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Belize Participated in Second Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Security

- **Monday, 26th October 2026** - The National Assembly of Belize participated in the Second Gathering of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Security, hosted by the National Congress of Chile and ParlAmericas. The Gathering was held at the National Congress of Chile in Valparaíso, Chile, from 21st - 23rd October 2026, under the theme **“Public Security in the Americas and the Caribbean: Parliamentary Responses to Organized Crime and Violence”**.

The President of the Senate, Honourable Carolyn Trench-Sandiford, represented the National Assembly at the Gathering. She served as moderator of one of the Gathering’s working sessions.

Participants examined regional trends, shared national experiences and good practices, and considered how parliamentary action can strengthen effective public security policies that uphold human rights and the rule of law.

Over the first two days, participants took part in high-level panels, interactive dialogues and working group discussions. Topics included illicit economies and the financing of criminal networks, the impact of public insecurity on people and communities, and the balance between effective public security responses and human rights.

On Thursday, 22nd October 2026, the President of the Senate moderated Session 5, entitled “Public Security and Justice: Institutional Capacities to Address Crime.” The session opened with presentations by representatives of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas (CEJA) and the Inter-American Children’s Institute (IIN-OAS). They set out the institutional capacities, conditions and reforms needed for justice systems to respond more effectively to the different forms of insecurity, in accordance with human rights and States’ international obligations. Parliamentarians then took part in thematic working groups, sharing national experiences and identifying priorities for parliamentary action, which each group reported back to the plenary.

The final day of the Gathering focused on intelligence systems and parliamentary oversight for public security, and on the use of artificial intelligence to strengthen State capacities for public security. The Gathering concluded with the reading of the official declaration of the Second Parliamentary Gathering on Security.

Belize’s participation was facilitated by ParlAmericas.

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