



& the
Raoul Wallenberg All Party Parliamentary Caucus for Human Rights

**THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS
AS ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITY, JUSTICE AND ATROCITY PREVENTION**

A roundtable discussion with Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)

*Wednesday, 30 May 2018, 17:30 – 19:30
Room 237-C Centre Block, Parliament of Canada, Ottawa*

AGENDA

- 1) Welcome and introduction
Mr. Randy Boissonnault, MP (Canada), PGA Member and Special Advisor to the Prime Minister on LGBTQ2 Issues
Mr. Ali Ehsassi, MP (Canada), Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Prevention of Genocide and other Crimes against Humanity and PGA Member
- 2) PGA Campaigns on the International Criminal Court (ICC), Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), and non-discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI)
Dr. David Donat Cattin, Secretary-General, PGA [*presentation*]
Sen. Raynel Andreychuk (Canada), Member of the Raoul Wallenberg All-Party Parliamentary Caucus for Human Rights and PGA Member (TBC) [*commentary*]
Ms. Hélène Laverdière, MP (Canada), PGA Member (TBC) [*commentary*]
- 3) Canadian leadership in promoting and protecting equality and inclusion
Mr. Randy Boissonnault, MP (Canada)
- 4) Canadian contribution to the 20th anniversary of the Rome Statute of the ICC: A benchmark for atrocity prevention
Prof. Irwin Cotler, former Attorney-general, *on behalf of* the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights (TBC)
- 5) Presentation/Launch of the *Parliamentary Handbook on Preventing Violent Extremism and Mass Atrocities*
Mr. Kyle Matthews, Executive Director, Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies
Mr. Ali Ehsassi, MP (Canada)
- 6) Re-formation of the PGA Canada National Group

Closing Remarks

Mr. Randy Boissonnault, MP and **Mr. Ali Ehsassi, MP**

To confirm your participation in the meeting, or for additional information, please contact:

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Jennifer McCarthy, Deputy Secretary-General, Parliamentarians for Global Action; Tel: +1- 646-762-7302; Email: jennifer.mccarthy@pgaction.org

About PGA

Founded in 1979 by Canadian and US Legislators, **Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)**, the largest non-governmental, cross-party network of individual legislators with approximately 1,400 members in 143 parliaments around the world, mobilizes legislators as human rights champions committed to promoting the rule of law, democracy, human security, non-discrimination and gender equality. The organization's **vision** is *to contribute to the creation of a rules-based international order for a more equitable, safe and democratic world*. PGA offices are located in New York and The Hague; National Groups in 35 countries give local sustainability to PGA campaign actions. Every year all PGA Members are invited to meet at the Annual Forum. In 2018, the 40th Annual Forum of PGA will be held for the first time in an Eastern European Parliament, the Rada of Ukraine, Kiev: It will coincide with the 10th *Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the ICC & the Rule of Law*, the first session of which was held in Ottawa (2002) on the occasion of PGA's 24th Annual Forum.

PGA'S CAMPAIGNS

- **Parliamentary Campaign for the Universality and Effectiveness of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court** strives for the establishment and effective operation of the ICC to fight impunity and seek justice for victims of the most serious international crimes. Overall, PGA has contributed to the ratification of 77 out of 124 States Parties to the Rome Statute. PGA's network of parliamentarians assisted in the domestic implementation of the Rome Statute in 33 countries. PGA is widely recognized as the parliamentary network working on international justice and the ICC on account of this Campaign (<http://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/icc/>)
- **Global Parliamentary Campaign for Universality and Implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty and Biological Weapons Convention** seeks to reduce armed violence worldwide as a result of significantly improved regulation of the trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and the promotion of the universality and implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and to promote greater universality and improved national implementation of the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BWC) within a broader framework of preventing any use of weapons of mass destruction (<http://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/arms-trade-treaty.html>; and <http://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/bwc.html>)
- **Parliamentary Campaign to Eliminate Child, Early and Forced Marriage (CEFM)** seeks to accelerate regional and international efforts to end this harmful practice by providing MPs with the tools and capacity to effectively address CEFM and building the political support to foster a legal and policy environment which, in addition to establishing 18 as the minimum age for legal marriage, also maintains primacy of national legislation over religious and customary laws, reaffirms birth registration systems, and protects women's rights, including sexual and reproductive health and rights, ownership rights and access to justice (<http://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/cefm/end-child-early-and-forced-marriage.html>)
- **Global Parliamentary Campaign Against Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity** aims to sensitize parliamentarians on human rights protections for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) people on the basis of the principles of equality and non-discrimination and to undertake education and technical assistance designed to increase political will in support of the effective application of human rights norms and standards in accordance with international obligations (<http://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/sogi.html>)
- **Global Parliamentary Platform for the Abolition of the Death Penalty** seeks to support, enhance and maximize the impact of individual initiatives of parliamentarians worldwide on the abolition, or the reduction of scope of the death penalty, and take action to ratify the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant for Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) which aims to abolish the death penalty (<http://www.pgaction.org/campaigns/abolition-of-the-death-penalty.html>)
- **Parliamentary Campaign on Protection of the Oceans** which seeks to mobilize parliamentarians to address Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing and human rights violations in the fishing industry (in development).

Parliamentarians for Global Action is grateful to its donors and partners for their generous support:

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PGA website: www.pgaction.org