

idc•edi

# ANNUAL REVIEW

2025



2025

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



2025 has demanded more than resilience from us: it has called for moral clarity, political composure, and genuine capacity for influence. In a world riven by wars, polarization, and civic distrust, the IDC-CDI has reaffirmed its *raison d'être* — to defend freedom, human rights, and the Rule of Law with a firm, steady, and purposeful centrist voice.

This year has also carried singular value for two reasons. First, because **we closed and renewed our institutional cycle** at the **Statutory General Assembly in São Paulo**, which confirmed the strength of our organization and gave us a clear mandate for the new period. Second, because 2025 allows us to **look back on these four years of Presidency** as a period of consolidation: greater internal cohesion, stronger international projection, and a more genuine capacity to stand by our parties when democracy comes under pressure.

Africa and Latin America have reminded us once again why our political family is necessary. Abidjan hosted a historic General Assembly that symbolizes a commitment: to support the democratic parties of the continent in the face of corruption, terrorism, organized crime, and interference that weakened institutions. In São Paulo, we also updated priorities and reinforced the idea that moderation can govern, can unite, and can deliver results when it becomes both method and commitment.

We are growing, yes, but what matters decisively is **how** we grow: with greater cooperation between regions, more concrete action, and wider participation from our members. The consolidation of our youth organization (**YCDI**) and the progress towards the formalization of the women's organization (**WCDI**) are signs of the future. Democracy can only be preserved when it brings young people in and when it places women at the heart of political decision-making.

I wish to **congratulate the newly appointed leaders and officeholders** who are taking on responsibilities in this new period, and to **extend special and heartfelt thanks to the outgoing Vice-Presidents** for their service and institutional loyalty. My gratitude also goes to the Secretary General, the team, and, above all, to **every member party**, for the trust placed in us and for sustaining this alliance in difficult times.

For the new period, I propose three simple commitments: **active participation, communication, and proposals**. Let our resolutions not remain on paper; let them be a guide, legitimate pressure, and genuine support for those who stand firm.

2025 reminds us that democracy is not inherited — it is defended, cultivated, and refined. The IDC-CDI will continue to be, together with you, a bastion of human dignity and a platform of responsible hope for the world.

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**ANDRÉS PASTRANA**  
President  
March 2026

# MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL



Throughout 2025, I have observed, together with our organization, **an increasingly demanding international landscape**, marked by **the erosion of democratic standards**. We have witnessed **elections held under suspicion, restrictions on political pluralism, and institutional tensions** in different regions — from Latin America to Africa and Asia — alongside persistent geopolitical conflicts that directly affect the quality of democracy. In this context, many of our member parties do not operate under normal conditions, but **under constant pressure**, where **defending democracy is a daily task**. It is for this reason that the IDC-CDI's mission is to **actively accompany, coordinate, and strengthen** those who uphold these values.

Despite this environment, the **balance sheet for 2025 is solid**. We have made progress in **institutional consolidation** and in **improving our operational capacity**, adapting the organization to a **dynamic international context**. From the Secretariat General, my priority has been to ensure a **disciplined, coordinated, and effective structure** capable of **translating our principles into concrete and sustained actions**.

Over the course of the year, we have organized **meetings across different continents**, combining **in-person and hybrid formats** to ensure the **broadest possible participation**. One of the most significant moments was the **institutionalization of our activity on the African continent**, where we strengthened **political dialogue and cooperation with parties** facing particularly complex contexts. The **close of the institutional cycle** was also accompanied by an **internal review process** that allowed us to **update priorities, reinforce working mechanisms, and define the objectives** for the next phase **with greater precision**.

Internally, we have strengthened our **governance** through a more **structured agenda**, improved **mandate management**, and **more effective coordination between regions**. We have also improved the **traceability of decisions** and the **efficiency of our procedures**, ensuring **operational continuity** and **verifiable results**.

In parallel, we have maintained a **coherent political line** through resolutions and positions aligned with **global challenges**. Our stance remains clear: **a centrist vision** grounded in **human dignity, institutional respect, and the defense of fundamental freedoms**.

In terms of growth, we currently count **115 member parties in 83 countries**. This progress reinforces our **global dimension** but demands **active and responsible commitment** from all. To that end, we have reinforced the work of the **Membership Groups** to ensure **orderly admission processes that are consistent with our principles**.

I wish to highlight two **strategic priorities** for the future: the **institutionalization of the women's organization (WDCI)** and the **strengthening of the youth organization (YCDI)**. Both are **fundamental** to ensuring the **continuity, renewal, and social rootedness** of our project.

Finally, I wish to thank the **President**, the **outgoing Vice-Presidents**, and the entire **team** for their commitment throughout these four years. Looking ahead to the **next period**, we will focus our efforts **on improving the organization's capacity to respond, driving more effective collaboration among our members, and consolidating mechanisms** that allow us to support parties facing **democratic difficulties** more swiftly and concretely.

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ANTONIO LÓPEZ - ISTÚRIZ  
Secretary General  
March 2026

# HIGHLIGHTS

# COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRACY IN THE FACE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESTRICTIONS

## ANGOLA

**MARCH 17, 2025**



In the context of the Forum on the Future of Democracy in Africa, held in Benguela (Angola), the IDC-CDI sought to participate in person and actively in an initiative aimed at strengthening political dialogue, promoting good institutional practices, and consolidating spaces for democratic cooperation on the African continent.

However, the development of the meeting was affected by restrictions and institutional obstacles, which limited the full participation of some of its principal representatives, including the President of the IDC-CDI. These circumstances prevented the organization from fully deploying its planned contribution, which was oriented towards reinforcing pluralistic debate and the open exchange of ideas.

Beyond the specific incident, what occurred reflects persistent challenges to the effective exercise of fundamental freedoms, such as freedom of expression, freedom of assembly, and freedom of political participation, which are essential elements for the functioning of any solid democratic system.

The IDC-CDI had conceived its participation as an opportunity to accompany African democratic processes with respect, cooperation, and constructive exchange, in line with its global vocation of support for democratic institutions and the strengthening of the Rule of Law.

### Key Points / Outcomes:

- **Reaffirmed commitment:** The IDC-CDI maintains its firm commitment to the strengthening of democracy in Africa, even in complex or restrictive contexts.
- **Need for democratic guarantees:** What occurred highlights the importance of ensuring open, safe, and pluralistic spaces for political dialogue.
- **Continuity of international action:** The organization will continue to promote initiatives for democratic cooperation, advancing respect for fundamental rights and exchange among political actors at the global level.



#### Statement on the Angolan Government's Boycott of the Forum on the Future of Democracy in Africa in Benguela, Angola

The Centrist Democrat International (IDC-CDI) expresses its deep concern about the recent events that took place in Angola, especially regarding the unjustified detention of the President of IDC-CDI, Andrés Pastrana, at Luanda airport on March 13, when he was on his way to attend the "Future of Democracy in Africa" forum in Benguela. This event, organized by the Brenthurst Foundation, brought together prominent leaders and democracy experts to address the democratic challenges facing the African continent.

IDC-CDI strongly condemns any attempt to restrict the participation of voices committed to democracy in international forums. Actions like these go against the spirit of cooperation and openness that should guide the debate on the future of African societies. Free and unrestricted access to these discussion spaces is essential for strengthening democracy and the progress of nations.

It is alarming that, in a country like Angola—whose Head of State holds the rotating presidency of the African Union, an organization that promotes democracy and good governance—such severe restrictions on freedom of expression and the free exchange of ideas have occurred.

The detention of President Pastrana and other former presidents of various countries, including Botswana's Ian Khama, Lesotho's former Prime Minister Moeletshi Majoro, the First Vice President of Zanzibar Othman Masoud, as well as political leaders and prominent figures, without any explanation, was not only a violation of their fundamental rights but also an attack on the democratic principles that should prevail in international relations with multilateral organizations.

IDC-CDI reaffirms its strong commitment to the promotion of democracy, freedom of expression, and respect for human rights. We will continue to work tirelessly to support those who strive for more open, participatory, and transparent societies, and to ensure that the voices of those defending democracy are always heard worldwide.

Brussels, March 17, 2025

# HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL UNITED NATIONS GENEVA

**APRIL 4, 2025**



**58th Ordinary Session of the UN Human Rights Council (Geneva, 26 February – 4 April 2025).** The IDC-CDI attended and closely followed the debates and outcomes in a context of heightened geopolitical polarization, with particular attention to accountability, the protection of fundamental rights, and the growing connection between human rights, sustainability, and democratic governance.

On the resolutions front, three texts stand out: Nicaragua, adopted by recorded vote **29–4–14**, maintaining the mandate for monitoring and documentation; **Belarus (A/HRC/58/L.10)**, adopted by recorded vote **25–5–17**, reiterating the gravity of violations and the call to release political prisoners; and the resolution on **environment and human rights (A/HRC/58/L.26/Rev.1)**, which reinforces the 'clean, healthy, and sustainable environment' approach with an emphasis on **oceans and human rights**, contributing an innovative dimension aligned with a comprehensive humanist vision.

The Council **adopted 32 resolutions** and, among other outcomes, **agreed to formalize a new Open-Ended Intergovernmental Meeting** to advance towards a **legally binding international instrument on the human rights of older people**; it also reviewed and adopted the outcomes of the **EPU/UPR of 14 countries**.

# DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARDS WASHINGTON DC

## MAY 8, 2025



Andrej Plenković and Andrés Pastrana

In 2025, the IDC-CDI reinforced its transatlantic projection in one of the most influential areas for strategic debate in Washington: The **Atlantic Council**. In the context of its **Distinguished Leadership Awards**, President **Andrés Pastrana** participated in an event that, beyond institutional recognition, symbolizes a central idea for our political family: democracy needs solid alliances, steady leadership, and tangible results to remain credible in the eyes of citizens.

During the ceremony, President Pastrana had the honor of **presenting Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenković**, who received the **Distinguished International Leadership Award**. The recognition highlighted leadership that combines democratic stability with a European strategic outlook and a vocation for international cooperation. In a time of uncertainty, Croatia's trajectory — with key advances in its integration and consolidation — projects a particularly relevant message: when institutions function, public trust is rebuilt, and prosperity becomes possible.

The IDC-CDI's presence in this space reflects a practical conviction: today, it is not enough to be right on matters of principle; it is essential to **be present where consensus are formed**, geopolitical priorities are heard, and networks of cooperation are built. The Atlantic Council, with its capacity to connect public officials, experts, and international actors, has become a key meeting point for defending the Rule of Law and strengthening the bond between Europe and North America.

 Atlantic Council

## Distinguished Leadership Awards

For the IDC-CDI, this milestone confirms a line of work that will continue to grow: a responsible and effective centrist political diplomacy that promotes freedom without fanfare, but with determination; that defends democracy not only in speeches, but also in the spaces where the world's direction is defined.

# WOMEN'S SEMINAR TIRANA (WCDI)

## APRIL 25, 2025



#### SPEAKERS:

Vice President Elmar Brok, Secretary General Antonio López-Istúriz, Secretary for New Valencians Mary Ponte, Croatian Minister of Culture Nina Obuljen, Former President of Albania Sali Berisha, Member of the Parliament of Albania Albana Vokshi, General Coordinator Luis Blanco, Member of the Swedish Parliament Angelika Lang.

On 25 April 2025, the first hybrid meeting of WCDI was held in Tirana, at the headquarters of our member party, the Democratic Party of Albania (PDSH) — an encounter that marked an important milestone in the strengthening of female leadership within the IDC-CDI. We extend special thanks to President Sali Berisha and to Member of Parliament Albana Vokshi for their hospitality and their firm commitment to the promotion of women's leadership and participation.

Thanks to the active participation of all those present, it was possible to finalize the definitive draft of the statutes of the IDC-CDI's women's organization (WCDI). During the meeting, a deep and constructive dialogue took place, aimed at consolidating the guiding principles of the new statutory framework, fully aligned with the values and objectives of the IDC-CDI.



WCDI meeting in São Paulo, held during the IDC-CDI General Assembly. Member of the Parliament of Albania, Albana Vokshi, IDC-CDI Head of the Secretariat, Teresa Alonso, ODCA President, Mariana Gómez del Campo, Secretary for New Valencians, Mary Ponte, EPP Secretary General, Dolors Montserrat, Member of the Parliament of Argentina, María Eugenia Vidal.

In this context, the commitment to women's empowerment was reaffirmed, particularly through access to economic opportunities and the full exercise of their rights. The importance of the comprehensive protection of human rights — including those of girls, boys, and adolescents — was also highlighted. Human dignity, individual freedom, and political responsibility were identified as fundamental pillars, underscoring the need to strengthen resilient democratic frameworks that actively promote the participation of women in all areas of public and social life.

The meeting also agreed on concrete proposals to strengthen the statutory text, including the explicit incorporation of protection against hate speech, as well as reinforced language on the protection of girls and young women in situations of vulnerability, accompanied by institutional support and capacity-building mechanisms.

The meeting brought together prominent political and social leaders, among them Rozália Biró, Vice-President of Women at the European People's Party; Angela Ospina, a recognized defender of women's rights in Colombia and at the international level; Mary Ponte, distinguished for her work in defense of Venezuelans abroad; Nina Obuljen, Minister of Culture of Croatia; Angelika Lang, Member of the Swedish Parliament; Mariana Gómez del Campo, President of ODCA; Irina Ferreira, Member of the General Assembly of Angola; and Hermine Raliharisoa, President of the women's association of the MMM of Madagascar, among other distinguished participants.

This meeting reaffirms the IDC-CDI's commitment to equality, democracy, and human rights, and consolidates a transnational platform dedicated to promoting female leadership and the full participation of women in economic, social, and political life.

# EPP CONGRESS VALENCIA

**APRIL 29, 2025**

Valencia hosted, last April, one of Europe's most influential political gatherings: the **Congress of the European People's Party (EPP)** a space where the institutional agenda and the moral compass of democratic centrism intersect in an increasingly demanding context. Our presence is doubly justified: events of this kind carry obvious strategic value, as they not only address European priorities — which are relevant to the International — but also consolidate alliances, share diagnoses, and reinforce a message that must be repeated through actions today: **moderation can lead and govern**. Furthermore, it is our strategic priority to strengthen our permanent commitment to this institution, which has been a member of our centrist family for decades and with which we share some ten affiliated parties. The occasion allowed us to witness the renewal of the party's leadership, with the appointment of prominent members to its presidency and secretariat, as well as ten vice-presidents.



Our Secretary General, Antonio López-Istúriz, attending the EPP Congress.

The IDC-CDI was represented at the Congress by our Secretary General, **Antonio López-Istúriz** (former Secretary General of the EPP), and by other members of our organization, with the clear objective of conveying the political message put forward by President **Andrés Pastrana**, which calls for the formalization of a significant and sustained increase in our bilateral relations — particularly to bring to all EPP members the offer of representation and a global bridge towards the more than 115 parties on 4 continents that belong to the IDC-CDI.

Furthermore, the political significance of the encounter we sought to convey was clear: Europe needs a solid democratic response in the face of growing extremism, the onset of institutional erosion, disinformation, and economic uncertainty. The EPP, undoubtedly a protagonist of regional progress, has an unconditional ally in the IDC-CDI as a natural bridge between Europe and other regions, conveying our commitment to the **rule of law, security, prosperity, and human dignity** as the core of all public policies.

# ELECTIONS REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**MAY 9, 2025**

In May 2025, the IDC-CDI had the opportunity to closely accompany the electoral process in the Philippines, with the participation of experts from our team during a direct visit on the ground. Our presence stemmed from a simple conviction: democracy is strengthened when elections are held with clear rules, professional administration, and citizen trust.



During the election day and the monitoring period that followed, we observed a **solid organizational system** and procedures that conveyed **seriousness, order, and a commitment to transparency**: functional polling stations, procedures that voters could readily understand, and a general climate of participation that reflects the importance the Filipino society places on the act of voting. As in any living democracy, there are always areas for improvement and logistical challenges; but the overall assessment of what was observed was positive and encouraging.

For the IDC-CDI, the Philippines represents a key country by virtue of its political weight and its strategic role in Asia. In this context, we wished to highlight the historical and democratic significance of **LAKAS PARTY**, an undisputed reference point in Filipino political life: a party with a track record, a culture of governance, and the capacity to articulate a moderate, reformist, and stable national project. In a time when noise and polarization threaten to hollow out politics, the existence of forces with an institutional vocation and a long-term perspective is especially necessary.

This mission also reinforced a message the IDC-CDI repeats through its actions: **democracy is not only the day of the election**. It is also respect for guarantees, the quality of public debate, the integrity of the process, and the constant building of trust between citizens and institutions. That is why our commitment does not end when the ballot boxes close: it extends into political cooperation, training, the strengthening of parties, and the consistent defense of the Rule of Law.

The Philippines showed, in 2025, that democracy can be organized with dignity and with an ambition for the future. And the IDC-CDI will continue to accompany — with prudence, closeness, and firmness — those who work to turn that promise into stability, prosperity, and freedom for all.

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST

## MAY 30, 2025



### MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, IN ATTENDANCE:

Zsolt Németh, Marijana Balić, Chheng Kimlong, VP Adalberto Costa Jr, Minister Desirée Ouloto, President Andrés Pastrana, Secretary General Antonio López-Istúriz, VP Janez Janša, VP Elmar Brok, Holland Taylor, Minister Lahcen Haddad, Luis Filipe Tavares

The Abidjan Executive Committee combined regional political coordination with key internal decisions. On the organizational front, the drive for **Women-CDI** was confirmed (statutes drawn up for presentation) and the monitoring of **new membership applications** under procedure was maintained (including ongoing evaluations).

On the matter of orderly growth, the Committee approved **unanimously** the admission of **PRO (Argentina)** as a full member of the organization.

In the public segment, the President closed with an urgent call for the release of **Kissa de Agunda** and **Tundu Lissu** (Tanzania), before moving to the closed session (**in camera**) for financial and governance matters.



The **auditor's report**, the **audited 2024 balance sheet**, and the **discharge of management** to the President and Secretary General were all approved unanimously. The **preliminary framework** for the Statutory General Assembly in Brazil was also approved, and criteria for candidacies were established (physical presence, financial standing, and supporting documentation).

### Key Points / Outcomes:

- **Transparency and internal oversight:** audit, audited 2024 balance sheet, and discharge of management approved unanimously; financial close with a communicated surplus.
- **Statutory preparation for the Brazilian electoral process:** preliminary framework approved, and eligibility/candidacy rules clarified (including the requirement to be up to date on financial obligations).
- **Qualitative growth:** unanimous admission of **PRO (Argentina)** as a full member.

## RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

Resolution on the Election of Members of the Judiciary in Mexico

Resolution on the Detention of Political Leaders and the Electoral Process in Tanzania

Resolution on Russia's War of Aggression against Ukraine and the Path towards a Just Peace

Resolution on Elections in Angola

Resolution on International Peace and R20 in Indonesia

Resolution on the Situation in Myanmar (Burma)

Resolution on Elections in Albania

Resolution on the Humanitarian Crisis and the Defense of Democratic Principles in Gaza

Resolution on the Situation between Pakistan and India

Resolution on the Global Hunger Situation

# GENERAL ASSEMBLY ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST

## MAY 30, 2025



Members of the Executive Committee preside over the General Assembly meeting.

The session was **plenary and political-institutional** in character, marked by the host party's message and a focus on democratic stability. The President of the Senate conveyed the greeting "**Akwaba**" and reaffirmed the commitment with democracy, human rights, and well-being, with special mention of men, women, and young people.

In her address, Minister **Anne Désirée Ouloto** highlighted national reconciliation and the overcoming of the post-electoral crisis, with tribute to **Ambassador Sisi**; she detailed socioeconomic advances (budget, infrastructure, and poverty reduction) and announced that the RHDP would put forward President **Ouattara** as its presidential candidate. The vice-presidents made several political interventions, which are recorded in detail in the Minutes to be approved in the first half of 2026.

On the statutory front, the minutes of the previous General Assembly (Marrakech, 13 April 2024) were approved unanimously. The President then presented the **proposed resolutions for endorsement by the Assembly**, as instruments of political expression and affirmation of IDC-CDI values.



Minister of Public Service of Ivory Coast, Anne Désirée Ouloto, President Andrés Pastrana, and Minister of Social Affairs of Mauritania, Naha Mint Mouknass.

The Assembly closed with an institutional reminder: the upcoming Statutory General Assembly in Brazil (November 2025), which will include internal elections, highlighting the importance of meeting financial obligations in order to present candidacies.



**Key Points / Outcomes:**

- **"Abidjan mark" (plenary):** message of reconciliation, Rule of Law, and democratic stability.
- **Political signal from the host:** overview of advances and announcement of Ouattara's presidential candidacy for the RHDP.
- **Bridge to Brazil:** reminder of statutory elections and financial discipline as a requirement for standing for internal responsibilities.
- **Resolutions RATIFIED (Abidjan, 30 May 2025)**



# IDC-AFRICA GENERAL ASSEMBLY ABIDJAN, IVORY COAST

**MAY 30, 2025**



Members of the IDC-Africa Executive Committee, representatives of parties from the continent, and institutional leadership attended, with the notable presence of President Andrés Pastrana, President of IDC-África Ulisses Correia e Silva, Executive Vice-President Alberto Ruiz-Thiery, vice-presidents, and national delegations.

The Assembly ratified the decisions previously adopted by the Executive Committee, marking a step forward in institutional consolidation and demonstrating political cohesion and commitment to democracy in Africa.

Naha Mouknass (Mauritania) and Albert Pahimi (Chad) were unanimously appointed as vice-presidents, strengthening the leadership with profiles of broad experience. The Executive Committee was constituted with Ulisses Correia e Silva as President, Alberto Ruiz-Thiery as Executive Vice-President, and a team of vice-presidents reflecting a balanced structure.



The departure of Coordinator General Luis Carlos Silva for personal reasons was announced, with recognition of his contributions. Luis Filipe Lopes Tavares was unanimously appointed as the new Coordinator General, ensuring continuity.

On the organizational front, the creation of a Youth Organization was promoted and work was initiated towards a future Women's Organization, highlighting their key role. The development of the IDC-Africa web portal was also approved to improve visibility and communication.

Finally, it was agreed to hold the third edition of the "Democracy in Africa" conferences in Paris, consolidating them as an international reference forum.



# 4TH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON FINANCING FOR DEVELOPMENT (FFD4) SEVILLA

## JUNE 30, 2025

The Centrist Democrat International (IDC-CDI) participated in the 4th United Nations Conference on Financing for Development (#FFD4), held in Seville (Spain), a high-level meeting that brought together governments, international bodies, civil society, and representatives from different sectors to address one of the great challenges of our time: ensuring the resources needed to drive sustainable development on a global scale.

The summit concluded with the adoption of the **Seville Commitment**, a shared roadmap that seeks to reform the international financial system, mobilize sustainable investments, and reduce the financing gap needed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. This agreement reflects the international community's willingness to advance towards more effective, inclusive financial mechanisms oriented towards the well-being of people.

In its capacity as an organization with consultative status before the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), the Centrist Democrat International welcomed this renewed collective effort to promote a fairer, more sustainable, and more person-centered global economic model, reaffirming its willingness to continue contributing to global debates.



# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE SAO-PAULO (BRAZIL)

## NOVEMBER 22, 2025



### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN THE PHOTO:

VP Andrés Hernández, EPP Secretary General Dolors Montserrat, VP Janez Janša, PSD-Brazil President Gilberto Kassab, President Andrés Pastrana, Secretary General Antonio López-Istúriz, VP Mariana Gómez del Campo, VP Yara Suos, Minister of Ivory Coast Anne Désirée Ouloto.

The meeting constituted the last Executive Committee of the cycle prior to the General Assembly, in an international context marked by political polarization, the advance of authoritarian tendencies, and challenges to electoral integrity in various regions. The Secretary General presented his political and organizational report, highlighting the need to reinforce internal cohesion, strategic communication, and the active commitment of member parties.

On the organizational front, the Executive Committee approved the admission of new members: Convergencia (Venezuela) and Europe Now (Montenegro), thus strengthening regional representation and the orderly growth of the organization. Finally, the São Paulo Declaration was adopted, reaffirming democratic political concertation as an essential instrument for reducing polarization and promoting responsible consensus in contemporary democracies.

The session concluded by reaffirming the shared will to act in a coordinated manner in the face of global democratic challenges and to consolidate the IDC-CDI's role as an international reference point for the democratic political center.

**Key Points / Outcomes:**

- Approval of a broad package of international resolutions in defense of democracy and fundamental rights.
- Incorporation of new member parties, reinforcing the global dimension of the organization.
- Adoption of the São Paulo Declaration as a political framework of democratic concertation and responsibility.

## RESOLUTIONS APPROVED

Resolution on the increase in violence in Mexico, particularly against mayors and agricultural leaders

Resolution on the elimination of public institutions in Mexico: the case of the National Fund for Natural Disasters (FONDEN)

Resolution on the Ceasefire and Truce Agreement between Cambodia and Thailand

Resolution on the situation in Albania: electoral integrity, concentration of power, and the rise of the narco-state

Resolution on the contributions of Indonesia and CDI member parties to guarantee a just and lasting peace in the Middle East

Resolution on the award of the 2025 Nobel Peace Prize to María Corina Machado

Resolution on the dramatic political and humanitarian situation in Sudan

Resolution on the dramatic political and humanitarian situation of the Rohingya minority: 'Years of Exclusion and Displacement: The Rohingya, a People Without Hope'

Resolution on the deterioration of the political situation and repeated human rights violations in Nicaragua: "Nicaragua: A Failed State, a Democracy Adrift"

Resolution on the situation in Cuba

Resolution on the political situation in Cameroon: "Towards a Negotiated and Credible Institutional Outcome"

Resolution on religiously motivated massacres in Nigeria

Resolution 'Firm Support for Ukraine'

Resolution on the situation in Venezuela

Resolution on the political situation in Tanzania: political situation and human rights violations in Tanzania



# STATUTORY GENERAL ASSEMBLY SAO PAULO (BRAZIL)

## NOVEMBER 22, 2025

The Assembly approved the minutes of the previous meeting held in Abidjan and opened a session marked by institutional renewal and the consolidation of the organization's growth.



#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN THE PHOTO:

VP Andrés Hernández, EPP Secretary General Dolores Montserrat, VP Janez Janša, PSD-Brazil President Gilberto Kassab, President Andrés Pastrana, Secretary General Antonio López-Istúriz, VP Mariana Gómez del Campo, VP Yara Suos, Minister of Ivory Coast Anne Désirée Ouloto.

High-level institutional messages were presented, including that of Roberta Metsola, President of the European Parliament, who underscored the IDC-CDI's role as an example of democratic dialogue in a context of declining public trust in politics; that of former President José María Aznar, who reaffirmed the defense of liberal democracy, the market economy, and the right to property; and that of Maria Corina Machado, who highlighted the responsibility of the international democratic community in the defense of freedom and human dignity.

In his political report, President Pastrana recalled that the outgoing Executive Committee had fully fulfilled its mandate granted in Brussels in 2022 and highlighted the significant growth of the IDC-CDI, which with the admission of Europe Now (Montenegro) and Convergencia (Venezuela) is consolidated as the largest centre-right political alliance in the world. He reaffirmed that the organization's action goes beyond declarations, focusing on concrete results in the defense of the Rule of Law and human rights.

In keeping with that line of action, the Assembly noted and **expressly ratified the resolutions previously approved by the Executive Committee held that same day in São Paulo**. With this ratification, the Assembly gave full political backing to the positions adopted by the Executive Committee, reaffirming the IDC-CDI's global vocation in defense of political pluralism, territorial integrity, human rights, and democratic stability.



Video message of support from the President of the European Parliament, Roberta Metsola.



A central moment of the Assembly was the presentation and endorsement of the **São Paulo Declaration**, promoted by the PSD of Brazil, which proposes 'Democratic Political Concertation' as a permanent method of dialogue, institutional moderation, and consensus-building in polarized societies. The Declaration offers a political roadmap based on fiscal responsibility, social cohesion, institutional stability, and a pragmatic approach to economic development and the energy transition.

On the statutory front, the Assembly proceeded to renew its leadership for the new four-year mandate. Andrés Pastrana was re-elected President by unanimous acclamation; Antonio López-Istúriz was confirmed as Secretary General; and the complete slate of proposed Vice-Presidents was also approved unanimously. The submitted budget was also approved, and Luis Blanco was confirmed as Coordinator General.



Video message of support from the former Prime Minister of Spain and former President of the Centrist Democrat International, José María Aznar.

The Assembly concluded with political interventions that underlined the need to strengthen the Rule of Law in various regions — including Albania and Peru — and with the reaffirmation of the IDC-CDI's commitment to support member parties facing authoritarian pressures and manipulated electoral processes.

**Key Points / Outcomes:**

- Unanimous renewal of leadership for the 2025–2029 mandate.
- Budget approved and Coordinator General confirmed.
- Consolidation of organizational growth (115 parties in 83 countries).
- Presentation of the São Paulo Declaration as a political roadmap based on democratic concertation and institutional moderation.



Video message of support from the leader of the democratic transition and Vice President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, María Corina Machado.

# WORKING GROUPS



# MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP

APRIL 29, 2025

On 29 April 2025, the Membership Working Group met to assess the membership application received from the Argentine party **Propuesta Republicana (PRO)**.

Following a thorough review of the documentation submitted and after meeting with a party delegation that attended the IDC-CDI Executive Committee meeting held in Siem Reap, Cambodia, in 2024 to present its candidacy, the Membership Working Group recommended to the Executive Committee that PRO be accepted as a full member of the IDC-CDI.

The party demonstrates a firm commitment to the fundamental values of our organization — including democracy, the Rule of Law, human rights, economic responsibility, and regional development — as reflected in its founding documents and its political orientation.

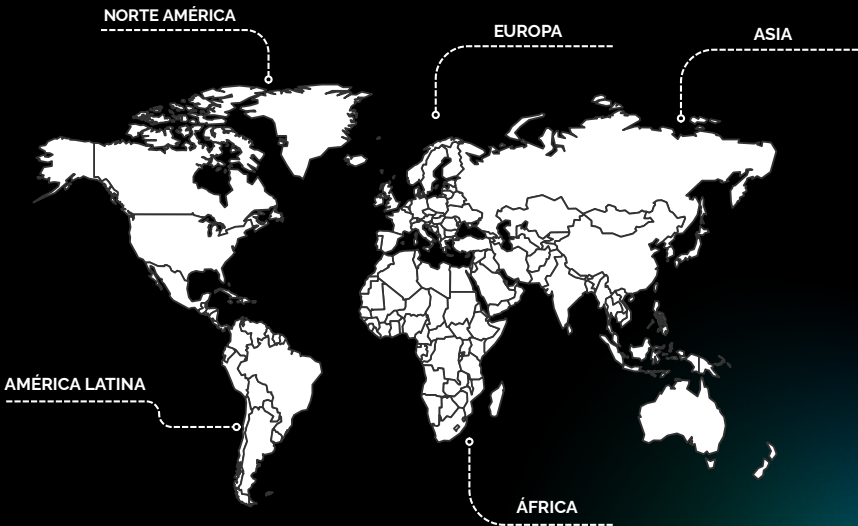


# MEMBERSHIP WORKING GROUP

OCTOBER 15, 2025

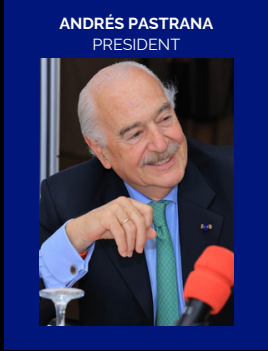
On 15 October 2025, the Membership Working Group met to analyze the applications for admission received from the parties **Convergencia (Venezuela)** and **Europe Now! (Montenegro)**.

After reviewing the documentation submitted and assessing the meetings held with the representatives of each party, the Working Group expressed strong support for the admission of Convergencia, underscoring its commitment to democracy and noting the concerns about human rights in Venezuela related to the arrest of its leader. It also expressed support for Europe Now!, given that its political profile and pro-European orientation align with the principles of the organization and its documentation was considered complete and in order.



# THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS





**VICE PRESIDENTS OF LATIN AMERICA**



**Mariana Gómez del Campo**  
PAN - Mexico

**Antonio Brito**  
PSD - Brazil

**Alfredo Barnechea**  
Acción Popular - Peru

**Maria Eugenia Vidal**  
Pro - Argentina

**Juan Carlos Hidalgo**  
PUSC - Costa Rica

**VICE PRESIDENTS OF EUROPE**



**Andrej Plenković**  
HDZ - Croatia

**Sali Berisha**  
Democratic Party - Albania

**Viktor Orbán**  
Fidesz - Hungary

**Janez Janša**  
SDS - Slovenia

**VICE PRESIDENTS OF AFRICA**



**Adalberto Costa Jr.**  
UNITA - Angola

**Nizar Baraka**  
Istiqlal - Morocco

**Anne Desirée Ouloto**  
RHDP - Ivory Coast

**Albert Pahimi**  
RNDT - Chad

VICE PRESIDENTS OF ASIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST



Muhaimin Iskandar  
PKB - Indonesia

Samy Gemayel  
KATAEB - Lebanon

Yara Suos  
CPP - Cambodia

HONORARY PRESIDENTS

HONORARY VICE PRESIDENTS



Pier Ferdinando  
Casini



José María Aznar



Ofelia Acevedo



Mário David

EX OFFICIO VICE PRESIDENTS



Ulisses Correia e  
Silva



Manfred Weber

STAFF MEMBERS

General Coordinator – Luis Blanco

Special Representative for Africa – Alberto Ruiz-Thieri

Special Representative for Europe – Gonçalo Carriço

Special Representative for Latin America – Beatriz Jaramillo

Special Representative for Asia – Marwan Abdallah

Head of the Secretariat – Teresa Alonso de la Florida

Head of Communications – Juan Magaz

Senior Consultant – Francisco Aziz

# WHO WE ARE



The Centrist Democrat International (IDC-CDI) is the world's largest international political organization bringing together center and center-right parties committed to the defense of democratic values, human rights, and the Rule of Law.

The IDC-CDI was founded on 30 July 1961 in Santiago de Chile as the Christian Democrat World Union, reflecting the central role played by Christian Democrat parties in its creation. Over the following decades, the IDC-CDI progressively broadened its identity and membership to include parties from various ideological traditions. In 1999, it adopted the name Centrist Democrat International, reflecting the incorporation of groups from different religious backgrounds.

Today, the IDC-CDI represents a broad political family composed of 116 member parties committed to the defense and strengthening of constitutional democracy as the only viable system for guaranteeing freedom, pluralism, and social justice. It also groups organizations, political associations, and individuals whose aim is to promote democracy and human, political, economic, social, and cultural development worldwide.

To fulfil these objectives, the IDC-CDI works through its regional organizations in Europe, Latin America, Asia-Pacific, and Africa, each coordinated by a Special Representative. The organization also has a Youth Association and a Women's Association, as well as representation at the United Nations with Special Consultative Status before ECOSOC.



The European division of the IDC-CDI is the European People's Party, while its African counterpart is IDC-Africa. The organization also collaborates with think tanks such as the National Democratic Institute and the Wilfried Martens Centre.

The IDC-CDI is characterized by its transparency, allowing all members to participate in its regular meetings, always led by the President of the IDC-CDI, former President of Colombia Andrés Pastrana, and the Secretary General of the IDC-CDI, former Secretary General of the European People's Party, Antonio López-Istúriz.



It's main bodies include:

- **The General Assembly**, with decision-making power, meets at least once a year. Member parties may exercise their right to speak and vote on relevant matters of international policy.
- **The Executive Committee**, the governing body which meets at least twice a year, where parties may submit draft resolutions on issues affecting their respective countries, which are subsequently put to a vote.

The IDC-CDI also organizes annual seminars on current political issues and matters of interest to its members, meets through working groups, organizes electoral observation missions, and actively participates in international assemblies and congresses of relevance.

Belonging to the Centrist Democrat International means being part of a united international center-right effort in defense of democracy, the Rule of Law, and human rights. It is a great political family that works together against regimes that seek to destabilize democratic order and individual freedoms.



# 4 YEARS FOR THE FUTURE



# IDC – CDI, 4 YEARS FOR THE FUTURE!

The IDC-CDI embarks on a new phase with the responsibility of consolidating its role as an international reference point for parties committed to democracy, freedom, human dignity, and cooperation between nations. In a world marked by polarization, geopolitical uncertainty, conflicts, and the erosion of democratic institutions, the organization's work remains fully relevant and demands a renewed capacity for coordination, presence, and service.



The next four years offer an opportunity to strengthen the IDC-CDI's internal cohesion and to project its voice more clearly at the international level. The organization possesses a solid political identity, a recognized track record, and a diverse community of member parties united by shared values. On that basis, the new cycle must aim to transform that legitimacy into ever more coordinated, visible, and useful action.



Among the priorities of this phase, institutional strengthening stands out. The consolidation of working mechanisms, the proper articulation between governing bodies, and the effective continuity of decisions adopted will be essential elements for an organization with a global vocation. The IDC-CDI's internal solidity is not merely a matter of operational criteria — it is a necessary condition for reinforcing its credibility, coherence, and capacity for action.

At the same time, the organization will continue to deepen its regional dimension. The positive evolution of IDC-Africa has confirmed the value of consistent and structured work, while Asia-Pacific and Latin America stand out as priority spaces for broadening alliances, strengthening political dialogue, and adding new energy to the common project. Regional development will continue to be a key tool for expanding the IDC-CDI's presence and bringing its action closer to the concrete realities of its members.



This period also calls for a calm reaffirmation of the political proposition that defines the organization. In the face of the various expressions of authoritarianism, populism, and institutional erosion, the IDC-CDI must continue to defend a vision of democracy based on pluralism, the Rule of Law, participation, freedom, and social cohesion. In an increasingly fragmented international context, democratic centrality retains its value as a responsible, balanced, and common-good-oriented proposition.

The consolidation of leadership will likewise be decisive. In this regard, the strengthening of the Women's Organization and the Youth Organization forms an essential part of the IDC-CDI's future. Both structures are called upon to broaden participation, foster renewal, and project new leadership within the life of the organization, thus contributing to its continuity and relevance in the years to come.

Alongside this, the IDC-CDI must continue to develop its capacity for institutional relations, political analysis, and public presence. An organization better connected with parliaments, foundations, think tanks, multilateral bodies, and civil society will be better placed to accompany its members and contribute a recognizable voice to the main international debates. Political utility for member parties must, always, remain the central criterion of this evolution.



"Four Years for the Future" encapsulates, in short, the will to face this new phase with responsibility, measured ambition, and fidelity to the principles that inspire the IDC-CDI. The period that is opening represents an opportunity to consolidate what has been achieved, expand the organization's international presence, and reinforce its service to member parties. That is the horizon of an international political community called to continue building the future through democracy, cooperation, and the dignity of the person.

## NEW MEMBERS



Propuesta Republicana (PRO)



Convergencia (Venezuela)



Europe Now! (Montenegro)

# TRIBUTE

## TRIBUTE TO JOSÉ DE VENECIA JR. (FORMER IDC-CDI VICE-PRESIDENT)



The IDC-CDI pays heartfelt tribute to José de Venecia Jr., who served as Vice-President of our organization for more than a decade and as President of the **Lakas-CMD** party of the Philippines, who's recent passing we deeply mourn.

He was a prominent figure in the Asian context and a valued contributor to IDC-CDI activity in the region, distinguished by his firm commitment to democracy and institutional stability.



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**ide cdi**

2025

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# idc•cdi



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