



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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## **HUMAN RIGHTS: THE CRITICAL CONTRIBUTION OF PARLIAMENTS**

**27 June 2014, 1 - 2.30 p.m.**

**Room XXIV, Palais des Nations**

**Moderator:** **Ambassador Laura Dupuy Lasserre**  
Former President of the United Nations Human Rights Council

### ▶ **The role of parliaments in the promotion and protection of human rights**

**Mr. Anders B. Johnsson**  
Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Mr. Johnsson will talk about why parliaments matter to the human rights debate and how they contribute to the work of the UN Human Rights Council, in particular its Universal Periodic Review. He will highlight how the IPU is helping parliaments to ensure better respect for human rights at the national level.

### ▶ **Promoting enhanced parliamentary oversight of human rights**

**Dr. Philippa Webb**  
Lecturer in Public International Law and Co-Investigator on the Project on Effective Parliamentary Oversight of Human Rights, King's College London

**Ms. Kirsten Roberts**  
Co-Investigator on the Project on Effective Parliamentary Oversight of Human Rights

Dr. Webb and Ms. Roberts will present the main findings of the Project on Effective Parliamentary Oversight of Human Rights, including a framework for designing effective parliamentary oversight and discuss the possibility of developing a draft set of Principles on Mechanisms for Effective Oversight of Human Rights.

### ▶ **UN efforts to engage with parliaments as important stakeholders in national human rights protection systems**

**Mr. Gianni Magazzeni**  
Chief, Americas, Europe & Central Asia Branch, Field Operations and Technical Cooperation Division, OHCHR

Mr Magazzeni will address the increased recognition by the United Nations, including OHCHR, as well as the international human rights mechanisms of the centrality of parliaments in the protection and promotion of human rights at the national level. He will also address how this recognition has led to increased UN engagement with parliaments and their members, and to the promotion of cooperation between parliaments and other national stakeholders, such as National Human Rights Institutions.

Presentations will be kept as short as possible to give ample time for interventions from the floor. Light refreshments will be served to participants before the meeting. Interpretation from and into English and French will be available.