Provisional programme
18 May 2021

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 sessions will be recorded and made available through a video library. To verify the timings of the sessions in your country please use an online time converter.

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

1. Towards the digital parliament
2. Infrastructure
3. Data in digital parliaments
4. Enabling digital parliamentarians
5. Artificial intelligence

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.

For more information on the conference themes please refer to the notes at the end of this document.

The conference will take place on a Virtual Event Platform (VEP), which will be launched shortly before the start of the conference.

On 16 and 17 June, sessions will be held in two parallel rooms (Rooms 1 and 2) with interpretation in English, French and Spanish. On 18 June sessions will be held in Room 1 only.

Throughout the conference, Breakout rooms will be used for interactive small-group discussions, without interpretation.

Social media posts related to the World e-Parliament Conference and World e-Parliament Report will be tagged #WeP21.

Wednesday 16 June

Room 1

Towards the digital parliament

All times are **Geneva, Central European Summer Time**

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
14:00	14:05	**Welcome to the conference**	Video		
14:05	14:20	**World e-Parliament Report: Key findings**	Presentation	Thought leadership	Lessons from the pandemic
14:20	14:40	**Q & A with the author of the World e-Parliament Report**	Q&A	Thought leadership	Lessons from the pandemic
14:40	14:45	**Introduction to the Parliamentary showcase**	Video		
14:45	15:15	**How remote working has changed parliaments**	Round table	Thought leadership	Lessons from the pandemic
15:15	15:20	**Soliciting themes for the unconference**	Video		
15:20	15:40	**Networking break**	Video		
15:40	16:30	**Digital transformation: what, why and how?**	Round table	Thought leadership	Digital transformation strategies
16:30	17:00	**Digital transformation Q&A**	Q&A	Peer exchange	Digital transformation strategies
17:00	17:10	**My life as a 'digital parliamentarian'**	Video	Peer exchange	Digital parliamentarians
17:10	17:55	**What people want from their parliament in the digital era**	Round table	Thought leadership	Connecting people to digital parliaments
17:55	18:00	**Finding the "killer app" for citizens**	Video	Thought leadership	Connecting people to digital parliaments

Wednesday 16 June

Room 2

Infrastructure

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
15:00	15:45	**IT security in the hybrid parliament**	Round table	Peer exchange	Security in hybrid infrastructures
15:45	16:15	**Networking break**	Video		
16:15	16:45	**Navigating data ownership and privacy in the cloud**	Round table	Peer exchange	Cloud strategies for parliaments
16:45	17:00	**Parliamentary showcase reminder**	Video		
17:00	17:15	**Parliamentary resilience through the cloud**	Presentation	Peer exchange	Cloud strategies for parliaments
17:15	18:00	**Cloud options in the Africa, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP) region**	Round table	Peer exchange	Cloud strategies for parliaments

Breakout rooms

Start	End	Session	Format	Track
17:15	17:45	**Unconference sessions**	Group work	Peer exchange

Thursday 17 June

Room 1

Enabling digital parliamentarians

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
14:00	14:30	**Setting up remote offices for members and staff**	Round table	Peer exchange	Tools and techniques for the digital parliamentarian
14:30	15:15	**Virtual committees and hybrid plenaries**	Round table	Peer exchange	Tools and techniques for the digital parliamentarian
15:15	15:25	**Unconference reminder**			
15:25	15:55	**How to deliver MP-friendly services**	Round table	Peer exchange	Tools and techniques for the digital parliamentarian
15:55	16:20	**Networking break**			
16:20	16:50	**Maintaining public information and outreach during the pandemic**	Q&A	Peer exchange	Connecting people to digital parliaments
16:50	17:00	**Unconference reminder**			
17:00	17:15	**Cost savings and efficiencies in members' services**	Presentation	Peer exchange	Tools and techniques for the digital parliamentarian
17:15	17:45	**Virtual parliamentary research services**	Round table	Peer exchange	Tools and techniques for the digital parliamentarian

Thursday 17 June

Room 2

Data in digital parliaments

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
14:00	14:45	**Getting the most out of your data**	Round table	Peer exchange	Publishing and marketing your data
14:45	15:30	**Working with civil society and sharing data**	Round table	Peer exchange	Publishing and marketing your data
15:30	15:35	**Data governance**	Video	Peer exchange	Data governance
15:35	16:05	**What is open data good for?**	Q&A	Peer exchange	Open data
16:05	16:20	**Developing data dictionaries and schemas**	Presentation	Peer exchange	Open data
16:20	17:05	**Experiences of open data**	Round table	Peer exchange	Open data
17:05	17:10	**Parliamentary showcase reminder**	Video		

Artificial intelligence

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
17:10	17:40	**What is AI and how does it affect parliaments?**	Q&A	Peer exchange	AI and parliaments
17:40	18:00	**How can parliaments benefit from AI**	Presentation	Thought leadership	AI and parliaments

Breakout rooms

Start	End	Session	Format	Track
16:00	16:30	**Unconference sessions**	Group work	Peer exchange
16:00	17:00	**East & Southern Africa regional hubs - Quick guides**	Group work	Co-creation
16:00	17:00	**Hispanophone hub - Quick guide**	Group work	Co-creation
23:00	00:00	**Pacific & Caribbean regional hubs - Quick guides**	Group work	Co-creation

Friday 18 June

Room 1

Enabling digital parliamentarians

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
14:00	14:05	**Legislative drafting in the hybrid parliament**	Video	Peer exchange	Tools and techniques for the digital parliamentarian

Artificial intelligence

Start	End	Session	Format	Track	Topic
14:05	14:50	**Governance and strategic objectives of parliamentary AI**	Round table	Peer exchange	AI and parliaments
14:50	15:05	**Networking break**	Video		
15:05	15:20	**The future of translation and interpretation services**	Presentation	Peer exchange	AI and parliaments
15:20	16:00	**Can citizens be served by chatbots?**	Round table	Peer exchange	AI and parliaments

Breakout rooms

Start	End	Session	Format	Track
14:00	*15:00*	**Transparency hub - Quick guide**	Group work	Co-creation
14:00	*15:00*	**Quick guide unconference sessions**	Group work	Co-creation
14:00	*15:00*	**IT Governance hub Quick guide - Moving from IT to digital strategies**	Group work	Co-creation
15:00	*16:00*	**Open Data hub - Quick guide**	Group work	Co-creation
15:00	*16:00*	**Digital transformation - Quick guide**	Group work	Co-creation
15:00	*16:00*	**Quick guide unconference sessions**	Group work	Co-creation

Room 1

Conference wrap-up & closing

Start	End	Session	Format	Track
16:00	*16:30*	**Co-creation track wrap up and next steps**	Presentation	Co-creation
16:30	*17:00*	**Conference closing session**		

Notes on the conference themes

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

1. **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.

2. **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.

3. **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.

4. **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.

5. **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.

Contact

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