



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

virtual World e-Parliament Conference 2021

Notes on the conference programme

9 May 2021

Schedule

The World e-Parliament Conference takes place from 16 to 18 June 2021. Sessions start daily at **14:00** and end at **18:00** (Geneva, Central European Summer Time). Live plenary sessions will be recorded and made available through a video library.

Programme

The World e-Parliament Conference 2021 will cover five main **themes**:

- a. **Towards the digital parliament:** Parliaments have experienced a major acceleration in innovation over the past year. This theme looks at the “big picture”, including lessons learned from the pandemic, the trends in digital transformation strategies, and changing expectations for digital parliaments in the years to come.
- b. **Infrastructure:** The management of parliamentary infrastructure is subject to major shifts, driven by both the market and the pandemic. This theme unpacks cloud strategies for parliaments, security considerations for hybrid infrastructures, and planning for business continuity and recovery in emergencies.
- c. **Data in digital parliaments:** Data is an essential asset for digital parliaments, providing value for members and the public. This theme provides insights into how parliaments manage their data, the importance of data governance, and pathways towards effective creation and use of open data.
- d. **Enabling digital parliamentarians:** Parliamentarians have been using digital tools for years, and 2020 saw another radical leap towards remote working in many parliaments. This theme takes a look at the tools and techniques that parliamentary administrations are developing to serve and support their members.
- e. **Artificial intelligence:** This theme discusses a new horizon that many parliaments are beginning to explore. It considers what AI is and how it is being considered in the parliamentary context, with attention to issues of governance and the functions that AI may serve.

The conference themes will be explored through three **tracks**:

1. **Thought leadership**: strategic discussions on trends and ideas
2. **Peer exchange**: exchange of good practices, tips and knowledge on the latest innovations in digital tools and services
3. **Co-creation**: using participants' collective knowledge to write "quick guides" with practical advice on how to address some of the key issues raised during the conference.

A detailed programme will be published shortly with the titles, dates and times of sessions.

Parliamentary showcase

Throughout the Conference, a "Parliamentary showcase" will highlight good practices and innovations from parliaments around the world. The Parliamentary showcase will contain a video library accessible to participants before, during and after the conference. The most interesting videos from the Parliamentary showcase will also be shown in plenary sessions.

Any conference participant can contribute a short video to the Parliamentary showcase. Guidelines for these videos will be published shortly. Parliaments who are interested in sharing their good practices can already contact Avinash Bikha (email: innovation@ipu.org) for more information.

Contact

For all questions related to the World e-Parliament Conference 2021, your first point of contact is innovation@ipu.org.