



28 July 2025 Geneva, Switzerland

15th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Nationalrat
Conseil national
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National Council



#15SWSP

Organizational modalities of the Summit

The 15th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament is convened by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), in close cooperation with the Swiss Parliament.

Venue and duration

1. The Summit will be held in Geneva on Monday, 28 July 2025. It will include an opening session, a closing session, and two thematic sessions including debates among participants. It will be preceded by a gala dinner starting at 18:30 on the evening of Sunday, 27 July 2025.

Participants

1. The Summit is open to women Speakers or Presidents of Member Parliaments of the IPU or national parliaments of countries that are recognized by the United Nations. In the case of bicameral parliaments, the Summit is open to women Speakers of both chambers.
2. Women Speakers who are unable to attend the Summit may only be replaced by women deputy Speakers.
3. The Summit is also open to the regional and international parliamentary assemblies and organizations that are Associate Members or permanent observers of the IPU and that are presided over by a woman President.
4. A limited number of high-level international experts will be invited to attend the Summit and contribute to its key focus areas as special guests.
5. Invitations will be extended by the President of the IPU. Invitations to guests will be extended by the Secretary General of the IPU.

Size of delegations

1. The size of delegations of each parliament shall not exceed four persons (six persons in the case of bicameral parliaments with two women Speakers), including the Speaker(s). Delegations are encouraged to include one or more young women parliamentarians (under 40 years of age). Associate Members may register a maximum of three delegates; invited permanent observer delegations shall be composed of no more than two persons; and high-level guests shall be accompanied by no more than one person.

Presidency



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1. The President of the National Council of Switzerland (hereinafter referred to as the President of the Summit) will preside over the Summit; open, suspend and close the sessions; direct the proceedings and ensure that the organizational modalities are observed; call upon women Speakers to take the floor; and declare the Summit closed. The President of the Summit's decisions in these matters shall be final and shall be accepted without debate.
2. The President of the Summit shall decide on all matters not covered by these modalities, after taking the advice of the Preparatory Committee if necessary.

Speaking rights – Order

1. Each woman Speaker of Parliament or President of a regional or international parliamentary assembly that is an Associate Member or permanent observer of the IPU shall in principle be entitled to deliver remarks during one of the sessions of the Summit. Written statements and, if necessary, pre-recorded videos should be submitted in advance to enable the IPU Secretariat to share them with the interpreters and the IPU Communications team.
2. Each woman Speaker of Parliament shall be entitled to three minutes' speaking time during the sessions and debates.
3. If time permits, women Presidents of the official parliamentary assemblies that are Associate Members or permanent observers of the IPU, and invited guests shall be entitled to one minute of speaking time.
4. Women Speakers of Parliament and women Presidents of official parliamentary assemblies that are Associate Members or permanent observers of the IPU may submit their interventions in writing or as pre-recorded video messages of maximum three minutes.
5. The President of the Summit may authorize, on the advice of the Secretariat, the display of a pre-recorded video message that could not be delivered by a delegation present at the Summit.
6. The President shall call to order any speaker who does not respect time limitations, fails to keep to the subject under discussion or prejudices the debate by using abusive language. The President may, if necessary, withdraw permission to speak, and may request the speaker to withdraw any objectionable words and/or have them struck from the record.
7. Interpretation will be provided in Arabic, English, French, German, Russian and Spanish.
8. Speakers addressing the Summit in any other languages will need to have their individual statements translated into one of the official IPU languages (English or French).



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Expected outcomes

1. An outcome document will be issued at the end of the Summit. It will contain a summary of the conclusions and a series of actionable recommendations.
2. The outcome document will feed into the proceedings of the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (6WCSP) with a view to prioritizing gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls on the agenda of all parliaments.