexico), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality, represented ParlAmericas in a consultation process organized by the CIM/OAS to strengthen the draft of the Inter-American Model Law on Care Services.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

2020

Date: January 25-31, 2020

Location: Santiago de Chile, Chile

Title: XIV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean: Women's Autonomy in Changing Economic Scenarios

Description: A ParlAmericas delegation participated in the XIV Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean, held under the theme "Women's Autonomy in Changing Economic Scenarios." The conference convened ministers and parliamentarians, government representatives, specialists, and activists from across the region. It served as a forum to assess the state of women's autonomy and rights at the regional and subregional levels.

As part of the conference, the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership organized an official side event titled "Investing in Women's Leadership to Change Economic Scenarios: Lessons Learned and Collaborations with the Private Sector." The panel included the Honourable Samantha Marshall (Antigua and Barbuda), Minister with responsibility for gender affairs.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: April 23, 2020

Location: Virtual

Title: Statement by the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership: Equal Representation of Women in Decision-Making During the Pandemic

Description: As a founding member, ParlAmericas supported a statement issued by the Task Force underscoring the need for gender parity in decision-making processes to address the differentiated impacts of the pandemic, promoting inclusive and effective solutions.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: May 21, 2020

Location: Virtual

Title: Virtual Event: COVID-19 – Why Women's Leadership Can Make a Difference in the Response? Challenges and Opportunities in the Americas and the Caribbean Beyond the Emergency

Description: This event, organized by the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership, brought together women leaders and gender and health experts from Latin America and the Caribbean. An

additional session, supported by ParlAmericas, featured the Honourable **Delma Thomas** (Grenada), Member of Parliament and Minister for Social Development, Housing, and Community Empowerment, who shared her insights on women's political leadership in responding to the COVID-19 crisis, and on strategies to ensure that women are placed at the center of future response and recovery efforts.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 8, 2020

Location: Virtual

Title: Dialogue Among Presidents of Legislative Branches in Latin America: Legislating, Representing, and Exercising Political Oversight in the New Normal

Description: This dialogue, organized by the National Assembly of Ecuador, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the OAS, addressed the challenges posed by the COVID-19 crisis to democracy, development, and political communication. ParlAmericas was represented by its President, Assembly Member **Elizabeth Cabezas** (Ecuador), who highlighted the relevance of open parliament initiatives and the importance of transparency and anti-corruption measures in post-pandemic economic recovery.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: October 20-21, 2020

Location: Virtual

Title: 50th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States: Facing the Challenges of COVID-19 in the Hemisphere – A Collaborative Approach to Address Vulnerabilities and Build Resilience in Times of Crisis, Based on the Four Pillars of the OAS

Description: **Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in the 50th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, held under the theme "Facing the Challenges of COVID-19 in the Hemisphere – A Collaborative Approach to Address Vulnerabilities and Build Resilience in Times of Crisis," based on the four pillars of the OAS.

Source: <u>List of Participants</u> (OAS)

## Date: March 13, 2019

Location: New York, United States

Title: Meetings of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Empowerment and Leadership during the 63rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW)

Description: During the 63rd session of the CSW at the United Nations, ParlAmericas participated in a series of meetings organized by the Task Force, which included a high-level ministerial dialogue titled "Women's Leadership in the National Agendas of the Americas and the Caribbean," with representatives from member institutions such as UN Women, UNDP, IACHR, and ECLAC.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

# Date: May 5, 2019

Location: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Title: Meeting of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership in the Framework of the 38th Assembly of Delegates of the CIM

Description: In the lead-up to the 38th Assembly of Delegates of the CIM, ParlAmericas participated in a planning meeting of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership. The meeting included consultations and preliminary evaluations on the state of women's leadership in the region, concluding with the identification of three priority work areas: (1) an analysis of the availability and quality of data on women's leadership; (2) a regional communications campaign to engage different sectors; and (3) expansion of mentoring initiatives.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

#### Date: May 6-8, 2019

Location: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Title: 38th Assembly of Delegates of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM): Equality and Women's Empowerment

Description: This Assembly convened ministers, parliamentarians, public officials, and representatives of international and civil society organizations from across the hemisphere to discuss priority issues related to gender equality and women's empowerment. ParlAmericas was represented by Senator **Verónica Camino Farjat (Mexico)**, President of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality.

Source: <u>Press Release</u> (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 26-28, 2019

Location: Medellín, Colombia

Title: 49th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States: "Innovating to Strengthen Hemispheric Multilateralism"

Description: ParlAmericas participated in the 49th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, held under the theme "Innovating to Strengthen Hemispheric Multilateralism." In this context, Member of the Chamber of Representatives **Germán Blanco** (Colombia) addressed the General Assembly on behalf of ParlAmericas, reaffirming the organization's commitment to democratic values, multilateralism, and regional cooperation.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 23, 2019

Location: Ottawa, Canada

Title: High-Level Seminar: Reflections on the Elimination of Violence Against Women

Description: Held in the Senate of Canada ahead of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the event was hosted by the Honourable Senator Rosa Gálvez (Canada), President of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas and Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change, and featured the participation of Alejandra Mora Mora, Executive Secretary of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM).

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

2018

Date: April 11-12, 2018

Location: Lima, Peru

Title: 3rd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network: Open States for Democratic Governance Against Corruption, in the Framework of the 8th Summit of the Americas

Description: The gathering, co-organized with the Congress of the Republic of Peru, convened more than 100 parliamentarians and parliamentary staff from 25 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean and served as the official parliamentary meeting of the 8th Summit of the Americas. Participants shared good practices and exchanged ideas on how to address corruption through open

parliament principles, emphasizing the importance of tackling this issue in a cross-cutting manner by engaging all branches and institutions of government and civil society. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians. In addition, ParlAmericas presented preliminary recommendations to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG), which were incorporated into the Lima Commitment, the outcome document of the Summit.

**Jean Michel Arrighi**, Secretary for Legal Affairs of the OAS, participated in the session titled *Assessing the Situation: Is Corruption Getting Worse or Have Transparency Measures Increased Its Visibility?* In his remarks, he presented the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption, the Follow-Up Mechanism for its Implementation (MESICIC), and the OAS model laws on transparency and integrity, highlighting their importance in guiding legislative action and promoting accountability across the hemisphere.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

#### Date: April 13, 2018

Location: Lima, Peru

Title: Event: Strengthening Democratic Governance through Women's Empowerment and Leadership

Description: During the 8th Summit of the Americas, the event *Strengthening Democratic Governance through Women's Empowerment and Leadership* was held in Lima, organized by the CIM/OAS. This meeting marked the launch of the **Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership**, an initiative composed of the OAS, ParlAmericas, and other inter-American and international institutions. ParlAmericas is one of the founding members of this group, which aims to promote women's empowerment in the region through collaborative initiatives aligned with regional and international gender equality commitments.

In this context, Member of the Chamber of Deputies Karina Banfi (Argentina), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality, along with members of the Canadian delegation—Members of Parliament Robert Nault and Marc Serré, and the Honourable Senators Rosa Gálvez, Michael MacDonald, and François Choquette—participated in a roundtable organized by the CIM/OAS, where they shared reflections on women's empowerment as a pillar of democratic governance.

Source: Event agenda (OAS)

#### Date: June 4-5, 2018

Location: Washington, D.C., United States

Title: 48th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States

Description: **Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in the 48th OAS General Assembly.

Source: List of Participants (OAS)

Date: September 9-12, 2018

Location: Victoria, Canada

Title: 15th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly: Promoting Inclusive Societies for Sustainable Development

Description: The 15th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly brought together more than **100** parliamentarians and representatives of civil society organizations from **26** countries across the Americas and the **Caribbean** to address inclusion as an integral component of economic and social growth and of responsible political discourse in countries across the hemisphere. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians.

During the Assembly, representatives of the OAS presented the first report of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), focused on the human rights of migrants and refugees in Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Panama.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 6, 2018

Location: Washington, D.C., United States of America

Title: Regional Workshop: Climate Change and Resilience Building

Description: The Honourable **Alincia Williams-Grant** (Antigua and Barbuda), President of the Senate, represented ParlAmericas at this regional workshop, organized by the OAS in collaboration with Environment and Climate Change Canada and the Permanent Mission of Canada to the OAS. In her remarks, Williams-Grant emphasized the critical role of parliaments in ensuring national budgets are aligned with international climate commitments and in promoting citizen participation in the formulation of climate policies.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: December 5, 2018

Location: Washington, D.C., United States of America

Title: Event: Advancing Hemispheric Priorities through Inclusion and Diversity

Description: A ParlAmericas delegation composed of The Honourable Member of Parliament **Randy Boissonnault** (Canada), Congressman **Alberto Belaunde** (Peru), The Honourable **Valerie Woods** (Belize), current Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Senator **Aziza Lake** (Antigua and Barbuda) participated in this event organized by the OAS, in collaboration with the LGBTQ Victory Institute and

the Inter-American Dialogue. The event addressed policies aimed at promoting inclusion and diversity, as well as the ongoing impacts of discrimination and exclusion faced by LGBTQI individuals.

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

2017

Date: March 14, 2017

Location: New York, United States

Title: Presentation of the Work of the ParlAmericas Group of Women Parliamentarians to the Ministers of Women of the Americas

Description: In the framework of the 61st session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), Assembly Member **Gina Godoy** (Ecuador), President of the ParlAmericas Group of Women Parliamentarians, participated in a side event organized by the CIM/OAS with Ministers of Women of the Americas. This meeting served as a preliminary session toward the creation of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership. During the session, participants highlighted the importance of women's political leadership, as well as the initiatives of the Group of Women Parliamentarians in legislatures across the hemisphere aimed at promoting gender equality and increasing women's representation in leadership roles.

Source: Social Media (OAS)

Date: March 16-17, 2017

Location: San José, Costa Rica

Title: 2nd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network: Strengthening Ties Between Citizens and Legislative Powers

Description: The gathering, co-organized with the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica, brought together more than 70 parliamentarians and representatives of civil society from 25 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean. The event focused on advancing the implementation of the ParlAmericas Road Map towards Legislative Openness, with an emphasis on strategies to facilitate effective citizen participation in legislative decision-making processes. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians. Dr. Magaly McLean, Senior Advisor to the OAS Department of International Law, facilitated discussions on the Inter-American Model Law on Access to Public Information.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 19-21, 2017

Location: Cancún, Mexico

Title: 47th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly: Strengthening Dialogue and Concerted Action for Prosperity

Description: A ParlAmericas delegation participated in the 47th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly, held under the theme "Strengthening Dialogue and Concerted Action for Prosperity." The delegation was led by Senator Marcela Guerra (Mexico), President of ParlAmericas, and included legislators from Canada, Colombia, Ecuador, Grenada, Mexico, and Panama.

The delegation took part in the Dialogue of Foreign Ministers, the plenary session, and side events, including a roundtable on environmental justice, where Deputy **Javier Ortega** (Panama), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change and Sustainability, highlighted the importance of coordinated climate action with legislative participation.

Additionally, the delegation held meetings with senior OAS officials, including **Luis Almagro**, Secretary General; **Néstor Méndez**, Assistant Secretary General; **Francisco Guerrero**, Secretary for Strengthening Democracy; and **James Lambert**, Secretary for Hemispheric Affairs. The discussions addressed opportunities to formalize parliamentary participation through ParlAmericas in OAS deliberations, underscoring the value of legislative contributions to regional governance.

Finally, the delegation held an introductory meeting with Ambassador **Antonio García Revilla**, National Coordinator for the Summit Process and Director General for Multilateral and Global Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Peru, to discuss ParlAmericas' proposal to organize an official parliamentary meeting within the framework of the 8th Summit of the Americas.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: August 3-4, 2017

Location: Panama City, Panama

Title: 2nd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change: Renewable Energies

Description: The gathering, co-organized with PARLATINO, brought together **46 parliamentarians from 23 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean**, along with specialists and representatives from civil society organizations. The working sessions addressed various socioeconomic dimensions of sustainable energy development and its relationship to the mitigation and adaptation commitments outlined by countries in their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians.

**Elliot Sucari**, from the OAS Department of Sustainable Development, participated as a panelist in the session titled *Legislative Ecology of Climate Change: A Systemic Perspective for Parliamentary Action.* 

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: August 3, 2017

**Title:** Joint Publications

Climate Change: A Comparative Overview of Legislative and Executive Responses in the Americas

<u>Climate Change: A Comparative Overview of the Rights-Based Approach in the Americas</u>

**Description:** ParlAmericas and the OAS launched two joint publications on climate change: *A Comparative Overview of Legislative and Executive Responses in the Americas* and *A Comparative Overview of the Rights-Based Approach in the Americas*. The publications were presented by **Claudia de Windt**, from the OAS Department of Sustainable Development, on the occasion of the 2nd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change.

Source: Website (ParlAmericas)

Date: September 4-6, 2017

Location: Santiago, Chile

Title: 2nd Inter-American Congress on the Environmental Rule of Law

Description: ParlAmericas participated in the 2nd Inter-American Congress on the Environmental Rule of Law, organized by the OAS, to discuss environmental law in the Americas within the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. ParlAmericas was represented by Assembly Member **Ana Belén Marín** (Ecuador), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change, and Deputy **Patricio Vallespín** (Chile). The delegates shared their perspectives on legislative work to advance environmental laws aligned with the commitments adopted by governments in their Nationally Determined Contributions under the Paris Agreement.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 15, 2017

Location: Medellín, Colombia

Title: Workshop: Effective Online Research Practices to Support Parliamentary Work

**Description:** On the margins of the 14th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly, **24 parliamentarians from 19 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean** participated in a training session facilitated by **Marian Vidaurri** and **Pablo Thaler** from the OAS Political Analysis Unit. The session focused on the use of

advanced online tools for research, disaggregated data management, and applying gender-based analysis in legislative work.

Source: Event Agenda (ParlAmericas)

Date: November 16-17, 2017

Location: Medellín, Colombia

Title: 14th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly: Parliamentary Actions to Promote Responsible Political

Discourse

Description: The Assembly brought together more than **50** parliamentarians and representatives of civil society from **21** countries across the Americas and the Caribbean to discuss phenomena such as post-truth and fake news in highly polarized contexts. The Assembly fostered the exchange of institutional and individual initiatives to promote responsible discourse practices that encourage tolerance, respect, and plurality as part of a continued commitment to strengthening democracies in the region. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians.

The first plenary session, titled *Raising Awareness to Address the Challenge of Fake News*, was moderated by **Francisco Guerrero**, OAS Secretary for Strengthening Democracy. The session explored the effects of computational propaganda and the spread of fake news on democratic processes and political representation.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

**Date: November 2017** 

Title: Joint Publication

Online Navigation Information: Tips and Tricks for Parliamentary Research

Description: This publication, developed by ParlAmericas in collaboration with the OAS, provides practical guidance for conducting effective parliamentary research. It includes advanced search techniques, information management strategies, and methods for integrating gender-based and intersectional data into legislative analysis. Designed to support informed decision-making, it offers parliamentarians essential tools to strengthen their legislative work.

Source: Website (ParlAmericas)

## Date: January 26-27, 2016

Location: Castries, Saint Lucia

Title: Caribbean Inter-Parliamentary Meeting: Gender-Based Political Harassment – Building Awareness in Parliaments

Description: Co-organized by ParlAmericas and the CIM/OAS, this meeting brought together **34 current** and former parliamentarians from **11 Caribbean countries**. It served as a space for participants and representatives of multilateral organizations to exchange strategies to address gender-based political harassment. Dialogues focused on the challenges faced by women in parliament, media representation of women leaders, good practices for anti-harassment policies and political party codes of conduct, and the strengthening of legal frameworks.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

## Date: May 30-31, 2016

Location: La Paz, Bolivia

Title: 2nd Regional Meeting of Experts: Inter-American Model Law on Political Violence Against Women

Description: This regional meeting, organized by MESECVI/OAS and CIM/OAS in collaboration with ParlAmericas and UN Women, focused on discussing and validating the draft Inter-American Model Law on Political Violence Against Women. The meeting included the participation of The Honourable Representative **Angélica Lozano** (Colombia) and Deputy **Elizabeth Gómez** (El Salvador).

Source: Event agenda (OAS)

## Date: June 13-15, 2016

Location: Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Title: 46th Regular Session of the General Assembly of the Organization of American States: Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development in the Americas

Description: **Alisha Todd**, Director General of ParlAmericas, participated in the 46th OAS General Assembly, held under the theme "Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development in the Americas."

Source: Social Media (ParlAmericas)

## Date: September 12-13, 2016

Location: Antigua, Guatemala

Title: Central American Inter-Parliamentary Meeting: The Electoral Journey of Women Candidates

Description: This meeting, organized in collaboration with the Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO/OAS) and the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), brought together **21** current and former parliamentarians and emerging political women leaders from 8 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean. Discussions focused on the challenges faced by women candidates in Central America and addressed key issues such as campaign financing, access to media, political harassment, and compliance with quotas and affirmative action within political parties. DECO/OAS was represented by **Brenda Santamaría**, while **Marta Martínez** represented the CIM.

Source: Press Release and Year Highlights 2016 publication (ParlAmericas)

# Date: November 6-9, 2016

Location: Washington, D.C., United States of America

Title: ParlAmericas Delegation to Washington, D.C.

Description: A parliamentary delegation from ParlAmericas, composed of **11 parliamentarians from 9 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean**, conducted a visit to Washington, D.C. on the occasion of the 2016 United States presidential election. The purpose of the visit was to gain first-hand knowledge of the work carried out by international electoral observation missions and to deepen understanding of their role in promoting transparent and inclusive democratic processes.

As part of the visit, the delegation attended a briefing session with representatives of the OAS Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO). The session featured **Laura Chinchilla**, Chief of Mission; **Francisco Guerrero**, OAS Secretary for Strengthening Democracy; and **Gerardo De Icaza**, Director of DECO/OAS.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

#### Date: December 6-7, 2016

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Title: 13th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly: Strengthening Parliaments and Building Resilient Societies to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals

Description: The 13th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly brought together more than **50 parliamentarians** from **25 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean** to discuss the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the essential role of parliaments in shaping and overseeing national policies to achieve

them. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians. **Luis Almagro**, Secretary General of the OAS, delivered the keynote address.

Source: Press Release and Year Highlights 2016 publication (ParlAmericas)

2015

**Date: February 6–13, 2015** 

Location: Bogotá, Colombia

Title: Bilateral Visit of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas to Colombia

Description: A parliamentary delegation from the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas, composed of Senator Michael L. MacDonald and Members of Parliament Jim Munson, Earl Dreeshen, and LaVar Payne, met with representatives of the OAS Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia (MAPP/OAS) during an official visit to Colombia. The delegation also met with Representative Germán Blanco (Colombia), First Vice-President of ParlAmericas, and other parliamentarians to hear their perspectives on the challenges and opportunities in different regions of the country.

Source: Press Release (ParlAmericas)

Date: April 10, 2015

Location: Panama City, Panama

Title: Parliamentary Meeting: Legislative Transparency, within the Framework of the 7th Summit of the Americas

Description: This inter-parliamentary meeting, organized in collaboration with PARLATINO on the occasion of the 7th Summit of the Americas, brought together more than **80 parliamentarians and ministers from 26 countries across the Americas and the Caribbean**. Discussions focused on Summit sub-themes related to democratic governance and citizen participation, with special attention to transparency and ethics in the legislative sphere. These themes were reflected in a declaration adopted by the parliamentarians. The opening address was delivered by **Luis Almagro**, OAS Secretary General-Elect.

Source: Report (ParlAmericas)

Date: June 4, 2015

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Title: Meeting between ParlAmericas and the OAS Department of Sustainable Development

Description: Senator Marcela Guerra (Mexico), President of ParlAmericas, met with Claudia de Windt, Senior Legal Advisor of the OAS Department of Sustainable Development, to discuss opportunities for collaboration.

Source: Social Media (Parlamericas)

Date: August 6-7, 2015

Location: Santiago, Chile

Title: 2nd Inter-American Meeting of Presidents of Legislative Branches

Description: A ParlAmericas delegation participated in the 2nd Inter-American Forum of Presidents of Parliaments, co-organized by the National Congress of Chile and the OAS. Within this framework, the 6th Meeting of the Latin American Parliamentary Network on Transparency, Access to Public Information, and Probity was held, organized jointly with the Bicameral Transparency Commission of the Chilean Congress, which had coordinated the network until that point.

During the meeting, contributions were presented for the 2015–2018 Action Plan, and interest was reaffirmed in advancing the institutionalization and systematization of the network. In this context, ParlAmericas proposed integrating the network into its institutional structure, offering a hemispheric platform to strengthen its mandate, reach, and sustainability. As part of this process, Senator **Hernán Larraín**, president of the network, was invited to assume the second vice-presidency of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors and to lead the creation of a working group to continue this initiative. This transition was formalized during the 12th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly, held in September 2015, when the network was officially integrated as a permanent working group under the name *Open Parliament Network of ParlAmericas*.

Source: Report (Senate of the Republic of Mexico) and Year Highlights 2015 publication (ParlAmericas)

Date: October 22-27 and December 8-12, 2015

Location: Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Title: Electoral Observation Mission in Haiti (MiOÉH)

Description: ParlAmericas organized the MiOÉH in the context of the 2015 presidential, parliamentary, and local elections. This mission, carried out between August 2015 and February 2016, was conducted in close coordination with the OAS Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation (DECO) and

other missions present in the country, such as the European Union's. The MiOÉH placed special emphasis on the participation of women in the electoral process, both as voters and as candidates, and deployed parliamentary delegations from the region to foster dialogue with members of the Haitian Parliament and civil society actors.

Source: Press releases (ParlAmericas)

# Fecha: 22-27 de octubre y 8-12 de diciembre de 2015

Lugar: Puerto Príncipe, Haití

Título: Misión de Observación Electoral en Haití (MiOÉH)

Descripción: ParlAmericas organizó la MiOÉH en el contexto de las elecciones presidenciales, parlamentarias y locales de 2015. Esta misión, implementada entre agosto de 2015 y febrero de 2016, se desarrolló en estrecha coordinación con el Departamento de Cooperación y Observación Electoral (DECO) de la OEA y otras misiones presentes en el país, como la de la Unión Europea. La MiOÉH puso especial énfasis en la participación de las mujeres en el proceso electoral, tanto como votantes como candidatas, y desplegó delegaciones parlamentarias provenientes de la región para fomentar el diálogo con actores del Parlamento haitiano y de la sociedad civil.

Source: Press Releases (ParlAmericas)

#### Date: October 29, 2015

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Title: Panel: Legislative Transparency Reform Efforts in the Americas, within the Framework of the Open Government Partnership Global Summit

Description: Held in the framework of the Open Government Partnership (OGP) Global Summit, this panel, co-organized by ParlAmericas and the OAS, promoted dialogue on legislative transparency and openness in the Americas. The session featured opening and closing remarks by Senator Marcela Guerra (Mexico), President of ParlAmericas, and gathered more than 60 parliamentarians, government officials, and civil society representatives from across the Americas and the Caribbean. Panelists included Luis Iberico (Peru), President of the Congress of Peru; Senator Carlos Amarilla (Paraguay); Deputy Guadalupe Valdez (Dominican Republic); Deputy Marcela Guerrero (Costa Rica); and Senator Alejandro Guillier (Chile), who underscored the importance of transparency, citizen participation, accountability, and parliamentary ethics as pillars of democratic systems.

Source: Year Highlights 2015 publication (ParlAmericas)

Date: October 29, 2015

Location: Mexico City, Mexico

Title: Working Session of the Open Parliament Network within the Framework of the Open Government Partnership Global Summit

Description: Within the framework of the Open Government Partnership Global Summit, the first official working session of the Open Parliament Network of ParlAmericas was held. The meeting brought together parliamentarians and representatives of international organizations, including the Organization of American States (OAS), represented by **Moisés Benamor**, Head of the Section for the Support of Representative Institutions.

The objective was to establish a dialogue space on legislative actions and initiatives aimed at strengthening transparency, access to public information, accountability, citizen participation, and integrity in the parliaments of the Americas and the Caribbean. During the session, the network's 2016–2018 action plan was presented.

As part of the materials shared, ParlAmericas and the OAS launched the joint resource <u>What is Open Parliament?</u>, developed as an accessible conceptual tool to promote these principles within the hemispheric legislative sphere.

Source: Year Highlights 2015 publication (ParlAmericas)



ParlAmericas International Secretariat 703 - 155 Queen St., Ottawa, Ontario, KIP 6LI Canada Telephone: + I (613) 947-8999 www.parlamericas.org | info@parlamericas.org





















