



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

142nd IPU ASSEMBLY

Virtual session, 24-28 May 2021

Frequently Asked Questions

Registration

What is the procedure for registration?

You can register through the 142nd Assembly [webpage](#). Click on the **Register** button.

When is the deadline for registration?

9 May 2021

Who should register?

- *Members of Parliament (delegates to the Assembly, office holders and members of the Standing Committees), including the three members of the Governing Council with voting rights*
- *Parliamentary advisers and delegation secretaries/coordinators.*

How many delegates? ([Statutes Article 10](#))

- *8 MPs (countries with a population of 100 million or less)*
- *10 MPs (population >100 million)*
- *1 additional MP under the age of 45 years.*

How many delegates can be designated for the Governing Council? ([Rule 1](#))

- *3 MPs (mixed gender delegation)*
- *1 MP (single gender delegation).*

What is the registration process for Standing Committees?

Meetings of the Standing Committees taking place in the week of 26 April are open to all interested MPs. Registrations are highly encouraged before this date to ensure that the link to the meeting is received in a timely manner.

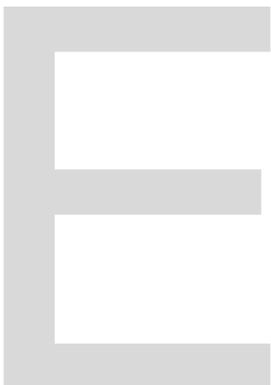
Mandatory documentation

Send by email (postbox@ipu.org):

- *Official letter from the Speaker of Parliament and/or President of the Group confirming the composition of the delegation to the Assembly*
- *Include the Governing Council members' personal email addresses and mobile phone numbers (for remote voting).*

Can IPU Associate Members participate in the Assembly?

[Associate Members](#) may participate in the Assembly and its Standing Committees with the same rights as Members, with the exception of the right to vote and to present candidates for elective office.



#IPU142

Is the IPU Assembly open to international organizations and bodies?

IPU official [observers](#) may register up to two delegates.

Meeting timetable and documents

When will the 142nd IPU Assembly take place?

The week of 24 May 2021, see [timetable](#).

When will the Standing Committees, Forums and other subsidiary bodies meet?

In the weeks preceding the Governing Council and Assembly, see [timetable](#).

How can I access the sessions' documents?

Consult the [Assembly webpage](#). The [Convocation](#) provides full details, in particular Annex 2, the General Timetable, and Annex 4, Note for Members on adoption of resolutions and selection of subject items by the Standing Committees.

Theme of the 142nd IPU Assembly and related meetings

What is the theme of the 142nd IPU Assembly?

The theme is "Overcoming the pandemic today and building a better tomorrow: the role of parliaments".

Will the Standing Committees and other IPU bodies focus on the Assembly theme as well?

Yes. Their input will be incorporated into a document to be adopted at the close of the Assembly.

Interactive debate

Will there be a general debate during the Assembly?

Due to time limitations, there will only be an interactive debate on 26 May 2021 on the Assembly's overall theme.

Interventions

Will delegates be able to make interventions?

Yes. Delegates are invited to contribute to the Assembly – see [agenda](#) – through:

- Live interventions,
- Written statements, and
- Pre-recorded video messages.

These will all form part of the official records of the Assembly. The length of these interventions should not exceed 2 minutes. Delegates will also have the option of messaging – using the chat function – throughout the proceedings of the Assembly.

Written statements and pre-recorded video messages in English, French or Spanish should be sent to the Secretariat at speeches@ipu.org

Can delegates submit video messages for the proceedings of the Standing Committees, the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians?

In order to facilitate lively and interactive debates during these meetings, there will be no possibility to contribute pre-recorded video messages.

Can Observers deliver interventions?

Yes, Observers can intervene through written statements in either English or French, submitted in advance of the opening of the session of the Assembly. Statements will be posted on a dedicated web page and form part of the official records of the Assembly.

Vacancies

What IPU bodies have open vacancies?

The complete list and information is available on the 142nd Assembly [webpage](#).

What is the deadline for the various vacancies?

- For the Executive Committee, the Committee on Middle East Questions and the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians – 9 May 2021.
- Nominations by the Geopolitical Groups for the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and the Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians – 26 April 2021.
- All other nominations by the Geopolitical Groups – 16 May 2021.

How are vacancies filled for the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and for the Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians?

- Nominations made by the Geopolitical Groups are received by the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians at their first sitting.
- Nominations are approved by each Forum at its first sitting.
- The newly elected Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians convene, between the first and second sittings of the Forums, to nominate their leadership.
- The nominated leadership is proposed by the Board/Bureau to the respective Forum at its second sitting.
- Each Forum approves the nomination for the leadership.
- All nominations (for the membership and leadership) are transmitted to the Governing Council.

When will new office-holders of the various vacancies assume their roles?

The candidates' election to the vacant posts must be confirmed during the forthcoming Assembly. Candidates will take up their posts immediately after the close of the 142nd Assembly.

Virtual meeting access

How do we access the various virtual meetings?

- **Zoom** (sessions held behind closed doors)
Each office-holder will receive a personalized invitation containing the meeting link
Save the link in your calendar.
- **Interprefy** (Standing Committee meetings in the week of 26 April)
Delegates registered online (speaking and voting rights) will receive the meeting link directly by email (valid for all meetings that week).
Other interested (not yet registered) MPs' full names and email addresses should be sent to events@ipu.org as soon as possible so that they receive the active participant link.
Advisers and delegation secretaries will receive the link to the live streaming.
Members of Parliament who have not been registered will receive the link from their delegation coordinator / Group Secretary within their parliament.
- **Plenary sessions (10 to 27 May)**
Delegates registered online (speaking and voting rights) will receive the link to the 142nd Assembly Virtual Event Platform (VEP) directly by email.
Advisers and delegation secretaries will receive the link to the live streaming on the VEP.

Will interpretation be offered? If yes, in what language(s)

- The IPU will provide interpretation in Arabic, English, French and Spanish at the meetings of all statutory bodies.
- Channels have also been reserved for Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese and Russian for the plenary sessions.
- For more information, contact Sally-Anne Sader (sas@ipu.org).

Important – recommended connection and equipment

Remote simultaneous interpreters depend on excellent audio quality, without which it will be very difficult to interpret your speech accurately. You are therefore advised to:

- Use a computer (not smartphone or tablet)
- Use a cabled network (Ethernet) connection, not Wi-Fi (if using Wi-Fi, sit close to the device (router or access point) connected to the internet)
- Use an external wired headset (Bluetooth headsets should be avoided, please turn them off when speaking to avoid audio interference)
- For Zoom, download the desktop app (<https://zoom.us/support/download>), do not use a web browser.

Remote voting in the Governing Council

If votes are required in the Governing Council, they will be conducted according to similar modalities to the election of the IPU President at the November 2020 Governing Council. Every member of the Governing Council will receive an email with a link to the online voting platform. Votes can be cast at any time during an 18-hour voting window. A remote voting hotline will be available to provide assistance with any technical issues while the voting window is open. More detailed information will be provided in due course.

Social media video campaign

What is the purpose of the social media video campaign?

The intention is to increase the visibility and impact of the theme of the Assembly. To this end, delegates are invited to answer the following question in a micro-video message: **“What are you doing to build a better tomorrow?”**

What is a micro-video and how will it be used?

A micro-video is a short video under one minute. It should comply with the following specifications to maximize exposure:

- 1 minute maximum
- MP4 format
- Recorded in one of the Assembly working languages: Arabic, English, French or Spanish
- Subtitled in English and/or French where possible
- Recommended format is 16:9 ratio with 1920 x 1080 resolution
- For best results, film headshots with a neutral or unfocused background.

Micro-videos will be promoted by the IPU through its social media platforms (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and YouTube). You are also strongly encouraged to amplify the messaging!

When will the micro-video contributions be shared?

The videos will be shared before, during and after the Assembly.

When is the deadline for submission?

Each Member Parliament may send micro-videos to IPU Communications (press@ipu.org), by 17 May 2021.

Is there a dedicated hashtag for the Assembly?

Yes #IPU142 and #IPU

Are the videos submitted by delegates and the micro-videos the same?

Members of Parliament may submit two videos if they so desire: 1) video as a pre-recorded intervention on an item on the agenda of the Assembly (maximum 2 minutes in length) – part of the official records; 2) micro-video for social media campaign purposes (under 1 minute).