

PERU

Summit for Democracy: Voluntary Commitments

1. STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY

Bearing in mind the connection between democracy and social, political, and economic development, we reaffirm our commitment with the promotion and defense of democratic systems and its essential elements: respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, the holding of periodic, free, and fair elections based on universal suffrage, the pluralistic system of political parties and organizations, and the separation of powers and independence of the branches of government. To this effect, we commit to:

Combat poverty as the main factor of exclusion of large groups of the population. Considering that the substantive exercise of democracy requires the participation of citizens and their social organizations, without leaving anyone behind, the prevalence of great inequalities impairs the legitimacy of democratic systems.

Promote political dialogue, cooperation, and consensus-building when democratic regimes face instability, including the possibility of developing mediation capacities at the Organization of American States, by identifying and making experienced professionals available to the States, according to each circumstance.

Analyze the hemispheric mechanisms -particularly those set out in the Inter-American Democratic Charter- and others collectively agreed upon, to defend and strengthen democratic institutions, considering that they may be hindered in different ways. It is necessary to find alternatives to measures that in practice lead to isolation, without achieving the objective of restoring democratic order, and end up aggravating the situation of the most vulnerable citizens.

Deepen international solidarity to achieve a new global social contract. International cooperation should promote universal access to basic services, address the technological gaps and foster the application of redistributive policies, such as the promotion of decent work and comprehensive social protection systems, in line with the 2030 Agenda.

Strengthen electoral systems to guarantee the respect for the will of the people, encouraging technical cooperation in the matter, as well as electoral observation missions, in accordance with the corresponding institutional frameworks.

Guarantee freedom of expression and press, combat misinformation -including in digital media and social networks- and carry out communication and education campaigns to promote democratic culture and transparency, the strengthening of democratic values and citizen participation.

Increase the institutional capacity of our governments to receive and incorporate the contributions of citizens and their organizations to the decision-making process and implementation of public policies, particularly those of the least favored groups.

Continue participating in initiatives such as those promoted by International IDEA or others that arise from the dialogue between democratic nations, bearing in mind that the best defense of democracy is a citizenry whose basic needs are met by an efficient and transparent State, whose authorities, freely elected by the people, comply with the law, and respond to citizen demands, including respect for their human rights and fundamental freedoms.

2. RESPECT AND PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Democracy is indispensable for the effective exercise of fundamental freedoms and human rights of the people, in particular of those who are in vulnerable situations or have historically been discriminated against, such as women, indigenous peoples, afro-descendants, people with disabilities, the elderly, the LGTBI + community, migrants and refugees.

In line with the obligations assumed under the international human rights law, and aiming to achieve the universality of human rights treaties, its monitoring mechanisms for compliance and other normative instruments, we commit to:

Strengthen public policies to safeguard the full and effective exercise of civil and political rights, as well as the realization of economic, social, cultural, and environmental rights (ESCER). The Covid 19 pandemic has highlighted the indivisibility of human rights, as well as the stark differences that persist in their enjoyment and exercise.

Prioritize the balance between economic development and environmental protection, addressing climate change and other risks and disasters. Thus, we will achieve the integral development of people and the sustainable management of natural resources, and pursue the enjoyment of a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment.

Promote, in the different international forums on human rights, the importance of the development of national human rights plans by the States, as a key tool to ensure the implementation of public policies in this matter, with a cross-cutting approach and involving all national entities. Such plans can help the States to comply with their international commitments and the recommendations of monitoring bodies.

Move towards a more inclusive global health governance within the framework of the 2030 Agenda. Even today, an alarming number of people do not have access to basic services and are excluded from the benefits of the advancement of science and technology.

Promote agreements in international forums that guarantee that all countries have equitable and non-discriminatory access to all diagnoses, therapies, medicines and vaccines, as well as to technologies and health products, including their components and precursors, that are required in the response to Covid-19.

Increase international cooperation for information technology capacity building, both to achieve universal and affordable access to the Internet, and to safeguard, among others, the right to education and work, without which the very subsistence of people is put at risk.

Protect human rights defenders against all forms of violence and discrimination, so that they can carry out their activities safely, in particular defenders of groups in vulnerable situations and environmental defenders.

Promote the adoption of environmentally and socially sustainable business practices, in accordance with the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and bearing in mind the responsibility of the private sector to respect them.

Encourage, in the corresponding forums, the dissemination of good practices in effective access to public defense services, with a rights-based approach. The State shall guarantee inclusive, intercultural, effective and democratically institutionalized justice.

Support initiatives for dialogue and cooperation at the multilateral level on migration and international protection and encourage the participation of States in other initiatives such as

the Global Forum on Migration and Development, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration and the Global Compact on Refugees.

Promote that the objective of all joint actions regarding refugees and refugee claimants, such as donor conferences, shall be a more efficient, equitable and timely allocation of resources, which addresses the priorities and efforts of the countries concerned. In this sense, it is essential to reiterate the importance of considering the needs of the host countries when selecting the areas of intervention.

3. FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

Between 2020 and 2021, Peru has undergone evaluations from the main international mechanisms in the fight against corruption to which it is a party: the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, and the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions of the OECD. In accordance with our commitment to combat corruption, the Peruvian Government implements the recommendations arising from said processes, in line with the National Policy on Integrity and Fight against Corruption, formulated with the participation of the private sector and civil society. For its part, the General Government Policy for the period 2021 - 2026, emphasizes the strengthening of the national control system and the anti-corruption judicial system, as well as enhancing transparency of governmental activities through participatory mechanisms, accessible for the population.

Aware of the transnational nature of corruption and its serious consequences on the legitimacy of democratic systems and their stability, as well as on the well-being of the population, Peru will continue to actively promote the advancement of the multilateral agenda to fight against corruption and its materialization in concrete achievements. For this purpose, we consider a priority to:

Put into practice the Political Declaration adopted at UNGASS 2021, encouraging the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) to follow up on the aforementioned declaration and develop it.

Carry out a comprehensive evaluation of the status of implementation of the UNCAC, considering information on deficiencies, lessons learned and best practices in prevention and fight against corruption, international cooperation, and asset recovery, since the Convention entered into force.

Promote a culture of accountability, transparency, legality, integrity, and equity in the public sector,

Guarantee transparency in public tenders, as well as in the financing of candidacies for elective public offices, political parties, and electoral campaigns.

Adopt a legal framework to hold legal entities accountable for acts of corruption, including national and international bribery.

Promote the establishment of strict standards to fight corruption in all companies.

Improve transparency measures on the real estate market and the source of funds.

Strengthen asset recovery capabilities, including the simplification of procedures.

Promote the broadest cooperation between judicial authorities, police, prosecutors, financial intelligence units and administrative authorities, in investigations and procedures related to crimes of corruption, money laundering, national and transnational bribery.

Establish safeguards to prevent criminals from misusing immigration and refugee protection programs.

Protect those who expose, report, investigate and fight against corruption.

Create synergies between the UNCAC, the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) of the Council of Europe, the Anti-Corruption Working Group of the G20 and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Give continuity to the initiatives arising from the Lima Commitment on "Democratic governance against corruption." The next Summit of the Americas will be a propitious opportunity to jointly deepen such work, hand in hand with the Follow-up and Implementation Mechanism coordinated by the OAS General Secretariat.