## **INTER PARES** | Parliaments in Partnership EU Global Project to Strengthen the Capacity of Parliaments



Brussels, 12 September 2022

Ms Isabel Alves Moreira, MP Assambleia da República Palácio de S. Bento, Praça da Constituição de 1976 1249-068 LISBOA

## RE: Invitation to speak at INTER PARES seminar on parliaments and human rights

Dear Ms Isabel Alves Moreira MP,

I am writing to you because of your recognised expertise in the field of human rights and democracy.

I head INTER PARES | Parliaments in Partnership, which is the EU's Global Project to Strengthen the Capacity of Parliaments. One of our key thematic priorities is human rights, and specifically strengthening the role of parliaments in fostering and enhancing human rights.

We would be honoured if you would agree to participate as an expert panellist in a virtual seminar on "Effective Human Rights Engagement by Parliamentary Bodies" we are organizing on Tuesday 20 September from 14:00-16:30 CEST (13:00-15:30 Portuguese time). The seminar will bring together parliamentarians and human rights experts to engage in a dialogue to reinforce the position of parliaments as key human rights actors.

The seminar will be structured around three panels that will discuss the role of parliaments in human rights and effective ways for their engagement from the lens of three key actors: parliamentarians; stakeholders like civil society actors, National Human Rights Institutions, and academia; and intergovernmental organisations that work in the field.

The event will serve to launch our new publication on parliaments and human rights, "Effective Human Rights Engagement for Parliamentary Bodies: A Toolkit" prepared by Dr. Kirsten Roberts Lyer, leading expert and scholar on human rights and parliaments.

We would be honoured by your participation in the first panel focused on how parliaments engage on human rights. Your experience and expertise as President of the Subcomissão para a Igualdade e Não Discriminação of the Comissão de Assuntos Constitucionais, Direitos Liberdades e Garantias of the Assembleia da República, as well as your recognised leadership in favour of women's and LGBTI rights would greatly contribute to the discussions we hope to provoke. The panel itself will take the form of a discussion, moderated by Dr. Roberts Lyer, between yourself and parliamentarians representing parliamentary human rights committees, with discussion questions provided beforehand. The panel is scheduled to last from 14:35 to 15:00 CEST (13:35 to 14:00 Portuguese time), followed by 10 minutes for questions from the audience.

The INTER PARES project works to strengthen representative and inclusive democracy through support to the effective functioning of parliaments in partner countries by enhancing their legislative, oversight, representative, budgetary and administrative functions. I attach a brochure about INTER PARES and you can read more about our work on our website at <a href="https://www.inter-pares.eu/en">https://www.inter-pares.eu/en</a>.

We eagerly anticipate your participation in this important event.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Murphy Head of Programme

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