



#ParlAmericasGEN

**TITLE:** Care Policies in Parliaments: Exchanging Good Practices in the Americas and the Caribbean

**THEMES:** Institutional care policies, co-responsibility, work-life balance, Inter-American Model Law on Care

**DATE:** December 13, 2023

**LOCATION:** Virtual

**PARTICIPANTS:** More than 65 parliamentary staffers, representatives of national gender machineries and international organizations from 20 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean



*This activity aligned with SDGs 5, 8 and 10.*



## 7th Meeting of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Staff Network for Gender Equality

This meeting provided a space for parliamentary staff and representatives of national gender machineries in the Americas and the Caribbean to examine strategies and share good practices and experiences for the implementation of care policies within parliaments.

With the support of invited experts, there were presentations of regional and international standards on care to be addressed by parliaments, both at the regulatory and institutional levels, aimed at recognizing and valuing care work



## AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

Opening remarks by:

- Senator **Carmen Gloria Aravena** (Chile), First Vice-President for South America of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality
- **Sulma Campos Mata** (Mexico), head of the Technical Unit for Gender Equality, Senate of the Republic

Panellists:

- **Ana Gúezmes**, Gender Division director, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
- **Alejandra Mora Mora**, Executive Secretary, Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)
- **Claudia Fuenzalida Cereceda** (Chile), head of the Planning and Management Control Unit and head of Gender Affairs, Senate of the Republic
- **Gracielle Fernanda do Nascimento Azeredo** (Brazil), legislative analyst, member of the Permanent Committee for the Promotion of Gender and Race Equality and of the Working Group on Racial Affinity, Federal Senate
- **Annie Carpentier** (Canada), Deputy Director, Members' Human Resources Services, House of Commons

Dialogues moderated by:

- **Chantal La Roche** (Trinidad and Tobago), Parliamentary Legal Services Director
- **Haydeé Hernández Pérez (Costa Rica)**, head of the Technical Unit for Gender Equality and Equity of the Legislative Assembly

Closing remarks by:

- **Sulma Campos Mata** (Mexico), head of the Technical Unit for Gender Equality, Senate of the Republic

### KEY CONSIDERATIONS FROM THE MEETING:

- Care work comprises activities aimed at the daily well-being of people, at various levels: material, economic, moral, and emotional. It is a human right: to care, to be cared for, and to self-care. Given that care work is often predominantly performed by women, institutionalizing care policies in workplaces - including parliaments - and promoting co-responsibility helps to ensure women's economic autonomy.
- It is necessary to move towards a [care society](#), promoting a model of co-responsibility in which actors such as the State, civil society, the private sector, the community, and families actively contribute to and support care work. The [Inter-American Model Law on Care](#) redefines care work and its [Implementation Guide](#) includes the highest standards on care and co-responsibility.
- Parliaments not only have an external task in the development of regulations to recognize care as a right but must also promote transformations within parliaments through institutional measures that address the care related needs in a diversity of families and contexts. For more details on existing practices in the region, see the [Briefing Document on Lactation and Daycare Facilities in the Americas and the Caribbean](#).



[AGENDA](#)



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## PARLIAMENTS REPRESENTED



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ParlAmericas is headquartered in **OTTAWA, CANADA**

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