#### CENTRE EUROPÉEN DE RECHERCHE ET DE DOCUMENTATION PARLEMENTAIRES



#### EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR PARLIAMENTARY RESEARCH AND DOCUMENTATION

EUROPÄISCHES ZENTRUM FÜR PARLAMENTARISCHE WISSENSCHAFT UND DOKUMENTATION

# ECPRD What does it stand for?

http://www.ecprd.org

Presentation by Ulrich Hüschen, European Parliament Ulrich.hueschen@europarl.europa.eu



## The aims of ECPRD

- Knowledge sharing, exchange of information, ideas, experience and good practice among the administrations of parliaments in Europe on subjects of common interest
- Close cooperation among parliamentary services in all fields of parliamentary administration, legislation, information, research and documentation



#### Structure

- Founded in 1977 as a joint initiative of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe
- Total of 72 chambers of National Parliaments their Presidents/Speakers are members of the European Conference of Presidents of Parliaments
- Bicameral Parliaments:
   Each chamber = full ECPRD member
- Special guests / observers Parliaments of Israel, Canada, Mexico and the US Congress



# A Network of People and Experts

- One Correspondent per parliamentary chamber, appointed among higher officials by their Secretary General
- 72 central persons for a successful daily functioning and further development of ECPRD
- They execute, promote and coordinate
   ECPRD-related activities in their chambers



# **ECPRD Services (1) Comparative Requests**

- On parliamentary procedures, rules and practice
- On legislative matters
- Comparative summaries

#### **ECPRD Comparative Request**

is the major professional, informal, subtle and handy tool to compare and share daily European legislation and parliamentary management among Member Parliaments in view of exchanging information and using best practices



## Recent Examples of IT related Comparative Requests

- > Display screen in the plenary chamber
- > Search technology in Parliaments
- ► Blogs and personal pages of MPs
- Computer (IT) equipment in parliaments
- ► Information Technology Governance Model
- Electronic submission and distribution of documents in Parliament
- Elaboration of an event database



# ECPRD services (2) Seminars

- Topical matters proposed, selected and organised in tight cooperation between a hosting national parliament, the Co-Ordinator of an Area of Interest and with support of the ECPRD Secretariat
- Usually 4-6 events per year
- Open for experts in the national parliaments
- Recent events
  - Seminar on Designing Specific IT Solutions for MPs and Parliaments, Copenhagen 2008,
  - Seminar on Mobility for Representatives, Ljubljana 2007



## ECPRD Services (3) Website development

- ➤ Created in November 1996
- ➤ Two parts:
  - Public section (EN+FR+DE) only information for the broad public
  - Private section (EN), with password + ID (confidentiality !!)
- >2008 complete new version
  - New layout + user-friendly structure
  - Creation of Areas of interest
  - Workflow for input from Correspondents
  - Notifications



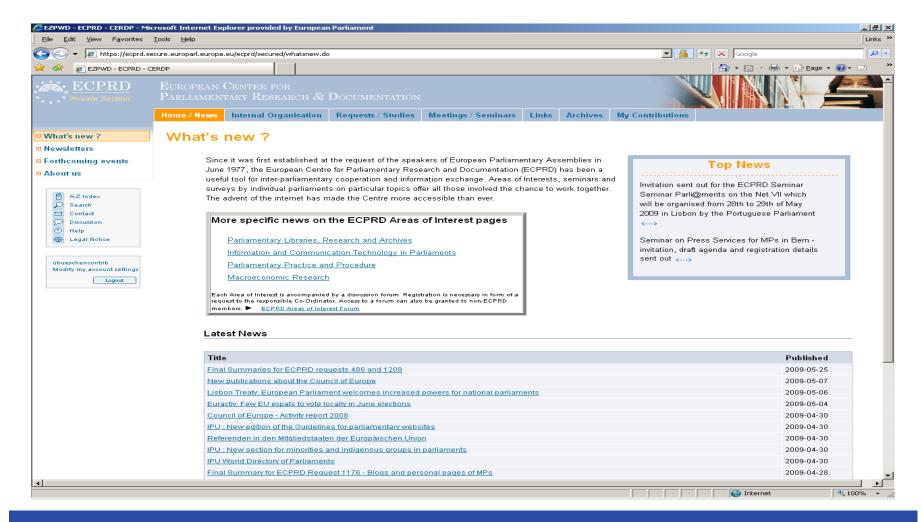
#### The ECPRD Website

## www.ecprd.org

- Private site with restricted access to ECPRD members
- > Two types of user account
  - Generic per chamber
  - personal
- Main sections
  - News
  - Internal Organisation = Directory of ECPRD members
  - Comparative requests + Publications and studies
  - Seminars



## Website Structure





## ECPRD Services (4) Areas of Interest

- ➤ Information and communication technology in Parliaments
- ➤ Parliamentary practice and procedures
- ➤ Parliamentary Research Services, Libraries and Archives
- ➤ Macro-economic Research
- Network and dedicated webpage managed by Coordinators



#### **Areas of Interest**

- ➤ Blog style
- ➤ Content added by the Coordinator with the help of the ECPRD Correspondents
  - News
  - Documents
  - Events
  - Links
- ➤On the private site only
- >Accompanied by a discussion forum



#### **Areas of Interest**



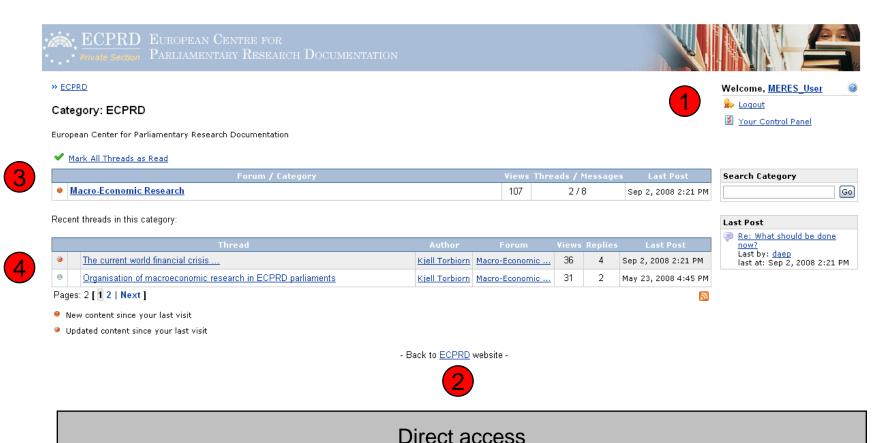


#### **Aol Discussion Forum**

- ➤ Separated from the ECPRD website
- ➤ Space for opinions and discussions
- open also for external users on invitation and after authorization by the Coordinator
- Registration procedure distributed on paper to all participants



## **Discussion Forum Entry Page**



http://www.europarl.europa.eu/forum/ecprd-ictparl



# What can ECPRD offer to be attractive to IT and Website specialists in parliaments?