

APROBAT

În sedința Biroului permanent al
Camerei Deputaților



din data de 6.09.2011

Nr. 853

Empowered

Energised

Engaged

Camara Deputaților

B.P. Nr. 853 din 5.09.2011

Vilnius 2011

RAPORT DE ACTIVITATE

În perioada 29.06 - 1.07. am participat la FORUMUL Parlamentar al comunității democratiei la Vilnius.

Am obținut un loc de președinte al grupului de prietenie România - Lituania din partea Parlamentului European. După sosirea la Vilnius am participat împreună cu domnul Mihail Costăchescu într-o misiune de afaceri în Lituania la o întâlnire cu domnul deputat ALGIRDAS SYSAK președintele grupului de prietenie din partea Lituaniei.

Am abordat probleme comune, privind posibilitățile de colaborare între cele două entități legislative.

Am avut de acord că în această perioadă pentru toate națiunile, schimbările de păreri sunt utile și orice inițiativă în domeniul economic-trănit este binevenită.

La sfârșitul întâlnirii l-am întâlnit pe domnul deputat ca împreună cu ceilalți din grupul de prietenie să efectuăm o vizită în România în jurul primei părți a anului 2012.

Pe data de 30.06. am participat la lucrările Forumului.

În vederea unei informări de toată
aurea oportune din materialele prezentate
de reprezentanții diferitelor Puteri
și textele propuse pot fi retolente.

Într-o dată au existat și Programul Tominului
parlamentar unitar care va fi organizat
la Washington pe 15.09.2011 și invitația
aurea și cu mențiunea că atât va fi donat
va participa cu grupul român de parlamentari
care va fi reprezentat de d-nu președinte.

Ne-am întors de la Forumul din
Vilnius pe data de 1.06.2011 împreună
cu domnul senator George Șerban
prin Praga, ocazie la care făcăm o
vizită la doamna ambasador
Daniela Gitanu, unde am abordat
probleme actuale de politică externă
fiind informați de doamna ambasador
despre prioritățile politice în cadrul
preluării prezenței UE.

București, la 2.07.2011

Deputat UDR
Antal Stănu




THE PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES
Intergovernmental
Organization

HIGH LEVEL DEMOCRACY MEETING THE ROAD TO DEMOCRACY: ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY OF DEMOCRACIES PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

Vilnius, 29 June – 1 July 2011

PROGRAMME

29 June 2011

Arrival of participants

15.00-18.00

Registration at the Seimas (Parliament)
2nd Building
Gediminas Ave.53

19:00 – 21:00

Welcoming reception hosted by Mrs Irena Degutienė, Speaker of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania (by invitation only)
Sky Bar, Radisson Blu Lietuva Hotel, 22nd Floor, Constitution Ave. 2

30 June 2011

Venue: Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania, March 11 Hall

08.00 – 09.00

Registration at the Seimas (Parliament)
2nd Building
Gediminas Ave.53

09:00 – 09:30

Opening of the Parliamentary Forum

Mr. Emanuelis Zingeris, President of the Parliamentary Forum
H. E. Mrs Irena Degutienė, Speaker of the Seimas, Republic of Lithuania
H. E. Mr Audronius Azubalis, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Lithuania
Rep. Dan Burton, Chairman of the US House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia, Committee on Foreign Affairs

09.30 – 10.15

Session I: "On the Road to Democracy: Eastern European Experience and Current Developments"

Moderated by: Mr Emanuelis Zingeris, President of the Parliamentary Forum

Panelists:

Prof. Vytautas Landsbergis, Member of European Parliament, Lithuania
H. E. Mrs. Tssetska Tsacheva, President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Bulgaria
Mr. Markus Meckel, Former minister of Foreign Affairs of GDR, Germany
Rep. Dan Burton, Chairman of the US House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia, Committee on Foreign Affairs



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✕ Mr. Michal Tomasz Kaminski, Member of the European Parliament, Poland
Representative Mike McIntyre, Member of the US House of Representatives' Committee on Armed Services and Member of the US Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
Mr. Boris Tarasiuk, Member of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine

10.15 – 1.45

Discussions – *Ukraine – Seniors Julie Timoshenko*

10.45 – 11.30

Coffee break

11.00 – 11.30

Press Conference

Press Conference Room, Seimas, 2nd Building

Participants:

Emanuelis Zingeris, President of the Parliamentary Forum
Dan Burton, Chairman of the US House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Europe and Eurasia, Committee on Foreign Affairs
Boris Tarasiuk, Member of the Supreme Rada of Ukraine
Larry Diamond, Stanford University, USA
Carl Gershman, President, National Endowment for Democracy
Mohammad Alam Ezedyar, First Deputy Speaker of the Senate, Islamic Republic of Afganistan
Rinchinnyam Amarjargal, Member of the Mongolian Parliament

11.30 – 12.20

Session II: "Role of the Parliamentary Forum: Encouraging Effective Democracy Assistance"

Moderated by: Ms Kim Campbell, Chair of the World Movement for Democracy Steering Committee

Panelists:

Roel von Meijenfeldt, European Partnership for Democracy
Larry Diamond, Stanford University
Carl Gershman, President, National Endowment for Democracy
Hon. Mohammad Alam Ezedyar, First Deputy Speaker of the Senate, Islamic Republic of Afganistan
Ambassador Sergio Piazzi, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

12.20 – 13.00

Discussions

13.00 – 13.15

Family photo

Historical March 11 Hall



THE PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES
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Organization

13.15 – 14.00 **Lunch hosted by Mr Emanuelis Zingeris,**
Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, and
President of the CoD Parliamentary Forum (by invitation only)
Seimas Restaurant, 3rd Building

14.00-14.25 **Official opening of the Secretariat of Parliamentary Forum for Democracy**
State Enterprise Publishing House of the Parliament *Valstybės žinio*s building,
Gynėjų Str. 8

14.30 – 15.20 **Session III: “PF Vision: Defining the Global Mission and Future Activities”**
Moderated by: Mr Emanuelis Zingeris, President of the CoD Parliamentary Forum
and Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania

Panelists:

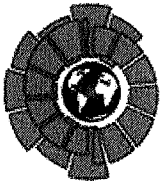
H. E. Mr. Irman Gusman, Speaker, Regional Representative Council, Indonesia ✓
Mr. Ahmed Samih Farag, Institute for Tolerance and Anti-Violence Studies, Egypt ✓
Dr. Mantas Adomėnas, Member of the Seimas, Republic of Lithuania, co-founder ✓
of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum, co-founder of the
Parliamentary Group *Human Dignity* +
Mr. Rinchinyam Amarjargal, Member of the Mongolian Parliament +

15.20 – 16.00 Discussions

16.00 – 16.30 **Concluding remarks**

18.00 – 19.20 Cultural programme (by invitation only)

20.00 Reception hosted by H.E. Mr Audronius Ažubalis, Minister of Foreign Affairs,
Republic of Lithuania (by invitation only)



COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES

The Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum

High Level Democracy Meeting
“The Road to Democracy:
Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum”
Vilnius, 30 June 2011

Draft

RESOLUTION

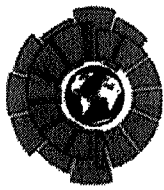
On the Suppression of the Syrian People and the Extension of Freedom to Syria

We, the participants of the High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” met in Vilnius on 30 June 2011, express our deep concern over the situation in Syria and the apparent killing of some 1600 people, mainly civilians, by the Syrian armed forces and support the call of Turkey and the United States for a return to barracks of the Syrian Army.

We offer parliamentary support for internationally supervised free and fair elections in Syria, that will enable that country to join the democratic revolution of the Arab Spring.

We commend all Syrians who aspire and struggle for peaceful reforms to democratic governance.

Submitted by: Michael Danby, MP; Australia
Roel von Meijenfeldt, NGO; The Netherlands



COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES

The Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum

High Level Democracy Meeting
“The Road to Democracy:
Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum”
Vilnius, 30 June 2011

Draft

Parliamentary Forum for Democracy Declaration

We, the participants of the Parliamentary Forum, met at a High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” in Vilnius, on June 30, 2011 on the occasion of ending of Lithuania’s Presidency of the Community of Democracies

Recognizing democracy as a broadly acknowledged ideal as well as a goal, which is based on the common values shared or strived for by people around the world;

Expressing our common adherence to the fundamental values and principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Agenda for Democratization presented by the UN Secretary-General at the 51st session of the United Nations General Assembly and other relevant instruments of international law;

Expressing our full support for the objectives set forth in the Warsaw Declaration establishing the Community of Democracies and its subsequent declarations and documents;

Sharing the democracy building objectives of the United Nations, the Inter-parliamentary Union, the Council of Europe, the European Union and many other regional, international and non-governmental organizations;

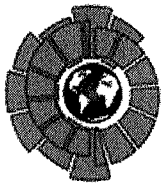
Emphasizing our common belief that parliaments embody democracy as the key institutions which express the will of people, pass laws and to which governments are accountable;

Confirming the fact that the Parliamentary Forum for Democracy is a coalition of like-minded democratically elected parliamentarians and former parliamentarians determined to work together for the cause of advancing and defending democracies;

Recalling the documents adopted by the Community of Democracy – Vilnius Declaration setting up the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum (March 12, 2010), Washington Declaration (September 15, 2010) and Tbilisi Declaration (May 20, 2011) as well as the resolutions: Resolution on the nomination of Liu Xiaobo for the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize (March 12, 2010), Resolution on the situation in Georgia (March 12, 2010), Resolution calling for support of Cuba's pro-democracy movement (March 12, 2010), Final resolution of Parliamentary Forum Krakow meeting (July 3, 2010), Resolution calling for improvement of the political and civil society situation in Belarus (July 3, 2010), Resolution calling for improvement of the political situation in Ukraine (July 3, 2010), and Resolution calling for support of Cuba's pro-democracy movement (July 3, 2010),

have adopted the following:

1. We confirm our commitment to strengthening and defending the democratic norms and institutions around the world;
2. We congratulate on the official registration of the Parliamentary Forum for Democracy and establishment of the permanent secretariat in Vilnius;
3. We seek to establish an international parliamentary platform to call attention to autocratic regimes, abuses of human rights and suppression of political freedom;
4. We underline the importance of creating a relevant international parliamentary institution and precise political mechanisms in order to preserve and protect democracy worldwide;
5. We condemn authoritarian and totalitarian regimes for their constant and systematic suppression of human rights;
6. We express our support for the opposition members in the autocratic and totalitarian states throughout the world;
7. We recognize that all the people of the world have the right to determine their own path to social, cultural, economic development;
8. We welcome the establishment of the Young Leaders Forum on June 23, 2010 during the Democracy Days in Vilnius for ensuring youth representation at every level of the Community of Democracies, including ministerial and working group meetings;
9. We pledge our full support to the upcoming Mongolia's presidency of the Community of Democracies.



COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES

The Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum

High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” Vilnius, 30 June 2011

Draft

RESOLUTION On Freedom for Aung San Suu Kyi

We, the participants of the High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” met in Vilnius on 30 June 2011, express our concern over the suppression of democracy in Burma and join the international community in demanding that the only democratically elected leader of Burma – Madame Aung San Suu Kyi remains free to visit her people and that the Burmese Military regime is admonished not to re-arrest her.

Submitted by: Michael Danby, MP; Australia
Roel von Meijenfeldt, NGO; The Netherlands

Laureat al premiului Nobel, s-a făcut
(propus?) la domiciliu de foarte mult
timp.

Reprezentant participativ al Michael Danby Australia.



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Dear Mr. Chairman, Dear Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I am proud to be one of the founders of the "Community of democracies." I spent more than three months in a KGB jail where I was subjected to torture and pressure, but your support helped me to cope with these difficulties. Your solidarity helps me today, when I continue to be Lukashenko's hostage, and still face up to 15 years of imprisonment. I cannot be with you today as I am forbidden to leave Minsk, but I welcome this opportunity to address you.

The international community clearly underestimates the "Belarusian issue". For many politicians, the Belarusian issue is not the point of the Euro-Atlantic agenda, it is a local problem. This is a mistake. Belarus continues to be an experimental laboratory for the production and dissemination of neo-authoritarian ideology - "Lukashism." "Lukashism" is a mixture of communism, fascism, and Latin American populism; it is the main export article of the Belarusian regime. It should be noted that it became very popular in the post-Soviet space. It is a dangerous trend, the consequences of which are not taken into account in the capitals of civilized countries.

During the 16-year rule of Alexander Lukashenko, a severe, authoritarian regime with an element of dictatorship was created. It is a sort of the Soviet Union in miniature, geographically situated in the heart of Europe. A dictatorship rests on three pillars. First and most of all it is fear, but this is not only a Belarusian art. It is a powerful weapon of all totalitarian regimes and Lukashenko has made a major bet on it.

Second, it is the financial and economic dependence of the population on the government. Eighty percent (80%) of citizens receive their salaries, pensions, and scholarships from Lukashenko. People are deprived of any alternative or choice.

Third, until recently economic and energy subsidies from Russia were equal to \$8 billion annually. Despite the fact that today the Kremlin has reduced financial aid, Belarusian authorities continue to receive huge sums of money due to the difference in energy prices.

Today the situation in Belarus has changed tremendously. Recent polling shows that most Belarusians do not support Lukashenko. In terms of the economic and financial crisis, the government demonstrates helplessness and inability to solve problems. On June 29 six leading political organizations of Belarus joined their forces in order to return Belarus to democracy.

How to solve the "Belarusian issue"? What should the international community do?

The West should:

- Demand the immediate release of all political prisoners and complete rehabilitation of all persons involved in the "December 19 criminal case". Everybody knows the names of imprisoned presidential candidates and well known politicians, but I ask you to remember young political prisoners, they should be in focus of international attention too.

- Relationships with official Minsk should be based on the formula "Loans and investments in exchange for free elections"

- Strengthen coordination between different international organizations and countries on the "Belarusian issue".

- The U.S. and the European Union should develop a common strategy on Belarus and speak with official Minsk with one voice and agreed position.

- The work of the European Parliament, PACE and OSCE PA in the format of a "parliamentary troika", including representatives of these bodies, should be resumed. Coordination of work is an objective necessity. Otherwise, official Minsk will continue to use the principle "divide and rule".

- To increase direct investments in democracy. It is the most useful and effective contribution of assets. Today opposition political parties, civil society organizations, and independent media need a substantial increase in aid.

I am ashamed that Belarus remains the last dictatorship in Europe. I know that Belarus and its people deserve better. They deserve democracy, European values and standards. The Belarusian issue will be solved in Minsk, not in Washington, Moscow or Brussels. No one will solve our problems for us. The team of democracy builders from Lithuania or Canada can not come to Belarus. This is our country and our responsibility. But we need your solidarity and support now more than ever.

Thank you.

Anatoly Lebedko, Chairman of the United Civil Party of Belarus

1. Challenge of democracy- importance of the promotion of democracy, defense of human rights, peace and international security.

- a. September 2010- ratification of 27 documents of human rights- Republic of Panama signs Facultative Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.
- b. The Government of Panama presents a bill to define the terms of torture and forced disappearance in accordance with international regulations.
- c. The most important problems that Panama has to face- drug, weapon, human organs, and human trafficking, illegal migration, money laundering, political favoritism and terrorism.
- d. Creation of the Center of Regional Security Coordination (18th April 2011-inauguration)
- e. The main achievements of the Government of Ricardo Martinelli, the President of the Republic of Panama
 - *Mediation during the political crisis in Honduras (2009)*
 - *Structural reforms and social programs*
 - *Financial aid for the elderly*
 - *Scholarships for both public and private schools' students*
 - *The most important basic salary increase within the last 50 years*
 - *"First-home fund" for the financially disadvantaged*
 - *Public infrastructure investments- creation of new hospitals, road restructuring, expansion of the International Tocumen Airport, establishment of MetroBus, Panama Canal expansion*
- f. Two key projects- establishment of the UN Interagency Regional Center for Latin America and the Caribbean, Regional Logistic Human Assistance Center.

2. Participation of the Civic Society (www.participa.gob.pa)

- Key matters: education, environment, security, health, transport, etc.

3. Many people striving for the same goal.

The Republic of Panama reaffirms its commitment to peace, democracy, human rights, sustainable development and invites the International Community to participate in initiatives and programs dedicated to the promotion of those universal, independent and complimentary values.

Republic of Panama
S.E. Dr. Bernardo Díaz De Icaza
Head of Mission

(Draft)

RESOLUTION

On Womens Participation in Strengthening Democracy.

Recognising women are ^{inherent} ~~natural~~ promoters of peace, security and democracy.

Affirming that democracy continues to remain challenged on gender issues.

Recalling the Beijing Platform for Action.

Endorsing bi-partisan women forums, such as Womens Parliamentary Caucus.

Emphasizes the need for more understanding of the political dynamics of gender at every level

Calls specifically for the elimination of gender discriminatory practices in politics.

Further, calls for affirmative legislation and political action which creates a critical mass of women in democracy and its institutions.

IRMAN GUSMAN

M. Saigy

Bahar Algitung/Indonesia

DR ATIYA INAYATULLAH

PAKISTAN DELEGATION

AKNARATOVA R.

Center for Modern Freedom & Responsibility

Manila, Philippines

C. ANADA

Francesco Bomboko, World Hvt for Democracy, (DRC)

Ladan Boroumand

Zanaa Jermel
(mongolia)

Sarwar Bari Pakistan

Human Rights and Democracy for Iran
Boroumand Foundation

President IFDC



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Thank you.

Anatoly Lebedko, Chairman of the United Civil Party of Belarus



PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN - ORIGIN & OBJECTIVES

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) was founded in 2006 following fifteen years of cooperation among States of the Mediterranean region. This cooperation focused on themes of common interest such as political, socio-economic and environmental issues. This process, known as the Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean (CSCM) and which began in 1990, developed under the auspices of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The main objective of PAM is to forge political, economic and social cooperation among the member states in order to find common solutions to the challenges facing the region, and to create a space for peace and prosperity for the Mediterranean peoples.

PAM is the tool for **regional parliamentary diplomacy** and a unique forum whose membership is open exclusively to Mediterranean countries which are represented on equal footing. This is reflected in the composition of the Bureau and the alternating Presidency. The current President of PAM is **Hon. Abdelwahad Radi (Morocco)**¹. Each national delegation has five members with equal voting and decision-making powers. Associate members and Observers do not have voting rights.

PAM conducts the bulk of its work within three **Standing Committees**². It may also set up ad-hoc Committees or Special Task Forces to tackle a particular topic (i.e. Middle East, Migration, Free Trade, Terrorism, Climate Change, Water Resources Management, Energy and Gender issues etc...). Although the reports and resolutions adopted by PAM are not legally binding per se, they are a “soft diplomacy” tool when dealing with parliaments, governments and civil society in the region.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE PAM SECRETARIAT

The Secretariat assists the PAM President and the PAM Bureau in the execution of their mandate and is responsible for the follow-up on the decisions taken by the Assembly providing coordination, assistance and support to the work of the Committees and all other bodies established under PAM.

The Secretariat interacts with national delegations as well as with regional and international bodies sharing an interest in the Mediterranean region. It stimulates the activities of the Assembly and also coordinates the awarding of the PAM Prize dedicated to individuals or institutions whose work is considered important for the Mediterranean region.

The Secretary General - assisted by international and local staff - runs the Secretariat. **Dr. Sergio Piazzi** is the current Secretary General³.

¹ Hon. Abdelwahad Radi is the President of the House of Representatives of Morocco. He assumed the PAM Presidency on 4 March 2011. Hon. Radi is also President of the PAM 1st Standing Committee since October 2010, he was PAM President for the biennium 2007-2008.

² 1st Standing Committee: Political and Security-related Cooperation and Regional Stability;

2nd Standing Committee: Economic, Social and Environmental Cooperation, Development and Partnership;

3rd Standing Committee: Dialogue among Civilisations and Human Rights.

³ Italian-born Dr S. Piazzi worked successively as a diplomat and UN official, mostly dealing with Crisis Management, EU and NATO affairs.

PAM – RELATIONS WITH NON-MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES AND INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

The membership criteria and the geographical location of its members (including the Balkan countries) position PAM as a **central actor** in the Mediterranean region.

The work so far accomplished by PAM has been fully recognised by the General Assembly of the United Nations, which has granted the **Observer Status** to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, by Resolution A/RES/64/124, at its 64th Session on 16th December 2009.

This further strengthens PAM's **complementarity** role in the actions undertaken by other Parliamentary platforms (e.g. IPU, PA UfM, Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Parliamentary bodies of the Council of Europe, the OSCE, WEU, NATO, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, the OIC, the Maghreb Arab Union), States and other international bodies (e.g. UN system, the League of Arab States or the Union for the Mediterranean) which have a direct interest, or a specific role, in the region.

Today's challenges, including migration, climate change and most importantly the resurgence of conflicts, require a collective effort, good will and confidence building measures.

An essential link with civil society, parliamentarians are key to any political decision-making process. In order to ensure coherence and coordination in decision processes, including social peace, it is necessary that parliamentarians fully participate in today's regional debates thereby contributing to the elaboration of policies that bear both an immediate impact and a long-term impact for future generations.

Likely, the political dialogue established among members of PAM, in particular with respect to Middle East issues, is of vital importance.

In furtherance of its objectives, PAM encourages the inter-governmental support of the main actors in the region as well as regional institutions.

PAM MEMBERSHIP

The Member States of PAM: Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Palestine, Portugal, Serbia, Slovenia, Syria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia and Turkey.

Associate Countries: Romania

Partner States and Organizations: San Marino, Bulgaria, Georgia, the Russian Federation, the Holy See, the IPU, the League of Arab States, the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Transitional Arab Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA UfM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), the Parliamentary Assemblies of OSCE, WEU and NATO, the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, OIC, the Arab Maghreb Union, the Parliamentary Union of the Islamic Conference (PUIC), as well as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the Preparatory Commission For the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO), the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO), the Association of the Mediterranean Regulators for Electricity and Gas (MEDREG), the Fondazione Mediterraneo and the Euro-Mediterranean University (EMUNI).

HEADQUARTERS

The Headquarters of the General Secretariat of PAM were established in Malta in November 2007 in recognition of Malta's strategic role and commitment in setting up PAM.



General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 January 2010

Sixty-fourth session
Agenda item 169

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly

[on the report of the Sixth Committee (A/64/567)]

64/124. Observer status for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean,

1. *Decides to invite the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;*

2. *Requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.*

*64th plenary meeting
16 December 2009*





PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MEDITERRANEE
الجمعية البرلمانية للبحر الأبيض المتوسط

Statement by the Secretary General of the
Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM),
Dr. Sergio Piazzi

High-Level democracy meeting
The road to democracy: role of the Community of Democracies
Parliamentary Forum

**“The Role of the Parliamentary Forum: Encouraging Effective
Democracy Assistance”**

Vilnius, 30 June 2011

Check against delivery

~~Excellencies,~~ *Mr. President*

Distinguished Guests,

~~Ladies and Gentlemen,~~

be here in Vilnius

It is an honor ~~and a pleasure~~ to address you today, at this High-Level ~~meeting of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum, here in~~ ~~Vilnius,~~ to present the activities of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) in encouraging and implementing effective Democracy assistance, as well as in ensuring the coordination and the follow-up of our action, in this field, with the UN system and the international community.

PAM is a unique forum gathering parliamentarians from the Mediterranean region. We are an inter-state organization, with its own ^{int.l} legal personality and capacity, composed of 28 Member States. Our Assembly was born in 2006 in Amman, ~~Jordan~~, to operate as an instrument of parliamentary diplomacy in the Mediterranean region, resulting from the maturation of a regional political process initiated within the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the late 1980^s, and known as the "Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean (CSCM)".

PAM's growing status on the regional and international scene has led the United Nations to grant our Assembly with the ^(PERMANENT) Observer status at the United Nations General Assembly. In close cooperation with the UN, PAM focuses its work on strategic issues for our region, such as the promotion of Democracy and Human Rights, stability and security in the Mediterranean and beyond, the peace process in the Middle East, in its regional dimension, and others geopolitical issues such as, inter alia, the process of constitutional reform in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We also focus our work on key issues such as fight against terrorism and organized crime, environmental matters, ~~Water and~~

Energy, inter-religious dialogue and, most important, ^{economic growth} ~~the social/economic~~ dynamics ^{for} ~~affecting~~ the people of our region.

Similarly to the activities of the Community of Democracies, which are based on the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, I ^{wish} ~~am pleased~~ to underline that we share the same principles and fundamental values. We consider the UN Charter as the key instrument for ^{freedom and} ~~democracy~~ ^{diplomacy}, and ^{its} ~~its~~ promotion and implementation, are a priority for PAM's MPs.

In such historical times for the Mediterranean region, we are very proud of the longstanding and constant commitment of our members in supporting the aspirations expressed by the peoples we represent. Our dedication and mobilization have been bearing fruits. The deep and strong links we have progressively built with the people and the civil society of the Mediterranean have been an invaluable tool to foster democracy, in complementing traditional channels of diplomacy.

At the onset of the Arab spring, PAM immediately provided support to the democratic aspirations expressed by the Peoples of the South of the Mediterranean, notably in Tunisia, Egypt, Syria and Libya, in close cooperation with the UN, as illustrated, inter alia, by the personal message of the UN Secretary General encouraging the efforts of our Assembly. Our mobilization to support the political changes in North Africa demonstrated the ability of the Assembly to address effectively the needs of the populations.

I received from
commitment

We were the first Mediterranean parliamentary delegation received by the Tunisian authorities after the "Jasmine Revolution". A High-Level PAM delegation held consultations with the President of the Republic of Tunisia, H.E. Mr. Mebazaa, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, as well as with parliamentarians and civil society representatives, already in early March. The President of the Republic personally requested PAM to contribute to the democratic process in Tunisia. In coordination with UNDP and IPU, PAM is prepared to coordinate the work of its Parliaments. We need to ensure, in the most appropriate way, the complementarity of efforts by the international community efforts in assisting the Tunisian authorities to facilitate the success of the elections for a Constituent Assembly, next October.

personally
As requested to ~~PAM Secretariat~~ *me* by the UNSG, further to his mission to Egypt and Tunisia, PAM will continue to assist Egypt in the transition to a civilian government, the lifting of the state of emergency, the establishment of new political parties, and the creation of new political and social opportunities for Women and Youth.

We also ensure that our diplomatic network in the region is mobilized, when requested, to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the Mediterranean peoples, as illustrated by our support to the recent UN High-Level missions to Western Sahara, Libya and Egypt. We ^{recently} provided specific support to the mission to Libya of ^{SEN} ~~H.E. Abdul-Hah~~ Khatib, UNSG Special Envoy, and to ^{UN} ~~Under-Secretary-General and Emergency Relief Coordinator,~~ ^{for Humanitarian Affairs} H.E. Ms. Valerie Amos, *or to open humanitarian corridors to Nisrbe.*

It is with the same commitment that we mobilize our resources to promote peace and stability for the entire region. The results obtained to assist both parties, Israeli and Palestinian, in reviving the Peace Process in the Middle East are also particularly significant. The relaunch of the Israeli-Palestinian

dialogue is a top priority for this Assembly. At the last meeting of our Bureau in Dubrovnik last week, PAM had the privilege to bring together the Vice President of the Knesset, Hon. Whbee, and the Vice President of the Palestinian National Council, Hon. Quba'a, and through a constructive dialogue, to make them discuss about concrete steps to progress toward a fair and balanced solution to the conflict. PAM is already involved, in coordination with the international community, in the next stages of negotiations that will be decisive. PAM is ^{also} very attentive to the initiatives of the Palestinian Authority to achieve the creation of a Palestinian State, ^{Very recently I received a call from} ~~and~~ ^{of P.O. 1} at the request of several US ^{congressmen on} Senators, PAM has conveyed the message to the President of the Palestinian Authority, H.E. Mr. Abbas, for him to address the US Congress, in order to ensure a balanced and constructive approach of their institution, following the ^{Pres. Abbas has} speech by the Prime Minister of Israel, H.E. Mr. Netanyahu, on 24 May. These ^{efforts} steps are very encouraging to facilitate a just and lasting solution to the conflict.

Our work extends to all the regional theaters which need our attention. I am pleased that our efforts in Bosnia and Herzegovina have possibly contributed to break the deadlock which had lasted since the elections of

October 2010 ~~with the nomination of the Speaker, H.E. Mr. Becirovic, and the establishment of the House of Representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly of Bosnia and Herzegovina.~~ As a bridge between the executive and the people, our core responsibility includes assistance in the oversight of the governments and formulation of legislations. In this regards, facilitation of Constitutional reform processes is a key priority on PAM's agenda. Through the mobilization of its network ~~in the field and its close links with Parliamentarians in the~~ Balkans, including, ^{and} inter alia, the personal involvement of the Speakers of the Parliaments of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Croatia and Montenegro, at the request of the UN and OSCE, PAM is organizing ^{together with the} a meeting on the constitutional reform process in Bosnia and Herzegovina in Malta, in December 2011.

We also continue to closely monitor the situation in Cyprus ~~and our President will visit the island soon.~~

We also believe that a sustainable and fair development is a key instrument to support the implementation of democracy rules. In the economic field, PAM Panel on External Trade and Investments in the Mediterranean has emerged as a credible partner of the UN and the private sector. To be further closer to citizens' concern, PAM Panel has decided to target specific sectors

which are at the heart of current regional economic dynamics, as illustrated by **our** new action plan with the UN in this field.

A meeting on Women role in enhancing democracy is taking place at the **same** moment today at the Office of the President, H.E. Ms Dalia Grybauskaitė. *of Lithuanian*
I am very pleased to announce, on PAM side, the establishment of a platform **gathering** MPs and Women NGOs to promote gender equality in the **Mediterranean**, as we consider it as a pillar of the democratic values that we are **sharing** with all our partners.

Thanks to the commitment of people like you, parliamentarians are more **and** more associated to the joint efforts the international community is **mobilizing** to further promote Democracy and Human Rights. On behalf of PAM, I am very grateful to you for this unique opportunity to share our experience and so doing ensure a cross fertilization of our initiatives through a better analysis and a more accurate response to the challenges we are facing

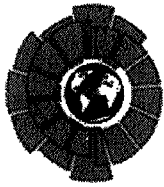
today, in our case in the Mediterranean. *And we would be pleased*

to become the antennae of your Forum for our region -

Thank you for your attention.

and loud speaker

joint efforts and for PAM



COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES

The Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum

High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” Vilnius, 30 June 2011

Draft

RESOLUTION On the Situation in Belarus

We, the participants of the High Level Democracy Meeting “The Road to Democracy: Role of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum” met in Vilnius on 30 June 2011, express our deep concern over the situation in Belarus after the events of 19 December 2010. We believe that the verdicts pronounced in connection with the peaceful protest actions on 19 December 2010 in Minsk are lawless and politically motivated. The absence of free and fair elections and harassment of political opponents have caused deterioration of relations between Belarus and the democratic world.

For the sake of justice and for the return of Belarus to the path of democratic development, we demand an end to all criminal cases, removal of all restrictions imposed by the court and removal from criminal record of the former candidates for the presidency at the elections on 19 December 2010 - Mikalai Statkevich, Dzmitry Us, Andrei Sannikau, Uladzimir Niakliayeu, Vital Rymasheuski as well as members of their teams and protesters on 19 December.

We demand the immediate release of all political prisoners in Belarus and urge the Belarusian authorities to follow international standards on freedom of press, freedom of assembly, freedom of political parties and public associations, freedom of conscience.



June 29, 2011

Dear colleague,

On behalf of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum for Democracy I cordially invite you to join the Parliamentary Forum meeting in Washington, D.C., on) on September 15, 2011 commemorating the occasion of the International Day of Democracy.

H.E. John Boehner, the Speaker of the House of the Representatives of the United States is scheduled to open the meeting. Members of the U.S. House of the Representatives, the U.S. Senate, the European Parliament, and parliamentarians from countries including Canada, Czech Republic, Georgia, Mexico, Germany, Iceland, Italy, Lithuania, Mongolia, Moldova, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine, USA and others are invited to participate.

The meeting will provide an opportunity for legislative leaders from all over the world to have a dialogue with the leaders from foreign governments, civil society and youth organizations to discuss important security issues facing democracy today including dangers that prospective democracies face in today's world by being tempted to apply alternative authoritarian models to the liberal democracy as well as identifying forces that might push them to do so, and the threats to the democratic community posed by the rise of potential alternatives to the democracy.

The Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum was established in Vilnius in March 2010 on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of the restoration of Lithuania's independence. The Parliamentary Forum was established by 43 parliamentarians from Lithuania, Europe, USA, Latin America, and Asia. The Convening Meeting in Vilnius attended by parliamentarians from 18 countries seeking to pursue the ideas of democracy and human rights and freedoms signed the Vilnius Declaration, whereby undertaking to work together to strengthen democracy where it is weak and invigorate it where it is longstanding, to promote peace, development of human rights and freedoms, gender equality and equal opportunities in their respective countries and around the world.

I would be honored by your participation at the Parliamentary Forum for Democracy meeting. This vitally important meeting in Washington will give you an opportunity to network with your fellow legislators from the parliaments around the world.

We are especially grateful for the support of the National Endowment for Democracy (NED), International Republican Institute (IRI), and National Democratic Institute (NDI) for this event. Limited resources of assistance will be available on individual cases.

Enclosed is a preliminary program of the Washington DC meeting. Updated program of the meeting will be circulated by the end of August.

We would greatly appreciate if you confirmed your presence by **August 19, 2011** to Ms. Inga Lukavičiūtė, Embassy of Lithuania: inga.lukaviciute@urm.lt; 202-234-5860x130

For more information about the event please contact Mr. Rolandas Kačinskas, Rolandas.kacinskas@urm.lt, 202-234-5860x118

Please accept the assurances of our highest consideration and personal esteem.

Emanuelis Zingeris
President
Parliamentary Forum for Democracy
Community of Democracies



COMMUNITY
OF DEMOCRACIES
Intergovernmental
Organization

A New Democratic Moment: Lessons for the Arab Spring

**Washington, DC
September 15, 2011**

Venue: US Congress

Until recent developments in the North Africa and Middle East, the spread of liberal democracy had stalled -- with Freedom House reporting a decline in the advance of democracy over the past five years. While developments in the Arab world hold the promise for a new democratic wave, the outcome of the Arab Spring remains uncertain and democratic progress in the region is unlikely to be linear. The conference is intended to highlight challenges and opportunities that nascent and prospective democracies face in today's world.

Conference participants will discuss the successes and setbacks of democracy over the past several decades and consider their implications for transitions currently underway in North Africa and the greater Middle East. Participants will also discuss the interrelation of democracy and development, and the need to ensure that democracy delivers improved lives for citizens in the Middle East, if recent advances are to be consolidated and sustained. The conference will also address the particular role of parliaments in democratic transitions, and the need to develop parliamentary institutions that are not only democratically elected, but that also govern democratically.

8:45-9:00 AM Registration

9:00-9:45 Opening Remarks

Mr. Emanuelis Zingeris, President, CoD Parliamentary Forum (tbc)

Rep. John Boehner, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives (tbc)

Rep. Nancy Pelosi, Minority Leader, U. S. House of Representatives (tbc)

Ms. Irena Degutiene, Speaker of the Lithuanian Parliament (tbc)

Mr. Jerzy Buzek, President of the European Parliament (tbc via Video link)

Mr. Chimed Saikhanbileg, Head of the Democratic Party Fraction of the Mongolian Parliament, Chairman of Mongolia-U.S. Parliamentary group (tbc)

9:45 -11:30 Drawing Lessons from Past Democratic Transitions for the Arab Spring

What lessons can be drawn from the democratic transition experiences in Central and Eastern Europe in context of the Arab Spring? What lessons can be drawn from other successful transitions, such as Indonesia? Will a new democratic moment, recently

witnessed in the Arab world, be sustained and what role can the international community play in supporting these transitions?

Moderators: Mr. Francis Fukuyama, SAIS Foreign Policy Institute Senior Fellow (tbc),
Mr. Kenneth Wollack, President of NDI (tbc)

- Rep. from **Tunisia** (tbc)
- Rep. from **Egypt** (tbc)
- Rep. from **Indonesia** (tbc)
- **Rep. Dan Burton**, Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives (tbc)
- **Rep. David Dreier**, Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives (tbc)
- **Rep. David Price**, Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives (tbc)
- **Mr. Vytautas Landsbergis**, Member of the European Parliament (tbc)
- **Mr. Boris Nemtsov**, opposition leader, Russia (tbc)
- Rep. from **Poland** (tbc)
- Representative from **Young leaders forum** (tbc)

Comments and discussion of the PF participants

11:45-1:00 PM

Responding to Authoritarian Capitalism and Helping New Democracies Deliver Socio-Economic Development

Despite economic advances under the Chinese model of “authoritarian capitalism,” events in the Arab spring remind us that, unless accompanied by political liberalization and democratization, this approach is unlikely to be politically sustainable over the long-run. What role do Western democracies play in ensuring that the authoritarian capitalist systems are forced to play on a level playing field with democratic market economies? How (and can) the West use economic engagement to support political liberalization in authoritarian capitalist systems, such as China and Russia? At the same time, however, new democracies find themselves under pressure to deliver rapid socio-economic development. This is particularly true in the wake of a democratic transitions, where expectations for rapid socio-economic development are often unrealistically high. What role do parliaments play in “helping democracy deliver”, particularly in the context of democratic transitions?

Moderator: Mr. Carl Gershman, President of NED(tbc)

- **Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen**, Congresswoman, U. S. House of Representatives, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
- Rep. of opposition leader from **China** (tbc)
- **Mr. Marian Lupu**, Speaker of the Moldovan Parliament (tbc)
- **Mr. David Bakradze**, Speaker of the Georgian Parliament (tbc)
- **Ms. Samantha Power**, Senior Director for Multilateral Affairs for the National Security Council (tbc)
- Representative from **Young leaders forum** (tbc)

Comments and discussion of the PF participants

1:00-1:15

Lunch Served

1:15-2:00

Addressing Resilient Authoritarian Rule

Examples of Belarus and Cuba shows that authoritarianism can be sustained even if it fails to deliver modernization. Actually, many observers – journalists, politicians, and activists - have been foreseeing the collapse of the Cuban regime at least since the end of the Cold War, yet Cuba persists. Cuba shares much in common with Belarus. Are Cuba and Belarus special cases with unique forces that do not operate elsewhere? Why have well-educated Cubans and Belarusians failed to produce democracy? What lessons can be drawn from these cases?

Moderators: Mr. David Kramer, Director of Freedom House (tbc) and Mr. Steve Nix, Regional Director for Eurasia, IRI

- Rep. of opposition leader of **Belarus** (tbc)
- Rep. of opposition leader of **Cuba** (tbc)
- **Sen. John McCain**, Senator, U.S. Senate (tbc)
- **Rep. Mario Diaz-Balart**, Congressman, U.S. House of Representatives (tbc)
- Rep. from **Young leaders forum**(tbc)

Comments and discussion of the PF participants

2:00-2:30

Closing remarks

Mr. Emanuelis Zingeris, President, CoD Parliamentary Forum

Adoption of the Resolution of the Community of Democracies Parliamentary Forum on the occasion of the International Day of Democracy

CURRENT PARTNERS:

Community of Democracies

Young Leader's Forum

Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania to the US

Embassy of Mongolia to the US (tbc)

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