

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) Convenes Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the ICC and the Rule of Law (7th session)

New York/The Hague, 19 December 2012—Delegates from over 70 nations gathered at the Italian Parliament from 10-11 December 2012 for the 7th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the International Criminal Court and the Rule of Law (CAP ICC). Legislators focused on the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the fight against impunity for the most serious crimes of international Concern.

In a message addressed to the Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies and to the 200 Parliamentarians in attendance from all regions of the world, the President of the Italian Republic, Giorgio Napolitano, recognised "the coherent and meritorious commitment of Parliamentarians for Global Action in support of strengthening the international Rule of Law, in particular via one of its fundamental tools, the ICC".

The Assembly's proceedings, which coincided with PGA's 34th Annual Forum and International Human Rights Day, saw the participation of MPs and State Officials, the highest authorities of the Italian Parliament, prominent Governmental and International personalities, and a high-profile group of representatives from Civil Society, the judiciary, the legal professions and academia.

The outcomes of all the Panels and Question period with the ICC Prosecutor have been incorporated in the 'Rome Action Plan on the Prevention of Atrocities, the Rule of Law and the International Criminal Court" and in the dedicated website http://www.pgaction.org/activity/2012/cap-icc-vii.html, which enlists the commitments to ratify the Rome Statute of the ICC by leading MPs from Malaysia, Morocco, Cote d'Ivoire, Jamaica, El Salvador and several other countries. Parliamentarians for Global Action will work with individual Legislators and other political leaders to make sure that the commitments, inspiration and empowerment of Lawmakers that emerged in Rome will bear fruit in the national Legislatures of all Participants, by way of further advocacy and analysis efforts, technical assistance, follow-up events and initiatives to be undertaken in conjunction with partners and stakeholders.

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About PGA

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is a network of more than 1000 legislators from 120 Parliaments worldwide committed to human rights and the rule of law, human security and gender equality. In the past 23 years, PGA has promoted a permanent, effective and universal ICC. PGA members have led, launched and/or authored ratification and implementation initiatives of the Rome Statute in 75 out of the 121 States Parties to the ICC, including some of the more recent States that have joined the ICC—Guatemala (2012), Vanuatu (December 2011), The Maldives (September 2011) and Tunisia (June 2011), and the ratifications by Cape Verde (October 2011), the Philippines (August 2011), Grenada (May 2011), the Republic of Moldova (Oct. 2010), Seychelles and St. Lucia (Jul.-Aug. 2011), Bangladesh (March 2010), Chile and the Czech Republic (June-July 2009), Japan in 2007 (few months after the "4th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the ICC and the Rule of Law", Tokyo, 4-5 December 2006), and Madagascar, Suriname and The Cook Islands in 2008. PGA is a member of the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the ICC. In 2012, the PGA ICC Campaign has received the support of the European Commission (EU), Humanity United, and of the Governments of The Netherlands, Switzerland and Liechtenstein, as well as core support from Denmark and Sweden.