

Courtesy Translation

Excellency,

Portugal is among the first countries to integrate the work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), already in 1891, in Rome, on the occasion of its 3rd Conference.

Today, 131 years after the institution of IPU, with the same compromise and commitment to the objectives of our Organization, I am pleased to address Your Excellency to present, on behalf of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal, Mr Duarte Pacheco's Candidacy to the Presidency of IPU.

Mr Duarte Pacheco is, since 1991, a distinguished Member of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal, recognized by his peers (from the same political area and from opposite fields, below and beyond borders) for the intense work he has been doing in areas like Finance or Foreign Affairs, but, above all, for the energy and dynamism that he has always shown as a Member of the Portuguese Delegation to IPU and in the various and high functions he has been playing in our Organization, both in the Committee on Peace and International Security and in the Twelve Plus Geopolitical Group.

For the principles that he has always defended, for the causes to which he has permanently dedicated himself, for the values that have always governed his civic, parliamentary and political action, I have the highest consideration and esteem for Mr Duarte Pacheco, recognizing him as a man with many and diverse qualities. In fact, he is my precious collaborator in the daily management of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal, as Secretary of the Bureau.

It is, I do not hesitate to affirm, someone who will know how to honor the illustrious history of IPU and prepare our Organization for the many and demanding challenges that lie ahead.

And if there is a great consensus in the Portuguese Parliament on the importance of the IPU and its agenda – the defense of multilateralism, political dialogue and parliamentary diplomacy, in favor of human rights, peace and security –, no lesser is the support that Mr Duarte Pacheco has for the Candidacy that I, hereby, bring to Your Excellency's attention, in the conviction of being able to count on the support of the Parliament to which Your Excellency presides.

With the assurances of my highest consideration,

The President of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal

*(signed)*

Eduardo Ferro Rodrigues

*São Bento* Palace, 1 July 2020