



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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# 153rd IPU Assembly

Arusha,  
United Republic of Tanzania  
5–9 October 2026



## Joint IPU–ASGP session

### *How parliaments respond to pressure: An open discussion with MPs and Secretaries General*

Friday, 9 October 2026, 14:30–16:30  
Mbayuwayu Hall, seventh floor, Ngorongoro Wing

#### Concept note

This joint session between the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP) will bring together MPs and Secretaries General of parliaments to discuss, from their own direct experience, how parliaments are navigating the pressures reshaping democratic institutions today. Drawing on preliminary findings from the *Global Parliamentary Report 2027*, a joint IPU and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) publication currently in the primary research phase, the session will explore four pressure areas:

- The political threats to parliamentary independence and democratic procedure
- The societal demands on parliaments to respond faster, more inclusively and more transparently
- The technological changes reshaping how parliaments work from the inside
- The human costs of democratic service for MPs and staff

Participants will be invited to challenge, validate and add to what the research is finding, bringing their own institutional experience into direct dialogue with emerging insights from across the world.

#### **Participants**

The session is open to all participants of the 153rd IPU Assembly.

#### **Languages**

English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

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