



# NEWSLETTER OF THE IFLA SECTION ON LIBRARY AND RESEARCH SERVICES FOR PARLIAMENTS

FEBRUARY 2019



## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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Dear Colleagues,

A very warm welcome to you all at the start of another busy year for IFLA and IFLAPARL, as it is, I'm sure, for many of you as well.

Back in December Karin and I submitted our [Annual Report](#) for the year gone by, which was a good opportunity to look back on the Section's work. In addition to our pre-conference and WLIC session (you can read more about these on p.2), we also made good progress with the work on the project to develop an ethics checklist for parliamentary libraries and research services as well as updating the Section's web pages. However, we cannot afford to rest on our laurels as there is plenty for us to be working on in this year's [Action Plan](#)!

So back to 2019. Work is already well underway planning for this year's pre-conference and WLIC in Athens – more details can be found about these on p.3. While work also continues on the next steps of IFLA's Global Vision, which will result in the launch of a new IFLA strategy at the WLIC in August (see p.4). As you can see, there is lots going on, with plenty of opportunities to participate and contribute. And please remember to let Karin or I know about anything interesting in your area you think others might like to hear about so that we can post it as a news item on the website or include it in the next newsletter.

Very best wishes to you all for the year ahead and I look forward to seeing you in Athens!

Steve Wise  
Chair, IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments

### How to join the Section

If you are already an IFLA member, but not a Section member, please go to <http://archive.ifla.org/III/members/form2a.htm> to register as a member of the Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments.

If you are NOT an IFLA member you have to become an IFLA member before joining any Section,

### Share and connect

- Check out the Section's website: <http://www.ifla.org/services-for-parliaments>
- Sign up for the IFLAPARL discussion list, which is open to all members as well as others interested in the Section; <http://www.ifla.org/services-for-parliaments>
- Contribute news about your library and/or research service: email Steve Wise, Chair, [iflaparl.chair@gmail.com](mailto:iflaparl.chair@gmail.com) or Karin Finer, Secretary, [karin.finer@europarl.europa.eu](mailto:karin.finer@europarl.europa.eu)

## IN MEMORIAM

Margareta Brundin passed away on September 19<sup>th</sup> at the age of 74. She graduated from the University of Stockholm in 1969. After a long career as head of the library of the Swedish car manufacturing company Scania, Margareta was recruited to the Parliamentary Library of Sweden in 1991.

For many years, Margareta was an active member of the IFLA section – “Libraries and Research Services for Parliaments”.

Margareta served as a Standing committee member from 1999 to 2003 and 2005 to 2009. She served as the chair/treasurer from 2002 to 2003 and as a secretary/editor between 2005 and 2007.

She invited all section members to share knowledge and best practice and to work for a well-informed parliament with strong libraries and research services.

Throughout the years she worked in the IFLA, Margareta was a generous, dedicated and knowledgeable colleague. She will be greatly missed.

*By Gro Sandgrind. Parliamentary Librarian, Norway  
Former IFLAPARL Chair, 2007 – 2009*



## IFLA CONFERENCES 2018, KUALA LUMPUR

### Pre-conference 2018

The pre-conference of the IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments was held in Kuala Lumpur's Convention Centre on the 24<sup>th</sup> of August. The Parliament of Malaysia was unfortunately unable to host the pre-conference due to recent elections. As an alternative, the Section organised a pre-conference - themed 'Transforming parliamentary libraries and research services to meet changing clients' needs' - in conjunction with the main congress. It was well attended, with over 100 participants, and offered an opportunity for colleagues from the Malaysian Parliament to attend and [present their work](#).

The session also included a [workshop](#) on [parliamentary research and library service ethics](#), a presentation on [understanding clients' changing needs](#) and an address from Donna Scheeder, former IFLA president. As the IFLAPARL pre-conference was cut short this year, the Section additionally organised informal roundtable meetings to allow more time to discuss common issues. Among the topics featured were research product design, evaluating impact of parliamentary library and research services, and use of social media. These meetings were popular and provided a great opportunity to network and exchange views.

You can find more information, the presentations and photos [here](#).

### WLIC 2018

The 84<sup>th</sup> [IFLA World Library and Information Congress](#) (WLIC) took place between the 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of August in Kuala Lumpur, attracting more than 3,500 participants worldwide. Its many sessions ranged over issues such as emerging technology for libraries, copyright and other legal matters, knowledge management in organisational change, professional development, and adapting libraries to new roles.

IFLAPARL convened an open session entitled '[Transforming Library & Research Services for Parliamentary Impact](#)'. It was an interactive and well-attended session with six short presentations and group discussions on how parliamentary research services and libraries innovate to find new and more efficient ways of meeting changing customer needs. The presentations were highly engaging and the discussions lively and informative.

Lillian Gassie gave a very interesting [presentation](#) on the use of the [Guidelines for Parliamentary Research Services](#) in a session on impact of recently approved IFLA standards. Click here for the [paper](#).

In addition, the IFLAPARL Standing Committee held two [business meetings](#) and cooperated with other IFLA sections to arrange a popular knowledge café on the [changing role and development of information professionals](#), and a [session with Government libraries](#) on evidence-based policy making and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

You can find more information, the presentations and photos [here](#).

*By Karin Finer. Secretary IFLAPARL*

## PLANNING FOR THE IFLA CONFERENCES 2019, ATHENS

### Pre-conference 2019

IFLAPARL will be holding its annual pre-conference, entitled 'Parliamentary Libraries & Research Services: Supporting Dialogue for Change', the 22 - 23 August in Athens. The Hellenic Parliament has very kindly agreed to host the meeting this year.

The precise programme and content of the pre-conference is still under discussion between the Standing Committee and colleagues at the Hellenic Parliament. However, the programme is likely to include presentations/workshops on initiatives within the Hellenic parliament, updates from regional groups on recent projects and activities, the launch of the new ethics checklists for Parliamentary Libraries and Research Services, which was developed by the Section for the last two years, and the work on updating a new edition of the Section's [Guidelines for Legislative Libraries](#).

More news on the programme and the registration process will follow shortly, so please watch out for emails from the IFLAPARL list and keep an eye on the Section's web pages.

### WLIC 2019

The [2019 WLIC](#) will be held in Athens between the 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> of August. The IFLAPARL Section will as usual hold its own open session, this year entitled '[Informing dialogue, enabling change](#)'. It will be a knowledge sharing session, with a mixture of short presentations and group discussions, with the emphasis on how parliamentary libraries and research services innovate and look at new and efficient ways to adapt their services to support Members in their legislative, policy and scrutiny work, and, increasingly, facilitate open and transparent communication between parliaments and citizens.

If you would like to make a presentation, the deadline for submitting a proposal is **15th March**.

We are also planning for the following joint sessions:

- with Government Libraries: "[Libraries: dialogue for change – From gatekeeping to advocacy](#)"
- with Knowledge Management and Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning, a Knowledge Café on 'Change Literacy: Digital, Collaborative, Creative'
- the precise dates/times will be published in the WLIC programme in March

The work of the Section continues in a number of other areas;

- The [World Directory of Library and Research Services for Parliaments \(WDLRSP\)](#) is now live. The WDLRSP is a collaborative project between IFLAPARL and the National Library of Congress, Chile. **Please take the time to update the details for your Parliament.** To get an account to add your institution to the Directory, please provide the information requested at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/52WVZ20>. The individual named in the form will receive an email with the password and instructions on how to create your institution's record.
- A report from the lively round table discussions at the Knowledge café on changing role and development of information professionals, sponsored by IFLAPARL, at the IFLA conference in Kuala Lumpur 2018, has been published. Read it [here](#).



## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

### IFLA GLOBAL VISION

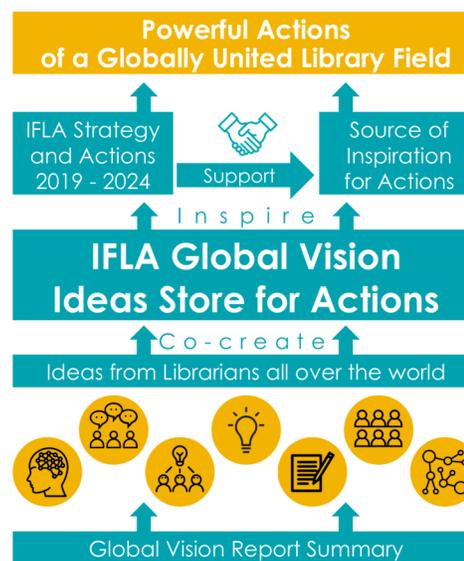
IFLA is continuing its transformative work on the [Global Vision](#) for a united library field! Following the launch of [IFLA's Global Summary Report](#) in March 2018, an [Ideas Store](#) was created to capture inspirational ideas on how to realise the identified opportunities. Since then IFLA received over 8.500 ideas from across the library field, from 160 countries worldwide.

During July 2018, members of the IFLAPARL Standing Committee discussed and gathered ideas for actions for IFLA and for the Section that could help make the Global Vision a reality. The discussions and [suggestions](#) reflect a general, as well as a parliamentary perspective.

IFLA is now translating all the feedback into a new Strategic Framework, including a new vision, mission and a set of core strategic directions, for the next five years. It will be based on the inputs received over the past two years, and will be launched at WLIC in Athens 2019.

You can continue to contribute and keep the discussions going by checking out the news on the [Global Vision](#) website – it provides the key information on new and upcoming initiatives and all [support materials](#). Submit your ideas on [ideas.ifla.org](#)! In 2019, all ideas will be made available on the website.

*By Karin Finer. Secretary IFLAPARL*



### ECPRD SEMINAR, BRUSSELS

On 27-28 September 2018, the European Parliamentary Research Service (EPRS) hosted its annual seminar for parliamentary research services and libraries in the framework of the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD). The seminar addressed 'The future of parliamentary research services and libraries in an era of rapid change: How best to support elected members in their multiple roles'. As for the ECPRD seminar hosted by EPRS in 2017, the event brought together over 64 participants from 28 parliamentary chambers of ECPRD member countries as well as the European Parliament.

Over the seminar's three sessions, participants looked into how best to support members of parliament in their various roles and functions: when acting as individuals; as committee members; and, in relation to the wider public. The logic behind this three-pronged approach was, that while, traditionally, parliamentarians have been perceived as individual members, advocating certain policies, taking part in plenary debates and votes, and suggesting improvements to draft legislation, nowadays their role is less and less confined to 'internal' parliamentary work or the representation of their electorate. In these fast-moving and challenging times, Members are expected - and actively seek - to get more and more involved in external activities, engaging in a two-way dialogue with stakeholders, media and constituents, often as communicators in their own right. Parliamentary research services and libraries need to respond to the evolving needs and expectations of Members of Parliament in how they can best support their work.

Following welcoming remarks by Bogusław Liberadzki, MEP, Vice-President of the European Parliament responsible for relations with National Parliaments, we asked two other members of the European Parliament's Bureau, Quaestor Catherine Bearder, MEP, and Vice-President Rainer Wieland, MEP, to discuss with Anthony Teasdale, Director-General of the EPRS, what Members really need in terms of parliamentary research.

In the session on 'How best to support individual Members of Parliament with research, analysis and the provision of information in their parliamentary work', chaired by Etienne Bassot, Director of the European Parliament's Members' Research Service, (MRS), Grace Rowley, Head of Research Communications at the UK House of Commons presented how parliamentary research services could help members to stay up-to-date on news and political developments and how to provide them with meaningful and tailored information and research. Natalia Petranska, State Advisor at the Parliamentary Institute of the Slovak National Council, complemented this with an overview of various forms of individual support delivered to members of parliament after their election and during the exercise of their mandate.

... continued on next page

## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED

### ECPRD SEMINAR, BRUSSELS

The second session addressed the question 'How best to empower specialised committees in agenda-setting, scrutiny and oversight of the executive, by providing tools and policy expertise?' This was chaired by Wolfgang Hiller, Director for Impact Assessment and European Added Value, EPRS. Giovanni Rizzoni, Head of the Research Service of the Italian *Camera dei Deputati*, reflected on what information is essential for 'post-encyclopedic parliaments' and which role research services are requested to play in supporting specialised committees. Tools for evidence-based policy making in the European Parliament were presented by Diana Haase, Parliamentary Research Administrator in the EP's Policy Department for Structural and Cohesion Policies, and Sten Ramstedt, Policy Analyst in the Ex-Post Evaluation Unit, EPRS. Jeroen Kerseboom, Head of the Analysis and Research Department of the Dutch Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal, offered insights into the first steps undertaken by the new Dutch Parliamentary Research Department to support committees in the agenda-setting process. Eleni Kanellopoulou, Scientific associate at the Scientific Service of the Hellenic Parliament, presented tools and sources for facilitating the legislative and oversight work of parliamentarians. This first day was rounded off by a dinner speech given by Klaus Welle, Secretary-General of the European Parliament, who presented his outlook for the 2019 European elections and beyond.

Following introductory remarks to the second day made by Franck Debié, Acting Director of the Library, EPRS, and Deputy Head of the Cabinet for innovation to the Secretary-General of the European Parliament, Katrin Ruhrmann, ECPRD Co-Director and Director for Relations with National Parliaments, European Parliament, led the debate in the third session on 'How best to support members' outreach to citizens, stakeholders and the media?' Edward Wood, Director of Research at the UK House of Commons, tackled the question of what support from parliamentary research services and libraries would members appreciate when engaging with their constituents and the wider public and presented an online tool developed by his service featuring data at constituency level. This was mirrored by the first ever public presentation of the new website 'What Europe does for me?' ([What-Europe-does-for-me.eu](http://What-Europe-does-for-me.eu)) by Etienne Bassot, Director of the MRS, and Sarah Sheil, Head of the Structural Policies Unit, EPRS. This so-called 'EU Delivery Scorecard' (or *Leistungsbilanz*) provides around 1400 'easy-to-read' and 'easy-to-share' information 'fiches' on support for regions in the European Union. About 400 more feature information on benefits for social groups and citizens and two dozen additional 'fiches' provide background papers on key EU policy areas.

Continuing our exploration of new ways of cooperating among research services, the agenda moved on to break-out sessions for which participants split into three groups on current policy issues, namely the Economic and Monetary Union, Brexit and migration. Research papers provided by national parliamentary research services for each group had been translated by the European Parliament's services in advance, and their authors discussed the challenges in dealing with the particular policy area with participants. The seminar closed with a presentation on 'Working with partners' by the World Bank Group's Märt Kivine, Senior Program Officer, Strategy and Operations, Development Economics Vice Presidency (DEC).

Ida Kelemen, the Head of Information Service for Members at the Hungarian Parliament and ECPRD Coordinator for the area of interest 'Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives', who opened and closed the two-day seminar summarised: "The seminar, hosted by EPRS gave a rather broad overview of different aspects of service management, sources of information and research techniques. As we could learn from the presentations, the members of parliaments need different information services in their different roles and functions and the parliamentary research services and libraries understood and meet these requirements. The seminar provided a great opportunity to share the best practices in this field."

By Eschel Alpermann. European Parliamentary Research Service. European Parliament



## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED

### APLAP CONFERENCE, TOKYO

Since 1990, the Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Asia and the Pacific (APLAP) has encouraged cooperation and knowledge sharing between bodies that provide library and research services to parliaments in Asia and the Pacific. From 31 October – 2 November 2018, delegates from 27 institutions across 21 countries and regions convened in Tokyo, Japan for the 12<sup>th</sup> APLAP Conference. This conference was generously hosted by the National Diet Library, an institution which in 2018 celebrated its 70<sup>th</sup> year.

The conference theme, 'Developing human resources for research services and parliamentary libraries', allowed for delegates to present on the latest developments in staff training, strategic human resource planning and improving staff capacity to support

parliamentary processes and provide specialised research services. Mr Steve Wise, Chair of IFLAPARL and Director of Information Management in the House of Commons Library, United Kingdom, was the invited keynote speaker and his experience made for an informative address. Mr Wise spoke about the benefits of offering learning and development opportunities to staff, as well as management and leadership strategies to retain and support staff.

Across the first two days of the conference, presentations from delegates made it clear that while respective parliaments vary in size, structure and resources, their libraries and associated institutions face similar challenges in providing research services and developing human resources. Many solutions and ideas for developing human resources were shared throughout the presentations, and delegates learned a great deal about the parliamentary structures and processes in neighbouring countries and regions.

Also during the conference, the new APLAP Executive Committee was announced. Ms Kazuko Sakata, outgoing APLAP President and Director-General of the National Diet Library, expressed her gratitude to the outgoing Executive Committee for their support and efforts over the past term, particularly in preparing for the Tokyo Conference. Ms Sakata formally congratulated and welcomed the newly elected Executive Committee, as listed below;

President	Dr. Edgardo H. Pangilinan (Deputy Secretary General, Legislative Information Resource Management Department, House of Representatives, Philippines)
Vice-President (Asia)	Vacant
Vice-President (Pacific)	Mr Boniface Supa (Chief Parliamentary Librarian, National Parliament of Solomon Islands)
Treasurer	Ms Katherine Close (Senior Adviser Public Engagement, New Zealand Parliamentary Library)
Secretary	Ms Rosemarie Balidoy-Sommer (Supervising Legislative Staff Officer III, Legislative Information Resources Management Department, House of Representatives, Philippines)

Whilst in Tokyo for the conference, delegates were able to attend events and excursions organised by the National Diet Library, including a welcome dinner held at the Official Residence of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a tour of the National Diet Building and a tour of the Edo-Tokyo Museum. These opportunities expanded members' knowledge and appreciation for the Japanese parliamentary system and Japanese culture.

In between events, tours, presentations and formal proceedings of the conference, delegates were collegial and formed invaluable connections. The knowledge shared and friendships formed will no doubt serve respective libraries and research services for many years to come. APLAP Members are grateful to the National Diet Library for their generosity in hosting the 12<sup>th</sup> APLAP Conference, and look forward to attending the 13<sup>th</sup> APLAP Conference, to be held in 2020 in New Zealand.

By Georgina Watson. APLAP Secretariat. Australian Parliamentary Library



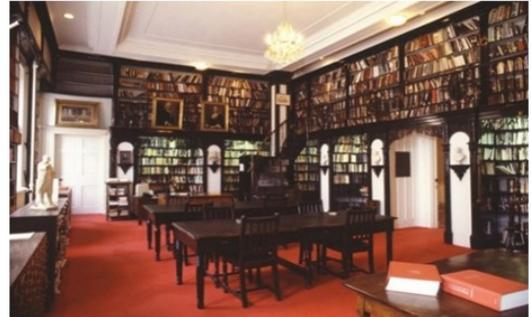
## RECENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS, CONTINUED

### APLIC CONFERENCE, HALIFAX

The Association of Parliamentary Libraries in Canada (APLIC) held its 2018 annual conference from 10-13 September in beautiful and historic Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The conference welcomed 30 delegates and provided three days of programming, including local library and cultural visits, a training day focused on leadership development, as well as presentations from the delegates on diverse topics such as emergency planning and response for collections, data librarianship and visualisation, information architecture of library intranets or portals, and recent work in user experience.

The conference included a tour of Halifax's Province House as well, which is the oldest legislative building in Canada and is celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year.



Legislative Library, Province House, Halifax Nova Scotia

APLIC was founded in 1975 and aims to support the democratic process in Canada by supporting member libraries in providing high quality, non-partisan library services to legislators.

*By Sonia Bebbington. Library of Parliament. Canada / Association Representative for APLIC*

### APLESA CONFERENCE, KAMPALA

The Association of Parliamentary Libraries of Eastern and Southern Africa (APLESA) in conjunction with the Parliament of Uganda are organizing the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference to be held in Kampala from 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> May 2019. This annual conference is expected to bring together more than 100 participants from the eastern and southern African region and beyond under the theme "Taking Parliament to the People: the Role of Parliament Libraries in Bridging the Gap between the People and Parliament"

Under this theme, the APLESA conference expects to discuss ways to improve access to information and to identify innovations that would ensure that parliament library services are brought nearer to the electorates in order for them to appreciate the work of parliament and be able to use the available information resources at their disposal hence being able to engage their elected members of parliament. The conference also is expected come up with the final draft of the APLESA constitution and to help in the identification of areas to be addressed in the APLESA Strategic plan that is being designed.

A number of invitations have been extended to the Library and Information Services fraternity in various sectors including those in library associations, academia, local governments among others. The Chair of the IFLAPARL Section Mr. Steve Wise of the United Kingdom House of Commons was among those invited. Some of the District Local Government Council librarians in Uganda and the Kenya County Assembly Librarians were intentionally invited in order for them to come and benchmark with the way the national parliamentary libraries operate and give services to their members. We feel we have a role to set standards of service for our people.

*By Simon Joseph Engitu. Library Services- Parliament of Uganda / Secretary General, APLESA*

### KNOWLEDGE BUILDING ON POST-LEGISLATIVE SCRUTINY

Within the last two years, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) has worked with partnering parliaments to help expand their capacity to review how a law has worked in practice. WFD developed three tools: [Comparative Study on Post-Legislative Scrutiny](#); [Principles for Post-Legislative Scrutiny by Parliament](#); and, a [Guide for Parliaments on Post-Legislative Scrutiny](#).

The WFD is now launching three new knowledge building activities for 2019:

- [Expert seminar on legislative impact assessment methodologies](#) (26 April in London), in cooperation with the University of Hull. Deadline for paper abstracts is 15 March.
- [Academic Seminar on Post-Legislative Scrutiny in the Asia region](#) (17-18 June in Yangon, Myanmar), in cooperation with the University of Yangon and the University of Jember (Indonesia). Deadline for paper abstracts is 20 March.
- [Certified Course on Post-Legislative Scrutiny](#) (London, 1-5 July 2019), in cooperation with the Institute for Advanced Legal Studies of University of London. Deadline for early-bird registration is 30 April.

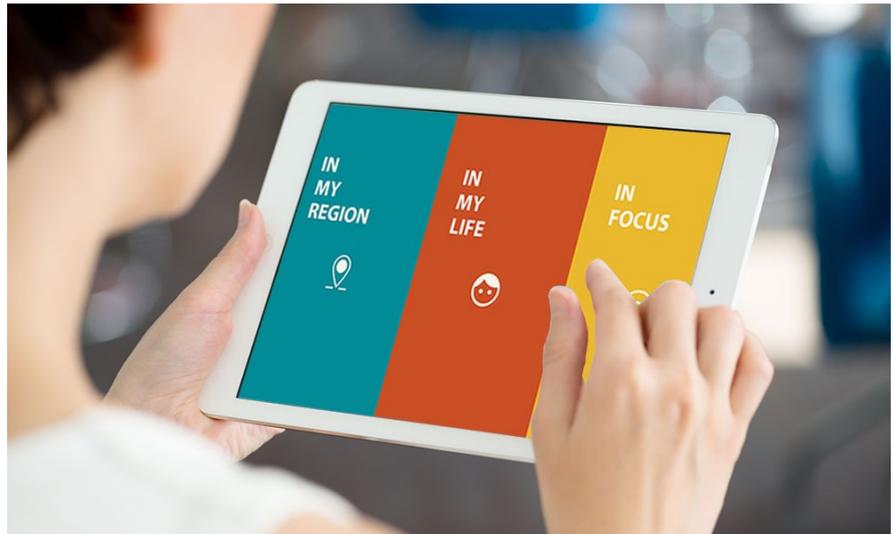
*By Franklin De Vrieze. Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)*

## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES/RESEARCH SERVICES & PARTNERS

### ‘WHAT EUROPE DOES FOR ME’: A NEW ONLINE TOOL DEVELOPED TO EXPLAIN THE EU’S CONTRIBUTION FROM THE CITIZEN’S POINT OF VIEW

We discussed at our last IFLA section meeting in Kuala Lumpur how we can adapt to the changing needs of our clients. One of these needs is to explain policy-making and its achievements to citizens.

While decisions taken at the European Union level influence the everyday life of each of its 500 million citizens, they are not necessarily all aware of it. In an attempt to bring Europe closer to citizens, the European Parliamentary Research Service has developed an easy-to-use online reference point where the Members of the Parliament and any member of the public can find one-page summaries and examples of what the EU is doing to make life better for people like them.



‘Europeans ask what the EU has done for them and this new European Parliament website provides clear, jargon-free answers. It will be a valuable tool in bringing Europe closer to its citizens’, said President Tajani at the official launch of the web portal on 14 November 2018.

#### Taking the perspective of citizens

The [portal](#) is designed not only for the use of Members of the European Parliament, who can use it as a source of information to answer citizens’ questions, but also for citizens directly.

Users can search the website according to the region where they live, their job or what they do in their spare time. The purpose is to present information from their point of view – rather than that of the institutions.

For example, citizens living in [Galicia](#) in Spain will be able to discover that EU aid for the region’s fishing industry will total €371 million by the end of the 2014-2020 period. They might also find out that the EU contributed €2.1 million to create an overarching agreement between northern Portugal, Galicia and Castile and Leon, enabling them to work together and coordinate the management of natural disasters. They can also learn that in 2017 the European Commission has allocated €3.2 million to Galicia to clear up and repair the damage left behind by the forest fires that decimated the region in summer 2017.

[People who like shopping](#) online will learn that many of their rights as consumers are protected by EU rules – for example those giving online shoppers 14 days to return a product bought online without stating a reason; or the right to receive their order within 30 days, and if this is not the case, to cancel it.

#### A content-rich and multilingual database

Around 1 200 information sheets describe what the EU has done for regions and localities, while another 400 look at specific groups of people such as sports lovers, parents, unemployed people, etc. The former are available in the local official EU language and English, while the latter have been translated in all 24 EU official languages.

Each information sheet also contains links to point the reader to more in-depth information. In addition, 24 longer policy briefings are also part of the project, exploring EU deliveries and the outlook for future action in selected policy areas.

#### Designed to be shared

Users can quickly build up a ‘basket’ of information sheets and easily share them with their contacts, be it via email, Facebook or Twitter.

These advanced sharing functions are coming in useful during the information campaign preceding the European Parliament’s elections in May 2019. The project has been online since November 2018, and we now have 3 million single users: a real game-changer! Almost 140 colleagues were involved in the research work and drafting.

More info: [www.what-europe-does-for-me.eu](http://www.what-europe-does-for-me.eu)

By Etienne Bassot. Members’ Research Service. European Parliamentary Research Service

## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES/RESEARCH SERVICES & PARTNERS, CONTINUED

### PARLIAMENT OF CANADA: TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF A MAJOR PARLIAMENT BUILDING INCLUDING THE ICONIC LIBRARY OF PARLIAMENT BRANCH

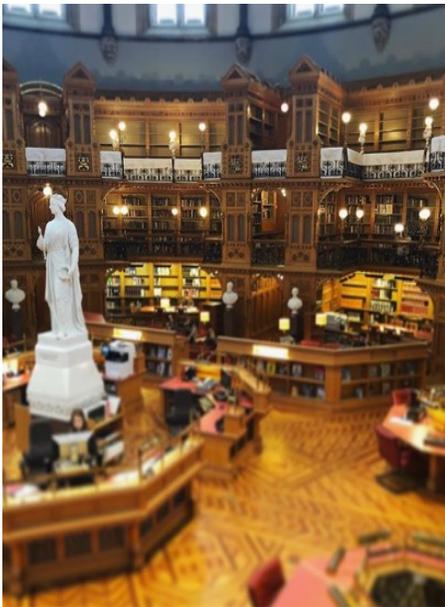
The major stage of Canada's long-term upgrade and rehabilitation plans for its parliament buildings has arrived with the historic Centre Block closing for much-needed renovations over an anticipated decade-long period, and along with it, a temporary closure of the Library of Parliament's iconic main branch.

Our parliamentary users, the public, and indeed the media have all taken a great interest in the building's closure. Notably, the Canadian cable-based public affairs channel did [a profile of Centre Block](#) prior to closure, which includes an episode about the Library.

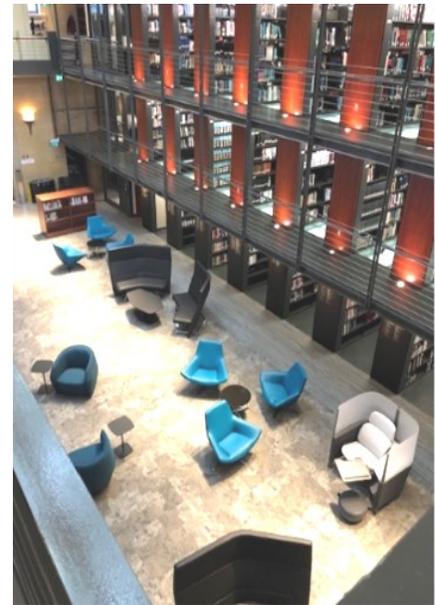
#### Collections on the move

The bulk of the Library of Parliament's collection located in the historic building is being moved temporarily to an off-site facility which was recently upgraded to house the collections and to ensure continued access, whether physical or digital.

More information on the collection move can be found in the [following interview](#).



*Library of Parliament – Collections on the move*



*Newly renovated branch—Interim Main Library*

#### Opening of our newly renovated 125 Sparks Street branch

In late 2018, the Library of Parliament opened the newly renovated 125 Sparks Street Branch, which will become the Interim Main Library during the Centre Block rehabilitation. This full-service branch has a contemporary look and feel, with stunning heritage details. It is designed to welcome parliamentarians, staff and guests in a bright, comfortable environment. The space features a modernized client area with soft seating and individual or group seating options, a media wall, multi-functional collaboration rooms, electronic devices for in-branch use and a variety of ways for our clients to use the space for reading, working, and meeting. Key collections have been consolidated at this location to support the reference services provided by the staff located here.

*By Sonia Bebbington. Library of Parliament. Canada*

## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES/RESEARCH SERVICES & PARTNERS, CONTINUED

### DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION CENTER OF THE BRAZILIAN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

#### 1 - Brazilian legislative bills now have single identification

The Brazilian legislative branch is a bicameral legislative assembly, composed by the Chamber of Deputies and the Federal Senate. Therefore, in general, a bill laid before any of the houses must be revised by the other to become law. For a long time, the revision process required a great effort from everyone involved regarding specially the duplicity of bill's identification: name (initials), number and year of presentation.

For instance, whenever a bill had to be sent to the other house in order to comply with the legislative process, the bill's identification had to be adapted to the other house's identification criteria causing one same bill to end up with two distinct identifications. For example, one bill presented in originated in the Chamber of Deputies under identification PL 634/2003 would then receive a different identification in the Federal Senate: PLC 88/2003. This unfortunate fact had a negative impact on those interested in following up the legislative process and also compromised both our transparency and information access policies - two primaries policies in any modern democracy.

A permanent workgroup composed by Documentation and Information Center technicians along with other staff members of both Houses was then assembled with the mission of ending the identification duplicity issue as well as work on long desired technological innovations aiming the improvement of the legislative process. As a result, from 2019 and beyond, the bills presented in either houses will have a single identification and there will be no more differences of name and initials between the houses.

#### 2 - The Chamber of Deputies Archives received the Unesco's Memory of the World Certificate

On December 12, 2018, the Chamber of Deputies Archives was granted by Unesco the Memory of the Word certificate in recognition of the Bertha Lutz collection, 'Feminism, Science, and Politics - The Legacy of Bertha Lutz, 1881-1985'. The certification is part of a program aiming at enhancing and encouraging the preservation of collections that are of great importance to society.

The Chamber of Deputies houses documents of Bertha Lutz's parliamentary performance and her participation as a citizen during the 1988 Constituent Assembly. She was an activist in the struggle for education and women's rights.

The Chamber of Deputies Archives is working towards making Bertha Lutz's collection available to the public on both ATOM and Archivematica tools.



#### 3 - The Chamber of Deputies opens its own bookstore

These days, when e-commerce and bookstore chains are threatening the existence of local bookstores, the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies entered the market and launched its own Bookstore.

The thoughtfully crafted space located at the heart of the Chamber of Deputies Documentation and Information Center offers an array of exclusive collection books published by EdiçõesCâmara (the editorial arm of the Center).

The Bookstore space is a must-visit place for Chamber of Deputies staff, local citizens and visitors of the Parliament looking for a place to indulge in the world of words and ideas. Its mission is to offer books that support the promotion of citizenship and the strengthening of democracy. The whole collection is sold at affordable prices covering only printing and handling costs.

The bookstore is located at the Chamber of Deputies building, Annex 2, by the entrance hall of Documentation and Information Center. It is open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., from Monday through Friday.



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## NEWS FROM PARLIAMENTARY LIBRARIES/RESEARCH SERVICES & PARTNERS, CONTINUED

### DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION CENTER OF THE BRAZILIAN CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

#### 4 - The Chamber of Deputies Library promotes the event 'The Human Library'

The Human Library event consists of hosting a gathering between the audience and someone willing to tell a life story in an intimate fashion.

The concept is originated in Copenhagen, Denmark, in the year of 2000 as an initiative developed by the NGO Stop the Violence. The original goal of such anti-violence event was to build bridges between people of different cultures and different walks of life focusing on the establishment of positive human interactions during one of the biggest European music festivals. The initiative was a great success and spread in many countries.

Last October, as part of the celebration of the 30th Anniversary of the 1988 Brazilian Constitution, the Library of the Chamber of Deputies promoted the second edition of our version of the event Human Library. The event was based on the experiences of people who participated in one way or another of the last National Constituent Assembly. During the event, participant guests told their personal experiences to the audience.

<http://www2.camara.leg.br/a-camara/documentos-e-pesquisa/biblioteca/eventos/biblioteca-humana>

#### 5 - The Documentation and Information Center promoted a successful seminar on the preservation of institutional memory

From November 19th to 23rd of last year, the Documentation and Information Center of the Brazilian Chamber of Deputies organized the seminar "Preservation of Institutional Memory" aiming at bringing together leaders and specialists to share experiences on the matter and to encourage the establishment of new channels of communication and study.

During the seminar 29 lectures, 6 workshops and 3 tours were delivered, addressing several topics including problems related to heritage preservation in different institutional contexts and presenting some distinct institutional realities. A total of 30 institutions from different Brazilian States attended the event. The institutions were represented by 24 speakers and 174 participants, including librarians, museum professionals, archivists, historians and conservators-restorers, among others.



The Chamber's preservation initiatives were highlighted through study tours to the Preservation Area as well as in workshops on topics such as digitization, restoration, risk management, preservation policies and preservation campaigns.

*By Janice Silveira. Brazilian Chamber of Deputies Library*