



**Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly**  
2 -3 December 2019



**British Antarctic Survey**  
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL





# Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly

2 -3 December 2019

**The All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Polar Regions**, chaired by James Gray MP, will host the first ever Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly in London on 2-3 December 2019.

This event will celebrate the **60th Anniversary** of the signing of the Antarctic Treaty and bring together Parliamentarians with an interest in Antarctic affairs from across the 53 signatories to the Treaty.

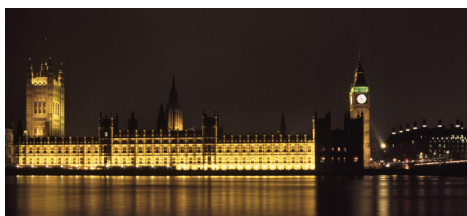
The Assembly will highlight the importance of Antarctica in the understanding of our planet, and provide an opportunity to discuss how Parliamentarians can address the challenges facing the 'White Continent'.

The Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly is being organised and hosted by the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Polar Regions of the UK Parliament, with funding from the Mamont Foundation and in-kind support from the UK Foreign & Commonwealth Office and the British Antarctic Survey, and advice from the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research.

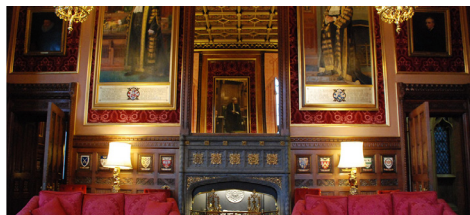
## VENUES



Conference venue, SixtyOne Whitehall



Tour of the Houses of Parliament



Evening reception, State Rooms of Speaker's House, Palace of Westminster



Dinner at Armoury House, City of London

## INFORMATION

Each country is welcome to send **two delegates** (at least one must be a Parliamentarian).

**A simultaneous interpretation service will be provided** for the main languages of the Antarctic Treaty – French, Spanish, Russian. Delegates may bring their own interpreters.

There is **no participation fee** and all refreshments, lunches and dinners will be provided on 2 and 3 December. Unfortunately we cannot cover the cost of travel or accommodation for delegates.

**A Conference Statement will be agreed** and distributed at the conclusion of the Assembly.

## 1 DECEMBER

*Delegates arrive*

**Social Event:** Visit to the Polar Worlds Gallery at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich

## 2 DECEMBER

08:30 **Conference opens**

SixtyOne Whitehall, home of the Royal United Services Institute

09:30 **Opening Address from the Prime Minister (tbc) and James Gray MP, Chairman, UK All-Party Parliamentary Group for the Polar Regions**10:00 **Keynote: Celebrating 60 Years of the Antarctic Treaty System**

What does the Treaty do and how is it governed?

**MORNING SESSION: Why Antarctica Matters**10:30 **Part 1: Climate Change**

- How climate change impacts Antarctica
- Global implications of Antarctic climate change

11:30 **Coffee break**12:00 **Part 2: Science**

The global impact of Antarctic science and discoveries

13:00 **Lunch****AFTERNOON SESSION: Antarctica Under Threat**14:00 **Protecting the environment**

Presentation, plus Q&A

14:45 **Ensuring responsible tourism**

Presentation, plus Q&A

15:30 **Tea break**16:00 **Managing scientific activity**

Presentation, plus Q&A

17:00 **Afternoon session ends**18:15 **Tour of the Palace of Westminster,**  
House of Commons and House of Lords19:00 **Evening reception,**  
State Rooms, Speaker's House,  
Palace of Westminster

## 3 DECEMBER

08:30 **Conference opens**09:30 **Welcome** - James Gray MP,  
Chairman, UK All-Party Parliamentary  
Group for the Polar Regions09:35 **Keynote: What Role Can Parliaments  
Play in the Future of Antarctica?**10:00 **Coffee break**10:30 **Discussion 1:** How can parliaments  
support the Antarctic Treaty System?

*A discussion of each country's future plans in the region and debate over what role national parliaments should play in Antarctic governance.*

12:00 **Official Antarctic Parliamentarians  
Assembly photograph**12:30 **Lunch**14:00 **Discussion 2:** How to improve  
cooperation and collaboration  
between parliaments on Antarctic  
issues?

*Delegates will be invited to present their proposals for future cooperation between national parliaments.*

15:00 **Rapporteur's Report**

*The rapporteur will present their summary of the inaugural Antarctic Parliamentarians Assembly proceedings.*

15:30 **Presentation of Conference  
Statement** - James Gray MP16:00 **Signing of Conference Statement**17:00 **Closing remarks**17:30 **End of conference**19:00 **Evening reception**  
Armoury House, City of London

## 4 DECEMBER

*Delegates depart*



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