European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation
Activities in 2015

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Hungarian National Assembly
Facts and figures

• **39 years of operation** (established in 1977)
• **47 member countries** (+ 3 observer countries + 3 international parliaments: EP CoE, WEU).
• **70 parliamentary assemblies**
• **4 areas of interest:**
  – ICT in Parliaments
  – Parliamentary Practice and Procedure
  – Parliamentary Libraries, Research and Archives
  – Economic and Budgetary Affairs
• **2 main types of activity:**
  – Information exchange – comparative requests
  – Seminars on topical subjects (by areas of interest)
2015: 277 comparative requests

Top topics (out of 121 topics, indicated in 177 requests)

- Families, marriage, divorce, adoption, abortion
- Health and medicine, euthanasia
- Migration and asylum
- Army and soldiers and veterans
- Civil law and procedures
- Criminal law and procedures
- Nature and biodiversity
- Parliamentary records, minutes, Archives
- Police, crime, prevention
- Print and audiovisual media
- Libraries, Research Services, Documentation
- Agriculture, GMO, wine
- EU Affairs
- Immunities, diplomatic passport (MPs)
- Protocol and events
- Road transport, traffic rules
- Sport, hunting, games, leisure sector
- Staff, working time, training
- Taxation, concessions, state revenues

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Parliamentary topics
Public policy topics
Seminars in 2015

• **Area of Interest ICT in Parliaments:**
  – E-Parliament ICT services from everywhere and at any time: New challenges and projects – Ankara
  – Communication, digitalisation of processes and transparency in Parliaments – Brussels

• **Area of Interest Parliamentary Practice and Procedure:**
  – The practicalities, advantages and disadvantages of unicameral and bicameral parliamentary systems – The Hague
  – Public involvement in the procedure of the drafting and enactment of laws – Zagreb

• **Area of Interest Economic and Budgetary Affairs:**
  – Some crucial issues for Parliaments in Europe: fiscal policy towards boosting accountability, social security & technological progress – Warsaw

• **Area of Interest Libraries, Research Services and Archives:**
  – Libraries and research services serving openness and transparency of parliament – Budapest
LRA Seminar in Budapest

Session 1: Publicity of research papers

• Mr. Holger SCHEERER (Germany, Bundestag): Public access to the studies produced by the Research Services – Consequences of a final court judgment in June 2015
• Mr. Adrian GRYCUK (Poland, Sejm): Sharing knowledge with the outside world
• Mr. Goran BLAGOJEVIC (Parliament of Montenegro): Research services and public availability of research papers in the Parliament of Montenegro
• Ms. Madelaine DENNISON (Ireland, Houses of the Oireachtas): Research for parliamentarians = Research for citizens?
• Ms. Krisztina KARDOS (Hungarian National Assembly): Editorial Policy and Quality Control of Research Papers in the Hungarian Practice
• Ms. Sarah SHEIL (European Parliament): EPRS – editorial policies and quality control
LRA Seminar in Budapest

Session 2: Library services

• Ms. Vojka VUK DIRNBEK (Slovenia, National Assembly): Digitization and indexation of parliamentary documents - a practice from Slovenian parliament
• Ms. Sari PAJULA (Finland, Eduskunta): Services for the public in the Finnish library of parliament
• Mr. Adem AYDEMIR (Turkey, The Grand National Assembly): GNAT Library and a New Challenge: Open Access System
• Ms. Josefa FUENTES (Spain, Senado): Developing nuclear searches at the institutional website by the librarians and archivists of Parliament
• Manuela RUISI (Italy, Senato Della Repubblica): The parliamentary information in the Italian Senate and the role of the Library
Session 3: Programmes for general public and youth

- Ms. Eva MALACKOVA (Slovakia, National Council): Partner Libraries of the National Council of the Slovak Republic
- Mr. Piet van RIJN (Netherlands, Tweede Kamer): The impossibility of the promotion of parliamentarism, some personal observations
- Mr. Stanislaw CALETKA (Czech Republic, Chamber of Deputies): Department of Communication and Education - 10 years of activities towards a more open and transparent parliament.
- Ms. Gro SANGRID (Norway, Stortinget): A Weekly Newsletter on EU/EEA – the Norwegian experience
L & RS Survey Results

Distribution of answers:
- Unicameral parliament: 17
- Single answer on behalf of both chambers of a bicameral parliament: 6
- Chamber of a bicameral parliament: 23

Organization:
- Both Library and Research Service: 39
- Only Library: 5
- Only Research Service: 3
The library is a subordinate unit of the research service

The research service is a subordinate unit of the library

They are independent units in the same department

Integrated service in the same department

Independent units in different organizational departments
Publicity of Parliamentary Libraries

- 10: Not Public
- 21: Interest in parliamentary documents
- 12: The requested information is not findable elsewhere
- Approval of the Secretary General
- Open to the public
Publicity of research papers prepared on demand

Not public

Public with the consent of original requester

The enquirer can object the publication for limited time

Automatically public after a certain period of time

Public without limitation
Regulation of publicity

- **Legal obligation**: 36
- **No legal obligation**: 6

- **Internal rules exist**: 18
- **Internal rules do not exist**: 19
Quality management of research papers

- No formalised controlling system
- Single-level system: researchers
- Single-level system: superior
- Two-level system: researcher + superior
- Two-level system: external specialist + superior
- Multi-level system: researchers + superior + editorial board
- Formalised controlling system - no details
Thank you for your attention!
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