

PGA Press Statement - For Immediate Publication

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Legislators from Latin America reaffirm their commitment to the principle of Never again

On 28-29 September 2016, Parliamentarians for Global Action organized, in collaboration with the Senate of Uruguay, a Parliamentary Seminar entitled: Support for the International Criminal Court: say No to impunity for international crimes Yes to reparation for victims.

The seminar that counted with the support of the Municipality of Montevideo and the International Committee of the Red Cross, was attended by legislators from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela.

The seminar was opened by **Dip. Alfredo Asti** (Uruguay), vice-president for Uruguay in the Latin American Parliament (Parlatino), **Dip. Berta Sanseverino** (Uruguay), president of the national group of PGA in Uruguay, **Dip. Daniel Radio** (Uruguay), member of PGA and **Dip. Ronny Monge** (Costa Rica), member of the Board of PGA; the President of PGA, **Dip. Margarita Stolbizer** (Argentina), also attended the event.

Over two days of intense discussions, experts from ICRC and PGA introduced the topics to be addressed, which included the implementation of crimes and principles enshrined in the Rome Statute, the need for mechanisms of cooperation with the ICC and the Amendments of Kampala. Such introductions led to the parliamentary panels, a fundamental part of the activity, during which legislators from Latin American countries shared their national processes, including the progress made and the remaining challenges in relation to the ICC.

The seminar concluded with the adoption of the <u>Plan of Action</u> of Montevideo 2016 where parliamentarians present pledged to advance, in their respective parliaments, legislative reforms for the effective and full implementation of the Rome Statute as well as to call on their governments to send bills to ratify the Amendments of Kampala and sign voluntary cooperation agreements with the ICC.

About PGA

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is the largest transnational network of members of parliament from all regions of the world that, in their personal capacity, support the effective functioning of the ICC and national courts to end impunity for crimes of international law. The PGA network is assisted by a Secretariat to facilitate cooperation between member-parliamentarians with the view of realizing the vision of the Organization, namely "to contribute to the creation of a Rules-Based International Order for a more equitable, safe, and democratic world". The Secretariat also provides technical assistance, and policy and legal advice to members.

PGA members have contributed to 77 over 124 ratifications or accessions to the Rome Statute as of today.

PGA is a member of the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC).

THE PGA ICC CAMPAIGN RECEIVES THE SUPPORT OF

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of <u>Estonia</u> Permanent Mission of <u>Liechtenstein</u> to the UN Ministry of Foreign Affairs of <u>Luxembourg</u> Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the <u>Netherlands</u>
Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of <u>Switzerland</u>
And



PGA RECEIVES THE CORE SUPPORT FROM

Sweden (Sida) & Denmark (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)

On-line access to PGA ICC Campaign:

http://www.pgaction.org/programmes/ilhr/overview.html

https://www.facebook.com/pgaction - http://twitter.com/PGAction

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