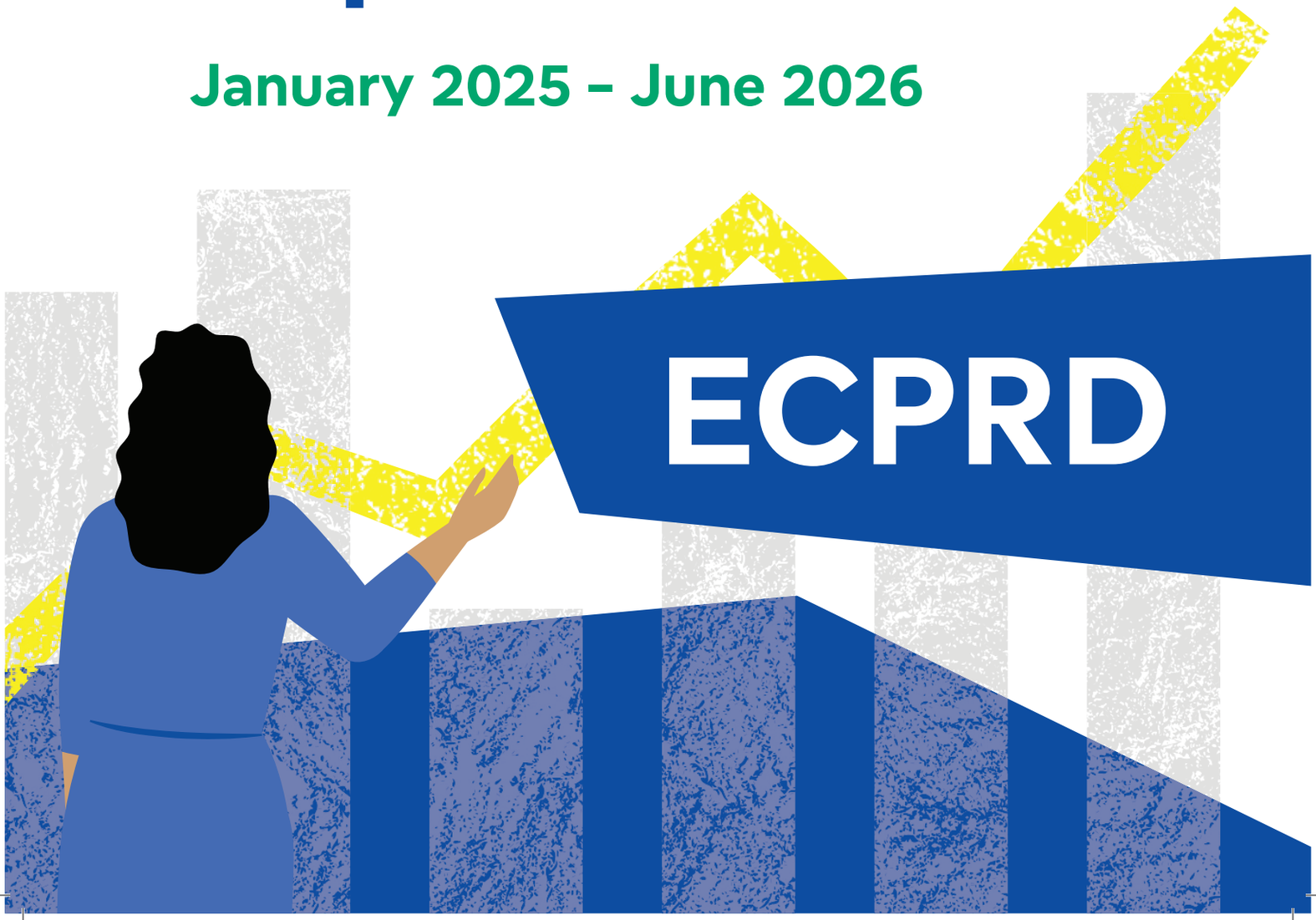
50 years ECPRD

**Connecting parliaments:**
a journey of knowledge-sharing

# Intermediary Annual Activity Report

## January 2025 – June 2026



01/2025 - 06/2026

# Intermediary Annual Activity Report

## January 2025 – June 2026

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# Foreword

ECPRD Co-Directors Valérie Clamer and Jesús Gómez

We are pleased to present the Intermediary Annual Report of the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD) for the period from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2026.

For nearly half a century, the ECPRD has provided a unique platform for cooperation among the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, national parliaments of the European Union and of the Council of Europe Member States as well as observer parliaments. Its mission remains unchanged: promoting the exchange of expertise facilitating comparative research and supporting parliamentary administrations in their essential role of serving democracy. The network counts today 65 Correspondents and 63 Deputy Correspondents.

Over the past year and a half, the ECPRD has once again demonstrated its relevance and vitality. The network facilitated a wide range of comparative requests, offering timely insights into institutional practice and legislative developments.

Seminars hosted by member parliaments provided a forum for sharing experiences on the opportunities and challenges of artificial intelligence in parliamentary work, including legislative drafting, documentation, archives and institutional governance. Other seminars focused on data visualisation, parliamentary committees of inquiry, the role of research and library services, and recent developments in European economic governance. Together, these activities reflected the Centre's responsiveness to emerging priorities and its commitment to supporting parliamentary administrations in a rapidly evolving environment.

These activities have been developed to address some of the significant challenges Europe is facing today: rapid technological transformation and the need to reinforce public trust in democratic institutions. In parallel, geopolitical tensions and instability in Europe's neighbourhood have placed additional responsibilities on parliaments to act as anchors of democratic resilience and dialogue. In this context, the ECPRD has continued to serve as a trusted and agile forum for interparliamentary cooperation.

We warmly thank all Correspondents and Deputy Correspondents, Coordinators of areas of interest, members of the Executive Committee, and the Secretariat for their dedication and professionalism. Their collective efforts remain the cornerstone of the Centre's success.

Looking ahead, the coming year will be a special one for the ECPRD. In 2027, the network will celebrate its fiftieth anniversary, marking five decades of cooperation between parliamentary administrations across Europe. This milestone offers an opportunity to celebrate the achievements of the network, recognise the dedication of the many colleagues who have contributed to its success, and reflect on how the ECPRD can continue to evolve in support of parliaments in the years ahead. We invite all members of the ECPRD community to take an active part in these celebrations and to help ensure that the spirit of cooperation, openness and mutual support that has defined the ECPRD since 1977 continues to thrive for future generations.

Jesús Gómez

ECPRD Co-Director
European Parliament

Valérie Clamer

ECPRD Co-Director
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

# Executive Summary

The period from January 2025 to June 2026 confirmed the continued relevance of the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD) as a unique platform for cooperation, knowledge-sharing and comparative research among parliamentary administrations across Europe. Bringing together 65 Correspondents and 63 Deputy Correspondents from 65 member chambers and institutions, the network continued to facilitate the exchange of expertise on issues of common interest, support evidence-based parliamentary work, and strengthen professional links among its members. Throughout the reporting period, the ECPRD remained responsive to the evolving needs of parliaments, while preserving the spirit of cooperation and mutual support that has characterised the network since its creation in 1977.

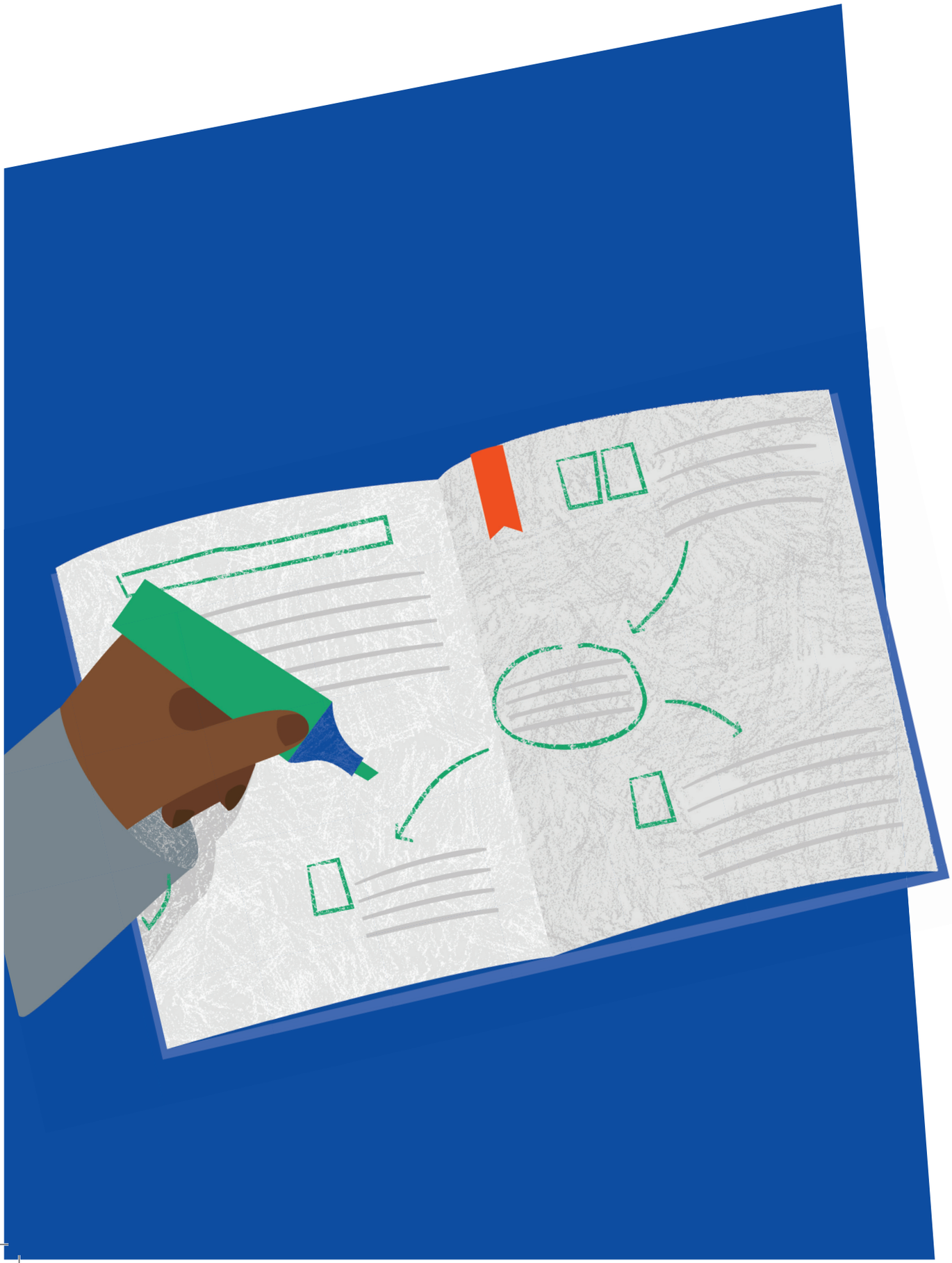
The comparative requests procedure remained at the heart of the ECPRD's activities. Member parliaments continued to make extensive use of the network to obtain comparative information on parliamentary procedures, legislative developments and public policy issues. 397 requests were submitted during the period covered by this report. This sustained volume of requests and replies, together with strong response and timeliness rates, demonstrated the commitment of correspondents and parliamentary experts to providing reliable and timely information. The reporting period also highlighted the continuing importance of final summaries in preserving and disseminating the knowledge generated through comparative requests, while underlining the need to further strengthen this practice across the network.

Knowledge-sharing through seminars continued to be a major strength of the ECPRD. Between January 2025 and June 2026, eight seminars brought together more than 400 parliamentary officials from across the network. Discussions focused on topics of growing relevance to parliamentary administrations, including artificial intelligence, digital transformation, legislative processes, parliamentary committees of inquiry, research and library services, economic governance and

data visualisation. These events provided valuable opportunities for participants to exchange experiences, identify common challenges and develop practical solutions, while reinforcing professional networks across Europe.

The reporting period was also marked by several important strategic developments. Following extensive preparation and testing, the new ECPRD website was launched in June 2026, providing a modernised platform designed to improve workflows, increase transparency and strengthen collaboration within the network. Meanwhile, the ECPRD adopted its Guidelines on Openness and Transparency, providing a common framework for the handling and sharing of information across the network. The Executive Committee also established dedicated Working Groups on the Role of Correspondents, Artificial Intelligence Guidelines and the preparation of the ECPRD's 50th Anniversary, reflecting a shared commitment to ensuring that the network continues to evolve in response to emerging opportunities and challenges.

Looking ahead, the ECPRD will focus on the full implementation of the new website, the continued improvement of the quality and accessibility of comparative information, and the development of practical guidance in areas of growing importance to parliamentary administrations. Particular attention will be given to preparations for the ECPRD's fiftieth anniversary in 2027, which will provide an opportunity to celebrate five decades of successful interparliamentary cooperation while looking ahead to the future of the network. Building on its established strengths and supported by the dedication of its correspondents, coordinators, working groups and member parliaments, the ECPRD remains well positioned to continue supporting democratic institutions through cooperation, expertise and the exchange of knowledge.



# 1. Organisational Structure

## Co-Directors

Jesús Gómez, European Parliament (since May 2025)
Valérie Clamer, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (since July 2021)

## Co-Secretaries

Christine Detourbet, European Parliament (since January 2020 until July 2025)
Orsolya Balogh, European Parliament (since September 2025)
Agathe Dubourg, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (since July 2022 until March 2026)
Ayşegül Elveriş, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (since March 2026)

## Executive Committee

Tanja Nurmi, Eduskunta, Finland (since November 2021, re-elected in November 2024)
Annibale Ferrari, Camera Dei Deputi, Italy (since November 2024 until January 2026)
Nuno Amorim, Assembleia da República, Portugal (since November 2024)
Andrej Eror, Državni zbor, Slovenia (since November 2024)
Patrick Vollmer, House of Lords, United Kingdom (since October 2023)

## ECPRD Coordinators of areas of interest

**Economic and Budgetary Affairs**
Carlo Frati, Chamber of Deputies, Italy (since July 2025 until June 2026)
Bernardo Polverari, Chamber of Deputies, Italy (since June 2026)

**ICT in Parliaments**
Frode Rein, Stortinget, Norway (since July 2022)

**Libraries, Research Services and Archives**
Natália Švecová, National Council, Slovakia (since July 2025)

**Parliamentary Practice and Procedure**
Christoph Konrath, Parliament, Austria (since September 2016)

## ECPRD Website – IT Project Manager

Claudia Dunca Constantinescu, European Parliament (since January 2023)

# 2. What is the ECPRD?

**ECPRD is less of a centre and more of a network of people whose voluntary commitment contributes essentially to its well-functioning**

The ECPRD was created in 1977 in Vienna by the Conference of Speakers of European Parliamentary Assemblies, which delegated to the Presidents of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe its formation and management.

The objectives of the ECPRD are to promote the exchange of information, ideas, experience, and good practice among the administrations of parliaments in Europe on subjects of common interest; to strengthen close co-operation among parliamentary services in all fields of parliamentary administration, legislation, information, research and documentation; and to collect, exchange and publicise studies produced by parliamentary services (Article 1 of the Statutes).

Although primarily focused on Europe, the ECPRD also extends its knowledge-sharing activities beyond the continent by connecting parliamentary research services, libraries, and administrations from both European and non-European countries through a large international network.

ECPRD is a network of experts in parliaments rather than a physical centre. Its strength lies in the unbureaucratic exchange of information based very much on the voluntary commitment of people. This exchange materializes in the form of comparative requests and expert seminars.

## Who are the members?

According to Article 2 of the ECPRD Statutes, ECPRD members are the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and parliamentary chambers where the President is a member of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament. Furthermore, some parliaments have observer and Partners for Democracy status.

At present, the Centre consists of 65 parliamentary chambers (including 39 in EU member States) from 48 countries and European institutions. 65 Correspondents and 63 Deputy Correspondents represent their respective parliaments in the network and contribute to main ECPRD activities.

## How is the ECPRD organised?

Each member assembly appoints a senior official to act as the correspondent for the assembly. The correspondent is the privileged point of contact for the assembly, should thus have access to the Secretary-General, and must be in a position to coordinate the contribution of the officials of his or her chamber to the work of the ECPRD. The success of the ECPRD largely depends on the input provided by the correspondents.

The European Conference of Presidents of Parliaments, consisting of the Presidents or Speakers of Parliamentary Assemblies of members and special guests of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, is the supreme authority for the ECPRD. The Speakers' Conference meets every second year.

The ECPRD operates under the authority of the Secretaries-General of member chambers. At their meetings, held every two years on the occasion of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament, they approve the activity report and action programme of the ECPRD and establish priorities for its functioning.

The two Co-Directors and the two Co-Secretaries – representing the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe – are appointed by the respective Secretaries-General of the two institutions. The Co-Directors and Co-Secretaries, who carry out their functions in addition to their normal duties, are responsible for the day-to-day running of the ECPRD.

The correspondents meet annually at the Conference of Correspondents, where they discuss the activities of the ECPRD and may take decision on operational issues.

The Executive Committee is composed of the Co-Directors and five Correspondents (appointed by the Conference of Correspondents). It ensures the continuity of work between the annual meetings. The Executive Committee meets at least twice a year.

The staff responsible for the website, is provided by an official of the European Parliament.

In 2006, four areas of interest were established: Economic and Budgetary Affairs (EBA), Information and Communication Technologies in Parliaments (ICT), Libraries, Research Services and Archives (LRA), Parliamentary Practice and Procedure (PPP). The objective of these areas of interest is to foster the exchange of information and best practice mainly in form of specific seminars on topical issues hosted by an ECPRD member parliament. Four ECPRD coordinators are appointed by the Executive Committee to promote close co-operation between member chambers in the respective area.

The success of the network is dependent on excellent co-operation between people and the implementation of modern IT technologies. The activities of the ECPRD are supported by a dedicated website. Its private section, only accessible to the members of the network, hosts a powerful electronic workflow for requests and replies, a growing number of specific seminar mini-sites, and parliamentary factsheets on each Chamber providing data and contacts.

## How is it financed?

The ECPRD neither has its own budget nor receives financial contributions from member parliaments. The operating costs for Secretariat and IT expenses are covered by the European Parliament.

Member Chambers bear the costs for hosting seminars and meetings of the ECPRD, such as providing meeting rooms and interpreters. All parliaments cover the travel and subsistence expenses of their own officials attending seminars and meetings. A few parliaments of countries in Central and Eastern Europe benefit from financial support from the European Parliament to ensure participation in seminars and meetings.

# 3. Overview January 2025 – June 2026

## 3.1. Trends in Comparative Requests and Replies

### 3.1.1. Volume and Evolution of Requests

Between January 2025 and June 2026, ECPRD correspondents submitted a total of **397 comparative requests** to the network, comprising **258 requests in 2025** and **138 requests during the first six months of 2026**.

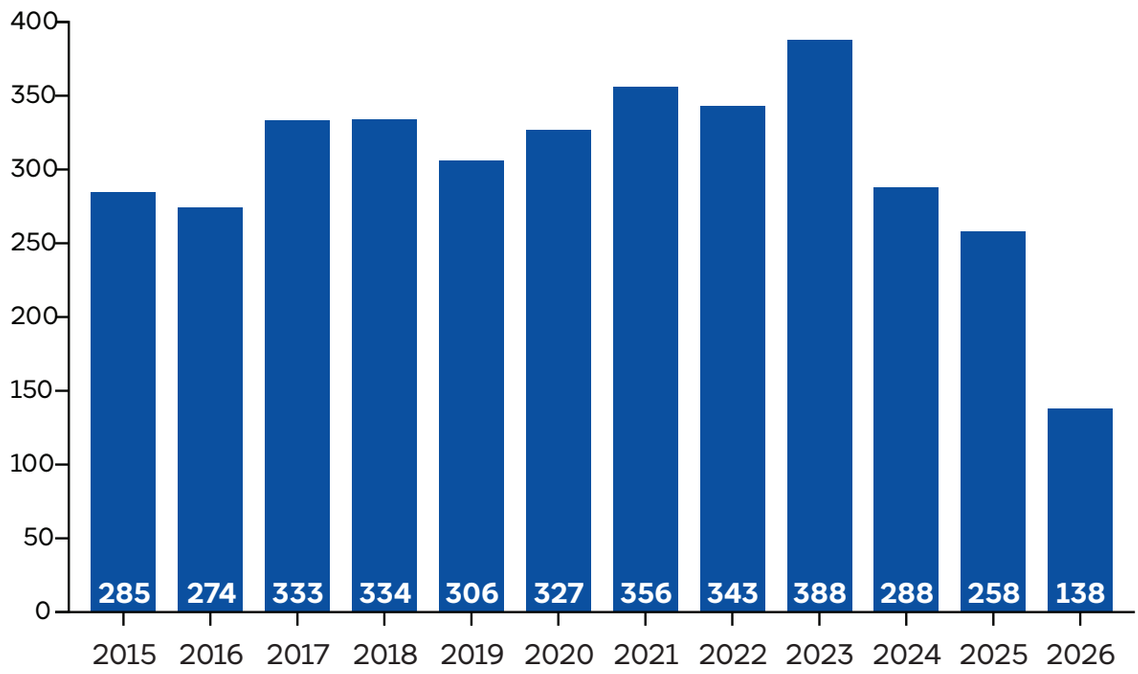
Over the past decade, the number of comparative requests has remained consistently high, exceeding 300 requests annually in most years since 2017. Following a peak of **388 requests in 2023**, the network recorded **288 requests in 2024** and **258 requests in 2025**, indicating a gradual return to more sustainable levels.

This development follows a concerted effort across the network to moderate the volume of requests and improve their quality. In response to concerns expressed by correspondents and parliamentary experts regarding increasing workloads, revised guidance on the preparation and submission of comparative requests was introduced. These measures encouraged more targeted and focused requests, helping to maintain the efficiency of the network while preserving the high level of information exchange that characterises ECPRD cooperation.

The overall reduction in the number of requests should not be interpreted as a decline in the importance or relevance of the ECPRD. On the contrary, the sustained volume of requests confirms the continued reliance of parliamentary administrations on comparative information and expertise available through the network. At the same time, recent technological developments are changing the way in which information is gathered and analysed. The rapid emergence of artificial intelligence tools and increasingly sophisticated multilingual search capabilities has facilitated access to publicly available information, significantly reducing language barriers and enabling users to identify and compare legislative and parliamentary practices more easily than in the past. As a result, some requests that previously would have been submitted through the ECPRD may increasingly be addressed through publicly available sources and digital tools.

These developments have reinforced the added value of the ECPRD as a forum for the exchange of practical expertise, institutional experience and non-public information that cannot readily be obtained through open sources alone. The network therefore continues to play a unique role in supporting parliamentary administrations through trusted, peer-to-peer cooperation and comparative analysis.

**Number of requests in the ECPRD by year**



**Number of requests received and answered by chamber from January 2025 to June 2026**

| Country – Chamber | Total Requests Received | Total Requests Answered | Response Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Multinational Assembly – European Parliament | 88 | 87 | 99% |
| Multinational Assembly – Parliamentary Assembly Council of Europe | 48 | 0 | 0% |
| Albania – Kuvendi | 84 | 76 | 90% |
| Armenia – National Assembly | 78 | 71 | 91% |
| Austria – Austrian Parliament | 330 | 323 | 98% |
| Belgium – Chambre des représentants \| Kamer van volksvertegenwoordigers | 332 | 328 | 99% |
| Belgium – Sénat \| Senaat | 331 | 313 | 95% |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina – Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina | 105 | 62 | 59% |
| Bulgaria – National Assembly | 285 | 259 | 91% |
| Canada – Parliament of Canada | 142 | 134 | 94% |
| Croatia – Hrvatski Sabor | 285 | 259 | 78% |
| Cyprus – House of Representatives | 142 | 134 | 43% |
| Czechia – Chancellory of The Chamber of Deputies | 316 | 167 | 53% |
| Czechia – Senat | 315 | 33 | 10% |

| Country – Chamber | Total Requests Received | Total Requests Answered | Response Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Denmark – Folketinget | 338 | 304 | 90% |
| Estonia – Riigikogu | 321 | 313 | 98% |
| Finland – Eduskunta | 338 | 333 | 99% |
| France – Assemblée Nationale | 332 | 325 | 98% |
| France – Sénat | 332 | 252 | 76% |
| Georgia – Parliament | 94 | 69 | 73% |
| Germany – Bundesrat | 343 | 331 | 97% |
| Germany – Deutscher Bundestag | 344 | 332 | 97% |
| Greece – Vouli Ton Ellinon | 305 | 269 | 88% |
| Hungary – National Assembly | 306 | 296 | 97% |
| Iceland – Althingi | 121 | 33 | 27% |
| Ireland – Houses of the Oireachtas | 313 | 145 | 46% |
| Israel – Knesset | 93 | 90 | 97% |
| Italy – Camera Dei Deputati | 340 | 186 | 55% |
| Italy – Senato della Repubblica | 339 | 152 | 45% |
| Latvia – Latvijas Republikas Saeima | 306 | 296 | 97% |
| Liechtenstein – Landtag Des Fürstentums Liechtenstein | 78 | 19 | 24% |
| Lithuania – Seimas | 283 | 274 | 97% |

| Country - Chamber | Total Requests Received | Total Requests Answered | Response Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Luxembourg - Chambre des Députés | 300 | 290 | 97% |
| Malta - House of Representatives | 268 | 1 | 97% |
| Moldova - Parliament of The Republic of Moldova | 98 | 74 | 0% |
| Montenegro - Parliament of Montenegro | 122 | 6 | 76% |
| Netherlands - Eerste Kamer Der Staten - Generaal | 338 | 51 | 5% |
| Netherlands - Tweede Kamer Der Staten - Generaal | 339 | 314 | 15% |
| North Macedonia - Sobranie | 124 | 106 | 93% |
| Norway - Stortinget | 185 | 182 | 85% |
| Poland - Sejm | 323 | 317 | 98% |
| Poland - Senat | 321 | 311 | 97% |
| Portugal - Assembleia Da República | 311 | 298 | 96% |
| Romania - Camera Deputatilor | 272 | 260 | 96% |
| Romania - Senat | 271 | 87 | 32% |
| San Marino - Consiglio Grande E Generale | 70 | 1 | 1% |
| Serbia - National Assembly | 124 | 10 | 8% |
| Slovakia - National Council | 292 | 286 | 98% |

| Country – Chamber | Total Requests Received | Total Requests Answered | Response Rate (%) |
|---|---|---|---|
| Slovenia – Državni zbor (National Assembly) | 300 | 277 | 92% |
| Slovenia – Državni svet | 300 | 72 | 24% |
| Spain – Congreso De Los Diputados | 348 | 334 | 96% |
| Spain – Senado | 346 | 152 | 44% |
| Sweden – Riksdag | 329 | 319 | 97% |
| Switzerland – Swiss Parliament | 169 | 143 | 85% |
| Türkiye – Republic of Türkiye – The Grand National Assembly | 114 | 86 | 75% |
| Ukraine – Verkhovna Rada | 91 | 71 | 78% |
| United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Lords | 221 | 211 | 95% |
| United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Commons | 224 | 180 | 80% |
| United States Of America – Congress | 124 | 2 | 2% |

### 3.1.2. Thematic Focus of Requests

Between January 2025 and June 2026, the ECPRD network processed a total of **396 comparative requests** covering a wide range of parliamentary, legal, social and administrative matters. The distribution of requests illustrates both the diversity of policy issues addressed by parliaments and the growing interest in topics linked to institutional modernisation and emerging societal challenges.

The largest number of requests concerned **social questions, health and migration** (66 requests), followed by **administration of parliament** (64 requests), **law** (30 requests), **parliament in general** (27 requests) and **competencies, oversight and control** (23 requests). Together, these categories accounted for a significant proportion of all requests submitted during the reporting period, reflecting the continued relevance of both core parliamentary functions and broader policy developments across Europe.

Within the category **Parliament in General** (00), 27 requests were recorded, including 10 relating to rules of procedure and 7 concerning general parliamentary matters. Other frequently addressed institutional topics included **Parliamentary Bodies** (03) with 14 requests, **Competencies, Oversight and Control** (04) with 23 requests, and **Administration of Parliament** (05) with 64 requests.
The latter included substantial interest in ICT-related issues, libraries and research services, parliamentary security arrangements and other aspects of parliamentary administration.

The reporting period also saw continued demand for comparative information on policy matters. **Law (12)** generated 30 requests, while **Social Questions, Health and Migration (28)** accounted for 66 requests. Other subjects attracting notable attention included **Finance** (24) with 15 requests, **Environment (52)** with 19 requests, **Transport (48)** with 14 requests, **International Relations (09)** with 14 requests, **Education (32)** with 12 requests, and **Culture and Media (34)** with 13 requests.

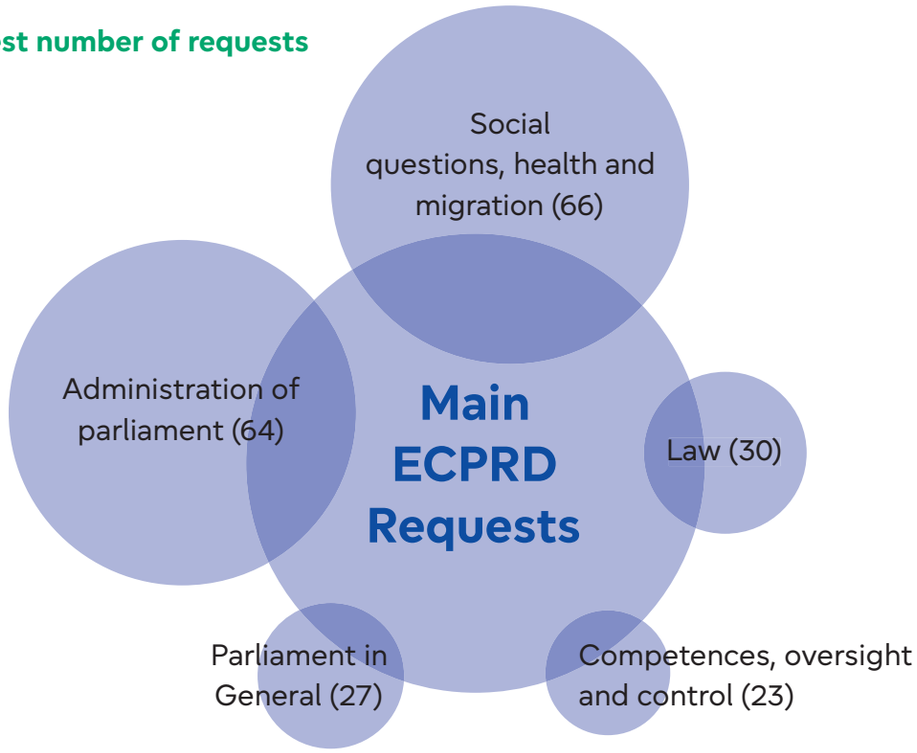
At the level of individual subtopics, several themes emerged as particularly prominent. The highest number of requests concerned **ICT in Parliaments** (12 requests), highlighting the continuing digital transformation of parliamentary administrations. Topics addressed included artificial intelligence in parliamentary work, digital sovereignty, cloud services, process automation, document digitisation and the regulatory framework for artificial intelligence.

A similarly high level of activity was recorded in **Health and Medicine** (12 requests), covering subjects such as regulation of the nursing profession, governance of public hospitals and legislation relating to medically assisted reproduction. Other heavily requested themes included **Libraries, Research Services and Documentation** (10 requests), **Rules of Procedure** (10 requests), and **Criminal Law and Procedures** (10 requests). These figures demonstrate the ongoing importance of institutional governance, knowledge management and legal affairs across ECPRD member parliaments.

A second group of frequently occurring topics generated between seven and nine requests each. These included **Road Transport and Traffic Rules** (9 requests), Parliament in General (7 requests), **Social Questions, Health and Migration** (7 requests), **Social Security and Benefits** (7 requests), and **Migration and Asylum** (7 requests). The distribution confirms the breadth of interests represented within the network, ranging from parliamentary procedure and administration to major societal and regulatory challenges.

A further range of topics generated between five and six requests each, including gender issues, parliamentary committees, EU affairs, parliamentary administration, members' rights and obligations, parliamentary security, defence policy, agriculture, taxation and environmental matters, highlighting the continued use of the ECPRD as a source of comparative expertise across a broad range of parliamentary and public policy issues.

**Highest number of requests**



## Highest number of requests

| Theme | Number of requests |
|---|---|
| ICT in parliaments | 12 |
| Health and medicine, euthanasia | 12 |
| Libraries research services and documentation | 10 |
| Rules of procedure | 10 |
| Criminal law and procedures | 10 |
| Criminal law and procedures | 10 |
| Parliament in general | 7 |
| Social questions, health and migration | 7 |
| Social security and benefits, social policy | 7 |
| Migration and asylum | 7 |

### 3.1.3. Responses: Response rate, Engagement Levels, and Timeliness of Responses

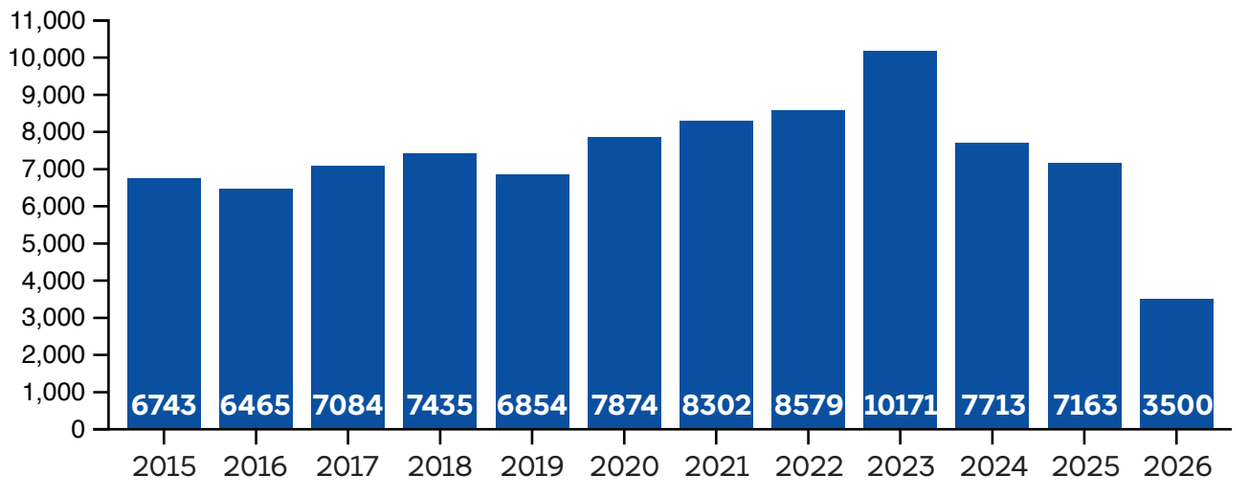
Between January 2025 and June 2026, ECPRD members submitted a total of **10,889 replies** to comparative requests, comprising **7,163 replies in 2025** and **3,500 replies during the first six months of 2026**.

The number of replies remains closely linked to the volume of requests submitted through the network. Following the record level of **10,171 replies in 2023**, the total stood at **7,713 replies in 2024** and **7,163 replies in 2025**, reflecting the lower number of requests tabled during the same period.

The network achieved an overall **response rate of 63.07%,** while **68.12% of replies were submitted before the deadline** established by the requesting parliament. These figures demonstrate the continued responsiveness of member chambers and their commitment to supporting the exchange of comparative parliamentary information.

The responsiveness of correspondents and parliamentary experts remains one of the network's defining strengths and an essential factor in maintaining the ECPRD as a trusted platform for interparliamentary information exchange.

#### Number of replies by year




#### Response and timeliness rate

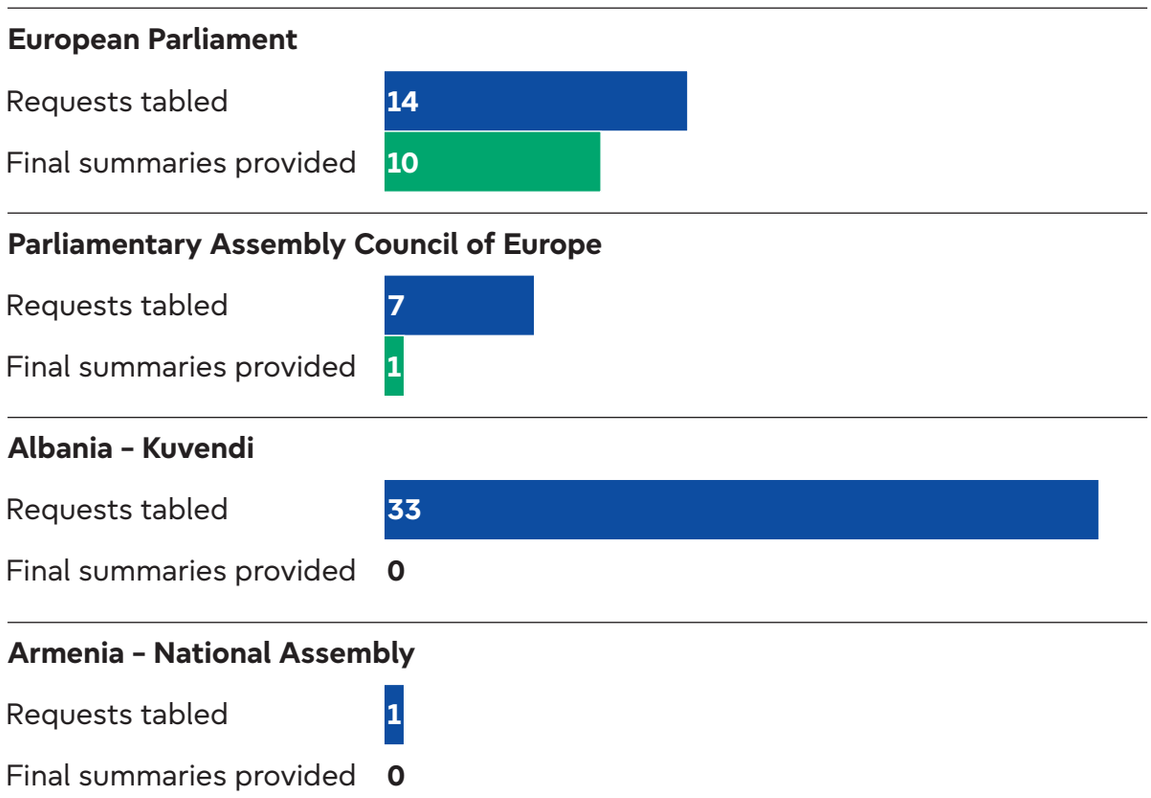
| | |
|---|---|
| Overall Response Rate | 63,07% |
| Overall Timeliness Rate | 68,12% |

### 3.1.4. Final Summaries

Final summaries remain an essential tool for consolidating and making accessible the information exchanged through comparative requests. During the reporting period, **147 final summaries** were provided for **397 requests tabled**, meaning that approximately **37% of requests** were concluded with a final summary. This figure confirms that, despite continued awareness of their value, the production of final summaries remains uneven across the network. Previous reports have already noted the importance of final summaries in showcasing the knowledge generated through ECPRD requests and facilitating its wider dissemination. Although progress has been made since the very low levels recorded before 2020, the production of final summaries remains inconsistent across the network.

Strengthening this aspect of the request procedure therefore remains a priority for the coming years. In line with the ECPRD priorities, particular attention should continue to be given to "maintaining a high level of responsiveness to requests and ensuring, to the greatest extent possible, the systematic production of final summary reports by requesting chambers." This will be important not only for preserving the usefulness of individual requests, but also for improving the long-term visibility, accessibility and reuse of the knowledge produced within the network.

**Final summaries provided by requests and country/ chamber**



**Austria – Austrian Parliament**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 7 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**Belgium – Chambre des représentants | Kamer van volksvertegenwoordiger**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Belgium – Sénat | Senaat**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Bosnia-Herzegovina – Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 1 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Bulgaria – National Assembly**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 7 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**Canada – Parliament of Canada**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 1 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Croatia – Hrvatski Sabor**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 3 |
| Final summaries provided | 2 |

**Cyprus – House of Representatives**

| | |
|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 15 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Czechia – Chancellory of The Chamber Of Deputies**

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| Requests tabled | 4 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Czechia – Senat**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Denmark – Folketinget**

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| Requests tabled | 4 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**Estonia – Riigikogu**

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| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**Finland – Eduskunta**

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| Requests tabled | 5 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**France – Assemblée Nationale**

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| Requests tabled | 21 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Georgia – Parliament**

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| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 2 |

**Germany – Bundesrat**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Germany – Deutscher Bundestag**

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| Requests tabled | 25 |
| Final summaries provided | 14 |

**Greece – Vouli Ton Ellinon**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 1 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Hungary – National Assembly**

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| Requests tabled | 7 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**Ireland – Houses of the Oireachtas**

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| Requests tabled | 8 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**Israel – Knesset**

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| Requests tabled | 14 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**Italy – Camera Dei Deputati**

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| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 2 |

**Italy – Senato della Repubblica**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 1 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**Latvia – Latvijas Republikas Saeima**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 8 |
| Final summaries provided | 6 |

**Lithuania – Seimas**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 28 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Luxembourg – Chambre des députés**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 3 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Malta – House of Representatives**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Moldova – Parliament of The Republic of Moldova**

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| Requests tabled | 8 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Montenegro – Parliament of Montenegro**

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| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**Netherlands – Eerste Kamer Der Staten-Generaal**

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| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Netherlands – Tweede Kamer Der Staten-Generaal**

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| Requests tabled | 11 |
| Final summaries provided | 5 |

**North Macedonia – Sobranie**

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| Requests tabled | 5 |
| Final summaries provided | 5 |

**Norway – Stortinget**

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| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 2 |

**Poland – Sejm**

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| Requests tabled | 9 |
| Final summaries provided | 3 |

**Poland – Senat**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 11 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**Portugal – Assembleia Da República**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 14 |
| Final summaries provided | 7 |

**Romania – Camera Deputatilor**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 5 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**Romania – Senat**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 36 |
| Final summaries provided | 14 |

**San Marino – Consiglio Grande E Generale**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Serbia – National Assembly**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Slovakia – National Council**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 14 |
| Final summaries provided | 7 |

**Slovenia – Državni zbor (National Assembly)**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 3 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**Slovenia – Državni svet**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Spain – Congreso De Los Diputados**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 2 |
| Final summaries provided | 2 |

**Spain – Senado**

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| Requests tabled | 0 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Sweden – Riksdag**

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| Requests tabled | 30 |
| Final summaries provided | 25 |

**Türkiye – Republic of Türkiye – The Grand National Assembly**

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| Requests tabled | 3 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

**Ukraine – Verkhovna Rada**

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| Requests tabled | 4 |
| Final summaries provided | 4 |

**United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Lords**

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|---|---|
| Requests tabled | 1 |
| Final summaries provided | 1 |

**United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Commons**

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| Requests tabled | 9 |
| Final summaries provided | 0 |

## 3.2. ECPRD Statutory Meetings

### 3.2.1. Meeting of Secretaries-General of Parliament on the ECPRD during the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament – Strasbourg (France), hosted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe – 21 March 2025

The meeting of Secretaries-General of European Parliaments takes place once a year, usually in early summer. This meeting brings together the Secretaries General of national parliaments of Council of Europe member states, the European Parliament, and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. The ECPRD is a standing point on the agenda every year. The Co-Directors of the ECPRD present the annual activity report, provide statistics on requests and seminars, and outline the programme of activities for the following period.

Held on the margins of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament, the annual meeting of Secretaries-General provided an opportunity to reflect on strategic developments within the ECPRD network. The agenda included an exchange of views on the evolving role of artificial intelligence technologies in parliamentary contexts, highlighting both the opportunities and challenges posed by digital transformation. The meeting also featured the presentation of the ECPRD Activity Report for 2023–2024 by Sannaleena Lepola-Honig, Director General for Parliamentary Democracy Partnerships, European Parliament, who replaced during this meeting Leticia Zuleta de Reales Ansaldo as the European Parliament ECPRD Co-Director, and the introduction of the ECPRD Priorities and Programme for 2025–2026 by Valérie Clamer, Co-Director from the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Both documents were formally adopted by the Secretaries-General, reaffirming their commitment to the continued development and relevance of the ECPRD.

### 3.2.2. Annual Conference of Correspondents – Bern (Switzerland), 2–3 October 2025

The Annual Conference of ECPRD Correspondents brings together the designated representatives of all member parliaments to review the Centre's activities, exchange experiences, and discuss ways to strengthen interparliamentary cooperation. The conference serves as a platform to present updates on requests, seminars, and the use of digital tools, while also providing guidance on emerging priorities. Its conclusions feed directly into the preparation of the ECPRD's programme of work, ensuring that activities remain closely aligned with the practical needs of national parliaments and the European Parliament.

The 2025 Annual Conference of ECPRD Correspondents was held in Bern, Switzerland, on 2–3 October, generously hosted by the Swiss Parliament. The event brought together representatives from 32 Member States, alongside colleagues from the network.

The conference opened with a welcome address by Mr Pierre-Hervé Freléchoz, Secretary of the National Council and Head of the Sector for Committees & Research, followed by a keynote speech from Ambassador Claudio Fischer, Head of Sector for International & Multilingualism, on the role of the Swiss Parliament in the international context. The afternoon of the first day was dedicated to a thematic pre-conference on Artificial Intelligence and Governance. The various panels brought together numerous expert contributions, highlighting the growing role of artificial intelligence in governance and parliamentary work, as well as the opportunities and risks associated with these emerging technologies.

The second day began with an introductory session for new Correspondents, led by Barbara Pinto Leite, Charlotte Cousins, and Mathias Kersten. The plenary session, chaired by the Co-Directors, Valérie Clamer and Jesús Gómez, was opened with expressions of appreciation for Leticia Zuleta de Reales for her service as EP Co-Director, following her appointment as Director General for Citizens' Rights, Justice and Institutional Affairs at the European Parliament, and welcoming words for Jesús Gómez who was back as Co-Director. This session included the Adoption of the minutes of the previous Annual Conference of Correspondents, the Adoption of the Intermediary Annual Activity Report (September 2024 – August 2025), a Presentation of the adopted Guidelines on Openness and Transparency and a report on activities in the areas of interest provided by the ECPRD Coordinators.

Parallel discussion groups on the Role of ECPRD Correspondents and the revision of the 2008 guidelines followed. Conclusions were presented by Natalia Švecová and Tanja Nurmi, with a proposal to continue discussions at the 2026 Annual Conference. Finally, Claudia Dunca presented the revamped ECPRD website, outlining improvements in workflow automation, user experience, and transparency.

### 3.2.3. Executive Committee meetings

The Executive Committee of the ECPRD meets several times a year (in person or online) and is composed of the two Co-Directors together with five representatives of national parliaments. The Committee oversees the Centre's functioning, monitors the follow-up given to requests and seminars, and prepares the programme of activities for adoption by the Annual Conference of Correspondents. Its meetings provide a forum for steering the ECPRD's work at managerial level, ensuring efficiency and alignment with the broader objectives.

#### Executive Committee meeting - Brussels (online), hosted by the European Parliament, 20 January 2025

The Executive Committee met remotely to review recent developments and prepare the next phase of ECPRD activities. The meeting began with the adoption of the agenda and the approval of the minutes from the previous session held on 19 September 2024. A key item was the follow-up to the Annual Conference of Correspondents in Dublin, including the formal launch of a working group on openness and transparency of data collected across the network.

Preparations for the 2025 Annual Conference in Bern were presented by Jacqueline Kucera, and the Committee reviewed the proposed programme of seminars and events for 2025–2026. The meeting also included the adoption of the ECPRD Activity Report for 2023–2024 and the priorities for 2025–2026, reaffirming the Centre's strategic direction.

An update was provided on the ongoing development of the ECPRD website. The Committee also approved the nomination of two new coordinators for the Economic and Budgetary Affairs area of interest - Carlo Frati, Director of the Treasury Department of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, and for the Libraries, Research Services and Archives area of interest - Natalia Svecova, the Director of the Parliamentary Institute of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic areas of interest.

### Executive Committee meeting – Paris, hosted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, 5-6 June 2025

The Executive Committee met in person at the Council of Europe Office in Paris to assess progress and prepare for upcoming ECPRD activities. The meeting opened with a welcome and the adoption of the agenda, followed by the approval of the minutes from the previous session held remotely in January 2025. Key discussions included the follow-up to the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament held in Strasbourg in March, and the planning of the Annual Conference of Correspondents in Bern (3–4 October 2025). The Committee reviewed the proposed agenda for the Bern conference.

The Committee also examined the proposals of the Working Group on openness and transparency of data and reviewed recent developments and upcoming seminars within the areas of interest. The mandate of the Coordinator for the ICT in Parliaments area was formally renewed. An update on the ECPRD website developments was also presented.

### Executive Committee meeting – Brussels (online), hosted by the European Parliament, 19 September 2025

The Executive Committee met remotely to have a final exchange of views on the organisation of the next Annual Conference of Correspondents in Bern, to adopt the annual activity report and the new guidelines prepared by the Working Group on openness and transparency of data collected within the network.

The meeting opened with the adoption of the agenda and the approval of the minutes from the previous session held in Paris. Besides the adoption of the agenda of the Annual Conference and the discussion on the propositions of the Working Group, coordinators presented the planned activities for the areas of interest and participants had an update on website developments.

### Executive Committee meeting – Brussels (online), hosted by the European Parliament, 21 January 2026

The Executive Committee met remotely to have an exchange on the four areas of interest, follow up on the 2025 Annual Conference, discuss about the 50th anniversary and hear the latest development of the ECPRD website, among others.

The meeting began with the announcement regarding the departure of Annibale Ferrari and the renewal of Christoph Konrath's mandate.

A key item was the follow-up to the Annual Conference of Correspondents in Bern and the preparation of the Annual Conference in 2026, including the preparation of a Working Group on the role of Correspondents.

Among other topics discussed, an update was provided on the ongoing development of the ECPRD website, a discussion was held on how to make communications on the different areas of interest more dynamic and accessible and an exchange of views exploring opportunities and challenges regarding AI with the idea to draft advice or guidance took place. Finally, the committee formally agreed to establish a Working Group for the ECPRD 50th Anniversary for a duration of two years.

### Executive Committee meeting – Bratislava (in person), hosted by the National Council of The Slovak Republic, 11-12 June 2026

The Executive Committee met in person at the National Council of The Slovak Republic in Bratislava to assess progress and prepare for upcoming ECPRD activities.

Key discussions included the preparation of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament to be held in Rome (15-16 October 2026), and the preparation of the annual Conference of Correspondents to be held in Luxembourg (12–13 November 2026).

The Committee also examined the proposals of the Working Group on the 50th ECPRD Anniversary, recent developments and upcoming seminars within the areas of interest and kick-off the Working Group on the role of Correspondents. Exchange of views took place regarding the ECPRD revamped website, the guidelines on AI use in ECPRD and on ECPRD priorities for 2027-2028.

## 3.3. ECPRD Seminars in the areas of interest

The ECPRD organises thematic seminars each year in order to foster exchanges of expertise and best practices among parliamentary officials. These events provide an opportunity to address in greater depth issues of direct relevance to parliamentary work, complementing the Centre's role as a hub for comparative information. The seminars are structured around the ECPRD's four areas of interest: Economic and Budgetary Affairs; Information and Communication Technologies; Libraries, Research Services and Archives; and Parliamentary Practice and Procedure. Through these specialised forums, the ECPRD enables targeted knowledge-sharing, strengthens professional networks, and contributes to the institutional development of member parliaments.

Eight seminars were organised during the period covered by this report. They focused on Artificial Intelligence, data visualisation, parliamentary committees of inquiry, the role of research and library services, and recent developments in European economic governance. They brough together 426 participants from parliamentary chambers of the ECPRD network.

### 3.3.1. Area of interest: Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives

Coordinated by Natália Švecová, the ''Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives'' AoI covers the organisation, services, and strategy of parliamentary information services. It includes staffing, ICT use, client engagement, and public accessibility.

#### Opening up the EP archives using AI (4-5 February 2025, Brussels, Belgium)

Organised by the Archives Unit of the European Parliament, this hands-on seminar brought together 39 participants for an immersive experience in applying artificial intelligence to archival practices. The event focused on the deployment and configuration of Archibot, a custom AI solution designed to enhance access to public archived documents.

The first day introduced participants to the fundamentals of generative AI and large language models, with practical sessions on prompt engineering, retrieval augmented generation, and data visualisation through interactive dashboards.

Participants accessed individual cloud environments to test and refine AI workflows using their own document sets and metadata. The day concluded with a role-play exercise at the Parliamentarium, simulating the experience of a Member of the European Parliament.

The second day centred on the technical deployment of Archibot, including configuration, document loading, and operational management. Presentations and lab sessions guided participants through the setup of the tool, highlighting its potential to streamline archival access and improve user interaction. The seminar concluded with a wrap-up session summarising key takeaways and future opportunities for AI integration in parliamentary archives.

By combining strategic insight with technical training, the seminar provided a concrete roadmap for parliaments seeking to modernise their archival systems and leverage AI for public transparency and institutional memory.

### Enhancing the role of parliamentary research services and libraries (6-7 November 2025, Podgorica, Montenegro)

Hosted by the Parliament of Montenegro, this in-person seminar brought together 53 participants to explore recent developments in operations of parliamentary research services and libraries, paying particular attention to the service purpose, scope and target audience. Participants shared ideas and experiences on how to enhance both the internal and external visibility of research services and libraries, with a focus on outreach strategies, awareness-raising initiatives, branding, marketing, and the promotion of these services within the administration and beyond.

The event opened with welcome remarks by Boban Stanišić, Secretary General of the Parliament of Montenegro and Natália Švecová, ECPRD Coordinator for Area of Interest Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives, Director of Parliamentary Institute, National Council of the Slovak Republic.

The first session explored the recent developments in operations of parliamentary research services and libraries, paying particular attention to the service purpose, scope and target audience. The second one mapped out parliamentary research services' and libraries' organization, composition, workflows, quality standards, and cooperation within the parliamentary administration and developed on possible development strategies.

The first session of the second day tackled outreach strategies, awareness-raising activities, branding, marketing and promotion of parliamentary research services and libraries within the parliamentary administration and beyond. The fourth and last session explored new trends in educational activities provided by the parliamentary research services and/or libraries.

Nataša Komnenić, Head of Parliamentary Institute, and Natália Švecová closed the session. They reaffirmed the importance of interparliamentary cooperation and the work of the ECPRD network.

### 3.3.2. Area of interest: Information and Communication Technology in Parliaments

Coordinated by Frode Rein, the "Information and Communication Technology in Parliaments" AoI provides a platform for cooperation and knowledge exchange among European parliamentary administrations on digital transformation, information technology, and innovation. The area covers topics such as artificial intelligence, parliamentary information systems, digital services, cybersecurity, data management, open data, digital governance, and the use of emerging technologies to support parliamentary work and strengthen institutional resilience.

#### Enhancing the Legislative Process with Data Structures and AI (27-28 February 2025, Reykjavík, Iceland)

Hosted by the Althingi, this in-person seminar brought together 59 participants to explore how structured data and artificial intelligence are transforming legislative workflows in European parliaments. The event opened with welcome remarks by Ragna Árnadóttir, Secretary-General of the Althingi, followed by a keynote address from Helgi Hrafn Gunnarsson, former MP and IT specialist, who shared insights on integrating smart content into legislative processes to promote transparency and innovation.

The first day focused on smart legislative documents and processing, with sessions examining the use of structured formats, XML standards, and digital tools to streamline legislative drafting and publication.

The second day featured a keynote presentation by Brynjólfur Borgar Jónsson, CEO of DataLab, introducing *Vegvísir*, an AI roadmap programme recently completed by the Icelandic parliamentary administration. Subsequent sessions addressed the practical application of AI in parliamentary work, including data driven decision-making, automation, and the ethical use of AI technologies.

The seminar concluded with a summary of key takeaways and a discussion on follow-up actions. Through expert presentations and peer exchange, the event provided a forward-looking perspective on how parliaments can harness data structures and AI to enhance legislative efficiency, accessibility, and public trust.

### The AI Dilemmas in parliaments: unlocking the potential of AI while addressing its challenges in parliaments (16-17 October 2025, Brussels, Belgium)

Hosted by the European Parliament, this in-person seminar brought together 75 participants and focused on transformative potential and governance challenges regarding Artificial Intelligence (AI) in parliamentary work. This two-days seminar, organised in collaboration with the European Parliament's AI Centre of Competence, gathered parliamentary experts, researchers, and institutional leaders to explore the transformative role of artificial intelligence in legislative environments.

The event was opened by Sanna Lepola, EP Director-General of DG PART, and Lorenzo Mannelli, EP Director-General of DG ITEC, who emphasized the importance of inter-parliamentary collaboration in navigating the opportunities and challenges posed by artificial intelligence.

Discussions began with a keynote speech from University Professor Dr. Peter Parycek focusing on the evolving relationships between AI and democratic institutions. This speech was followed by a presentation of recent ECPRD Survey Results and a feedback discussion from the ECPRD Pre-Conference on AI in Bern. Subsequent sessions addressed the implementation of AI in Parliaments (focusing on the enhancement of Legislative Drafting and Streamlining Administrative Processes) and AI Literacy initiatives within and for the public sector.

During the second day, four sessions were organised. the seminar begun with a session on "Aligning AI Deployment with EU and National Regulations and Ethical Frameworks" followed by a session on "Addressing the Black Box Dilemma and Ensuring Explainability in AI". Participants discussed on "AI Adoption & Use Case Challenges and Communication Strategies", on practical applications and emerging use cases of AI in parliaments and on workforce development, capacity building and sustainability of AI in parliaments.

Jesús Gómez, Director for Relations with National Parliaments in DG PART and ECPRD Co-Director, concluded the seminar by reaffirming the EP's commitment for digital transformation and interparliamentary discussions and the important role ECPRD plays for interparliamentary exchanges.

### Institutional Integration and Governance of Artificial Intelligence in Core Parliamentary Processes (21-22 May 2026, Yerevan, Armenia)

Hosted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia, this in-person seminar brought together 46 participants. Organised by the Legislative Monitoring and Information Division, Expertise and Analytical Department of the National Assembly of Armenia, this seminar brought together IT professionals, parliamentary officials, and decision makers from parliaments across the ECPRD network and focused on how AI can be institutionally integrated into parliamentary organisations and workflows. Discussions addressed governance structures, human oversight, organisational capacity, and practical implementation in areas such as legislative scrutiny, drafting processes, analytical support, and information management.

The seminar begun with the welcome session and opening remarks from Ms. Heghine Khachikyan, Ms. Arusyak Kananyan and Mr. Frode Rein.

The first session, focusing on the Armenian perspective, highlighted current AI initiatives and pilots, governance challenges identified and presented the next steps toward institutional integration. Second session, focusing on Governance, Accountability and Red Lines in Parliamentary AI, explored AI strategies and governance structures, Human-in-the-loop models as well as Transparency and disclosure policies. The second day centred on AI in Parliamentary Workflows and on Institutional Capacity, AI Literacy and Organisational Readiness.

The seminar explored the different ways in which parliaments are trying to understand how AI can be used efficiently, with some being more advanced than others. Examples from the Belgian Federal Parliament, the Austrian Parliament, the French Senate, the EPRS or the BUDG secretariat from the EP, among others, were discussed. At the same time, the need for digital sovereignty in the context of rising geopolitical tensions and the weaponisation of digital technology were tackled. The use of AI in parliaments has recently become one of the most active areas of discussion in the ECPRD network, and likely to continue generating interest in the future.

### 3.3.3. Area of interest: Parliamentary Practice and Procedure

Coordinated by Christoph Konrath, the ''Parliamentary Practice and Procedures'' AoI focuses on the legal, structural, and functional aspects of parliamentary assemblies, including their powers, organization, and interaction with society. It also covers MPs' and ministers' status, international roles, and public-facing activities like press, protocol, and visitor relations.

#### Parliamentary committees of inquiry in practice (12-13 June 2025, Paris, France)

Hosted by the French Senate, this in-person seminar brought together 57 participants and served as a forum for exchange on the functioning and challenges of parliamentary committees of inquiry (PCIs). The event opened with welcome remarks by Sylvie Vermeillet, Vice-President of the Senate in charge of oversight, and Éric Tavernier, Secretary-General of the Senate. An introductory session led by Christoph Konrath, ECPRD Coordinator for Parliamentary Practice and Procedure, and Anne-Céline Didier, ECPRD Correspondent, provided an overview of the diverse legal frameworks and models of PCIs across member parliaments.

The seminar was structured around three thematic sessions. The first examined PCIs as tools for executive scrutiny, focusing on their establishment, composition, scope, and the role of parliamentary administrations. The second addressed investigative powers and techniques, including hearings, access to confidential documents, and the use of digital tools and expert support. The third explored collaboration and tensions between PCIs and other institutions, particularly the judiciary, and discussed mechanisms for managing institutional conflicts.

A final panel discussion invited participants to share experiences on the outcomes and follow-up of PCIs, including the implementation of recommendations, communication strategies, and their impact on public opinion. The seminar concluded with a plenary session summarising key insights and reaffirming the importance of PCIs as instruments of democratic accountability.

## 3.3.4. Area of interest: Economic and Budgetary Affairs

Coordinated by Carlo Frati (until June 2026) and Bernardo Polverari (since June 2026), the ''Economic and Budgetary Affairs'' AoI covers economic, financial, and fiscal topics including budgeting, tax policy, trade, energy, innovation, agriculture, employment, digital money, and public-private finance. It also monitors National Recovery Plans and publishes relevant updates.

### The new European economic governance: one year of its implementation (25 – 26 September 2025, Madrid, Spain)

Hosted by the *Congreso de los Diputados* of the Spanish Parliament, this seminar was attended by 40 delegates representing 24 Chambers of 22 countries. These two-days exchange was focused on the first year of implementation of the new economic governance in the EU countries and on the role played by the National Parliaments in the preparation, the approval and the implementation of the medium-term fiscal and structural plans.

The event opened with welcome remarks from Mrs. Sara Sieira, Secretary General of the Senate, Mr. Pedro Peña, ECPRD Correspondent, Congress of Deputies, Director of the Research, Analysis and Publications Division; Mr. Carlo Frati, ECPRD Coordinator of the Area of Interest "Economic and Budgetary Affairs"; and Sylvia Martí, Adjunct Secretary General of the Congress of Deputies.

Diego Martínez López, Professor of Economics at the Pablo Olavide University in Seville, set the scene for discussions with a keynote speech on "*the assessment of the new European governance in its first year: Growing spending needs and the monitoring of debt sustainability*". A breakout session allowed participants, divided in four small groups, to discuss lessons learned after one year of implementation of the new governance.

Over two days, the seminar was divided into four sessions. The first session, moderated by Carlo Frati, consisted in four country presentations on the national Medium Term Structural Fiscal Plans compared with the European Commission´s indications and the dialogue process to define the expenditure path.
The second session allowed participants to exchange on the European Commission's assessment and the Council's recommendations on the national Medium-Term Structural Fiscal Plans. Session three was dedicated to perspectives and possible challenges for the new governance with a focus on costs, climate change and defense spending. Session four was devoted to the role of Parliaments in the process of adoption and the implementation of the Medium-Term Structural Fiscal Plans.

Preceded by a questionnaire, results were presented showing a rather weak participation of the legislatures regarding the drafting and approval of the national medium-term plans; a delay in the adaptation of national legislations to the fiscal framework of the new governance; and a diversity of solutions adopted by the EU Commission in response to the varying situations of EU countries regarding the starting public finances position, the debt sustainability risks, the discrepancies in the methodology and the emerging spending needs. In response, this seminar highlighted the need for greater transparency to foster a more prominent role for parliaments for promoting national ownership of the new governance and the need for parliamentary research services to play an active role in promoting a better understanding of the new EU governance among parliamentarians and the public.

## 3.3.5. Joint Area of interest: ECPRD-EPRS seminar 2025

### Data visualisation in parliaments: towards a community of practice (11-12 December 2025, Brussels, Belgium)

Hosted by the European Parliament Research Service (EPRS), this in-person seminar brought together 57 participants to exchange on the use of data visualisation within parliaments, with a view to developing a community of practice. This event provided a forum for participants to present their existing and planned visual products, to share their experience in relation to methodology, tools and organisational approaches as well as to discuss the emerging challenges that arise during the preparation and presentation of data in visual format.

The seminar began with an opening session and a scene-setter by Victor Negrescu, Vice-President of the European Parliament, and Natália Švecová, ECPRD Coordinator for Area of Interest Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives, Director of Parliamentary Institute, National Council of the Slovak Republic.

This was followed by an expert talk on the next long-term EU budget. This fundamental issue for the EU and its Member States provided a good introduction to the topic of the seminar, given the extensive use of data visualisations in budgetary discussions. The next session focused on a crucial element of data visualisations: obtaining and verifying data. This was followed by a session examining the use of different and flexible formats for data visualisations.

The second day of the conference centred on the human factor in data visualisations. A first session looked at various practices related to training, hiring and/or contracting staff. In addition, an exchange on the approaches towards data literacy took place. The final thematic session concentrated on the use of data visualisations for comparative analysis.

The seminar was closed by Sarah Sheil, Director of the Members' Research Service (DG EPRS), Andrea Laskavá, Head of the Institutional Cooperation Unit (DG PART) and Christoph Konrath, ECPRD Coordinator for the Area of Interest "Parliamentary Practice and Procedure", Head of the Unit "Scientific Support and Coordination in Parliamentary Matters", National Council of Austria.

## 3.4. ECPRD Working Groups

### 3.4.1. Working Group on Openness and Transparency

The question of how information exchanged through the ECPRD network may be used and shared has been the subject of discussion within the network for several years. During the Annual Conference of Correspondents held in Dublin in 2024, participants noted that differing interpretations existed among member parliaments regarding the use of information obtained through comparative requests and other ECPRD activities. To support a structured discussion, a questionnaire on information-sharing practices was launched in March 2024. The results highlighted a diversity of approaches across the network, with some parliaments applying more restrictive access policies while others favoured a more open model. At the same time, concerns relating to confidentiality, data protection, security and user awareness were identified, underlining the need for common guidance.

In response, the Executive Committee decided to establish a dedicated Working Group on Openness and Transparency, co-chaired by Christoph Konrath and Patrick Vollmer. Building on the conclusions of the Dublin discussions and subsequent exchanges within the network, the Working Group prepared a set of practical guidelines aimed at clarifying the use, sharing and publication of information within the ECPRD framework. The proposed guidance distinguishes between different categories of information, clarifies the treatment of confidential content, introduces common definitions and disclaimers, and establishes a review mechanism for respondents before publication.

The draft guidance paper was reviewed and endorsed by the Executive Committee in September 2025, following several meetings of the Working Group. Committee members welcomed the practical nature of the document and its potential to provide a common understanding of openness, transparency and confidentiality within the ECPRD. The Guidelines on Openness and Transparency were subsequently presented to the network and formally adopted. Their principles and requirements were taken into account in the development of the new ECPRD website, helping to ensure greater clarity, consistency and transparency in the management of information across the network. The full text of the Guidelines is included as an annex (annex II) to this report.

### 3.4.2. Working Group on the Role of Correspondents

The role of ECPRD Correspondents has long been recognised as central to the effective functioning of the network. During the Annual Conference of Correspondents held in Bern in October 2025, dedicated discussion groups examined the challenges faced by Correspondents in carrying out their responsibilities. Participants identified a number of recurring issues, including increasing workloads, the accumulation of multiple responsibilities within the same role, difficulties in disseminating ECPRD information internally, and the complexity or lack of clarity of some comparative requests. The discussions also highlighted the need to improve the structure and quality of requests and replies, strengthen peer-to-peer support, and provide additional guidance and onboarding opportunities for new correspondents.

Building on these conclusions, the Executive Committee held further discussions on how best to support Correspondents in their work. It was agreed that the launch of the new ECPRD website should precede any formal review of the existing framework, allowing the network to assess how the platform's new functionalities could contribute to reducing administrative burdens and facilitating daily tasks. The Executive Committee therefore decided to postpone more substantive work until the new platform had been implemented and its practical impact could be evaluated.

Following the finalisation and launch of the new website, the Executive Committee formally established a Working Group on the Role of Correspondents in June 2026. Coordinated by Natália Švecová and Tanja Nurmi, the Working Group was tasked with reviewing the existing 2008 Guidance Note on the Role of the ECPRD Correspondent and developing a model task description for ECPRD Correspondents. Particular attention will be given to improving the quality of comparative requests and responses, drawing on the conclusions of the Bern discussions and feedback received from users of the new website.

Membership of the Working Group was subsequently opened to interested colleagues from across the network. The group is expected to prepare a discussion paper for the Annual Conference of Correspondents in Luxembourg in November 2026, presenting initial proposals for updating the existing guidance. Its final objective is to develop revised guidelines for ECPRD Correspondents, together with a recommended task description template that could serve as a reference for member parliaments when organising and supporting the Correspondent function.

### 3.4.3. Working Group on AI Guidelines

The growing use of artificial intelligence in parliamentary administrations has emerged as a recurring topic across ECPRD activities in recent years, particularly within seminars and exchanges related to research services, libraries and parliamentary administration. In January 2026, the Executive Committee discussed the need to move beyond the exchange of experiences and towards the development of practical guidance for the network. Participants recognised both the opportunities offered by artificial intelligence, including support for research, summarisation and administrative processes, and the challenges associated with ensuring accuracy, impartiality and responsible use. It was also noted that member parliaments were progressing at different speeds in this area, making it important to develop guidance that would be practical, accessible and relevant to institutions with varying levels of experience.

Following these discussions, a proposal was made to establish a dedicated Working Group with the objective of exploring the opportunities and challenges associated with artificial intelligence and preparing practical guidance for ECPRD members. Participants emphasised the importance of building on existing practices and experiences already developed within national parliaments and other interparliamentary organisations, while ensuring that any future guidance remains sufficiently flexible to adapt to the rapid pace of technological developments.

At its meeting in June 2026, the Executive Committee reviewed a first discussion paper prepared by Patrick Vollmer and agreed on a roadmap for the initiative. Recognising the importance of grounding future discussions in evidence gathered from across the network, it was agreed to conduct a survey of member parliaments to identify existing practices, challenges and priorities. The survey results will be used to prepare a discussion paper for the Annual Conference of Correspondents in Luxembourg and will serve as the basis for future exchanges, with the objective of developing practical internal guidelines for the use of artificial intelligence within the ECPRD network. The guidance will be intended to support ECPRD activities and information exchanges and will be reviewed regularly to reflect developments in this rapidly evolving field.

### 3.4.4. Working Group on the ECPRD 50th Anniversary

As the ECPRD approaches its fiftieth anniversary in 2027, the Executive Committee launched a dedicated Working Group to coordinate preparations for this important milestone. Following initial discussions in late 2025, the European Parliament prepared a communication strategy aimed at supporting anniversary-related activities across the network, including the development of common promotional materials and initiatives that could be replicated by member parliaments. In January 2026, the Executive Committee formally established the Working Group for a two-year period and invited interested colleagues from across the network to contribute to its activities.

The Working Group held its first meeting on 20 March 2026 and began work on a number of initiatives intended to celebrate the history, achievements and people of the ECPRD network. A call for contributions was launched for a commemorative photo exhibition to be presented during the 2027 Annual Conference, allowing member parliaments to showcase their experiences and contributions to the network. The material collected through this initiative will also support the preparation of a dedicated anniversary publication. The Working Group further agreed to gather testimonials, photographs, historical material and personal stories reflecting the development of the ECPRD over the past five decades, with particular emphasis on the contribution of parliamentary staff and interparliamentary cooperation.

In parallel, work has progressed on a range of communication products designed to increase the visibility of the ECPRD and support anniversary-related events across the network. By June 2026, the Working Group had developed an anniversary logo and an updated promotional flyer and had begun work on additional materials, including a promotional video and a toolkit to support activities organised by member parliaments. Plans are also being developed for a travelling exhibition and other communication products that can be adapted and used nationally, while maintaining a coherent visual identity across the network. Member parliaments have been encouraged to contribute ideas and materials and to consider how they may wish to commemorate the anniversary at national level.

The Working Group will continue its activities throughout 2026 and 2027, with the objective of ensuring that the ECPRD's fiftieth anniversary serves both as a celebration of the network's achievements and as an opportunity to promote its role in supporting parliamentary cooperation, knowledge-sharing and democratic institutions across Europe.

## 3.5. ECPRD Website

In 2024, the Information Technology Directorate-General of the European Parliament (DG ITEC) launched a major project to modernise the ECPRD network's digital platform. The initiative was driven by the limitations of the existing system, which had been in operation since 2007 and increasingly faced challenges related to technology obsolescence, cybersecurity, maintainability, scalability and user experience. The objective of the project was not only to replace ageing technology, but also to provide a modern platform capable of supporting the evolving needs of the ECPRD network for years to come.

The revamp was conceived as a strategic modernisation effort combining technological renewal with improvements to business processes and user experience. In addition to the redevelopment of the application using modern front-end and back-end technologies, the project included the optimisation of content structures, the streamlining of workflows and the introduction of enhanced security and compliance features.

Following extensive testing and user validation activities throughout 2025 and the first half of 2026, the new ECPRD platform was deployed on 4 June 2026. The new platform replaces a legacy system with a modern, secure and scalable solution designed to support interparliamentary cooperation and facilitate the exchange of information across the network. While the platform has entered operational use, further implementation and optimisation activities will continue over the coming months.

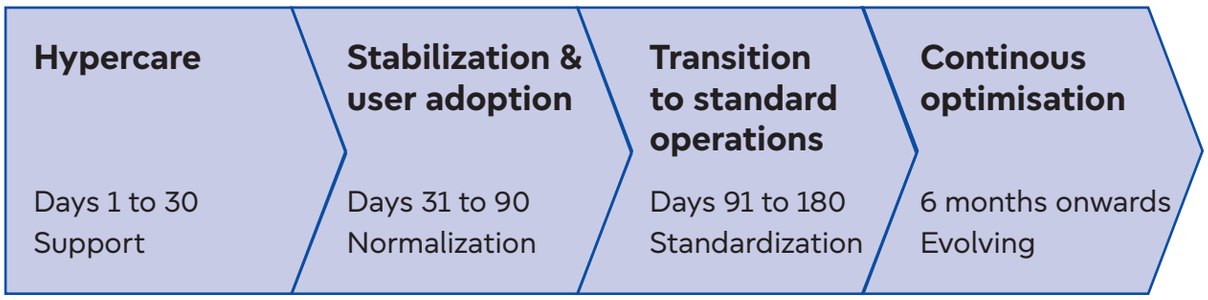
The implementation follows a structured roadmap designed to support the gradual adoption and stabilisation of the platform. The roadmap includes a number of phases, ranging from post-launch support and user adoption activities to the transition towards standard operations and continuous improvement based on user feedback and evolving requirements.

The new platform introduces a number of enhanced capabilities for users. These include the possibility to prepare draft replies before publication, delegate responses to colleagues within parliamentary administrations, access personalised dashboards and communicate directly with requestors through dedicated collaboration tools. The platform also provides greater autonomy for chambers through decentralised user management and introduces new analytical dashboards and reporting functionalities aimed at improving oversight and monitoring of network activities.

To support the introduction of the new platform, a dedicated post-launch support and stabilisation plan was established. At the end of the reporting period, the platform was in the initial post-launch support phase. The roadmap foresees a phased transition from enhanced assistance and user adoption activities towards standard operations and continuous optimisation, with future improvements being guided by user feedback and evolving business requirements.

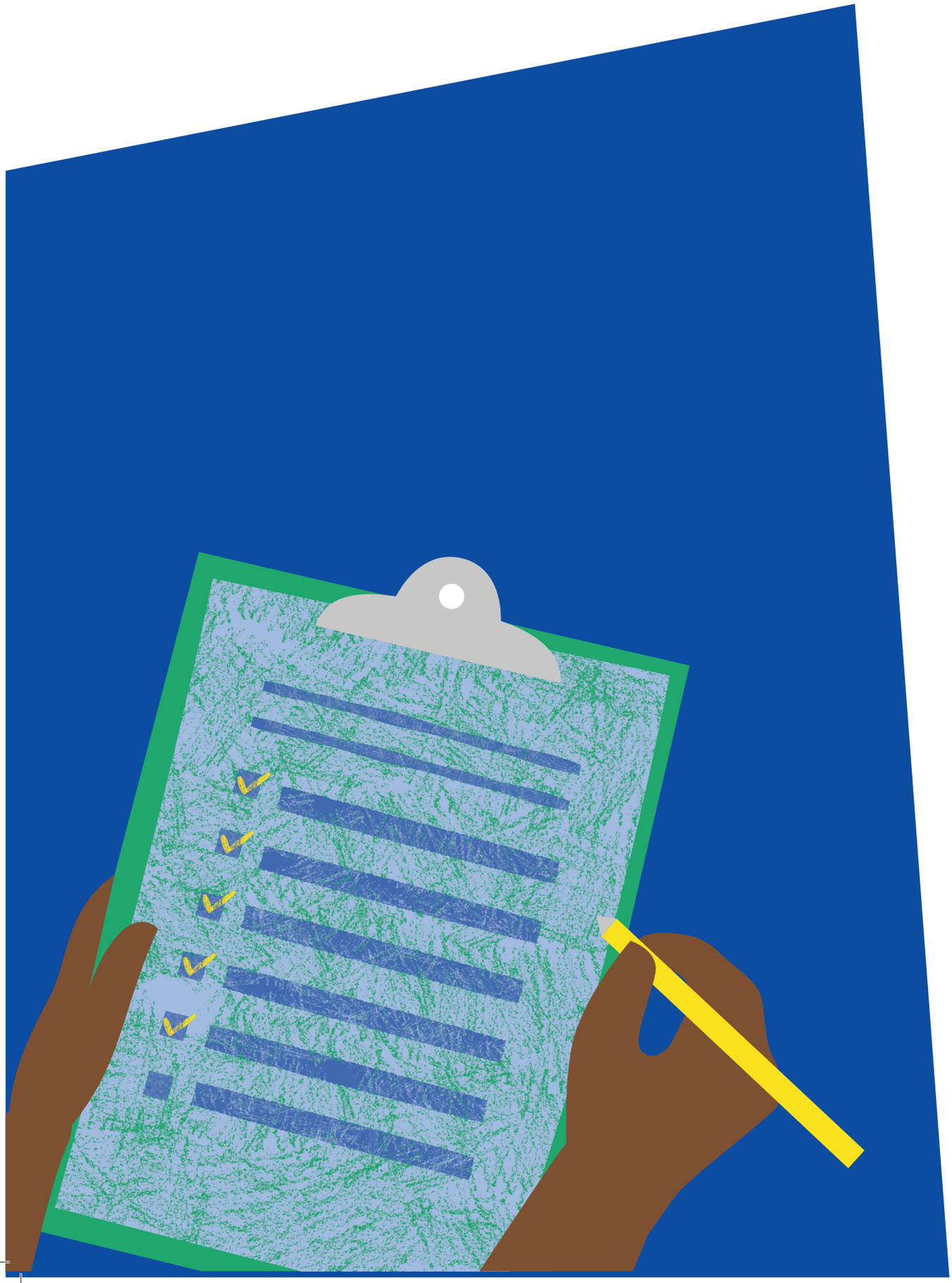
More concretely, the roadmap went live since June 4th 2026 and foresees the following phases:

- **Hypercare** phase from days 1 to 30 with a dedicated support team providing rapid response to resolve critical issues, system outages, data migration problems, and urgent user blockers to ensure a smooth start;
- **Stabilization & user adoption** phase from days 31 to 90, where system activities progressively normalize while user feedback is collected, minor improvements are implemented, and training sessions are provided where needed;
- The **transition to standard operations** phase from days 91 to 180, where Support gradually moves from enhanced Go-Live assistance to the standard IT support model, with the platform operating under normal service procedures;
- And the **continous optimisation** phase from the 6th month onwards, when the platform continues to evolve through planned enhancements, ongoing maintenance, and continuous improvements based on business needs and user feedback.




Website implementation roadmap

The launch of the new website represents an important organisational and technological milestone for the ECPRD. Although the platform remains in the early stages of implementation and user adoption, it establishes a modern foundation for future developments and creates new opportunities to support cooperation, information exchange and knowledge-sharing across the network. The coming months will allow the ECPRD to further stabilise the platform, gather user feedback and continue refining the service in response to the needs of its members.



# 4. Priorities 2027 – 2028

The 2027 – 2028 cycle is of particular significance for the network. The priorities set out below build on the work of the past years, with a commitment to deepening the network's impact, extending its reach and ensuring that its structures serve member chambers effectively. In 2027, the ECPRD will mark its 50th anniversary, crowning half a century of democratic exchange and interparliamentary cooperation. The anniversary offers an opportunity to celebrate, to reflect on the network's evolution and to articulate a shared vision for its future direction.

Considering the statutory objectives, the ECPRD priorities for the years 2027 - 2028 are defined as follows:

1. To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the ECPRD in 2027. The Annual Conference of Correspondents will serve as the central moment of celebration for the network. An Anniversary Working Group has been established to oversee the organisation of the occasion. Member chambers are also invited to mark the anniversary through their own events and activities, supported by common materials developed for that purpose. The anniversary will also serve as an opportunity to promote the role and added value of the ECPRD within parliamentary administrations and to increase the visibility of its activities across services.

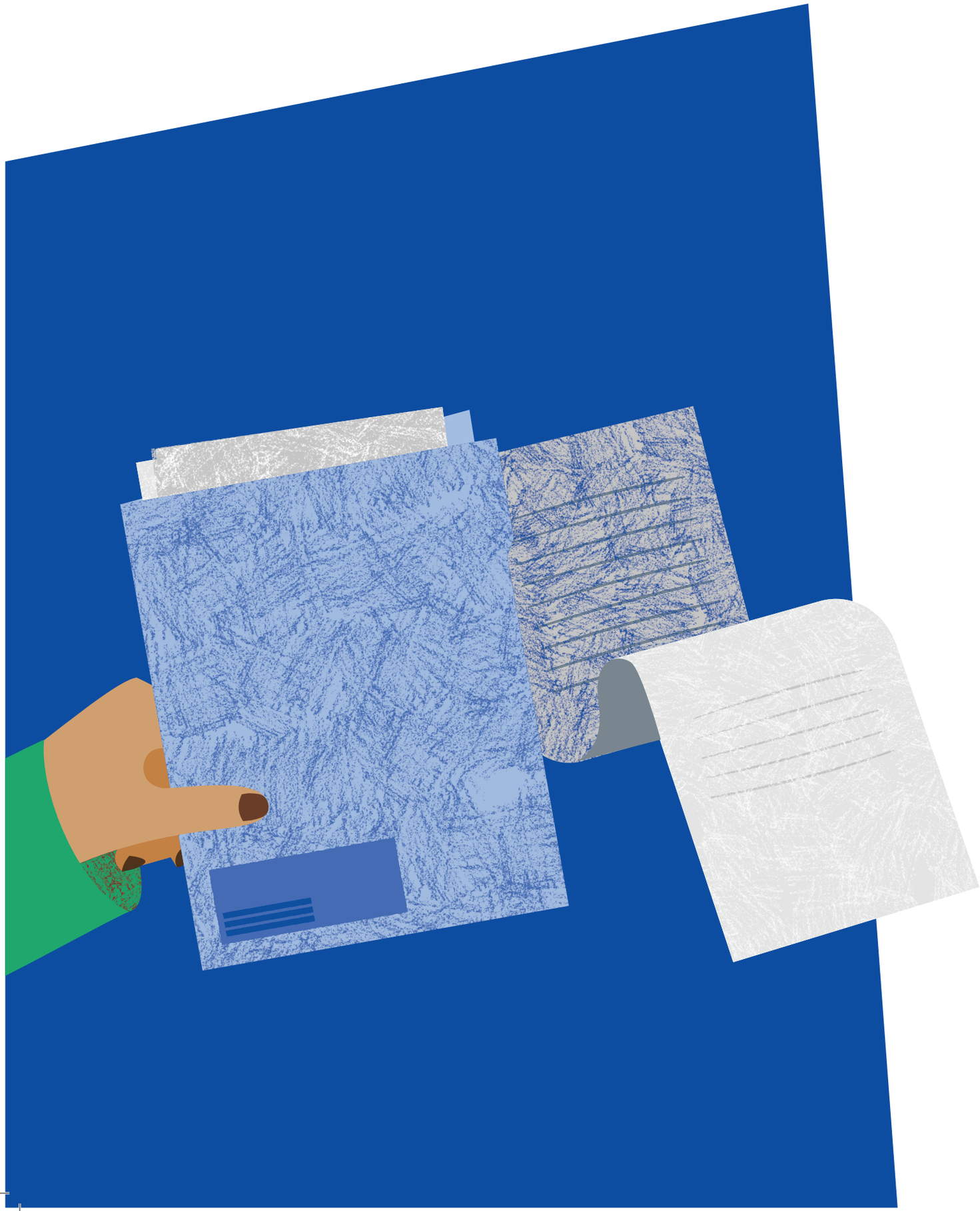
2. To ensure the full and effective use of the new ECPRD website. The platform simplifies processes, improves accessibility and centralises the network's resources. Efforts will focus on familiarising all users with the new tool, notably through targeted guidance and training materials, and on transitioning all comparative requests to the online system. This will enable better search capabilities and support the long-term efficiency of the network. The website could also increasingly serve as a central platform for knowledge exchange within the network, supporting the sharing of good practices, facilitating access to resources, and encouraging its wider use by colleagues across parliamentary administrations, including beyond the established Correspondents' network.

3. To further encourage the involvement of all ECPRD Correspondents and their deputies in the full range of the Centre's activities and to improve the understanding of the ECPRD's work in national Parliaments, with the strong support from their respective Secretaries General.

4. To encourage and support the ECPRD Coordinators of the Areas of Interest in their work to foster the information exchange on topical issues, chiefly by organising and hosting seminars.

5. To encourage parliamentary staff to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the ECPRD network and its website, in particular to retrieve information and establish contacts and co-operation with other member parliaments of the ECPRD. Particular emphasis will be placed on promoting the ECPRD within parliamentary administrations, including through targeted internal communication and outreach, in order to broaden participation beyond the established Correspondents' network. To improve the engagement of junior staff it should be facilitated their participation in ECPRD activities and exchanges.
6. To further develop the exchange of information via the procedure of comparative requests in accordance with existing guidelines, notably by maintaining a high level of responsiveness to requests and ensuring, to the greatest extent possible, the systematic production of final summary reports by requesting chambers.
7. Particular attention will be given to enhancing the quality of both requests and responses, including by promoting clearer guidance, encouraging well-structured and targeted contributions, and fostering a shared understanding of good practices across the network.
8. To strengthen the exchange of information in the four Areas of Interest where Coordinators have been nominated (Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives; Information and Communication Technology in Parliaments; Parliamentary Practice and Procedure; Economic and Budgetary Affairs), and especially via the thematic spaces on the ECPRD website.
9. To develop internal guidelines on the use of artificial intelligence tools within the ECPRD network. These guidelines will be practical and accessible and will be reviewed regularly to reflect the pace of change in this area. They aim to support member chambers navigating similar questions in their own institutional contexts.
10. To continue to organise and host seminars for parliamentary staff on subjects of common interest, based on proposals made by national parliaments, enabling staff to participate and contribute to these events. Where appropriate, virtual or hybrid formats will also be used, allowing for greater flexibility and improved cost-efficiency, particularly in light of the increasing budgetary constraints faced by many member parliaments.

11. To build on the success of the ECPRD webinars and continue organising regular virtual forms of expert meetings with the requisite resources, as a complement to face-to-face seminars. The ECPRD nonetheless remains a network that relies on human interpersonal relationships.
12. To provide regular updates to the parliamentary factsheets and the directory.
13. To foster contacts with other parliamentary exchange networks (e.g. IPEX, IFLA, IPU Parline and CIP), as well as with the network of National Parliament representatives based in Brussels, with a view to not only avoiding duplication of activities but also identifying potential fields of synergies and the sharing of experiences.
14. To explore, if necessary, a second release of the ECPRD website later in 2027, based on user feedback and evolving needs, to further enhance functionality and address any emerging requirements.



# 5. Annexes

## 5.1. Annex I – Statutes of the ECPRD October 2019

The Statutes of the ECPRD were adopted by the ECPRD Secretaries-General meeting at the Conference of Speakers in Budapest on 7 June 1996 and subsequently amended in Tallinn on 31 May 2006 and in Strasbourg on 21 September 2012 and 25 October 2019.

### PREAMBLE

The European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD) was created in 1977 at the request of the Conference of Speakers of European Parliamentary Assemblies (as from 2004: the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament).

### AIMS

#### Article 1

The objectives of the ECPRD are to promote the exchange of information, ideas, experience and good practice among the administrations of parliaments in Europe on subjects of common interest; to strengthen close co-operation among parliamentary services in all fields of parliamentary administration, legislation, information, research and documentation; and to collect, exchange and publicise studies produced by parliamentary services.

In the exchange of information, the ECPRD shall promote, wherever possible, the use and development of Information and Communication Technology. The ECPRD shall co-operate with other networks dealing with the exchange of information among parliaments in Europe.

### COMPOSITION OF THE ECPRD

#### Article 2

The ECPRDs members are the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and parliamentary Chambers where the President is a member of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament.

### Article 3

A parliament possessing special guest or observer status with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe may participate in the different activities of the ECPRD but may not vote in its bodies. The ECPRD may co-operate with non-European parliamentary Chambers.

## GOVERNING BODIES OF THE ECPRD

## The Meeting of the Secretaries-General

### Article 4

The ECPRD operates under the authority of the Secretaries-General of member Chambers. At their meetings held every two years on the occasion of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament, they approve the activity report and action programme of the ECPRD and establish priorities for its functioning.

## The Conference of Correspondents

### Article 5

The Secretary-General of each parliamentary Chamber appoints a senior official (Correspondent) to represent the Chamber within the Conference of Correspondents of the ECPRD. Secretaries-General may also appoint Deputy Correspondents.

The Correspondent is selected from officials whose activities bring them into close contact with the ECPRD and who have direct access to the Secretary General of the Chamber. He/she can thereby coordinate the activities of those officials of his/her Chamber who are asked to play an active role in the ECPRD.

### Article 6

The Conference of Correspondents is responsible, in co-operation with the Co-Directors (see Article 8), for the organisation of the activities of the ECPRD. It examines and adopts the annual intermediate activity reports on the activities of the ECPRD, drafted and presented by the Co-Directors, and the action programme of the ECPRD for the following years.

Meetings of the Conference of Correspondents, chaired by the Co-Directors, take place at least every twelve months.

Decisions of the Conference of Correspondents are reached, in principle, by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, issues will be decided by a vote with a necessary majority of at least two thirds of the votes cast, representing a majority of members of the ECPRD (see Article 2).

## The Executive Committee

### Article 7

The Executive Committee is composed of the two Co-Directors and five Correspondents elected by the Conference of Correspondents. The Committee will meet as often as necessary, at the request of at least two of its members or five Correspondents.

The members of the Executive Committee, other than the Co-Directors, shall be elected for a period of three years. They may be re-elected once. Elections will take place at the Correspondents' annual meeting, with due consideration being paid to the need to maintain geographical balance in the membership of the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee may take decisions when a majority of its members is present. Decisions shall be taken by a majority of the votes cast.

The Executive Committee prepares the biennial activity report which, together with the ECPRD Priorities for the upcoming two years, is then submitted for approval to the Secretaries-General of Parliaments at their meeting during the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament.

## The Co-Directors

### Article 8

The Secretaries-General of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe each nominate a senior official as a CoDirector of the ECPRD.

The two Co-Directors are responsible for the management of all activities of the ECPRD and are assisted by the two Co-Secretaries of the ECPRD and by other officials of their respective institutions.

The Co-Directors may at the same time be the Correspondents for their assemblies.

## Working methods

### Article 9

The ECPRD promotes co-operation between member Chambers through the exchange of information, compilation of documentation and studies and the organisation of seminars; and by the sharing of knowledge of parliamentary ICT applications. On a proposal from the Executive Committee, the Conference of Correspondents shall establish detailed guidelines for studies and comparative requests and for the organisation of ECPRD seminars.

The ECPRD may also participate in or initiate other activities organised within its fields of interest.

When it considers that a given area requires a continuity of activity, the Conference of Correspondents may decide on the appointment of a Co-ordinator responsible for promoting close cooperation between the member Chambers in that area. The Co-ordinator shall be appointed by the Executive Committee from among the competent staff of member Chambers, with the consent of the Chamber concerned, for a renewable term of three years.

On a proposal from the Executive Committee, and to meet specific terms of reference, the Conference of Correspondents may also decide to set up ad hoc working groups composed of staff of member Chambers. The Executive Committee shall determine their duration, which must not exceed three years.

## FINANCING OF THE ECPRD

### Article 10

Member Chambers of the ECPRD meet the cost of participation of their officials in ECPRD activities as well as the costs of communication with the ECPRD.

Member Chambers may organise activities of the ECPRD, such as meetings, seminars etc., and bear the costs of such events. They may also make voluntary financial contributions to the ECPRD.

The operating costs of the ECPRD are covered by the budgets of the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, in conformity with current practice.

The ECPRD may accept outside donations following a favourable opinion from the Conference of Correspondents.

## REVISION OF THE STATUTES

### Article 11

The revision of these Statutes is the responsibility of the Secretaries-General of the member Chambers gathered at their meeting on the occasion of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament.

## 5.2. Annex II – Guidelines on Openness and Transparency

Following workshops in March and May 2025 and the Executive Committee meetings in June and September 2025, this paper sets out the new guidance on openness and transparency in relation to ECRPD requests and responses. This paper was adopted at the Annual Conference in Bern, Switzerland by correspondents on 3 October 2025. A background note is included in the appendix.

### Overview of Key Proposals

- Clarify the definition of terms used by the network.
- Introduce two key subcategories of request: 'administrative, procedural', and 'legislation, policy, implementation'.
- Introduce mandatory transparency on the intended recipients of a request.
- Allow respondents to specify whether information should remain confidential or can be shared with members or more widely.
- Provide guidance on referencing and links provided in responses to requests.
- Amend the disclaimer to improve openness and transparency.

### Purpose of the New Guidelines

1. The varying approaches taken to the confidentiality of responses and information gathered through ECPRD seminars poses a risk to the ECPRD and parliaments given that internal and confidential information could inadvertently be disclosed, potentially placing a parliament or the ECPRD in a difficult situation. These new guidelines for requestors and respondents on the use and reuse of responses mitigates this risk.

### Definitions

2. From discussions on openness and transparency, a varying understanding of terminology has emerged. These guidelines use the following terms:
    - **The ECPRD's members are:** the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and parliamentary chambers where the President is a member of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliament. The Centre's services may also be used by countries having Observer status in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Countries having the Partner for democracy status in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe may also use the centre's services with limited access. Further information can be found on the ECPRD Network website.

- **Request:** an enquiry made by a correspondent for information from correspondents to the ECPRD network.
- **Requestor:** the correspondent making the request through the ECPRD network.
- **Respondent:** the correspondent providing a response to a request made by the requestor.
- **Administration:** the staff of a parliament belonging to the ECPRD network.
- **Member:** a member of a parliament belonging to the ECPRD network.
- **Public:** the general public.
- **Third party:** an organisation or a person outside the ECPRD network and the parliament of a member state, for example a Non-Governmental Organisation. This does not include members or the public.
- **Parliament:** is used as a shorthand to include national parliaments, assemblies and/or chambers.

## Types of Request

3. The new ECPRD website requires requestors to specify the purpose of the request they are making. There are two categories: (i) administrative, procedural; (ii) legislation, policy, implementation. *The former is intended to cover requests for information on the internal workings of parliaments. The latter allows requestors to gather comparative information on the way in which a member state operates in a particular area of law or public policy, a type of request which is allowable under the ECPRD statutes and now forms circa two-thirds of requests. The distinction allows requests to be triaged by correspondents, some of whom are only able to answer requests on administrative or procedural matters, whereas others are able to respond more widely. Correspondents should be aware of potential limitations on colleagues' capacity to reply to 'legislation, policy, implementation' requests when making requests through the network.*

4. Requestors will then need to select the intended recipient of the response from: (i) staff of the administration of a parliament (ECPRD network); (ii) single member of a parliament; (iii) group of members of a parliament; (iv) public. Multiple selections are possible. *This allows work to be triaged, eg where a request is for a single member of another parliament some correspondents will not be able to respond; and for clarity as to how the response will be used.*

5. Requests on behalf of third parties, such as Non-Governmental Organisations, must not be made through the ECPRD network. *The workshops have demonstrated that there is some uncertainty as to the definition of "third parties", with some correspondents including members or the public under its ambit. "Third parties" should be seen as actors outside of parliaments. The mandatory fields described in paragraphs 3 and 4 therefore exclude the possibility of making a request on behalf of such an actor but do allow for correspondents to make a request on behalf of members and for the output of a request to be distributed or published to members and/or the public.*

6. Where information designated as secret is requested, contacts should be enabled by correspondents by email or if necessary, by specially protected means of communication—secret information, including contact details, should not be held on the network.

## Responses and Summary

7. The website requires a respondent to mark a response as (i) confidential (only for the staff of the administration of a parliament); (ii) not confidential (members and public). Where a response is marked as 'confidential' it must not be shared beyond the staff of the administration of a parliament or the ECPRD network.

8. Where a response has been marked as not confidential and is intended for a report/publication beyond the staff of the administration of a parliament, the responder should tick the box 'I want to review my response before it is published to members and/or the public' on the response screen if they would like to review their reply before it is made available/published to members or the public. Requestors will then need to ensure they send a copy of their paper to the respondent before it is published. Sufficient time must be given to allow respondents to reply, and they should do so without delay. *This allows a respondent to confirm the accuracy of the information they provided.*

9. Responses should only contain the contact details for the correspondent and deputy correspondent(s), as those of other colleagues compiling the response can change—personal data should not be included in responses.

## References and Links

10. Where available, links to sources should be given, even if this is only a hyperlink, to affirm impartiality and authority.

11. Conversely, where a published source or link is not available, or where there is insufficient time to find and add to the response, this should be stated. *For example, where a response is based upon internal parliamentary information or custom and practice which is not documented or publicly available, this should be stated by the respondent.*

12. Where it is not possible to provide a full answer, a link to a publicly available source could be given (translation software makes this a more viable option than in the past), rather than not responding to the request at all.

## Disclaimer

13. To further mitigate against the inadvertent release of confidential information, it has been proposed the current disclaimer be altered:
    Where the intended recipient of information gathered through a request is the staff of the administration of a parliament only, it will remain confidential and will not be disseminated to members or the public.
    Where the intended recipient of information gathered though a request will be available to members, the public and/or published on a website, confidential information should not be provided by respondents.
    Where a respondent has marked a response as confidential the information supplied is offered as a courtesy to the ECPRD network, does not reflect the official opinion of the responding parliament and is not intended for publication or use beyond the parliament's administration.
    Conversely, where a respondent has marked a response as not confidential the information supplied can be made available to members, the public and through publication.

## Artificial Intelligence

14. Only information that has been designated as public can be processed using AI systems. Use of all other information in the parliamentary administration's internal and external AI systems must be approved by the respondent.

## Appendix: Background

1. There has always been a tacit agreement that ECPRD information is to be used exclusively by parliaments internally and should not be passed on to third parties outside the network without permission of the authors. The guidance on the protection of personal data in the ECPRD website (15 September 2022) formalised this understanding stating that "replies to ECPRD requests and contributions in the framework of ECPRD events do not necessarily reflect the official position of the parliament".

2. However, there are legitimate expectations from parliamentary research services and libraries, and from their clients, that information can be validated and used. This is of particular importance when information provided in response to comparative policy requests is already available in the public domain, either in full or in part. In addition, there appears to be differences in

how "used exclusively by parliaments internally" is interpreted. For example, does this mean only parliamentary staff, or include both parliamentary staff and members?

3. This has raised two concerns. The first is around how parliaments interpret confidentiality, the second around how confidentiality can be balanced with the increasing push towards greater transparency in society, politics and parliaments. In some countries, there is a further factor in terms of transparency legislation, as can be seen in the Federal Republic of Germany and in the United States of America where the Bundestag and Congress respectively were required by law to publish their previously confidential research papers. A similar situation occurred in the United Kingdom.

4. The matter was highlighted at the Annual Conference of Correspondents in London in 2023. The Executive Committee undertook to explore the matter further and ECPRD request 5763 was launched in March 2024 to obtain an overview of practices. The request received 44 responses, which equates to approximately 60 percent of ECPRD chambers. The responses demonstrate that parliaments take different approaches to confidentiality. Some parliaments prioritise confidentiality by limiting access, while others take a more open approach emphasising transparency and information sharing.

5. During the Annual Conference of Correspondents in Dublin in November 2024, four parallel discussion groups were held. In relation to confidentiality, the responses were mixed, although there did seem to be some consensus about the need for clear, written guidelines and protocols.

6. In January 2025, the Executive Committee agreed there was an urgent need for guidelines, and that a working group should be convened by the authors of this paper to present a set of draft guidelines.

7. Participants in the working group included: Thomas Brown, House of Lords, United Kingdom; Pieter Caboor, Chamber of Deputies, Belgium; Charlotte Cousins, Houses of the Oireachtas, Ireland; Christine Detourbet, European Parliament; Anne-Céline Didier, Senate, France; Claudia Dunca Constantinescu, European Parliament (for the second workshop); Eleni Kanellopoulou, Hellenic Parliament, Greece; Mathias Kersten, Bundestag, Germany; and Barbara Pinto Leite, European Parliament.

8. A key theme at both workshops was whether responses are meant solely for internal parliamentary staff, extend to members or may reach third parties. Diverging views emerged: some participants maintained that confidentiality underpinned their contributions—highlighting sensitivity, lack of validation, or internal focus—while others pointed to the public nature of much of the information shared.

9. Clarification was sought on the term "third parties," especially regarding members of parliament, NGOs and external organisations. Concerns were also raised about requests possibly influenced by outside actors and the growing relevance of requests tied to legislation and policy, which inherently suggest wider dissemination.

10. Several proposals aimed to protect the network's integrity while increasing clarity:
    - Improving technical controls through the new website, including purpose-tagging requests, managing access and setting archiving parameters;
    - Revising the ECPRD disclaimer to explicitly address use; and
    - Improved referencing of sources.

11. At the Executive Committee meeting in June 2025, the dual role of ECPRD requests was discussed: administrative (confidential) and comparative legislative (often public). Both are permissible under ECPRD statutes and should be acknowledged. The concerns expressed by workshop participants around varying expectations of confidentiality, the utility of both types of request and the increasing push towards openness and transparency were highlighted.

12. A consensus at the Executive Committee emerged on improving clarity around the purpose, intended recipient and confidentiality of responses. Proposed measures supported included classifying requests at submission and revising the disclaimer These changes aim to prevent misunderstandings and better management of diverse institutional practices. The Executive Committee asked the authors of this paper to draft up guidelines for approval at the Executive Committee in September 2025 and adoption at the Annual Conference of Correspondents in October 2025.

13. At the Executive Committee in September 2025, the guidance was approved and is now presented to the Annual Conference of Correspondents for adoption.

## 5.3. Annex III – Comparative requests by Chambers

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| European Parliament | 13 | 5 | 5 | 16 | 12 | 14 | 16 | 7 | 7 | 10 | 4 |
| Parliamentary Assembly Council of Europe | 5 | 4 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Albania - Kuvendi | 7 | 10 | 8 | 10 | 22 | 7 | 14 | 19 | 10 | 20 | 13 |
| Andorra – Consell General | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Armenia - National Assembly | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 1 |
| Austria – Austrian Parliament | 3 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 3 | 6 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 |
| Azerbaijan – National Assembly | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Belgium - Chambre des représentants | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 |
| Belgium - Sénat | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina - Parliamentary Assembly | 3 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Bulgaria - National Assembly | 4 | 7 | 10 | 10 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| Canada - Parliament of Canada | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Croatia - Hrvatski Sabor | 2 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Cyprus - House of Representatives | 2 | 3 | 13 | 12 | 9 | 8 | 19 | 25 | 21 | 12 | 3 |
| Czechia - Chancellory of The Chamber of Deputies | 19 | 13 | 31 | 12 | 11 | 10 | 7 | 6 | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| Czechia - Senat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denmark – Folketinget | 4 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 2 |
| Estonia – Riigikogu | 3 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| Finland – Eduskunta | 4 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| France – Assemblée Nationale | 8 | 16 | 10 | 11 | 19 | 12 | 17 | 14 | 12 | 13 | 8 |
| France – Sénat | 2 | 4 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Georgia – Parliament | 8 | 20 | 16 | 17 | 10 | 31 | 25 | 17 | 10 | 0 | 2 |
| Germany – Bundesrat | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Germany – Deutscher Bundestag | 41 | 28 | 43 | 40 | 28 | 26 | 44 | 39 | 28 | 12 | 13 |
| Greece – Vouli Ton Ellinon | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Hungary – National Assembly | 7 | 12 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 3 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 3 |
| Iceland – Althingi | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Ireland – Houses of The Oireachtas | 6 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 17 | 16 | 14 | 11 | 2 | 6 | 2 |
| Israel – Knesset | 5 | 8 | 11 | 12 | 18 | 14 | 9 | 16 | 12 | 9 | 5 |
| Italy – Camera Dei Deputati | 2 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 1 |
| Italy – Senato della Repubblica | 1 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 1 |
| Jordan – Representatives | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Latvia – Latvijas Republikas Saeima | 2 | 3 | 5 | 12 | 8 | 15 | 6 | 5 | 14 | 7 | 1 |
| Liechtenstein - Landtag Des Fürstentums Liechtenstein | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Lithuania - Seimas | 6 | 11 | 12 | 9 | 7 | 21 | 10 | 19 | 8 | 18 | 10 |
| Luxembourg - Chambre des députés | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 |
| Malta - House of Representatives | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Moldova - Parliament of The Republic of Moldova | 7 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 3 |
| Montenegro – Parliament of Montenegro | 3 | 9 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Morocco - Chambre Des Representants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Netherlands – Eerste Kamer Der Staten Generaal | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 |
| Netherlands - Tweede Kamer Der Staten Generaal | 9 | 4 | 11 | 9 | 7 | 10 | 7 | 12 | 7 | 5 | 6 |
| North Macedonia - Sobranie | 4 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| Norway - Stortinget | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Poland - Sejm | 6 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 7 | 5 | 3 | 6 | 2 | 4 | 5 |
| Poland - Senat | 2 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 8 | 3 |
| Portugal - Assembleia Da República | 10 | 7 | 8 | 3 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 7 | 6 |
| Romania – Camera Deputatilor | 5 | 10 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 13 | 15 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| Romania - Senat | 6 | 15 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 14 | 15 | 28 | 8 | 26 | 10 |

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Marino – Consiglio Grande E Generale | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Serbia – National Assembly | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Slovakia – National Council | 21 | 31 | 31 | 22 | 18 | 30 | 13 | 9 | 11 | 8 | 6 |
| Slovenia – Državni Svet (National Council) | 2 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Slovenia – Državni zbor (National Assembly) | 6 | 5 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 5 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Spain – Congreso De Los Diputados | 1 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Spain – Senado | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sweden – Riksdag | 15 | 21 | 12 | 18 | 23 | 17 | 14 | 38 | 20 | 27 | 3 |
| Switzerland – Nationalrat | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Switzerland – Ständerat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Türkiye – Republic of Türkiye – The Grand National Assembly | 2 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| Ukraine – Verkhovna Rada | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 0 |
| United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Commons | 7 | 13 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 12 | 6 | 6 | 3 |
| United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Lords | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| United States of America – Congress | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

## 5.4. Annex IV – Replies to the comparative requests by Chambers

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| European Parliament | 34 | 34 | 31 | 29 | 116 | 93 | 89 | 112 | 69 | 52 | 35 |
| Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe | 17 | 10 | 11 | 15 | 8 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Albania - Kuvendi | 76 | 81 | 67 | 55 | 95 | 93 | 103 | 96 | 75 | 49 | 27 |
| Andorra - Consell General | 47 | 16 | 35 | 4 | 14 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 6 | 0 | 0 |
| Armenia - National Assembly | 0 | 0 | 31 | 1 | 12 | 16 | 79 | 88 | 70 | 48 | 23 |
| Austria - Parlament - Bundesrat | 223 | 260 | 248 | 253 | 217 | 307 | 201 | 383 | 243 | 214 | 104 |
| Austria - Parlament - Nationalrat | 223 | 268 | 296 | 239 | 261 | 302 | 274 | 317 | 245 | 214 | 104 |
| Azerbaijan - National Assembly | 6 | 21 | 7 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Belgium - Chambre Des Representants | 173 | 141 | 128 | 139 | 210 | 267 | 261 | 307 | 212 | 218 | 110 |
| Belgium - Senat | 152 | 124 | 111 | 102 | 163 | 241 | 254 | 320 | 214 | 216 | 97 |
| Bosnia-Herzegovina - Parliamentary Assembly | 0 | 10 | 26 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 31 | 31 |
| Bulgaria - National Assembly | 32 | 34 | 12 | 92 | 187 | 198 | 210 | 253 | 193 | 183 | 76 |
| Canada - Parliament of Canada | 95 | 98 | 96 | 101 | 130 | 111 | 119 | 156 | 119 | 87 | 47 |
| Croatia - Hrvatski Sabor | 175 | 205 | 231 | 198 | 212 | 229 | 226 | 256 | 185 | 172 | 61 |
| Cyprus - House of Representatives | 60 | 26 | 15 | 32 | 92 | 180 | 145 | 180 | 130 | 91 | 26 |
| Czechia - Chancellory of The Chamber of Deputies | 161 | 197 | 211 | 176 | 213 | 222 | 198 | 207 | 157 | 117 | 50 |
| Czechia - Senat | 51 | 28 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 7 | 33 | 0 |

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Denmark – Folketinget | 184 | 202 | 180 | 100 | 109 | 96 | 134 | 235 | 241 | 211 | 93 |
| Estonia – Riigikogu | 198 | 228 | 249 | 225 | 249 | 264 | 268 | 308 | 218 | 208 | 105 |
| Finland – Eduskunta | 213 | 259 | 256 | 239 | 277 | 283 | 280 | 340 | 242 | 223 | 110 |
| France – Assemblée Nationale | 213 | 267 | 254 | 248 | 201 | 293 | 280 | 338 | 257 | 216 | 109 |
| France – Sénat | 54 | 34 | 32 | 42 | 96 | 245 | 264 | 295 | 223 | 173 | 79 |
| Georgia – Parliament | 67 | 66 | 62 | 46 | 103 | 67 | 93 | 93 | 68 | 37 | 32 |
| Germany – Bundesrat | 213 | 272 | 285 | 253 | 272 | 299 | 276 | 339 | 252 | 226 | 105 |
| Germany – Deutscher Bundestag | 262 | 349 | 351 | 307 | 376 | 357 | 350 | 412 | 275 | 227 | 105 |
| Greece – Vouli Ton Ellinon | 184 | 232 | 241 | 212 | 240 | 229 | 216 | 251 | 193 | 172 | 97 |
| Hungary – National Assembly | 195 | 227 | 245 | 215 | 222 | 261 | 260 | 281 | 205 | 193 | 103 |
| Iceland – Althingi | 72 | 66 | 60 | 66 | 37 | 91 | 38 | 22 | 35 | 30 | 3 |
| Ireland – Houses of the Oireachtas | 116 | 108 | 111 | 132 | 145 | 126 | 127 | 192 | 128 | 87 | 58 |
| Israel – Knesset | 56 | 64 | 68 | 93 | 120 | 96 | 100 | 122 | 85 | 57 | 33 |
| Italy – Camera Dei Deputati | 71 | 23 | 94 | 109 | 90 | 74 | 95 | 93 | 67 | 131 | 55 |
| Italy – Senato Della Repubblica | 47 | 15 | 95 | 102 | 107 | 81 | 66 | 90 | 75 | 104 | 48 |
| Jordan – Representatives | 0 | 0 | 13 | 11 | 7 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 |

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Latvia – Latvijas Republikas Saeima | 140 | 168 | 251 | 197 | 233 | 247 | 245 | 277 | 198 | 199 | 97 |
| Liechtenstein – Landtag Des Fürstentums Liechtenstein | 4 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 39 | 19 | 0 |
| Lithuania – Seimas | 178 | 209 | 226 | 200 | 237 | 243 | 244 | 278 | 195 | 184 | 90 |
| Luxembourg – Chambre des députés | 83 | 125 | 119 | 79 | 132 | 145 | 127 | 260 | 172 | 194 | 96 |
| Malta – House of Representatives | 2 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| Moldova – Parliament of The Republic of Moldova | 26 | 16 | 9 | 33 | 36 | 47 | 33 | 42 | 41 | 50 | 24 |
| Montenegro – Parliament of Montenegro | 77 | 95 | 68 | 58 | 42 | 35 | 107 | 109 | 13 | 2 | 4 |
| Morocco – Chambre des Representants | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Netherlands – Eerste Kamer Der Staten Generaal | 164 | 0 | 8 | 8 | 17 | 2 | 15 | 86 | 118 | 39 | 12 |
| Netherlands – Tweede Kamer Der Staten Generaal | 175 | 183 | 156 | 152 | 167 | 194 | 207 | 270 | 233 | 218 | 96 |
| North Macedonia – Sobranie | 70 | 91 | 73 | 23 | 31 | 70 | 108 | 116 | 82 | 73 | 33 |
| Norway – Stortinget | 102 | 128 | 130 | 162 | 183 | 161 | 172 | 194 | 154 | 111 | 71 |
| Poland – Sejm | 182 | 224 | 258 | 231 | 155 | 108 | 199 | 235 | 227 | 209 | 108 |
| Poland – Senat | 144 | 231 | 248 | 183 | 221 | 251 | 250 | 314 | 224 | 209 | 102 |
| Portugal – Assembleia Da República | 181 | 216 | 236 | 208 | 236 | 255 | 248 | 285 | 206 | 202 | 96 |
| Romania – Camera Deputatilor | 130 | 167 | 98 | 132 | 171 | 170 | 217 | 228 | 186 | 172 | 88 |
| Romania – Senat | 66 | 34 | 24 | 37 | 113 | 98 | 113 | 62 | 83 | 69 | 18 |

| Chambers | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 | 2024 | 2025 | 2026 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| San Marino – Consiglio Grande E Generale | 0 | 16 | 37 | 36 | 45 | 23 | 7 | 21 | 11 | 1 | 0 |
| Serbia – National Assembly | 87 | 83 | 46 | 47 | 24 | 15 | 5 | 16 | 10 | 10 | 0 |
| Slovakia – National Council | 179 | 211 | 215 | 190 | 222 | 235 | 236 | 264 | 191 | 188 | 98 |
| Slovenia – Državni Svet (National Council) | 83 | 52 | 68 | 160 | 254 | 114 | 116 | 205 | 59 | 52 | 20 |
| Slovenia – Državni zbor (National Assembly) | 165 | 167 | 184 | 148 | 217 | 249 | 238 | 273 | 195 | 188 | 89 |
| Spain – Congreso De Los Diputados | 176 | 241 | 271 | 245 | 256 | 250 | 256 | 326 | 223 | 216 | 118 |
| Spain – Senado | 56 | 83 | 67 | 67 | 29 | 32 | 34 | 14 | 2 | 96 | 56 |
| Sweden – Riksdag | 205 | 265 | 270 | 239 | 253 | 285 | 276 | 306 | 241 | 202 | 117 |
| Switzerland – Nationalrat | 84 | 81 | 80 | 115 | 130 | 111 | 100 | 109 | 110 | 88 | 55 |
| Switzerland – Ständerat | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 93 | 102 | 110 | 88 | 55 |
| Türkiye – Republic of Türkiye – The Grand National Assembly | 62 | 79 | 81 | 76 | 96 | 77 | 87 | 88 | 52 | 57 | 29 |
| Ukraine – Verkhovna Rada | 17 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 26 | 50 | 47 | 24 |
| United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Commons | 178 | 195 | 245 | 222 | 193 | 173 | 169 | 163 | 118 | 122 | 58 |
| United Kingdom – UK Parliament – House of Lords | 123 | 140 | 267 | 198 | 150 | 144 | 197 | 198 | 159 | 137 | 74 |
| United States of America – Congress | 3 | 4 | 14 | 4 | 80 | 42 | 32 | 11 | 15 | 2 | 0 |

## 5.5. Annex V – Attendance of the seminars in the areas of interest

**PRA Seminar – Opening up the EP archives using AI**
Organiser: European Parliament – Brussels – Belgium
Area of interest: Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives
04/02/2025 – 05/02/2025
Attendance: 39

**ICT Seminar – Enhancing the Legislative Process with Data Structures and AI**
Organiser: Althingi – Reykjavík – Iceland
Area of interest: Information and Communication Technology in Parliaments
27/02/2025 – 28/02/2025
Attendance: 59

**PPP Seminar – Parliamentary committees of inquiry in practice**
Organiser: French Senate – Paris – France
Area of interest: Parliamentary Practice and Procedure
12/06/2025 – 13/06/2025
Attendance: 57

**EBA Seminar - The new European economic governance: one year of its implementation**
Organiser: Congreso de los Diputados – Madrid – Spain
Area of interest: Economic and Budgetary Affairs
25/09/2025 – 26/09/2025
Attendance: 40

**ICT Seminar – The AI Dilemmas in parliaments: unlocking the potential of AI while addressing its challenges in parliaments**
Organiser: European Parliament – Brussels – Belgium
Area of interest: Information and Communication Technology in Parliaments
16/10/2025 – 17/10/2025
Attendance: 75

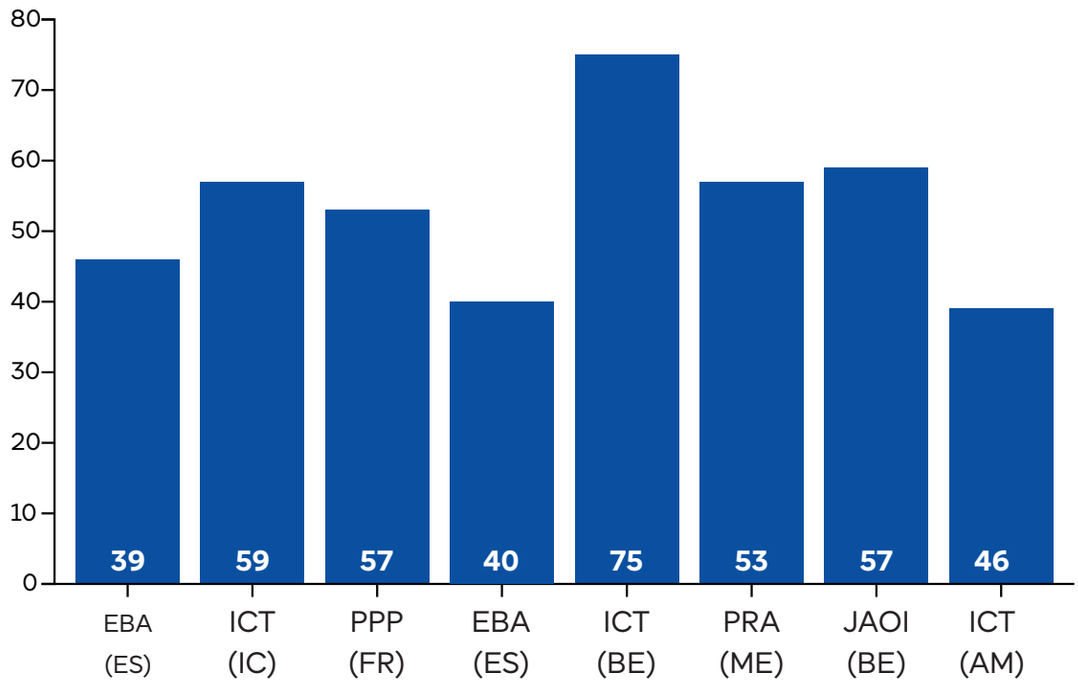
**PRA Seminar - Enhancing the role of parliamentary research services and libraries**
Organiser: Parliament of Montenegro – Podgorica – Montenegro
Area of interest: Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives
06/11/2025 – 07/11/2025
Attendance: 53

**JAOI Seminar - Data visualisation in parliaments: towards a community of practice**
Organiser: European Parliamentary Research Service – Brussels – Belgium
Area of interest: Joint Area of interest
11/12/2025 – 12/12/2025
Attendance: 57

**ICT Seminar – Institutional Integration and Governance of Artificial Intelligence in Core Parliamentary Processes**
Organiser: National Assembly of the Republic of Armenia – Yerevan – Armenia
Area of interest: Information and Communication Technology in Parliaments
21/05/2026 – 22/05/2026
Attendance: 46

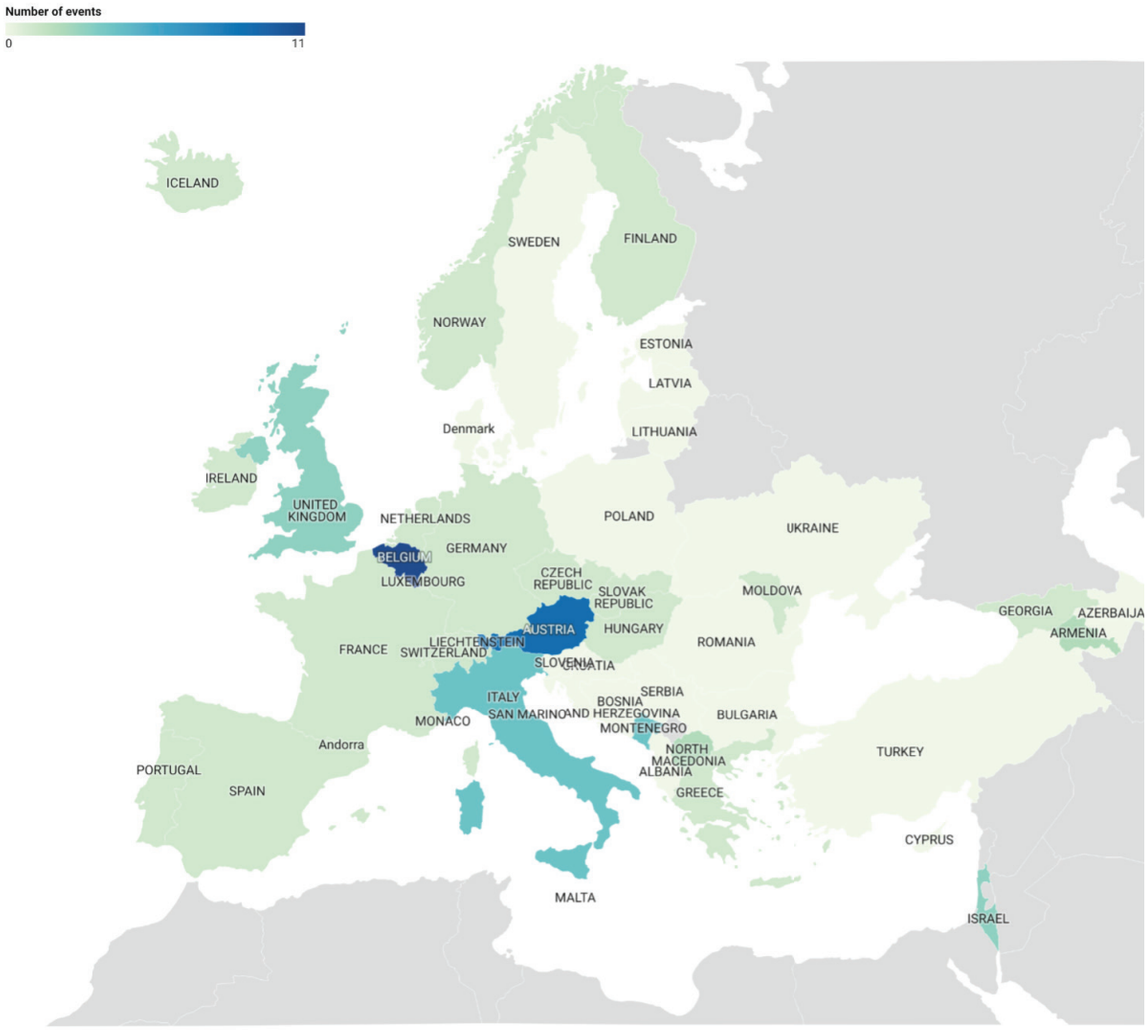
**Attendance of the seminars in all areas of interest: 426**

## Seminar attendance



## 5.6. Annex VI – Maps of venues

### Number of ECPRD events by country between 2020 and 2026

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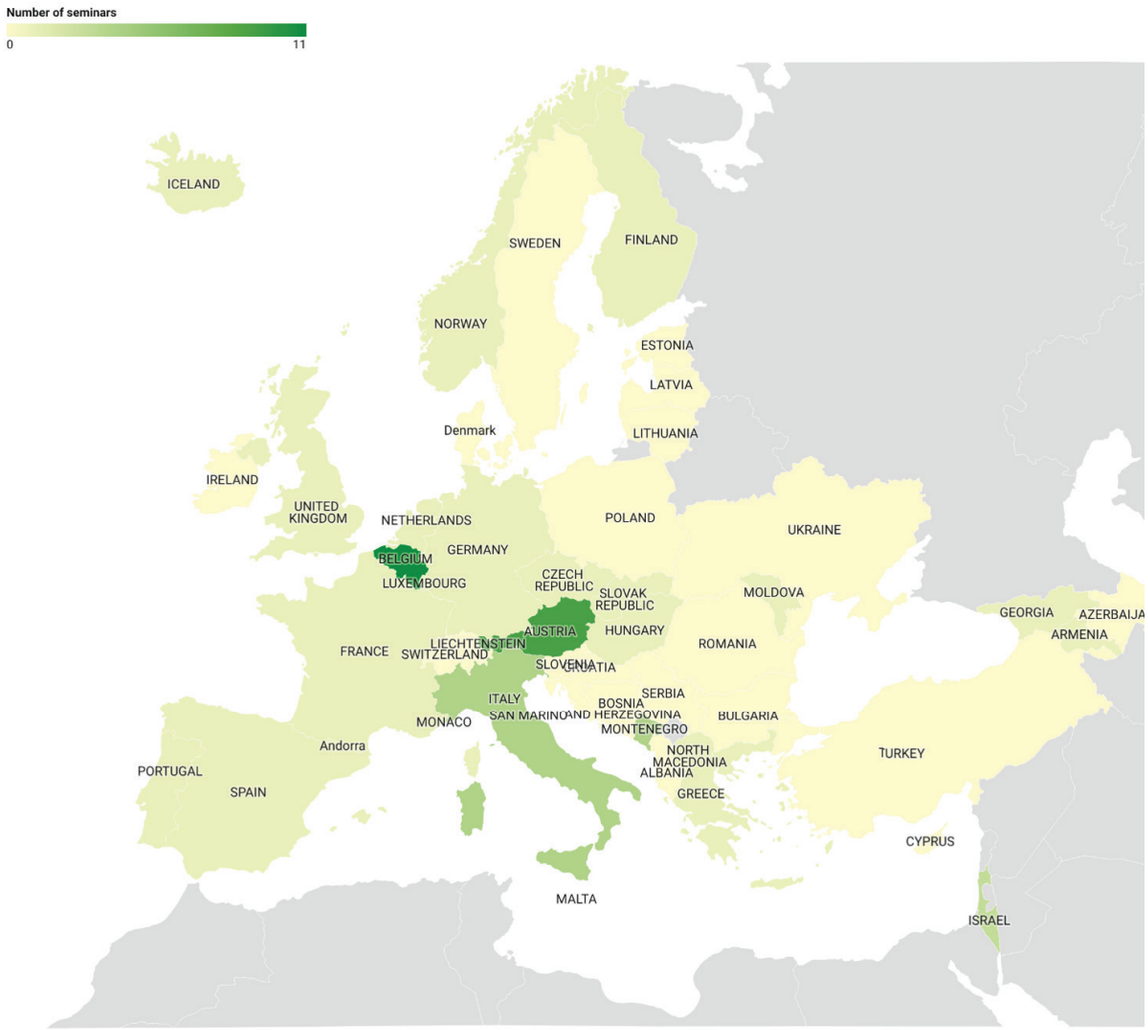
## Number of ECPRD seminars by country between 2020 and 2026

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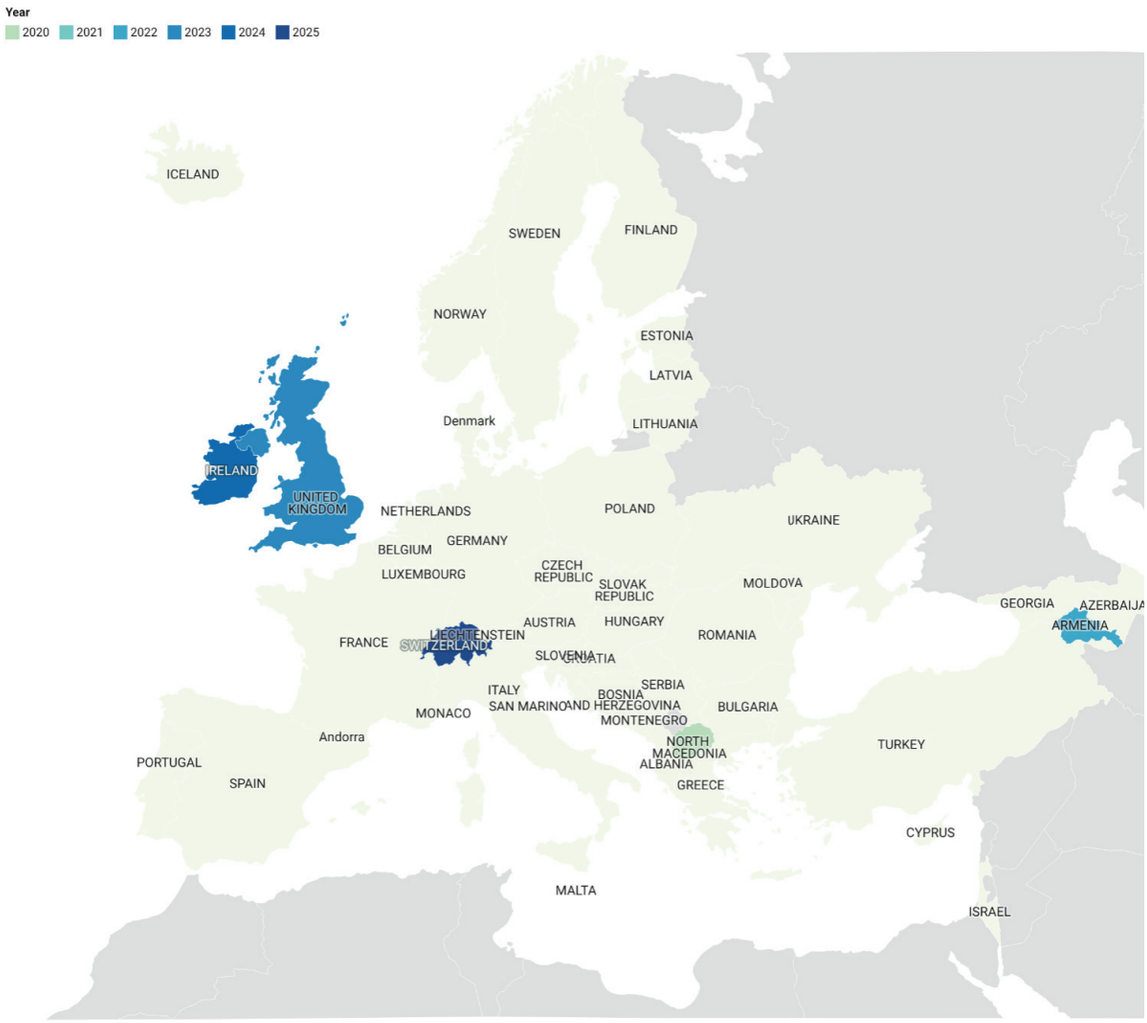
## Year of the last ECPRD Annual Conference hosted by each country (2020–2026)

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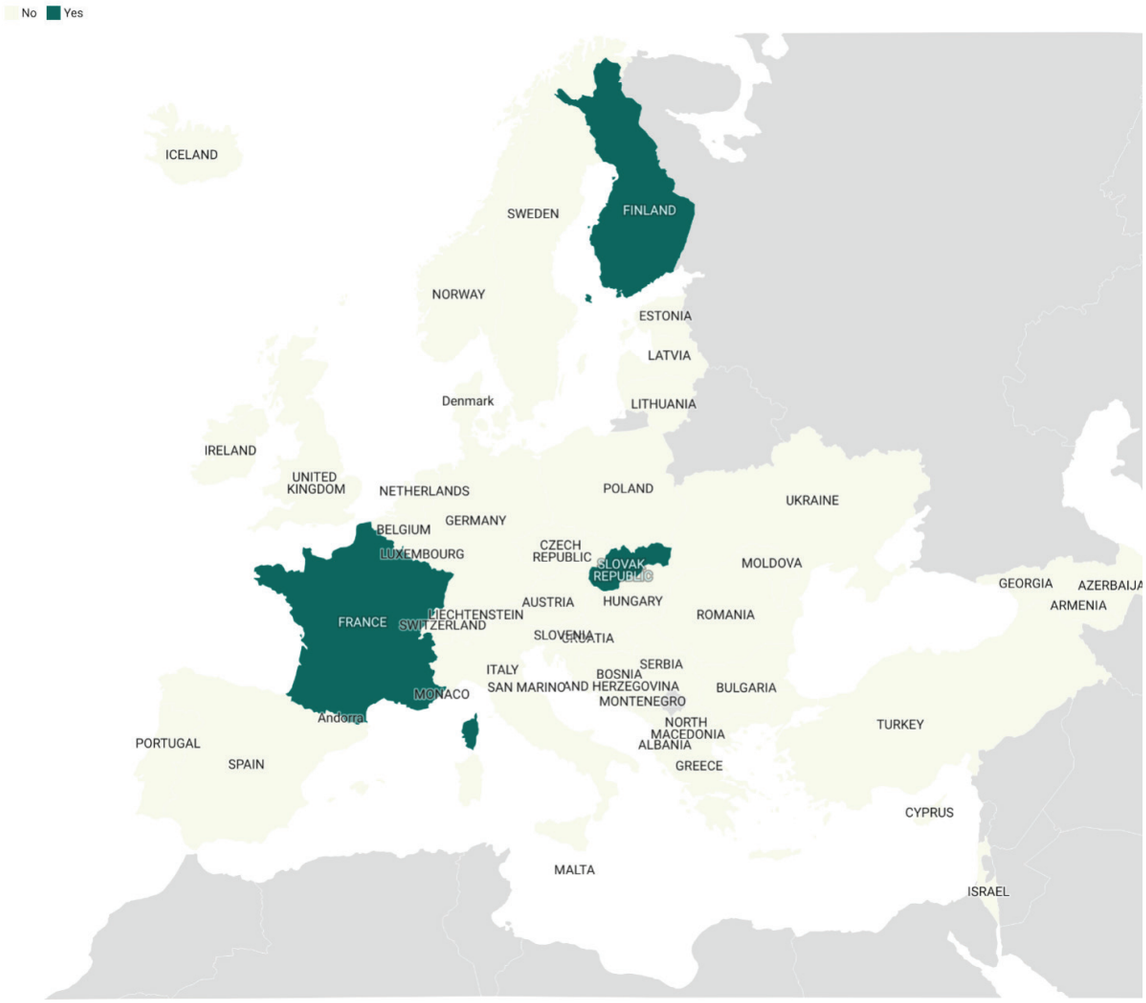
## Countries that hosted in-person ECPRD Executive Committee Meetings between 2020 and 2026

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