



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For justice.



To all IPU Groups

Geneva, 19 February 2026

Dear Madam/Mr. President,  
Dear Madam/Mr. Speaker,

We are pleased to invite your Parliament to the 2026 IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians, to be held in Belgrade, Republic of Serbia, from 2 to 4 June 2026. The title of the Conference is ***Advancing parity: Breaking the barriers of gender stereotypes and negative social norms.*** The Conference is being jointly organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia.

The IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians is a unique platform for women members of parliament to get together, exchange ideas, learn from each other, and define common and innovative strategies to advance gender equality and women's rights and empowerment. It will include a variety of interactive panels and working group sessions and will address topical issues in a bid to provide gender-responsive policy orientation. Delegations are therefore encouraged to come prepared with examples of good practices to share with their colleagues.

Building on the Plan of Action on gender parity in parliament adopted at the 2025 IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians held in Mexico and endorsed in October 2025 by the IPU Governing Council, the Conference will focus on stereotypes and social norms that hinder women's political participation and leadership and challenge gender parity in parliament. Participants will be invited to identify stereotypes and negative social norms on women in politics, analyse how such norms shape attitudes, perceptions and systems that perpetuate women's political exclusion, and explore how to address such stereotypes and social norms and transform them towards a culture of parity.

We are pleased to invite you to send a delegation of up to four members of parliament, including one male MP and at least one young woman MP (under 40), to attend the Conference.

Registration can be completed [here](#). Additional documents related to the Conference are available on the Conference website [here](#). We would be grateful if you could complete your Parliament's registration by **Friday, 22 May 2026**.

We look forward to welcoming a delegation of your Parliament to the Republic of Serbia.

Martin Chungong  
Secretary General  
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Ana Brnabić  
President  
National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
Interparlamentarna Unija



## IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians

*Advancing parity: Breaking the barriers of gender stereotypes and negative social norms*

2 to 4 June 2026, Belgrade, Serbia

### Provisional programme

#### Monday, 1 June

- Arrival of delegations to Belgrade
- 09:00–18:00 Registration of delegates
- 20:00–22:00 **Gala dinner, Atlantic-Pacific Hall, Hotel Crowne Plaza** (*See [here](#)*)

#### Tuesday, 2 June

- 09:30–10:30 **Opening ceremony**  
Welcome address  
Ms. Ana Brnabić, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia  
Opening remarks  
- Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the IPU  
- Representative of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia  
- Dr. Tulia Ackson (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the IPU  
Keynote address  
*From Mexico to Belgrade: Pursuing the path to parity*  
Ms. Cynthia López Castro (Mexico), Senator and President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians
- 10:30–10:45 **Group photo**
- 10:45–11:00 **Coffee break**
- 11:00–13:00 **Session 1**  
**Unpacking barriers to parity: Stereotypes and negative social norms in the spotlight**  
Participants will take stock of advancements in attaining parity, including through the implementation of the IPU Plan of action for gender parity in parliaments and will focus on stereotypes and negative norms that shape women's political journeys and hinder their progress towards parity. They will share experiences and good practices developed in their own national contexts to combat such stereotypes and norms. Through experience sharing and common reflection, they will identify means and strategies to overcoming stereotypes and norms that limit women's political participation and leadership.  
Keynote address by a special guest  
Panel discussion  
Sharing of views, experiences and good practices by participants
- 13:00–14:30 **Lunch break**

- 14:30–16:00 **Session 2**  
**Advancing parity through diversity: Zoom on intersecting stereotypes and norms**  
 Participants will discuss how gender stereotypes can intersect and impact disproportionately women of different age groups, ethnicity, indigeneity, with disabilities, migration or other status, and their access to parliament and other political leadership and decision-making roles. Participants will reflect on how intersecting stereotypes affect women's political pathways and parliamentary experience and policymaking. They will consider approaches to ensure that efforts to dismantle stereotyping benefit all women.  
 Keynote address by a special guest  
 Panel discussion  
 Sharing of views, experiences and good practices by participants
- 16:00–16:15 **Coffee break**
- 16:15–17:30 **Session 3**  
**Working together against stereotypes and negative norms**  
 Breakout groups  
 Four breakout groups will meet simultaneously. Participants will sign up to join the group of their choice among the four listed below. Each group can include about 50 participants. Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic in each group. Each group will be led by organizations that work towards gender equality and women's empowerment, including jointly with the IPU. In each group, participants will learn about the topic under consideration, share their views and experiences, and identify ways forward to address stereotypes and negative social norms limiting women's political participation.  
*Group 1: Engaging men and boys against stereotypes and negative social norms*  
*Group 2: Advancing equality in the law to address stereotypes and negative social norms*  
*Group 3: Combatting stereotypes in line with the CEDAW Convention*  
*Group 4: Training on combatting social norms limiting women's participation in parliament*
- 17:30–18:00 **Conclusions and key takeaways from the working groups of the day**  
 Reporting in plenary  
 Participants will be back in plenary to hear reports from the breakout groups.

### Wednesday, 3 June

- 09:00–11:00 **Session 4**  
**Challenging online stereotypes, violence and disinformation against women in politics**  
 Participants will explore how stereotypes and negative social norms against women's political participation and leadership are prevalent on social media and online platforms. They will discuss how such stereotypes and norms against women in politics manifest themselves through online gender-based violence, including sexualized attacks, stereotypical portrayals, disinformation, misinformation, algorithmic biases and widespread narratives reinforcing traditional roles. They will discuss means to address these issues through collective efforts such as through the promotion of respectful discourse, challenges to harmful stereotypes and support to the voices of women in politics online.  
 Keynote address by a special guest  
 Panel discussion  
 Sharing of views, experiences and good practices by participants
- 11:00–11:15 **Coffee break**
- 11:15–13:00 **Session 5**  
**Gender-sensitive parliaments advancing societies free from stereotypes**  
 Participants will put parliamentary rules, practices and culture under the lens to share good practices and tested solutions on making parliaments more gender-sensitive

institutions free from stereotypes, discrimination and violence against women, in line with the IPU Plan of action for gender-sensitive parliaments. They will also focus their discussions on combatting stereotypes in society through their functions of oversight, legislation and budgeting.

Panel discussion

Sharing of views, experiences and good practices by participants

13:00–14:30

**Lunch**

14:30–15:30

**Session 6**

**Leadership and culture change to combat stereotypes: Learning from other sectors**

Leaders from different sectors, including sports, the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education disciplines, and the media will share how they confront entrenched stereotypes and the persisting resistance to change, and how they work to bring about this change.

Testimonials and messages from changemakers in other sectors

15:30–16:45

**Session 7**

**The Women and Youth Democratic Engagement (WYDE) initiative: Supporting women's political participation and combatting stereotypes and negative norms**

Breakout groups

Four breakout groups will meet simultaneously. Participants will sign up to join the group of their choice among the four listed below. Each group can include about 50 participants. Simultaneous interpretation will be available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic in each group. In each group, participants will learn about the topic under consideration, share their views and experiences, and identify ways forward to address stereotypes and negative social norms limiting women's political participation. The four groups will be led by the partners in the European Union funded WYDE/WPP initiative: UN Women, International IDEA, the IPU, and United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG).

*Group 1: Men and women working together against stereotypes and negative social norms*

*Group 2: Intergenerational cooperation challenging stereotypes and negative social norms*

*Group 3: Combatting sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament*

*Group 4: Training on combatting social norms limiting women's participation in parliament*

16:45–17:00

**Coffee break**

17:00–17:30

**Conclusions and key takeaways from the working groups of the day**

Reporting in plenary

Participants will be back in plenary to hear short reports from the breakout groups.

17:30–18:00

**Closing session**

Presentation and adoption of the Conference outcome document

- A man/woman co-Rapporteur (MP from Serbia)

- A man/woman co-Rapporteur (MP from another participating parliament)

Closing speeches

- Dr. Tulia Ackson (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the IPU

- Representative of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia

**Thursday, 4 June**

**Cultural visit**

Visit to Danube and Golubac Fortress

**Lunch**

**Departure of delegates**



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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**GALA DINNER  
2026 GLOBAL CONFERENCE OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS  
(Belgrade, Serbia, 1 June 2026)**

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia will organize a gala dinner on 1 June, prior to the **2026 Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians**, which will be held from 2 to 4 June 2026 in Belgrade.

**Venue:** Atlantic-Pacific Hall (Hotel Crowne Plaza)

**Date:** 1 June 2026

**Time:** 20:00 – 22:00

**Programme:** Short address, choir, national dance.

**Dress code:** Formal

**Participants:** Members of national delegations (members of national parliaments, secretaries, advisors), officials and special guests.

**Transportation:** Shuttle buses will be provided from official hotels before and after dinner.

Additional detailed information regarding the gala dinner will be shared in due course.

In the meantime, we invite you to notify us of your participation via the online registration form available at [this link](#).

We look forward to welcoming your parliamentary delegation to Belgrade.

\* \* \* \* \*

**DÎNER DE GALA  
CONFÉRENCE MONDIALE DES FEMMES PARLEMENTAIRES  
(Belgrade, Serbie, 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2026)**

L'Assemblée nationale de la République de Serbie, organisera un dîner de gala le 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2026, avant le début de la **Conférence mondiale des femmes parlementaires** qui se tiendra à Belgrade, du 2 au 4 juin 2026.

**Lieu:** Atlantic-Pacific Hall (Hôtel Crown Plaza)

**Date :** 1<sup>er</sup> juin 2026

**Heure :** 20 h 00-22 h 00

**Programme :** brève allocution, chorale, danse nationale.

**Code vestimentaire :** tenue habillée.

**Participants :** membres des délégations nationales (membres des parlements nationaux, secrétaires, conseillers), officiels et invités spéciaux.

**Transport :** des navettes seront mises à disposition depuis les hôtels officiels avant et après le dîner.

Des informations détaillées concernant le dîner de gala vous seront envoyés dès que possible.

En attendant, nous vous invitons à confirmer votre participation via l'inscription en ligne disponible au moyen de ce [lien](#).

Nous nous réjouissons d'accueillir votre délégation parlementaire à Belgrade.



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone



## IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians

### *Advancing parity: Breaking the barriers of gender stereotypes and negative social norms*

2-4 June 2026, Belgrade, Serbia.

### General information note

The Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians (GCWP) will be held from 2 to 4 June 2026 in Belgrade under the theme: ***Advancing parity: Breaking the barriers of gender stereotypes and negative social norms.***

The GWCP working sessions will be conducted on 2 and 3 June 2026 at the Sava Center. On 4 June 2026, a cultural programme will be organized by the Host Parliament.

#### PARTICIPATION

All IPU Member Parliaments are invited to send a delegation of four members of parliament, including one male MP and at least one young woman MP (under 40 years old) to attend the Conference. Bicameral parliaments can register up to eight MPs (both Chambers), including two male MPs (one from each chamber) and at least two young women MPs (under 40 years old, one from each chamber) to attend the Conference. Parliaments are invited to send a maximum of one parliamentary staff member.

The IPU Associate Members are invited to send a delegation of up to two representatives. Gender-balanced delegations are encouraged.

IPU permanent observers who work on women-related matters as well as a select number of international and regional women's associations and organizations, and parliamentary assemblies and associations are invited to take part in the Conference. Permanent observers and selected organizations and associations should be represented by a maximum of two representatives. Gender-balanced delegations are encouraged.

#### OPENING CEREMONY

The opening ceremony of the IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians will be held on Tuesday, 2 June 2026, from 10:00 to 11:30 at the Sava Center. It will be hosted by the Speaker of National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, Ms. Ana Brnabić (*tbc*).

#### ORGANIZATION OF PROCEEDINGS

In keeping with standard IPU practice, all delegates will have equal speaking rights. In order to ensure that the discussions are as vibrant, dynamic and respectful as possible, the following rules will apply:

- There will be no advance list of speakers on any agenda item. Chairs of Conference sessions will draw up a list of speakers from among the participants who request the floor at the beginning of a particular discussion segment. Session Chairs will endeavour to ensure gender and regional diversity among the speakers selected.

- Participants are asked not to read out prepared statements, but rather to engage naturally in lively discussions. Subject to arrangements that the Chairs of sessions may make depending on the circumstances, oral contributions may not exceed three minutes. Participants may speak several times on each item, particularly in response to other statements yet should avoid pursuing the matter in the form of a dialogue.
- Participants shall not engage in abusive language that is defamatory, intolerant, sexist, racist, xenophobic, or that incites hatred and violence. The Chairs of sessions shall have the prerogative to call a speaker to order when the latter does not keep to the subject under discussion or prejudices the debate by using abusive, discriminatory or hateful language. If the disturbance continues, or if a further offence is committed, the speaker may be denied the right to continue to speak. The Chair may decide to deactivate the speaker's microphone.

#### LANGUAGES AND INTERPRETATION

English and French are the official working languages of the IPU. Nonetheless, simultaneous interpretation will be available into and from Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

The National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia will provide a simultaneous interpreting system (SIS). A limited number of additional interpretation booths will be made available on a first-come, first-served basis for national delegations who wishes to bring their own team of interpreters. Potential booth rental costs and interpreters' fees will be covered by the delegations who will book the booths.

The additional interpretation booths will be located in the main conference room.

#### REGISTRATION

Parliaments and organizations invited to the Conference are requested to fill in the Conference registration form no later than **Friday, 22 May 2026**. Delegates can indicate in this registration form whether they will participate or not in the cultural visit organized by the Host Parliament scheduled for 4 June 2026.

Kindly be advised that **registrations made after this date will not be guaranteed**.

Any questions for the IPU and the Host Parliament should be addressed to the emails below:

<u>Inter-Parliamentary Union</u>	<u>National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia</u>
Ms. Marie-Graziella Nguini Senior Assistant Gender Partnership Programme Address : Chemin du Pommier, 5 1218 Grand Saconnex Switzerland Email: <a href="mailto:mgm@ipu.org">mgm@ipu.org</a> CC/to: <a href="mailto:postbox@ipu.org">postbox@ipu.org</a> Tel.: +41 22 919 41 45 or 50	Ms. Jovana Novaković Advisor Foreign Affairs Department National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia Address: Kralja Milana 14, Belgrade 11000 - Serbia Email: <a href="mailto:jovana.novakovic@parlament.rs">jovana.novakovic@parlament.rs</a> Tel.: +381 11 3026 487 Mob: +381 64 8420 297

## VISAS

To enter the Republic of Serbia, all Conference delegates need to have a passport that is valid for at least six months from the date of arrival. Delegates from some countries or territories may also require a Schengen visa to enter the Republic of Serbia.

All persons attending the Conference should check in good time whether they need a Schengen visa to travel to the Republic of Serbia. Please visit:

<https://welcometosrbia.gov.rs/home> , or contact your closest diplomatic representative office of the Republic of Serbia.

The following are the options to apply for a Schengen visa to enter the Republic of Serbia:

The Government of the Republic of Serbia adopted the Decision on visa free entry to the Republic of Serbia for holders of all types of national passports, other than emergency travel documents and travel documents issued in accordance with international conventions, having a valid Schengen, UK and EU Member States' visa, or visa of the United States of America, and for holders of foreign national passports having residence permit in the countries of the Schengen area, EU or the United States of America.

## HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Delegates will bear the costs of their airfare, accommodation and per diem expenses (subsistence allowance). Hotel accommodation costs will be paid directly to the hotel.

**Deadline for the guaranteed prices is 30 April 2026.** After this date, host cannot guarantee negotiated prices. The price includes:

- \* Bed and breakfast
- \* VAT
- \* Tourist tax

**For the hotel reservation to the officially designated hotels with guaranteed prices, please use exclusively following contacts:**

Mr. Milos Antić, e-mail: [milos.antic@bigblue.rs](mailto:milos.antic@bigblue.rs) ; mobile: +381 64 8272 564.  
Ms. Suzana Tomić, e-mail: [suzana.tomic@bigblue.rs](mailto:suzana.tomic@bigblue.rs) ; mobile: +381 64 8272 552.

### Officially designated Conference hotels:

<b>Hotel Crowne Plaza (4*)</b> <b>Rates:</b> Single room - 205 EUR Double room - 230 EUR <b>Address:</b> Vladimira Popovića 10, Belgrade 11070 <b>Phone:</b> +381 11 2204 004 <b>Distance:</b> Connected with the Conference center
<b>Hotel Hyatt Regency Belgrade (5*)</b> <b>Rates:</b> Standard room: Single - 205 EUR, Double - 215 EUR Regency room: Single - 280 EUR, Double - 290 EUR <b>Address:</b> Milentija Popovića 5, Belgrade 11070 <b>Phone:</b> +381 11 301 1234 <b>Distance:</b>

Walking distance – 7 min (500m)  
Distance by shuttle bus – 2 min

**IN Hotel Belgrade (4\*)**

**Rates:**  
Single room - 165 EUR  
Double room - 185 EUR  
**Address:**  
Bulevar Arsenija Černojevića 56, Belgrade 11070  
**Phone:**  
+381 11 3105 300  
**Distance:**  
Walking distance – 10 min (750m)  
Distance by shuttle bus – 4 min

**Hotel Zijin (4\*)**

**Rates:**  
Superior room: Single - 160 EUR, Double - 185 EUR  
Deluxe room: Single - 190 EUR, Double - 215 EUR  
**Address:**  
Bulevar Mihaila Pupina 10K, Belgrade 11070  
**Phone:**  
+381 11 225 0000  
**Distance:**  
Walking distance – 30 min (2,7 km)  
Distance by shuttle bus – 7 min

**Hotel Mercure Belgrade Excelsior (4\*)**

**Rates:**  
Single room - 115 EUR, Double - 131 EUR  
**Address:**  
Kneza Miloša 5, Belgrade 11000  
**Phone:**  
+381 11 440 2900  
**Distance:**  
Walking distance – 45 min (3,6 km)  
Distance by shuttle bus – 15 min

**Hotel Nobel West (4\*)**

**Rates:**  
Single - 127 EUR  
**Address:**  
Tošin bunar 168a, Belgrade 11070  
**Phone:**  
+381 11 413 7920  
**Distance:**  
Walking distance – 50 min (3,6 km)  
Distance by shuttle bus – 8 min

#### FLIGHTS AND WELCOME SERVICES

Delegates are responsible for arranging and financing their own air travel to the Republic of Serbia. Upon arrival, delegates will be welcomed by staff after exiting the plane and taken to the Official Delegations' Lounge. The Host Parliament Secretariat will provide delegates with ground transfers between the airport and their designated hotels. This service does not include a private car and driver. If you wish to make such arrangements, you may do so at your own expense. The Host Parliament Secretariat will provide transportation between the venues for the planned cultural activities and the Conference venue.

The Host Parliament will set up information counters at the Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport and Sava Center, based on the flight schedules of the delegates attending the Conference. These services will be available from 1 to 5 June 2026.

Please note that transportation will only be provided to delegates staying in the designated hotels listed in the links provided above and not to those staying elsewhere.

#### LOCAL TRANSPORT

The Host Parliament will provide ground transfers between Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport and the designated hotels from 1 to 4 June 2026, including after the cultural visit.

Delegates who require private transport are recommended to contact their respective Embassies in Belgrade or make their own arrangements and bear the cost.

The Host Parliament will provide shuttle buses at the designated hotels for transportation to the venues of the official events as specified in the programme of the Conference. Bus timetables will be made available at the designated hotels.

#### LUNCH

Lunch will be provided on 2 and 3 June 2026 to all delegates at the Sava Center.

#### RECEPTION AND EVENTS

A gala dinner will be organized by the Serbian National Assembly on **1 June 2026**, from **20:00 to 22:00** in the **Atlantic-Pacific Hall of the Hotel Crowne Plaza** (see the note on the gala dinner [here](#)).

The programme of the gala dinner will include a short address and a choral and national dance performance. The dress code is formal. All members of national delegations (parliamentarians, secretaries, advisors) are invited, along with officials and special guests. Shuttle buses will be provided from official designated hotels before and after the gala dinner.

The Serbian National Assembly will organize a visit to Danube and Golubac Fortress on Thursday, 4 June 2026. Lunch will be organized by the Serbian National Assembly. Further details will be provided in due course.

#### HEALTH AND MEDICAL INFORMATION

First aid service will be available at the designated hotels, and the Conference and official event venues. Delegates are responsible for the cost of all personal medical services and must have health insurance prior to arriving in the Republic of Serbia. Coverage must include medical care received at facilities such as hospitals, clinics and doctors' offices.

Individuals under special medical treatment are encouraged to bring sufficient quantities of the medication they need.

It is also important that participants with prescribed medication (medications, prescription glasses, etc.) bring a copy of their prescriptions. Medication should not be placed in checked-in luggage but in carry-on luggage on board the aircraft to avoid any problems resulting from lost or delayed luggage.

## SECURITY

All necessary measures will be taken to ensure the security of all Conference delegates and activities. Participants are required to always wear their ID badges visibly during official events. All lost badges must be reported immediately to the Host Parliament.

Special security check will be provided at the entrance of the Conference venue.

## REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION DESK

The Host Parliament will have an information and registration desk available at the Conference venue and designated Conference hotels, during the following hours:

- 1 June, from 10:00 to 18:00
- 2 June, from 08:00 to 18:00
- 3 June, from 08:00 to 18:00
- 4 June, from 08:00 to 18:00

An information desk will also be made available at the Belgrade Nikola Tesla Airport from 1 to 4 June 2026.

## CLIMATE

The average temperature in Belgrade in June varies between +15°C in the morning and +25°C during the day.

June is statistically one of the rainiest months in Belgrade, with an average of about 13 days with precipitation. It can be expected around 8 hours of sunshine per day.

## CURRENCY

The official currency is the Serbian dinar (RSD) consisting of banknotes and coins. The exchange rate is approximately 1 EUR = 117.41 RSD and 1 USD = 100.31 RSD. Major credit and debit cards are widely accepted. However, it is advisable to carry cash and to ask if credit cards are accepted.

Money can be exchanged at banks or currency exchange bureaus.

## TELECOMMUNICATION

Country code for Serbia is +381.

Mobile phones and 5G networks are operational in Serbia. Mobile coverage is extensive nationwide, with good service quality in urban and most rural areas. International roaming is available, and local prepaid SIM cards can be easily purchased. Free Wi-Fi is also common in hotels, cafés, and public spaces.

## POWER SUPPLY

The power supply in Serbia is 220 volts, 50/60 Hertz. The sockets contain two round pins. If your electric devices operate at a lower voltage, or are equipped with different plug types, you will need a voltage converter/ adapter.

## LOCAL TIME

Standard time zone in Serbia is Central European Time. CET (GMT + 1 hour).

## IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

In Belgrade, emergency telephone numbers are as follows:

- Emergency: 112
- Police: 192
- Fire Department and warning service: 193
- Ambulance: 194