

20 January 2025

ECPRD Priorities and Programme 2025 – 2026

This document is available in English, French and German.
The text was adopted by the ECPRD Executive committee on 20 January 2025.

The main objective of the ECPRD as laid down in its Statutes is to promote the exchange of information, ideas, experience and good practice among the administrations of parliaments in Europe.

For over 40 years, the ECPRD, a network of people, has been at the service of its stakeholders in the member parliaments. The almost daily flow of information and the exchange of best practise at the ECPRD seminars contribute to creating a European public sphere at the level of parliamentary administrations. Active input by all parliaments and services concerned is more than ever essential for the Centre to keep up this momentum.

Each chamber has appointed an ECPRD correspondent and deputy. The ECPRD also has an Executive Committee composed of five elected members, plus coordinators for four areas of interest. In most cases, those persons combine their ECPRD function with other jobs in their Parliament. The functioning of the ECPRD network is therefore dependent on sufficient staff time and resources being available for those roles in each Parliament.

It is essential for the functioning of the ECPRD that the European Parliament continues to provide the necessary technical, financial and human resources for the secretariat and the website of the ECPRD.

Considering the statutory objectives, the ECPRD priorities for the years 2025-2026 are proposed to be defined as follows:

Objectives:

1. To encourage further 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 Secretary General.
2. To encourage and support the ECPRD Coordinators of the Areas of Interest in their work to foster the information exchange on topical issues, in particular by organising and hosting seminars.
3. 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.
4. To develop further the exchange of information via the procedure of comparative requests, and this in full respect of existing guidelines, and more particularly to:
 - maintain a high readiness to respond to requests;
 - encourage the requesting chambers to produce systematically final summary reports.
5. 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), in particular via the thematic spaces on the ECPRD website.
6. To further improve the mutual exchange of information on parliaments and the General Data Protection Regulation.

7. To continue to organise and host seminars for parliamentary staff on subjects of common interest, based on proposals made by national parliaments, allowing staff to participate and contribute to these events.
8. Although the ECPRD is a network which as such requires human interpersonal relationships, to build on the success of the ECPRD webinars, organised during the COVID-19 outbreak when travel limitations impacted on the organisation and holding of seminars, and consider continuing organising regular virtual forms of expert meetings with the requisite resources as a complement to face to face seminars.
9. To provide regular updates to the parliamentary factsheets and the directory.
10. To use and update the ECPRD website as a continuously growing knowledge base, avoiding unnecessary requests and hence reduce the workload for correspondents and staff.
11. To foster contacts with other parliamentary exchange networks (e.g. IPEX, IFLA, IPU Parline and CIP) with a view to not only avoiding duplication of activities but also identifying potential fields of synergies and the sharing of experiences.

ECPRD EVENTS IN 2025

EVENT	MEETING	PLACE	DATE
Meeting of the Executive Committee	Statutory Meetings	Brussels-Belgium European Parliament Remote	20 January 2025
Joint Seminar /workshop how to use AI to access Parliaments archives	Area of Interest ICT in Parliaments Libraries, Research Services and Archives	Brussels-Belgium European Parliament	4-5 February 2025
Seminar 'Parliaments on the Net 2025'	Area of Interest ICT in Parliaments	Reykjavik-Iceland Althing	27-28 February 2025
Seminar Parliamentary Inquiry Committee	Area of Interest Parliamentary Practice and Procedure	Paris -France Sénat	12-13 June 2025
Meeting of the Executive Committee	Statutory Meetings	TBC	June 2025
Meeting of the Executive Committee	Statutory Meetings	Brussels-Belgium European Parliament Remote	September 2025
Seminar Parliamentary libraries and their historical collections.	Area of Interest Libraries, Research Services and Archives	Dublin-Ireland Houses of the Oireachtas	Autumn 2025
Joint Seminar Data visualization	Area of Interest Libraries, Research Services and Archives ICT in Parliaments Parliamentary Practice and Procedure Economic and Budgetary Affairs	Brussels-Belgium European Parliament	Autumn 2025
Seminar	Area of Interest Economic and Budgetary Affairs	Madrid Congreso de los Diputados	Autumn 2025
Annual Conference of Correspondents	Statutory Meetings	Bern-Switzerland Assemblée Fédérale	3-4 October 2025

ECPRD EVENTS IN 2026

EVENT	MEETING	PLACE	DATE
Meeting of the Executive Committee	Statutory Meetings	Brussels-Belgium European Parliament Remote	January 2026
Seminar	Area of Interest ICT in Parliaments	TBC	TBC
Seminar	Area of Interest Libraries, Research Services and Archives	TBC	TBC
Seminar	Area of Interest Practice and Procedure	TBC	TBC
Seminar	Area of Interest Economic and Budgetary Affairs	TBC	TBC
Meeting of the Executive Committee	Statutory Meetings	TBC	June 2026
Meeting of the Executive Committee	Statutory Meetings	Brussels-Belgium European Parliament Remote	September 2026
Annual Conference of Correspondents	Statutory Meetings	TBC	TBC