

INTERNATIONAL
REPUBLICAN
INSTITUTE

House Democracy Partnership

Women Lead Seminar | Briefing Book

Washington, DC
December 2 - 7, 2018







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PRE-DEPARTURE MEMO

The House Democracy Partnership (HDP) and the International Republican Institute (IRI) appreciate your willingness to take time out of your busy schedule to participate in this program. The following information will help you prepare for your upcoming trip.

Travel Arrangements

Airline Tickets: Every effort has been made to issue your tickets in accordance with your travel preferences, and you have been provided an electronic ticket, which has the confirmation number, ticket number, and information for your flight check-in. If you have any travel related issues en route to Washington, DC, such as a delayed flight which causes you to miss a connection, please contact IRI's travel agency, Key Travel, at the phone numbers provided on your ticket. Additionally, please contact Scott Nemeth by call or SMS at (202) 322-5845 to notify him of any itinerary changes or delays. You can also email him at snemeth@iri.org.

Please note IRI is required by U.S. law to follow the Open Skies Agreement regulations. All airline ticket sales are final, except in the case of personal or family emergency. Once tickets have been purchased, IRI will not make changes to your flight itinerary. Be advised that tickets cannot be changed directly with the airlines or the ticketing agent without prior approval from IRI. You will be held responsible for any costs associated with changes you make to your airline tickets without IRI's knowledge and approval.

Airlines recommend you arrive at the airport for check-in at least two hours prior to departure for international flights. Consider bringing select clothing and toiletry items in a carry-on bag, as checked luggage is sometimes delayed in arrival. Please note that due to security concerns, liquids, gels and/or aerosols are restricted. Check with your individual airline on specific restrictions prior to travel. Please also note that when carrying these items onto the plane, they must fit in one clear, re-sealable liter-sized plastic bag, in containers of 3.4 oz./100 ml. or less.

Visas: Please ensure to have A or B visa in your passport for inspection at U.S. Customs upon arrival in the United States.

Airport Arrival: When you arrive in Washington, DC, you will be greeted by an IRI staff member holding an "IRI HDP" sign. Please look for this sign outside of baggage claim. The staff member will escort you to vehicles for transport to the hotel. **Please do not leave the airport without your designated IRI escort. Should you have trouble locating this individual or clearing passport control, please contact Scott Nemeth for immediate assistance.**

Lodging Information

Canopy by Hilton Washington DC, The Wharf Hotel
975 7th Street SW Washington, D.C. 20024
Phone: [+1-202-488-2500](tel:+1-202-488-2500)

Each delegate has an individual room at the Canopy by Hilton Washington DC, The Wharf Hotel reserved and paid for by IRI for the duration of the consultancy. Please note that breakfast at the hotel is included in the price of your hotel room.



Please also note that **IRI cannot pay for personal charges such as food, phone calls, pay-per-view, business center expenses, laundry service, room service, mini bar, or alcoholic beverages. These charges will be the responsibility of the participant.** Any charges must be settled by the participant prior to check-out. **You will be asked to provide a personal credit card at check-in to cover potential incidental expenses.**

Per Diem & Reimbursements

Although most meals will be paid for by IRI during the duration of the program, please be aware that you will likely want to have additional funds for any personal expenses you may incur during your time in Washington, DC. **You will receive a per diem in U.S. Dollars upon arrival the hotel. This per diem is meant to cover meals and incidental expenses you may incur.** If you have taxi receipts or fees associated with the cost of obtaining a visa, those expenses should be submitted to your local IRI representative for reimbursement immediately following the program.

Travel Considerations

Expenses

- It is suggested that you exchange some money in order to have local currency, the U.S. Dollar, readily available. You may do this upon arrival at the airport or at the hotel. For suggestions on how much to exchange, please ask IRI staff.
- Most major credit cards are accepted throughout Washington, DC.

Attire and Weather

- You may consider bringing the following items with you to help ensure a comfortable stay: pain relievers, stomach remedies, and cold/flu/allergy or other medications that you may need; converter/adaptor for electronic devices; extra pair of glasses or contacts, if necessary; small umbrella; camera; and a travel alarm clock.
- For travel days, please feel free to wear comfortable clothing and shoes suitable for long periods of travel.
- The dress code for all **official program events is business.** Please note that it is recommended to wear comfortable shoes throughout the program as there will be a lot of walking.
- The weather in Washington, DC is expected to be cold with a potential for rain and snow. The highs will average 8 C and lows will average 0 C.

Health

- Always keep hydrated. It is recommended that you drink at least 10 glasses of water each day and **only drink bottled water.**
- Should you need medical attention, please first contact emergency services or the hotel and then notify IRI staff when appropriate.

Emergency Support

Communication: Should your family or office need assistance contacting you in an emergency, they should contact the IRI Control Officer Scott Nemeth at (202) 322-5845/snemeth@iri.org.



Emergency Contact Information

IN-COUNTRY CONTACTS	
Police:	911
Fire:	911
Medical:	911
IRI Control Officers:	Scott Nemeth: +1-202-322-5845 Maggie Stewart: +1- 703-869-4424 Antonio Garrastazu: +1-786-863-5712
Key Travel:	Main Phone: +1-646-218-2100 After Hours Phone: +1-646-289-6808



SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDE

Please join the HDP conversation on social media and follow HDP throughout the program on Twitter and Instagram:

Hashtags

Follow along, post pictures or create your own content using **#impactHDP** and **#HDPWomenLead**

Twitter

@IRIGlobal will be providing content throughout the program and will be retweeting content that you create. Follow the twitter handles below to stay up to date on the program and please tweet at them with content of your own!

@IRIGlobal – International Republican Institute

@house_democracy – House Democracy Partnership

@USAIDDRG – USAID Center of Excellence on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance

@PeterRoskam – Chairman of HDP

@RepDavidEPrice – Co-Chair of HDP

@wdn – IRI's Women's Democracy Network

@snemeth13 – Scott Nemeth, IRI HDP Program Officer

@magg_stewart – Maggie Stewart, IRI HDP Senior Program Associate

@GarrastazuTony – Antonio Garrastazu, IRI Senior Director for the Center for Global Impact

@jihenjouini – Jihen Jouini, IRI Tunisia

@meribethbustama – Meribeth Bustamante, IRI Guatemala

@Nino_Dolidze – Nino Dolidze, IRI Georgia

PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

COLOMBIA DELEGATION



Hon. María Cristina Soto de Gómez

Hon. Soto de Gómez began her career in the public sector as General Secretary of the Municipal Council of Barrancas and later as Private Secretary of the Municipality of Barrancas. Then, she dedicated to the private sector with Inversiones Crisloreto Ltda in the municipality of Barrancas as a General Manager.

She then worked at Carbones and Transporte Trayso Ltda and Cootracarbon in the city of Santa Marta-Magdalena, a company dedicated to the transport of cargo and coal from the center of Cerrejón to the port of Santa Marta, holding the position of Financial Manager. In 2007, she earned a recognition by the Chamber of Commerce and The Honorable Departmental Assembly of La Guajira as entrepreneur of the year for her work and entrepreneurship in the transport sector for more than 20 years. She was a candidate to the municipal mayoralty of Barrancas in 2007 and 2011, obtaining substantial support, thanks to which she managed to consolidate a political project in her municipality. After 26 years of public and private experience and on her friends' initiatives, in 2017, she was nominated to the House of Representatives of the Department of La Guajira under the conservative party and she received over 42,000 votes. She is the first woman elected of such dignity in the Department of La Guajira.

The Representative to the Chamber Dr. María Cristina Soto de Gómez, from the Municipality of Barrancas - La Guajira, earned her bachelor's degree in the city of Barranquilla. She studied higher studies in Business Administration at Santo Tomás University in Bucaramanga.



Hon. Nubia López Morales

Hon. López Morales is a specialist in business administration, public management, and health service management.

She is a representative of the Chamber for Santander (2014 – 2018) for the Congress of the Republic of Colombia and a Reviewer in the Department of Comptroller of Santander. In addition, she has been a Municipal Health Secretary for the Municipality of Alcaldía de Giron and she has been an Assessor for the House of Representatives and the Senate.



Hon. Norma Hurtado Sanchez

Hon. Hurtado Sanchez has dedicated her life to public service holding various and important positions from 1996 to date. She was a Delegate for the surveillance of public procurement for the city of Cali and she served as Head of the Department of Goods and Services at the Institute of Social Security as well as Administrative and Financial Assistant Manager to the Social Enterprise of the State of Antonio Nariño. She worked as Administrative and Financial Assistant Manager to the Banco Agrario de Colombia, working to bringing productive investments to the southeast area of the country such as Valle, Cauca and Nariño, where the agricultural sector was depressed, abandoned and with no private investment.

In 2011, she was elected Councillor of Cali for the period 2012-2015, obtaining the largest number of votes for women in this Corporation. In her four (4) years as a city lobbyist, she stood out as leader for important debates protecting women victims of violence, childhood and adolescence and on public health issues of the Caleños.

In January 2016, she was called by Governor Dilian Francisca Toro, to head the General Secretariat of the Government of Valle del Cauca. There she led, among other programs, the citizen talks which were an important initiative to guarantee participatory budgeting in the Department of Valle of Cauca. Her successful approach to local governance secured her victory in the elections in March 2018 as a Representative to the Chamber by the Department of Valle del Cauca. She gathered historic support with 64,644 votes, which is the largest number of votes for this Corporation Public of the Department.

As a Parliamentarian, she is part of the Seventh Commission in charge of Health, Labour, Women, Housing and Sports sector and issues, among others. She is also a member of the Gender Equality Commission of the Congress of the Republic where she leads initiatives to promote prevention and attention of violence due to gender norms, to strengthen and empower women's participation in the political and social life of the country.

Dra. Norma Hurtado Sánchez is a native of the city of Buga, Valle del Cauca, is a lawyer of the University Santiago de Cali, with specializations in Administrative Law, Municipal Law and Health Services Management.

ECUADOR DELEGATION



Hon. Elizabeth Cabezas

Hon. Elizabeth Cabezas is the current president of the National Assembly. In 2005, she began her political career in Quito’s City Hall, as the Metropolitan Director of Citizen Security. In 2007- 2008, she was Deputy Minister of Social Programs at the Ministry of Social Coordination and Development, where she led projects of allocating school uniforms to the country’s public schools, called “Sewing Development” (Hilando el Desarrollo), among other economic and social inclusion programs. In the 2009 local elections, Elizabeth Cabezas was elected as a Councilwoman for the City of Quito, during which she presided over the Land Management Commission. In this position, she led one of the most important processes of land incorporation of 300 neighbourhoods in that city.

In the National Assembly, Cabezas chairs the Occasional Commission to coordinate, evaluate and follow-up on the on the Consultative Council of the Law of Land Transportation, Traffic, and Road Safety. She is a member of the Commission Autonomous Governments, Decentralization, Competencies, and Territorial Organization. Additionally, she manages the Parliamentary Group for Persons with Disabilities and she is also a member of the Occasional Commission for the Application of Popular Consultation, hold on February 2018. During her parliamentarian career, she has led projects of diverse topics, such as the recovery of lost capital due to corruption, the need to evaluate and follow issues of ground transportation, as well as transit and road safety, and services for the disabled.

Cabezas has a bachelor’s degree in Economy with a specialization in Banking and Finance, and a Master’s in Public Management.

GEORGIA DELEGATION



Hon. Nino Gogvadze is the First Deputy of Foreign Relations Committee, a member of Legal Issues Committee and a member of Gender Equality Council of the Parliament of Georgia since October 2016. Additionally, she is an Executive Secretary of the Georgian Conservative Party and a Council Member of The Alliance of Conservative and Reformists in Europe since 2014.

From 2014–2016, she was an elected member of Tbilisi City Council for Gldani district and she was a chairwoman of fraction “Georgian Dream-Conservatives”.

From 2011–2014, she was a Chairwoman of the Gender Equality Committee within the Central Election Commission (CEC) of Georgia. She oversaw the

Hon. Nino Gogvadze

identification of gender issues afflicting the CEC and the development of an action plan to improve the Commission. She lobbied in favour of gender mainstreaming within the Commission and other governmental organizations.

From 2007–2014, she was a member of the Central Election Commission of Georgia. She managed civil and voter education projects for electoral stakeholders, including observers, political parties and media representatives. She also designed and developed longer-term strategic planning for the CEC and she supervised its implementation process. She participated in drafting of electoral code and prepared recommendations to improve Georgian electoral systems and election management procedures.

In 2012, she was an observer of the Carter Center in Egypt.

Born on 24 June 1980 in Tbilisi, Nino Gogvadze has graduated from Georgia State University faculty of Law in 2002. She acquired a master's degree in Law from Emory University School of Law in 2014.



Hon. Lela Keburia

Hon. Lela Keburia has been a Member of the Parliament of Georgia since 2016. She is member of the Committee of Procedures and Committee of Education of the Parliament of Georgia. She represents the European Georgia Party and she is the Deputy Head of Faction in the parliament. Before the Parliament she was active member of her party in one of the biggest cities of Georgia, Zugdidi. She was the Head of the Women’s Organization in Zugdidi. Besides being involved in politics, she was a teacher for many years in Zugdidi, teaching Georgian literature and grammar. Between 2012-2013, she was the Director of Educational Resource Center in Zugdidi.

She has a degree in Philology, mainly Georgian language and literature. She is also an Open World Program alumnus for the year 2016.



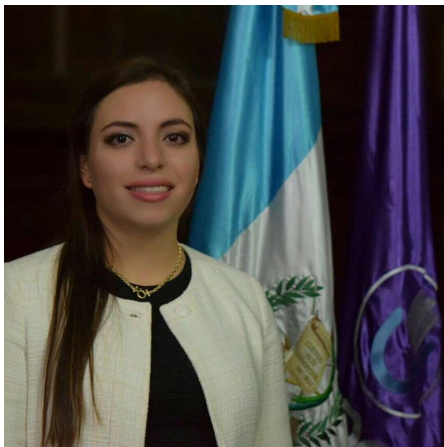
Hon. Irina Pruidze

Hon. Irina Pruidze is a Member of Parliament elected through the Georgian Dream - Democratic Georgia party lists in October 2016. She is a member of the Political Council of the party, 1st Vice-Chair of the Committee on European Integration, and Chairperson of the Permanent Parliamentary Council on Open and Transparent Governance. Additionally, she is a member of Gender Equality Council of Parliament of Georgia, member of the Temporary Commission on Territorial Integrity, a full member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), PAC, and a member of the EuroNest Parliamentary Assembly delegation. She is the Chief of The Friendship Group with the Parliament of the Kingdom of Spain.

Hon. Pruidze was Vice-President of the Youth of the European People's Party (YEPP) between 2007 and 2009, and she was a member of the World Scout Committee and Founding Curator of Tbilisi Hub of World Economic Forum (Davos) Global Shapers Community. Additionally, she has experience in managing community development, small business development and youth capacity building projects.

Hon. Irina Pruidze is Medical Doctor and Master of Psychology, currently pursuing her PhD in Organisational Development at the Tbilisi State University.

GUATEMALA DELEGATION



Hon. Andrea Villagran

Hon. Andrea Villagran is a Congresswoman of the Republic of Guatemala (2017-2020) and a member of the Committees of Transparency and Probity, Culture, International Affairs and the Vice President of the Youth Commission. She is also a member of the Parliamentary Front for Transparency and Democracy.

She earned a bachelor's in Political Science from the Rafael Landivar University with a specialization in decentralized cooperation, specifically for the Observatory for Decentralized Cooperation between the European Union and Latin America.

Before being elected to the Congress, Hon. Villagran engaged in political analysis and public opinion research at the Rafael Landivar University. She also collaborated on projects such as the management of national and international cooperation in cultural, artistic, sports and cultural development with the Culture Ministry. She also engaged in technical cooperation to promote technology development within the Ministry of Communications.



**Hon. Iliana Guadalupe Calles
Dominguez**

Hon. Iliana Guadalupe Calles Dominguez belonged to the Board of Directors of the Association of University Women. As Vice-President of the aforementioned Association and thanks to her achievements, she was awarded the “Olimpia Altubes” Medal. Additionally, she won the Iberoamerican International Award, Tonantzin 2018, which is awarded by the Instituto de Mejores Gobernantes, A.C., to the best Presidents and Directors of the Systems of Integral Development of the Family of the Mexican Republic as well as to the leading Public Servants of Ibero-America.

In 2011, she supported Mr. Jimmy Morales (current President of the Republic of Guatemala) while he ran to be the Mayor of one of the most important municipalities of the country. She is among the founders and a currently Active Member and Secretary of Organization of the National Front Convergence Party FCN-NATION (current Party of Government.) She participated very actively in the political campaign of the current President of the Republic, touring the different municipalities of the country, especially the 17 municipalities of the Department of Guatemala, the Department for which she ran as candidate for Deputy (period 2016-2020). She is an Elected Deputy of the National Front Convergence Party FCN-NACIÓN for the District of the Department of Guatemala and currently Deputy Head of the Bank. Additionally, Hon. Calles Dominguez is the Vice President of the Commission of Women for the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala and she is the Secretary of the Culture Commission as well as Secretary of the Parliamentary Forum of Women of the Congress of the Republic.

Hon. Calles Dominguez is a licensed social worker and a technician in rural social work, from the University of San Carlos de Guatemala. She also earned a master’s in Advanced Strategic Studies from the Mariano Gálvez University. She has a Doctor of Strategic Security from the University of San Carlos de Guatemala. She has attended a National Defense Course at the William J. Perry University Center for Defense Hemispheric Studies in Washington, D.C. And she attended a training offered by the Official Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice of the United States of American, Washington, D.C.

HAITI DELEGATION



Hon. Marie Gladice St. Jean Lundy

Hon. Marie Gladice St. Jean Lundy was born in Jérémie and she is now a member of the 50th Parliament. She proudly represents the constituency Jérémie - Marfranc in the Haitian Parliament. Since her arrival at the Legislative Palace, she became a Chairperson on the Standing Committee on the Status of Women and Gender Equity and has registered as a member of several other committees in the Lower House.

Ms. St Jean Lundy is also a lawyer and a member of the Bureau de Jérémie. She is a Professor of Letters in her state and she teaches in the 3rd fundamental cycle.

From 1995 to 2017, she was Grand' Anse Departmental Coordinator on behalf of the Department of Women's Affairs and Women's Rights. As a committed feminist, she continually supports and promotes the empowerment of Haitian women.



Hon. Dieudonne Luma Etienne

Hon. Dieudonne Luma Etienne is a Haitian politician who currently is the only woman to serve as Senator of the Republic of Haiti. She took oath on January 10th, 2017 and two weeks after she was elected first Secretary of the Senate. This April 3rd, she has historically introduced a bill to the Senate to end the violence against women. In fact, Hon. Luma Etienne is fervently committed to working for the involvement of women in the sustainable development of Haiti. She is also devoted to working on several other challenges facing Haitian landscape such as unemployment, insecurity and the lack of infrastructure necessary for the country's economic development.

Hon. Luma Etienne has a multidisciplinary background, from tourism to business administration and law. She is the former Regional Director for the Minister of Tourism. At the Minister of Tourism, she was able to establish and develop a strategic plan for better management of tourism in the north department.

Hon. Luma Etienne is the founder of an association that promotes female entrepreneurship. She successfully asserted herself by intervening in fields such as development of tourism in Haiti, development of small and medium-sized enterprises, and in female entrepreneurship.

INDONESIA DELEGATION



Hon. Siti Masrifah

Hon. Siti Masrifah was elected as a member of the 2014-2019 DPR-RI from the National Awakening Party (PKB) representing Banten III electoral district after obtaining 32,308 votes. Cifah now sits at Commission IX in charge of Manpower & Transmigration, Population, Health. Known by her supporters as Cifah, Cifah is a senior PKB cadre and was a member of the PKB DPP Shuro Council (2012-2014). Hon. Siti Masrifah is also known as a female advocate.

Cifah is an educator and a preacher. Cifah is a lecturer at her Alma Mater of the Al-Quran Science Institute (IIQ) in Jakarta. Cifah also understands the intricacies of the bureaucracy and has been a consultant at the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration (2010-2013), at that time was chaired by PKB Chairperson Muhaimin Iskandar, and has become an Expert at the Ministry of Development of Disadvantaged Areas (2010-2013), at the time led by PKB cadre Helmi Faishal Zaini. Cifah is the Chair of the PKB Women's Nation, the female wing organization of the PKB (2014-2019).

Since graduating from high school, Hon. Siti Masrifah joined and actively organized in the Indonesian Islamic Student Movement (PMII), the youth wing organization of Nahdlatul Ulama (NU). In 2000, Cifah joined as a cadre from NU and was given the responsibility of being the First Secretary in PP Fatayat NU, the women's wing organization NU (2004-2007) and its General Secretary (2010-2015). In 2005, Cifah joined the PKB cadre and served as General Treasurer of PPKB (2005-2007).

KENYA DELEGATION



Hon. Gertrude Mbeyu Mwanjanje

Hon. Gertrude Mwanjanje is an elected representative for the Kilifi county. Between 2002 and 2005 Hon. Gertrude was a School Programmes Committee Trainer for Plan International. Then, she became an Education Proprietor for the Gateway Institute of Education. In 2013, her career as an elected public figure started with her election to the county assembly for the Kibarani ward. From 2017 to date, she has been in the Parliament, representing the Kilifi county. Specifically, she has been involved in the ICT Committee and a parliamentary broadcasting member.

Hon. Mwanjanje earned a diploma in Early Childhood Education from the Mombasa District Centre for Early Childhood Development College, in 2007. Subsequently, she earned a diploma in county governance from the Kenya College of Accountancy, in 2017.



LIBERIA DELEGATION

<p>Hon. Ellen Amarkai Attoh</p>	<p>Hon. Attoh, as of October 2018, serves as the Representative of Electoral District #3, Margibi County, in the Republic of Liberia. Since July 2018, she has also been serving as the Women Political Leaders Global Forum (WPL) Ambassador for Liberia.</p> <p>Her cardinal functions as a Representatives are: oversight, law making and representing her constituency. Her role as WPL Ambassador is to increase the participation and the influence of women in political leadership positions.</p> <p>Hon. Attoh holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree (BA) in Sociology, a Certificate in Banking and Finance and a Certificate in Public Procurement Management.</p>
<p>Hon. Moima Debah Briggs-Mensah</p>	<p>Hon. Briggs-Mensah, Representative of Salala District #6, Lower Bong Co. have worked for several different entities in the Republic of Liberia, the last of which is the Lonestar Cell Communication Corporation/MTN for 14 years before being politically driven. Currently, she is a Co. Chair for the Post and Telecommunication department. She is a member in the APU (African Parliamentarian Union) and she is a member of the Gender an Equity and the State Own Enterprise departments.</p> <p>At Lonestar Cell MTN, Hon. Briggs-Mensah became the first female President of the Staff Association and was concurrently the Event and Sponsorship Senior Lead, a position she served until her departure for public office.</p> <p>Throughout her career, she has initiated several educational, agricultural, infrastructural and health projects with achievements such as over a hundred scholarships, the distribution of farming materials and products, the construction of 8 town halls, 3 market kitchens, 1 motorcycle centre, and 2 four class room schools.</p> <p>Hon. Briggs-Mensah obtained a bachelor’s degree in Management from the University of Liberia, in 2009, and as a means of advancement she matriculated at the University of Liberia in the Master in Management program.</p>
<p>Hon. Rustolyn Suacoco Dennis</p>	<p>Hon. Dennis Currently serves as Representative at the 54th National Legislature, representing District 4, Montserrado County. Hon. Dennis occupies the following positions: Chairperson on the Committee on Claim & Petition and Co-Chair on the Montserrado Legislative Caucus. She also serves as an Expert on the Committee on Lands, Mines and Natural Resources. She is</p>

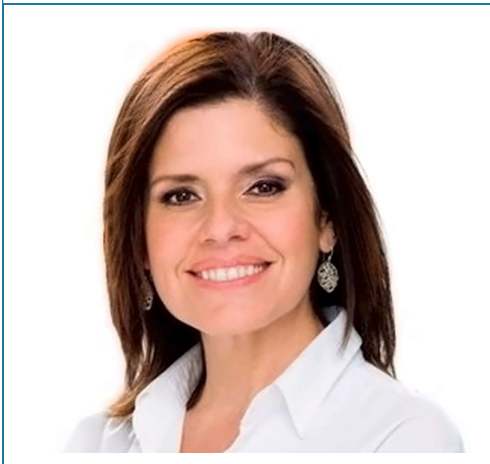
a Financial Secretary for the Female Legislative Caucus of Liberia. She is also a Resource Member for the Committee on Ways, Means, Finance & Development Planning. Lastly, she is a member for the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Hydrocarbon.

Hon. Dennis worked with the Putu Ore Mining Company as Junior Geologist as well as the African Petroleum Corporation PLC in Liberia and London as a Petroleum Geologist. She also participated in the Regional Geological Seminars in Ghana, Ivory Coast and The Gambia.

Hon. Dennis is the Founder & CEO of Urban Initiatives, a community-based organization that looks after the wellbeing of the community, invests in capacity building, and offers mentorship to adolescent youth. Through the Urban Initiatives, Hon. Dennis has successfully supported the graduation of over twelve thousand (12,000) Liberians in various vocational and technical training programs such as plumbing, hair-dressing, catering, soap making. Hon. Dennis launched the Empower Me micro-loan program through the Urban Initiatives with the lowest interest rate since 2013. In April 2018, she had dispensed 5,000,000.00 Liberian Dollars (LD.) 2,500,000 LD were disbursed to a total of twenty-four (24) organizations registered in the Montserrado County engaging in poverty-alleviation and economic empowerment activities.

Hon. Dennis graduated in 2010 from the University of Liberia in the Department of Engineering with a Bachelor of Science (BSc.) in Geology. Between 2011 and 2013, she was in Manchester, England, on an awardee scholarship which allowed her to pursue a Master of Science (M.S.C.) in Petroleum Geosciences for Exploration from the University of Manchester.

PERU DELEGATION



Hon. Mercedes Araoz Fernandez is a Peruvian economist and politician. Since 2016, she has been serving as Vice-President of the Republic of Peru, and as Extraordinary Commissioner for Peru’s accession to the OECD, and as a member of Congress. She also served as Prime Minister between September 2017 and April 2018, and as President of the Congress Committee on Economy, Banking and Financial Intelligence between August 2016 and July 2017.

In 2005, Hon. Araoz Fernandez worked as a consultant for the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism and contributed in the negotiations which ultimately resulted in the FTA between Peru and the United States. The following year, she was appointed as Minister of Foreign Trade and Tourism,

Hon. Mercedes Araoz Fernandez

and during her tenure, she signed trade agreements with leading economies such as China, South Korea and the European Union. After serving briefly as Minister of Production, she was appointed in 2009 as Minister of Economy and Finance, the first woman in Peruvian history to hold this office. After these years of public service, she served as the country representative for the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB), in Mexico City, between 2011 and 2015.

Other relevant experience includes being an Executive Director of the National Competitiveness Council, Vice President and member of the Antidumping and Countervailing Duties Commission of INDECOPI, and Director of the Peruvian Tourism Promotion Agency, Promperú.

Hon. Araoz Fernandez has a bachelor's degree in economics from Universidad del Pacífico, as well as a MSc in Economics from the University of Miami, where she was also a PhD candidate.




Hon. Ana María Choquehuanca de Villanueva

Hon. Ana María Choquehuanca de Villanueva is a Congresswoman of the Republic of Peru, elected by popular vote for the period 2016 – 2021. She assumed the position of Minister for Women's Affairs and Vulnerable Populations between July 2017 and March 2018. She participated as a full member in the following parliamentary commissions: Audit and Comptroller, Women and Family, Production, SMEs and Cooperatives, Foreign Trade and Tourism and the Special Inter-Parliamentary Commission of the Pacific Alliance, targeting her work on issues of national interest, development and revitalization of markets, entrepreneurship strategies for development, economic autonomy and women entrepreneurship, research commission, board of directors, among others.

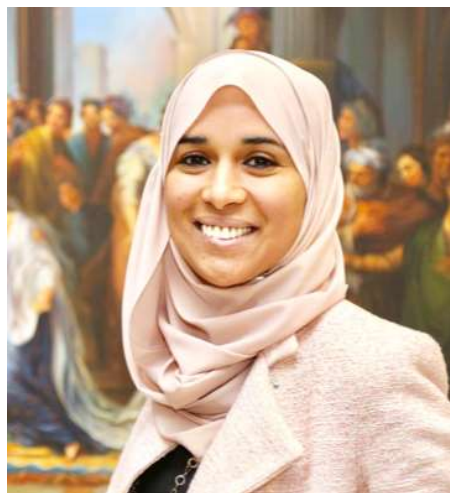
Hon. Choquehuanca is a national leader in the field of small and micro enterprises. She has represented Peru in different forums, negotiation processes and international events, participating as a speaker in specialized congresses of the sector in Latin America, Asia, Europe and North Africa. She is also a specialist in the topic of motivational impact for women.

Hon. Choquehuanca is the current President of the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS), representing 34-member states. CIM is a political space that promotes women's participation and leadership in the planning and implementation of policies and public programs. The CIM also promotes the adoption or adaptation of legislative measures necessary to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women. Hon. Choquehuanca is also a member of ParlAmericas and the OECD.

	<p>Hon. Choquehuanca has received several recognitions for the work developed in welfare of the productive sector of the country and decorated with the Order of Labor in the degree of Commander, granted by the Presidency of the Republic of Peru.</p> <p>Hon. Choquehuanca studied Economics at the Santa Maria Catholic University of Arequipa and holds a master’s degree in Management by Values from the Spenta University of Mexico, and a post-graduate degree in Social Actors for Equal Opportunities for Women by the University of Zaragoza in Spain and the UCSM.</p>
 <p>Hon. Gloria Eldemira Montenegro Figueroa</p>	<p>Hon. Gloria Montenegro Figueroa is the President of the Commission for Social Inclusion and Persons with Disabilities (2016- 2017; 2018 – 2019) and she was the Vice-President of the Commission for Decentralization, Regionalization, Local Governments and Modernization of State Management (2017 – 2018).</p> <p>In 2016, she was elected as Congresswoman of the Republic with the APP and as representative of the La Libertad Region. She then participated in the Joint High-Level Seminar: "The Legislative Cycle, from the Legislative Initiative to its Implementation and Monitoring", with members of the European Parliament and Members of the Comprehensive Democracy Support Approach, in Brussels. She also actively participated in the parliamentary meetings: "The Role of Parliament in the Alliance for Open Government," and the "Parliamentary Conference on the World Trade Organization (WTO)," both held in Buenos Aires, Argentina.</p> <p>As Hon. Montenegro Figueroa is committed to the development of her country, she joined the political life. She headed a part of the regional movement, "Citizen Capacity," in the La Libertad Region. She then became a National Executive Secretary for the Alliance for Progress (APP) political party Comité Ejecutivo Nacional (CEN). She currently is the National Secretary of Women for the APP’s CEN. Her political career also included elected official roles such as the position of Councillor, Deputy Mayor and Mayor of the Provincial Municipality of Trujillo. During this time, she became the President of the Association of Municipalities of Peru - AMPE.</p> <p>Hon. Gloria Montenegro Figueroa is a Certified Public Accountant and earned a Master of Administration from the Higher School of Business Administration – ESAN. In addition, she is a Doctor in Education. Her other academic achievements include a Diploma in Social Conflict Prevention from the Universidad Católica del Perú – PUCP and a Diploma in Management Development from CARE, INCAE and the Higher Technological Institute of</p>

Mexico ITESM in Guatemala and the United States. Additionally, she has earned a Diploma in Local Economic Development by GTZ and INWENT in Germany. Lastly, Hon. Montenegro Figueroa has received a scholarship to attend the Water Resources Management Program in Australia, offered by the International Water Centre. She currently is a member of the Network of Social Managers of Peru; support by the Inter-American Development Bank.

TUNISIA DELEGATION



Hon. Imen Ben Mohamed

Hon. Imen Ben Mohamed was born on November 13, 1984 in the Southern Tunisian city of Kebili. She left Tunisia with her family at the age of 14 to join her father, a political refugee, in Italy.

Hon. Ben Mohamed was elected as a member of the National Constituent Assembly in the first free and fair Tunisian elections in 2011 for the constituency of Italy, served in the Legislation Committee in the Tunisian Parliament, and became a member of the Consultative Council of the Union Arab Maghreb UMA. Hon. Ben Mohamed was again selected to head the electoral list in Italy in the 2014 parliamentary elections and the Italian diaspora renewed its confidence in her, electing her again to the Assembly of the People’s Representatives. As an Ennahdha Deputy, she is a member of the Rights, Liberties and External Relations Committee.

Hon. Ben Mohamed became also a Vice Chair of the Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs, Social Affairs and Education of the Parliamentary Assembly – Union for the Mediterranean PA-UfM. She is a member of the International Panel of Parliamentarians for Freedom of Religion or Belief as well as a member of the Parliamentarians for Global Action.

Hon. Ben Mohamed was recently selected by Friends of Europe as a MENA Young Leader. She was also selected as a MYL2018 fellow, as part of the Munich Young Leaders program which is a platform created by the Körber Foundation and the Munich Security Conference MSC.

In Italy, she was Vice-President of the ‘Family and Working Policies’ of the National Youth and Civil Society Forum (Forum Nazionale dei Giovani).

Hon. Ben Mohamed graduated from the University of Rome “La Sapienza” in International Cooperation and Economic Development, as well as from the Tunisian Institute of Politics.



Hon. Rym Mahjoub Massmoudi

Hon. Rym Mahjoub Massmoudi is a member of the House of the Assembly of the Representatives of the People. Hon. Mahjoub Massmoudi was elected into parliament in 2011 and has served three years in office. Her top priorities are the establishment of the Assembly of the Representatives of the People and ensure a good representation for Afek Tounes Party within these institutions. Her accomplishment to date is participate in the writing of the Constitution of the Second Republic.

Hon. Mahjoub Massmoudi is serving as a member in the Women’s Parliament Committee. The Women’s Parliamentary Committee has 70 members from five political parties which are working together to defend women’s rights in politics and increase women’s participation in the policy and decision-making processes. Hon. Mahjoub Massmoudi serves on the General Legislation Commission and the Elections Laws Drafting Committee.

Prior to serving in an elected official role, Hon. Mahjoub Massmoudi worked as a radiologist. She decided to run for elected office because she wanted to establish a strong democracy with new political generation and values, after the Tunisian Revolution.

In August 2018, Hon. Mahjoub Massmoudi was elected as the president of Afek Tounes political board.

Hon. Mahjoub Massmoudi went to medical school and graduated as a radiologist. She has been practicing for 17 years.



Hon. Wafa Makhmour

Hon. Wafa Makhmour is the executive director of CEED TUNISIA as well as a co-founder of the Nidaa Tounes party, in which she has been active since 2012. She was elected to the Parliament in 2014 and is currently a member of the Committee on Rights, Liberties and International Relations.

Previously, from 2003 to 2016, she was president of Proclean, an environmental services provider to public sector agencies, which she founded. She has received numerous awards and nominations, such as the Young Global Leaders Award in 2016 at the World Economic Forum and the 2015 NDI Democracy Award. She was listed among the 100 Most Powerful Arab Women in 2015 and in the same year as one of the 100 Most Powerful Arabs Under 40. In 2014, she was also listed as one of the 200 African economic leaders in the future.

IRI STAFF BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Antonio Garrastazu – Senior Director, IRI

Antonio Garrastazu serves as the Senior Director of the Center for Global Impact at the International Republican Institute (IRI).

Antonio has more than 20 years of international experience working in various capacities in the realm of business, government and academia, leading and managing diverse programs and teams. From 2011-2018, he oversaw IRI’s Central America, Haiti and Mexico programming focusing on anti-corruption, security, justice, open government, elections and local governance. Prior to joining IRI, Tony served as Director of Business and Government Relations at Globalvia Infrastructures; Washington Program Director at the Dante B. Fascell North South Center; and Deputy Director for International Affairs at the Florida Office of Tourism, Trade and Economic Development.

He holds a BA in History and Political science from the University of Florida, as well as a Ph.D. in International Studies from the University of Miami.



Scott Nemeth – Program Officer, IRI

Scott Nemeth joined the International Republican Institute (IRI) in 2016, and currently serves as Program Officer at IRI’s Center for Global Impact. Scott manages the legislative strengthening portfolio which includes the House Democracy Partnership and the Institute for Representative Government. In this role, Scott has operated in 16 countries and has provided technical assistance to over 20 legislatures from around the world.

Prior to joining IRI, Scott served as a Legislative Assistant to U.S. Congressman David Valadao. In this role, he advised on foreign policy and defense in addition to overseeing Mr. Valadao’s work on the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Military Construction and Veterans Affairs. During this time, he concurrently served as Majority Staff Director for the U.S. House of Representatives Central America Caucus where he built support throughout Congress for conditional aid to the Northern Triangle. Nemeth began his time on Capitol Hill as a Military Legislative Correspondent for U.S. Senator Dan Coats. He previously served as a Field Director for the Republican National Committee and has campaign experience at the local, state and federal level.

His career in public service began during a term with AmeriCorps, where he developed and facilitated a program for at-risk youth in his home state of Indiana. Scott received his BA in Political Science, with a concentration in International Peace and Conflict Mitigation, from Butler University.



Ashley Bandura – Senior Governance Specialist, IRI

Ashley Bandura is a Senior Governance Specialist with the Center for Global Impact at IRI. She started with IRI in the Eurasia Division in 2016. In her roles, she has focused on political party programming; local governance; conflict management; countering violent extremism; women, peace and security; and electoral transitions. She has managed an election observation mission in Georgia, and conducted programming in Colombia, Tunisia, Kyrgyzstan, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, and Kenya. Ashley is now focused on baseline governance programs with regional teams including managing the “Equipping Political Parties to Govern Effectively through Transitions” program. This program seeks to create continuity through electoral transitions and build cohesion within parties by building their capacity to manage transitions and support their elected candidates in governing post-election.

Prior to joining IRI, Ashley worked with the Central Asia program at George Washington University, doing research and program management while obtaining her Master’s degree in International Development Studies. Upon arriving in Washington DC in 2012, Ashley worked with the Atlantic Council as an Assistant Director for External Affairs, managing fundraising, events, and board relations.

Before moving to DC, Ashley received her Bachelors of Arts in International Studies from Texas State University and lived and worked in Houston, Texas and in the pan-handle of Florida. She speaks French and Russian.



Sierra Smith – Program Associate, IRI

Sierra Smith currently serves as a program associate at the International Republican Institute, where she supports the legislative strengthening portfolio and programming for the House Democracy Partnership.

Prior to joining IRI in August 2017, Smith served as an executive assistant and office manager to U.S. Congressman David Young in his Washington, DC office for nearly three years. In this capacity, Smith managed the congressman and staff’s daily and long-term schedule as it relates to legislative priorities, constituent service and outreach. In addition to her experience on Capitol Hill, Smith served as a case manager at a refugee resettlement agency in Texas, Refugee Services of Texas, and earlier worked to develop engaging extracurricular programming for youth in the Zaatari Refugee Camp in Jordan. Smith received her BA in International Relations and Arabic Language at the University of Texas at Austin.



**Nino Dodolidze – Program Officer,
IRI**

Nino Dodolidze is Program Officer at International Republican Institute, Georgia office, since September 2012. She coordinates IRI Georgia’s gender programming: assisting political parties to develop their women’s wings, helping women candidates to plan their electoral campaign, working with local council women and strengthening their political and leadership skills. She is active member of all civil groups, supporting more women in politics in Georgia. Additionally, she is working on electoral direction, including planning IRI’s Election Observation Mission and preparing political parties for E-day observation.

Before IRI, Nino was working at one of the largest election observation non-governmental organizations in Georgia – ISFED. She was coordinating organization’s public relations direction as well as managing organization’s projects on civic and voter education.

Nino specializes in the following fields: electoral processes, gender equality issues, women’s political participation, good and responsible governance, local government, citizens’ engagement, leadership, advocacy campaigns.

Nino has a master’s degree in Public Policy and Administration and bachelor’s degree in Diplomacy and International Relations. She is Yale Women’s Campaign School alumni.



**Jihen Jouini – Program Officer,
IRI Tunisia Office**

Jihen Jouini is a program officer at IRI Tunisia office, mainly working on political parties. She coordinates and delivers trainings for female leaders on political campaigns, public speaking, political communication, message development and conflict management. She also contributed to the development of different women’s organizations within political parties in Tunisia and she has trained female political leaders and MPs in Mauritania on communication and leadership. She is a Yale Women Campaign School Alumni.

Before IRI, Jihen worked with Democracy Reporting International on civil society and the legal framework of the democratic transition in Tunisia. She worked closely with civil society organizations on developing recommendations regarding the decentralization law and the establishment of the constitutional Court. Jihen has also worked with the UN Agency the International Organization for Migration (IOM), focusing on migration issues and person victim of trafficking.



Meribeth Bustamante - Program Assistant, Guatemala

Meribeth Bustamante has a bachelor degree from San Carlos of Guatemala University in Foreign Affairs. She is currently, program assistant of the International Republican Institute (IRI) for the Northern Triangle (El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras) collaborating for the Political Election and Strengthening Consortium, in the Governance and Electoral Reform Project in Guatemala with the Support from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), promoting the governance of key institutions such as the Congress of the Guatemalan Republic.

In addition, it has participated in the accompaniment of civil society organizations, journalists, universities and government institutions in civic and electoral participation, promoting accountability and transparency, improving dialogue and supporting reforms that aid the strengthening of institutions by building consensus in political, socio-economic and transparent terms with funds from the National Endowment for Democracy -NED- and Global Affairs of Canada.

Ms. Bustamante has supported the development of programs for Haiti and El Salvador in civic participation of youth, construction of governance tools that promote inclusive, effective and transparent institutions, electoral participation and vulnerability detection assessments of local governments.



SUPPORTING THE DEVELOPMENT OF INDEPENDENT LEGISLATURES

The House Democracy Partnership (HDP) is a bipartisan, twenty-member commission of the U.S. House of Representatives that works directly with partner countries around the world to support the development of effective, independent, and responsive legislative institutions.

Established by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2005, HDP uses peer-to-peer exchange programs, training seminars for members and staff, and targeted technical assistance to strengthen capacity in key areas such as legislative oversight, budget analysis, committee operations, constituent relations, as well as library and research services.

Its singular focus on the legislative branch of government and its unique ability to bring together the U.S. House of Representatives and their peers from around the world has made the commission a valuable forum for strengthening democratic institutions and deepening bilateral relations.

Central to HDP's work is peer-to-peer cooperation to build legislative technical expertise that enhances accountability, transparency, legislative independence, access to information, and government oversight.

HISTORY

The House Democracy Partnership is the indirect successor to the Frost-Solomon Task Force, which provided assistance to the emerging legislatures in Central and Eastern Europe from 1990-1996. Inspired by their participation in the Frost-Solomon Task Force's activities, Representatives David Dreier and David Price collaborated to revive and expand its mission. On March 14, 2005, the House of Representatives voted to establish the House Democracy Assistance Commission with a mandate to work with emerging democracies throughout the world (H. Res. 135). It was renamed the House Democracy Partnership in 2011.

At the end of the 112th Congress, Representative Peter Roskam assumed chairmanship of HDP. The commission has been continually reauthorized including in the 115th Congress under the House's Rules Package (H. Res. 5), which passed on January 3, 2017.

HDP PARTNER COUNTRIES

- AFGHANISTAN
- BURMA
- COLOMBIA
- GEORGIA
- GUATEMALA
- HAITI
- INDONESIA
- IRAQ
- KENYA
- KOSOVO
- KYRGYZSTAN
- LEBANON
- LIBERIA
- MACEDONIA
- MONGOLIA
- PAKISTAN
- PERU
- SRI LANKA
- TIMOR-LESTE
- TUNISIA
- UKRAINE



AREAS OF COOPERATION

BUDGETARY ISSUES: House members, staff and Congressional Budget Office experts work with partners to improve the capacity of legislatures to scrutinize the government's budget and amend it to reflect the priorities of the legislature.

COMMITTEE OPERATIONS: Members and staff of various House committees advise legislative committee chairs and clerks on structuring staff and activities to ensure effective oversight such as public hearings.

CONSTITUENT SERVICES: House members and staff advise members of partner legislatures and their office staff on responding to constituent inquiries and handling casework.

DEFENSE OVERSIGHT: Defense is among the most difficult areas for legislatures to exercise effective oversight, as expertise is often hard to acquire. House members and staff work with their counterparts to improve scrutiny of the government's defense plans.

ETHICS: House members and staff, including those of the House Ethics Committee, advise partner legislature counterparts on the establishment and implementation of legislative codes of ethics.

INFORMATION SERVICES: Congressional information technology (IT) experts advise legislative staff on the use of IT to set up a legislative information service or other systems that disseminate information about the legislature's work and improve legislators' access to information.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEDURE: Members and staff from the House Rules Committee, legislative counsel, House Parliamentarian's office and Congressional Research Service advise members of parliament and staff of partner legislatures on bill drafting and parliamentary procedure.

LIBRARIES AND RESEARCH SERVICES: Specialists from the Congressional Research Service and Library of Congress collaborate to improve or establish legislative libraries and research services.

MATERIAL ASSISTANCE: HDP's limited budget for discrete material assistance has been used for projects such as the establishment of a legislative library for the Constituent Assembly of East Timor and the development of an IT server for the Macedonian Assembly.

HDP MEMBERS

REPUBLICANS

REP. JEFF FORTENBERRY, NEBRASKA

REP. VERN BUCHANAN, FLORIDA

REP. JACKIE WALORSKI, INDIANA

REP. STEVE KNIGHT, CALIFORNIA

REP. TOM RICE, SOUTH CAROLINA

REP. ADRIAN SMITH, NEBRASKA

REP. STEVE WOMACK, ARKANSAS

REP. ROB WOODALL, GEORGIA

REP. BILL FLORES, TEXAS

DEMOCRATS

REP. KEITH ELLISON, MINNESOTA

REP. SUSAN DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

REP. GWEN MOORE, WISCONSIN

REP. DINA TITUS, NEVADA

REP. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD,

CALIFORNIA

REP. GERALD CONNOLLY, VIRGINIA

REP. TED LIEU, CALIFORNIA

REP. NORMA TORRES, CALIFORNIA



REP. PETER J. ROSKAM, CHAIRMAN
REP. DAVID E. PRICE, RANKING

In cooperation with:
The U.S. Agency for International Development,
The International Republican Institute, and
The National Democratic Institute



