

SEMINAR ON EQUALITY AND NON-DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND  
GENDER IDENTITY FOR LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS

PARLIAMENT OF URUGUAY, MONTEVIDEO

CONFERENCE ROOM ACUÑA DE FIGUEROA

MONDAY, JULY 11, 2016 | 9:00 A.M. – 5:30 P.M.

**Objectives:**

- 1) Present a revised draft of *Parliamentary Handbook on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity*, prepared by PGA and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), a tool with key information about human rights and concrete actions to raise awareness, examine, and reform the legal framework to address the needs of LGBTI persons;
- 2) Review, share and exchange best practices and strategies among parliamentarians from different countries to strengthen the human rights of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans\* and Intersex (LGBTI) persons in Latin America and the Caribbean, including regional mechanisms and national human rights institutions;
- 3) Discuss legislative reforms and modernization of criminal codes to promote equality and non-discrimination of all individuals regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, deepening collaboration among parliamentarians from Latin America and the Caribbean; and
- 4) Promote constructive dialogue between parliamentarians and LGBTI civil society organizations.

9:00-10:00 a.m.

**Welcoming remarks & presentation of revised draft of Parliamentary Handbook on Human Rights, Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity**

Dip. Berta Sanseverino, Chair, Human Rights Committee, Parliament of Uruguay  
*PGA Board member & Co-Convenor of the Gender, Equality and Population Programme*

Amb. Laura Dupuy, General Director for Technical-Administration Issues  
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Uruguay

Ms. Paula Veronelli, Country Office Representative, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),  
Uruguay

*Presentation of revised draft of handbook: purpose and rationale of tool, key information contained, the role of parliamentarians and how to use it*

- Dip. Ronny Monge Salas, Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica & member of PGA's Executive Board
- Suki Beavers, Policy Advisor, Inclusive Political Processes, Bureau for Policy and Programme Support, UNDP

10:00-10:30 a.m.

*Official Photograph & Coffee Break*

10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Utilizing Regional Mechanisms and National Human Rights Institutions to promote Equality and Non-Discrimination**

- Engagement with National Human Rights Institutions/Commissions or *Ombudsman*
- The role of the Commonwealth Secretariat in promoting equality and non-discrimination

*Chair:* Dip. Daniel Radío, PGA Member, Parliament of Uruguay

Dr. Ariela Peralta, President of the National Human Rights Institution and Ombudsman, Uruguay

Dr. Soledad García Muñoz, Regional Coordinator of the Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, Uruguay

Justin Pettit, Human Rights Officer, Commonwealth Secretariat

*Q & A Session*

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Best Practices for Parliamentarians: Sharing Strategies on Legislative Reform, Modernization of Criminal Codes, and Engaging with Civil Society**

- Positive developments, gaps and challenges in implementing UN recommendations on SOGI
- Building alliances with civil society to amend legal frameworks

*Chair:* Dip. Macarena Gelman, Parliament of Uruguay

Mr. Michael van Gelderen, Human Rights Officer, Thematic Engagement, Special Procedures and Right to Development Division, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Ms. Desirée de Sousa Croes, Member of Parliament, Aruba

Dane Lewis, Executive Director J-Flag, Jamaica

Sen. María Lourdes Landivar Tufiño, Legislative Assembly of Bolivia

Kenita Placide, LGBTI activist, St. Lucia

Dr. Diana González-Perrett, Research and Legal Advisor in Human Rights issues, Uruguay

1:00-2:30 p.m.

*Lunch hosted by the Parliament of Uruguay*

2:30-3:30 p.m.

**Discussion of Case studies in Latin America and the Caribbean**

*This discussion will pair MPs and LGBTI activists from countries in each sub-region to present on the situation in their country from their perspective. The purpose is to highlight the commonalities and differences on challenges, strategies, and legislation in each sub-region and, through an open, guided discussion among participants, find common ground and follow-up actions.*

*Chair:* Dip. Minerva Tavárez Mirabal, Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic & PGA President

➤ Situation on the Rights of LGBT and Intersex Persons in Latin America and the Caribbean  
Commissioner Francisco José Eguiguren Praeli, Rapporteur on the Rights of LGBTI Persons  
Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

- *Belize: Senator Valerie Woods and Caleb Orozco, United Belize Advocacy Movement*
- *Trinidad and Tobago: Senator Wade Mark and Colin Robinson, CaisoTT*
- *Suriname: Mr. Patrick Kensenbuis, MP*
- *Uruguay: Mauricio Coitiño, Ovejas Negras*

3:30-5:00 p.m.

**Dialogue facilitated** by Jessica Stern, Executive Director, OutRight Action International

5:00-5:30 p.m.

**Concluding remarks and adoption of Action Document**

*Request participants, who will also be attending the Global LGBTI Human Rights Conference beginning later in the week, to bring the Action document to their discussions*

Dip. Minerva Tavárez Mirabal, Chamber of Deputies of Dominican Republic & PGA President

***Acknowledgments:***

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