



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

142nd IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Virtual session, 24-28 May 2021

Forum of Young Parliamentarians Draft agenda

FIRST SITTING

Virtual, 13 May 2021 (14:00 – 16:00 CET)

- 1. Welcoming remarks**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 3. Contributing to the work of the 142nd Assembly from a youth perspective: Parliaments, youth and COVID-19 (14:10-15:40)**

The health and socio-economic shocks brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic have impacted significantly young men and women all around the world.

The Forum participants will take stock of the impacts of the pandemic on youth economic empowerment, education, health, and political participation. They will identify means and strategies to prioritize youth empowerment on the political agenda post-pandemic and to promote youth-responsive policies, legislation, and resource allocations to build back better for young men and women.

As support to their deliberations, the participants will be briefed on the key findings and recommendations of a series of intergenerational discussions on youth empowerment in the context of the pandemic and post-pandemic recovery held in April 2021 within the framework of the seventh edition of the IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians.

The briefing will be followed by an interactive discussion among the Forum participants who will be invited to contribute short remarks (limited to two minutes) with focus on:

- Sharing country information on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on youth.
- Promoting implemented good practices in preserving and enhancing youth empowerment during the pandemic.
- Identifying youth responsive policies, legislation, measures, and programmes as well as ways to prioritize resource allocations for youth empowerment in the post-COVID-19 recovery efforts.

- 4. Elections to the Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians (15:40-16:00)**

The Forum will elect its Board pursuant to Rule 5.3 of the Rules and Working Modalities of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU, which stipulates that: *“The Board shall be composed of two representatives from each of the IPU geopolitical groups, a man and a woman.”* The terms of office of the newly-elected Board members will end in spring 2023. The geopolitical groups should submit written candidatures to the IPU Secretariat by 18:00 (CET, Geneva time) on 26 April 2021.

SECOND SITTING

Virtual, 17 May 2021 (14:00 – 17:00 CET)

5. Panel discussion: A new decade of action for the IPU and parliaments on youth participation

In 2020, the IPU marked the tenth anniversary of the [IPU resolution *Youth participation in the democratic process*](#). On that occasion, several parliaments described how they were implementing the resolution. Their measures included lowering the voting age and the age of eligibility for election, adopting youth electoral quotas, creating parliamentary youth committees and caucuses of young members of parliament, convening youth parliaments, and empowering young parliamentarians.

Despite the good practices being implemented in many parts of the world, the IPU report *Youth participation in national parliaments* launched in April 2021, revealed that only 2.6 per cent of the world's parliamentarians were under age 30, a small increase of 0.4 per cent since 2018, and that young men and women aspirants to political office still faced many barriers to being elected and to pursuing a political career.

The panel discussion will be an opportunity to take stock of recent country-level developments in the promotion of and support to youth participation in parliament. In addition to brief online presentations on recent developments on the country level, delegations are welcome to send written contributions of a maximum of two pages describing the efforts and measures in place to support youth participation in their respective parliaments or countries. Written contributions can be sent to the IPU Secretariat by email to youth@ipu.org in advance of the Forum's sitting. The written contributions will inform IPU's research and future reports on youth participation in parliament.

The stock-taking exercise during the panel discussion will be followed by a reflection on concrete solutions and a revived commitment towards a transformative agenda for youth participation in parliament.

A new IPU Campaign for youth participation will be launched and participants will be invited to sign up and pledge to take transformative actions and lead the campaign in their respective parliaments and countries.

Key findings of the panel discussion will contribute to identifying priorities and key youth-related components of the next IPU Strategy 2022-2027.

6. Elections of the President of the Board

Pursuant to Rules 5.6 and 5.7 of its Rules and Working Modalities, the Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians elects a President. The same president cannot hold office for two consecutive terms. Gender and geopolitical rotation are mandatory for each election of the President.

The Board of Young Parliamentarians will sit on 14 May 2021 to elect a new President. The Forum will be invited to approve the election and welcome the new President.

7. Any other business