

Parliamentary delegation to COP26

#ParlAmericasCC #COP26

 **TITLE:** 26th Conference of the Parties (COP26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

 **THEME:** Together for our planet

 **DATES:** October 31-November 13

 **LOCATION:** Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom

 **HOST:** Government of Scotland and United Kingdom in partnership with the Government of Italy



These activities aligned with SDGs 1, 4, 5, 8, 10, 13, and 16.

This year's COP26 to the UNFCCC convened negotiators, government representatives, parliamentarians, civil society, and the private sector -- as well as official observer organizations such as ParlAmericas -- under the presidency of the UK and in partnership with Italy, to generate commitments for more ambitious and inclusive climate action to achieve the Paris Agreement. ParlAmericas was represented by Senator the Honourable **Rosa Galvez** (Canada), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network

on Climate Change (PNCC) and Senator **Raúl Bolaños-Cacho Cué** (Mexico), Vice-President for North America of the PNCC who participated in his capacity as member of the national delegation of Mexico.

On the margins of COP26, Senator Galvez participated in the COP26 Legislators Summit hosted by GLOBE and the Scottish Parliament, a gathering to facilitate the exchange of innovations and good practices among legislators from across the world, held virtually and in-person November 5 - 6, 2021 in Edinburgh, UK ([day 1](#) and [day 2](#) recordings). As part of her involvement, she spoke in the panel alongside Dr. Marcelo Carvalho de Andrade, Founder of ProNatural and Co-Founder of Earth Capital (global), and Professor Dan Etsy from Yale University about addressing the financial realities of achieving national net zero decarbonization, investing in climate change adaptation, and reconciling loss and damage in the face of COVID-19 and debt recovery. The Senator discussed the need to ensure that businesses and investors align themselves with and support the achievement of climate commitments through legislative innovation in climate finance.

Senator Galvez likewise [presented](#) at the Inter-Parliamentary Union COP26 Parliamentary Meeting to share her expert opinion on climate change and a clean recovery, informed by the key findings from her white paper on [Building Forward Better: A Clean and Just Recovery from the COVID-19 Pandemic](#).

During the 4th session of the Parliamentary Webinar Series, hosted by GLOBE International, E3G, and the World Resources Institute, Senator Galvez presented ParlAmericas' interactive resource [Environment and Sustainability: Mapping the Strategies and Plans of the Americas and the Caribbean](#).

Senator Bolaños held several bilateral meetings with subject-matter experts on climate change, with whom he shared the reforms that have been passed by the Senate of the Mexico, such as raising the care of the environment to a constitutional rank and the [Circular Economy Law](#), a key thematic area for ParlAmericas since hosting the [17th Plenary Assembly: Towards a Circular Economy](#).

Finally, ParlAmericas was pleased to be a founding member of UNFCCC's parliamentary group, which aims to promote the strengthening of parliamentary participation in the COP process and UNFCCC meetings.

Among the key references and resources shared by ParlAmericas during COP were:

- [Executive Summary: Parliaments and the Paris Agreement](#)
- [Environment and Sustainability: Mapping the Strategies and Plans of the Americas and the Caribbean](#)
- [ParlAmericas 1st COP26 Newsletter](#): Enabling Virtual and In-person Parliamentary Action during COP26
- [ParlAmericas 2nd COP26 Newsletter](#): Promoting Parliamentary Action Post-COP26

KEY ACTION POINTS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS AFTER COP26

COP26 concluded with the adoption of the [Glasgow Climate Pact](#), as well as several other [high-level outcomes](#) (summarized in [ParlAmericas 2nd COP26 Newsletter](#)). The main message was clear: **to combat climate change, and save the world from catastrophic impacts, words must be put into action.**

Legislators, as representatives of diverse communities, are key actors who can ensure that the climate commitments made at COP26 by the executive branch are fulfilled. **The following are some recommended legislative actions that can be taken post-COP26:**

- Check whether your country has submitted an updated Nationally Determined Contribution, Long-Term Climate Strategy, and National Adaptation Plan, if they are compatible with the goals of the Paris Agreement, and how these contribute to meeting national development priorities
 - Consult the ParlAmericas [repository](#) to see if your country has a plan in place on these topics, as well as other environmental issues.
- Request that government officials, the national negotiation team, and/or the parliamentary delegation to COP26 present the commitments made at COP26 to the appropriate committees (i.e., those responsible for environmental matters, finance, gender, among others), recalling that climate change cannot be addressed effectively in silos.
- Hold public hearings to gather input and reflections from experts and civil society representatives on climate change commitments.
 - Request progress reports on the implementation of environmental and climate commitments made at COP26. Consider:
 - creating a working group to follow the climate commitments made at COP;
 - assigning relevant parliamentary committees the responsibility to follow up on the commitments; and/or
 - organizing periodic meetings with the responsible parliamentary committee(s) and ministry to follow up on the implementation of policies necessary to comply with what was agreed in the framework of COP26.
- Examine how the commitments made at COP26 can be cemented and promoted through existing or new legislation and adequate budget allocation.
- Examine how the commitments made at COP26 can be integrated in the country's plan to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In preparation for COP27 in Egypt, work on creating mechanisms to promote and facilitate parliamentary involvement. Consider working within the framework of the designated working group or committee to collaboratively contribute to the national position that will be taken to the COP, for example by holding working spaces between negotiators and legislators.

For more guidance on how you can help support the implementation of the Paris Agreement and environmental commitments, see the [executive summary](#) of the publication *Parliaments and the Paris Agreement*.



Environment and sustainability: Mapping strategies and plans of the Americas and the Caribbean

Parliaments are critical actors in the development, implementation, and monitoring of their country's environment and climate objectives which requires supporting legislation, budget allocations and oversight by the legislative branch to hold the government accountable, as well as promote strong environmental governance. To support these important functions, this resource maps the strategies and plans adopted by the Governments of the Americas and the Caribbean to address specific environmental and climate change topics. It aims to compile and systematize the information in one location to improve accessibility as well as further familiarize parliamentarians with the action plans and initiatives being undertaken by their Executive Branches and identify progress and potential gaps.

For a description of the international commitments and good practices mapped, as well as the methodology that was used to compile this information, please consult the following document:

[→ Methodology and description document](#)

This tool can be used in conjunction with the publication, *Parliaments and the Paris Agreement*, which offers actionable advice on how parliaments can strengthen the alignment of oversight, legislative, and budgetary efforts to support these plans and strategies, including providing examples of good practices and key guidance questions that parliamentarians can use to understate this work.

[→ Publication: Parliaments and the Paris Agreement](#)

If you find there is a plan or strategy missing, please contact us at parlAmericas@parlAmericas.org so that we may update this tool.

Please select the country:

First Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) submitted

Updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) submitted

First NDC submitted

Updated NDC submitted

Parliaments and the Paris Agreement



Strengthening parliamentary engagement in the development and implementation of international climate commitments. An overview of emerging global experience.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As warning signs continue to signal the need for urgent change, this publication, *Parliaments and the Paris Agreement*, aims to highlight the important role of parliamentarians in advancing solutions to the climate crisis and ensuring that there is continued long term political support for such international agreements and their implementation nationally beyond electoral cycles. The IPCC [physical science update](#) released in August 2021, billed by the UN as the 'Code Red' report, sounded the alarm further with its confirmation of the widespread and intensifying nature of climate impacts, and the need for rapid and large-scale greenhouse gas emissions reductions to limit global temperature rise to 1.5°C. The publication in its entirety provides background information on the Paris Agreement and its various components, as well as other relevant international multilateral environmental agreements and treaties. The publication then proceeds to highlight global good parliamentary practices for the development and adoption of national climate commitments and provides guidance to strengthen the alignment of parliament's oversight, legislative, and budgetary efforts to these national climate commitments and broader objectives of the Paris Agreement. This executive summary serves as an overview of the key points and recommendations provided in the publication and includes guiding questions for parliamentarians. The reader is invited to consult the complete publication for the greater repository.





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ParlAmericas promotes policies and legislative measures to mitigate and adapt to the effects of **CLIMATE CHANGE**



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