



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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## IPU's Empowerment Series for young parliamentarians Youth Empowerment and Political Participation *Third online briefing for young parliamentarians*

### Concept note

#### Context and rationale

Just over ten years ago, IPU Member Parliaments adopted a landmark [resolution](#) on youth participation in the democratic process, declaring that achieving meaningful democracy requires the full and active participation of young people and youth organizations in democratic processes at the local, national, regional and international levels.

Despite this clear political commitment, parliaments from around the world have made limited progress in its implementation. The level of youth representation in parliament, as measured regularly by the IPU, remains low. Half the world's population is under 30, while only 2.6% of MPs globally represent this age group. Thirty-seven per cent of parliamentary chambers do not have any young MPs under 30. Young people are among the most impacted by today's critical issues, such as the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and new technologies. Yet they are among those most absent from the political institutions that are supposed to represent them. Much greater political mobilization is needed to allow more young people to take their rightful places at decision-making tables.

To address this gap in youth representation, in spring 2021, the IPU launched the [I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!](#) campaign calling on parliaments to take action to increase the number of young women and men MPs. The campaign invites changemakers to redouble their efforts to enhance youth participation in parliaments all around the world.

To shed light on these issues of concern and mobilize young parliamentarians on solutions from a policy-making perspective, the IPU is organizing the third online briefing of its Empowerment Series for young parliamentarians on youth empowerment and political participation, on the occasion of International Youth Day.

#### Objectives

The aims of the online briefing on youth empowerment and political participation are to:

- Raise awareness among young parliamentarians on youth empowerment and political participation;
- Take stock of advances made and challenges faced in terms of youth empowerment and political participation, and identify possible legislation and policy related solutions;
- Inform young parliamentarians about the progress made with the implementation of the IPU's *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign;
- Offer a platform for young parliamentarians to share good practices and policies on youth empowerment and political participation.

#### Methodology

The third online briefing of the Empowerment Series for young parliamentarians will be organized in the form of a briefing by experts on youth empowerment and political participation. It will be followed by a discussion among young MPs aimed at sharing good practices on policies and legislation on youth empowerment and political participation.

Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French, Arabic and Spanish.

#### Date, virtual venue and time

The online briefing will take place on Zoom, on 12 August 2022, from 13:00 to 15:00 CEST (Geneva time).

#### Registration link

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlud-2vpjloG9PZCJIi2LTCmYEgD0Ll4a8>