

Информационно-научный центр при Национальной Ассамблее Сербии
The Information Research Center in the National Assembly of Serbia
Інформаційно-дослідний Центр при Національній Асамблеї Сербії

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Как правило, базовая и основополагающая информация о работе парламентов рассредоточена по разным источникам и труднодоступна. Очевидно, что революция в области информационных технологий и глобализация политической деятельности оказали огромное влияние на законодательную деятельность парламентов. За последние годы на повестку дня, в широком смысле, вышли такие два основных вопроса, как реакция парламентов на новые технологии и управление и демократизация парламентской деятельности. В первую очередь, это задача международной сети научных отделов и отделов документации, но она также объединяет официальных лиц, отвечающих за сбор и распространение информации и подготовку законодательных документов. Основным направлением научной деятельности в законодательной области является замена фундаментальных исследований прикладными. Связь между исследованиями и работой законодательных органов изучает возможный вклад законодательных исследований в совершенствование процедуры выработки законодательных решений и укрепление демократии. Хорошая научная работа и информация могут повысить эффективность законодательной деятельности в разных ее проявлениях. Законодательные исследования по современному парламентаризму помогают законодательным органам создавать неразрывную связь между знанием и властью. В докладе приводится общая информация об Информационно-научном центре при Национальной Ассамблее Республики Сербия. Будучи укомплектован постоянными работниками Парламента, информационно-научный центр выступает посредником при поступлении информационных запросов, требующих проведения сравнительных исследований. Перечисляются основные характеристики центра и его профессиональные интересы в свете преобладающих тенденций в области обслуживания правовой информацией.

It is often the case that basic, yet essential information about the workings of parliaments is diffuse and difficult to track down. It is clear that the revolution in information technology and the globalization of policy issues have had the most impact on parliamentary legislative procedures. The two main emphases in recent years have been, broadly, how parliaments should react to the challenges of new technology, and parliamentary management and democratization. It is primarily an international network of research and documentation departments, but it also brings together officials responsible for information gathering and dissemination and the preparation of legislation. The prevailing intention in the legislative research is to replace the fundamental research by applied research. The essential connection between research and the work of the legislature examines the contribution to be made by legislative research towards improving legislative decision making and strengthening democracy. Good research and information can improve the effectiveness of the legislature along several dimensions. The modern parliament legislative research helps legislatures attempt to harness knowledge to power. The general information on the Information Research Center in the National Assembly of the Republic Serbia is presented. It is staffed by permanent officials of the Parliament, and acts as a clearing house for requests for information involving comparative research. Center's main characteristics and professional interests are described in the realm of the prevailing trends in legal information services.

Часто трапляється така ситуація, що основна, проте важлива інформація про роботу парламентів є розкиданою та важкодоступною. Ясно, що революція інформаційних технологій та глобалізація політичних проблем зробили найбільший вплив на процедури прийняття законів у парламенті. Два основних акценти в останні роки були зроблені на тому, як парламенти мають реагувати на виклики нових технологій, та на парламентському правлінні і демократизації. В основному це міжнародна мережа дослідницьких департаментів та відділів документації, але також вона об'єднує чиновників, які відповідальні за збір і розповсюдження інформації та за підготовку законопроектів. Першочерговим завданням досліджень законодавства є заміна фундаментальних досліджень на прикладні.

Суттєвий зв'язок між дослідженнями та роботою законодавчої гілки влади дозволяє визначити вклад досліджень законодавства в оптимізацію процесу прийняття законів та в укріплення демократії. Якісні дослідження та інформація можуть збільшити ефективність законодавчої гілки влади в кілька разів. Сучасні дослідження парламентського законодавства допомагають законодавчій гілці влади використовувати знання для збільшення своєї влади. Подається загальна інформація про Інформаційно-дослідний Центр при Національній Асамблеї Республіки Сербія. Його укладено постійними службовцями парламенту, він діє як служба для запитів інформації, яка включає компаративні дослідження. Основні характеристики та професійні інтереси Центру зображені в сфері домінуючого напрямку служби юридичної інформації.

The Information Research Center in the National Assembly of the Republic Serbia was established in 2003. At the beginning, the Center was a part of the National Assembly Information Office. After this office had changed its responsibilities to public relations affairs, the Center was moved to the Committee Department as a part of their overall responsibility to deal with facilities offered to deputies.

The Center has been founded immediately after the National Assembly web site www.parlament.sr.gov.yu was launched. The web site is maintained by the Computer Automation Support Unit and the Public Relations Office. The Computer Automation Support Unit is responsible for the technical support of databases, and the Public Relations Office produces the information presented on the site. The National Assembly web site presents essential information relating to the organization and activities of the National Assembly of the Republic Serbia in Belgrade. Also, the full text of the most important legal documents and bills may be found following the link *Documents*.

The Information Research Center, which aims for completing the task of modern service that delivers the right information at the right time, primarily serves deputies, staff and officials of the National Assembly. The primary responsibility of the professional staff of the Center is to acquire and make available, in printed or electronic form, the information necessary for the work of deputies and the staff of the National Assembly. The professional staff of the Information Research Center consists of two qualified librarians with university degrees. The Center is placed in the room that is about 50 square meters large. The Center is equipped with five desktop personal computers, photocopying machine, laser printer and scanner. Also, there is a limited collection of reference literature comprising encyclopedias and dictionaries. The Microsoft XP Windows Professional program is installed on all personal computers, and 24 hour Internet access is provided. The opening hours are from 8, 30 A.M. to 16, 30 P.M. on non-sitting period and from 8, 30 A.M. to the end of the Parliament sitting during sitting period.

Considering prevailing trends in the Internet librarianship, the Information Research Center has defined its mission in the spirit of IFLA strategy for Library and Research services in Parliaments. The Information Research Center in the National Assembly exists:

To promote democracies and legislative processes through the provision of information and knowledge to the National Assembly;

To promote knowledge on legislation and legislative processes to the citizens, for transparency and strengthening of democratic participation;

To serve as an instance of exchange of experiences, knowledge, problem solving situations and networking, particularly in serving a political environment;

To promote best practices in providing information and knowledge to the National Assembly;

To provide a forum for anticipation on issues relating to legislative processes.

Deputies, who work under great pressure, and who both use and create information, usually need quick and precise answers on their queries. Most services are reference and information services through phone and e-mail, and electronic sources are heavily used. The particular situation in the Center is that the most of possible users are interested in the national legislature. Besides, there is a great interest in the European Union legislature and legal and analytic information relating to foreign parliaments and governments. Information is harvested through the Internet search, thanks to the fact that legal information portals have recently been developed all over the world. The other source of information is the authorized data basis comprising the national positive legislature, named Intermex-Indok. At this moment, the All-Serbian Legal Information Centers Portal is not yet developed, but we hope that the next year will bring the change in this field.

In response to requests from deputies, the Center carries out bibliographical or documentary research on all subjects relevant to parliament activities. The information work usually consists of the extensive

data basis and Internet research and information retrieval, in the purpose of an adequate information support for the legislature work in the National Assembly. Also, the Information Research Center prepares background information sets related to the law discussed in the National Assembly. Background information comprises statistics, relevant foreign legislature, relevant European Union documents and relevant positive national legislature. The main scope of our work is to extend the service in more research oriented way. Also, the Center makes use of interlibrary loans with the National Library of Serbia and University Library in Belgrade.

The Information Research Center encourages programs which would foster the adaptation of the latest information technologies to parliamentary research services. Also, the further goals are to promote citizen participation and democratic enabling activities, in the context of the Information Society and Information Literacy initiatives. In this purpose, professional priorities are aimed toward promoting standards, guidelines and best practices as: unrestricted access to information, the principle of freedom of information and resource sharing. A particular aspect of the information work is to promote cooperation between legislatures, and especially their Parliamentary Research Centers, because of the growing need for legislators to be well informed concerning developments worldwide. The right to unrestricted access to information in the Republic Serbia is guaranteed pursuant to «The Act on the Free Access to Information of Public Interest» (Official Gazette of Republic Serbia, No. 120/2004)

The Information Research Center in the National Assembly establishes a trend to provide a forum for trend watching and cooperation between the knowledge services for legislatures, in a globalised information society, in which legislative processes regulate the relations of a society, citizens and state powers. The Information Research Center will serve to promote better laws and better lawmaking processes with the provision of information and knowledge services. We hope to achieve these aims by promotion of understanding and experience sharing of working in a politically complex environment. Our professional priorities are to continue sharing experiences on the particularities of requests from parliamentarians. Our recent activities are aimed toward the opening a FAQ page on the National Assembly web site presenting parliamentarians requests. We believe that this will encourage and foster the incorporation into the Information Society of Parliamentary Research Services in the context of future trends such as direct democracy and e-government.