



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Regional Seminar on the Sustainable Development Goals for the Parliaments of Central and Eastern Europe

Building strong foundations for sustainable development



CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES
ROMANIA

18 and 19 April 2016
Bucharest
Palace of Parliament
Human Rights Hall

PROGRAMME

Monday **18 April 2016**

9.30 a.m. **Registration**

10.00 a.m. **Opening session: Introduction by Mr. László Borbély**, MP, Chairperson of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Chamber of Deputies

Welcoming remarks by:

- **Mr. Valeriu Ștefan Zgonea**, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of Romania
- **Mr. Călin Popescu Țăriceanu**, President of the Senate, Parliament of Romania
- **Mr. Saber Chowdhury**, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

10:45 a.m. **Group photo**

11.00 a.m. **Session I: The role of parliaments in achieving the SDGs**

The session will introduce the SDGs and their targets. It will present the steps that are already taking place throughout the world and across the region to implement the Goals. It will also examine the practical steps parliaments take and can take to integrate the SDGs into their work and the way they function. As part of this session, the participants will be invited to report on the work their parliaments have already conducted to engage with the SDGs since the first Regional Seminar in June 2015.

- **Moderator: Mr. Saber Chowdhury**, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Speakers:

- **Mr. Jan Dusik**, Director and Regional Representative, UNEP Regional Office for Europe
- **Ms. Petra Bayr**, Member of Parliament, Austria
- **Ms. Stefanie Dannenmann-Di Palma**, Programme Officer, UNISDR Europe

Debate

12.30 p.m. **Coffee Break**

12.45 p.m. **Session II: Governance and partnerships for the SDG**

This session will introduce SDG 16, which highlights the importance of effective institutions, governance, inclusion, participation, rights and security in order to achieve sustainable development. It will also discuss ways to enhance citizen engagement on the SDGs and establish effective partnerships to further strengthen parliamentary contributions to the implementation of the goals.

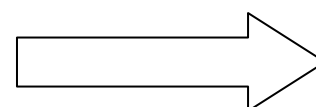
- **Moderator: Mr. Iulian Iancu**, Chairperson of the Committee for Industries of the Chamber of Deputies

Speakers:

- **Ms. Anda Filip**, Director, Member Parliaments and External Relations, IPU
- **Ms. Julia Keutgen**, Programme Specialist on Parliamentary Development, UNDP

Debate

1.45 p.m.	<i>Lunch offered by Mr. Augustin-Constantin Mitu, Vice-President of the Senate of Romania Venue: Rustic Restaurant</i>
3.00 p.m.	<p>Session III: Achieving sustainable environmental protection through the SDGs</p> <p>A number of SDGs¹ aim to achieve a sustainable environment through targets on climate change, disaster risk reduction, green energy, etc. The first Regional Seminar identified environmental security risk as one of the priority areas for parliamentary engagement in the region. This session will present prevention and mitigation measures that stem from the SDGs and other relevant frameworks, and will discuss concrete steps that can be taken by parliaments to advance work in this area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr. Victor Paul Dobre, Chairperson of the Public Administration Territorial Planning of the Chamber of Deputies <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. János Zlinszky, Director, Sustainable Development Academy, Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe - Ms. Cristiana Pașca-Palmer, Minister of Environment, Waters and Forests, Romania - Mr. Saber Chowdhury, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union <p>Debate</p>
5.00 p.m.	<p>Launch of a stamp issue dedicated to the 125th anniversary of the Romanian Parliament's membership of the IPU</p> <p>and</p> <p>Opening of photo exhibition marking the 125th anniversary of the Inter-Parliamentary Union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderator: Mr. László Borbély, Chairperson of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Chamber of Deputies <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Valeriu Ștefan Zgonea, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of Romania - Mr. Saber Chowdhury, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
5.15 p.m.	Anniversary joint plenary sitting of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate; Adoption of a Declaration on the Sustainable Development Goals
6.00 p.m.	<i>Return to the hotel</i>
7.30 p.m.	<i>Dinner offered by Mr. László Borbély, Chairperson of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Chamber of Deputies Venue: Jarișea Restaurant</i>



¹Goal 7: Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all; Goal 13: Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts; Goal 14: Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development; and Goal 15: Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity.

9.30 a.m.

Session IV: Creating a culture of prevention: education as a critical precondition for a sustainable environment

Education in sustainable development means including key sustainable development issues into teaching and learning environments. Those issues include climate change, disaster risk reduction and sustainable consumption but also encompass gender equality and citizen participation. Such education also requires methods that motivate and empower citizens of all ages to change their behaviour and to take action in order to support sustainable development. The session will discuss how parliaments can ensure improved education in sustainable development and contribute to stronger and more informed citizen engagement. The participants will also be invited to share their experiences and innovative ways of working, as well as challenges that their parliaments have encountered in dealing with this issue.

- **Moderator: Ms. Ecaterina Andronescu**, Chairperson of the Committee on Education, Science, Youth and Sports of the Senate of Romania

Speakers:

- **Mr. Adrian Curaj**, Minister of National Education and Scientific Research, Romania
- **Mr. Alexander Leicht**, Chief of Section, Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship, UNESCO
- **Ms. Lavinia Andrei**, President of the Terra Mileniul III
- **Mr. Pierre Chapsal**, Associate Professor, Jean Moulin University Lyon 3, Associate Director, Cabinet Horizon Public

Debate

11.30 a.m.

Coffee Break

12.00 p.m.

Session V: Summary of the seminar, next steps and closing session

This session will provide an opportunity for a general discussion of lessons learned from the seminar, next steps and follow-up actions. It will also reflect on strategies to mobilize a larger group of parliamentarians around the SDGs and their implementation.

Moderators:

- **Mr. László Borbély**, MP, Chairperson of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Chamber of Deputies
- **Mr. Saber Chowdhury**, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Debate

12.30 p.m.

*Tour of the Palace of Parliament
Return to hotel*