



Inter-Parliamentary Union

For democracy. For everyone.

206th session of the Governing Council (Extraordinary virtual session) 1–4 November 2020

Governing Council
Item 8

CL/206/8-P.2
16 September 2020

Elections to the Executive Committee

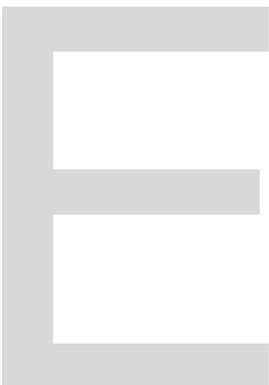
At its 206th session, the Governing Council will elect **two members**, as follows:

- Group of Latin America and the Caribbean** : One vacancy, to be filled by a woman, to replace Ms. Y. Ferrer Gómez (Cuba), whose Executive Committee terms ends at the 206th session of the Governing Council.
- Twelve Plus Group** : One vacancy, to be filled by a woman, to replace Ms. M. Kiener Nellen (Switzerland) who is no longer a Member of Parliament and whose mandate expires in October 2021.

Candidature of Ms. Beatriz ARGIMÓN (Uruguay)

On 15 June 2020, the IPU Secretary General received a letter from the Ms. Beatriz Argimón, President of the General Assembly and the Senate, Vice-President of the Republic and President of the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Uruguay, presenting her candidature for election to the Executive Committee.

The text of this communication together with the corresponding curriculum vitae can be found in [Annexes I and II](#).



**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY MS. BEATRIZ ARGIMÓN,
PRESIDENT OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND THE SENATE, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE
REPUBLIC AND PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF URUGUAY**

Montevideo, 15 June 2020

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

In light of the vacancy that will arise with the end of the term of Ms. Yolanda Ferrer (Cuba) on the IPU Executive Committee at the 142nd IPU Assembly in October 2020, we have decided to submit my candidature to be a member of said Committee.

Having held the presidency of the General Assembly and the Senate of Uruguay, as well as the vice-presidency of the Republic, since 1 March 2020, with a five-year term ahead of me, and as the first woman in our country to be elected to that high office, I believe that from this position I could make a greater contribution to our global parliamentary organization, demonstrating our firm desire to continue contributing to the IPU's efforts to promote peace and democracy worldwide.

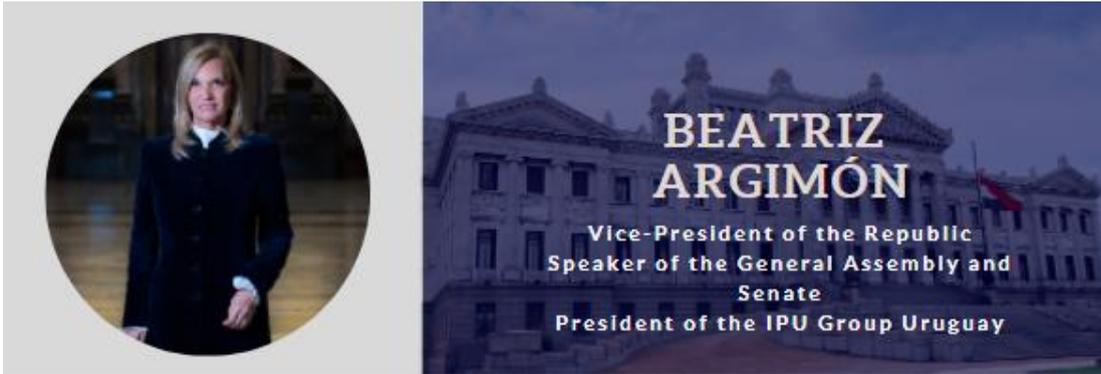
As you know, our Parliament is firmly committed to the IPU's principles and work, having taken all our commitments very seriously over the years. In this vein, with a new legislature just beginning, our Parliament does not currently hold any position in the IPU bodies.

Given the above, I ask you to bring this candidature to the attention of the IPU Members, requesting their support. Please find enclosed my curriculum vitae.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Beatriz ARGIMÓN (Ms.)
President of the General Assembly and the Senate,
Vice-President of the Republic and President of
the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Uruguay



PERSONAL INFORMATION

Beatriz Argimón Cedeira
Born in Montevideo, 14 August 1961
Notary public, Uruguayan politician
Political party: National Party

In the 2019 presidential elections, she was current President of the Republic Luis Lacalle Pou's running mate, becoming the first woman to be elected Vice-President of the Republic in Uruguay.

Married, two children, one grandson.

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EDUCATION

Notary public, University of the Republic (1989)
Courses: Child law, family law and human rights
Languages: English, French, Italian and Portuguese

POLITICAL-PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES

Vice-President of the Republic (2020–2025)
Speaker of the General Assembly and Senate (2020–2025)
President of the IPU Group Uruguay (2020–2025)
Rise Champion – fostering justice for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (2020)

A political activist from an early age (17 years old), together with a group of young people who worked for the restoration of democracy in the country, then ruled by a civil–military dictatorship. With the advent of democracy, she actively participated in the Social Affairs Secretariat of the National Party, promoted by the nationalist leader, Wilson Ferreira Aldunate. In addition, she participated in union activities and for the green vote campaign.

2020: Participated in the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, including as panellist in the special event “Countering terrorism and violent extremism: The perspective of victims”, (virtual meeting, 19 and 20 August, jointly organized by the IPU, the United Nations and the Parliament of Austria).

Participated in the 13th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament (virtual meeting, 17 and 18 August, jointly organized by the IPU, the United Nations and the Parliament of Austria).

November 2019: Elected Vice-President of the Republic in the second round of the presidential elections on the Lacalle Pou–Argimón joint ticket.



- June 2019 : Nominated as running mate of the National Party's winning candidate in the internal elections, Luis Lacalle Pou.
- 2018–2020 : President of the Governing Board of the National Party – the first woman to chair it.
- 2015–2018 : President of the Josefa Oribe Study and Training Centre, advisory institute of the Governing Board of the National Party, especially on gender issues. Currently a member of this Study Centre.
- 2014 : Supported the candidacy of Luis Lacalle Pou for the Presidency of the Republic, acting as one of his alternates in the Senate.
- 2012 : Participated in the Global Conference on Women in Agriculture, organized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Asia-Pacific Association of Agricultural Research Institutions with the support of the Gender in Agriculture Partnership (13–15 March, New Delhi, India).
- 2007 : Declared herself independent within the National Party. In the 2009 internal elections, submitted her own list (2018), supporting the candidacy of Jorge Larrañaga.
- 2000–2010 : Elected Member of the House of Representatives for the Department of Montevideo, National Party – the first woman to be elected for two consecutive terms (2000–2005 / 2005–2010) and the first woman to preside over the National Party's parliamentarian bench.
- Elected Vice-President of the House of Representatives (2005–2006).
- Founder of the Bicameral Women's Caucus.
- President and Vice-President of the following parliamentary committees: education and culture; territorial planning and environment; labour legislation; special committee on gender; poverty diagnosis; and human rights.
- Under her Presidency of the Human Rights Committee, she managed to establish contact with Martín Almada, a Paraguayan lawyer who discovered the Operation Condor files and brought them to Uruguay with documentation that was submitted to the committee that investigates human rights violations during the dictatorship.
- Regarding her parliamentary activity, she stands out for being the co-author of the Code for Children and Adolescents, the Prevention of Domestic Violence Law, the law granting one day's leave for women workers to have a gynecological cancer preventive test, and the Political Participation Law.
- Consistent with her commitment to get more women into political decision-making positions, she is a signatory and defender of the Quota Law.



1995 : Appointed Director of the National Institute for Minors (INAU), carrying out multiple programmes based mainly on shelters for women, opening three shelters for adolescent mothers. Together with the Youth Forum, she established El Faro – the first centre for women victims of mistreatment and sexual abuse. She proposed establishing an abuse hotline, resulting in the creation of a hotline (08005050) against abuse of girls and boys. During this period, she also promoted national and international forums on the comprehensive protection doctrine underpinning the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, and, together with several magistrates, she proposed the creation of a postgraduate degree in the law applicable to children and adolescents at the University of the Republic.

Founder, together with Julia Pou, of the Community Action Group (*Agrupación Acción Comunitaria*) (List 400).

Member of the committee for the new Child Code, chaired by Dr. Jacinta Balbela de Delgue.

Participates in the cross-party Network of Political Women of Uruguay, which works for more women in politics and for a negotiated agenda on gender issues.

1989 : Elected Council Member for Montevideo Department: member of the committees on housing, territorial planning and environment; and social hygiene.

1985 to present : National Convention Member of the National Party

SOCIAL ACTIVITY

In addition to her party activism, she ventured into social activism at the ITERAC CLUB Cerrito de la Victoria and Rotaract Club, as well as belonging to Christian youth groups.

16 years ago, she founded the Álvarez-Caldeyro Barcia Foundation which cares for premature babies. The Foundation operates out of Pereyra Rossell Hospital, and it was under her presidency that the first breast milk bank was set up in 2012.

PRIVATE ACTIVITY

2015–2018 : TV panellist on “Esta Boca es Mía”.

2011–2019 : Creator and host of TV programme “Diseñarte TV”, broadcast by TNU Television, on the national design industry and culture.

2007 : Performed, with several Uruguayan actresses and women public figures, the play “The vagina monologues”, to raise funds for a women’s shelter and denounce violence against women.

1991–1995 : Notary, Banco Hipotecario del Uruguay (Mortgage Bank of Uruguay)



1981–1991 : Administrative officer, Obras Sanitarias del Estado (OSE, the State sanitation agency), participating actively in the OSE Officials Federation.

PUBLICATIONS

- 2011 : “Encontrando Blancaslunas” (Finding Whitemoons)
- 2007 : “Sin pedir permiso I y II” (Without asking for permission I and II), which reviews the political life of prominent women linked to the history of the National Party.
- 2003 : “Lo que el cupo se llevó” (Gone with the quota)