

Parliamentarians for Global Action

EURO-IBEROAMERICAN CONFERENCE ON THE RATIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) STATUTE

Madrid, Senate of Spain, 27-28 June 2002

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is delighted to bring to your attention the conclusions of the "Parliamentary Conference on the Ratification and Implementation of the Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)" held in Madrid on 27 and 28 June 2000 and co-organized by the Senate of Spain and PGA.

The Madrid Conference saw the participation of 120 Members of Parliament from the entire Latin American continent and from Europe, including EU States and countries associated with the EU.

The Conference's proceedings were broadcast live in the website of the Senate of Spain (www.senado.es).

The First Vice-President of the Senate of Spain, Sen. Alfredo Prada Prensa, presided over the deliberations of the Conference.

Remarkably, Uruguayan MPs announced the ratification of the ICC Statute by their countries. Senators J.A. Singer and F. Lavina, together with Dip. F. Michelini, presented the parliamentary-led process which culminated with the final unanimous vote of approval of the ICC Statute this week in the Chamber of Deputies of Uruguay. A huge delegation of Colombian MPs led by Senators J. Chamorro and G. Guerra explained the complex and successful process that led to the decision of the Colombian Parliament to authorise ratification (the deposit is indeed imminent). Bolivian Senator G. Camacho Rodriguez (President of the Home Affairs Committee) announced the National ratification, while Guatemalan opposition MP Anabella de Leon and majority MP J. Alfonso Rios Castillo both declared their support for a speedy completion of the ICC process in the country. Ecuadorian MP Cecilia Calderon announced the imminent presentation of the National implementing legislation of the ICC Statute. Argentinean MP Margarita Stolbizer did the same with respect to the well-known Argentinean draft legislation.

PGA is extremely grateful to all its members that have worked on the ICC dossier: we are proud to stress that almost all the above-mentioned parliamentarians belong to the PGA network.

The "Madrid Declaration" and a list of participants are hereby enclosed.

David Donat Cattin & Juan Kim (International Law & Human Rights Programme, Parliamentarians for Global Action)

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MADRID DECLARATION ON THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT