



Parliamentarians for Global Action
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي

2022 ANNUAL REPORT

*MOBILIZING LEGISLATORS
AS CHAMPIONS FOR HUMAN
RIGHTS, DEMOCRACY AND A
SUSTAINABLE WORLD*



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PGA President
Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia)

Dear Friends of PGA,

I have realized over the years that lawmakers alone cannot bring the necessary amendments and changes to existing laws and policies without the support, expertise and network of other lawmakers, domestically and from all over the world. PGA inspires and helps us aspire to be a beacon of hope, protector and defender of human rights, upholding universal values of democracy, freedom, justice, equality and good governance, as a partner outside the walls of Parliaments for changes to happen inside Parliament.

And that is precisely where PGA comes in – as a sanctuary of brilliant minds and experts in a multitude of fields, from working with lawmakers to bring war criminals to justice, ending crimes against humanity, promoting gender inclusiveness, upholding and reviving democracy, ending the death penalty, advancing disarmament and the arms trade treaty and protecting the oceans. PGA remains a crucial partner to lawmakers all over the world to share resources; to provide a platform for discourse and engagement with fellow MPs, civil society and government agencies; and to assist and support parliamentarians in the PGA campaigns that they are championing.

The spirit of collective action that characterizes PGA is more important today than ever. PGA's international network stands in solidarity with champions of democracy and defenders of human rights and peace worldwide.

PGA has been the bridge we as lawmakers need to reach out to other fellow parliamentarians to support, defend and to stand together in solidarity when human rights are threatened – anywhere and everywhere.

Democratic principles worldwide are under attack and while threats to democracy are not new, contemporary challenges – including the global health emergency – have put parliamentarians themselves on the frontlines. Opposition members and advocates for democratic norms, including human rights and gender justice, are increasingly targeted for repression, political reprisal, abusive prosecutions and personal victimization. At-risk classes, including women and girls, indigenous populations, religious minorities and LGBTI persons are often disproportionately affected. PGA supports and empowers parliamentarians to resist these attacks on democracy, shape national agendas, counter Executive incursions and work with civil society and media houses to preserve civic and political space.

In this challenging time, I am awed and inspired by the commitment of our members and their ownership of the organization's strategic priorities. This essential feature is maintained and safeguarded by the democratic governance and working methods of PGA. Our global network of parliamentarians acting in their individual capacity is supported by PGA National Groups in parliaments. National Group chairs form the International Council, which then elects members of the Executive Committee. Lastly, all strategic decisions of the organization are made by the Executive Committee, which focuses on the results-oriented monitoring of, and action on, PGA's Programmes and Campaigns and is advised by the International Council.

In response to the lessons learned from an evaluation of our work, from the wisdom of our member-parliamentarians and partners and from the lessons of the COVID-19 pandemic, the implementation of the first year of our three-year strategic plan (2022-2024) focused on **empowering and mobilizing legislators as champions for human rights, democracy and a sustainable world.**

In addition to the central work of our nine Campaigns described in this report, PGA will emphasize several important themes as it marches into the future:

- Ensuring that our countries ratify and fully implement the international treaties that our global network has been supporting in its 44 years of history, which are so crucial to provide effective guarantees against human rights abuses and other violations of International Law, as well as make our planet a better and more secure place for us and future generations;
- Protecting democracy and contributing to an enabling environment for parliamentarians to fulfil their mandates and take action on PGA Campaign goals;
- Partnerships with the international community to contribute to Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development;
- Parliamentary partner to civil society and the fourth estate, media houses; and
- Commitment to inclusion, accountability, integrity, transparency and achieving gender equality and parity as well as the empowerment of women and girls.

We must truly be the change we wish to see in this world. The idea of a world free from impunity, discrimination, tyranny, sexism and bigotry will have no form if what we dream of is not followed up through action. Our commitment cannot be seen as lip service but, most importantly, in the work that we do in our respective Parliaments, in our regions and in the world.

PGA convened a very successful [43rd Annual Forum and 12th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court and the Rule of Law](#) in the National Congress of Argentina on 4-5 November 2022. PGA members adopted the Buenos Aires Plan of Action to Enhance the Fight Against Impunity and agreed to renew support for the ICC and expand its global membership.

Finally, my utmost gratitude – and a big “thank you” – to our invaluable network of parliamentarians and our steadfast partners, friends and generous donors who all have been the backbone of the work and campaigns we carry out. With your help, we have achieved the significant results described in this 2022 Annual Report.

I am delighted to announce that PGA’s International Council has elected long-time PGA member Hon. Syed Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan) to be the new PGA President for the 2023-2024 term. Under his leadership, and with the continuous support of the management team and Programme and Campaign Directors, I am confident that PGA will continue to make progress towards its vision of *a rules-based international order for a more equitable, safe, sustainable and democratic world!*

Wishing the very best to PGA, its team and lawmakers everywhere,

Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia)



Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) (bottom center) with Hon. Syed Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan) to her left, at the 2022 Defender of Democracy Award (DDA) ceremony.

SECRETARY GENERAL'S MESSAGE



David Donat Cattin
Secretary-General (2014-2022)

Dear Friends of PGA,

As my mandate as PGA’s Secretary-General is now ending after 9 years of service, I want to express my most profound gratitude to the PGA membership, Secretariat, partners and supporters for the honour and privilege to serve as the head of the Secretariat of this unique and impactful organization.

In the early days of my first mandate of three years, I was asked what would have been my 10-year vision for PGA, and my answer was: to become the “go-to” organization of parliamentarians for human rights. I believe that PGA is now widely seen and approached by many stakeholders, decision-makers and ordinary citizens as the international parliamentary group that promotes the respect of universally accepted rights on the global plain.

At the last Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) held in The Hague in December 2022, I was given the honour by all colleagues from NGOs accredited to that forum to deliver the closing address of the Assembly on behalf of civil society, hence crystallizing a reality that is more and more evident within the International Community of States and Non-State Actors: PGA, as a leading international NGO, is the main parliamentary organization in the field of justice and the Rule of Law. And without an independent judiciary, there may not be any effective protection of human rights, the violations of which must be remedied through adequate legal means, i.e., before pre-established and competent Courts of Law.

In the same period, a PGA delegation participated in the Conference of States Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) held at the UN in Geneva, where PGA’s International Peace and Security Programme empowered a group of legislators and officials from post-conflict (and ongoing conflict)

countries to have access to the proceedings. Upon their return to South Sudan, two members of PGA – in cooperation with a representative of the Executive also invited by PGA to Geneva – played a key role in ensuring their Parliament’s approval of the ratification of the BWC. This is parliamentary action at its best, given that the universality and implementation of disarmament treaties is a fundamental component for peace and stability, which are essential preconditions for the enjoyment of human rights.

Peace and justice go hand-in-hand, and our decision to choose the Centre for Civil Liberties (CCL) as Ukrainian local partner of PGA’s Rome Statute of the ICC Campaign from 2015 to 2021 proved right several times in 2022. Immediately after the full-scale war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine on 24 February 2022, CCL created a project entitled “A Tribunal for Putin,” regarding which I was the only foreign contributor to its founding virtual meeting.

In early February 2022, I had been offered the possibility to nominate CCL to the prestigious Rights Livelihood Award in Sweden, which I did, and in June the PGA Executive Committee nominated CCL for PGA’s [Defender of Democracy Award](#), which was delivered to Oleksandra Matviichuk at the [43rd PGA Annual Parliamentary Forum](#) in Buenos Aires on 4 November 2022, together with the ones attributed to Argentinean forensic medicine expert Dr. Luis Fondebrider and to Russian dissident Vladimir Kara-Murza, represented by his extraordinary wife Eugenia. Moreover, CCL received the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize in Oslo on international Human Rights Day, 10 December 2022, hence providing yet another authoritative validation to our strategic line that justice and peace are mutually reinforcing goals.

The work for human rights is a work-in-progress. In this area of human endeavor, no one can pronounce the stereotyped and banal formula of “mission accomplished.” Accomplishing results is as difficult as defining the scope of the mission. But I believe that at PGA we have become a force of inspiration for many actors and lawmakers around the world. During the last two decades, we have canalized all our work and energies into very specific campaigns, with precise strategic goals and tactical objectives. This includes the legislative goal of eliminating the death penalty from national law and the imperative of ensuring that there is no crime without victim in any legal system, which should translate into the immediate and unconditional decriminalization of same-sex consensual relations also as a consequence of its incompatibility with international human rights norms (inter alia, the principle of equality of all before the law and the principle of non-discrimination).

The respect of human rights is an essential precondition for the realization, in practice, of democratic principles. Without effective democratic process there may not be any sustainable parliamentary democracy representing the people in a given country’s constitutional system. In this respect, our main internal innovation of the last six years has been the [Campaign for Democratic Renewal and Human Rights](#), conceived as a core campaign that supports all the work of the organization, which cannot take place if the fundamental freedoms of parliamentarians are not respected.

Even the newest Campaign of PGA, on [Climate Action](#), cannot develop and grow if the proper demands of citizens, communities and humanity-at-large are not served by the elected representatives of the people, namely, parliamentarians. PGA is the “go-to” organization for parliamentarians who want to take concrete action for change on specific objectives, such as the protection of the human rights of individuals negatively affected by climate change, who are safeguarded by the Escazú Agreement, applicable to the Latin American and Caribbean States, and by customary international law.

I am pleased to pass the torch of Secretary-General to Ms. Mónica Adame. Mónica’s outstanding leadership in PGA’s [Gender, Equality and Inclusion Programme](#) has made a difference for the entire organization in the last decade: Mónica was unanimously elected by the PGA Executive Committee in Buenos Aires on 3 November after a thorough, merit-based and publicly announced selection

process that lasted ten months. The Management Committee of the Board asked me to stay in the role of outgoing Secretary-General to assist Mónica in the first three months of her mandate. Hence, this message is not a goodbye to PGA, but it is part of an effective transition to the fifth Secretary-General in the 44-year-history of the organization (my predecessors were Nick Dunlop, Dr. Kennedy Graham and Shazia Rafi).

The strength of PGA is inherent in our vision, which is “to contribute to the creation of a Rules Based International Order for a more equitable, safe, democratic and sustainable world”. In a planet in which the argument of power seems to generally prevail over the power of arguments, PGA has been able to go against the tide and present a coherent and consistent approach to human rights, which challenges the modus operandi of business as usual and the predominance of economic interest over everything else. In the years to come, I believe that PGA will continue to pursue its vision and will make an essential contribution towards the setting up on an International Rule of Law.

Very truly yours,

David Donat Cattin
Secretary-General (2014-2022)

NEW SECRETARY GENERAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Honorable Members, Partners and Colleagues,

It is a privilege to write these few lines in my new capacity as Secretary-General to invite you to follow and support Parliamentarians for Global Action's work in 2023.

I have led PGA's Gender, Equality and Inclusion Program over the last decade and am passionate about our organization's capacity to leverage its strength to enable dialogue, understanding, political will and legislative change.

In an increasingly authoritarian global context, PGA's role as a vital convener among parliamentarians, and between parliamentarians and civil society, has become even more relevant. Thus, in 2023, we will continue strengthening our current partnerships, create new ones, and better utilize the mosaic of national, regional and global stakeholders, including UN agencies and the private sector, to connect, empower and inspire our member-parliamentarians to effect change in their communities. It is key that ownership of national initiatives remain in parliamentarians' hands to re-build trust and accountability in institutions, particularly the legislatures.

Allow me to express my appreciation to Dr. David Donat Cattin for his mentorship and trust over these 12 years, and to our amazing Secretariat for their support. We are energized about the fight for democracy, civil society's resilience in the face of repressive governments and violence and increased multilateral cooperation, including in our fight against climate change. We reaffirm our commitment to play our part, assisting parliamentarians in building societies that guarantee the enjoyment of human rights for all individuals, in peace and with dignity.

Join us in this noble task and in forging new paths to contribute to the creation of a rules-based international order for a more equitable, safe, sustainable and democratic world.

¡Muchas gracias!

Mónica Adame
Secretary-General (2023-2025)



Mónica Adame
Secretary-General (2023-2025)

2022 EVENTS AND STRATEGIC ACTIONS

- INTERNATIONAL LAW AND HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME
- GENDER, EQUALITY AND INCLUSION PROGRAMME
- INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY PROGRAMME
- DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

DATE	EVENT	LOCATION
21 JAN	Joint Letter by PGA and Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) to President Zelensky calling for urgent ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute by Ukraine (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Virtual
26 JAN	Meeting between legislator-members of the National Group in Ecuador and civil society organizations about the context of child marriage in the country, in the framework of PGA's collaboration with Girls Not Brides' Power to Girls Campaign (CEFM Campaign)	Virtual
28 JAN	Sixth meeting of the Parliamentary Rapid Response Team (PARRT) and election of new members and leadership (Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)	Virtual
JAN-DEC	Project to Promote Greater Engagement by Women Parliamentarians in Addressing Requests for International Assistance contained in National Reports on Implementation of the UN Programme of Action Addressing the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (Caribbean and Africa) (SALW/ATT Campaign)	Multiple Locations
1 FEB	PGA's Secretary-General intervention in the meeting of the "Crimes Against Humanity Initiative" organised by ABILA and the Global Justice Center to discuss an advocacy strategy for the Draft Articles on Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Humanity before the UN General Assembly (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Virtual
2 FEB	PGA presentation during the civil society organizations' briefings to the EU Council Working Group on the ICC (COJUR-ICC) (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Brussels, Belgium
3 FEB	Swiss MFA, Global Rights Compliance and PGA consultation on the campaign for the ratification and implementation of the amendments on the war crime of starvation (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Virtual

22-24 FEB	Media statements respectively entitled “PGA condemns Russian Federation’s blatant violation of International law and the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine” and “PGA Firmly Condemns the Aggressive War Launched by the Russian Federation Against Ukraine”, followed-up by several calls for action to address atrocity crimes in and against Ukraine (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	Virtual
FEB-MAR	Bilateral National Outreach to PGA Membership in Africa, Caribbean, Asia and Latin America to Promote Nuclear and Radiological Security - Universality and Implementation of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism, the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material and its Amendment (<i>Nuclear and Radiological Security</i>)	Virtual
FEB-MAR	Bilateral National Outreach to PGA Membership in Africa to Promote Biological Security - Universality and Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention and Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) (<i>Biological Security and Health Campaign</i>)	Virtual
2 MAR	<u>African Regional Briefing by PGA on Nuclear and Radiological Security Project Overview of Review Conference of States Parties to A/CPPNM</u> (<i>Nuclear and Radiological Security</i>)	Virtual
4 MAR	<u>Thematic symposium on proposals for innovations within the ICC and its jurisdiction (co-organised with Harvard Journal of International Law, Harvard Law School)</u> (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	Virtual session with MPs from Iraq and Jordan
7 MAR	<u>Regional Parliamentary Webinar, in cooperation with the PGA National Group of Argentina and the Council of Europe, to Promote University and Implementation of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime in Latin America</u> (<i>Global Cybersecurity Initiative</i>)	Hybrid, New Zealand Parliament, Wellington
15 MAR	PGA Delegation meetings with the ICC President, ASP President and ASP Co-facilitator on universality and full implementation (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	The Hague, Netherlands
23 MAR	Follow up event on ecocide in the framework of the proposals for innovations in the ICC system and its jurisdiction (co-organised with <i>Harvard Journal of International Law, Harvard Law School</i>) (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	Virtual
23 MAR	PGA participation in the Conference of the Parties to the Amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (A/CPPNM) (<i>Nuclear and Radiological Security</i>)	Vienna, Austria
25 MAR	<u>Caribbean Regional Briefing on Nuclear and Radiological Security Project Overview of Review Conference of States Parties to A/CPPNM</u> (<i>Nuclear and Radiological Security</i>)	The Hague, Netherlands

5 APR	PGA participation in <i>Girls Not Brides'</i> closing event of its "Power to Girls Campaign" (<i>CEFM Campaign</i>)	Virtual
5 APR	Meeting between Honduran Legislators and SOMOS CDC to promote human rights and inclusion of LGBTI persons in Honduras (<i>SOGI Campaign</i>)	Virtual
6 APR	PGA participation in the Geneva Summit for Human Rights and Democracy 2022 (<i>Democratic Renewal and Human Rights</i>)	Vienna, Austria
7-8 APR	<u>International Workshop of Scholars and Parliamentarians on the Role of Parliaments and Representative Entities in the face of the challenges of the 21st Century. Event co-organised by the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies, Research and Prospective of the School of Government of Universidad Austral (CIDEIPP) and the Legislature of the Province of Neuquén, Argentine Republic</u> (<i>Democratic Renewal and Human Rights</i>)	Virtual/ In person, Neuquén, Argentina
8-9 APR	PGA Secretary-General addresses experts' conference on "Religion, Hateful Expression and Violence," organised by the <i>Centre for International Law Research and Policy (CILRAP)</i> , in co-operation with the <i>Universities of Cologne, Delhi, Haifa, Northumbria and Buenos Aires, PGA, CICJ and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway</i> (<i>Democratic Renewal and Human Rights</i>)	Florence, Italy
11 APR	PGA-Parliamentary Center (Canada) consultation on coordinated support for Ukrainian MPs (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	New York, USA/ The Hague, The Netherlands/ Ottawa, Canada
14 APR	PGA Secretary-General intervention in the Ukrainian NGOs' joint-project called “A Tribunal for Putin - Kyiv region under the Russian army occupation: preliminary conclusions of human rights activists” [closed online event co-organised by CCL] + <i>PGA proposal to the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the ICC (CICC) to expand its work on the crime of aggression</i> (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	Virtual
19-20 APR	PGA cooperation with the ICC Presidency’s official visit to Guinea-Bissau (Parliament, Government and Judiciary)/ <u>Briefing of the Chair of the PGA Guinea-Bissau National Group for the ICC President, Bissau</u> (<i>Rome Statute of the ICC</i>)	Bissau, Guinea-Bissau
20 APR	PGA participation in the First Conference of States Parties (COP) on the Escazú Agreement (<i>Climate Action</i>)	Virtual
25-27 APR	PGA participation in the <u>Workshop on Leadership for Good Governance and Social Transformation hosted by the Commonwealth Secretariat, Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWil) and UN Women</u> (<i>SOGI Campaign</i>)	Bridgetown, Barbados

27 APR	Asian Regional Briefing on Nuclear and Radiological Security Project Overview of Review Conference of States Parties to A/CPPNM (Nuclear and Radiological Security)	Virtual
29 APR	Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies: Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights Forum 2022 (Agenda). Session on "AI and the spread of hate speech and propaganda: Challenges and possibilities in the use of AI and its legislative regulation" organised by PGA, the Platform for Peace and Humanity and the Sentinel Project with the support of GAAMAC (Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)	Virtual
9-10 MAY	Regional Africa Parliamentary Workshop to Promote Universality and Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention and Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) (Biological Security and Health Campaign)	Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania
10 MAY	Seminar for Parliamentarians of the 12th Parliament of Guyana (Commonwealth Parliamentary Assembly). Session on Codes of Conduct, Transparency and Integrity addressed by Parliamentarians for Global Action <i>(Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)</i>	Virtual/In person, Guyana
12 MAY	Parliamentary Dialogue with Ukrainian Legislators: Current Situation, the Work and Role of Parliamentarians and Needs and Options for International Support <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
16-18 MAY	PGA participation and intervention at the Commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute (organised by the Focal points on Universality), The Hague, NL <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	The Hague
18 MAY	PGA participation and intervention at the Commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute (organised by the Focal Points on Universality) <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Brussels, Belgium
30 MAY	Third virtual conference of PGA and partners to focus on strategies for atrocity-prevention in Afghanistan <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
1-2 JUN	PGA participation in the virtual consultations on the <i>Initiative for a new Multilateral Convention on International Cooperation in the Investigation and Prosecution of the Crime of Genocide, Crimes against Humanity and War Crimes (MLA Initiative)</i> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
3 JUN	Strategic Meeting of PGA United Nations (UN) Advisory Committee, Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein to the UN (Governance)	Virtual/In person, New York, USA/ United Nations
3 JUN	Strategic Roundtable with Parliamentarians on the Protection of the Deep Seabed (Oceans Campaign)	New York, USA

7 JUN	PGA Secretary-General presentation and questions & answers' session for EU Member States at the "Information-Sharing Meeting" organised by the Legal Advisor of the EU to the UN on the PGA proposal to amend the Rome Statute on the crime of aggression, Permanent Observer Mission of the EU to the UN <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	New York, USA
15 JUN	Briefing of South African Parliamentarians on sustainable small-scale fisheries (SSF) <i>(Oceans Campaign)</i>	South Africa
16 JUN	PGA participation at the Technical session on the International Criminal Court (ICC), organised by the General Assembly of the <i>Organization of American States (OAS)</i> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
18 JUN	PGA Commemoration the International Day for Countering Hate Speech [Communication Strategy on Social Media Platforms – Global Parliamentary Code of Democratic Conduct] <i>(Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)</i>	Virtual
20 JUN	The Role of Civil Society in The Philippines in Promoting Biological Security and Biosafety Practices Workshop <i>(Biological Security and Health Campaign)</i>	Virtual
22 JUN	PGA Secretary-General participation in the "Yale Club Roundtable: A Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression Recommended by the UN General Assembly?" organised by the Permanent Missions of Latvia, Liechtenstein and Ukraine to the UN <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	New York, USA
22 JUN	The Role of Somali Civil Society in Promoting Biological Security and Biosafety Practices – Part 2 <i>(Biological Security and Health Campaign)</i>	Virtual
23 JUN	Launch of Global Parliamentary Declaration Calling for a Moratorium on Deep Seabed Mining (Oceans Campaign)	Virtual
23-24 JUN	African Parliamentary Forum on Sexual and Gender Minorities, in collaboration with UNDP's Inclusive Governance Initiative (SOGI Campaign)	Johannesburg, South Africa
29 JUN	Latin American Regional Briefing on Nuclear and Radiological Security Project, Overview of Review Conference of States Parties to A/CPPNM <i>(Nuclear and Radiological Security)</i>	Virtual
29 JUN	PGA Participation at the "Solidarity with Parliamentarians: Defending the Human Rights of Parliamentarians" Event, organised by the <i>European Parliament</i> <i>(Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)</i>	Brussels, Belgium

29 JUN	PGA participation and intervention in the “CICC Workshop on the Crime of Aggression” <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
30 JUN	<u>Parliamentary Delegation of Ukraine to the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands</u> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	The Hague, The Netherlands
1 JUL	<u>PGA Participation and intervention at the Commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the entry into force of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court</u> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	World Forum, The Hague, Netherlands
6 JUL	<u>PGA participation in the presentation of the Hemispheric Report on Child, Early and Forced Marriages and Unions, hosted by the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) and the Belisario Dominguez Institute of the Mexican Senate</u> <i>(CEFM Campaign)</i>	Mexico City, Mexico
13 JUL	PGA participation at "Assessing Opportunities and Challenges in Advancing Accountability Processes for Ukraine" organised by <i>Ukraine 5AM Coalition</i> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual/In person, The Hague, The Netherlands
17 JUL	<u>PGA commemoration of the International Justice Day and address International Criminal Justice Week organised by Civil for Centre Liberties</u> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
9 AUG	Meeting with Ghana’s high-level parliamentary delegation at PGA headquarters <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	New York, USA
21 AUG	PGA participation at the <i>Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Network (CWP) Workshop on Effectively Combatting all Forms of Abuse and Harassment in Parliament</i> <i>(Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)</i>	Halifax, Canada
22 AUG	<u>Afghanistan, Humanitarian Challenge: The Defense of Human Rights and Humanitarian Missions</u> <i>(Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)</i>	Virtual/In person, Buenos Aires, Argentina
15 SEP	PGA Commemoration of the International Day of Democracy <i>(Democratic Renewal and Human Rights)</i>	Virtual
15-16 SEP	<u>Regional Caribbean Dialogue on Evidence-based Inclusion of LGBTI+ people, in collaboration with Caribbean NGO partners and UNDP’s Latin America and Caribbean office</u> <i>(SOGI Campaign)</i>	Bridgetown Barbados
17 SEP	PGA Secretary-General intervention on aligning the ICC jurisdiction on the crime of aggression to the jurisdiction on genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes in the conference for the 50th anniversary of the Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Siracusa, Italy

19 SEP	Meeting with the leading member of PGA in the Central American Parliament (ParlaCen) on gross human rights abuses in El Salvador and in the subregion, PGA headquarters <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	New York, USA
AUG-OCT	National Virtual Bilateral Meetings with PGA membership in 28+ African States to Promote Universality and Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention and Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) <i>(Biological Security and Health Campaign)</i>	Virtual
21 SEP	<u>International Day of Peace: Towards a Just Peace – Affirming the rights of victims of the crime of aggression, event organised by the International Center for Multigenerational Legacies of Trauma and PGA and co-sponsored by the Victims’ Rights Working Group (CICC)</u> <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
28 SEP	Meeting with members of the PGA European Parliament National Group <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Brussels, Belgium
29 SEP	Meeting on ‘unlocking’ the ICC jurisdiction on the crime of aggression with Members of the German Bundestag <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual
3-4 OCT	<u>Sensitizing and Training Parliamentarians in Jamaica and Antigua and Barbuda with respect to International Assistance Requests made in 2020 National UN PoA SALW Biennial Reports</u> <i>(SALW/ATT Campaign)</i>	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
6 OCT	Participation in the Global Equality Fund Stakeholders' Meeting <i>(SOGI Campaign)</i>	Reykjavik, Iceland
10 OCT	<u>PGA contribution to the World Day against the Death Penalty (in partnership with World Coalition against the Death Penalty and its members)</u> <i>(Abolition of the Death Penalty)</i>	Virtual
10 OCT	PGA participation in the UN General Assembly’s Sixth Committee session on the draft articles for a Crimes against Humanity convention <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	New York, USA
11 OCT	PGA commemoration of International Day of the Girl <i>(CEFM Campaign)</i>	Virtual
11 OCT	PGA’s Secretary-General intervention in the “JustTalk” panel held in Kyiv on “ <u>Crime of aggression: how to build a sustainable case against Russia’s top officials</u> ” co-organised by Open Society Justice Initiative <i>(Rome Statute of the ICC)</i>	Virtual

21 OCT	PGA's Secretary-General intervention on the imperative to amend the ICC Statute in Panel on "Prosecuting the Crime of Aggression: Russia and Beyond*" of the International Law Weekend, organised by ABILA, Fordham University Law School (Rome Statute of the ICC)	New York, USA
27 OCT	PGA intervention in the ASP NY-Working Group on the Nomination and Election of Judges urging States Parties to reform domestic nominations procedures (Rome Statute of the ICC)	New York, USA/ United Nations
28 OCT	Meeting with members of the PGA European Parliament National Group (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Brussels, Belgium
4-5 NOV	<u>12th session of the Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the ICC and the Rule of Law (on the occasion of the 43rd Annual Forum of PGA)</u> (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Buenos Aires, Argentina
5 NOV	<u>Breakfast Discussion on the Protection of the Oceans during the 43rd Annual Forum of PGA</u> (Oceans Campaign)	Parliament of Argentina, Buenos Aires
NOV	Virtual Regional African Workshop to Promote Female Parliamentary Engagement in Support of the Silencing the Guns in Africa Initiative (SALW/ATT Campaign)	Virtual
16-18 NOV	World Congress Against the Death Penalty (Abolition of the Death Penalty)	Virtual
18 NOV	Q&A session of Parliamentarians with the ICC Office of the Prosecutor as a follow up to the 12th CAP-ICC (Rome Statute of the ICC)	Virtual
22-23 NOV	Participation in the First Annual Forum of Human Rights Defenders on Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) (Climate Action)	Quito, Ecuador
NOV- DEC	Attendance at Ninth Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention at the UN (Biological Security and Health Campaign)	Geneva, Switzerland
5-11 DEC	Participation in the Assembly of States Parties of the International Criminal Court (Rome Statute of the ICC)	The Hague, The Netherlands

8 DEC	<u>The Universality of the International Criminal Court: On the importance of ratifying the Rome Statute and its amendments (side-event organised in the margins of the Assembly of States Parties and co-hosted by the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland, Parliamentarians for Global Action, and Global Rights Compliance)</u> (Rome Statute of the ICC)	The Hague, The Netherlands
8 DEC	<u>Challenges for the Rome Statute system and the fight against impunity: i) Amending the amendments on the crime of aggression and addressing the rights of its victims, including combatants who are not protected under war crimes and crimes against humanity; and ii) Reforming national nomination procedures for ICC judicial candidates so that the ICC can live up to its expectation of rendering justice to victims: are States ready to turn the Independent Experts' Review recommendations into a reality? Hosted by Parliamentarians for Global Action at the margins of the 21st Assembly of States Parties of the ICC</u> (Rome Statute of the ICC)	The Hague, The Netherlands
13 DEC	Parliamentarians Round Table: 'Supporting diversity and inclusion in Asia and the Pacific,' hosted by the Asian Population Development Association, in collaboration with UNFPA, UNDP, PGA and the Global Equality Caucus (SOGI Campaign)	Virtual

VISION

To contribute to the creation of a rules-based international order for a more equitable, safe, sustainable and democratic world.

MISSION

PGA, a non-governmental, multi-party, international network of legislators acting in their individual capacity, informs and mobilizes parliamentarians in all regions of the world to advocate for human rights and the Rule of Law, democracy, human security, inclusion, gender equality and justice, including climate justice.

THEORY OF CHANGE

Members of Parliament (MPs) have a key role to play in national and global efforts to promote and protect human rights, democracy and peace: in their capacity as: **lawmakers**, in their government-oversight functions, and as democratically elected **representatives of the people** who play important leadership roles in their communities.

By using a **peer-to-peer methodology** and **country-specific strategies**, the PGA Secretariat and leading members work together to educate, sensitize, build the technical capacity and strengthen the political will of parliamentarians in order to take ownership, concrete initiatives and legislative actions to achieve results on PGA's campaign objectives.

PGA directly contributes to the creation of **political will** among MPs to take concrete action. PGA undertakes actions and activities, such as convening national and regional parliamentary workshops and providing follow-up technical assistance to MPs, resulting in the targeted MPs having capacity, knowledge and awareness of a Campaign issue, which in turn leads to targeted MPs having the political will to take action. Concrete actions may include posing a question to the Executive, introducing a bill, meeting and partnering with local civil society, calling for a reform in a public policy or practise, etc.

PGA contributes to creating an enabling environment for positive changes, especially through activities that facilitate **connections between civil society and parliamentarians**, as well as building bridges between domestic and international policymakers and stakeholders. The goal of PGA's actions is to contribute to parliament **passing new/amended legislation** (or repealing discriminatory or unjust

laws), Government adopting new or modified **policies and practises** and states **ratifying and implementing international treaties** and/or aligning to other **international standards**.

The **impact** of PGA's work relies on the commitment of parliamentarians to advocate for the prevention of, and accountability for, human rights violations and other breaches of the law, in turn contributing to the reinforcement of the **Rule of Law** at both the international level and within national systems.

Parliamentarians engaged by PGA are empowered to better perform their constitutional prerogatives as lawmakers, policymakers and **defenders of democratic institutions**.

PGA International Council Meeting , November 2022



AMERICAS (249 MEMBERS, 30 COUNTRIES)

Antigua & Barbuda	3
Argentina	29
Barbados	5
Belize	8
Bolivia	1
Brazil	12
Canada	13
Cayman Islands	1
Chile	3
Colombia	7
Costa Rica	2
Dominican Republic	29
Ecuador	19
El Salvador	4
Grenada	3
Guatemala	1
Guyana	3
Honduras	14
Jamaica	9
Mexico	4
Panama	2
Paraguay	15
Saint Lucia	3
Saint Vincent & Grenadines	1
Suriname	8
Trinidad & Tobago	8
Turks and Caicos Islands	2
United States	12
Uruguay	6
Venezuela	21

ASIA (139 MEMBERS, 14 COUNTRIES)

Afghanistan	6
Bangladesh	10
Bhutan	5
Cambodia	1
India	14
Indonesia	4
Japan	12
Malaysia	28
Maldives	3
Nepal	6
Pakistan	25
Philippines	4
Singapore	1
Sri Lanka	20

THE PACIFIC (42 MEMBERS, 12 COUNTRIES)

Australia	5
Cook Islands	1
Fiji	4
Kiribati	2
Micronesia (Federated States of)	2
New Zealand	7
Papua New Guinea	1
Samoa	9
Solomon Islands	2
Tonga	2
Tuvalu	5
Vanuatu	2

EUROPE (171 MEMBERS, 29 COUNTRIES)

Albania	15
Armenia	1
Austria	4
Belgium	3
Denmark	12
Estonia	2
Finland	5
France	2
Georgia	1
Germany	2
Iceland	1
Ireland	7
Italy	3
Lithuania	1
Luxembourg	1
Montenegro	2
Netherlands	14
North Macedonia	4
Norway	8
Poland	3
Portugal	5
Romania	1
Slovakia	1
Slovenia	1
Spain	2
Sweden	21
Switzerland	5
Ukraine	24
United Kingdom	20

REGIONAL PARLIAMENTS (30 MEMBERS, 4 PARLIAMENTS)

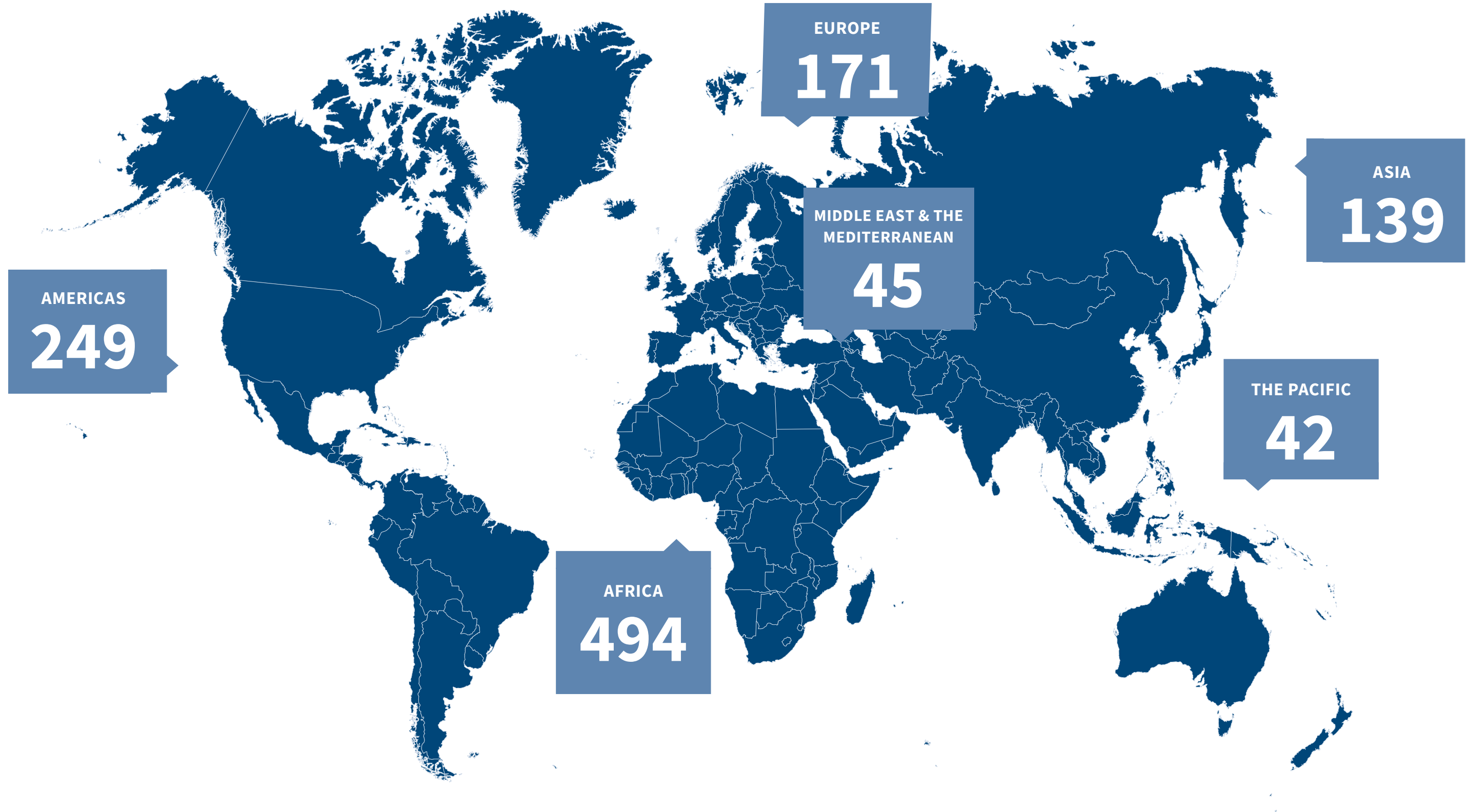
Andean Parliament	1
ECOWAS Parliament	6
European Parliament	20
Parlacen	3

OBSERVER COUNTRIES (16 MEMBERS, 6 OBSERVER COUNTRIES)

Anguilla	1
Aruba	1
Libya	1
Palestine	1
Somalia	10
Sudan	2

2022 MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

All figures as of December 2022. Read more at:
www.pgaction.org/membership/our-members.html



2023 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT



Hon. Syed Naveed Qamar, MP
Pakistan

Chair of the International Council



Mr. Ali Ehsassi, MP
Canada

TREASURER



Ms. Petra Bayr, MP
Austria

PGA is grateful to Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) for her leadership as PGA President, and to Dip. Jorge Cáliz (Honduras) and Mr. Mark Pritchard, MP (United Kingdom) for their dedicated service on PGA's Executive Committee in 2022.

BOARD



Dip. Margarita Stolbizer
(Argentina)



Hon. Valerie Woods,
Speaker of Parliament
(Belize)



Dip. Dr. Esther Cuesta
(Ecuador)



Mr. Fabio Massimo Castaldo
MEP-Italy
(European Parliament)



Hon. Dr. Angela Brown-Burke
MP (Jamaica)



Hon. Millie Odhiambo
MP (Kenya)



Hon. Rozaina Adam
MP (The Maldives)



Sen. Emilio Álvarez Icaza Longoria
(Mexico)



Dep. Antonio Niquice
(Mozambique)



Sen. Boris Dittrich
(The Netherlands)



Hon. Bernard Georges
MP (Seychelles)



Ms. Ann-Sofie Alm
MP (Sweden)

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL

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Ms. Maria Vamvakinou, MP (Australia)

Dep. Reine Benaou Sakande (Burkina Faso)

Dep. José Manuel Sanches Tavares (Cape Verde)

Dep. Emilie Béatrice Epaye (Central African Republic)

Dip. Víctor Suárez (Dominican Republic)

Dr. Hannah Neumann, MEP-Germany (European Parliament)

Hon. Madie Ceesay, MP (the Gambia)

Hon. João Bernardo Vieira, MP (Guinea-Bissau)

Dip. Jorge Cálix (Honduras)

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Hon. Evelyn Nawases-Taeyele, MP (Namibia)

Mr. Adrian Rurawhe, MP (New Zealand)

Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas, MP (Nigeria)

Dep. Raul Cardoso (São Tomé and Príncipe)

Hon. Patrick Kensenhuis, MP (Suriname)

Hon. Jasson Rweikiza, MP (Tanzania)

Sen. Wade Mark (Trinidad and Tobago)

Dr. Galyna Mykhailiuk, MP (Ukraine)

Hon. Fox Odoi Oywelowo, MP (Uganda)

To be announced (United Kingdom)

Hon. Innocent Tinashe Gonese, MP (Zimbabwe)

PGA SECRETARIAT

PGA's Secretariat is the operational body of the organization. It is responsible for the management and execution of the campaigns and provides technical and legal assistance to all PGA members. Its headquarters are in New York, United States, with an office in The Hague, the Netherlands. PGA chose these locations because they host the United Nations and international justice institutions.

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Secretary-General (2014-2022)
Outgoing Secretary-General until 31 March 2023
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Mr. Daniel Garzón López

Programme Officer
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PGA is grateful to Mr. Michael Agbeko for his dedicated service to PGA as Director of Administration until December 2022 and wishes him well in his retirement.

UNITED NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PGA's United Nations Advisory Committee, composed of Ambassadors from PGA partner states and leaders of the UN system, advises on the role of parliamentarians in supporting and implementing the UN agenda at the national level, considering, in particular, the UN Agenda 2030, and opportunities for cooperation with the UN and Member States for the effective implementation of PGA's Strategic Plan.

CHAIR

H.E. Mr. Christian Wenaweser

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein

United Nations Ambassadors /Government Officials

H.E. Mr. Alexander Marschik

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Austria
President of the Economic and Social Council

H.E. Mr. Rodrigo A. Carazo

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Costa Rica

H.E. Mr. Ivan Šimonović

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Croatia

H.E. Mr. Martin Bille Hermann

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Permanent Mission of Denmark

H.E. Mr. Olof Skoog

Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

H.E. Mr. Harold Adlai Agyeman

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Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Switzerland

H.E. Mr. Sergiy Kyslytsya

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Mission of Ukraine

UN Secretariat and Agencies

Mr. Adama Dieng

UN Expert on Human Rights in the Sudan;
Former Under Secretary-General and Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide

DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Development Advisory Committee (DAC) is a non-governing body designed to help PGA by providing strategic input, enhancing networking and goodwill, increasing visibility, and augmenting fundraising. DAC members are thought leaders who share their insights and access to resources with PGA's staff and Board. DAC members represent PGA's work to their networks, emphasizing the urgent need to support parliamentary advocacy for the creation of a rules-based international order.

CHAIR

Ms. Minou Tavárez Mirabal, Dominican Republic

Chairperson of the Board of the Trust Fund for Victims at the ICC;
former President of PGA

MEMBERS

Ambassador Martin Sajdik, Austria

Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations;
former Chair of UN ECOSOC

Mr. Victor (Ito) Bisonó, Dominican Republic

Minister for Industry, Trade and Commerce;
former PGA Executive Committee member

Judge Song Sang-Hyun, Republic of Korea

former President of the ICC

Mr. Coşkun Çörüz, Netherlands

former PGA Executive Committee member

Dr. Bernadette Lahai, Sierra Leone

former PGA Executive Committee member

Ambassador Stephen J. Rapp, United States

Visiting Fellow at Oxford University's Institute for Ethics, Law, and Armed Conflict's Programme on International Peace and Security;
former US Ambassador for Global Criminal Justice

CORE CAMPAIGN

07 DEMOCRATIC RENEWAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The core [Campaign for Democratic Renewal and Human Rights](#) seeks to contribute directly to PGA's vision of a "rules-based international order for a more equitable, safe, sustainable and democratic world" as well as **SDG 16: Promote Peaceful and Inclusive Societies for Sustainable Development, Provide Access to Justice for All and Build Effective, Accountable and Inclusive Institutions at All Levels** by using its technical expertise to empower its members and establish links with parliamentary associations and legislative caucuses working to promote and safeguard multi-party democracy worldwide through a concerted effort.

The core Campaign for Democratic Renewal and Human Rights receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Oak Foundation and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from Global Affairs Canada and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

According to the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)'s [Global State of Democracy Report 2022](#), half of the democratic governments worldwide are in decline.

World leaders continued to face familiar problems, such as COVID-19 and climate change, as well as new ones like Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, spiking living costs and a global recession. Furthermore, as [reported by the Varieties of Democracy \(V-Dem\)](#), governments took radical actions to entrench autocratic practices and restrict fundamental rights and freedoms; authoritarian



countries such as **China** and **Iran** cracked down on dissent and peaceful protesters, and human rights violations persisted in **Afghanistan, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Sri Lanka** and elsewhere.

PGA's core Campaign on Democratic Renewal and Human Rights (DRHR) continued to mobilize its global membership in 2022 to provide access to justice and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels to realize the United Nations **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16**.

Together with its partner, the Raoul Wallenberg Centre for Human Rights (RWCHR), and a leading coalition of NGOs including Reporters Without Borders (RSF), the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), the International Bar Association's Human Rights Institute (IBAHRI), PEN International and Defend Defenders, PGA [filed a complaint](#) to the United Nations Working Group on Arbitrary Detention on behalf of **Eritrean** national Mr. Dawit Isaak and his colleagues – the longest detained journalists in the world, who have been held by the government of Eritrea without charge since 2001. The complaint called not only for their unconditional release but for accountability for the Eritrean government's violation of their human rights.

In response to the surge of **hate speech, racism and discrimination** worldwide, PGA concentrated its efforts on tackling these issues and their impact on democracy. PGA participated in a panel at the Forum on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights organised by long-standing partners, the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (MIGS) and the Global Action against Mass Atrocity Crimes (GAAMAC). [This event](#) aimed at addressing the legislative regulation of artificial intelligence and the spread of AI-enabled hate speech and propaganda.

PGA's Democratic Renewal and SOGI Campaigns also marked the first [International Day for Countering Hate Speech](#) to raise awareness of this disturbing tendency, which often leads to the commission of human rights violations and, in worse cases, mass atrocity crimes.

HON. ANDY LABONTE, MP (SEYCHELLES)

PGA MARKS INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR COUNTERING HATE SPEECH

In 2021-2022, the world witnessed six coups d'état, a record for the 21st century. PGA supported Members of Parliament seeking to catalyze democratic reforms in different regions. PGA denounced the [military coup in Burkina Faso](#), which took place in a context of profound discontent over the security crisis fueled by the government's inability to prevent and tackle abuses by the so-called "jihadist" groups and [called for the respect of human rights and the Rule of Law](#) in the country.

Following the mounting wave of violent attacks against democratic institutions and the Rule of Law in **Western and Central Africa**, PGA similarly condemned the [attempted coup in Guinea-Bissau](#), where its long-standing member-parliamentarians Hon. João Viera and Hon. Suzi Barbosa pledged to continue defending democratic principles and values while ensuring that perpetrators of serious human rights are brought to justice.

The number of protests around the world rose sharply in 2022, sparking waves of civilian discontent that, more often than not, have resulted in governments using disproportionate force. These abuses curtailed fundamental human rights and freedoms, targeted marginalized populations, attacked

legislatures and closed the civic space. PGA issued a strong statement condemning the death sentence of individuals participating in protests in [Iran](#) after the tragic death of Mahsa Amini, and issued an Urgent Action Alert in [Sri Lanka](#) following months of protests demanding accountability for the government's high debt, rising prices and record human rights violations. Both declarations contain specific actions that member-parliamentarians could take to prevent further violations and democratic backsliding.

In the same vein, PGA Executive Committee member Asambleísta Esther Cuesta Santana referred to PGA the situation in [Ecuador](#), in light of the profound economic and social crisis ravaging the country. Reported arbitrary detentions, prosecution of demonstrators and harassment and persecution of journalists, opposition legislators and human rights defenders raised alarm amongst domestic and international actors. To address the grave human rights violations, Asambleísta Cuesta tabled a [resolution](#) before the Plenary of the National Assembly of Ecuador that urged the Ombudsman's Office to form a Special Commission to clarify the events that have occurred since the beginning of the national strike.

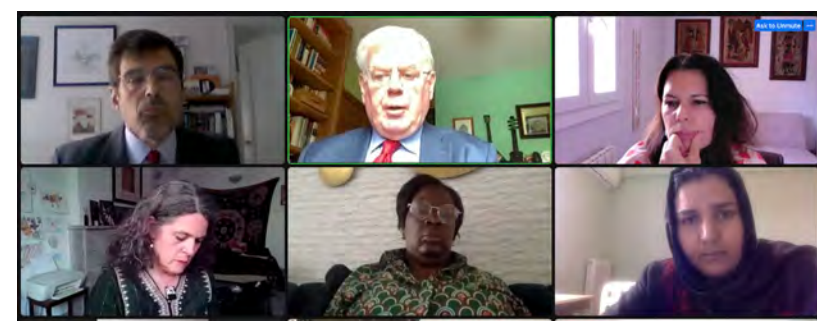
Serious human rights violations, especially against women and girls continued to be prevalent in 2022. Members of PGA's [Parliamentary Rapid Response Team \(PARRT\)](#) held a joint [high-level event](#) to **focus on supporting Afghan nationals, both on the ground and in exile.**



“Our global membership is deeply concerned by the increasing number of African States that are affected by unconstitutional changes of regime that often entail the perpetration of atrocities against the civilian population and gross human rights abuses against Government officials.

At the world summit in 2005, the Member States of the United Nations recommitted themselves to protecting and promoting human rights, the Rule of Law, and Democracy as inextricably linked and mutually reinforcing core principles of the UN. Therefore, we call upon States to continue respecting these indivisible values and adopt proactive approaches to threats to democracy.”

– Hon. Rozaina Adam, MP (Maldives) and Convenor of PGA's Democratic Renewal Campaign



SUPPORTING AFGHAN NATIONALS ON THE GROUND AND IN EXILE

[PLAY VIDEO](#)

To commemorate the **2022 International Day of Parliamentarism**, PGA participated in a conference organised by the [European Parliament Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group \(DEG\)](#)

dedicated to *“Solidarity with Parliamentarians: Defending the Human Rights of Parliamentarians.”* Chaired by PGA member-parliamentarian, **Dr. Hannah Neumann, MEP (Germany)** – also a **founding member of PARRT** – this annual stocktaking debate focused on the challenges MEPs and their twinning partners have faced since the implementation of the [Solidarity with Parliamentarians Programme](#), an initiative launched by the DEG, to which PGA has provided in-depth assistance and knowledge. PGA's [Global Parliamentary Code of Democratic Conduct](#) was disseminated at the event. In the last year, the number of signatories doubled, for a total of **106 legislators** from **49 countries**.



[PLAY VIDEO](#)

GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY CODE OF DEMOCRATIC CONDUCT

On 4-5 November 2022, PGA organised in the National Congress of Argentina its [43rd Annual Parliamentary Forum](#) on International Criminal Justice and the Rule of Law. Many legislators from different regions reminded the distinguished audience that justice, human rights, democracy and the rule of law are mutually reinforcing. Experts and participants highlighted 4 key points:

1. Democratic backsliding is often a precursor to gross human rights violations;
2. Preventing violence, hate speech and discrimination is paramount if we want to achieve vibrant democracies;
3. Attacks of legislators from the opposition – especially women, journalists, human rights defenders and vulnerable populations, are a symptom of the concentration of power in the hands of the few, including from the Executive branch of government; and
4. When the justice system is weak, rampant impunity emboldens individuals who undermine democratic principles and institutions and violate fundamental human rights, as well as civil and political rights, in contravention with the domestic and international legal order.

These illegal seizures of power signal how fragile democracies are and how much work we still need to do to strengthen our institutions, democratic governance, human rights, inclusion, participation of vulnerable and underrepresented populations, and the Rule of Law. In the coming year, PGA will work with relevant stakeholders to continue to renew and support democracy, also through the promotion of relevant institutional reforms.



[PLAY VIDEO](#)

WHAT DOES DEMOCRACY MEAN TO YOU?

GENDER, EQUALITY & INCLUSION PROGRAMME

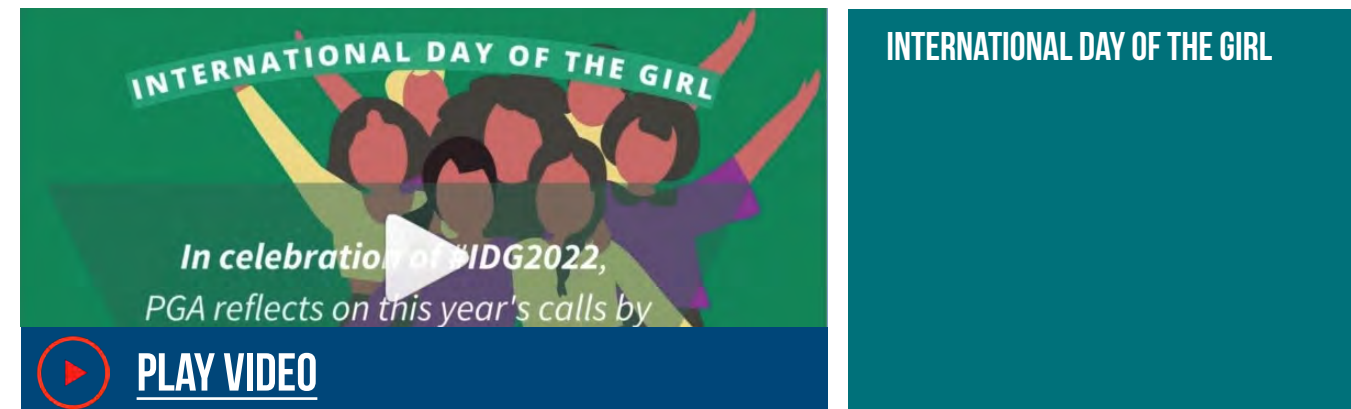
08 CAMPAIGN TO END CHILD, EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGE

PGA's [Campaign to End Child, Early and Forced Marriage](#) (CEFM Campaign) seeks to end child, early and forced marriage in line with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 5.3 to eliminate all harmful practices such as child, early and forced marriage** by providing tools to parliamentarians to assert the primacy of national legislation; establish 18 years as the minimum age for legal marriage; reaffirm civil registration for births and marriages, health and education systems; and guarantee the enjoyment of sexual and reproductive health and rights, property rights, and access to justice for all girls and women.

The CEFM Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and the Montauk Foundation.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

On 26 January 2022, PGA's National Group in **Ecuador** hosted a [strategic discussion on child and early unions](#) in the country. As part of PGA's collaboration with *Girls Not Brides' Power to Girls Campaign*, local NGO Fundación Sendas shared the results of their research about this harmful practice, which continues to be prevalent, particularly in rural areas. Despite legislation banning child marriage, the research showed that the population does not know the law or considers the practice a human rights violation. Fundación Sendas encouraged legislators to raise awareness about the law and the implications of child and early unions with education campaigns, using a holistic and multi-sectoral approach. As a follow up, Asambleísta Johanna Ortíz participated in the virtual [closing ceremony](#) of the Power to Girls Campaign on 5 April 2022.



PGA Executive Committee member Asambleísta Esther Cuesta (Ecuador) wrote to the country's Minister of Social and Economic Inclusion requesting a detailed report on projects, plans and initiatives that the Ministry had undertaken to prevent child, early and forced marriages, requesting their results and budgetary information on the allocation of funds dedicated to ending this harmful practice.

Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (**Malaysia**) called on her government to take measures to ban child, early and forced marriage. She stated: "After over two years of lip-service on eradicating child marriages in Malaysia, I call upon Rina and Siti Zailah to report to the Parliament on the progress of the National Strategy Plan in Handling Causes of Child Marriage from 15 January 2020 until today."



Op-ed from Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) »

In 2022, PGA also launched a **#GenderClimateChallenge** to amplify the [Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW)'s priority theme on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs. Women parliamentarians from **Anguilla, Belize, Jamaica** and **Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** shared their views on actions for gender equality taken as parliamentarians to build a more sustainable tomorrow.





HON. VALERIE WOODS, MP SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (BELIZE)

▶ [PLAY VIDEO](#)



HON. KEISAL PETERS, MP, MINISTER OF STATE (ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES)

▶ [PLAY VIDEO](#)

parliamentarians.champions · F ...

parliamentarians.champions On 15 November, the United Nations General Assembly's Third Committee adopted a new Resolution on Child, Early and Forced Marriage. 🙏

Led by Canada and Zambia, the Resolution was adopted by consensus with 125 co-sponsors, including several new and returning countries where child marriage prevalence is high.

Key gains include new references to multiple and intersecting forms of discrimination, including in the context of climate change, conflict and poverty.

Parliamentarians are key to keeping

♥ 💬 📌

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DECEMBER 13, 2022

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PGA participated in the presentation of the [Hemispheric Report on Child, Early and Forced Marriages and Unions](#) on 6 July 2022, prepared by the Follow-up Mechanism to the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI). The MESECVI is a key instrument in the Inter-American Human Rights system to prevent, punish end violence against women and girls. The Report was shared with PGA's global membership in **the Americas**, specifically calling on member-parliamentarians to take the following actions:

- Raise awareness about the prevalence of child marriages and unions in their countries and the region despite legal frameworks banning the practice of marriages under the age of 18;
- Call on the Executive to implement a multi-sectoral approach to prevent and end the practice that includes plans and programs improving girls' education, access to sexual and reproductive health, economic livelihoods and freedom from violence;
- Allocate sufficient funds to national development programs on the rights of all girls, including girls in unions and mothers, and collect statistics to identify progress/regression; and
- Participate in education campaigns to highlight the important role girls and women play in our countries' development and prioritize positive narratives in your statements to the media and in social platforms.



HEMISPHERIC REPORT ON CHILD, EARLY AND FORCED MARRIAGES AND UNIONS

The UN General Assembly's Third Committee adopted on 15 November 2022 a new Resolution on ending Child, Early and Forced Marriage. The Resolution was presented by Canada and Zambia and received the support of 125 countries. PGA has called on its global membership to take the following actions to implement this important document:



On December 15th, 2022, PGA Board Member-elect, Dip. Margarita Stolbizer (Argentina) held an in-person discussion at the Argentinean Parliament on violence against women through the exchange of information on women and diversity, violence in its various forms, arms control, gender abuses by security forces, and the presentation of projects and proposals against gender violence.

GENDER, EQUALITY & INCLUSION PROGRAMME

09 CAMPAIGN AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON SEXUAL ORIENTATION AND GENDER IDENTITY

PGA's [Campaign against Discrimination based on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity \(SOGI Campaign\)](#) seeks to implement **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 16.b to promote and enforce non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development** by mobilizing parliamentarians as human rights champions, taking action to guarantee that all individuals have equal value, live with dignity and are able to achieve their highest potential free from all forms of violence and discrimination, including on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression and sex characteristics (SOGIESC). To date, PGA has sensitized and engaged over **230 parliamentarians from over 40 countries** and facilitated meaningful interactions with representatives of the LGBTI community in **Africa, Asia, the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean**.

PGA also facilitated interviews with member-parliamentarians and supported the launch of a report, [Leadership for Inclusion: What skills and qualities do parliamentarians need to be able to promote inclusive change?](#), prepared by Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD). In their interviews with WFP, PGA member-parliamentarians from countries including **Kenya, New Zealand** and **Pakistan** underscored the uniqueness and importance of PGA **“as a valuable platform serving a fascinating mission to assist parliamentarians (rather than parliaments) articulate themselves on specific issues.”**

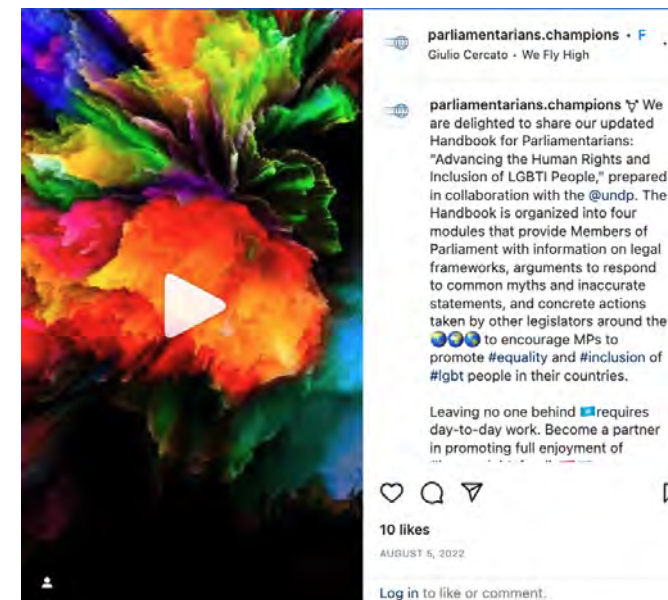
The SOGI Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Oak Foundation and Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Arcus Foundation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Open Society Foundations and Sigrid Rausing Trust.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

PGA facilitated important conversations between civil society representatives and parliamentarians throughout 2022. PGA focused on amending current regulations in **Honduras** to allow a change of legal registrations on the basis on a person's gender identity and expression.

Elsewhere in the world, PGA organised strategic discussions aimed at sensitizing parliamentarians about their role in protecting the human rights of all their constituents and particularly LGBTI+ persons in the face of proposed discriminatory bills and increasing harassment and marginalization of the LGBTI+ community.

PGA was able to use these critical meetings to launch the revised and updated joint publication with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), [“Advancing the Human Rights and Inclusion of LGBTI People: A Handbook for Parliamentarians.”](#)



On 9 May 2022, President Xiomara Castro of **Honduras** [publicly acknowledged](#) the responsibility of the State of Honduras for the murder of Ms. Vicky Hernandez, a transgender activist, on the night of 28 June 28, 2009 during the curfew resulting from the coup d'état against then-President Manuel Zelaya.

In March 2021, the Inter-American Court of Human Rights [declared](#) that the State of Honduras was responsible for the death of Ms. Hernandez and ordered the State to issue a public acknowledgement of the crime and compensation for her family. Reacting to the news, Dip. Jorge Cáliz (Honduras), member of PGA's Executive Committee stated:



“President Castro vindicates the struggle for human rights 100 days after taking office. Justice for Vicky Hernandez, executed 12 years ago as part of the 2009 coup d'état, is fundamental to begin the process of guaranteeing respect for the rights of the LGBTI+ community in Honduras.”

– PGA Board Member, Dip Jorge Cáliz, National Congress of Honduras



Valerie Woods
August 10, 2022 · 🌐
Today, August 10th, marks 6 years since human rights triumphed over inequality and discrimination in Belize. The Supreme Court of Belize ruled that Section 53 of the criminal code was unconstitutional. Every Belizean has a right to dignity, privacy, freedom of expression and equality.
Also this week, the updated Handbook for Parliamentarians: Advancing the Human Rights and Inclusion of LGBTI people is now available online. The handbook is co-published by the United Nations... [See more](#)

parliamentarians.champions · F ...

parliamentarians.champions 🌈 As we celebrate #IDAHOBIT2022, PGA Member 🇳🇶 Senator @JowelleDeSouza, human rights advocate and animal welfare activist, calls on all governments in the Caribbean to embrace their LGBTQ+ communities and show them the respect they deserve, not only by tackling the LGBTQ+ question but also by including members of the community in their initiatives.

Stay tuned for more inspiration and calls to action in our video interview with Sen. Jowell De Souza, coming soon on Instagram! 🌈🌈🌈🌈🌈🌈

#LGBTQ #Pride #Respect #Diversity #Inclusion #Caribbean #MeetUs #MPfeature

31 likes
MAY 17, 2022

Sen. Jowelle De Souza, MP Trinidad & Tobago
PGA Member

Gender, Equality, and Inclusion Programme

PGA’s SOGI Campaign, together with its Democratic Renewal Campaign, jointly commemorated the first International Day for Countering Hate Speech in June 2022 with several videos from member-parliamentarians, including Asambleísta Esther Cuesta (**Ecuador**) and PGA Executive Committee member; Dr. Angela Brown Burke, MP (**Jamaica**) and PGA Executive Committee member; and Hon. Andy Labonte, MP (**The Seychelles**). PGA used the opportunity to again call on parliamentarians to denounce hate speech and intolerance, and encouraged MPs to sign onto the [Global Parliamentary Code of Democratic Conduct](#).

COUNTERING HATE SPEECH

HON. DR. ANGELA BROWN BURKE, MP (JAMAICA)

PLAY VIDEO

In collaboration with the UNDP’s Inclusive Governance Initiative (IGI), PGA co-organised the [African Parliamentary Forum on Gender and Sexual Minorities](#) on 23-24 June 2022 in Johannesburg, South Africa. Twenty-eight parliamentarians from 13 Sub-Saharan African countries – **Angola, Botswana, Côte D’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, Uganda, Zambia** and **Zimbabwe** – participated in this Forum. Civil society representatives from **Eswatini, Malawi, Mozambique** and **South Africa** also participated. Following this strategic event, parliamentarians from Eswatini, Malawi, Seychelles, Zambia and Zimbabwe continued to take important steps in raising awareness about the rights of LGBTI+ persons.



In September 2022, PGA and UNDP’s Regional Office for Latin America and Caribbean, worked with the Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality (ECADE), United Belize Advocacy Movement (UniBAM), Eolas Consulting and Caribbean Colours to coordinate the participation of parliamentarians from **Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Jamaica** and **St. Lucia** at the [Caribbean Regional Dialogue on LGBTQI+ D.A.T.A.](#) (Driving Analytical Transformative Action). The Regional Dialogue was held in Bridgetown, Barbados on 15-16 September 2022.

During the event, PGA co-organised with UNDP a **Parliamentary Roundtable**, which was facilitated by Mr. Victor Madrigal, UN Independent Expert on protection against violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) and Commissioner Roberta Clarke, Rapporteur on the Rights of LGBTI persons.

Regio Dialo
LGB + D.
ndatab

HON. ARTHUR HOLDER,
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
(BARBADOS)

PLAY VIDEO

The discussion amongst parliamentarians focused on their role as activists and lawmakers in their Parliaments, strategies to enact protective legislation in conservative societies – including through strategic litigation as seen by the High Courts’ rulings in Antigua and Barbuda and St. Kitts and Nevis – and the influence of the churches, which can be galvanized on specific topics such as healthcare.

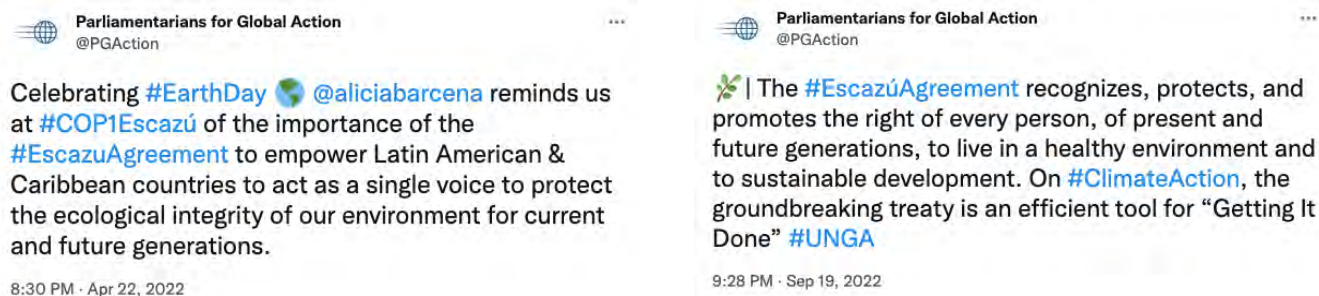
GENDER, EQUALITY & INCLUSION PROGRAMME

10 CAMPAIGN FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH TO CLIMATE ACTION

PGA's [Campaign to Mobilize Parliamentarians on Climate Action from a Human Rights-Based Approach](#) (Climate Action Campaign) seeks to sensitize parliamentarians about their role in guaranteeing equality and non-discrimination for all individuals, particularly vulnerable communities that bear the harshest effects of climate change as a consequence of structural inequalities and discriminatory provisions. In its first year, the Climate Action Campaign has focused in particular on mobilizing parliamentarians in the Caribbean around the [Escazú Agreement](#) on Access to Information, Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters as a tool to catalyze climate governance and action from a human rights-based approach in the region.

On 28 July 2022, the [UN General Assembly adopted Resolution 76/300](#), unequivocally recognizing the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment for all people. With this landmark development, the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is inherently enshrined within the human rights framework for everyone, everywhere.

The Climate Action Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and Open Society Foundations.



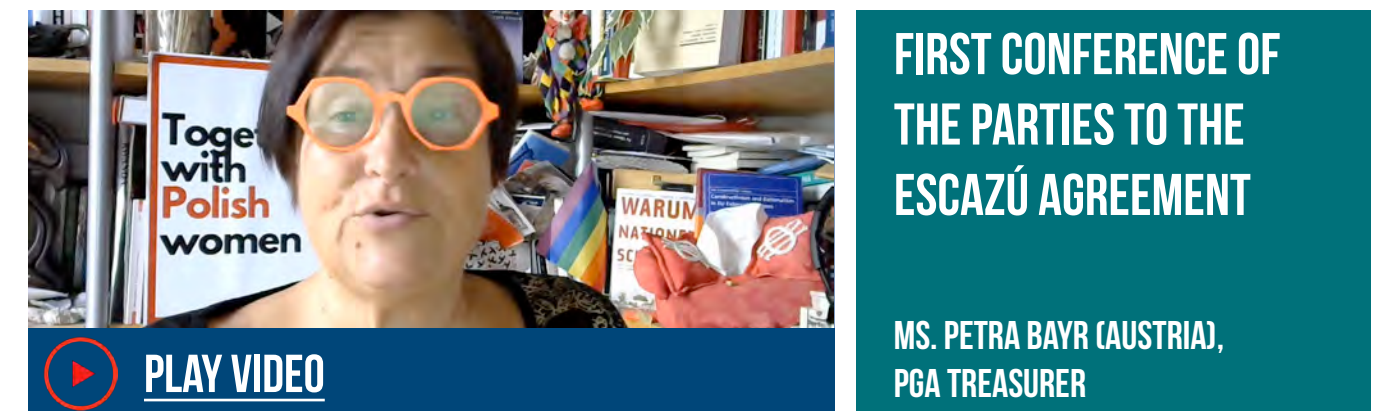
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

PGA launched the Climate Action Campaign in early 2022.

As part of the [Commission on the Status of Women](#) (CSW)'s priority theme on achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls in the context of climate change, environmental and disaster risk reduction policies and programs, PGA launched a **#GenderClimateChallenge** on its social media platforms. Women parliamentarians from **Anguilla, Belize, Jamaica and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines** shared their views on actions for gender equality taken as parliamentarians to build a more sustainable tomorrow.



On 20-22 April 2022 PGA [participated](#) in the first meeting of the [Conference of the Parties](#) (COP1) to the Escazú Agreement in Santiago, Chile. Ms. Petra Bayr, MP (Austria) and PGA Treasurer represented PGA at the special session, “Towards the effective implementation of the Escazú Agreement and greater cooperation.” In her remarks, Ms. Bayr highlighted the duty of parliamentarians to ensure treaties like the Escazú Agreement are implemented effectively as robust tools for climate governance and the protection of human rights for all people.



PGA also published the [Factsheet for Parliamentarians: The Escazú Agreement, an Environmental and Human Rights Treaty](#). The Factsheet introduces the Escazú Agreement, outlines climate change impacts on groups and communities disproportionately on the frontlines as human rights defenders in environmental matters and provides parliamentarians with action points for climate action within this context.



**THE ESCAZÚ AGREEMENT:
AN ENVIRONMENTAL
& HUMAN RIGHTS TREATY**

A FACTSHEET FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

DOWNLOAD



“Earlier this year, the UN General Assembly recognized that a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is a universal human right. Climate change is a threat multiplier, and has placed those already disenfranchised, often women, indigenous and afro-descendants, at the forefront as human rights defenders of the environment.

PGA’s Climate Action Campaign aims to raise awareness and assist in effective implementation of the Escazú Agreement – a truly groundbreaking treaty for Latin America and the Caribbean that recognizes, protects and promotes the rights of all human rights defenders of the environment.

As parliamentarians, we are uniquely equipped to ensure the protection of human rights through the robust implementation of tools like the Escazú Agreement. This Factsheet for Parliamentarians: The Escazú Agreement, an Environmental and Human Rights Treaty is a useful tool that empowers legislators, outlining actions that we may take to ensure the full recognition of the universal human right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.”

– Dr. Angela Brown Burke, MP (Jamaica) and Co-Convenor of Climate Action Campaign

On 22-23 November 2022, PGA participated in the *First Annual Forum on Human Rights Defenders in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean* in Quito, **Ecuador**, organised by the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). In her intervention, PGA member-parliamentarian Dip. Luisa Magdalena González (Ecuador) outlined the access rights to participation, information and justice in environmental matters secured by the Escazú Agreement.

Parliamentarians for Global Action @PGAAction

During First Annual Forum on #HumanRights Defenders in Environmental Matters in #LAC, PGA Member Diputada @LuisaGonzalezEc highlighted the rights secured through the #EscazúAgreement access to information, justice, and public participation in environmental matters.



CEPAL and 2 others
10:42 PM · Nov 23, 2022

Dip. Ramón Barrios (Honduras), Chair of the Legislation and Constitutional Affairs Committee, also underscored the need to address climate change and affirmed his commitment to work towards Honduras’ adherence to the Escazú Agreement.

Parliamentarians for Global Action @PGAAction

Dip. Ramón Barrios @ramonbarriosm shared progress made by Honduras towards the #EscazúAgreement and its importance in protecting all human rights defenders of the environment.



Ramón Enrique Barrios
5:25 PM · Nov 24, 2022

11 CAMPAIGN TO ABOLISH THE DEATH PENALTY

The [Campaign to Abolish the Death Penalty](#) (ADP Campaign) aims to abolish the death penalty, promote justice systems grounded in the rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all, in line with **SDG 16, particularly target 16.3 to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all**. PGA assists its members from both retentionist and abolitionist countries to introduce legislative initiatives eliminating the death penalty or reducing the scope of its application, including the elimination of mandatory sentencing.

The ADP Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.



“Stopping the practice of arbitrary detention and abolishing the death penalty must be of an absolute priority.”

– Hon. Margareta Cederfelt, MP (Sweden) and former PGA President

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The abolitionist movement saw significant successes in 2022, as crucial steps were taken by several countries to abolish the death penalty, thanks to the dedication of PGA member-parliamentarians around the world.

In [Equatorial Guinea](#) and the [Central African Republic](#), PGA worked to successfully abolish capital punishment. In recognition of this important development, Hon. Émilie Béatrice Epaye, MP, Chairperson of the PGA National Group in Central African Republic (CAR) stated:

“The Central African Republic National Assembly showed its dedication towards human rights, allowing the country to join the abolitionist movement relaunched in Africa by Chad, Sierra Leone, and Zambia. Despite all the suffering and violence, we have experienced in the Central African Republic for too many years now, Members of the Parliament have, once again, demonstrated the

importance of their role to champion, protect and promote human rights. Such a step was crucial, and we will further continue to engage and advance the human rights situation at the national, regional, and international levels.”



Following **Malaysia's** pledge to abolish the death penalty in June 2022, PGA [called on the government](#) to table the relevant amendments in Parliament without delay and on Malaysian legislators to adopt these legislative amendments in a timely manner. Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) published an Op-ed, [“Abolishing mandatory death sentence: M’sia taking the right step”](#)



“For centuries, the death penalty has been disproportionately used against minority groups, the marginalized and vulnerable communities which exist in large populations as well. [...] Parliamentarians for Global Action has always been a strong advocate and partner towards the abolition of the death penalty, beginning with the first step, to abolish the mandatory death penalty [...]”

– Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) and PGA President

PGA further denounced the use of the death penalty as a tool of political repression. In **Iran**, PGA [called for a halt to the execution of Dr. Ahmad Reza Djalali](#) and urged his release from arbitrary detention and torture. In November 2022, PGA [condemned the arbitrary detention, torture, sexual violence and execution of protestors](#) following the government's mass crackdown on peaceful protests. Approximately 15,000 Iranians have been arrested and remain at risk of torture and death.

parliamentarians.champions • F ...

parliamentarians.champions PGA calls for an immediate cessation of all practices adopted by the Iranian regime repressing the fundamental rights of peaceful protestors & strongly condemns the use of the capital punishment

Read more in our bio!

Edited · 9w

Liked by rukhsar_azamee and others

NOVEMBER 15, 2022

In **Myanmar**, PGA [mobilized the international community](#) against the use of capital punishment against political prisoners, including opposition lawmakers and democracy activists.

parliamentarians.champions • F ...

parliamentarians.champions #breakingnews | Members of Parliament around the world condemn today the recent execution of pro-democracy activists & former lawmaker Mr. Phyo Zeya Thaw by Myanmar's military junta. We urge all States & International Organizations to take immediate countermeasures against the dictatorship.

According to the @unitednations, these are the first executions since 1988!

Read our urgent press release in our bio.

17 likes

JULY 25, 2022

As a member of the World Coalition against the Death Penalty (WCADP)'s Steering Committee, PGA supported activities in the **Maldives, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Turkey**. During the vote at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) for a resolution on a moratorium on the use of the death penalty, PGA mobilized member-parliamentarians worldwide to ensure strong support for the adoption of this crucial tool advancing international standards.

MOBILIZATION KIT

(20TH WORLD DAY AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTY)

DOWNLOAD

On 10 October 2022, PGA and WCADP celebrated the [20th International Day against the Death Penalty](#) by [reflecting](#) on the relationship between the use of the death penalty and torture or other cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment.

“The death penalty is an irremediable form of repression in the hands of oppressive regimes abusing vague and unjust legal definitions to violate the right to life and undermine human dignity. We call all peace-loving and law-abiding States of the world to unite their forces to ban the death penalty worldwide as a way to limit the tools at the disposal of Governments who are behaving as cold-blood killers.”

– Hon. Rozaina Adam, MP (the Maldives) and PGA Executive Committee member

INTERNATIONAL LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

The [Rome Statute Campaign](#) aims to promote a universal culture of upholding the Rule of Law, human rights, and human dignity, by contributing to putting an end to impunity for the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, by supporting the universality of the Rome Statute via ratification and/or accession by non-Party States and incorporating the Statute's norms and principles in national legal frameworks through full domestic implementation. These efforts are in line with **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16**, particularly Target 16.3, which commits governments to promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all.

The ICC Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), Oak Foundation and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein to the United Nations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland and Open Society Foundations.



“La impunidad es lo que más motiva la posibilidad de una repetición. Si algo necesita el sistema de justicia internacional, es el tener la garantía de no repetición. Es importante que cualquier que tenga la intención de violar los derechos humanos sepa que habrá justicia y que será perseguido en ¡cualquier lugar donde esté!”

"Impunity is what most motivates and exacerbates the possibility of a repetition. If the international justice system needs something, it is to serve as guarantee of non-repetition. It is important that anyone who intends to violate human rights knows that there will be justice and that they will be persecuted wherever they are!"

– Dip. Margarita Stolbizer, MP (Argentina) and former PGA President

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

As a result of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February 2022, PGA intensified its longstanding focus on **Ukraine**. PGA organised various events in which member-parliamentarians and their peers as well as other stakeholders urged Ukrainian leaders to ratify the Rome Statute and ensure its effective domestication.



parliamentarians.champions • F ...

parliamentarians.champions
#breakingnews | Today, together with our partner, the Center for Civil Liberties, we submitted to the President of #Ukraine 🇺🇦, Mr. Volodymyr Zelenskyi a letter urging him to take prompt action toward Ukraine's ratification of the #romestatute of the @internationalcriminalcourt.

We also urged Mr. Zelenskyi to ensure the domestication of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) & International Criminal Law (ICL) into the country's legal framework.

🔗 Visit our website to read the full #pressrelease and letter.

Edited · 52w



11 likes

JANUARY 21, 2022

parliamentarians.champions • F ...

parliamentarians.champions 🇺🇦
Today, we have witnessed the most dramatic escalation of armed violence among States in #europe since #worldwar2.

The attacks against #ukraine are acts of aggression and clear violations of International Law. PGA calls for the immediate implementation of urgent policies and measures.

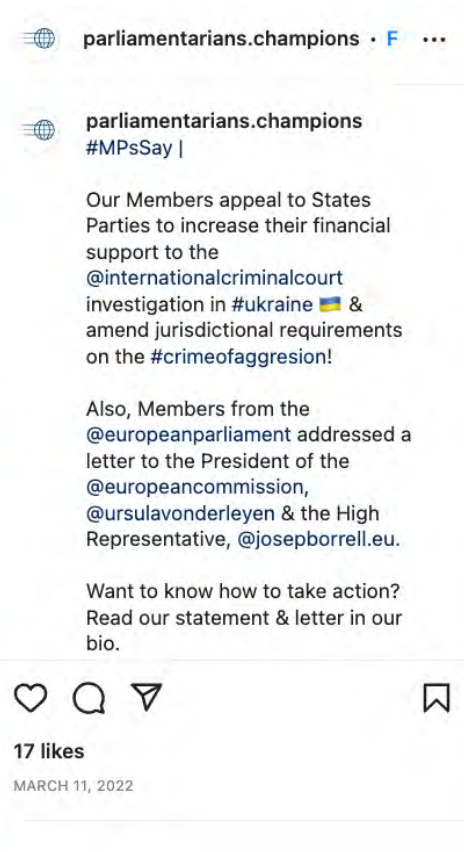
We urge authorities to respect civilians lives and pay due regard to International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law.

The statement is accesible on our bio!



27 likes

FEBRUARY 24, 2022

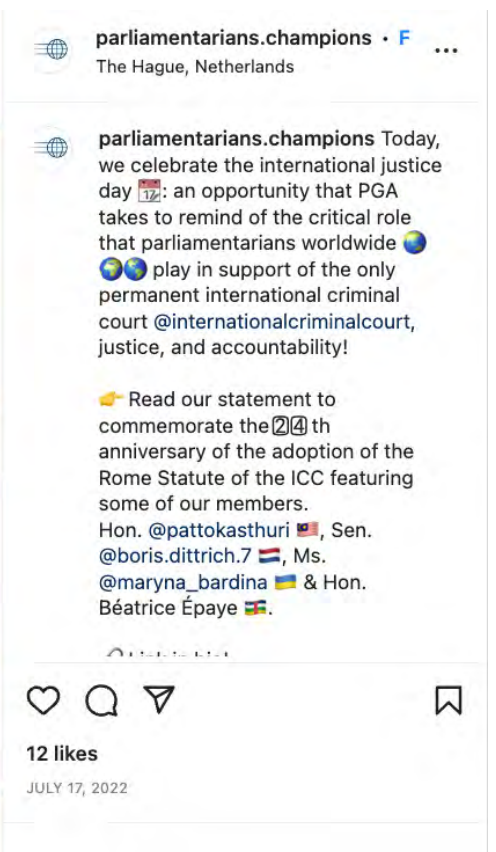


To this effect, PGA provided technical support to member-parliamentarians in the Law Enforcement Committee in the parliament of Ukraine. PGA prepared upon request a legal assessment and suggestions for amendments to the Law on Cooperation with the International Criminal Court (ICC) adopted in May 2022, as well as technical assistance on the amended Bill, in order to harmonize the domestic criminal code with international criminal and humanitarian law.



To address the legal gap in the ICC's jurisdiction over the crime of aggression, PGA developed a technical proposal on amending Art. 15bis of the Rome Statute to partially align the jurisdiction over the crime of aggression with the other three core crimes. The amendment would effectively enable the ICC to exercise jurisdiction over this crime in Ukraine.

In June and December 2022, PGA organised in-person delegation from the Parliament of Ukraine to the **International Criminal Court** itself in The Hague: the delegations also had meetings at the Dutch Parliament and Ministry of Foreign Affairs. PGA's Ukrainian delegation participated in the 20th anniversary of the International Criminal Court, met with the ICC President and the Office of



the Prosecutor and attended the 21st Assembly of States Parties to the Rome Statute of the ICC. During deliberations, Ukrainian MPs made strong statements reiterating their commitment to ratify the Rome Statute and adopt the legislation implementing the provisions and principles of international criminal law.



PGA side-event organised in the margins of the Assembly of States Parties, on The Universality of the International Criminal Court: On the importance of ratifying the Rome Statute and its amendments. Co-hosted by the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea, Switzerland and Global Rights Compliance on 8 December 2022.

In the margins of the [21st Assembly of States Parties to the ICC](#) held on 5-10 December 2022, PGA organised two side events – on the [Universality of the amended Rome Statute](#) and on the [Challenges for the Rome Statute system and the fight against impunity](#).

These events included PGA's proposal to amend the crime of aggression and reform national nomination procedures for ICC judicial candidates. The panellists included the Ambassadors of **Belgium, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea** and **Switzerland** as well as the **ICC President**, Members of the Parliaments from the **Netherlands** and **Ukraine**, government officials from the **Czech Republic** and other international experts. In addition to legislators from Ukraine, PGA's delegation also included parliamentarians from **Namibia**, who expressed their commitment to work towards adopting the law on cooperation with the ICC.

#NGOVoices at #ASP21

ICC Elections



“

It is crucial that States Parties equip themselves with domestic procedures guaranteeing that only the most qualified candidates are nominated for the ICC judicial elections, through public, transparent, and merit-based national processes.

DR. DAVID DONAT CATTIN

Parliamentarians for Global Action

For more #NGOVoices visit: www.coalitionfortheicc.org

Throughout 2022, PGA held several additional in-person, virtual and hybrid meetings at the domestic, regional and global levels, mobilizing parliamentarians towards ratifying and implementing the Rome Statute as well as improving human rights standards nationally.

On 19-20 April 2022, PGA [facilitated meetings with ICC President, Judge Piotr Hofmański](#), with a delegation of parliamentarians from **Guinea-Bissau** to advance the ratification process of the Rome Statute.

Together with the Democratic Renewal Campaign, PGA organised in May 2022 a [Roundtable on Supporting Afghan Nationals on the Ground and in Exile](#) to contribute to the prevention of atrocity crimes and improve the safety and security of **Afghan** civilians in exile and on the ground.



Parliamentarians for Global Action
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل التحرك العالمي

parliamentarians.champions · F ...

LATEST NEWS 22 APRIL 2022

ICC President met with officials and PGA members in Guinea Bissau to advance the Rome Statute ratification

“

I call on all my colleagues and authorities in Guinea Bissau to take all necessary steps to proceed towards the ratification, to show our country's commitment to the Rule of Law, peace, and security.”

”



Dep. João Bernardo Vieira, MP
Chair of PGA National group in Guinea-Bissau

Campaign for the Universality and Effectiveness of the System of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court

#breakingnews | The @internationalcriminalcourt, Judge Piotr Hofmański 🇱🇵, met this week with relevant authorities & PGA members in #guineabissau 🇬🇧 in collective efforts to continue advancing the ratification of the #RomeStatute. ⚖️

Visit our website to learn how PGA has contributed toward this objective!

#breakingnews | El Presidente de la @internationalcriminalcourt, Juez Piotr Hofmański 🇱🇵, se reunió con autoridades y miembros de PGA en Guinea-Bissau 🇬🇧 para aunar

📍
💬
🔍
🔖

8 likes


APRIL 22, 2022



“My country is not yet a State Party. Our Parliament was dissolved and new parliamentary elections will take place only in April 2023. Despite this scenario we stand ready to overcome obstacles and work towards the ratification of the Rome statute. Guinea Bissau will provide a guarantee of the promise of never again. We will work on an amended proposal and foster political will to fulfill this promise and ratify the Rome Statute.”

– Hon. João Vieira, MP (Guinea-Bissau) and Chairperson PGA Guineau-Bissau National Group National Group

Press Release



**No More Empty Words.
Afghanistan Needs Action Now!**

#Afghanistan

Parliamentarians for Global Action
Parlamentarios para la Acción Global
Action Mondiale des Parlementaires
برلمانيون من أجل الحركة العالمية

International Law & Human Rights Programme

parliamentarians.champions · F ...

parliamentarians.champions 🇺🇸 A year ago, the Taliban took over Afghanistan 🇦🇫. Today, the International Community seemed to have failed to live up to its promises. PGA continues urging MPs worldwide to advocate for their governments to act and keep the situation in the country as a top priority.

📖 Read our urgent press release in our bio!

#taliban #afghanistan #humanrights #democracy #women #girls #children #ruleoflaw #war #crimesagainsthumanity #warcrimes #freeafghanistan

Liked by [ecpm_asso](#) and others

AUGUST 15, 2022

Statute in **Ghana**, which is currently under review by the relevant domestic authorities.

Lastly, PGA and **Harvard Law School** collaborated on a project aimed at increasing the efficiency and legitimacy of the ICC. PGA authored three reports on creating hybrid chambers, the crime of ecocide and trafficking in human beings and led discussions on the possibilities to amend the Rome Statute on these topics during a [joint webinar](#) on 4 March 2022.



**MODERNISING THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT:
CRIMES AGAINST THE ENVIRONMENT,
TRAFFICKING IN HUMAN BEINGS,
HYBRID JUSTICE
AND CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY**

DOWNLOAD

12TH CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF PARLIAMENTARIANS ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT AND THE RULE OF LAW

Following two years without the ability to hold in person meetings, on 4-5 November 2022, PGA organised its 43rd Annual Forum dedicated to the [12th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians on the International Criminal Court and the Rule of Law \(CAP-ICC\)](#) in Buenos Aires, Argentina. The CAP-ICC, which takes place every two years, brought together more than a hundred members of parliaments from over **45 countries** in person and virtually, including states from **South, Central and North America, the Caribbean, Africa, Western and Eastern Europe, Asia** and the **Pacific Islands**. As a result, several concrete commitments towards the ratification of the Rome Statute were undertaken, including from **Guinea-Bissau, Jamaica, Ukraine** and **Tuvalu**.



“To ensure that no individual is above the law, the Rome Statute of the ICC must be ratified universally.”

– Dr. Angela Brown Burke, MP (Jamaica),
PGA Executive Committee member

PGA provided upon request technical assistance to member-parliamentarians on the full implementation of the Rome Statute and the adoption of all its amendments, contributing to the ratification of the Kampala Amendments on the crime of aggression and war crimes by **Italy, Peru** and **Sweden**. Additionally, PGA provided upon request a complete draft law implementing the Rome

IMPACT OF THE WAR OF AGGRESSION WAGED BY RUSSIA AGAINST UKRAINE IN 2022: REAFFIRMING THE INEXTRICABLE LINK BETWEEN PEACE AND JUSTICE AND URGING NEW STATES TO JOIN THE ICC

A side note by PGA's Outgoing Secretary-General, Dr. David Donat Cattin

The year 2022 has been the most challenging for the international order created after World War II and centered on the United Nations (UN) Charter as the main instrument to maintain and restore international peace and security. On 24 February 2022, for the first time in history, a permanent Member of the UN Security Council launched a full-scale invasion of a neighboring country. Additionally, the Russian Federation threatened the use of nuclear weapons in case third States would join Ukraine in exercising its inherent right of self-defense, which every State has when an aggressor State violates its territorial integrity and political independence.

The war *in and against* Ukraine is still ongoing in 2023, characterized by inhumane acts that can be qualified as war crimes, crimes against humanity, and, potentially, genocide. PGA and its Ukrainian and international partners have taken numerous actions, primarily to support the exercise of jurisdiction by the International Criminal Court (ICC).

PGA actions in 2022 began with an **open letter** co-signed by the PGA President and the Chair of the Board of PGA's partner organization in Ukraine, the Center for Civil Liberties (CCL), to President Zelenskyy calling for urgent ratification and implementation of the Rome Statute by Ukraine and continued with relentless action to halt and remedy the gravest violations of International Law carried out by the aggressors. In this respect, since March 2022, PGA has proposed to decision-makers the most innovative and sustainable proposal to bring to justice the alleged perpetrator(s) of the crime of aggression, without which all the atrocities committed in Ukraine would not have taken place. PGA proposed a set of amendments to "unlock" the ICC jurisdiction on the crime of aggression, which spurred support and action by many leading Lawmakers in all regions of the world and has been discussed by States, groups of States (e.g., the EU) and **academic authorities**.

The PGA proposal remains on the table for States' action in 2023, and it constitutes an essential contribution to the International Community's debate on unlocking the potential of International Criminal Law for the prevention of aggressive wars in respect of Ukraine and *all* future situations of illegal aggression or "crimes against the peace", to use the rubric of the Nuremberg Tribunal Statute of 1945. Contrary to that special jurisdiction, any other mechanism for accountability on Ukraine shall *not* remain isolated or "*ad hoc*", but it should create a precedent for the equal treatment of all the worst violations of the international legal orders identified with the **crime of aggression**.

The crime of aggression brings about the victimization of entire communities of civilians as well as of a multitude of soldiers and militaries who are tragically not protected by the norms of International Humanitarian Law. As proven in PGA's events addressed by some of the **most respected academic experts in the fields of law and psycho-social sciences**, the victims of aggression are not only independent States but are real people with names who are sent to die on the battlefield by criminal leaders or who are sacrificing their lives for the defense of their country and people. Therefore, the perpetration of the crime of aggression constitutes a mass atrocity that shocks humankind. As such, the Rome Statute should treat it with the same jurisdictional conditions applicable to the other three core crimes.

The aggression against Ukraine makes evident the absolute necessity of increased effectiveness and universality of the jurisdiction of the ICC and inspired a number of actors and leaders, including Members of PGA, to reactivate the Rome Statute ratification processes in countries as diverse as Jamaica, Guinea Bissau, Somalia, and Armenia. PGA will intensify efforts to support new ratifications of the Rome Statute and its Amendments in 2023.



PGA Secretary-General David Donat Cattin addresses the 11th CAP-ICC/43rd PGA Annual Forum in Buenos Aires, Parliament of Argentina, 4 November 2022; on his right, ICC President Judge Piotr Hofmanski.

INTERNATIONAL LAW & HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME

13 CAMPAIGN FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE OCEANS AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SDG 14

The [Campaign for the Protection of the Oceans and Implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14](#) (Oceans Campaign) aims to end impunity for crimes committed on and against the world's oceans and their related human rights violations through ratification and implementation of international treaties and effective national legal structures on Ending Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Fishing, Sustainable Small-scale Fishing (SSF) Industry, Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and Deep Seabed Mining (DSM).

ENDING ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED AND UNREGULATED (IUU) FISHING

The [Ending Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated \(IUU\) Fishing project](#) focuses on **SDGs 14.4 and 14.6** and aims to raise awareness about the benefits of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)'s Cape Town Agreement on Fishing Vessel Safety, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s Port State Measures Agreement and the International Labour Organization (ILO)'s Work in Fishing Convention and support MPs with technical assistance towards their efforts on achieving new ratifications and implementations.

The IUU Fishing Project receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark and the Pew Charitable Trusts.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout 2022, PGA worked with MPs in **Argentina, Belize, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Fiji, Ghana, Indonesia, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mozambique, Namibia, Panama, Portugal** and **Sweden** to sensitize them to the three treaties and the urgency for the Cape Town Agreement's entry into force ahead of the October 2022 deadline. PGA implemented the [Belmopan Plan of Action](#) adopted at the conclusion of the [Second Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the Oceans \(CAP-Oceans\)](#), which was hosted by the Senate of Belize in December 2021, by conducting outreach and briefings to PGA National Groups, preparing background documents, research and talking points for MPs as well as providing technical assistance upon request.

In March 2022, **Kenya** deposited the instrument of ratification.

Members of the PGA **Argentina** National Group convened numerous strategic meetings in 2022 to analyze progress towards ratification and discuss next steps, including a meeting in February 2022

at the PGA Secretariat's headquarters in New York. As a result, in March 2022, a parliamentary draft declaration was introduced on behalf of the Argentine House of Representatives, calling on the Executive to proceed with the ratification of the CTA, followed by additional initiatives to keep the issue at the forefront.

PGA worked with Oceans champion MPs in **Chile** to draft parliamentary questions on the timeline for CTA ratification. Following this action, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent a [formal request](#) for ratification to the Executive on 22 February 2022. In October 2022, PGA provided upon request a technical report on the ratification process, which was disseminated to parliamentarians and government officials.

Additionally, at the request of member-parliamentarians in **Namibia** and **Panama**, PGA provided analysis on ratification, sample parliamentary questions and follow up on timelines for ratification.

Lastly, PGA hosted a [Roundtable Discussion](#) within the margins of PGA's [43rd Annual Forum](#) in Buenos Aires in November 2022 on the progress and implementation of the [Belmopan Plan of Action](#). Participating parliamentarians shared their national best practices and lessons learned.



 [PLAY VIDEO](#)

OCEANS BREAKFAST MEETING

PGA ANNUAL FORUM 2022

INCREASING SUSTAINABILITY OF SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES (SSF)

The [Small-Scale Fisheries project](#) seeks to advance **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.b** to identify legal instruments and regulatory language to strengthen the Rule of Law in coastal fisheries management as well as provide technical assistance to members of parliament seeking to implement the relevant legislation.

The Small-Scale Fisheries Project receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Oak Foundation via the Environmental Law Institute and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

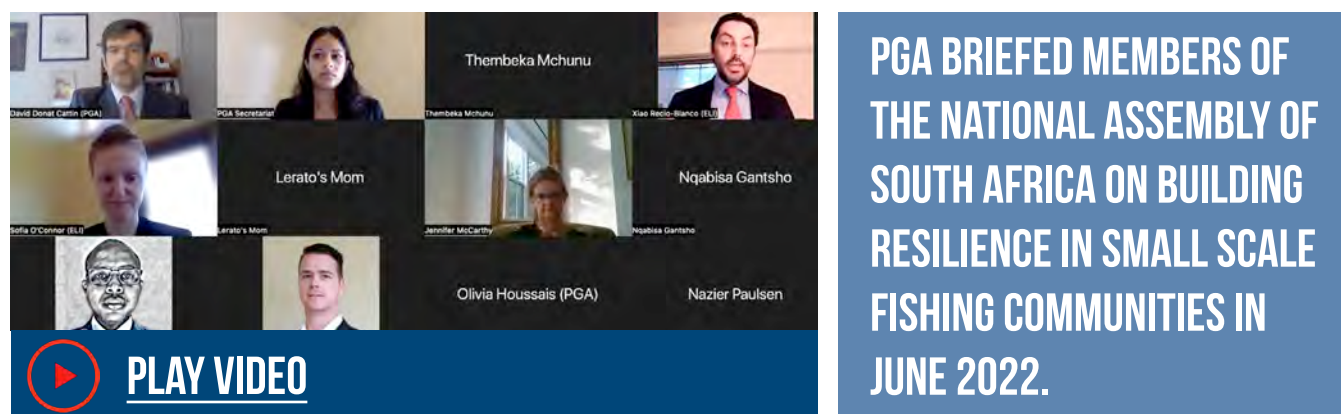
KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

In 2022, PGA worked with MPs in Mozambique and South Africa throughout 2022 to secure both the immediate benefits and long-term improvement in livelihoods for small-scale fishing communities in these two countries by sensitizing MPs, building political will and providing tools and support for parliamentarians and local stakeholders.

In close collaboration with project partner, the Environmental Law Institute (ELI), PGA conducted an in-depth analysis of SSF-related laws and regulatory processes in Mozambique and South Africa, as

well as engaging in substantive communications with local civil society members to identify issues and discuss recommendations.

PGA members in **South Africa**'s Portfolio Committee on Environment, Forestry and Fisheries convened a virtual [parliamentary briefing](#) on 15 June 2022. This meeting built on the momentum from PGA's [March 2020 parliamentary briefing](#) and focused on concrete solutions to increase the sustainability of small-scale fisheries, including the concept of cooperatives as a management structure that promotes participation of SSF communities and the use of existing laws on cooperatives in the country.



In October 2022, Dep. António Niquice (**Mozambique**), PGA Executive Committee member, [met with Hon. Lídia Cardoso](#), Minister of Sea, Inland Waters and Fisheries and fellow PGA members in Mozambique to discuss the importance of increasing the long-term sustainability of small-scale fisheries.

“Considering the interdependent relationship between coastal populations and the sustainability of the oceans, as well as the many challenges these communities are currently facing in Mozambique’s small-scale fishery sector, despite holding a high social and economic importance, including from a gender-equality perspective (about half of the small-scale fishers are women), is facing a wide range of threats, from climate change, to the rapid technological and societal changes, decades of overexploitation of the marine environment, conflicts over natural resources, as well as the devastating impacts of the COVID-19. MPs are representatives of those communities too. And I see the need for increased cooperation amongst all stakeholders to protect local fishers’ access to fishery resources – exploring the notion of dedicated fishing zones for the exclusive access of local communities and other ways to increase sustainability through improvements to our legal framework.”

– Dep. António Niquice (Mozambique) and PGA Executive Committee member



Additionally, PGA hosted a [Roundtable Discussion](#) within the margins of PGA's [43rd Annual Forum](#) in Buenos Aires in November 2022 on the progress and implementation of the [Belmopan Plan of Action](#). Participating parliamentarians shared their national best practices and lessons learned on small-scale fishing management.

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

The [Marine Protected Areas project](#) focuses on **Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 14.2 and 14.5** towards the protection of 30% of the ocean by 2030 through the creation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) to ensure the health of both the ocean and those who rely on it.

The Marine Protected Areas Project receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Blue Nature Alliance (via the Pew Charitable Trusts) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

PGA worked in 2022 with MPs in **Argentina, Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Democratic Republic of Congo, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Fiji, France, Jamaica, Malaysia, the Maldives, Mexico, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sweden and Trinidad and Tobago** to educate, mobilize and provide technical assistance to member-parliamentarians globally in order to contribute to ocean conservation.

Following the official launch of PGA's project to Protect at least 30 percent of the Oceans in Marine Protected Areas during the [Second CAP-Oceans](#) in December 2021, PGA President Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) disseminated a letter to PGA's global membership network on the urgency of reaching 30% by 2030 and issuing a call for concrete action. PGA's [interactive world map](#) displays the progress of each country towards the goal of 30% protection of the oceans by 2030 and included country-specific questions aimed to encourage member engagement.



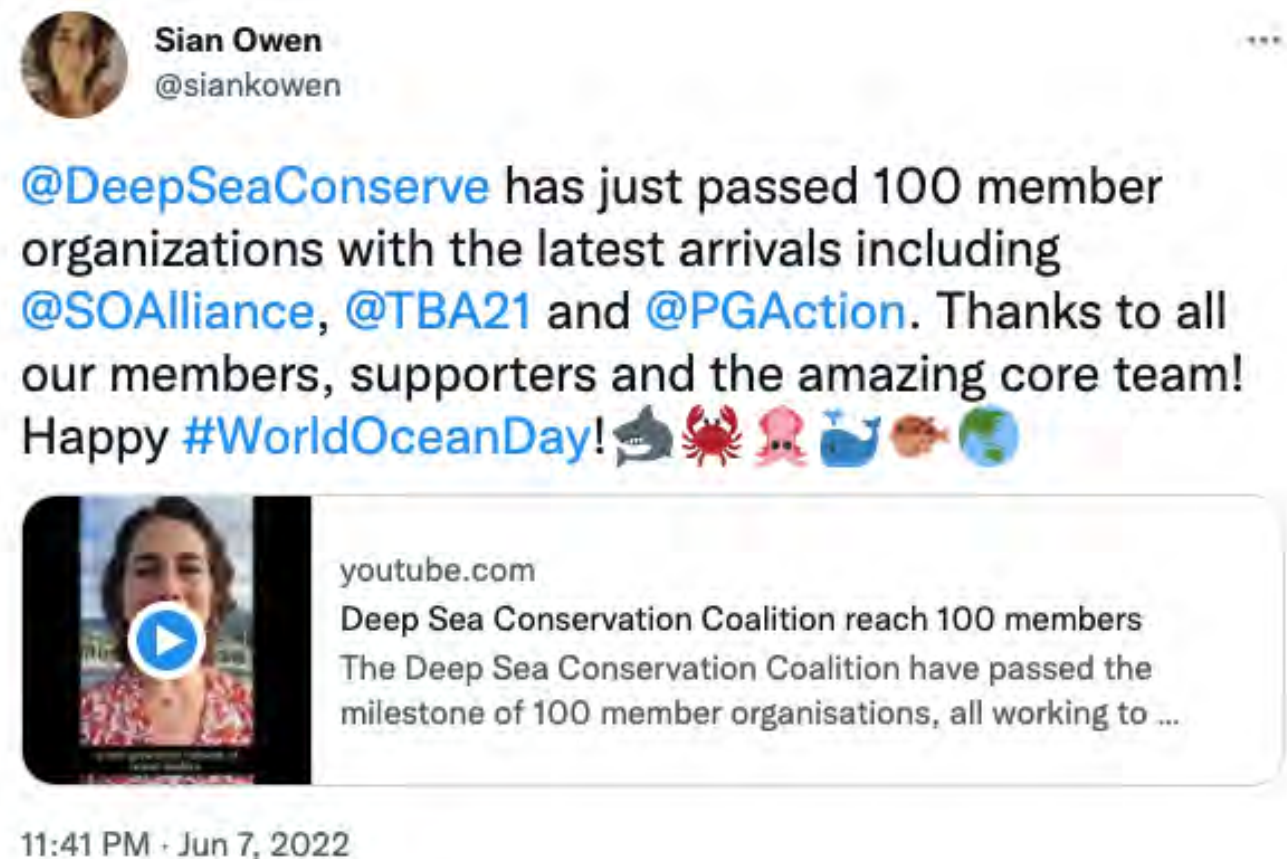
Additionally, PGA hosted a [Roundtable Discussion](#) within the margins of PGA's [43rd Annual Forum](#) in Buenos Aires in November 2022 on the progress and implementation of the [Belmopan Plan of Action](#). Participating parliamentarians shared their national best practices and lessons learned on oceans conservation.

In December 2022, PGA President Hon. Kasthuri Patto, MP (Malaysia) disseminated a letter to PGA's global membership to share video statements from PGA members from **Argentina, Austria, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, The Maldives and Mexico**, with a renewed call to action into 2023.

IMPACTS OF DEEP SEABED MINING

The [Deep Seabed Mining project](#) aims to raise awareness, understanding, and develop political will and actions to support a moratorium on deep-sea mining by the International Seabed Authority until sufficient scientific research has been conducted and becomes public to demonstrate that any proposed mining activities can be done without doing damage to the marine environment or cause loss of biodiversity.

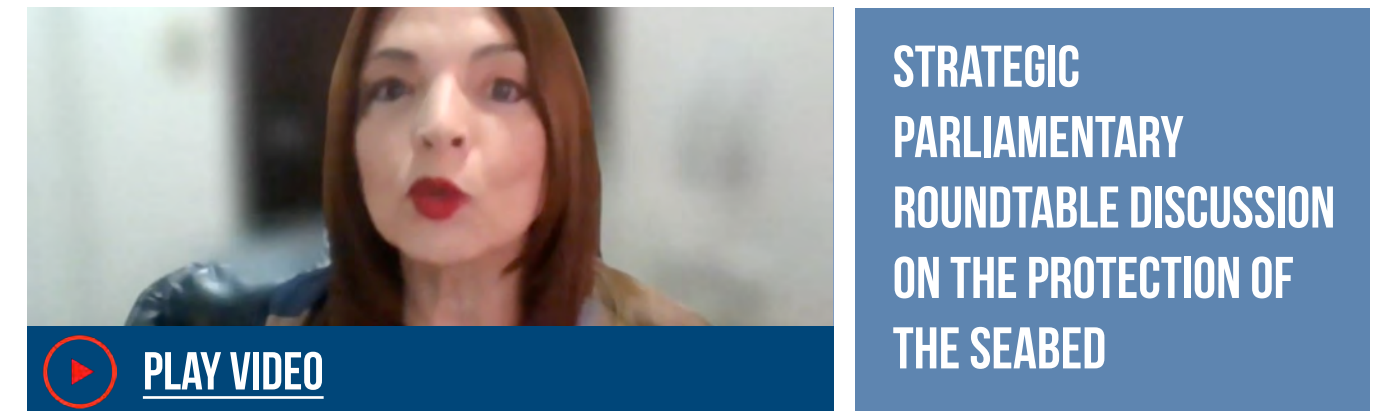
The Deep Seabed Mining Project receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Deep-Sea Conservation Coalition and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

PGA engaged MPs in **Argentina, Austria, Australia, Bangladesh, Belize, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Honduras, Italy, India, Jamaica, Kenya, Malaysia, The Maldives, Mexico, Micronesia, Nepal, The Netherlands, Pakistan, The Seychelles, Sweden, Trinidad and Tobago, United Kingdom, Vanuatu** and **Venezuela**, as well as the **European Union** to sensitize them to the need for and contribute to the creation of a global moratorium on deep-sea mining.

PGA published in early 2022 a second factsheet for parliamentarians, [Timeline for Protecting the Deep Seabed](#), to build upon the momentum of the 2021 factsheet on Protecting the Deep Seabed ahead of the [Second CAP-Oceans](#) and the resulting [Belmopan Plan of Action](#).

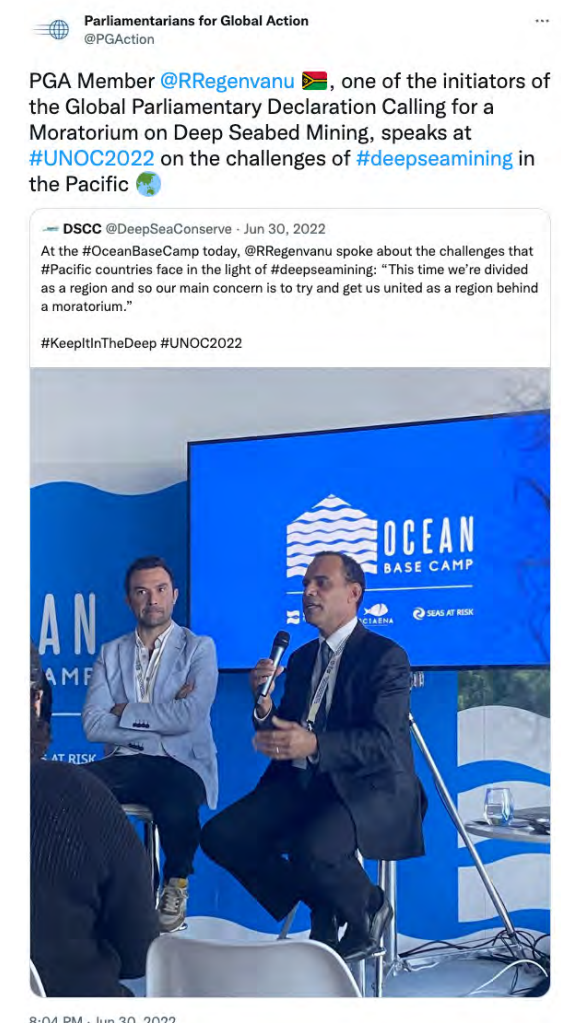


In June 2022, the PGA Secretariat organised a [Strategic Roundtable](#) with parliamentarians on the protection of the deep seabed. This hybrid virtual/in-person event was hosted in New York by the **Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein to the United Nations** and served to summarize the numerous deep seabed mining-related challenges ahead of the UN Oceans Conference held on 27 June – 1 July 2022. Hon. Ralph Regenvanu, MP (Vanuatu), a PGA member and Chair of the Pacific Parliamentarians' Alliance on Deep Sea Mining (PPADSM) provided a [pre-recorded intervention](#), emphasizing the PPADSM's commitment to global cooperation through PGA on this issue.

PGA used the opportunity explore the number of ways parliamentarians could become engaged on this issue. At the conclusion of the meeting, the participants committed to checking on their own national government's position towards deep seabed mining, including through parliamentary questions.

In **Canada**, Senator Marilou McPhedran posed a [parliamentary question](#) and Hon. Gord Johns, MP put forth [a new motion](#) in support of a deep seabed mining moratorium.

Hon. Nicolas Thierry, MP (**France**) also posed a



[parliamentary question](#) to the Minister of Environment of France to reaffirm President Macron’s statement during the aforementioned UN Ocean Conference.

In **The Seychelles**, Hon. Bernard Georges, MP raised awareness of this issue in his capacity as Leader of Government Business during his 25 February 2022 [Response to the Message on the State of the Nation](#). He stated:

“This is because of the moves taken by the current administration to remove Seychelles from isolation in the Indian Ocean and place us at the center of the conversations currently taking place in the world on the subjects of the vulnerability of small island states as a result of climate change, protection of the environment and marine resources and, soon, as we will learn, the preservation of deep seabed resources. In a mere 500 days, our country has been invited to sit at international tables and our President is meeting world leaders. We have moved from a place where we alone said we were environmental champions, to a place where others say this of us, as they recognize this administration and its leader as spokespersons for other countries in similar situations.”



SENATOR MARILOU MCPHEDRAN (CANADA) POSED A PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION ON DEEP SEABED MINING



Delighted to join my colleagues @PGAAction @BayrPetra @LiechtensteinUN to discuss regulations and environmental risks of #DeepSeaMining . 🇨🇦 Leadership is absent and needed. @joycemurray @FishOceansCan @DFO_Pacific @NRCan @SenRosaGalvez



4:58 PM · Jun 4, 2022

PGA launched the [Global Parliamentary Declaration Calling for a Moratorium on Deep Seabed Mining](#) on 28 June 2022, during the side event of the UN Ocean Conference on “Currents of Political Change: Reviewing our Common Heritage and Common Responsibility in light of the Climate Crisis and Dangers of Deep Sea Mining.” Led by PGA Oceans champions Ms. Marie Toussaint, MEP (France), Ms. Caroline Roose, MEP (France) and Hon. Ralph Regenvanu, MP (Vanuatu), the declaration calls for parliamentarians from all around the world to demonstrate solidarity with the communities depending on the health of our oceans. The Declaration has been published in [French](#) and [Spanish](#).

In July, Dip. Graciela Camaño (**Argentina**) [proposed a bill](#) in the Chamber of Deputies calling for the amendment of the existing Mining Code to establish a moratorium on deep seabed mining in Argentina’s waters.

On 21 September 2022, PGA Treasurer Ms. Petra Bayr (Austria) presented the Global Parliamentary Declaration Calling for a Moratorium on Deep Seabed Mining during the SDG14 presentation in the Austrian National Council.

On Deep Day on 5 December 2022, parliamentarians from **Argentina, Austria, Barbados, Ecuador, Honduras, Jamaica, Kenya, The Maldives, Tuvalu** shared in the call to protect our common future, saying no to deep seabed mining. As of 31 December 2022, the Declaration counts [250 signatures](#) of parliamentarians from 51 parliaments.

Additionally, PGA hosted a [Roundtable Discussion](#) within the margins of PGA’s [43rd Annual Forum](#) in Buenos Aires in November 2022 on the progress and implementation of the [Belmopan Plan of Action](#). Participating parliamentarians shared their national best practices and lessons learned on protection of the deep seabed.



On the sidelines of today's Austrian National Council session, we presented #SDG 14 - Life under Water. In the process, many MPs signed the parliamentary petition for a moratorium on deep-sea bed mining. #agenda2030 #Oceans #deepseabedmining #SustainableDevelopment



Parliamentarians for Global Action and 9 others

9:02 PM · Sep 21, 2022 from Vienna, Austria

“The seas and oceans are spaces as precious as they are mysterious. As refuges of a unique biodiversity in the world and allies in our fight against climate change, we must absolutely protect them from destruction and exploitation.



Already today, all over the world, the ocean is pierced by oil and gas wells, which pose enormous risks to living organisms, and to the Arctic and Antarctic. But the race to exploit resources and to make more profits could well create a new industry at sea tomorrow...

This new threat is the emergence, supposedly in the name of ecological transition, of a mining industry on the seabed, to exploit the resources of nickel, cobalt and other minerals and metals.

Seabed mining would have devastating consequences for biodiversity, threatening the estimated 250,000 living underwater species, and the millions yet to be discovered. By turning over the sediments of the seabed, mining would also be catastrophic for the climate, releasing huge amounts of carbon, and preventing the ocean from playing its role as a climate change slowdown, at a time when we need it most...

States, first and foremost France, have already expressed their willingness to explore, and then further exploit, the mineral resources of the seabed. Just last week, the French Ministry of the Sea announced the launch of the first exploration missions. Of course, it is necessary to develop our scientific knowledge of the oceans. But let's not be fooled: behind exploration, which is extremely expensive, lies Emmanuel Macron's desire to develop a real deep-sea mining industry, and to take the lion's share in the race for minerals and rare metals.

To protect the rights of living beings, we must at all costs put an end to this destructive escalation before it is too late.

It is therefore our duty, as parliamentarians committed to the protection of the ocean and the climate, to engage and demand together a moratorium on seabed mining.

We can achieve this victory. In September 2021, a call for such a moratorium obtained the support of more than 80% of the States at the IUCN Congress (unfortunately, France unsurprisingly abstained...).

It is now necessary to move from promises to actions, and this is often where the problem lies... so let's keep up the pressure to protect the seabed!”

– Ms. Marie Toussaint, MEP (France)

Parliamentarians for Global Action
@PGAAction

In celebration of **#DeepDay**, parliamentarians share the call to protect our common future and say no to deep-sea mining **#DefendTheDeep**

@GracielaCamano @CarlabPitiot @BayrPetra @esthercuestasan @JorgeCalixHN @ramonbarriosm @brownburke @HonKathambi @Roxeyna



Hendrik Davi
@hendrik_davi

As a Member of Parliament, I have added my name to the Global Parliamentary Declaration Calling for a Moratorium on Deep Seabed Mining @PGAAction #DefendTheDeep : J'ai signé cet appel, car nous devons cesser la course à l'extractivisme qui menace la biodiversité et les écosystèmes

Translate Tweet

6:09 PM · Jun 29, 2022

Loïc Prud'homme
@PrudhommeLoïc

En tant que député français, j'ai ajouté mon nom à la Déclaration parlementaire mondiale appelant à un moratoire sur l'exploitation minière des fonds marins @PGAAction #DefendTheDeep

Translate Tweet

3:01 PM · Jun 30, 2022

INTERNATIONAL PEACE & SECURITY PROGRAMME

The many contributions made by PGA members to international peace and security in 2022 served as an important example – and reminder – of the need to protect the most fundamental of human rights, including the right to life. In a world where Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and cybercrime are a constant threat and frequent reality, and the far-reaching impact of the illegal trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons all too evident, their profoundly adverse impact on the ability of humanity, in turn, to enjoy and exercise any and all human rights is critical. PGA's International Peace and Security Campaigns, therefore, contribute to an enabling environment for the human rights actively promoted by all of PGA's Programmes and Campaigns.

CAMPAIGN ADDRESSING THE THREAT OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

The Campaign Addressing the Threat of Weapons of Mass Destruction seeks to contribute to a reduction in the threat of proliferation of WMD, including biological, chemical, nuclear and radiological weapons/agents with the potential to indiscriminately inflict widespread human and economic devastation and destruction.

CAMPAIGN FOR BIOLOGICAL SECURITY AND HEALTH

The [Biological Security and Health Campaign](#) (BWC Campaign) seeks to contribute to a reduction in the threat posed by, as well as proliferation of, biological weapons and other weapons of mass destruction (WMDs) in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, which seeks “*to promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies.*”

In December 2022, the UN Security Council unanimously adopted [UNSCR 2663 \(2022\)](#) extending the mandate of the 1540 Committee for a period of 10 years. In its paragraph 25, the Resolution acknowledges [the role of parliamentarians](#) in the implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004).

The BWC Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from CRDF Global and Global Affairs Canada.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

With the evolution of increasingly sophisticated and complex threats related to terrorism and high-intensity conflicts, a revival of interest in the universalization and implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) and the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) has been rapidly emerging. In collaboration with governments and international organizations, PGA promotes the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 and the universality and implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention in order to prevent the development, production and stockpiling of biological weapons which, together with other weapons of mass destruction, pose a serious threat to the existence of civilization and life.

In 2022, PGA engaged its member-parliamentarians in **Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eswatini, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, The Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe**, making significant progress sensitizing and mobilizing MPs on the ratification of/accession to the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) as well as National Reports to the UNSC 1540 Committee.

Parliamentarians for Global Action
September 15, 2022 · 🌐

Breaking News: PGA's International Peace and Security Program was pleased to have been informed earlier this morning by Mr. Faicoil Djitihadi, Director General of Political and Legal Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Union of Comoros, that his government is moving forward with the Biological Weapons Convention Accession process and intends to put it on the agenda of the Parliament in October 2022.

PGA expresses its appreciation to Ambassador Mondoha Assoumani for his tireless outreach efforts over several years to encourage his government to take this step.

Please see below for further information on PGA's Regional African Workshop to Promote Biological Security, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, May 2022.

<https://www.pgaction.org/.../tanzania-biological-security.html>



Botswana [submitted its national implementation action plan](#) to the 1540 Committee in April 2022. Representatives from the government of Botswana participated in PGA webinars on Nuclear and Radiological Security earlier in 2022. In September 2022 in **Comoros**, the Director General of Legal and Political Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs informed PGA that the Foreign Ministry had [transmitted the BWC to the Council of Ministers](#) for approval before being sent to Parliament.

Following a Parliamentary Question submitted in November 2022 to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of **The Gambia**, the government [committed to commence preparation and submission](#) of its First National Report on Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) on Prevention of the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction to Non-State Actors.

Member-parliamentarians in **South Sudan** also worked to [approve the BWC](#) in the Transitional National Legislative Assembly in December 2022. The [BWC was subsequently assented to](#) by the President of South Sudan in December 2022.



“I warmly welcome the written commitment made by the Government of the Republic of The Gambia last week to begin preparation of its **First National Report on Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) on Prevention of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction to Non-State Actors**. The risk of gain of access to, manufacture and/or usage of WMD by terrorists or terrorist organizations has never been higher than it is in the uncertain world of today.

UN Security Council Resolution 2325 (2016) specifically articulates the important role of Parliamentarians in seeking the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004). All UN Member States have a role to play in addressing this exponentially growing existential threat. I applaud the Government of the Republic of The Gambia for having taken this vital initial step.”

- Hon. Abdoulie Ceesay, MP (The Gambia), Chairperson of the PGA Gambia National Group

PGA also participated in various strategic activities to promote biological security, both in person and virtually.

In May 2022, PGA organized and implemented [a workshop in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania](#) with [over 25 participants](#) from 16 African states and organizations, including **Comoros, ECOWAS Parliament, Ethiopia, The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Namibia, The Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe**. The workshop concluded with the adoption of the [Dar-es-Salaam Plan of Action](#).

Additionally, Hon. Hamunyera Hambyuka, MP (Namibia) made [an official statement](#) announcing that **Namibia** [submitted its instrument of accession to the Biological Weapon Convention](#), with the statement overleaf.



PGA Regional African Workshop to Promote Biological Security in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania.



Davis Ansah Opoku MP
@OPKlive

In the business capital of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam, I presented to a group of parliamentarians from Africa and other agencies in a workshop organised by @PGAAction on Ghana's effort at Strengthening Biosecurity and biosafety.

davisopoku.com/2022/05/10/ove...



1:33 AM · May 12, 2022 from Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



The National Assembly of Seychelles
@SeychellesNA

Hon.Waven William & Hon.Flory Larue, participated in discussions regarding bio security on the convention of the bio weapon of mass destruction at the Parliamentarians for Global Action @PGAAction - in Tanzania from 9th-10th May 2022.

Read more: bit.ly/NASatPGA



1:28 PM · May 31, 2022

In October 2022, PGA participated in the [Regional Workshop on Universalization and Effective Implementation of the Biological Weapons Convention in Eastern Africa](#) organised by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)'s Implementation Support Unit (ISU) for the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), in collaboration with the Government of **Kenya**. Hon. Alma Yak, MP (South Sudan), Hon. Stanlaus Jada, MP (South Sudan) and Ambassador Joshua Franco Paul (South Sudan) all attended the event in person. On this occasion, Hon. Alma Yak, MP (South Sudan) used the opportunity to [update participants on the status](#) of **South Sudan's** BWC accession process and share lessons learned.

During the **Ninth Review Conference of the BWC** at the United Nations in Geneva, PGA and a delegation of non-States Parties [participated in the conference](#) from 28 November to 1 December 2022. Participants, including member-parliamentarians and government officials from **Chad, Djibouti, Somalia and South Sudan**, [met with other government officials and key stakeholders](#).



“Namibia aspires to sustainable development in a democratic world, which operates in a rules-based international order that promotes peace and security, for all peoples. As such, on the 10th of February 2022, the Republic of Namibia submitted its instrument of accession to the Biological Weapon Convention to the Government of United Kingdom as one of the depository Governments. Our aim is to be part of the global multilateral framework to enhance cooperation in addressing threats of biological weapons.

Our country is now in the process of domesticating the BWC. In this regard, our Government will seek the appropriate support from the Secretariat of the BWC and the international community at large, to enable us to implement the Convention.

Namibia will remain actively engaged and committed to the ideals of the Convention, and our participation in this Workshop is a demonstration of that. Let us keep in mind that pandemics and gaps in the implementation of the Convention will increase the danger for all of us. Therefore, we must avoid unnecessary politicization of these issues and be guided by scientific facts and not emotion to ensure the safety of mankind.”

- Hon. Hamunyera Hambyuka, MP (Namibia)

PGA continued in 2022 to extensively research, compile and curate a [Weekly Biological Security Update](#) for the benefit of its global membership.

CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY

Launched in March 2021, PGA's [Nuclear and Radiological Security Campaign](#) seeks to address the fact that a large number of States worldwide have yet to become States Parties and/or fully implement The Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material (CPPNM), its Amendment and the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (ICSANT) in line with **Sustainable Development Goal 16's emphasis on peace.**

The Nuclear Security Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from Global Affairs Canada.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

Throughout 2022, member-parliamentarians and their peers have demonstrated a renewed interest in nuclear and radiological security – in particular in the context of the war in **Ukraine**, where the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant and Chernobyl site have been bombarded.

PGA engaged its members on the Nuclear and Radiological Campaign throughout the world:

Africa



Botswana, Cameroon, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Somalia, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe

Asia



Cambodia, Indonesia Malaysia, The Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, The Philippines, Tuvalu

caribbean



Antigua and Barbuda, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago

Latin America



Argentina, Bolivia, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay

As a result of this substantial outreach, PGA generated traction in promoting universality and implementation of CPPNM, A/CPPNM and ICSANT in very challenging circumstances.

On 11 February 2022, **Malawi** acceded to the Amendment to the Convention for the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material. In May 2022, then-PGA member Sen. Cathisha Williams, MP (Grenada) informed PGA that the Parliament of **Grenada** received approval for the ratification of the ICSANT and A/CPPNM. Similarly in **Zimbabwe**, the Cabinet of the government approved in June 2022 accession to the A/CPPNM and to the ICSANT. PGA was informed that both these treaties will be transmitted to Parliament for approval in 2023.

In September and November 2022, PGA member-parliamentarians in **Cameroon** placed a formal question on the parliamentary agenda seeking the government's position on accession to ICSANT; PGA membership in **Mozambique** committed to encouraging the government to ratify ICSANT; and in Trinidad and Tobago, the Foreign Minister of Trinidad and Tobago expressed a renewed interest in promoting ratification of/accession to ICSANT and A/CPPNM.

PGA also provided upon request technical assistance in drafting a 2-page Parliamentary Resolution seeking ratification of the A/CPPNM in **Uganda**.

Throughout the course of 2022, PGA organised three Regional Briefings. In March 2022, the virtual [Africa Regional Briefing](#) included Members of Parliament and government officials from **Botswana, Cameroon, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, South Sudan, Togo, Uganda** and **Zimbabwe**.



 **DOWNLOAD**

AFRICAN REGIONAL BRIEFING BY PGA ON NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY PROJECT

OVERVIEW OF REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO A/CPPNM

During the same month, PGA also organized a virtual [Caribbean Regional Briefing](#) on Nuclear and Radiological Security Project and Discussion on Review Conference of States Parties to A/CPPNM and, in April 2022, a virtual [Asia Regional Briefing](#). Government officials from the Nuclear Research Institute of the **Philippines** and the National Authority for the Prohibition of Chemical, Nuclear, Biological and Radiological Weapons of **Cambodia** also participated.



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CARIBBEAN REGIONAL BRIEFING BY PGA ON NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY PROJECT

OVERVIEW OF REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO A/CPPNM



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ASIAN REGIONAL BRIEFING BY PGA ON NUCLEAR AND RADIOLOGICAL SECURITY PROJECT

OVERVIEW OF REVIEW CONFERENCE OF STATES PARTIES TO A/CPPNM

PGA used the opportunity this series of webinars created to share its [Parliamentary Handbook on Promoting the Role of Women Parliamentarians in Preventing the Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction](#) and to follow up with country-specific National Plans of Action upon request.



 **DOWNLOAD**

PARLIAMENTARY HANDBOOK ON THE ROLE OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS IN PREVENTING THE PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

GLOBAL CYBERCRIME CAMPAIGN

The [Global Cybercrime Campaign](#) seeks to address the fact that a large number of States worldwide have yet to become States Parties and/or fully implement the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and its 2 Additional Protocols.

The Global Cybersecurity Initiative project receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The world was affected throughout 2022 by increasingly complex and sophisticated cyber-attacks.

In March 2022, PGA and its Argentina National Group collaborated with the Council of Europe's Cybercrime Programme as well as the Organization of American States to organize a [Regional Parliamentary Webinar for Latin America and Caribbean to Promote Universality and Implementation of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime](#). Over 70 Members of Parliament and national experts from **Argentina, Chile, Dominican Republic** and **United States** participated in the briefing.

PGA participated in the [2022 Americas Regional Forum for international cooperation on cybercrime and electronic evidence](#) organized by the Council of Europe in cooperation with the Legislative



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TALLER PARLAMENTARIO REGIONAL DE PGA EN AMÉRICA LATINA PARA PROMOVER LA UNIVERSALIDAD Y LA APLICACIÓN DEL CONVENIO DE BUDAPEST SOBRE CIBERDELINCUENCIA

Assembly and Public Ministry of Costa Rica in San José in November 2022. This included PGA member-parliamentarians from **Barbados, Ghana and Sierra Leone**. Additionally, Hon. Davis Opoku Ansaah, MP (Ghana) [spoke about the need to involve women](#) in the criminal justice response to cybercrime.

In 2023-2024, PGA will build on this substantial initial momentum generated, with the organization and implementation of four regional workshops in **Africa, Caribbean, Latin America and Pacific Islands** to promote ratification and implementation of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime and its 2 Additional Protocols.

PGA also researched and compiled a [Weekly Cybercrime Crime Update](#) for the benefit of PGA's global network and partners.

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INTERNATIONAL PEACE & SECURITY PROGRAMME

CAMPAIGN TO ADDRESS THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND TO PROMOTE THE ARMS TRADE TREATY

The [SALW/ATT Campaign](#) seeks to contribute to a reduction in armed violence, and threat of armed violence, worldwide as a result of consequential steps taken to address the illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), promoting implementation of the UN Programme of Action Addressing the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons as well as continued promotion of the universality and implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). This aim is based on the linkages between regulation of SALW and peace and security as outlined in **Sustainable Development Goal 16, particularly Target 16.4** to significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.

The SALW Campaign receives core support from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the Stewart R. Mott Foundation as well as project support from the UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Denmark.

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

The Philippines [ratified the Arms Trade Treaty](#) in March 2022. PGA has been active in promoting adoption, signature and ratification of the ATT in the Philippines since 2007.

In September 2022, **Gabon** [became the 112th State Party to the Arms Trade Treaty \(ATT\)](#). PGA worked with a prominent MP in Gabon since 2021, providing background analysis and upon request technical assistance on effective promotion of/advocacy for ratification of the ATT by Gabon.

On 3-4 October 2022, PGA organised a [workshop in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago](#), which convened 11 participants representing **Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago** and the **European Union** to address important issues such as armed violence in the Caribbean region as well as an overview of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (PoA) and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI). Time was also devoted to discussing the biennial reporting requirements under the UN PoA and the important role of women outlined in UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace and Security.

Additionally, Mr. Jason Francis, Senior Advisor at the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) and Mr. Jamaro Marville, Programme Analyst at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Jamaica,





“This signature is testimony to my country's commitment to global peace and security. Gabon has also been a promoter of the regional agreement in Central Africa to fight the illicit circulation of light and small caliber weapons. Gabon remains willing to work with various stakeholders in promoting and advancing global peace and security.”

– Hon. Noël Nelson Messone, Ambassador Designate of Gabon to the United States of America



SENSITIZING AND TRAINING PARLIAMENTARIANS IN JAMAICA AND ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

Belize, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, The Bahamas and Turks and Caicos introduced participants to the Caribbean Firearms Roadmap and the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) in Jamaica.

At the conclusion of the workshop, participants adopted the [Port of Spain Plan of Action](#), which includes a number of specific follow up actions for participants to take within their respective Parliaments.



Participants at PGA's Regional Caribbean Workshop to address the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, and Trinidad and Tobago

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PGA's most recent audited accounts are [available on PGA's website](#).

Meeting at the Dutch MFA.

I-r: Ms. Olivia Houssais, PGA Programme Assistant; Dr. David Donat Cattin, PGA Secretary-General; Ms. Maryna Bardina, MP (Ukraine); Ms. Frederika Schweighoferova, PGA Director Rome Statute Campaign; Mr. Denys Maslov, MP (Ukraine); Sen. Boris Dittrich, MP (Netherlands), Convenor of PGA's International Law & Human Rights Programme.

