

## What are the main regulations adopted?

Among the most outstanding achievements of the work at the national sphere, are significantly important the approval of numerous laws and institutional progresses in pursuit of the Food and Nutrition Security in the Region. These laws represent a historic improvement in the promotion and guarantee of the Right to Food in Latin America and the Caribbean, which -in turn- means a positive impact on people's health and on the recovery of Andean and natural food, along with the boost of the community agriculture, among others.

### Main national laws reached:

Bolivia	- Supplementary School Food Law in the framework of Food Sovereignty and the Plural Economy (2014). - Healthy Food Promotion Act (2015).
Argentina	- Law "Historical repair of family agriculture for the construction of a new rurality in Argentina" (2015).
Peru	- Framework Law for the promotion and sustainable development of family agriculture (2015). - Healthy Eating Promotion Act for children and adolescents (2013).
Uruguay	- Creation of the Special Commission for the Right to Food Advice in the Uruguayan Parliament (2015). - Healthy Food Law in Educational Centers (2013).
Nicaragua	- Food Sovereignty and Food and Nutrition Security Law (2009). - Law of the Nicaraguan Legal Digest of Sovereignty and Food and Nutrition Security (2015)
México	- In 2011, a constitutional amendment was created to recognize the right to food, articles 4 and 27 of the Constitution were amended. This change had been discussed since the 1990s, with successive progress in the blocs and lack of consensus among political parties. The formation of the parliamentary front, which included parliamentarians from all political parties, led to consensus and the bill was passed. Later, in 2014, Congress passed an amendment to the General Social Development Act to recognize the right to nutritious food, ratified by the Senate on April 12, 2016. - Family Agriculture Law of Mexico City (2015).
Brazil	- School feeding law (2009).
Ecuador	- Organic Law of Rural Lands and Ancestral Territories (2016). - Food Labeling Act (2015).
Honduras	- Food and Nutrition Security Law. Fostered by PFH (2011). - Women Credits Law (2015).
El Salvador	- School Milk Program Act (2013).
Dominican	- Law on Food and Nutrition Security and Sovereignty (2016).

These laws represent a historic breakthrough in the promotion and guarantee of the right to food in Latin America and the Caribbean. This is a positive impact on the health of people, in the recovery of andean and natural foods along with the revitalization of community agriculture, among others.

Among the advances of PARLATINO, the PFH has also fostered the following Food and Nutrition Security Framework Laws:

- Declaration on Family Agriculture (2015)
- Framework Law on "School Feeding" (2013)
- Framework Law for Latin America on "The regulation of advertising and promotion of food and non-alcoholic beverages aimed at children and adolescents (2012)
- Framework Law "The Right to Food (2013)
- Model Law on Family Agriculture (2016)



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## What are the Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger (FPH)?

The Parliamentary Fronts against Hunger arose in 2009 in Latin America and the Caribbean as an answer to the need of addressing from the legislative perspective the influences in the establishment of normative frameworks relevant for eradicating hunger in the region. These efforts are framed in the Initiative for a Hunger Free Latin America and the Caribbean (HFLACI), a commitment prompted by the countries of the region that aims at reaching a free hunger region by 2025 and that has counted with the support of FAO since 2009.

FPH are organizations composed of members of national, subnational, and regional parliaments; they all committed to the fight against hunger and the need of making the food security a strategic matter in the legislative activity, fostering institutional frames that seek full Right to Food in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The configuration of the Fronts has been a gradual process carried out during the last 7 years. Its work has mainly aimed at the identification - in each of the national parliaments- of the political leaderships interested in the related topics and of the relevant legislative agenda according to the national context.

Along this process, a key aspect has been the South-South cooperation, a dynamics based on a solidarity relationship in which the most consolidated Fronts support the establishment processes of other fronts through specific missions or by using the regional meetings for exchanging experiences with other Fronts and with parliamentary groups interested in being part of this interparliamentary community.

Since the commencement of the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2009, 18 fronts have been formed at national level (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela); 3 at subnational level in Bolivia, Brazil and Mexico; and 4 at sub-regional level in the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN), the Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO), the Andean Parliament (PARLANDINO), and the Forum of Presidents of the Legislative Bodies in Central America and the Caribbean Basin (FOPREL).

## Fronts Institutional framework

The institutional framework of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean has been consolidated during the last years, consisting of:

- National Coordinating: The efforts at national level are coordinated by a representative elected among all the members of the national FPH.
- Extended Coordinating Committee (CEC): EC corresponds to the collegiate body responsible for decision making and coordinating the actions of the Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean. Its members meet in-person at least twice a year, and the queries are electronically consulted by open call. The Committee consist of: (i) one Member of Parliament who are representatives of each regional parliament and (ii) the National Coordinating or one representative of each National Front.
- Executive Coordinator Commission (ECC): It is the collegiate body responsible for representing the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean and for coordinating its actions. The Executive Coordinator Commission is composed of 1 coordinator and 3 sub-coordinators (from the Caribbean, Central and South America).
- Technical Secretariat: Responsible for giving technical and logistical support to the FPH. Executed since 2009 by FAO through the project that supports the Initiative for a Hunger Free Latin America and the Caribbean (HFLACI).
- Advisory Council: During the last meeting of the Extended Coordinating Committee on November 4th, 2014, held in the Dominican Republic, prior to the V Forum of the PFH, it was decided to create a body for support and consultation composed of former legislators related to the FPH. The Council gives support through technical consultancies to the Fronts concerning the matters at the request of the CEC and the CCE.

## What distinguishing elements do the fronts have?

- Plural spaces composed of different political parties and commissions
- The topic can convene different actors and positions
- The fronts are multi sector spaces
- The action it is promoting laws and approving budgets, influencing the public agenda and promoting public dialogs in the matter of the right to food
- The spaces for debates and dialogs are participatory and inclusive
- The fronts are present at regional and national level
- The subjects are address with technical strength because of the support provided by allies like FAO among others



## How do the fronts work?

The working plans are organized around four main components:

- 1) Fronts sustainability and institutional development
- 2) Political dialogue
- 3) Horizontal cooperation and knowledge management
- 4) Awareness, capacity building ,monitoring and control

During the last years, the Declarations from the Fronts have been considered more and more important, becoming a model of the institutional and legislative activity of the Fronts every year.

Among the activities conducted annually by the Fronts at regional level, the following stand out: videoconferences, planning meetings, forums, working meetings with the CEC and ECC and national and regional activities.

## How is the process supported by FAO?

Since 2009 FAO holds the work of technical secretariat of the FPH undertaking following functions:

- Technical support
- Accompany the institutional strengthening process by: elaboration, Implementation and monitoring of annual working plans.
- Exchange experiences
- Logistical and financial support
- To support the development of the fronts and their achievements

## Who are its strategic partners?

The FPH is involved in high level International meetings and has covered the international agenda in order to attain the goals of the Food and Nutritional Security Plan (FNS). The aim is to create opportunities for dialogue and exchange knowledge with parliamentarians from other regions to enrich other international processes.

Regional cooperation mechanism: UNASUR, SICA ,CARICOM  
Regional parliaments: PARLATINO, FOPREL, PARLACEN  
Support of AECID has been crucial who since 2014 have been taken part in every Forum.

## Which are the elements of success?

- The strong political commitment in the region concerning the fight against hunger, insecurity food and malnutrition; the Initiative for a Hunger Free Latin America and the Caribbean since 2005; and the Plan for Food Security, Nutrition and the Hunger Eradication of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) since 2015 have supported and facilitated the general interest in this matters and the existence of a strategic framework along with the working plan of the national and regional Fronts. This has been strengthened since 2016 by the Millennium Development Goals, closely related to the objectives of the Fronts.
- The plural and wide character of the Fonts, with a comprehensive view of the problem and focused on the Right to Food.

- The interest by the Executive Coordinator Commission in institutionalizing the processes through simple protocols with the purpose of a better functioning, always considering the institutional processes of each Parliament and the national conditions of the Fronts, and resecting the institutions formed and decisions taken in the FPH.
- The development of effective leaderships that have been defined within the FPH contexts, considering the internal processes of the Fronts and prioritizing the common goals regarding their visions or approaches to the hunger and malnutrition problems.
- The institutional framework of the Fronts in the national Parliaments in accordance with the instruments and decisions of each Front, which have become legitimate and distinguished actors in their respective legislative spaces. This has allowed a bigger support for the Fronts' activities, such as additional resources for this process.
- The greater and greater involvement of the FAO Representations in the countries of the program in these processes, which allows to identify new opportunities of cooperation at national level and additional resources to support the Fronts.
- The permanent Fronts' capacity building on the basic technical contents about the fight against hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition; which includes both, the Parliament Members and their advisories. This has allowed a common language and a deeper maturity in the processes of dialog and of exchange, which can be seen in the last processes of elaboration of declaration of the Fronts.
- A constant work focused on a gradual institutionalization within FAO in the context of its new strategic framework, aiming at making the support of this initiative goes beyond the specific project that initiated this process. For instance, the current work with the Fronts is part of regional Initiatives or of the FAO regular program. All this enables a coordination of this process with other activities supported by FAO and other agencies interested in the fight against hunger, food insecurity, and malnutrition.

## What are the main themes promoted?

- Family farming
- School Feeding
- Malnutrition
- Public investment in Food and Nutrition security
- Climate change and its link to the Food and Nutrition security