



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **CANADIAN PARLIAMENTARIANS TO ATTEND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE OAS GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN MEXICO**

Two members of the [Canadian Section of ParlAmericas](#), the [Hon. Robert D. Nault](#), P.C., M.P., Chair of the Canadian Section of ParlAmericas and [Hon. Peter Kent](#), P.C., M.P., will attend the forty-seventh regular session of the General Assembly of the [Organization of Americas States \(OAS\)](#), held in Cancun, Mexico, from June 19 to 21, 2017.

The OAS is the most influential multilateral forum in the hemisphere, bringing together 34 countries of the Americas. The decision-making body of the OAS is its General Assembly. It decides the structure, actions and policies of the organization.

At this year's three-day general assembly, the Hemisphere's Foreign Ministers, including Canadian Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Hon. Chrystia Freeland, P.C., M.P., will discuss the on-going crisis situation in Venezuela. They will also work collaboratively on advancing broader hemispheric issues such as security, the rule of law, development and prosperity and women's leadership.

"I am looking forward to working with the OAS to reinforce the important role of parliaments in governance and law-making throughout the hemisphere," stated Nault. "The OAS provides a great forum to gain a better understanding of global issues like climate change and gender equality, while also emphasizing Canada's focus on developing inclusive and open democratic societies."

Founded 16 years ago in Ottawa, ParlAmericas is the only international inter-parliamentary secretariat headquartered in Ottawa. ParlAmericas was created to bring the national parliaments into the OAS inter-American system.

The Canadian Section of [ParlAmericas](#) works closely with the ParlAmericas International Secretariat and plays a key role in furthering dialogue by bringing together parliamentarians and hemispheric observers from across the Americas and the Caribbean.

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**For more information or to arrange an interview with the Hon. Robert D. Nault,  
please contact:**

Julian  
613-222-6123  
bob.nault.a1@parl.gc.ca

Morelli

Melissa  
613-996-1161  
bob.nault.a2@parl.gc.ca

Dawe