



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Regional Conference for Central and Eastern Europe
"Making laws work to end violence against women and girls"
Bucharest, 12 – 14 June 2017



Dear Madam Speaker,
Dear Mr. Speaker,

We have pleasure in inviting your parliament to the Regional Conference for Central and Eastern Europe on *Making laws work to end violence against women and girls*, which will be held from 12 to 14 June 2017 in Bucharest, Romania. This event is being organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Romanian Chamber of Deputies along with Global Rights for Women and Vital Voices.

The Conference will bring together parliamentarians, NGO advocates and legal government officials who are responsible in their country for creating, adopting or implementing laws on domestic and sexual violence. It is intended to empower these different groups to work together to adopt and effectively implement laws that combat violence against women, prioritizing both victim safety and offender accountability. The Conference builds on multi-sectoral cooperation as a prerequisite to ensuring that women are protected and free from violence and that offenders are held accountable.

Your parliament may send up to three participants from both sexes and reflecting the political representation within parliament. Ideally designated parliamentarians should be persons working directly on gender equality and violence against women issues in parliament. We also encourage your parliament to include in its delegation a legal government official – i.e. law enforcement, prosecutor, judge - who has played a role in implementing laws on ending violence against women.

Non-governmental organizations that are part of Global Rights for Women and Vital Voices' network will also be invited to send participants, consisting of NGO staff and legal government officials that have worked together to improve the response to violence against women in their country.

We are pleased to attach an information note and registration and hotel forms, which should be completed and returned to the Romanian Chamber of Deputies with copy to the IPU Secretariat by **15 May 2017**. We will send you a draft agenda soon. Further information about the conference will be posted on <http://www.ipu.org/splz-e/Bucharest17.htm> as soon as it becomes available.

We look forward to hearing from you, and remain,

Martin Chungong
IPU Secretary General

Nicolae-Liviu Dragnea
President of the Chamber of Deputies of
Romania