



Mr. D. Pacheco (Portugal) **Vision for the IPU**

Dear friends,

My name is Duarte Pacheco, and I am 54 years old. I am an economist, and I am married with two children. I have been a Member of Parliament since 1991, and a Member of the Bureau of the Assembly of the Republic since 1995.

I have been part of the Portuguese Delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union since 2002, and I have headed it since 2015.

I have been actively involved in the life of our Organisation – in General Assemblies, Seminars and Conferences. Over time, I have taken on different positions within the IPU – as Vice-President of the 1st Committee; Internal Auditor – four times via election by the Governing Council; Member of the Resolution Drafting Committee; Speaker and Moderator in several panels; and Chair of the Geopolitical Group for four years.

I have done my best to serve and honour the Inter-Parliamentary Union in every position I have held. In a spirit of dialogue between all, seeking to unite continents and countries, through the possible consensus to protect the core values of our Organisation.

When, according to the rotation principle, it was the Geopolitical Group's turn to lead the IPU, I accepted this challenge of standing for President of the IPU.

I am standing for the Presidency because:

1st – I believe in the IPU, in the values of democracy, the rule of law, the respect for Human Rights, and the defence of the participation of women and young people in politics.

2nd – I believe that I can further strengthen our Organisation by building bridges between countries, peoples and continents to address the problems facing the world – poverty, terrorism, migration, climate change, but also local conflicts that cause so much suffering to millions of people.



3rd – I believe that with management close to each of you and, taking advantage of the new technologies that the current pandemic has proved to be at our disposal, it is possible to give more visibility and more transparency to the Organisation itself.

It is going to be an enormous challenge, proportionate to the times we are experiencing, and where we are required to reinvent ourselves every day to keep working and winning.

But I believe that with my political experience, knowledge and working ability combined with the humility to realise that I do not know everything and that only in joint work will it be possible to achieve what we want – a stronger and more powerful IPU in the international sphere.

Over the past few weeks, I have spoken to many of you. I am thankful for all your comments, criticisms and suggestions. They have enriched me personally, and they have enriched this project.

I am thankful for all the support I received – from the Geopolitical Group to which I belong, the 12+, but also from the Latin American political group, and from so many Arab countries and the Asian and African continents.

I am especially thankful for the support of all the Portuguese-speaking countries, culture and blood brothers, with whom we share history, present and future.

And, dear friends,

Thank you for your support.

I believe in this victory.

This will be the IPU's victory, for together we are stronger.