



Inter-Parliamentary Union



Presentation of the Global Parliamentary Report 2022

The Present and Future of Public Engagement

Online event

May 30 2022: 15:00 - 19:00 CEST

May 31 2022: 09:00 - 13:00 CEST

Details and registration: <https://www.ipu.org/event/present-and-future-public-engagement>

This online event organised jointly by IPU and UNDP in partnership with the Agora Parliamentary Development Community of Practice introduces the third [Global Parliamentary Report](#) (GPR), which examines public engagement in the work of parliament. The event features discussion of the report's findings and recommendations as well as current and future trends in public engagement. The event will provide parliaments with practical tools and ideas for enhancing their public engagement activities and serve as a starting point for ongoing exchange of good practices.

Interpretation in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

Programme

Please note that all times are in CEST (Geneva).

Monday 30 May

15:00 Welcome Remarks

- Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General
- Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator

15:10 Highlights from the Global Parliamentary Report 2022

The GPR 2022 on Public Engagement in the Work of Parliaments is a response to the perception of a growing distance between people and their parliaments. Building on the experiences of parliaments around the world, the report encourages parliaments to step up their efforts to hear peoples' voices when making new laws and holding government to account.

Presentation of GPR highlights

- Andy Richardson, IPU

15:15 **Session 1. Public engagement - a fundamental requirement at a time of complex and multi-dimensional global challenges**

Without robust public engagement, the effectiveness of governance systems overseen by national parliaments is put at risk. This can in turn compromise the need for a coordinated and multisectoral approach to the unprecedented reversal of human development gains caused by the pandemic, as well as the existential threat of climate change, and deepening inequalities and insecurities, and the rise of authoritarianism.

Panelists will explain why continuous and inclusive dialogue is a requisite for the resilience required to achieve and maintain peaceful, just and inclusive societies, and why parliaments are in general both well-placed, and well-advised, to facilitate such dialogue.

Session structure:

Overview of GPR findings; Panel discussions

Moderator: Charles Chauvel, UNDP

Panelists:

- Khustori Patto, Member of the House of Representatives, Malaysia
- Cecilia Widegren, Member of the Riksdag, Sweden
- Iqra Khalid, Member of the House of Commons, Canada
- Tracy Vaughan-Gough, Global technical lead for social inclusion, Sight Savers UK

16:35 **Follow-up to GPR – Practical Session 1. If it was easy, everyone would be doing it**

Even long established democracies with well-resourced parliaments face challenges to make their public engagement meaningful. The country-specific interplay between history, culture, politics, and economics generally determines what will work best in context and has to be carefully considered.

Moderator: Charles Chauvel

- Jonathan Murphy, Head of Programme, INTER-PARES

16:50 **Coffee Break**

17:10 **Session 2. Key Trends in Public Engagement**

The GPR analyzes five main dimensions of public engagement: informing the public and communicating with them, educating the society about the work of parliament, consulting on policy issues and offering ways to participate directly in parliamentary work. Through the application of diverse public engagement tools such as digital channels, petitions, citizen assemblies, etc., some parliaments have been able to successfully deepen and strengthen engagement with their communities.

The panelists will discuss key trends and practical approaches for responding to the growing public demand to have a say in decision-making.

Session structure:

Overview of GPR findings; Panel discussions

Moderator: Andy Richardson, IPU

Panelists:

- Mattia Fantinati, Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Italy
- Iqra Khalid, Member of the House of Commons, Canada
- Maria Baron, Global Executive Director, Directorio Legislativo, Argentina

18:30 **Follow-up to GPR –
Practical Session 2: Joining the Public Engagement Hub**

IPU's Centre for Innovation in Parliament is partnering with the International Parliamentary Engagement Network (IPEN) to launch a new Public Engagement Hub where parliamentary staff can share their ideas, good practices and questions with peers in other parliaments. This session will show how the hub works and how to become part of this expert network.

- Andy Williamson, Senior Research, IPU Centre for Innovation in Parliament
- Cristina Leston-Bandeira, Professor of Politics, University of Leeds, UK; Coordinator, IPEN

18:45 **Wrap up of Day 1**

Tuesday 31 May

9:00 **Session 3. Continuous and Inclusive engagement for Leaving No One Behind**

Inclusive societies promise more sustainable human development outcomes, yet in virtually every peace and development country context, members of many groups remain marginalized and vulnerable. Effective parliamentary engagement is a necessary step to remedying this by helping to ensure that no one is left behind.

Panelists will discuss good practice on understanding the contextual lived reality of those most at risk of being left behind, and how to engage more effectively and inclusively.

Session structure:

Overview of GPR findings; Panel discussion

Moderator: Charles Chauvel, UNDP

Panelists:

- Louisa Wall, Ambassador for Gender Equality in the Pacific, New Zealand
- Aroma Dutta, Member of Parliament, Bangladesh (TBC)
- Boemo Segkoma, Secretary General, SADC Parliamentary Forum (TBC)
- Tuan Anh Khong, Climate Change Working Group, Youth Climate Action Network Viet Nam
- Sarah Kirk, Head of the Secretariat, Global Tuberculosis Caucus

10:20 **Follow-up to GPR –
Practical Session 3. Online Learning Journeys to build capacity for public engagement**

IPU will present its plans for Learning Journeys on public engagement. The first Learning Journey will focus on taking a strategic approach to public engagement. Participating parliaments will be accompanied through the steps in the strategy process and have the opportunity to learn from other parliaments.

- Norah Babic and Alex Read, IPU

10:35 **Coffee Break**

10:50 **Session 4. The Future of Public Engagement**

Session 4 will feature two thematic panel discussions:

Panel 1 – Taking Youth Seriously

An inclusive approach to engagement requires parliaments to engage youth in their work. In order to remain relevant to the young people, parliaments need to connect and interact meaningfully with them. Panelists will discuss how parliaments could motivate youth to be more actively engaged with their parliaments and how to make this interaction systemic and meaningful.

Moderator: Cristina Leston-Bandeira, IPEN

Panelists:

- Sahar Albazar, Member of the House of Representatives, Egypt; President of the IPU Forum of Young Parliamentarians
- Givi Mikanadze, Member of Parliament, Georgia
- Samson Itodo, Executive Director, Yiaga Africa

Panel 2 – Transforming through Technology and Encouraging Innovations

Effective engagement relies on parliament being open to the public and welcoming people's participation. Openness drives innovation by demonstrating willingness to collaborate and co-create with society. Digital transformation of parliament and society is bringing about a cultural shift in public engagement. By embracing innovation in their own processes, parliaments have an opportunity to position themselves as forward-looking institutions.

Session structure:

Overview of GPR findings; Panel discussion

Moderator: Cristina Leston-Bandeira, IPEN

Panelists:

- Neema Lugangira, Member of the National Assembly, Tanzania
- Gil Segal, Director General of the Knesset, Israel
- Robert Bjarnason, President, Citizens Foundation, Iceland

12:10 **Follow-up to GPR –
Practical Session 4. MPs Promoting Public Engagement**

This session highlights examples of ways in which MPs promote public engagement, and provides a platform to share their good practices.

12:45 **Closing Remarks**

- Andy Richardson, IPU
- Charles Chauvel, UNDP