



## MEETING OF SECRETARIES GENERAL

Friday 21 March 2025 – 8.15 am to 10 am

### OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) TECHNOLOGIES FOR PARLIAMENTS

#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

##### Introduction to AI in Parliaments

Artificial Intelligence (AI) offers substantial opportunities for enhancing parliamentary processes by improving efficiency, fostering collaboration, and assisting with tasks such as debate transcription, translation, document analysis, and communication with citizens. However, AI also presents challenges concerning reliability, security, and confidentiality, necessitating a thoughtful approach to its use and implementation.

##### Practical Applications and Challenges

This discussion aims to explore the practical applications of AI within parliamentary contexts. We invite participants to share their experiences, highlighting successful implementations and the challenges faced, including cybersecurity risks, data privacy obligations, and protecting sensitive information against unauthorised access or manipulation. By analysing these cases, we can identify best practices and learn from each other's efforts to integrate AI technologies effectively.

##### Key Questions for Discussion:

1. **AI applications in parliamentary processes:** How have AI tools been used to streamline administrative tasks, improve document management or enhance research capabilities in parliaments?
2. **The balance between AI assistance and human expertise:** What strategies have been implemented to ensure that AI complements rather than replaces human judgment in parliamentary work, particularly in decision-making processes?
3. **Bias and Transparency:** What measures have parliaments taken to ensure that AI systems do not perpetuate biases, and how do they maintain transparency in AI use to uphold public trust?
4. **Security and Confidentiality:** How can parliaments address cybersecurity risks and ensure strong protections for sensitive data while deploying AI systems? Which technical, procedural, or policy measures are critical to maintaining confidentiality and public trust?

Further reference might be made to the following studies on the impact of artificial intelligence on parliaments and, more broadly, democracy:

- [World e-Parliament Report 2024](#) prepared by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU);
- [IPU's guidelines for AI in parliaments](#);
- [European Parliamentary Technology Assessment \(EPTA\) 2024 report](#) on Artificial Intelligence and Democracy.

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The **European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD)** has been very active in promoting the exchange of information, experience and best practices on the subject of artificial intelligence. Reference may be made to the following requests initiated by the national parliaments and seminars organised recently:

Request 5909 - Parliamentary rules or guidelines for use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) (2024)

Request 5848 - Usage of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in parliamentary procedures and legislative process (2024)

Request 5803 - The use of Artificial Intelligence for simultaneous translation in parliamentary debates (2024)

Request 5741 - Open Data in Parliaments (2024)

Request 5715 - The use of artificial intelligence for parliamentary research and documentation (2024)

Request 5677 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Regulations and Legislation (2023)

Request 5532 - Use of artificial intelligence technologies (2023)

Request 5530 - Innovation and Digital Transformation in Parliaments (2023)

Request 5515 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) Projects in Parliaments (2023)

Request 5012 - Indexation of documents (2022)

Seminar on "Enhancing the legislative process with data structures and AI", Reykjavík, 27-28 February 2025

Seminar on "Open data in Parliaments", Oslo, 29-30 April 2024

Seminar on "The use of artificial intelligence for parliamentary research and documentation", Rome, 18-19 April 2024

Seminar on "Innovation and digital transformation – good practices in European parliaments", Vienna, 6-7 November 2023