

Parliamentary Diplomacy: A tool to generate new spaces for dialogue and multicultural cooperation

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In the current international system, States remain the most important actors and diplomacy, understood as a dialogue between independent States, continues to be dominated by governments, ministries, embassies, both bilaterally and multilaterally. However, in recent years, the traditional role of a diplomat has added new tasks, largely due to globalization. The activities of parliamentary diplomacy have undergone rapid development in connection with three major contemporary processes: democratization; regional integration; and globalization. Several data have been analyzed and correlated to reports, IPIs website, interviews, etc. to demonstrate the added value of parliamentary diplomacy. This descriptive study, focusing on the features of the parliamentary assemblies, highlighted the need to have, in international current relations alongside the instruments of traditional government diplomacy, inter-parliamentary forums for dialogue, cooperation and debate.

Analyzing parliamentary diplomacy and the progressive shift of sovereignty from the national to the international sphere, it is also possible to speak now of public diplomacy as a metaphor for the democratization of diplomacy. Parliamentary diplomacy can be used as a tool to work on behalf of the development of peace, sustainable development and mutual cooperation, creating new spaces for dialogue, have produced the most significant body of popular representation, the Parliament, spanning national borders and becoming an arena for international discussion. This article underlines the importance of diplomacy parliamentary as the “powers” of international parliamentary institutions (IPI) and its underrated role in the current international relations.