



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

Lima, Peru, April 9, 2018

On Wednesday, April 11 and Thursday, April 12, ParlAmericas, in collaboration with the Congress of the Republic of Peru, will host the third gathering of the Open Parliament Network: *Open States for Democratic Governance against Corruption*, in the city of Lima in the framework of the VIII Summit of the Americas.

The gathering, which will be held on the premises of the Congress of the Republic, serves as the official parliamentary gathering of the Summit of the Americas, in which legislators from more than 20 countries in the Americas and the Caribbean will discuss the importance of open states for democratic governance against corruption, as well as the crucial role that legislatures play in developing and implementing solutions to this problem.

ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network promotes open parliaments through transparency and access to public information, accountability, citizen participation, and ethics and probity, with the aim of fighting corruption and strengthening citizens' confidence in the hemisphere's legislatures. It will be an opportunity for parliamentarians from the hemisphere to exchange knowledge and experiences with respect to ethics and probity and gender mainstreaming in the fight against corruption, and to establish guidelines for the formulation of open parliament action plans. Moreover, two new tools will be presented and made available to legislatures: the Toolkit for Citizen Participation in the Legislative Process and a follow-up mechanism for open parliament commitments.

"This gathering is a major opportunity for legislators from the hemisphere to work together with the aim of developing strategies that will enable us to eliminate the causes and impacts of corruption at all levels. On behalf of the Congress of the Republic of Peru, it is an honour to welcome parliamentary delegations from the Americas and the Caribbean who will join us in continuing to make progress on this agenda," stated Member of Congress Luis Galarreta, president of the Congress of the Republic of Peru and host of the gathering.

For her part, Senator Marcela Guerra, president of ParlAmericas, affirmed that "parliamentarians play a vital role in the fight against corruption, not only in exercising our powers of representation, legislation, and political control, but also by promoting actions on legislative openness, which facilitate interactions between citizens and legislatures, access to public information, and citizen empowerment."

Consult the <u>agenda</u> and be sure to follow @ParlAmericas on social media using the hashtag #ParlAmericasOPN to get the most recent updates on the gathering.

ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes parliamentary diplomacy in the inter-American system. Composed of the national legislatures of the member States of the OAS from North, Central, and South America, and the Caribbean, ParlAmericas facilitates the exchange of parliamentary best practices and promotes cooperative political dialogue.

For more information, visit http://www.parlamericas.org or write us at info@parlamericas.org