IPU Parline

Global data on national parliaments
data.ipu.org

Inter-Parliamentary Union
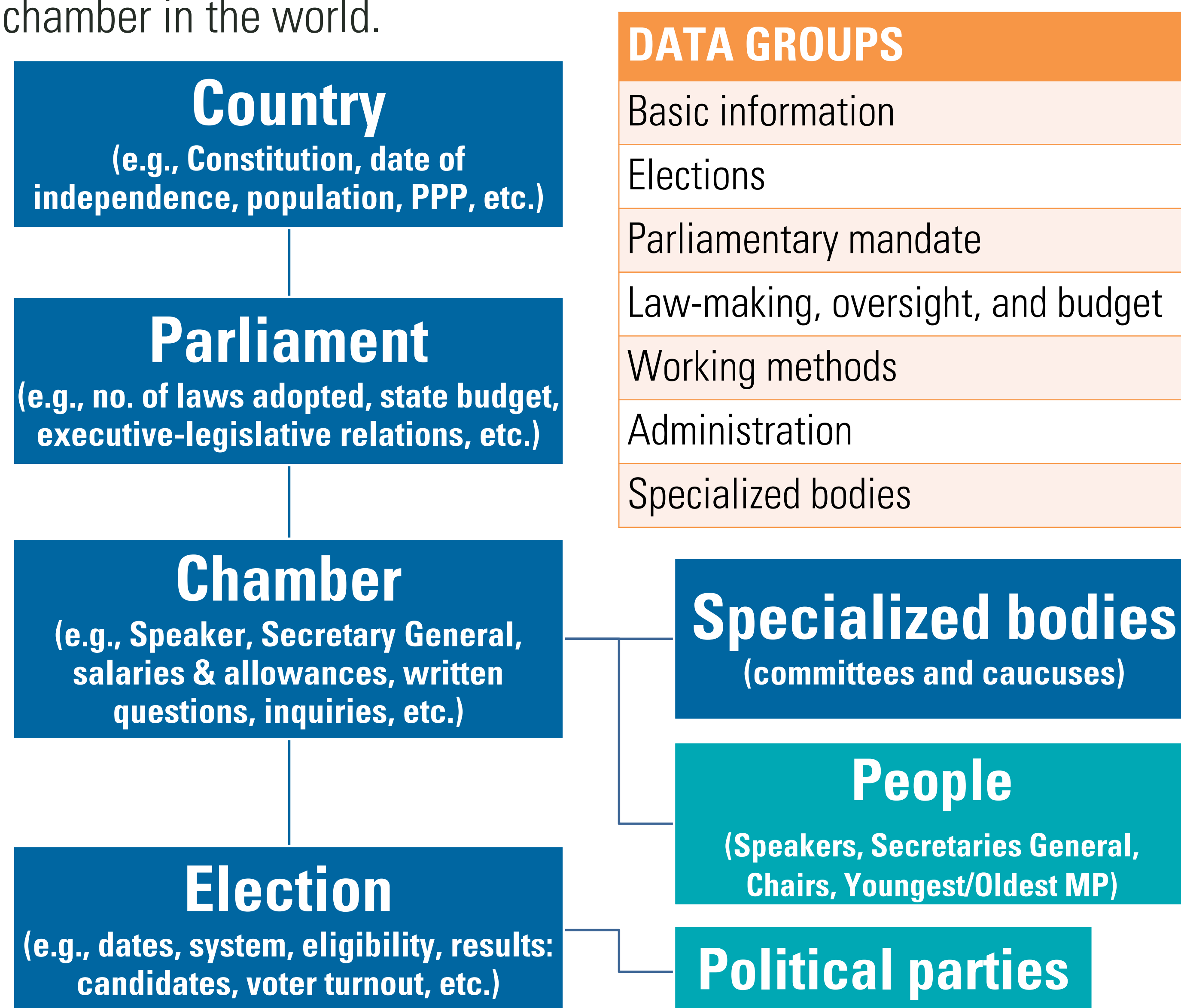For democracy. For everyone.

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01 HOW IS PARLINE ORGANIZED?

Inter-Parliamentary Union's free resource with over 600 data points provided directly by national parliaments on their structure, composition, representation, working methods. and activities for 193 countries and 276 parliamentary chambers.

Dive into the data for a single parliament or compare data across parliaments.

Parline is based on five main entities and two secondary entities, with data fields organized into groups for every national parliamentary chamber in the world.

Country
(e.g., Constitution, date of independence, population, PPP, etc.)

Parliament
(e.g., no. of laws adopted, state budget, executive-legislative relations, etc.)

Chamber
(e.g., Speaker, Secretary General, salaries & allowances, written questions, inquiries, etc.)

Election
(e.g., dates, system, eligibility, results: candidates, voter turnout, etc.)

Specialized bodies
(committees and caucuses)

People
(Speakers, Secretaries General, Chairs, Youngest/Oldest MP)

Political parties

DATA GROUPS
- Basic information
- Elections
- Parliamentary mandate
- Law-making, oversight, and budget
- Working methods
- Administration
- Specialized bodies

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02 EXPLORE THE DATA

Continuous developments to improve data quality, enhance functionality and provide better transparency, accessibility and usability, with new features and tools launched in May 2024.

✓ **API** — Programmatic access with user-friendly how-to documentation, end points for each entity, unique field IDs, and standardized codes to enable easy integration, comparison, and consistent labelling. *NEW*

✓ **Data Explorer** — Build custom queries to view data using your choice of fields and filters (by structure, country, region, sub-region, group, or time) and export data or use the API call *NEW*

✓ **Compare page** — Compare a single field across parliaments, with data visuals you can embed and share.

✓ **Reports** — Curated reports that bring key data together for Speakers, Secretaries General, Elections, Specialized bodies, women in parliaments, and the age of parliamentarians.

✓ **Time Series & XLS/CSV exports** – Most fields are now time-series, supporting historical, intersectional, and regression analysis, helping track trends overtime.

✓ **Data Catalogue** — Access additional IPU datasets (e.g., cases before the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians) *NEW*

✓ **Data Dictionary** — Contains metadata (labels, definitions, classifications and other attributes) for all fields *NEW*

✓ **Administration console** — A redesigned backend to support reliable data management, streamlined workflows and quality control *NEW*

Standard codes & Unique identifiers

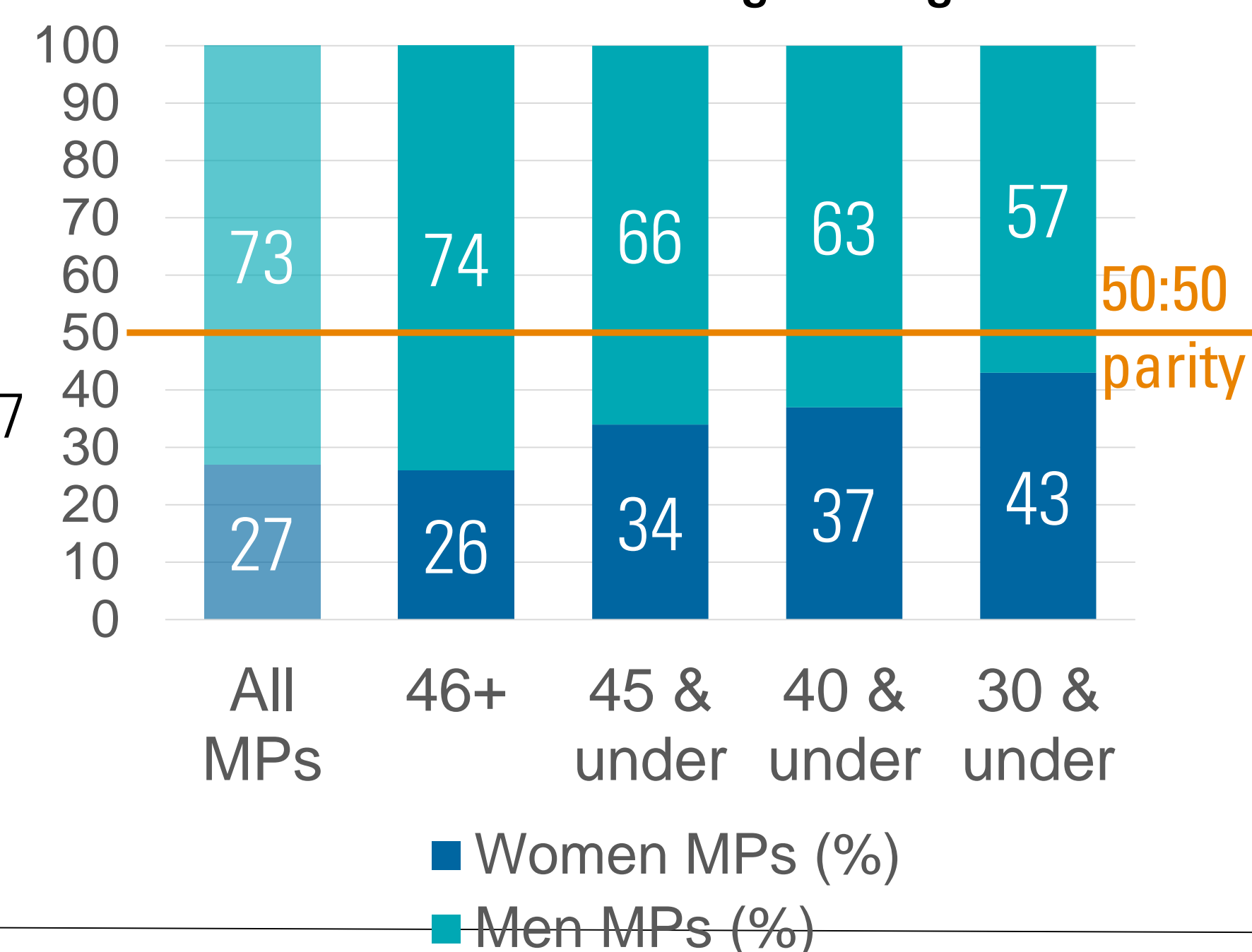| Entity	Field ID	Code
Country	Country_code	ES
Parliament	Parliament_code	ES
Chamber	Chamber_code	ES-LC01
Election	Election_code	ES-UC02-E20241211
Specialized body	Specialized_body_code	ES-LC-SB01

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03 DATA IN ACTION

Parline data is used to monitor UN SDGs 5.5.1(a) and 16.7.1(a), and is widely utilised by parliaments, academics, the media, civil society, and international organisations for research, reporting, and benchmarking (e.g. OECD, WEF, Mo Ibrahim Foundation, IDEA, New York Times, etc.).

Between 2020 and 2025, progress towards gender parity and more proportionate representation by age group in parliaments has remained incremental and uneven, with some signs of deceleration.

However, there is one bright spot: Among younger MPs, gender gaps narrow, with a male-to-female ratio of 57:43 for those aged 30 and under and 63:37 for those aged 40 and under, compared to 74:26 for those aged 46 and over. This suggests that as parliaments get younger, they also become more gender-equal. Bold, intentional reforms to increase youth representation could accelerate progress towards gender parity in politics.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

TARGET 16·7
ENSURE RESPONSIVE, INCLUSIVE AND REPRESENTATIVE DECISION-MAKING

SDG 16.7.1(a): The Future of Politics? Greater Gender Balance among Younger MPs

	All MPs	46+	45 & under	40 & under	30 & under
Men MPs (%)	73	74	66	63	57
Women MPs (%)	27	26	34	37	43

50:50 parity
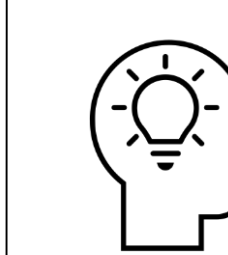
- Women MPs (%)
- Men MPs (%)
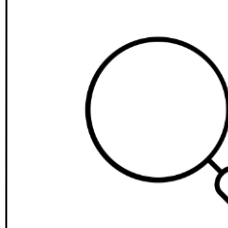
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04 METHODOLOGY

The IPU has been collecting data on parliaments for over 60 years, drawing on trusted relationships built through decades of engagement since its founding in 1889. With a near-universal membership of 181 parliaments, the IPU benefits from timely and direct access to information, sourced primarily through standardized questionnaires, regular outreach, and its Network of Parline Correspondents — established in 2019 and now active in 86% of parliaments.

Maintaining up-to-date information across 270+ chambers and approximately 600 data fields is a resource-intensive undertaking. Given the frequent changes caused by elections, political shifts etc., Parline balances accuracy with feasibility through a flexible update schedule: some fields are updated every time there is a change, others annually, once per legislature, or every few years, with select fields reviewed on a five-year rotating basis. Before publication, all data undergoes quality control, and any inconsistencies are resolved in dialogue with parliaments.
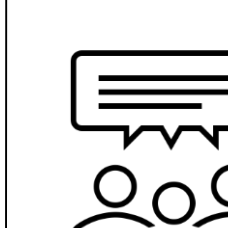
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05 HOW DO YOU USE PARLINE?

Take a quick 3-minute user survey:
http://s.alchemer.eu/s3/Parline-user-survey

Explore the data: data.ipu.org

Feedback or questions? Have trouble finding something?
Email: parline@ipu.org – Addie Erwin, Data Officer

Tell us about your work — what data you're using, for which projects, and how Parline fits in or can support your efforts. We welcome use cases, API testers, and feedback on data quality, integration, or gaps. Your insights help us strengthen the platform.

We welcome collaboration and your ideas.