 **Questionnaire for the IPU Parline Database:**

**Annual activities of parliament in 2023**

## About this questionnaire

In the first quarter of each year the IPU collects factual data from all parliaments on their annual activities during the previous year. This data is published in the [Parline](https://data.ipu.org/) database on national parliaments.

This questionnaire collects data for the year 2023. It contains 14 routine questions about annual activities, such as the number of days the parliament met, the number of laws passed etc.

In addition, parliaments are requested to review and update (where necessary) answers to 11 additional about the **Parliamentary mandate**.

This and other data in the Parline database underpins analysis that supports [IPU’s Strategic objectives](https://www.ipu.org/resources/publications/about-ipu/2022-01/strategy-2022-2026) and monitoring the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda via SDGs 5.5.1 and 16.7.1.

The questionnaire is available in English, French and Spanish. We expect that the questionnaire should take around 6-8 hours to complete. When completing the questionnaire, we recommend that parliaments:

1. consult past data reported via your parliament’s Parline page
2. consult [FAQs](https://www.ipu.org/file/12805/download) which provide guidance and real examples of answers
3. consult [model questionnaires](https://data.ipu.org/content/questionnaires)
4. contact parline@ipu.org for any further clarifications

Parliaments are kindly requested to complete the questionnaire by **1st May 2024**. The preferred method is to complete the questionnaire [online here](https://survey.alchemer.eu/s3/90681594/2023AA). Alternatively, parliaments may complete the questionnaire in Word and return it to parline@ipu.org.

This questionnaire has been sent to the [Parline Correspondent](https://data.ipu.org/content/parliaments) in each parliament, with copy to the parliament’s IPU Group. Parliaments that have not yet designated a Parline Correspondent are requested to do so at the earliest opportunity.

More information about Parline Correspondents is available at <https://data.ipu.org/content/parliaments> along with a ‘Checklist’ of what Parline updates to report and when.

## Notes

Questions 1-8 apply to the entire parliament, whether unicameral or bicameral. For others, space is provided to report data for each chamber of a bicameral parliament.

Please provide data for the calendar year (1 January to 31 December), whenever possible. If it is not possible to provide data for the calendar year, please specify the reference period (for example, 1 April to 31 March) in the notes field at the end of the questionnaire. Any other supporting information can also be provided in this notes field. If the supporting information refers to a specific question, please indicate the question number.

## About Parline

[Parline](https://data.ipu.org/) is a unique and free source of comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date reference information on parliaments around the world. IPU depends on parliaments to regularly supply information and updates to ensure shared responsibility for Parline and the integrity of the data it houses. It provides parliaments, academics, students, international organizations, the media and many other database users with a comparative perspective on the composition and working methods of parliaments. Data is frequently used for research, correspondence, and briefing purposes. It is the official source of data for SDG indicators 5.5.1 and 16.7.1(a).

**For more information about Parline, please visit the “**[**About**](https://data.ipu.org/content/about-open-data-platform)**” page or contact Ms. Addie Erwin, Data Officer at** **parline@ipu.org**.

##

## Identification

## Country:

**Date:**

*Please provide contact details for the person that we can contact for further details or clarifications.*

**Name:**

**Job title:**

**E-mail:**

**Telephone:**

**Are you the** [**Parline Correspondent**](https://data.ipu.org/content/parliaments) **for your parliament/chamber?** [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

## Questions – for each of the following, in 2023:

1. **Were there any amendments to the Constitution or the electoral law affecting the structure of your parliament?**

 [ ]  Yes [ ]  No

*If* ***yes****, please provide details (e.g. structural changes, name change for chamber, date change(s) took place etc.)*

1. **Were there any amendments to the Constitution or the electoral law affecting the statutory number of members in your parliament?**

[ ]  Yes [ ]  No

*If* ***yes****, please provide details (e.g. previous number of members, new number of members, date change(s) took place etc.)*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **How many laws were adopted by Parliament in 2023?**
 |  |
| 1. **How many times did the Head of State decline to give assent to legislation passed by Parliament in 2023?**

[ ] *If the Head of State cannot decline to give assent to legislation, please check this box and move on to question 5.* | **No. of times:** |
| 1. **How many times did the Executive use a procedure to introduce emergency legislation[[1]](#footnote-1) into Parliament in 2023?**

[ ]  *If there is no procedure for introducing emergency legislation, please check this box and move on to the next question.* | **No. of times:** |
| 1. **What was the State budget in 2023?**

*Reference date: 31 December of that year.**Please indicate the currency.* | **Currency:****Budget:** |

1. **What was Parliament's budget in 2023?**

*Please provide an overall figure for the Parliament. For bicameral parliaments: where applicable, please also provide the budget for the lower and upper chambers.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parliament[[2]](#footnote-2) | Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
|  |  |  |

1. **How many staff[[3]](#footnote-3) were employed by parliament in 2023?**

*Please provide the number of full time equivalent (FTE) Secretariat staff and an overall figure for the Parliament. For bicameral parliaments: where applicable, please also provide the number of staff employed by the lower and upper chambers.*

*Reference date: 31 December of that year*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Parliament | Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
|  |  |  |

1. **How many written questions were submitted to and answered by the Executive in 2023?**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
| Submitted |  |  |
| Answered |  |  |

1. **How many parliamentary inquiries[[4]](#footnote-4) were carried out in 2023?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
| **Number:**[ ] *If the chamber does not have the power to carry out parliamentary inquiries, please check this box*  | **Number:**[ ] *If the chamber does not have the power to carry out parliamentary inquiries, please check this box* |

1. **On what date did the Executive submit the draft budget to Parliament, and on what date did Parliament adopt the budget in 2023?**

*Please use the date format DD/MM/YYYY.*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
| Submitted |  |  |
| Adopted |  |  |

1. **How many days did parliament meet in plenary[[5]](#footnote-5) in 2023?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
|  |  |

1. **How many parliamentary groups[[6]](#footnote-6) were there in 2023?**

*Reference date: 31 December of that year*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
|  |  |

1. **What was the basic annual salary of parliamentarians in 2023?**

*Please provide the gross basic annual salary (before tax), not including allowances.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
|  |  |

**Review and update of data on the Parliamentary mandate**

|  |
| --- |
| IPU collected data on the Parliamentary mandate in 2013-2014. We wish to check that the data is still accurate today. Please review the data for your parliament in the ***Parliamentary mandate*** section of Parline at [data.ipu.org](https://data.ipu.org/) for questions 15-25.Then: [ ]  Confirm that the data in Parline is correct and no changes are required (check here)OR[ ]  Provide corrections and/or updates by completing the questions below (check here)If there is missing data for your parliament in the Parliamentary mandate section of Parline, please complete the questions below. |

*Please select only one response for each of the questions below. For bicameral parliaments, please provide an answer for each chamber for questions 15-25.*

**Start and end of mandate for members**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
| 1. **When does the parliamentary mandate start for newly electedmembers?**
 | [ ]  When the election results are declared[ ]  At the first sitting of the chamber[ ]  When the member is sworn in[ ]  At a fixed date (please specify): DD.MM: [ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  When the election results are declared[ ]  At the first sitting of the chamber[ ]  When the member is sworn in[ ]  At a fixed date (please specify): DD.MM: [ ]  Other (please specify): |
| 1. **If the parliament/ chamber contains appointedmembers, when does the parliamentary mandate start for newly appointed members?**
 | [ ]  Not applicable[ ]  At the time of appointment[ ]  At the first sitting of the chamber[ ]  When the member is sworn in[ ]  At a fixed date (please specify): DD.MM: [ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  Not applicable[ ]  At the time of appointment[ ]  At the first sitting of the chamber[ ]  When the member is sworn in[ ]  At a fixed date (please specify): DD.MM: [ ]  Other (please specify): |
| For outgoing members, when does the parliamentary mandate end? | [ ]  On the last day of the chamber’s term (including in the case of early dissolution)[ ]  On the day of new elections[ ]  When the mandates of the new members are validated[ ]  When the new chamber meets for the first time[ ]  At a fixed date (please specify): DD.MM: [ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  On the last day of the chamber’s term (including in the case of early dissolution)[ ]  On the day of new elections[ ]  When the mandates of the new members are validated[ ]  When the new chamber meets for the first time[ ]  At a fixed date (please specify): DD.MM: [ ]  Other (please specify): |

**Speaker**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
| 1. **What is the mode of designation of the Speaker?**
 | [ ]  The Speaker is elected from among the members of parliament/chamber[ ]  The Speaker is designated from outside parliament and becomes a member of parliament ex officio.[ ]  The Speaker is appointed by the Head of State[ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  The Speaker is elected from among the members of parliament/chamber[ ]  The Speaker is designated from outside parliament and becomes a member of parliament ex officio.[ ]  The Speaker is appointed by the Head of State[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| 1. **If the Speaker comes from outside parliament, who designates the Speaker?**
 | [ ]  Not applicable[ ]  Parliament[ ]  Prime Minister (Head of Government)[ ]  Head of State[ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  Not applicable[ ]  Parliament[ ]  Prime Minister (Head of Government)[ ]  Head of State[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| What is the rank of the Speaker in the hierarchy of the State? | [ ]  Second[ ]  Third[ ]  Fourth[ ]  Fifth[ ]  Sixth[ ]  Seventh[ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  Second[ ]  Third[ ]  Fourth[ ]  Fifth[ ]  Sixth[ ]  Seventh[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| Does the Speaker become acting/interim Head of State in the event of the latter’s death or incapacity? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| Does the mandate of the Speaker continue between legislatures? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Other (please specify): | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Other (please specify): |
| Is the term of the Speaker different from the term of the house? | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No [ ]  Not applicable[[7]](#footnote-7) | [ ]  Yes [ ]  No[ ]  Not applicable[[8]](#footnote-8) |
| 23a. If different, what is the duration of the Speaker’s term?*Please indicate the number of years and months (e.g., 2 years and 6 months)* | \_\_ year(s) \_\_ month(s)[ ]  There’s no fixed term for the Speaker | \_\_ year(s) \_\_ month(s)[ ]  There’s no fixed term for the Speaker |
| In some parliaments, Speakers are elected on a fixed date in accordance with the Constitution. If the Speaker is elected on a fixed date, please specify the time or date/month[[9]](#footnote-9)  | Fixed date: [ ]  Not applicable | Fixed date:[ ]  Not applicable |

**Immunity and code of conduct**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Unicameral parliament or Lower chamber | Upper chamber |
| 1. **Is parliament’s authorization required for the detention or prosecution of members?**

*Please select only one response.* | [ ]  No[ ]  Yes[ ]  Yes, except for flagrant delicto (please briefly explain the procedure):  | [ ]  No[ ]  Yes[ ]  Yes, except for flagrant delicto (please briefly explain the procedure):  |

**Notes**

*Please provide any supporting information that is relevant to the answers provided.*

*Where appropriate, please specify the number of the question to which the note applies.*

1. The procedure may also be referred to differently depending on the parliament, for e.g., urgent proceedings. In general, this is a formalized procedure that involves speeding up the passage of legislation by circumventing normal processes. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. In absence of a figure being provided for a parliamentary budget for bicameral parliaments, a sum of figures provided for the lower and upper chamber will be input into Parline. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. This question aims to understand the human resources available to a parliament (i.e. total secretariat) thus should be an overall figure for the parliament, not including MPs or personal staff employed by the MP. The total should reflect full-time staff, thus any part-time staff should be included based on the time they work (e.g. calculated as 50% = .5, 80% = .75, full-time = 1). Both permanent and contracted staff may be included. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. The aims and objectives of parliamentary inquiries cover a large spectrum: from a general examination of an issue of public interest to an investigative inquiry into a specific topic, the results of which may have penal implications. See page 39 of IPU (2007) “Tools for Parliamentary Oversight” which further describes parliamentary inquiries, <http://archive.ipu.org/PDF/publications/oversight08-e.pdf>. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. This may include virtual sessions. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. Parliamentary groups are the primary means by which political parties organize themselves in parliament. They may also be known as “party groups”, “coalitions”, “caucuses” or “factions”. They are different from all-party groups on specific issues, or inter-parliamentary friendship groups (which should not be included in the total). Only recognized groups and those that meet parliamentary rules should be included. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. This option only applies to continuous chambers, e.g. the upper chambers of Canada, Germany, Malaysia etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. This option only applies to continuous chambers, e.g. the upper chambers of Canada, Germany, Malaysia etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Examples: 1st April or 1st October every year; on the 3rd Friday of October every three years; at the beginning of the winter session etc. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)