Parliament: a quick guide to key internet links

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This Quick Guide provides direct links to key websites, information and documents relating to:

- Australia’s Vice Regal arrangements
- Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia
- Parliaments of the States and Territories
- Overseas parliaments
- Overseas parliamentary organisations.

Australia's Vice Regal arrangements

- Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia: Australia is a constitutional monarchy and Australia’s Governor-General is appointed by the Queen as Her Majesty’s representative with powers derived from the Australian Constitution; the Governor-General must assent to bills passed by the Australian Parliament before they can become law
- State Governors of Australia and Administrators of the Northern and Island Territories: the Governor of each Australian state represent the Queen and undertakes constitutional, ceremonial and community functions; the Administrators of the Northern and Island Territories represent the Governor-General and are appointed to administer the territory of the Commonwealth on his or her behalf

Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

- Current Ministry: Coalition Government led by Prime Minister the Hon. Tony Abbott MP
- Current Shadow Ministry: Labor Opposition led by the Hon. Bill Shorten MP
- Senators and Members: search for individual Senators and Members
- Current Senators: search by commencement date, service expiry date, date and place of birth, gender, photograph and terms of service
- Current Members: search by electorate, party, gender and surname

Proceedings

- Sitting calendar for 2014
• **Watch Parliament**: live broadcasting schedule of events in the Senate, House of Representatives and Federation Chamber

• **Hansard**: search parliamentary debates by keyword, period, person, chamber/committee or context

• **ParlInfo**: search parliamentary collections including chamber and procedural documents, key constitutional documents, Parliamentary Library collections and external media resources

**Procedures**

• **Odgers' Australian Senate practice, thirteenth edition** | **Standing Orders and other Orders of the Senate and Annotations, 2009 edition**

• **House of Representatives practice, sixth edition** | **House of Representatives Standing and Sessional Orders**

• **Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet parliamentary information**: information about the current parliament and advice and guidance about operations of Cabinet and the Federal Executive

**Historical information**

• **Parliamentary handbook of the Commonwealth of Australia**: historical information on the Commonwealth Parliament including **Prime Ministers of Australia since 1901** | **Chronology of Parliaments** | **Party representation in Parliament and elections since 1901**

• **Australia's Prime Ministers**: a brief history of each Australian Prime Minister compiled by the National Archives of Australia (NAA)

• **Australian Prime Ministers Centre**, Museum of Australian Democracy (MoAD)’s online resources and links to Prime Ministerial records held in Australia

• **Federation timeline**: prepared by the Parliamentary Education Office (PEO)

• **Australia’s Parliament House—more than 25 years in the making**: chronology of key events relating to Australia’s Parliament House and the Commonwealth Parliament

• **History of the Federal Capital and Parliament House**: digitised material relating to the history of Canberra and the establishment of Parliament House including **Parliament House and parliamentary zone** | **Federal capital** | **Committee reports** | **Key speeches**

**Research and information**

• **Parliamentary Library**: information, analysis and advice for the Commonwealth Parliament

• **Australian National University (ANU) Parliamentary Studies Centre**: academic research on parliamentary issues

• **Parliament@work**: educational resource about Australia’s parliaments and political parties

• **Australia and New Zealand Association of Clerks-at-the-Table (ANZACATT)**: formed in 2001 with members from each House of Parliament in Australia, Norfolk Island and New Zealand to enhance professional development of its members

• **Parliamentary Friendship Groups for the 44th Parliament Register**: a list of officially recognised Parliamentary Friendship Groups

**Parliaments of the States and Territories**

• **Australian Capital Territory Legislative Assembly** | **Hansard**

• **New South Wales Parliament** | **Hansard**

• **Northern Territory Legislative Assembly** | **Hansard**

• **Queensland Parliament** | **Hansard**

• **South Australian Parliament** | **Hansard**

• **Tasmanian Parliament** | **Hansard**

• **Victorian Parliament** | **Hansard**
Overseas parliaments

- **Web sites of national parliaments**: Inter-Parliamentary Union links to all national parliaments
- **PARLINE database on national parliaments**: database of chamber structure and working methods for all countries with a national legislature
- **Selected national parliaments**:
  - Canadian Parliament
  - European Parliament
  - Indian Parliament
  - New Zealand Parliament
  - Northern Ireland Assembly
  - Ireland Oireachtas
  - Scottish Parliament
  - United Kingdom Parliament | Hansard | Hansard Archive 1802-2005
  - United States House of Representatives | United States Senate | THOMAS (Library of Congress bill summary and status)
  - National Assembly for Wales

Overseas parliamentary organisations

- **Arab Parliament**: a transitional parliament formed by the Arab League in 2005 to represent the will of the Arab people
- **Asia Pacific Parliamentary Forum (APPF)**: loosely-structured and non-exclusive forum of national Asia-Pacific parliamentarians
- **Assembly of the Western European Union (WEU)**: the Inter-parliamentary European Security and Defence Assembly
- **Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG)**: to encourage and stimulate research, writing and teaching about parliamentary institutions in Australia and the South Pacific
- **Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)**: promotes parliamentary democracy amongst Commonwealth parliamentarians
- **Parliamentary Assembly for the Council of Europe**: Council of Europe was established in 1949 to promote democracy, human rights and rule of law in Europe
- **Hansard Society for Parliamentary Government (UK)**: independent educational charity promoting effective parliamentary democracy
- **ParlAmericas (formerly FIPA)**: membership is composed of the national legislatures of the 35 independent states of the Americas
- **Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)**: the international organization of Parliaments established in 1889
- **National Association of Parliamentarians**: US-based association with international membership educating leaders in the use of parliamentary procedure
- **NATO Parliamentary Assembly**: formerly North Atlantic Assembly
- **Norden**: Nordic Council and Nordic Council of Ministers
- **OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe involving 57 participating states
• **Parliamentarians for Global Action**: non-profit, non-partisan international network of over 1,000 legislators in 131 elected parliaments

• **Canadian Study of Parliament Group**: non-profit organisation that brings together individuals with an interest in the role, function and reform of parliamentary institutions

• **Study of Parliament Group (United Kingdom)**: to study the working of parliament and parliamentary institutions, and other related aspects of parliamentary government and political science, and to advance public knowledge of these subjects

• **United States Association of Former Members of Congress (FMC)**: provides programs to educate about the role of Congress and support emerging democracies abroad

See [Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)](https://www.ipu.org/) for other parliamentary organisations