

Centre Européen de Recherches  
et de Documentation Parlementaires



European Centre for Parliamentary  
Research and Documentation

Europäisches Zentrum für Parlamentarische  
Wissenschaft und Dokumentation

## **ECPRD SEMINAR**

**Area of Interest Parliamentary Libraries, Research Services and Archives**

### **CHALLENGES IN A DIGITAL AGE: PRESERVATION, MANAGEMENT AND PROMOTION OF THE PARLIAMENTS DOCUMENTARY OUTPUT AND BIBLIOGRAPHICAL HERITAGE**

**SENATE OF SPAIN**

**6-8 June 2019**

**Invitation**

5 March 2019

Dear ECPRD correspondents, dear colleagues,

We have the pleasure of inviting you to an ECPRD seminar on ‘Challenges in a digital age: Preservation, management and promotion of the Parliaments documentary output and bibliographical heritage’. The event will be held at the Spanish Senate in Madrid, on 6-8 June 2019, in the framework of the ECPRD Area of Interest on Libraries, Research Services and Archives (LRA).

The seminar will be focused on three main topics (see attached program), although we are open to suggestions to include other related issues. If you would like to contribute, please indicate this in the registration and contact the organizers directly. The seminar in Madrid will touch upon the following key topics:

1. *Preservation and promotion of the documentary and bibliographic heritage of Parliaments:* the promotion of parliamentary heritage is one of our professional objectives. To detect digitization projects and dissemination of the said heritage, a questionnaire will be sent in advance to ECPRD members. As 2018 was declared the European Year of Cultural Heritage (EYCH), let us analyze projects ahead; maybe this could be the start in a preservation which the Antique holdings of the parliamentary libraries deserve: through this questionnaire, ongoing projects to promote heritage parliamentary (documents, history...) and possible existing contacts of the Parliaments with ‘Europeana’, the EU digital platform for cultural heritage, - or at least the future intention to participate in a coordinated project - will be illustrated and focused.

The debate about possible collaboration can be put forward. For example, exchange of views on the possibility of coordinating the topics on which to compile items of this specific material, which could be of interest in Europe. That is to say: present or incorporate those materials in the platform as belonging to Parliaments in Europe. The visibility of this material can be increased by grouping it as coming from the parliamentary Chambers.

2. *Promotion of documents that reflect present and past activity in the Parliaments*: this topic could be devoted to analyzing the dissemination of the Parliaments' documentary collections through the search engines of the parliamentary web pages. In addition, what is the best way to support the dissemination of the activity of parliamentarians to citizens? Do parliamentary websites need improvement through the technical support of librarians and archivists? Do we provide re-usable professional materials to citizens and colleagues through the websites of the Parliaments?

3. *Electronic files and electronic records management*: this section could focus on an issue that is the unsuspected protagonist of the challenges for archivists: the new systems designed to receive, preserve, access and transfer files electronically; taxonomies, metadata ... the drafting of the classification tables and the compliance with the parliamentary documents management policies gather the collaboration of different technicians and officials in the Parliaments. We can exchange views on the different tools and approaches that are being put in place. The seminar aims to compare emerging practices and best practices, and discuss innovative ways forward. We can draw conclusions from the ECPRD questionnaire Nr. 3986 in progress.

We would like to invite people to participate in 'poster presentation sessions'. This is an opportunity to present your research in an informal manner. Two poster presentation sessions will be held during coffee breaks (see attached program). If you would like to contribute, please indicate this in registration or contact the organizers directly.

A questionnaire, briefly covering some of the topics included in the seminar agenda, will be sent in the next few weeks. A detailed draft of the seminar program and organizational information, including a list of hotels, will be uploaded to the seminar website

<https://ecprd.secure.europarl.europa.eu/ecprd/ipsecured/seminars/home/419573>

The login for the seminar website is ECPRDMadrid, the password Madrid2019.

All participants are kindly invited to register online before **30 April 2019**. The working languages for the event will be English and Spanish.

If you sign up for the seminar, you will receive an email allowing you to register online. It is also possible to register on the ECPRD seminar website, linked above. Please do not forget to indicate your attendance at the Thursday evening meal, any dietary requirements, other special needs (mobility, etc.), your interest to take part in 'poster presentations', your interest to make a presentation in one of the sessions (please note the topic(s)) and your interest to participate in the tour of Madrid (on the morning of day three – Saturday 1 June 2019).

Should you have any questions on practical issues, please contact Ms Josefa Fuentes on [ecprd.madrid2019@senado.es](mailto:ecprd.madrid2019@senado.es) or tel.: +34 915381163.

We are very much looking forward to welcoming you to Madrid and warmly thank our Spanish colleagues for organizing this event.



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