

AGENDA

Parliamentary perspectives for safe, orderly, and regular migration in Latin America and the Caribbean

Within the framework of the UNFCCC Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2023

**National Assembly of Panama
October 24 and 25, 2023**

REGISTER

Since 2010, no region in the world has experienced a greater relative increase in international migration than Latin America and the Caribbean.¹ New and changing socio-economic factors have produced shifts in migration patterns that include massive flows of people and the creation of new sending and receiving countries, all of which has prompted changes to national regulatory frameworks.

This interparliamentary meeting will offer a space to analyze recent trends in migration in the region from various angles, and to explore the role of parliaments in taking inclusive and human rights-based approaches to addressing migration-related challenges and opportunities.

Proposed objectives

- Offer an updated overview of the state of migration in the hemisphere, taking into account new migration patterns, including trends in interregional migration, return migration, and new regulatory frameworks.
- Facilitate the exchange of national migration policies and good legislative practices on the subject that address the migration phenomenon in the hemisphere, seeking to promote comprehensive, inclusive, and human rights-based migration governance.
- Promote regional cooperation between national parliaments through a collaborative and coordinated approach to migration, encouraging the development of innovative solutions to common challenges.

Tuesday, October 24, 2023

08:00 - 08:30 Transfer of participants to the National Assembly of Panama

¹ [El cambio de los patrones y políticas migratorias en las Américas](#). Migration Policy Institute. 2023

09:00 - 9:30 **Opening Remarks**

Location: Salón Azul (blue room)

- Member of the National **Jaime Vargas** (Panama), President of the National Assembly
- Member of the National Assembly **Kayra Harding Bart** (Panama), Vice-President for Central America of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and Host of the meeting

09:30 - 10:00 **Official photograph and coffee break**

10:00 - 12:30 **Panel: Regulatory frameworks and governance**

Location: Salón Azul (blue room)

Moderator

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Nelsa Shoraya Suárez Ariza** (Dominican Republic), 2nd Vice-President for the Caribbean of ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change and Sustainability

Panelistas

- **Rudolf Maxwald**, Senior Regional Liaison and Policy Advisor, International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- Representative **David Toro Ramírez** (Colombia)
- Member of Congress **Juan Carlos Rodas Lucero** (Guatemala), Chair of the Committee on Migrants

This panel will provide an overview of the current migration policy landscape of Latin America and the Caribbean, focusing on commitments at the international and regional levels that require parliamentary oversight, as well as ongoing opportunities and challenges to implementation efforts. Space for dialogue and sharing on national frameworks will follow the panel.

12:30 - 14:00 Lunch

Location: Patio Central del Edificio Nuevo (central patio of the new building)

14:00 - 15:00 **Panel: Migration and child rights: a youth's perspective**

Location: Salón Azul (blue room)

Moderator

- Member of the National Assembly **Alina González** (Panama)

Panelists

- **Sara Cognuck González**, consultant, UNICEF

- **Elena Lorac**, founder and co-chair of Reconoci.do

This panel will convene youth representatives from international and civil society organizations to learn on their views on the specific challenges faced by youth linked to the phenomenon of migration, and to examine the link among migration and child rights and the role of parliaments in their protection.

15:00 - 16:30 **Working tables: Inclusive perspectives on migration**

Location: *Salón Azul (blue room)*

Facilitator:

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Camila Crescimbeni** (Argentina), Chair of the Committee on Population and Human Development

Moderators of the working tables

- Drivers of migration: Member of Congress **Luis Enrique Ortega Sanchez** (Honduras)
- Climate migration: Member of the Legislative Assembly **Radjendrekoemar Debie** (Suriname)
- Migrant integration: Representative **Sylvia Iburguren Gauthier** (Uruguay)

This session will foster direct engagement among participants and provide an opportunity to discuss national concerns and regional perspectives on migration related to the following three themes: drivers of migration, climate migration and migrant integration.

The dialogues will emphasize the importance of considering different social identities and contexts in these discussions (i.e. gender, age, race, etc) to promote legislative work aimed to support comprehensive, inclusive, and human rights-based migration policies.

16:30 - 16:45 Conclusions from day 1

16:45 Transfer of participants to hotel

19:00 **Welcome dinner** - Courtesy of GRC

Location: *Tactic VI, Aloft Hotel*

Wednesday, October 25, 2023

08:00 - 8:30 Transfer of participants to the National Assembly of Panama

08:30 - 10:00 **Panel: Contributions of migration to socio-economic development**

Location: Salón Azul (blue room)

Moderator

- Member of the National Assembly **Juan Diego Vázquez** (Panama)

Panellists

- **Verónica Cano**, Researcher at CELADE-Population Division of ECLAC
- **Jacqueline Emmanuel**, Director of Economic Affairs & Regional Integration, OECS
- **María Noel Vaeza**, Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean, UN Women

This panel discussion will provide a multi-sectoral analysis of the opportunities and contributions of regular migration to sustainable development, highlighting the benefits for both sending and receiving States.

10:00 – 10:15 Coffee break

10:15 - 11:15 **Roundtable: The role of inter-parliamentary diplomacy in migration governance**

Location: Salón Azul (blue room)

Moderator:

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Vlado Mirosevic** (Chile), ParlAmericas Board Member

This session, structured as an inclusive group dialogue among all participants, will bring together key takeaways from previous sessions to carve a path forward. Participants will discuss how continued inter-parliamentary collaboration can strengthen legislative advancements for safe, orderly, and regular migration in the Americas and the Caribbean.

11:15 - 11:30 **Evaluations and closing remarks**

- Member of the National **Assembly Kayra Harding Bart** (Panama), Vice-President for Central America of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and Host of the meeting

11:30 Transfer of participants to Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2023

Location: Marriott Panama Hotel, Albrook Mall

12:00 - 12:40 Opening Ceremony - Latin America and the Caribbean Climate Week 2023

Location: Albrook convention center

- 12:50 Transfer of participants to lunch
- 14:30 Transfer of participants to the Marriott Panama Hotel
- 15:30 - 17:30 **Upscaling Renewable Energy Deployment for the Good of All: The Role of Legislators**
- Location:** Ancon II, Marriot Panama Hotel*
- Hosted by ParlAmericas, in collaboration with IRENA and Global Renewables Congress, this joint event seeks to help transform commitments into actions by galvanizing policy frameworks that enhance renewable energy uptake in the Americas and the Caribbean.*
- 17:30 Transfer of participants to hotel



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Select sessions of this event will be recorded and turned into podcast episodes that can be accessed on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, Spotify and SimpleCast.



This activity is being undertaken with financial support from the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.