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Dear colleagues, we are pleased to share with you **the second edition of the INTER PARES newsletter**. [Message from the team](#)

The banner is framed by a dashed orange border. At the top, it features logos for the European Parliament, European Partnership for Democracy, European Endowment for Democracy, ENOP (European Network of Political Foundations), IDEA, and Carnegie Europe. The main text on the left reads "Democracy Week 14-17 September 2020" in white, followed by a thick yellow horizontal bar and the text "Overcoming Adversity, Innovating Democracy" in white. On the right, a network diagram of orange circles with icons (a magnifying glass, a person, a document, a gear, a megaphone, a laptop, and a person) is shown. Below the diagram, the text "#DemocracyWeek2020" and "Join us for the online event series" is displayed in white.

On 14 to 17 September, on the occasion of the [International Day of Democracy on 15 September](#), INTER PARES co-organised a series of events together with our parent organization [International IDEA](#), [European Endowment for Democracy \(EED\)](#), [European Partnership for Democracy \(EPD\)](#), [European Network of Political](#)

[Foundations \(ENoP\)](#) and [Carnegie Europe](#). The Democracy Week was hosted by [the European Parliament](#). The webinars focused on the repercussions of the pandemic on democracy and fundamental freedoms. The concluding INTER PARES event addressed the topic of the future of virtual parliaments.

[Recordings of the sessions are available on the official #DemocracyWeek2020 Youtube Channel](#)

Partnerships

During the summer months, we continued to adapt our peer-to-peer partnership activities given the travel restrictions and to implement revised activities wherever possible through virtual means. [Learn more about the partnerships](#)

AGORA

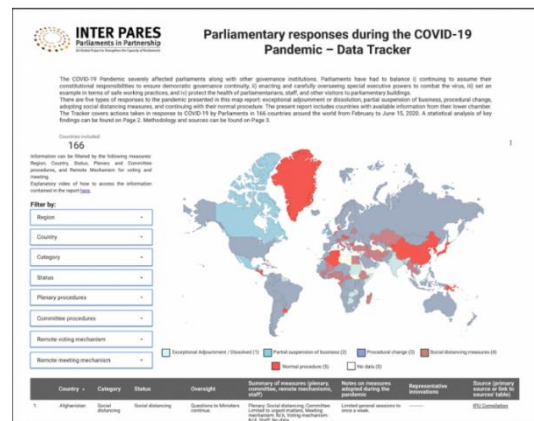
The INTER PARES project supports several knowledge platforms, including the AGORA Portal for Parliamentary Development. [Learn more about the recent updates](#)



In April, during the lockdown, the European Parliament welcomed a group of women (homeless, migrants, but also victims of gender-based violence, and refugees) in one of its buildings in Brussels that was temporarily unused as staff were working from home. [Read some of their stories on our website](#)

[INTER PARES Parliamentary responses during the COVID-19 Pandemic – Data Tracker](#)

The INTER PARES team has conducted a global mapping of parliaments' different responses to the coronavirus pandemic, collecting and comparing open-source data from 166 parliaments around the world from February to June 15, 2020.



[Please click here to access the Parliamentary responses during the COVID-19 Pandemic Data Tracker](#)

Podcast Mini-series

The second episode of the INTER PARES podcast on virtual parliaments features interviews with **Dr Andy Williamson**, Centre for Innovation in Parliament, Inter-Parliamentary Union; **Mohamed Hussain**, People's Majlis ICT Director and **Hassan Ziyau**, People's Majlis Director of Media and Communication, the People's Majlis, the Parliament of the Republic of the Maldives; **Georgian Ghervasie**, Director of Communications at the Romanian Senate and **Carlo Papuc** IT Director at the Romanian Senate, on how the Romanian Parliament. The podcast is hosted by Ingrid Walker, Programme Officer at INTER PARES. [Read more on the INTER PARES Website](#); [Listen on iTunes](#), and [Spotify](#).

INTER PARES IDD2020 Session

"Are virtual
parliaments here
to stay?"

17.09.2020

Watch the recording on
#IDD2020
Youtube channel

Watch the recording on
INTER PARES
Youtube channel

INTER PARES Live Stream:

"Parliamentary
response to the
pandemic and the
importance of
oversight"

30.06.2020

Staff update



Polina Gereichuk



Anais Ortega



Katie Lynch



Linnea Bernö



Gary Klaukka

We would like to use this opportunity to thank our hardworking interns and to welcome the new Senior Programme Officer - Gary Klaukka. [Read more](#)

In order to receive weekly updates from the INTER PARES team, we encourage you to follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#)



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