THEME
Open States for Democratic Governance Against Corruption

VENUE
Lima, Peru

DATES
April 11 - 12, 2018

PARTICIPANTS
Over 100 parliamentarians and parliamentary staff from 25 countries

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

This activity is aligned with SDG 16

ParlAmericas at the Summit of the Americas
3rd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

#ParlAmericasOPN

In collaboration with the Congress of the Republic of Peru, ParlAmericas held the 3rd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network: Open States for Democratic Governance Against Corruption, an official gathering in the framework of the VIII Summit of the Americas, during which experts and parliamentarians exchanged best practices and ideas on how to face corruption in while taking into account open parliament principles, as well as recognizing the importance of a cross-sectional approach to this challenge that will involve all Governmental branches and institutions, as well as civil society.

The gathering started with welcoming remarks from the Honourable **Robert Nault** Member of Parliament (Canada) and Vice-President of ParlAmericas, Member of the Legislative Assembly **Karla Prendas** (Costa Rica), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network – Central America, and Member of Congress **Luis Galarreta**

(Peru), President of the Congress of the Republic and the host of the Gathering. The keynote address was delivered by **Martin Kreutner**, Dean and Executive Secretary of the International Anti-Corruption Academy.

"Corruption is the antithesis vis-à-vis human rights, the venom vis-à-vis the rule of law, the poison for prosperity and development, the reverse of equity and equality. Investing in anti-corruption education and empowerment is therefore the smart way towards sustainable development, safeguarding human rights, and strengthening the rule of law on the road to 2030 and beyond."

Martin Kreutner, Dean and Executive Secretary of the International Anti-Corruption Academy

"There is a long road lying ahead, and several challenges yet to face and solve. These fora, and the approach to these issues [taken during this Gathering] will help us develop potential solutions, as well as determine whether we are on the right track, how much progress has been made, and how much work there is left to do."

Member of Congress **Luis Galarreta** (Peru), President of the Congress of the Republic

"The executive branches of our countries cannot tackle corruption alone. They need our help to achieve success, in part because corruption takes place at many levels in our societies. All relevant parties must work together in developing strategies to identify the root causes of corruption, and to tackle its negative consequences. Efforts in both areas must occur simultaneously, and they must be unrelenting."

The Honorable **Robert Nault**, Member of Parliament (Canada)

"Parliaments undoubtedly have an active and important role to play in this fight against corruption. This not only consists of political control within parliaments; it also includes administrative actions and measures that may contribute to sustaining this struggle, as well as to developing legislation on the matter."

Member of the Legislative **Assembly Karla Prendas** (Costa Rica)

VIII Summit of the Americas
LIMA · PERU · 2018

The Summits of the Americas are institutionalized gatherings of the heads of state and government of the Western Hemisphere where leaders discuss common policy issues, affirm shared values and commit to concerted actions at the national and regional level to address continuing and new challenges faced in the Americas. At the VII Summit, they addressed "Democratic Governance against Corruption", in order to jointly define a hemispheric agenda at the highest level that addresses urgent challenges and promotes positive change.

The participation of parliamentarians in this kind of forum is of utmost importance considering the role they play in effectively advancing the agreements and undertakings signed by Member States. In this sense, parliaments are responsible for developing the required legislative reforms, approving the national budget to ensure that resource allocation is aligned with the established priorities, and conducting the necessary political follow-up on and monitoring of compliance with the commitments made by their respective governments.

In its role as the institution promoting parliamentary democracy in the Inter-American system, ParlAmericas submitted preliminary recommendations to the Summit Implementation Review Group (SIRG). Additionally, in collaboration with the Peruvian Parliament, ParlAmericas hosted the 3rd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network, the official parliamentary gathering in the framework of the VIII Summit of the Americas, in which a Declaration of parliamentary commitments was adopted. The Lima Commitment, resulting from the Summit, took note of these recommendations.

Working Session 1: Taking Stock: Is Corruption Worsening or Have Transparency Measures Increased Its Visibility?

With the recent corruption cases seen in various countries in the hemisphere, it is crucial to better understand this problem in order to adopt effective measures to combat it, while keeping in mind the international mechanisms developed to address this issue. The session was moderated by **Guadalupe Valdéz**, former parliamentarian from Dominican Republic, and featured a presentation by **Jean Michel Arrighi**, Secretary of Legal Affairs, Organization of Americas States (OAS), who placed emphasis on the Inter-American Convention against Corruption and the Follow-Up Mechanism for its Implementation (MESICIC), as well as the model laws on transparency and integrity developed by the OAS. During this session, parliamentarians engaged in a dialogue which underscored the principles, actions, and rules promoted in their respective countries to fight against corruption.

"The American Convention against Corruption and the Follow-Up Mechanism for its Implementation were created in 2001. Since then, it has been monitoring regulatory compliance by OAS Member States with their commitments under the Convention. Many of these are necessarily related to parliamentary activities andcall for drafting and passing of new legislation and legal mechanisms; developing new national institutions, and strengthening current regulations on control, transparency, access to public information, and access by civil society to the various activities."

Jean Michel Arrighi, Secretary of Legal Affairs, Organization of Americas States (OAS)

Tools Developed by OAS to Fight Corruption

[Inter-American Convention against Corruption and the Follow-Up Mechanism for its Implementation](#) (MESISIC) an inter-governmental instrument which supports the implementation of the convention and analyses regulatory compliance to the [Inter-American Convention against Corruption](#) by OAS Member States.

Model Laws: Baseline laws that will help parliamentarians tailor, adapt or update their national legislation in line with their international commitments. Model laws have been developed on [Access to Public Information](#), [Illicit Enrichment and Transnational Bribery](#) (available only in Spanish).

Legislative Agenda in the Peruvian Congress

The Legislative Agenda is a planning tool that consolidates and prioritizes the issues which the Parliament and Government intend to advance over a 1-year period. This instrument is approved at the start of the legislative period by the Parliament. The 2017-2018 Legislative Agenda includes four objectives: democracy and the rule of law; social equity and justice; competitiveness of Peru, and an efficient, transparent and decentralized State. The instrument was presented by Luis Galarreta, President of the Congress of the Republic.

Inter-Parliamentary Dialogue on Measures against Corruption

Senator **Dalmacio Mera** (Argentina)

"Together with the Government, we are working on a bill, which has already been discussed with parts of civil society related to these issues […] The bill makes reference to two issues: funding of political campaigns, which are more costly than ever; and the institutional nature of political parties, and to what extent a party-based democratic system where parties emerge and disappear and are not subject to legal control favours or facilitates a system now scourged by corruption, which is becoming systemic."

"Integrity, transparency and accountability are the three pillars that should be promoted by the Government, as well as by us, fellow parliamentarians. There should be a certain amount of pressure from amongst ourselves to set an example by enforcing integrity and transparency at the highest levels of government."

Senator **Rosa Gálvez** (Canada)

Member of the National Assembly **Guillermo Celi** (Ecuador)

"We have passed during a first debate a bill to fight corruption. We need additional support, however, to enact a law on asset seizure that will allow for the immediate recovery of funds stolen from Ecuadorians."

Member of the National Assembly **Javier Ortega** (Panama)

"Law students submitted a bill to the National Assembly through the Citizen Participation Office on the non-applicability of statutory limitations to counter corruption. We undertook the responsibility to pass the bill a week ago."

Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Paulina Núñez** (Chile)

"Chile has been a pioneer in setting the transparency and probity agenda, which has continued since the new Administration took office […] transparency is the best antidote to corruption, and no one is best suited to play a surveillance role than citizens. Citizen involvement and the availability of public information will allow us to actually convey what we are doing. Further pursuing this goal, we have a tool called Virtual Senator (Senador Virtual) to allow citizens to participate in the drafting and discussions around bills, as well as in committee meetings."

"We are setting up a multiparty parliamentary group within the National Assembly. Moreover, we are working together with civil society to bring before Parliament a bill on much-needed fiscal transparency so that we stay informed on how much money is coming in and out."

Member of the National Assembly **Paola Vintimilla** (Ecuador)

Member of Congress **Andrea Villagrán** (Guatemala)

"In Guatemala we have the International Commission against Impunity (CICIG, as per its Spanish acronym), a UN delegation, which has unveiled several cases at a government level. […] Having an independent institution allows for progress in our fight against corruption."

Senator José **Antonio Olvera** (Mexico)

"Mexico has worked intensely to create the National Anticorruption System, in which important sectors of civil society participate. The participation of civil society in this type of activity, alongside the Ministry of Justice and the legislature itself, allows them to choose who directs this system."

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"There are five key issues: oversight of the Executive's actions, the use of resources, oversight of government entities, laws on asset recovery, and oversight of agencies entrusted with the administration of justice, so that justice is served strictly and swiftly."

Member of the National Assembly **Edward Campbell** (Cuba)

"What we are implementing from the parliament are legislative forums. This was an initiative of the presidency of the Chamber of Deputies. A specific number of legislators from a given area will go out and engage with their local constituents in initiatives. All of civil society participates, and they present us with initiatives that we can turn into draft resolutions or bills. "

Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Angela Pozo** (Dominican Republic), Vice-President of the Chamber of Deputies

"Corruption is indeed becoming more visible. Trust is going away not only in politicians but in institutions even [...] In Suriname, we have a new Anticorruption Law for the first time and other pieces of legislation, but this is only a start."

Member and Speaker of the National Assembly **Jennifer Simons** (Suriname)

"For us, there is something fundamental about the law on transparency and access to information, and it is that control should rest in the hands of citizens [...]. In turn, we are currently discussing a bill that provides for the creation of an independent agency to address transparency and ensure access to information."

Member of the National Assembly **Winston Flores** (Venezuela)

Working Session 2: Ethics and Probity for a Parliament with Integrity

Ethical standards in public service play a crucial role in strengthening the integrity of parliament. From conflict of interest regulations to codes of conduct within public institutions that prevent and sanction cases of corruption, it is essential to move towards a culture of ethics in order to regain citizen confidence in democratic institutions.

This session was moderated by Representative **Rodrigo Lara** (Colombia), President of the Chamber of Representatives, and featured input from Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Javier Macaya** (Chile), Senator **Ranard Henfield** (The Bahamas), and Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Yeni Vilcatoma** (Peru). Discussion topics included, codes of conduct, conflicts of interest, public procurement, ethics and integrity committees, their membership and independence, as well as the protection of whistle-blowers. After the panel was introduced, members shared examples and thoughts on these topics.

"When collusion or interference between public and private interests is not a crime, then the situation is far more difficult. It becomes a grey area, and these gray areas are becoming ever more frequent in this globalized world [...] In light of this, we should discuss the value of internal ethics committees versus external ethics committees independent from parliaments. The idea is to determine when, or to what extent, said private interests may influence the objective actions of the civil servant."

Representative **Rodrigo Lara** (Colombia), President of the Chamber of Representatives

Member of the Legislative Assembly **Norma Guevara** (El Salvador)

"Integrity should be the barrier to corruption. Corruption will be reduced if integrity is fostered at schools, within families, companies and institutions. Members of oversight agencies, their roles and actions, as well as oversiht by civil society may also contribute to this goal. "

"The challenge that we have is that the principle of separation of powers can be very blurry in the sense that you have a Cabinet in which the entire executive is made up all of the parliamentarians more or less elected. We have a unique situation in Granada where in three different occasions all of the seats were won by one political party."

Senator **Chester Humphrey** (Grenada), President of the Senate

"With respect to the independence of ethics committees, I have no doubt that they will work if parliamentarians disclose and are accountable for their actions. This oversight is more efficient if there is a balance, for example if the person chairing the committee is a parliamentarian not belonging to the party enjoying a majority in the Chamber of Deputies."

Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Javier Macaya** (Chile), Vice-President Elect of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network - South America

"There are four key aspects that I think we should all consider in drafting or amending our legislation to fight for integrity : first and foremost, an integrity commission will be more effective if it is autonomous and fairly constituted […] we need to look to appointments not only by the government but by the opposition, by civil society, by the judiciary, by bar associations and by the media […] The chairman should be elected by the commissioners instead of appointed by the president or the prime minister. I also would like to stress that the commission budget should be adequate to operate, a sufficient budget to investigate […] and the Commission should be tied to a code of conduct binding in law."

Senator **Ranard Henfield** (Bahamas)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Yeni Vilcatoma** (Peru)

"At a parliamentary level, any investigation into acts of corruption seeking to break up these criminal organizations should also afford effective protection to the people willing to testify […] The Attorney General's Office of Peru has a Unit for the Protection of Victims, Witnesses and Whistleblowers, which affords police protection and non-disclosure of the person's whereabouts, as well as legal and psychological assistance. Officers (working in this Unit) have a vocation for service, but they lack sufficient funding. As a result, the whistleblower or witness ends up returning to his or her place of origin and being abducted by the criminal organization, and the case never reaches the point of oral trial."

Working Session 3: The Role of Women Parliamentarians in the Fight against Corruption

Member of Congress **Alejandra Aramayo** (Peru)

Corruption has differential impacts on women and marginalized groups, which are not always sufficiently recognized or considered in anti-corruption reforms and policymaking.

Gender mainstreaming is thus an essential tool for addressing the issue of corruption. This session was organized through the initiative of the presidency of the Peruvian Parliament, and it was facilitated by Member of Congress **Alejandra Aramayo** (Peru), President of the Group of Women Parliamentarians of the Congress of the Republic; Member of Congress **Luz Salgado** (Peru); Member of the National Assembly **Ana Belén Marín** (Ecuador); Member of Congress **Luciana León** (Peru); Senator **Akilah Byron-Nisbett**, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Saint Kitts and Nevis), and Member of Congress **María Elena Foronda** (Peru).

"There are some major challenges to be considered when it comes to developing gender-based anti-corruption policies. These relate to dealing with forms of corruption that mostly affect women, such as sexual extortion. Women must therefore become fully involved and included in good governance and anti-corruption efforts."

"The people of Ecuador voiced their opinion in a referendum in favor of a true Social Control and Citizen Participation Council (link available only in Spanish). [...] We have thus created a fifth power of the State, and also seek, through these reforms, to promote gender equality [...] We have regulations whereby Council members are not appointed by the President or certain political players at will, but rather by popular election, simultaneously guaranteeing gender equality, so that there may be three lists: one with men, one with women, and a third including Indigenous Peoples, African descendants, and migrants. This is true citizen participation."

Member of the National Assembly **Ana Belén Marín** (Ecuador)

Senator **Akilah Byron-Nisbett,** Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Saint Kitts and Nevis)

"When we look at the idea of corruption and how women can be more included or have more of a voice [in efforts to counter this phenomenon], what we need to consider is the need for gender equality in decision-making bodies. It is imperative that we work towards meeting Sustainable Development Goal 5 for gender equality."

"The source of funding for political campaigns is a much debated topic. We need to undertake an urgent, thorough reform of political parties, so that they will not use private funds and in turn be biased when implementing a political agenda."

Member of Congress **María Elena Foronda** (Peru)

Member of Congress **Luciana León** (Peru)

"I would particularly like to call your attention to the amendment of the election law. This piece of legislation is intended to promote the suitability of candidates for public and representative offices. It constitutes one of the most important anti-corruption laws ever approved by our legislature, as it prevents people who have been found guilty of corruption to run for President, Vice-president, the Parliament, the Andean Parliament, as well as for any local representative offices."

"We the women in the Peruvian Congress must make a difference [...] I believe in the effort we need to make at the parliamentary level in order to promote a culture of honesty and integrity through a female lens. The quota bill was therefore one of my main projects in Parliament, since it allowed us to ensure political parties will not only consider us mere companions, but rather include us on the lists as well."

Member of Congress **Luz Salgado** (Peru)

Group of Women Parliamentarians of the Congress of the Republic of Peru

The Group of Women Parliamentarians of the Congress of the Republic of Peru is a multiparty space that gathers women parliamentarians to and works towards their empowerment, the respect for fundamental rights, and to encourage women's involvement in politics. The goal is to strengthen the mechanisms to guarantee the participation of all 36 women parliamentarians in carrying out their functions.

The Bureau of Women Parliamentarians conducts working groups, decentralized meetings, among other activities to address priority issues for the implementation of measures benefitting women. For more information, consult their Facebook page.

Working Session 4: Guidelines to Develop Open Parliament Action Plans

Open Parliament Action Plans developed in collaboration with civil society to advance transparency, accountability, citizen participation, and ethics in the legislative branch are a highlight of the efforts undertaken by parliaments of the hemisphere towards legislative openness. This session was moderated by the Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Vlado Mirosevic** (Chile). It started with the launch of the Toolkit on Citizen Participation in the Legislative Process, the development of which started at the 2nd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network in Costa Rica, and the presentation of a video presenting the history of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

by Member of the Legislative Assembly **Karla Prendas** (Costa Rica). She was followed by Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (Paraguay), who introduced the Working Document: Guidelines to Develop Open Parliament Action Plans and shared some lessons learned from the Paraguayan case.

Parliamentarians were divided into groups to discuss and develop recommendations on the stages making up the cycle of an action plan in accordance with the working document. Worth noting among the outcomes of this discussion are the recommendations made to strengthen citizen's participation in the action plan, the importance of effective

communication to advance the open parliament agenda, key aspects for internal management that will guarantee compliance with the objectives, and the involvement of parliamentarians as an essential component in drafting and implementing the action plan . The conclusions from this discussion informed the work that will be undertaken this year in order to prepare a toolkit on the development of Open Parliament Action Plans.
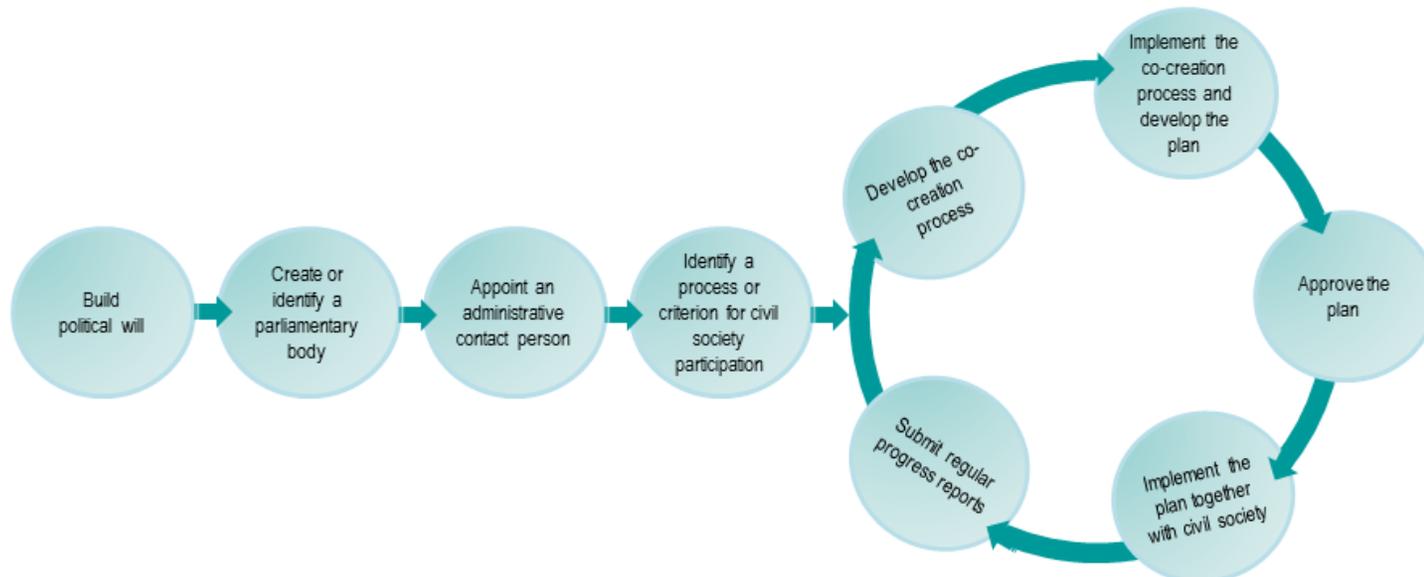
Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (Paraguay), President Elect of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

"When we first started drafting the plan, we counted on the political will of the President of the Parliament. We created a committee in both chambers […] and there soon was a significant understanding and agreement on the great importance of transparency, an open parliament with easy access to public information by citizens, a parliament that is accountable for its actions, and which encourages probity and ethics."

Executive Committee of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

During the 3ʳᵈ Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network, some Executive Committee positions were elected. The Executive Committee hereinafter consists of the following members:

President:
Senator Blanca Ovelar (Paraguay)

Vice-President for North America:
Member of Parliament Randy Boissonnault (Canada)

Vice-President for Central America:
Member of Congress Marvin Orellana (Guatemala)

Vice-President for the Caribbean:
Senator Saphire Longmore (Jamaica)

Vice-President for South America:
Member of the Chamber of Deputies Javier Macaya (Chile)

Alternate Vice-President for South America:
Senator Andrés García Zuccardi (Colombia)

Observer:
Member of the National Assembly Williams Dávila (Venezuela)

Toolkit: Citizen Participation in the Legislative Process

This kit is intended to encourage citizen's involvement in the legislative process, and thus contribute to improving the quality of decisions of public interest. It was developed during two co-creation meetings held in Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago in 2017, where parliamentarians from the Americas and the Caribbean worked together with civil society representatives to identify practices, mechanisms and strategies to encourage citizen participation.

This process also included a review of laws and regulations from all 35 countries in the Americas, in order to identify how the spaces and opportunities for citizen involvement have been regulated. To view this publication, click here.
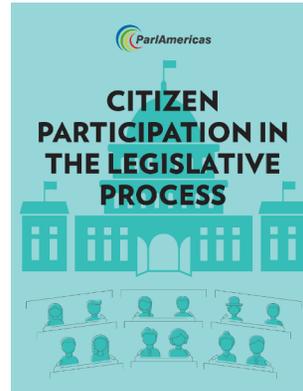
"The best way to focus on replicating this co-creation process consists in enforcing accountability, then having in place an excellent oversight mechanism that is not bound by the leadership of the internal board of the Congress, and, finally, always keeping the doors open to civil society, in addition to undertaking other creative and innovative initiatives intended to voluntarily invite civil society participation and motivate legislators to take part in and advance these processes, which are so important for open and transparent parliaments."

Senator **Andrés García Zuccardi** (Colombia), Alternate Vice-President Elect of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

Recommendations Made by Parliamentarians to Inform the Open Parliament Action Plan Cycle

Citizen Participation	Effective Communication	Internal Management	Involvement of Parliamentarians
• Strengthen and promote the creation of citizen participation offices so as to develop closer ties with citizens • Promote opportunities for citizens to participate through district meetings and proposals • Involve social organizations from the beginning, and maintain open communication channels with them	• Communicate open parliament efforts to citizens, as well as their benefits and importance • Draft a communications plan based on the open parliament pillars • Develop information capsules that may be shared on social media • Establish alliances with civil society organizations, so that they may participate in the communications strategy	• Set regular meetings and a clear methodology for drafting action plans • Identify a person within the parliament that will be responsible for planning, implementing and monitoring these plans • Have an independent agency supervise the plan's co-creation and implementation process	• Explain and share the key open parliament principles and commitments with parliamentarians • Create a bicameral group or committee that will meet with civil society to advance the plan • Encourage innovative and creative initiatives that will provide incentives to promote open parliament principles within legislatures

Open Parliament Action Plans in the Americas and the Caribbean

- Chile 2014-2016
- Chile 2017-2018
- Colombia 2016-2017
- Costa Rica 2015-2016
- Costa Rica 2016-2017
- Guatemala 2016-2017
- Paraguay 2016-2018

Working Session 5: New Modernization and Legislative Openness Tools and Mechanisms in the Americas and the Caribbean

Parliamentarians shared different tools and mechanisms they have recently developed in order to advance the modernization and openness agenda in parliaments. This session was moderated by Member of the National Assembly **Gladys Bejerano** (Cuba), ParlAmericas Board Member.

Country	Tool or Mechanism
Canada	**Senate Communication Strategy** A communication strategy consisting in disseminating the work of the Senate through alerts; a digital publication called SenCa plus; videos and accounts of committee discussions, and a newsletter, among other elements
Chile	**Citizen Participation Regulations** Regulations currently under development, which govern the mechanisms for citizen participation in the legislative process
Colombia	**Open Code for the MiSenado Application** Open code which facilitates cooperation among users seeking to replicate the MiSenado application
Cuba	**Internal Management System** A portal containing accountability information at a provincial level
Honduras	**Community Participation and Civil Society Liaison Committee** Parliamentary Committee that liaises with civil society and which has discussed laws on transparency and the fight against corruption
Peru	**Zero papel** An initiative aimed at promoting the use of electronic devices to reduce the ecological footprint and encouraging access to information on parliamentary work available in virtual media
Surinam	**DNA App and Updates to Parliament's Website** Mobile app that gives citizens access to information on parliamentary work; website updates with access committee meeting videos, live broadcasts, news alerts, information and documents relating to bills, and comments from Government entities and experts, among others

Presentation of Commitments by Parliamentary Delegations

During this part of the gathering, parliamentarians presented their commitments to advance the open parliament agenda in their relevant countries. This session was moderated by Member of the National Assembly **Jennifer Simons** (Suriname), Speaker of the National Assembly and ParlAmericas Board Member, who introduced the new ParlAmericas Parliamentary Commitment Tool that records progress made towards commitments presented.

ParlAmericas Parliamentary Commitment Tool

This tool allows users to view, compare, download and follow up on progress made by parliaments in their compliance with their commitments towards legislative openness by means of a traffic light approach. The tool was launched during the gathering, and it now includes commitments towards open parliament action plans from countries throughout the Americas that have such a plan already in place, as well as those submitted by parliamentary delegations during the gathering.

We invite parliaments to submit their commitments towards legislative openness to parlamericasopn@parlamericas.org. For more information, we invite you to visit our web page here.

Chile

IT Design, Format and Content Updates to Virtual Senator
Design of virtual platforms for each
institution to facilitate the participation of organizations and citizens in the legislative process. These platformswill provide information on the contents of different bills and allow citizens to vote on the bills and make suggestions.

Colombia

Open Budget and Open Lobbying
Strengthen transparency and open information around national budget discussions. Move forward the law on lobbying.

Dominican Republic

Open Parliament Action Plan
Formulate proposals to drive a co-creation process for an open parliament action plan. Engage in round table discussions. Disseminate the citizen participation toolkit among parliamentarians and civil society actors.

Ecuador

Ethics Committee and Open Parliament Group Plan
Develop a plan for the Open Parliament Group and strengthen civil society engagement in participation processes. Develop regulations for setting up an ethics committee.

Peru

Open Parliament
Make available any preliminary release of all legislative initiatives. Provide spaces for consultation with civil society groups, especially minorities. Set up an ethics committee with a balanced approach, ensuring it will remain independent and include political checks and balances. Acknowledge citizens' right to access information on matters of public interest through all possible and existing media.

Venezuela

Keep the National Assembly Operational
Open the National Assembly and maintain the commitment to keep it operational. Continue the debates and discussions on the bill on access to public information. Encourage civil society to take part in public consultation processes and in the amendment of bills.

PARLIAMENTS PRESENT

ARGENTINA	BAHAMAS	BELIZE	BOLIVIA	CANADA
CHILE	COLOMBIA	COSTA RICA	CUBA	ECUADOR
EL SALVADOR	GRENADA	GUATEMALA	HAITI	HONDURAS
JAMAICA	MEXICO	PANAMA	PARAGUAY	PERU
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS	ST. LUCIA	SURINAME	VENEZUELA

Declaration of the 3rd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network

Parliamentarians representing 25 countries in the Americas and the Caribbean, gathered in Lima, Peru on April 11-12, adopted 10 commitments in order to further advance the open parliament principles, namely transparency, accountability, citizen participation and ethics.

III Encuentro de la Red de Parlamento Abierto
III Encontro da Rede de Parlamento Aberto
III Gathering of the Open Parliament Network
III Rencontre du Réseau pour un parlement ouvert

Perú 2018

To watch the interviews that were made to the delegates during the 3rd meeting of the Open Parliament network, we invite you to visit the YouTube channel of the Congress of the Republic of Peru.

ParlAmericas Podcast

Find ParlAmericas on itunes and Google Play to listen to the sessions of our meetings.

PARLAMERICAS

ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes **PARLIMENTARY DIPLOMACY** *in the* **INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM**

ParlAmericas fosters **OPEN PARLIMENTS** *by advancing the principles of transparency, accountability, citizen participation, ethics and probity*

ParlAmericas is composed of the 35 **NATIONAL LEGISLATURES** *from North, Central and South America and the Caribbean*

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

ParlAmericas facilitates the exchange of parliamentary **BEST PRACTICES AND** *promotes* **COOPERATIVE POLITICAL DIALOGUE**

ParlAmericas works towards strengthening democracy and governance by accompanying **ELECTORAL PROCESSES**

ParlAmericas mainstreams **GENDER EQUALITY** *by advocating for women's political empowerment and the application of a gender lens in legislative work*

ParlAmericas is headquartered in **OTTAWA, CANADA**