

Call for Papers on Artificial Intelligence in Parliament

Guest editors: Francesco Bromo, Paolo Gambacciani, and Luca Pinto

Artificial intelligence is increasingly being incorporated into parliamentary institutions and reshaping their internal functioning and political dynamics. Parliamentary staff, parliamentary offices, party groups, and individual MPs are using both tools developed by legislatures themselves and publicly available AI models. These developments carry risks and opportunities and may have lasting consequences for legislative activities, parliamentary organization, representation, and democratic governance.

The growing reliance on AI raises fundamental democratic concerns. In traditional models of democratic accountability, inclusive participation and meaningful public contestation depend on citizens' access to alternative information and their ability to hold elected officials accountable. If AI makes it unclear how decisions are reached, limits scrutiny, or makes it harder to identify who is responsible, it may weaken the chain of accountability between citizens, representatives, and legislative decisions. At the same time, AI may increase parliament's analytical and administrative capacity and improve productivity. It may also alter relations among MPs, parties, offices and committees, and staff and reduce horizontal asymmetries of power, influence, and resources within parliament and between parliaments and governments.

This special issue examines the diffusion of AI tools across parliaments and the causes and consequences of their adoption and use. It asks how AI is changing parliamentary work and what rules legislatures are putting in place to ensure that it remains clear who is responsible for AI-assisted work and decisions. We welcome quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-method contributions based on in-depth case studies or comparative analysis.

- **Technical capabilities and design:** Comparative assessments of what AI and large language models can realistically deliver for legislatures from a technical standpoint, including in-house versus externally sourced tools/models, their opportunities and constraints, and the implications of each model for institutional dynamics.
- **Internal regulation of AI and use of AI by representative actors:** How parliaments regulate AI use, including formal rules, internal guidelines, oversight bodies and committees, transparency requirements, ethical standards, and responsibility for outputs produced with AI; How MPs and parliamentary groups use and regulate AI in their activities, for which purposes, and how they evaluate its usefulness, risks, and legitimacy.
- **Explaining variation in parliamentary administration:** Comparative analyses or single case studies of why the choice, sourcing, implementation, and regulation of AI tools differ across parliamentary administrations, considering institutional capacity, digital infrastructure, national technology environments, and parliamentary organization.
- **Drivers of adoption by elected officials:** The organizational, technological, and political conditions and goals that shape the adoption of AI tools by MPs and parliamentary groups, including whether tools are provided by parliament or adopted independently.
- **Consequences of AI use:** How AI affects legislative drafting, amendments, speeches, written questions, representation, the professional roles and routines of clerks and staff, relations within parliament, as well as asymmetries of power, influence, and resources within parliament and between parliaments and governments.

Submission Information

Please, fill in the form at the following link: <https://forms.gle/fHB2JDk7JctGn5239>.

You will be asked to provide the proposed paper title, an abstract of no more than 500 words, and, for each author, an ORCID iD, a short biography, and an email address.

Abstract deadline: 20 October 2026 | **Notification of acceptance:** By 7 November 2026

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The Journal of Legislative Studies has expressed preliminary interest in hosting the special issue, although this is not yet confirmed. Selected contributors will be invited to develop a full manuscript, with journal submission provisionally envisaged for September 2027; all manuscripts will remain subject to the journal standards for peer review. First view manuscripts will likely be published early in 2028. Where possible, selected authors will also be invited to present their work in a planned panel at the IPSA World Congress in Rome in July 2027. Participation in the IPSA panel is not a necessary condition for contributing to the special issue, and, in any case, an online workshop will be held prior to the submission deadline.