



Inter Pares Partnership with the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan

ACTIVITIES:

▶ Priority 1. Budget Processes

- On December 12, 2023, an **exchange session on Open and Participatory Budgeting** highlighted good practices in transparent, accountable and participatory budgeting. The session engaged the Uzbek Senate, **Czech** and **Lithuanian** parliaments, and two Lithuanian municipalities, who showcased citizen participation practices in municipal budget planning.
- On January 26, 2024, an **exchange session on Green Budgeting** engaged the Oliy Majlis and the **French** National Assembly. The session focused on the concept, key principles and methodologies for effective engagement of parliaments in green budgeting.
- On January 29, 2024, an **exchange session** was organised on **Annual Budget Setting**. It focused on aligning budgets with national priorities and the role of parliaments at the budget formation stage. The participants shared practices in the functioning of independent financial institutions (IFIs). The session engaged parliaments and IFIs from Uzbekistan, **France**, **Hungary** and **Lithuania**.
- On 15-16 April 2024, a **two-day online workshop on Budgetary Data Analysis and Communication** engaged Uzbek, **Czech** and **Lithuanian** parliaments. The participants explored different tools and techniques in conducting budgetary analysis. The Czech Parliamentary Institute showcased its analytical products, such as Research Paper on Budget Structure, policy briefs, forecasting reports, evaluation studies and other.

▶ Priority 2. E-Parliament

- On December 13, 2023, the IT experts from Uzbekistan, **France** and **Hungary** met in an **online session to discuss Digital Tools and Applications** in the work of parliaments. The participants exchanged experiences in the digitalization processes and showcased different applications and e-platforms that support MPs and administration in their daily work.
- On March 7, 2024, the **Lithuanian** IT experts presented an **e-committee tool** - a unique platform introduced in the Seimas which supports transparent and efficient work of committees. During the online session, the Uzbek and Lithuanian participants also shared experiences with transitioning to 'paperless parliaments'. The exchange continued during the January 2024 study visit to the Seimas (see p.2).
- On March 14, 2024, the Uzbek staff members discussed with their **French** and Hungarian colleagues the experiences with the **digitization of archives, e-libraries and developing of websites and mobile applications**.
- On April 25, 2024, an **exchange session on Integrated lawmaking systems and e-legislative systems** showcased three innovative platforms - *Project.gov.uz* in Uzbekistan, *ParLex* in **Hungary** and *e-seimas.lrs.lt* in **Lithuania** - which store and allow the tracking of all data related to legislation, from its initiation to adoption and provide opportunities for citizens to send legislative initiatives.

▶ Priority 3. Gender Equality

- On 17 May 2025, the Chairs and members of the **Gender Committees of the Uzbek Senate and the German Bundestag met in an online Bilateral Meeting** to present legislative frameworks and policies promoting gender equality and women's political participation in both countries. They exchanged insights about the work of their committees with the focus on gender equality and mainstreaming activities. The session was followed by an in-person workshop in Brussels, in April 2025 (see p.2).

▶ Priority 4. Youth Participation

- On 15 December 2023, an online **exchange session on Youth Parliaments** explored different modalities of youth/model parliaments in Uzbekistan, **Cyprus** and **Slovak Republic** - with a focus on their legal status, organizational structure and funding opportunities. The youth parliaments shared insights into their priorities, functions and cooperation mechanisms with the national parliaments. The exchange was followed by an in-person workshop in Tashkent, in July 2024 (see p.2).

PRIORITIES:

1. Budget Processes
2. E-Parliament
3. Gender Equality
4. Youth Participation

OUTCOMES:

- ✔ A total of 14 exchange sessions and workshops – both online and in person – were organized.
- ✔ The MPs & staff of the Oliy Majlis engaged in peer-to-peer exchanges with 9 different EU national parliaments and the European Parliament.
- ✔ Mutual learning: Members and staff from the Oliy Majlis and EU national parliaments learnt good practices from each other.
- ✔ A *Key takeaways document* was produced as a result of the youth workshop in Tashkent.
- ✔ Participants of online and in-person exchanges provided positive feedback about different events:

"The direct exchange of information and experience with responsible staff of the parliament was highly effective."

"This approach fosters idea exchange, and I strongly support collaboration with colleagues in EU."

"It was interesting to know how youth parliaments in EU engages with young people in the democratic process and provides them with a platform to voice their opinions and concerns."

PARTNERSHIP HIGHLIGHTS:

Parliaments & Youth: From Representation to Engagement & Participation

Tashkent, Uzbekistan
9-10 July 2024

On 9-10 July 2024, a **two-day workshop on Parliaments and Youth: From Representation to Engagement and Participation**, was hosted by the Senate of Uzbekistan, in Tashkent. The event gathered parliamentary and youth representatives from **Uzbekistan**, and from **Cyprus, Czech Republic, Germany** and **Slovakia** (a total of 17 participants).



The workshop explored different concepts of youth representation, engagement and participation: from guided and virtual school tours to teaching materials, specialised university programmes and discussed the increasingly important role of social media and digital tools. Participants also exchanged knowledge on institutional mechanisms available in parliaments to promote youth engagement in legislative, budgeting and/or oversight activities - to ensure that the youth voices are heard and reflected in national policies and decision-making processes.

As a result of the workshop, Inter Pares produced a **Key Takeaways document – Eight Insights for parliaments for promoting meaningful youth participation** – of general relevance to all parliaments seeking to enhance youth engagement.

Digital Transformation in Parliaments:

Study Visit to the Lithuanian Seimas

Vilnius, Lithuania
29-31 January 2025

From 29 to 31 January 2025, four staff members of the Oliy Majlis participated in a **study visit to the Lithuanian Seimas**. The visit focused on enhancing e-parliament systems, building upon previous exchanges between the parliaments of Uzbekistan, Lithuania and other EUMSPs addressing topics of digital transformation in parliaments



The visit covered modernization of parliamentary business processes; exploring IT solutions to track laws from their initiation to adoption and publication; e-committee tools - a digital platform for transparent and efficient functioning of parliamentary committees; digital tools to ensure public engagement in legislative processes; e-archives; cybersecurity & AI-driven innovations.

The participants engaged in peer-to-peer exchanges with Seimas representatives, discussing best practices for transparency, efficiency, and citizen engagement. The visit helped to explore insights into parliamentary digitalization strategies and practical ways to advance e-parliament solutions in Uzbekistan.

Workshops on Budget Processes & Gender-Sensitive Parliaments

Concluding Event

Brussels, Belgium
28-30 April 2025

In April 2025, Inter Pares concluded its partnership with the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan through a **three-day event held in Brussels**, from 28 to 29 April. Different days of the workshop were hosted at the Belgian Senate, Belgian Chamber of Representatives, and the European Parliament.



The event brought together Members and staff from the Oliy Majlis (10 participants), **European Parliament, Belgian Federal Parliament, Czech Chamber of Deputies, German Bundestag, Lithuanian Seimas and Italian Senate**.

The workshop focused on:

- ◆ The Role of Parliaments in Budget Formation and Implementation, and
- ◆ Gender-sensitive Parliaments

The participants engaged in rich and wide-ranging discussions – from exploring parliamentary tools for budget scrutiny and oversight, to mechanisms how to advance gender equality and women's rights, mainstream gender across core parliamentary functions and highlight policy-level decisions to combat gender-based violence.

At the end of the workshop, the Uzbek delegation engaged in a brief gender audit exercise to assess gender sensitive approaches in their parliament, identifying both achievements as well as opportunities for further improvement.

EU NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS:



Cyprus House of Representatives - **Czech** Chamber of Deputies - **French** National Assembly
German Bundestag - **Hungarian** National Assembly - **Lithuanian** Seimas - **Slovak** National Council