



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

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)

Group in the European Parliament

cordially invites you to a

lunch meeting:

DEMYSTIFYING THE

INTERNATIONAL

CRIMINAL COURT:

**The Importance of
Reinforcing the
Universality of the
Rome Statute**

27 JUNE 2023

12:30 - 14:30 | European Parliament

Multifunctional Institutional Restaurant - Salon

RSVP by 22 June:

olivia.houssais@pgaction.org



The on-going war of aggression launched by the Russian Federation against Ukraine has reignited discussions on the **importance of universal accountability** in establishing justice, building sustainable peace, and upholding a rules-based international order. Central to this system is the **International Criminal Court (ICC)**, the sole permanent international jurisdiction with competence over the crime of genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression. The ICC's founding treaty, the Rome Statute, is instrumental in this endeavor, necessitating ratification and effective implementation at the domestic level.

Entered into force in 2002, significant progress has been made on the road towards global justice. Yet, **numerous challenges** still need to be overcome to achieve comprehensive global justice, including addressing valid criticism that have been formulated against the efficiency of the ICC. This begins with **increasing the number of ratifications of the Rome Statute system** (currently counting 123 States Parties to the ICC) and all of its amendments, implementing this vital instrument at the domestic level, enhancing the efficiency of the Court, and addressing threats that jeopardize its functioning, undermine its ability to carry out prosecutions, and pose a risk to the pursuit of global justice.

By fostering an **open dialogue among parliamentarians** from different regions of the world, this lunch event will **demystify the system of the Rome Statute**. It will address the challenges that need to be overcome, while emphasizing the importance of reaching universality of the system to promote global justice and sustainable peace.

12:30-12:40 – Welcoming the guests

12:40-14:00 – Lunch and discussion on the ICC

- Opening remarks
 - **Mr. Fabio Massimo Castaldo**, Member of the European Parliament, Co-convenor of the PGA International and Human Rights Program and Chair of PGA Group in the European Parliament (5 min)
- Discussion on reaching universality of the Rome Statute (30min)
 - Importance of increasing the number of ratifications
 - Importance of domestic implementation to reinforce the universality of the Rome Statute
 - Addressing criticism against the ICC and how to overcome present and coming challenges
 - **Mr. Matias Hellman**, External Relations Advisor to the ICC Presidency
 - **Ms. Frederika Schweighoferova**, Director of the PGA International Law and Human Rights Program
 - **Ms. Virginie Amato**, Head of Advocacy and Program, Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC)
- Open discussion among participants on each country's priorities (45 min)

14:00-14:30 – Gathering of the PGA EP Group

- Open discussion on progress of PGA programs and campaigns, and challenges to come
 - Chaired by **Mr. Fabio Massimo Castaldo**, Member of the European Parliament, Co-convenor of the PGA International and Human Rights Program and Chair of PGA Group in the European Parliament