



Political Party Peer Network Conference 17.6.2019 – 19.6.2019
House of the Estates, HELSINKI

Strengthening Political Parties – Ensuring People’s Voice Towards the 2030 Agenda

PROGRAMME

MONDAY 17th JUNE - DAY ONE

11:00 Registration opens

Please drop by the registration any time between 11:00 – 13:00. Please have your ID with you, as it is requested at the door of the venue.

Please note that there is no lunch facility at the venue on Monday.

13:00 – 14:00 Welcome to the PPPeer Conference

Plenary hall 15

13:00 – 13:10 Welcoming words, **Anu Juvonen**, Executive Director of Political Parties of Finland for Democracy – Demo Finland

13:10 – 13:20 Welcome from Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland (*Speaker TBC*)

13:20 – 13:40 Greetings from the Chair of the Political Party Peer Network, **Wouter Dol**, Head of Knowledge and Strategic Relations of Netherlands Institute of Multiparty Democracy

13:40 – 13:50 Key note speech by a Finnish Member of the Parliament, **Saara-Sofia Sirén**, Member of the National Coalition Party

14:00 – 14:45 Coffee served

Catering room 20

14:45 – 16:45 Panel discussion: **Challenges to Political Parties relating to 2030 Agenda**

Plenary hall 15

Inclusive, transparent and accountable institutions are key for the achievement of all of the sustainable development goals – still neither political parties nor democracy are mentioned in the 2030 Agenda. The parties have an important role in achieving the goals of the agenda, but what challenges do the emerging political movements, the rise of authoritarian regimes, increasing disinformation and populist movements bring to the political parties? And can political parties provide a space for underrepresented groups by 2030, as sustainable development cannot be achieved without inclusive politics.

Panelists:

Endre Stiansen, Senior Research and Policy Advisor, UNDP Oslo Governance Center

Rumbidzai Kandawasvika-Nhundu, Head of Political Participation and Representation, International IDEA

Rauno Merisaari, Ambassador for Human Rights and Democracy from Ministry for Foreign

Affairs of Finland

Hermenegildo Mulhovo, Executive Director of IMD Mozambique

Moderator: **Ken Godfrey**, Executive Director of European Partnership for Democracy

16:45 – 17:00 Concluding remarks by PPPeer Network

Plenary hall 15

Ivan Doherty, Senior Associate and Director of Political Party Programs of National Democratic Institute

17:00 – 19:00 Evening reception

Catering room 20

Evening reception hosted by **Elina Kalkku**, Under-Secretary of State, Development Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland. Refreshments and snack food are served.

TUESDAY 18th JUNE – DAY TWO

8:30 Doors open at the venue

Plenary hall 15

9:00 – 9:30 Reflections from Monday's Program and Brief Introduction of Morning Workshops

Moderator: Master of Ceremonies **Jenni Karimäki**, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Parliamentary Studies, University of Turku, Finland

9:30 – 11:00 Parallel Workshops: 1 A, 1 B and 1 C

Workshop 1 A: 21st Century Political Parties - Building a Road Map for Party Reformers

Organization responsible for the workshop: National Democratic Institute (NDI)

Political parties need to revitalize and reform key components of their organization to succeed in the modern era, and reform-minded political party members need assistance with increasing their capacity to implement internal reforms. NDI presents 'The Framework for Party Reformers' which is a toolkit that is designed to help party reformers overcome intra-party barriers to reform and devise concrete implementation strategies for internal reforms. In the afternoon session, NIMD's workshop on strategic planning will explore this further by looking into the role that technology can play in assisting political parties in designing and implementing reforms within their organizations.

Speakers: **Margaret Curran**, Former Shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, Member of the Scottish Labour Party

Karolina Leakovic, Member of Croatian Parliament, Vice President of the Party of European Socialists Women

Khadija El-Morabit, Deputy President of the International Network of Liberal Women

Moderator: **Ian Gill**, NDI

Rapporteur: **Christian Brunner**, NDI

Workshop 1 B: Winner Takes It All?: Helping parties rethink the balance between long-term policy thinking and short-term competition

Organization responsible for the workshop: Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)

Political parties are expected to perform two core functions: fight and win elections and govern and lead through political institutions, whether in government or opposition.

Delivering these two functions requires political parties to deliberately develop specific capacities, from mobilising populations to developing long-term policy strategies. Because fighting and winning (both elections and other internal competitions) are a precursor to governing and leading, the capacities associated with competing tend to predominate. These

can involve behaviours that are high-risk, combative and linked to short term gains. By contrast, governing and leading require longer-term thinking and planning, the aptitude to conduct and understand research and evidence, and more careful deliberation of the impact of actions and investments.

Globally, many political organisations struggle to balance these two functions effectively, often investing more in their competitive capacities than their policy development structures. What implications might this have for democracy? It can calcify political polarisation, disrupting the ability of institutions like parliaments to debate rationally and to reach compromises. It can exacerbate the realities of politics as a man's game, legitimising opaque decision-making and unnecessarily hostile, sometimes violent, behaviours. And it can incentivise the emergence of political parties whose primary objective is the destabilisation of politics, not the general welfare.

This panel brings together politicians and practitioners from across the world to discuss what can be done to address this imbalance in political party prioritisation. How can political parties structure themselves to be both successful election fighting organisations and effective policymakers and leaders? How can we as democracy assistance organisation help to break a negative cycle of winner takes it all?

Panelists: Former MP from Kenya (TBC)

Margaret Curran, former UK Labour MP

Fernando Bautista, MP for El Salvador in Central American Parliament

party representative from South Africa (TBC)

party representative from Scotland (TBC)

Moderator: **Shannon O'Connell**, WFD

Rapporteur: **Victoria Hasson**, WFD

Workshop 1 C:

Meaningful Inclusivity – Underrepresented Groups in Political Parties

Organizations responsible for the workshop: The Oslo Center (OC), Danish Institute for Parties and Democracy (DIPD), Political Parties of Finland for Democracy – Demo Finland and OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

The workshop examines inclusivity within political parties, offering different perspectives on this topic. ODIHR presents its concrete tools to strengthen participation of underrepresented groups in political parties, such as the ODIHR Gender audit tool for political parties and Guidelines on Promoting the Political Participation of Persons with Disabilities, and shares experiences from the OSCE region. The Oslo Center takes a closer look at the examples of legal frameworks developed for strengthening female participation and gender equality, and the operationalization and implementation to ensure meaningful inclusion. Demo Finland brings a case study of one of its partner organizations and DIPD approaches the topic from the point of gender inclusion in the Nepali context of constitutional changes and use of gender audits.

Speakers: **Tiina Kukkamaa-Bah**, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)

Bjarte Tørå, Senior Adviser of the Oslo Center
Representative from partner organization of Demo Finland (TBC)
Shrishti Rana, DIPD Country Coordinator for Nepal

Moderator: **Anu Juvonen**, Demo Finland

Rapporteur: **Ajla van Heel**, ODIHR

11:00 – 12:00 Key takeaways from the Morning Workshops Plenary hall 15

MC **Jenni Karimäki**, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Parliamentary Studies

12:00 – 13:00 Buffet lunch served Catering room 20

13:00 – 13:30 Brief Introduction to Afternoon Workshops Plenary hall 15

Moderator: MC **Jenni Karimäki**, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Parliamentary Studies

13:30 – 15:00 Parallel Workshops 2 A, 2 B and 2 C

Workshop 2 A:

Strategic Planning: How strategic planning supports programmatic political parties

Organization responsible for the workshop: Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy (NIMD)

The Digital Software for Strategic Planning, a tool developed by NIMD, helps political parties gain the capacity to look ahead and anticipate developments. This way, parties and politicians can prepare adequately to deal with political events, societal demands and democratic changes. In other words, it helps them to become more programmatic and responsive to voices in society. These parties are more likely to promote inclusive policies and provide opportunities for participation and are therefore key allies in promoting SDG 16. This workshop will present the digital strategic planning tool and show how it can help political parties to learn and develop grass root structures in order to achieve political change for sustainable development. It will also explore how technology can help create entry points for marginalized groups to participate in political decision-making.

Speakers: **Levan Tsutskiridze** and **Salome Mukhuradze**, Eastern European Centre for Multiparty Democracy (EECMD)

Moderator: TBC

Rapporteur: TBC

Workshop 2 B:

Political Party cooperation in the Arab World

Organization responsible for the workshop: Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)

Experts from the Middle East are brought together to give a deeper insight into the political developments and of the role of political parties in the Arab World regarding ensuring People's Voice towards the Agenda 2030. With experts from Tunisia, Morocco, Lebanon and Jordan we will discuss the previous success and the challenges that lie ahead to promote SDG 16 and SDG 17 of the Agenda 2030. After the workshop we will have a comprehensive picture of the

region and recommendations for organizations working in the field of party cooperation in order to strengthen political parties.

Speakers: **Dr. Malte Gaier** (Lebanon)

Mohammed Qasem (Jordan)

Jalila Morsli (Morocco)

Rabiah Nejlaoui (Tunisia)

Moderator: **Thomas Birringer**, KAS

Rapporteur: **Franziska Fislage**, KAS

Workshop 2 C: Intersections of Gender and Political Finance

Organization responsible for the workshop: International IDEA

This workshop will examine the intersection of gender and political financing and the challenges that arise from this connection which perpetuates gender inequalities in politics and elected positions of power and decision making. Overcoming the obstacles to achieving gender inequalities in politics requires political parties' initiatives in many areas because they remain as the key "gatekeepers" on the candidate's nominations, selection and identification processes for elective positions. The workshop will distil the current initiatives and practices on how political financing for political parties presents mechanisms to overcome the gender inequalities in politics and promote equal participation and representation as a benchmark for SDG 5. The workshop will present a global overview from an Access-Participation-Transformation (APT) perspective and national perspectives on the link of political financing for political parties and gender equality from four countries.

Speakers: **Rumbidzai Kandawasvika-Nhundu**, Head of Political Participation and Representation, International IDEA

Edlira Çepani, National Coordinator, Women's Network Equality in Decision Making, Albania
Experience of Finland (TBC)

Experience of Georgia (TBC)

Moderator: **Maria Lohela**, Member of the Board of Advisors, International IDEA (former MP Finland)

Rapporteur: **Meriem Trabelsi**, Project Coordinator, International Knowledge Network for Women in Politics (iKNOW Politics)

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee served

Catering room 20

15:30 – 16:30 Key takeaways from the Afternoon workshops

Plenary hall 15

Moderator: MC **Jenni Karimäki**, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Parliamentary Studies

17:30 – 19:30 Political Party Peer Core Group Meeting

Restaurant Savotta (Senate Square)

Please note, this is a regular meeting only for the PPPeer Core Group organizations.

WEDNESDAY 19th JUNE – DAY THREE

8:30 Doors open

9:30 – 11:00 Plenary session and the workshop recommendations

Plenary hall 15

MC **Jenni Karimäki**, Senior Lecturer, Centre for Parliamentary Studies

Workshop recommendations presented by workshop rapporteurs

11:00 – 11:30 Concluding remarks

Plenary hall 15

Speaker TBC.

11:30 – 12:45 What now for European support for democracy?

Plenary hall 15

The European Partnership for Democracy (EPD) will launch the final recommendations of the participatory research into European democracy support organised by EPD and its members. This review provides analysis for the democracy support community and EU member states to take stock of efforts for assisting democracy abroad and point ways forward for improvements in the context of a rapidly changing international context. The presentation of the recommendations will be followed by a panel discussion

Ken Godfrey, Executive Director of European Partnership for Democracy

Panelists:

Helena Bjuremalm, Deputy Head of Democracy and Human rights Division, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)

Thijs Berman, Executive Director of NIMD

12:45 – 13:45 Buffet lunch served and farewell

Catering room 20

13:45 – 16:00 Nordic Meeting of Democracy Support Organizations

Room 17

Please note, this is a regular meeting meant only for Nordic agencies and political party representatives.

The Political Party Peer Network Conference 2019
is organized in collaboration with the
PPPeer Core Group



THE OSLO CENTER
Peace • Democracy • Human Rights



The conference is organized in collaboration with
Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland

Ulkoministeriö
Utrikesministeriet



Ministry for Foreign
Affairs of Finland