Introduction to Andorra

The principality of Andorra is an independent state in the form of a coprincipality located in the Pyrenees, between Spain and France. It is one of the smallest states in the world, with a surface area of just 468 metres squared, and one of Europe's five microstates. Andorra has a population of 78,000 inhabitants, of which 37,000 are of Andorran nationality. The official language is Catalan, meaning that all official institutions use this language in their day-to-day activity.

Andorra is a mountainous country, with plenty of snow in the winter and continual rain in the spring and summer. There is a Mediterranean mountainous climate, with lots of snow in the winter and continual rain in the spring and summer.

Legend says that the country was declared sovereign in 805 by the emperor Charlemagne. In the Middle Ages, Ermengol VI, passed all rights and assets relating to the Valls d'Andorra into the hands of the Bishop of Urgell, and, in 1208, through marriage contracts, part of the authority over Andorra was ceded to the county of Foix. In 1278, and after various disputes, the "pareatge" of Andorra was signed by the Bishop of Urgell and the Count of Foix. This feudal charter established joint rule over the Valls d'Andorra and was therefore the origin of the country's current status as a coprincipality. In 1288, the second "pareatge" was signed to ratify the previous one and to forbid either party from building castles.

The current parliament, known as the Consell General, or General Council, traces its origins back to the Consell de la Terra. This Council of the Land was formed in 1419 with the approval of the Bishop of Urgell, Francesc de Tovià, and the Count of Urgell, Joan I, to institutionalise the meetings that already took place among citizens at the doorstep of the local churches to debate the everyday problems of the Valls d'Andorra. With the creation of the Consell de la Terra, Andorrans gained the right to choose their representatives in each parish, who would then meet once a year to discuss and solve issues put to them regarding land, customs, neighbourly relations, water, etc.

Thanks to its continuity over the course of history, the Consell General is one of the oldest parliaments in Europe, though it has clearly evolved and adapted over time. In the early modern period, it enjoyed both executive powers and some judicial authority; it intervened in the election of judges (in Andorran courts of first instance), notaries and judicial posts, and it mediated in conflicts between parishes and individuals. In addition, the Consell de la Terra of the early modern period was responsible for public order, health, the state of the roads and deciding the price of essential goods.

In the late 16th century, the County of Foix was part of the Kingdom of Navarre. It was in this period that Henry III of Navarre became the King of France, ruling as Henry IV, and the County of Foix fell under the authority of the French crown. From that moment on, the co-princes of Andorra were the bishops of Urgell and the kings of France. Then, after France abolished its monarchy, its rights over Andorra were eventually passed on to the presidents of the French Republic, after a few complicated episodes.

The democratisation of Andorra started to become a reality in 1866 with The New Reform, which granted citizens more active participation in governing the country. In 1882, legislative and executive powers were separated, a process that culminated in the creation of the Govern d’Andorra, with the approval of the two co-princes. Andorran institutions were gradually modernised and, in 1992, the constituent process formally began. 14th March 1993 saw the passing of the first Constitution of the Principality of Andorra, which laid down the country’s institutional structure, with the separation of powers characteristic of a legal state. The current heads of state are Emmanuel Macron, President of the French Republic, and the Bishop of Urgell, Joan Enric Vives.

The head of government is Xavier Esport Zamora.
Andorran institutions

Legislative power
The Consell General d’Andorra is the country’s legislative body, made up of twenty-eight general councillors, who are elected for a period of four years through universal suffrage. It is a unicameral parliament with a Mixed Member Majoritarian system and is composed of both national and territorial representatives. Fourteen are elected nationally and the remaining fourteen are elected by the parish constituencies, two by each. Currently, the presidency is shared between the Síndica General (Speaker), Roser Suñé, and the Subsíndica General (Deputy speaker), Meritxell Palmitjavila. Ordinary Consell General plenary sessions take place from March to July and from December to January. Extraordinary sessions may take place outside these periods. This body exercises legislative power, approves the State’s budgets and drives and controls the government’s political actions.

Executive power
The Govern d’Andorra is the country’s executive body and comprises the head of government, ministers and secretaries of state. The current ministries are: Ministeri de Presidència, Economia i Empresa, Ministeri de Finances, Ministeri d’Afers Exteriors, Ministeri de Justícia i Interiors, Ministeri d’Ordenament Territorial, Ministeri d’Afers Social, Habitatge i Joventut, Ministeri de Medi Ambient, Agricultura i Sostenibilitat, Ministeri de Turisme, Ministeri de Salut, Ministeri d’Educació i Ensenyament Superior, Ministeri de Cultura i Esports, Ministeri de Funció Pública i Reforma de l’Administració. The Head of Government is appointed by the Coprinces, following his or her election under the terms provided for in the Constitution. In parallel to this executive body, there are the councils, which carry out civil representation and administration functions in each of the seven parishes. They are public corporations with legal personality and local normative powers. Their members are also elected through universal suffrage.

Judicial power
Finally, the judicial body of the Principality of Andorra is independent and made up of the Batllia d’Andorra (court of first instance), the Tribunal de Corts (criminal court), the Tribunal Superior de Justícia d’Andorra (high court), the Consell Superior de la Justícia d’Andorra (higher council of justice), the Ministeri Fiscal (public prosecutor’s office) and the Tribunal Constitucional d’Andorra (constitutional court).

The Congress Center
Andorra la Vella Congress Centre is located in the nerve centre of the country’s capital, Andorra la Vella. It boasts a surface area of 4,200 metres squared distributed into various facilities and rooms, including the 900-seat auditorium and the Consòrcia room, a versatile space measuring 570 metres squared that can be separated into four rooms, each able to host between 50 and 100 people. It also includes four soundproofed rooms, ideal for press conferences or committee meetings, for example. All facilities are inside one two-storey building, with a car park on the lower floors. Ramps and lifts are available for people with reduced mobility.
Cultural programme

The organising committee has planned a series of cultural activities for Thursday 18 July, once the scheduled conference sessions have finished. There will be a guided excursion to visit Andorra’s cultural spaces, sites of architectural interest and mountain landscapes.

- **15:30** The shuttle bus will set off from the bus stop in front of the Andorra la Vella City Council building.
- **16:00** Visit to Espai Columba (Santa Coloma).
- **16:30** Visit to Santa Coloma Church, where the virtual mapping will be projected.
- **17:00** Visit to Sant Cerni de Nagol Church.
- **17:30** The shuttle bus will arrive back at the bus stop in front of the Andorra la Vella City Council building.

The first stop on the excursion will be Espai Columba, a cultural center that aims to look after, preserve and present the mural paintings from the apse of Santa Coloma Church, which is found just a few meters away. This space was designed as a hub for disseminating knowledge regarding Romanesque paintings in Andorra. At the church itself, the next stop on the trip, virtual mapping projections will reveal the original state of this place of worship during.

Next, the group will move on to Sant Cerni de Nagol Church, which is known for its wealth of Romanesque paintings. Architecturally, it follows the style in which other Andorran Romanesque churches were built, with a rectangular nave, a wooden roof and semi-circularapse. What’s more, the site offers views over the whole Sant Julià de Lòria valley.

Shopping promotion

Andorra is known as an excellent shopping destination in Europe for various reasons. The country has plenty to offer in terms of retail, with a commercial area nearly three kilometres long with a whole world of shops, shopping centres and unique services at lower prices than in other countries in Europe.

So that members can experience Andorra’s commercial prowess first hand, the Welcome Pack includes an exclusive booklet of discounts and special offers. The organising committee would like to encourage members to wander down the Historical Centre’s shopping streets, as well as the country’s other commercial areas.

Restaurants

The Andorran Hospitality Union (UHA), the official organisation that represents Andorra’s hospitality businesses, has put together a list of restaurants where you can make the most of our country’s rich culinary tradition. Below, you will find various suggestions situated near the Andorra la Vella Congress Centre.
Program

Venue
Centre de Congressos d’Andorra la Vella
Plaça del Poble, s/n
AD500 Andorra la Vella (Andorra)

Organization
• Consell General (Principat d’Andorra)
• Institut d’Estudis Andorrans
• International Commission for the History of Representative and Parliamentary Institutions (ICHRPI)

OPENING SESSION

9.30-10.30 Registration
10.30-11.00 Opening ceremony
Mrs. Conxita Marsol (Mayor of Andorra la Vella)
Mr. Jordi Guillamet (IEA Director)
Mr. Joseba Agirreazkuenaga (ICHRPI President)
 Rt. Hon. Roser Suñé (Síndica General, Speaker)

11.00-12.00 Opening conference
The evolution of the first Andorran representative assembly to a modern democratic parliament, by Joan Massa (Former general secretary to the episcopal co-prince)

13.00-15.00 Lunch (free time)

1ST SESSION

ROOM 1

15.00-17.00 Evolution of representative assemblies to democratic parliaments - I
Chair: Gerald Kohl

• Tracing patterns of representation in Scotland in her pre-modern and modern parliaments, Alastair Mann (University of Stirling)

• Von der Ständevertretung bis zur Volksvertretung. Veränderung des Inhalts der Volksvertretung im Jahre 1848, Barna Mezey (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest)

• The Final Days of the Representative Body: the Cessation of the Transylvanian Diet at the Middle of the 19th Century. Judith Pál (University Cluj-Napoca, Romania)

• The Serbian legislative Assembly of 1870: a step towards a democratic Parliament, Nina Krsjanin (University of Belgrade)

• The Clergy in the Upper House of the Budapest Parliament between 1867 and 1918: Composition, Representation, and Reform. Ovidiu Emil Iudean (Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca)

• The Constituent Assembly of the Democratic Republic of Georgia (1919-1921). Paata Surguladze (Grigol Iortqipanidze Society, Georgia)

17.00-17.15 Discussion

ROOM 2

15.00-17.00 Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - I
Chair: Mario di Napoli

• Les Cortes au Portugal durant le Moyen Age: «débats régionaux», Maria Helena Da Cruz Coelho (Université de Coimbra)

• The first general Parliament of the Aragonese Kingdom of Naples (1442-1443), Guido D’Agostino (Università di Napoli)

• Les institutions représentatives du Duché de Bouillon a la veille des Révolutions françaite et bouillonnaise de 1789. John Register (ICHRPI)

• Early modern Catalan parliaments and the territorial administration of the principality of Catalonia, Ricard Torra-Prat (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)

• La memoria de las libertades catalanas perdidas en 1714 a lo largo del siglo XVIII. Joaquim Albareda (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)

17.00-17.15 Discussion

ROOM 3

15.00-17.00 Parliaments of small states/microstates
Chair: Joseba Agirreazkuenaga

• Parliamentary assembly of a microstate: the Patriarcato of Aquileia from the middle age to the Venitien domination. Maria Sofia Corcùlo (University of Roma La Sapienza)

• The Political Institutions of the Principality of Pontecorvo (Central Italy) in the Decade of French Domination 1806-1815, Silvio Berardi (“Niccolò Cusano” University – Rome)

• Notes sobre la Nova Reforma de 1866, Elena Roselló Chérigny (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)

• The political history of micro-states: the case of Andorra and its Constitution (1993). Peter Aschenbrenner (Columbia, Maryland)

• Micro vs Macro. Parliaments, sovereignty, territorial extension in Russia and San Marino (1992-2016), Igor Pellicciari (University of Bologna (Italy) / Higher School of Economics (Moscow), Michele Chiaruzzi (University of Bologna (Italy) / University of the Rep. of San Marino (RSM))

• De las vistas condales al Consell de la Terra: los antecedentes medievales del parlamentarismo andorrano (siglos XII-XV), Carles Gascón (Universidad Nacional de Educación a Distancia -UNED-)

17.00-17.15 Discussion

ICHIRPI business meeting

17.30-19.00 Centre de Congressos d’Andorra la Vella · Room 1 · Editorial Board · Direction

20h-22h Reception hosted by the Parliament of Andorra (new Parliament building).
Visits to the old Parliament building (Casa de la Vall)
ROOM 1

9.00-10.40 Evolution of representative assemblies to democratic parliaments - II
Chair: Maria Sofia Corciulo
- The resilience patterns of the Representative Assemblies on both sides of the Pyrenees from 18th to 20th century: The making of the Basque Parliament (1980). Joseba Agirreazkuenaga (University of the Basque Country)
- Les états de Basse-Navarre en 1789: du royaume au département, analyse croisée des débats locaux et nationaux. Bertrand Augé (Université de Pau et des Pays de l’Adour)
- The National Assembly and the Suppression of the “Parlements” during the French Revolution. Francesco Di Donato – Sonia Scognamiglio (Università degli studi di Napoli “Parthenope”)
- Three Visions of the Cortes of Navarre during the Process of their Suppression (1828-1841). Xabier Zabaitza (University of the Basque Country)

10.40-11.00 Discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

ROOM 2

9.00-10.40 Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - II
Chair: John Rogister
- Representation via the Mail: The décima negotiations of 1685-1688. Sean Perrone (Saint Anselm College)
- Trials and regions in early-modern German empire. Akira Shibutani (Shimane University)
- The will of the country or a mere transitory cry? Democracy, popularity and other uncomfortable words in early 19th-century British politics. Ugo Bruschi (University of Bologna)
- Abolitionists in parliament. Sir Thomas Powell Buxton and the British parliamentary politics on slavery. Rosamaria Alibrandi (University of Messina)
- Radical programme of parliamentary reform in Britain in the age of revolutions. Tomasz Wieciech (Jagiellonian University in Kraków)

10.40-11.00 Discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

ROOM 3

9.00-10.40 The internal organization of representative assemblies: committees, commissions, secretariats - I
Chair: Eva Jedruch
- Participación y representatividad estamental en las Cortes medievales de Aragón. Esteban Sarasa Sánchez (Universidad de Zaragoza)
- Entre els usos i les actualitzacions: comissions i treballs preparatoris en cinc Corts catalanes de l’edat moderna / Customary rules and/or updatings? Commissions and technical support along five Early Modern Catalan Corts. Josep Capdeferro (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)
- Las Conferencias de Comunes en la primera mitad del siglo XVII. Eduard Martí Fraga (Universidad Internacional de Cataluña)
- The clerks of the seventeenth-century Irish parliament. Coleman A. Dennehy (University of Limerick, Ireland) & Brid McGrath (Trinity College Dublin)
- Black boxes, Flying Packets, and Espionage: The Scottish Privy Council and Spies during the Scottish Revolution of 1688-90. Gillian Macdonald (Central Michigan University)

10.40-11.00 Discussion

11.00-11.30 Coffee break

3TH SESSION

11.30-12.40 Evolution of representative assemblies to democratic parliaments - III
Chair: Francesco Soddu
- The Debate on Democratization and Parliament in Germany from 1871 to 1918. Cristina Senigaglia (University of Passau; University of Trieste)
- La Asamblea Constituyente de 1919 y el Renacimiento de Polonia. Eva Cristina Hoffmann Jedruch (Independent Scholar;Vicepresident ICHRPI)
- De la consulta nacional a la asamblea constituyente:la contribución de los consul-tores sicilianos. Patrizia De Salvo (Università degli Studi di Messina)
- The Czechoslovak Parliaments and (Un)Implemented Principles of Parliamenta-rism between 1945 and 1992. Tomas Gabris (University in Trnava, Slovak Republic)
- Der Übergang vom Kommunismus in den bürgerlichen Staat (verfassungsrechtli-che Aufgaben vor der Gründung eines neuen Parlaments um die Wende). Magdolina Szigieti (Pázmány Péter Katholische Universität, Budapest)

12.40-13.00 Discussion
### ROOM 2

**11.30-12.40** Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - III  
Chair: Mikel Urquijo
- Eine spezielle Ständevertretung: Siebenbürgen (Transsyvianien) im dem 17. Jahrhundert. István Szabó (Pázmány Péter Katholische Universität, Budapest)
- Les pétitions envoyés aux « Cortes liberais » portugaises (1821-1823). Maria Margarida Sobral Neto (Université de Coimbra)
- Le Conseil colonial et le Conseil spécial de la Guyane française: entre l’émancipation et la discrimination. Claudia Giurintano (University of Palermo)
- The Challenge of Democratization: Italy at the End of 19th Century. Sara Trovalusci (University of Urbino (Italy) / University of Orléans (France))
- Republicanos en la creacion y consolidacion de los parlamentos en las monarquias liberales de Europa del sur (1870-1900). Unai Belaustegi (University of the Basque Country)

**12.40-13.00** Discussion

### ROOM 3

**11.30-12.40** The internal organization of representative assemblies: committees, commissions, secretariats - II  
Chair: Coleman Dennehy
- El brazo real en las Cortes catalanas de 1454-58: sus comisiones internas y la gestión de la información. Esther Martí Sentañes (ISEM)
- El brazo real en los parlamentos del Reino de Cerdeña en la época de Fernando II, el Católico: comisiones internas y gestión de la información. Olivetta Schena (Università di Cagliari)
- Committees and commissions in the seventeenth and early eighteenth Scottish Parliament. John R. Young (University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK)
- Un filtre sur la correspondance reçue: Le comité des rapports sous l’Assemblée nationale Constituante (France, 1789-1791). Maria Betlem Castellà Pujols (Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona)
- Preparing or deciding? Functions of parliamentary committees in different systems of government. Gerald Kohl (University of Vienna)

**12.40-13.00** Discussion

### ROOM 1

**15.00-16.40** Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - IV  
Chair: John R. Young
- The representation of the intelligence in the neo-estate system in Austria. Marie Therese Mundsperger (University of Vienna)
- Réflexions sur les groupes de pression dans la vie parlementaire française de 1890 à nous jours. Jean Garrigues (Vice-Président de la CIHAE-ICHRPI)
- Boulangisme and the Meiji-Japan: Japan’s first encounter with parliamentary democracy. Kazuhiro Takii (International Research Center for Japanese Studies)
- Parliaments after the First World War in Central Europe as a vehicle for the modernization of the periphery of Europe - an example of Central Europe. Continuities and discontinuities and silent revolutions. Wladyslaw Peksa (Jagiellonian University Cracow), Anna Kocio_ek-Peksa (Warsaw School of Economy)

**16.40-17.00** Discussion

### ROOM 2

**15.00-16.40** Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - V  
Chair: Alastair Mann
- Private members’ parliamentary motions – porkbarreling or matters of common interest? Organizing education in Finland during the period of return to peace and state consolidation, 1917–1927. Matti Roitton & Heli Valtonen (University of Jyväskylä)
- Something like one of the old noblesse? – Former Irish Nationalist MPs in Dáil Éireann 1922-1932. Martin O’Donoghue (University of Limerick, Ireland)
- La perception du débat constitutionnel français de 1945-46 dans le processus constituant italien après la Libération. Sandro Guerrieri (University of Rome “La Sapienza”)
- Els parlaments oblidats en la transició espanyola. Carles Santacana Torres (Universitat de Barcelona)
- Entre el record i la nostàlgia: la recuperació de la institució parlamentària catalana en la Transició espanyola. Giovanni C. Cattini (Universitat de Barcelona)

**16.40-17.00** Discussion

### ICHRPI business meeting

**17.00-18.00** Centre de Congressos d’Andorra la Vella · Room 1 · General Meeting
5TH SESSION

ROOM 1

9.00-11.00  *Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - VI*
Chair: Sandro Guerrieri

- *Entre el antiparlamentarismo y el parlamentarismo: la intervención política del autogobierno fiscal vasco durante la Dictadura primorriverista y la II República (1923-1937).* Mikel Erkoreka (University of the Basque Country)
- *Parlamentarias durante la II República española (1931-1936).* María José Villa Rodríguez (University of the Basque Country)
- *El sistema de representación del Parlamento Vasco (1980).* Aritz Onaindia Martínez (University of the Basque Country)
- *The current Spanish State Opening of Parliament’s ceremony (1978-2016).* Oriol Lu-ján (Universidad Complutense de Madrid)
- *La libertad de voto y la imperfección de la disciplina de partido.* Amir Al Hasaní Maturano (Universitat de les Illes Balears)

11.00-11.20  Discussion

ROOM 2

9.00-10.40  *Forms of representation in representative and parliamentary assemblies - VII*
Chair: Maria Helena da Cruz Coelho

- *Les dinàmiques dels parlaments de les comunitats autònomes de l’Estat espanyol des de les reformes dels estatus d’autonomia de l’any 2006.* Sebastià Serra Busquets (Universitat de les Illes Balears)
- *La composició dels òrgans de govern dels parlaments autonòmics. Pluralism versus majoria.* Maria Ballester Cardell (Universitat de les Illes Balears / Consell Consultiu de les Illes Balears)
- *The people’s direct representation. The popular initiative in the Balearic Islands Parliament.* Martí Serra Riera (Universitat de les Illes Balears / Consell Consultiu de les Illes Balears)
- *La emigración en las asambleas representativas del Estado español y de las comuni-nidades autónomas.* Elisabeth Ripoll Gil (Universitat de les Illes Balears)
- *La identidad insular característica de las Islas Baleares en la actividad Parlamentaria del Parlament de les Illes Balears.* Miguel Carranza Guasch (Parlament de les Illes Balears)

10.40-11.00  Discussion

ROOM 3

9.00-10.40  *The internal organization of representative assemblies: committees, commissions, secretariats - III*
Chair: Guido d’Agostino

- *Internal organization of the national representative assemblies in Germany and Italy during the long nineteenth century.* Anna Gianna Manca (Università degli Studi di Trento (Italy))
- *Selection by Lot as Remedy in Order to Minimize the Influence of “Cliqu es”; “Lobbies” and “Factions” in the Early Stage of Parliamentarization: the Comments of Julius Hatschek, Francesco Racioppi, Mario Mancini and Ugo Galeotti at the Turn of the Past Century.* Astrid Zei (Università degli Studi di Roma “La Sapienza”)
- *The 1919 Commission for the Senate’s reform.* Francesco Soddu (Università di Sassari)
- *The Spanish parliamentary committee of “suplicatorios.” A mirror of freedom of po-litical dissent (1912-1923).* Marcella Aglietti (Università di Pisa (Italy))

10.40-11.00  Discussion

11.20-12.00  Coffee break

Closing ceremony

12.00-12.30  Centre de Congressos d’Andorra la Vella · Room 1
Institut d’Estudis Andorrans
ICHRPI

Honor committee:

Rt. Hon. Roser Suñé (Síndica General, Speaker)
Mr. Joseba Agirreazkuenaga (ICHRPI President)
Mr. Jordi Guillamet (IEA Director)

Organizer committee:

Mr. Mikel Urquijo (UPV / EHU-ICHRPI)
Mr. Joaquim Albareda (UPF - ICHRPI)
Mrs. Betlem Castellà (UPF - ICHRPI)
Mr. Albert Villaró (Technical director of the center for historical and political studies)
Mrs. Ester Grau (CGA)

Scientific committee:

Mr. Mikel Urquijo (UPV / EHU-ICHRPI)
Mr. Unai Belaustegi (UPV / EHU-ICHRPI)
Mr. Joaquim Albareda (UPF - ICHRPI)
Mrs. Betlem Castellà (UPF - ICHRPI)
Mr. Albert Villaró (Technical director of the center for historical and political studi-