

THE PARLIAMENTARIANS NETWORK FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION & HUMAN SECURITY



What it is

The Parliamentarians Network, launched at the European Parliament in Brussels in October 2008, is an initiative of the EastWest Institute's International Task Force on Preventive Diplomacy. It is an international, non-partisan, standing structure with a growing membership of - to date - over 50 parliamentarians from more than 25 countries across the globe. The Network connects members of parliament to mobilize efforts towards the prevention of conflicts turning violent through diplomatic initiatives and effective collective action. It was conceived in response to the paucity of strategies and lack of political will on the part of many national parliaments, governments, and the international community to respond early and effectively to prevent conflicts turning violent.

What it Does

The Network applies its collective early warning capacity to raise government, media and public attention to prospective violent conflicts. It advocates for a greater allocation of resources for preventive action and for increased capacity building. Members work to:

- Foster political attention and raise awareness, both with the media and the broader public
- Hold governments accountable
- Influence legislation
- Improve resource allocation and capacity building for conflict prevention
- Support advocacy work with concrete action

How it Works

The Network is supported by a Secretariat and guided by a six-person members-appointed Executive Council, which is regionally and gender-balanced. The Network convenes two to three face-to-face meetings per year, and regularly communicates using online and other interface technologies.

Ideas into Action

Parliamentarians are particularly well-placed to advance preventive diplomatic approaches to conflict and to translate them into national and international action. Thus, members can spearhead the reframing of traditional security and development policy thinking towards diplomatic alternatives to violence that are both sustainable and cost effective.



"As individuals and as a network, members will support our colleagues in countries across the world in their efforts to bring peace and stability to their region, whether they are directly involved in peace processes or in need of the network's support to bring attention to a particular potential conflict." – Network interim Co-Chairs Angelika Beer MEP and Kabwe Zitto MP

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