Through promoting, reviewing and adopting legislation and budget appropriations, parliamentarians hold the key to unlock better health, a stronger economy and happier people.

Over the years, international conferences have gathered parliamentarians from different regions of the world together, often with the purpose to draft and sign ground-breaking declarations that lead to momentous change and progress.

Efforts to improve health, individuals’ rights and development have, however, fallen short in many countries due to underlying economic, political, social and cultural constraints and/or ideologically-driven campaigns.

The European Parliamentary Forum for Sexual & Reproductive Rights (EPF), powered by its secretariat, is therefore launching an independent, global initiative: The Global Parliamentary Alliance for Health, Rights and Development (GPA). The objective being to provide a platform for parliamentarians from around the world to advocate for better health care, expanding human rights and to meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both in their home countries and abroad.

Guided by an Advisory Group Board selected by their peers, GPA is a flexible parliamentary initiative aimed at boosting parliamentarians’ efforts to deliver on the SDGs, specifically in the areas of health and human rights.
AREAS OF FOCUS

GPA is focused primarily on improving health, upholding and expanding human rights and meeting the SDGs. GPA builds upon Parliamentary statements resulting from G7/8 and IPCI Conferences and specifically, GPA will support:

HEALTH

- Universal Health Care (UHC) and Primary Health Care (PHC) as a necessary precursor to UHC.
- Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH).
- Contraception / Family Planning (FP): meeting the unmet need for FP.
- Address neglected areas of women’s & girls’ health, for example cervical cancer.

HUMAN RIGHTS

- Creating a conducive environment by updating legal frameworks, including in sexual and reproductive rights (SRR).
- Reproductive Rights (RR): specifically to remove restrictions on access to contraceptives, improve policy environment for maternal health, address and improve legislation related to reproductive freedoms.
- Sexual Rights (SR): end impunity for sexual violence, end harmful traditional practices such as early, forced and child marriage (ECFM) and female genital mutilation/cutting (FGM/C), address the criminalisation of sexual orientation.
- Child rights: ensure every child has access to identity papers, vaccination, other neo-natal care and access to education.

DEVELOPMENT

- Ensuring international development is adequately funded by upholding UN consensus on funding targets, for example of 0.7% GNI to ODA; allocating 10% national development budgets and ODA to population/SRHR; meeting the funding gap for FP, meeting the funding requirement for UHC.
- Address population dynamics and demography, specifically to harness the demographic dividend and understand the inter-relation between investing in health, education, youth, employment; educate policy makers about population dynamics and links with related issues, i.e. climate change, migration, gender; identify evidence-based policy options for high population growth countries as well as countries experiencing demographic decline and ageing.
- Address gender equality and how progress on women’s rights and specifically the empowerment of girls are precursors to sustainable development and the eradication of poverty.
GPA ACTIVITIES

GPA will organise the following types of activities to support parliamentary engagement in health, rights and development:

- Global, high-level parliamentary conferences;
- Legislative workshops;
- Parliamentary delegations to global conferences (such as UN, Women Deliver, ICFP);
- Cross-regional parliamentary exchanges and visits.

GPA MEMBERSHIP

GPA is open to all elected parliamentarians from UN member states who hold a current mandate as well as other parliamentary organisations and allies.

GPA members represent themselves and their constituents, and not their countries, parliaments or governments. Specifically, GPA membership is open to:

- Individual MPs from national and/or sub-national parliaments;
- Formal parliamentary groups/structures (i.e. recognised in their respective parliament);
- Legally constituted parliamentary organisations (i.e. legally registered in a given jurisdiction);
- Informal groupings of parliamentarians (i.e. not formally recognised in parliament or legally registered in any jurisdiction).

Membership in the GPA is voluntary, based on shared values and objectives and does not create any obligation on either party in terms of finances or political acts.
GPA GOVERNANCE - THE ADVISORY GROUP

GPA is governed by an Advisory Group composed of leading parliamentarians from across the globe with a demonstrated commitment and track-record of championing health, human rights and the SDGs. The GPA Advisory Group is composed of approximately 20 MPs taking into account gender, political party and geographic balance and representatives of allied global organisations and agencies (such as UNFPA, WHO, Women Deliver, IPPF, others TBD). Parliamentary Members are invited to serve for a three year term or until the end of their parliamentary mandate. The GPA Advisory Group meets twice per year in person or by conference-call.

MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT (MPs)

Name: Hon. Hala Abou-Ali
Country: Egypt

Name: Hon. Hazel Brandy Williams
Country: St. Kitts

Name: Hon. Princess Kasune Zulu
Country: Zambia

Name: Hon. Sahar Qawasmi
Country: Palestine

Name: Hon. Viplove Thakur
Country: India

Name: Hon. Jorge Godoy
Country: El Salvador

Name: Hon. Marie-Rose Nguini Effa
Country: Cameroon

Name: Hon. Robert Kuganab Lem
Country: Ghana

Name: Hon. Touriya Faraj
Country: Morocco

Name: Hon. Laura Boldrini
Country: Italy

Name: Hon. Petra Bayr
Country: Austria

Name: Hon. Marie-Rose Nguini Effa
Country: Cameroon

Name: Hon. Sahar Qawasmi
Country: Palestine
GPA ALLIES

Parliamentarians benefit from the expertise of external organisations to improve their decision-making, as such, GPA invite such organisations to become GPA Allies.
ALL PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUPS

**Africa**
African Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development

**Albania**
Informal Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**Armenia**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Population and Development “Future Generation”

**Austria**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Reproductive Health

**Azerbaijan**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**Belgium**
Informal all-party group “Parliamentarians for the 2030 Agenda”

**Bosnia-Herzegovina**
Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**Canada**
Canadian Association of Parliamentarians for Population and Development

**Denmark**
Danish All-Party Parliamentary Network on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights

**European Parliament**
MEPs for Sexual and Reproductive Rights

**Finland**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**France**
Delegation on Women’s Rights and Equal Opportunities between Men and Women

**Germany**
Parliamentary Advisory Council for Population and Development

**Ireland**
All-Party-Oireachtas-Interest-Group on SRHR and Development

**Italy**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Global Health and Women’s Rights

**Latvia**
All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**Lithuania**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Development Cooperation, Reproductive Health and Rights

**New Zealand**
New Zealand Parliamentarians’ Group on Population and Development

**Norway**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on SRHR

**Poland**
Parliamentary Team for Counteracting Hate Speech and Human Rights Protection

**Portugal**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**Republic of North Macedonia**
All-Party Parliamentary Group on Population and Development

**Romania**
Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Population and Development

**Serbia**
Parliamentary Group on Reproductive Health, Gender and HIV

**Spain**
Parliamentary Intergroup on Population, Development and Reproductive Health

**Spain - Basque Country**
Basque Country’s Intergroup on Population, Development and Reproductive Health

**Spain - Catalonia**
Catalan Intergroup on Population, Development and Reproductive Health

**Sweden**
Informal all-party group on SRHR, gender and development co-operation

**Switzerland**
All-Party-Parliamentary Group CAIRE+
PARLIAMENTARIANS FROM THE FOLLOWING COUNTRIES:

Afghanistan  Belgium  Denmark  Ghana  Jordan  Macedonia  Portugal  Tanzania
Albania  Bosnia-Herzegovina  Djibouti  Guatemala  Kenya  Malawi  Romania  Tunisia
Antigua & Barbuda  Burkina Faso  Egypt  Haiti  Laos  Morocco  Senegal  Turkey
Armenia  Cameroon  El Salvador  Hungary  Latvia  New Zealand  Serbia  UK
Austria  Canada  Finland  India  Liberia  Norway  Spain  UK
Azerbaijan  Chad  France  Ireland  Libya  Palestine  Sweden  USA
Belize  Croatia  Germany  Italy  Lithuania  Poland  Switzerland  Zimbabwe