



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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## Parliaments and women's rights: Implementing the CEDAW Convention, realizing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for all

A parliamentary roundtable organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)

**22 June 2023, 9.00 – 16.00 CEST (hybrid event)**

In the context of the [Human Rights 75 initiative](#), the IPU and OHCHR will organize a roundtable on the role of parliaments in advancing women's rights. The roundtable will focus in particular on women's rights to political participation, decent work and education on an equal basis with men, as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and codified within the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW Convention). The event will also serve to launch the 2023 edition of the *Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol*, developed by the IPU and OHCHR.

### Programme

**Chairperson:** Ms. Cynthia López Castro (Mexico), President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians

09:00–09:45	<b>Opening statements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mr. Volker Türk, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights</li><li>• Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union</li><li>• Ms. Nicole Ameline, Member of the CEDAW Committee</li></ul>
09:45–10:00	Coffee break
10:00–11:00	<b>Session 1:</b> UDHR and the role of parliament in eliminating barriers to women's full and equal participation in political decision-making at all levels
11:00–12:00	<b>Session 2:</b> UDHR and the role of parliament in ensuring women's equal access to decent work
12:00–13:00	Lunch break
13:00–14:00	<b>Session 3:</b> UDHR and the role of parliament in promoting gender equality in and through education
14:00–15:00	<b>Wrap-up, adoption of pledges, and closing remarks</b>
15:00–16:00	Launch of the 2023 OHCHR-IPU <i>Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and its Optional Protocol</i>

**Languages:** Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

**Registration for online participation:** Please register to participate online at the following [link](#) by no later than 19 June 2023.

**Venue:** A group of participants<sup>1</sup> will be hosted in person at the IPU Headquarters (Geneva). Remote participants will join the roundtable through Zoom.

**Outcome:** The roundtable will aim to reach a consensus-based pledges document on the basis of which parliamentarians will prioritize concrete follow-up actions pertinent to the UDHR and CEDAW Convention.

For additional information, please contact Mr. Ilias Trochidis (email: [gender@ipu.org](mailto:gender@ipu.org) with copy to Ms. Mariana Duarte Mutzenberg [mdm@ipu.org](mailto:mdm@ipu.org)).

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<sup>1</sup> From a group of Parliaments which have a history of cooperation with the IPU to advance gender equality at the national level.