

Inter-Parliamentary Union

For democracy. For everyone.

Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue: Working together for our common future

Marrakesh, 13 - 15 June 2023



10 February 2023

Dear Madam Speaker, Dear Mr. Speaker,

It is our pleasure to invite you to the *Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue: Working together for our common future,* which will take place from 13 to 15 June 2023 in Marrakesh, Morocco. The Conference is organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Parliament of the Kingdom of Morocco in cooperation with Religions for Peace, and with the support of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations and the Mohammadia League of Religious Scholars.

Addressing issues of inclusion and coexistence is an important part of the IPU's mandate to promote peace and understanding through political dialogue, cooperation and parliamentary action. The IPU's 2012 Quebec City Declaration on <u>Citizenship, identity and linguistic and cultural diversity in a globalized</u> <u>world</u> recognizes the importance of balancing respect for diversity with social inclusiveness and cohesion as a means of building trust within and among societies and as a precondition for progress, prosperity and a high quality of life. The 2017 St. Petersburg Declaration on <u>Promoting cultural pluralism and peace</u> <u>through interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogue</u> recognized that dialogue with faiths, cultures and ethnicities is essential to peace and cultural pluralism and that, as representatives of the people, the world's parliaments are committed to strengthening normative processes and legal frameworks conducive to more open and inclusive societies.

The Conference will bring together Speakers and members of parliament, religious leaders, representatives of civil society and other experts to engage in dialogue and share good practices around key issues standing in the way of sustainable co-existence and to jointly explore action points for building more peaceful and inclusive societies. It will also aim to develop a roadmap for joint action ahead.

Your participation in this Conference, along with a delegation of 4 to 6 members, will contribute towards enabling an inclusive process which can help bring about positive change. We would encourage you to strive for a gender-balanced delegation and to include a youth representative. If your Parliament has a committee for religions or cultural affairs, we recommend including the head of this committee in the delegation. We would also kindly invite you to share this invitation with the representatives of those faiths and traditions that reflect the diversity of your society, and encourage them to attend this important event.

A draft programme and more information about the conference will be shared with you in the coming months. In the meantime, we would be grateful if you could mark this event in your agenda and let us know if you will be able to attend. For any questions, please contact us at <u>interfaith@ipu.org</u>.

Yours sincerely,

Duarte Pacheco IPU President

Rachid Talbi Alami Speaker of the House of Representatives

Enaam Mayara President of the House of Councillors