Parliamentarians for Change

Combatting AI-enabled violence against women in politics: Parliaments at the forefront of collective action!

Sunday 15 November 2026
14.00-16.00

Session Briefing Note

Location	Björtuloft, Harpa Conference and Concert Hall
Participants	By invitation only – invited members of parliaments and experts on the subject
Format	Roundtable discussions, a mixed group of 8–10 participants per table
Hosts	Reykjavik Global Forum, Althingi (Parliament of Iceland), in partnership with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
Capacity	80 max at roundtables

Concept

Parliamentarians for Change will bring together MPs and experts on gender-based violence from around the world under the theme "Combatting AI-enabled violence against women in politics: Parliaments at the forefront of collective action!." The aim is to build meaningful connections between MPs, enabling them to share insights, explore current challenges, and discuss how women leaders can be part of the solution. It is also a chance for MPs to exchange perspectives with experts from other sectors, including tech platforms, business, civil society, and academia, so they can collectively explore solutions and better understand each other's perspectives. Key takeaways from the session will be shared with the group after the Forum The session takes the form of interactive roundtables. Tables work through a practical conversation on the action needed from parliaments and other actors, and where closer cooperation is needed. Each table reports back its main points.

Background & Objective

Every year, Reykjavik Global and the Parliament of Iceland extend invitations to Speakers of Parliaments worldwide, inviting them to set up a delegation to participate in the Reykjavík Global Forum (RGF). This year the Forum will be held on 15–17 November 2026 in Iceland under the heading "Power, Together for Community."

This year's **Parliamentarians for Change** is co-hosted by Reykjavik Global and the Parliament of Iceland, in partnership with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). It focuses on **AI-enabled violence against women in politics,** part of the wider pattern of technology-facilitated gender-based violence (TFGBV), where AI is increasing the scale and accessibility of such harms. According to the IPU's 2026 report on political violence against parliamentarians, 76% of women MPs surveyed reported experiencing violence, compared with 68% of men, with women disproportionately targeted by gendered and sexualized attacks on their competence, credibility, and right to lead. IPU's 2025 study on *Sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in the Asia-Pacific region* found that 60% of women MPs surveyed had faced online hate speech, disinformation, image-based abuse, or doxing. Non-consensual

intimate imagery, including AI-generated deepfakes, is one of the clearest examples of this shift: UN Women reports that 98% of deepfake videos online are pornographic, with women accounting for 99% of those targeted. The IPU's 2026 parliamentary action guide *Combating non-consensual intimate imagery* cites research showing that a convincing deepfake can now be produced from around 20 photographs in 15 minutes. This violence compounds the existing barriers to women's political representation at a moment when progress on parity has nearly stalled: women hold just 27.5% of seats in national parliaments worldwide, only 2 percentage points higher than five years ago.

The session aims to focus on the following objectives:

- Build a shared understanding of how AI is changing the scale, speed, and reach of technology-facilitated violence against women in politics, and what this means for parity in political representation
- Identify priorities parliaments can act on directly: legislation, oversight, budget, institutional protection and leadership, grounded in a human-rights-based, gender-responsive, and intersectional approach
- Define where parliaments, governments, tech platforms, civil society, victim support services and academia can coordinate more closely, including across jurisdictions

Guiding Questions / Table discussion

- HOW AI SHAPES VAWiP: What forms of online gender-based violence or AI-enabled harm have you or your colleagues encountered, and how has it affected political participation or willingness to run for office?
- WHAT WORKS: What legislative, institutional or regulatory measures have worked in your country to prevent or respond to online abuse against women in public life?
- THE WAY FORWARD, TOGETHER: How do parliaments, businesses, tech platforms, and civil society need to work together differently to close current gaps in protection and accountability? What is missing from national and global AI governance to address these gaps?
- MY POWER: What is one concrete commitment you could bring back to your parliament/constituency from this conversation?

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