



Ordinary session of the Geopolitical Group of Latin America and the Caribbean to the Inter-Parliamentary Union (GRULAC-IPU) at the 15th IPU Assembly (Geneva, Switzerland, 18 October 2025)

GRULAC met in ordinary session on the afternoon of **Saturday, October 18, 2025**, from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., chaired by the First Vice-President of GRULAC, Senator Lucila Crexell (Argentina), in the absence of the President of GRULAC, Mr. Manzoor Nadir (Guyana), and assisted by the GRULAC Secretariat, Mr. Oscar Piquinela, Secretary General, and Ms. Carina Galvalisi, Secretary. Senator Rojo Edwards (Chile), Second Vice-President of GRULAC, also participated in the proceedings.

Participating Delegations

The following delegations were present at the GRULAC meeting: Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Suriname and Uruguay



The following agenda was considered:



GRULAC ORDINARY SESSION

Saturday, October 18, 2025 (from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.)

Room: Genève , CCV Annex Building

(English interpretation) provided by the IPU)

PRELIMINARY AGENDA¹

Item 1

Welcome remarks by the First Vice-President of GRULAC, Senator Lucila Crexell (Argentina), in her capacity as President of GRULAC

Item 2

Approval of the Agenda of the GRULAC session at the 151st IPU Assembly

Item 3.

Approval of the Minutes of the GRULAC sessions held on the occasion of the 150th IPU Assembly in Tashkent, Uzbekistan (April 2025). These are available on the GRULAC Secretariat website:

www.secretariagrulacuiip.org

Item 4

Report by the Secretariat on various topics of interest to GRULAC.

Item 5

15.45 – 16.00 hours

Receive Mr. Martin Chungong , Secretary General of the IPU, and IPU official Mauricio Huertas (Directorate of External Relations and Relations with Member Parliaments of the IPU)

16.00 – 16.05 hours

Welcoming the Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives, Mr. Milton Dick, on the topic “Youth and democracy, including civic education and social media”.

Item 6

Report of Dr. José Pedro Montero, President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP) on the activities of the ASGP

Item 7

Reports: - Members of the Executive Committee - Members of other statutory bodies of the IPU

Item 8

¹ Updated on October 17, 2025 – 7:30 p.m.

Report of the members of the Board of Directors of the Young Parliamentarians representing GRULAC on the 11th World Conference of Young Parliamentarians, held in Lima, Peru (September 11-13, 2025)

Item 9

Reports of GRULAC members, co -rapporteurs on draft resolutions of Standing Committees:

- Report by Senator Lucila Crexell (Argentina), co -rapporteur of the Draft Resolution of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights, entitled: “ *Recognize and support the victims of illegal international adoption and take measures to prevent this practice* ”
- Report of Senator Rojo Edwards (Chile) co -rapporteur of the Draft Resolution of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development on the topic “ *Building a sustainable and fair global economy: the role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing tax evasion* ” .

Item 10

Report of Senator Sebastián Keitel (Chile) on "The awarding of the Gender Equality Seal to the Senate of the Republic of Chile, making it the first legislative chamber in the world to receive this United Nations accreditation"

Item 11

Report by Prof. Juan de Dios Cincunegui (Austral University, Argentina) and Fotis Fitsilis (Hellenic OCR Team , Greece) on “The Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Parliaments”: (i) General approach: Parliaments facing the emergence of AI; and (ii) Guide for the Use of AI in Parliaments.

The objective of this report is to inform GRULAC Member Parliaments of various areas of advice, cooperation, and support regarding AI for both segments (general approach and use of AI in parliaments) that they can access, including the IPU Parliamentary Innovation Centre, the HOCRT Network, and Bússola. Tech , among others, as well as national parliaments, universities and research centers willing to provide assistance.

Item 12

Examination of the proposal for reform of the GRULAC Regulations, submitted by the GRULAC Secretariat (see Annex)

Item 13

Examination of applications for the inclusion of an urgent item on the Assembly agenda

Thailand presented the urgent item Strengthening parliamentary action against transnational cybercrime, while respecting humanitarian principles

Item 14

Appointment of **2 delegates** to the Drafting Committee of the Emergency Item:

Mrs. Marcela Guerra, Mexico

Mr. Ernesto Bustamante, Peru

Item 15

Vacancies to be filled at the 151st IPU Assembly:

Candidatures to be submitted by GRULAC

1. Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security : 1 vacancy (woman)

- Vacancy left by Ms. A. Rodríguez (Bolivia) for not having attended the Board of Directors meetings

2. Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights : 2 vacancies (male and female)

- **Two vacancies** , which must be filled by at least one man, to replace Mr. A. Gajadien (Suriname), whose term ends at the 151st Assembly, and Ms. MdC . Alva Prieto (Peru), who has been elected to the IPU Executive Committee.
- The following nominations were received:

1- **Paraguay** : María Rocío Abed

2- **Argentina** : Enrique Martín Goerling

3. Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs : 1 vacancy (woman)

- *Note: Senator Lucila Crexell (Argentina), current member of the Bureau, will complete her term as a parliamentarian in December 2025.*
- Valentina Centeno (Ecuador)
- **Rotation of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Standing Committees**
According to the decision of the IPU's governing bodies at the 143rd IPU Assembly (Madrid, November 2021), based on the principles of regional balance and gender parity, the agreed distribution of leadership positions in the Standing Committees for the period 2025-2027 for GRULAC will be as follows:

Standing Committee on Sustainable Development : GRULAC Vice-Presidency – Man

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs : GRULAC President - Women

4. High-Level Advisory Group on counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism : 1 vacancy (male or female)

- A vacancy, which will be filled by a man or a woman, for the position that was not filled at the 150th Assembly .
- **Mr. Asiskumar 's candidacy was received Gajadien (Suriname)**

5. Working Group on Science and Technology: 1 vacancy (male or female)

- A vacancy, to be filled by a man or a woman, to replace the Mrs. S. Nane Vinçon (Uruguay), who ceased to be a member of parliament .

- **Uruguay has nominated Senator Blanca Rodríguez as its candidate.** to replace Ms. Silvia Nane (Uruguay), who ceased to be a member of parliament and who had been elected at the previous Assembly (150th Assembly) in Tashkent in April 2025.

Candidatures to be submitted on an individual basis

6. Committee on Middle East Questions: 1 vacancy (to be filled through competition with other IPU Members)

On 23 October 2025, the Governing Council will elect **one member** for the position that was not filled at the 150th Assembly. Although the composition of this Committee should reflect diverse geopolitical representation, **members of this Committee are elected in their individual capacity, not as representatives of their Parliament or geopolitical group.**

7. Committee on Health: 3 vacancies (to be filled by other IPU Members)

On October 23, 2025, the Governing Council Directors will elect **three members.**

It should be noted that, while the Committee should represent as many geopolitical groups as possible, **its members are elected in their individual capacity based on their interests, expertise in the subject matter, and availability to attend all Committee sessions**, and **not as representatives of their Parliament or geopolitical group**. According to the Committee's Rules of Procedure, no more than eight members should be of the same sex, and the greatest possible number of geopolitical groups should be represented. Given the current composition, nominations from men and from underrepresented geopolitical groups are encouraged.

8. Appointment of two Internal Auditors for the accounts for the financial year 2026: to compete with other IPU Members

On October 23, 2025, the Board of Directors will appoint **two Internal Auditors** for the 2026 fiscal year. They will be required to submit their report to the Governing Council at its first statutory meeting in 2027. Members of Parliament interested in applying for this position should preferably have prior experience on a parliamentary finance or audit committee.

Applications may be submitted until 09:00 hours on Wednesday, October 22, 2025.

Item 16

- **ELECTION OF THE NEW GRULAC BUREAU FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 2025-2027:**

- **Presidency**
- **First Vice-Presidency**
- **Second Vice-Presidency**

CANDIDATURES SUBMITTED:

- Presidency:

- On October 7, the candidacy of **Senator Daniel Caggiani (Uruguay)** for the Presidency of GRULAC **was received**

. - On October 7, the candidacy of **Senator Rojo Edwards (Chile)** for the Presidency of GRULAC **was received.**

- First Vice Presidency:

- On October 8, the candidacy of **Assemblyman Rabindre was received Tewari Parmessar (Suriname) to the First**

GRULAC Vice-Presidency:

Second Vice-Presidency of GRULAC: Rocio Abed (Paraguay)

Item 17

Other matters.

Oscar Piquinela
Secretary General of GRULAC

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SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY SESSION OF GRULAC (Geneva, Switzerland, 18 October 2025)



1. Opening of the Session

The session was opened by Senator Lucila Crexell (Argentina), First Vice-President of GRULAC, acting as President.

The President welcomed the delegations present, the Executive Committee, and the Bureau, highlighting the importance of the election of GRULAC authorities for the 2025–2027 term.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted without objection. It was reported that the updated document had been drafted and previously distributed.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the 150th Assembly (Tashkent, 2025)

With no objections from the delegations, the Minutes were approved.

4. Report from the GRULAC Secretariat

The Secretary General of GRULAC, Mr. Oscar Piquinela, reported on:

- Updates to communications and social media. - The need for updated delegate data for the WhatsApp group.
- The upcoming IPU Information Seminar for parliamentary officials, coordinated by the IPU.

5. Statement by the Secretary General of the IPU, Martin Chungong

The Secretary General highlighted:

- The importance of GRULAC's full participation.
- The need to increase the presence of parliaments from the region in the IPU.
- The outreach work carried out by the IPU in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- The planning of the next information seminar from November 17–19, 2025.
- His departure from office on June 30, 2026, while remaining fully active until that date. The delegations from Mexico, Costa Rica, Suriname, and Chile made statements of appreciation and presented regional proposals.

6. Intervention by the Speaker of the Australian House of Representatives, Mr. Milton Dick.

The Chairman of the Subcommittee on Finance presented:

- Draft 2026 Budget (19 million Swiss francs).
- Efficiency improvements through technology.
- Initiatives on youth participation and child protection regarding social media use.

7. Reports from members of the IPU Executive Committee.

Ms. María del Carmen Alva (Peru), Deputy Claudio Cajado (Brazil), and Deputy Cynthia López Castro (Mexico) presented reports on:

- The selection process for the next IPU Secretary General.
- The IPU's financial situation and activities.
- Conferences of Women and Young Parliamentarians.

8. ASGP Report.

Dr. José Pedro Montero (Uruguay), President of the ASGP, reported on:

- Parliamentary modernization.
- Implementation of simultaneous translation into Spanish for meetings of Secretaries General.
- The importance of the participation of GRULAC countries.

9. Reports from Standing Committees and Groups.

Note was taken of the reports and updates from the delegations comprising each Committee:

- Sustainable Development;
- Democracy and Human Rights;
- International Peace and Security;
- UN Affairs.

Special mention was made of the Argentine proposal on reform of the Charter of the United Nations and of the recognition of Suriname for the election of President Jennifer Simmons.

10. Forum of Young Parliamentarians.

Congressman Wilson Soto (Peru) reported on the Conference "Generations United for Gender Equality," organized in Lima with broad international participation.

11. Draft Resolutions (co -rapporteurs).

Reports were received from:

- Senator Lucila Crexell (Argentina): resolution on illegal international adoptions.
- Senator Rojo Edwards (Chile): resolution on protectionism, tariffs, and tax evasion.

12. Presentation of the Gender Equality Seal (Chilean Senate)

Senator Sebastián Keitel and Dr. Juan Oses presented on the Chilean Senate's receipt of the UNDP Gender Equality Seal, the first parliament in the world to receive this certification.

13. Artificial Intelligence in Parliaments

Dr. Juan de Dios Cincunegui reported on:

- Publication of the Guidelines for the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Parliaments (2024).
- Materials available in Spanish and free technical support.

14. Reform of the GRULAC Rules

Given the volume of proposed modifications, it was agreed that:

- Individual study by delegations.
- Possibility of preliminary virtual meetings.
- Debate and approval at the next Assembly.

15. Urgent Items for the Assembly

The following were presented:

- Thailand's proposal: transnational cybercrime.
- GRULAC's proposal: "Impact of transnational organized crime on democracy, security, and global prosperity." GRULAC approved by a large majority the official presentation of the regional proposal.

16. Drafting Committee for the Emergency Item

The following parliamentarians were appointed:

- Deputy Marcela Guerra (Mexico)
- Congressman Ernesto Bustamante (Peru) – later replaced by Senator César Rendón (Mexico)

17. Elections and Vacancies in IPU Bodies

The following nominations were approved to fill the vacant positions in the various IPU bodies:

- **Bureau of the Third Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights:**
 - **Paraguay** : María Rocío Abed
 - **Argentina** : Enrique Martín Goerling
- **Bureau of the Fourth Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs:**
 - o **Ecuador**: Mrs. Valentina Centeno
- **High-Level Advisory Group on counter Terrorism and Violent Extremism:**
 - o **Suriname**: Mr. Asiskumar Gajadien
- **Working Group on Science and Technology:**
 - o **Uruguay**: Mrs. Blanca Rodríguez
- **Internal Auditor of the UIP Accounts 2026:**
 - o **Suriname**: Mr. Rabindre Parmesan
- **Vice-Presidency of the Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development:**
 - o **Mexico**: César Rendón (first year)

- **Paraguay:** Néstor Castellano (second year)
- **Chair of the Fourth Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs:**
 - **Ecuador:** Valentina Centeno

The following summary outlines the GRULAC leadership election process held during the 151st IPU Assembly (Geneva, 18 October 2025).

1. Candidate Presentations - Sen. Daniel Caggiani (Uruguay) presented his candidacy, highlighting his parliamentary career, international experience, and commitment to democracy, multilateralism, and peace.
 - Sen. Rojo Edwards (Chile) emphasized the importance of GRULAC's geopolitical cooperation, strengthening alliances, increasing the participation of more countries, and defending multilateralism.

2. Voting Procedure at the request of Deputy Marcela Guerra (Mexico), privacy was guaranteed during the voting process. Delegations voted in an orderly fashion using ballots. Three votes per country were allowed, provided the ballots included gender representation; otherwise, the delegation could cast only one vote.

3. Results

- Daniel Caggiani (Uruguay): 10 votes
- Rojo Edwards (Chile): 17 votes (elected)
- 1 invalid vote
- 1 observed vote.

Senator Rojo Edwards was proclaimed President of GRULAC.

4. Other appointments

- First Vice-Presidency: Rabindre Parmessar (Suriname), sole candidate.
- Proposal of the new President: Deputy Rocío Abed (Paraguay) as Second Vice President, approved by the plenary.

The session concluded after formalizing the new GRULAC authorities for the period October 2025 – October 2027.

- Senator Rojo Edwards (Chile): President
- Assemblyman Rabindre Parmessar (Suriname): First Vice President
- Deputy Rocío Abed (Paraguay): Second Vice President

18. **Closing Remarks** by Senator Lucila Crexell , the acting President, thanked the delegations for their participation and concluded the session.

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