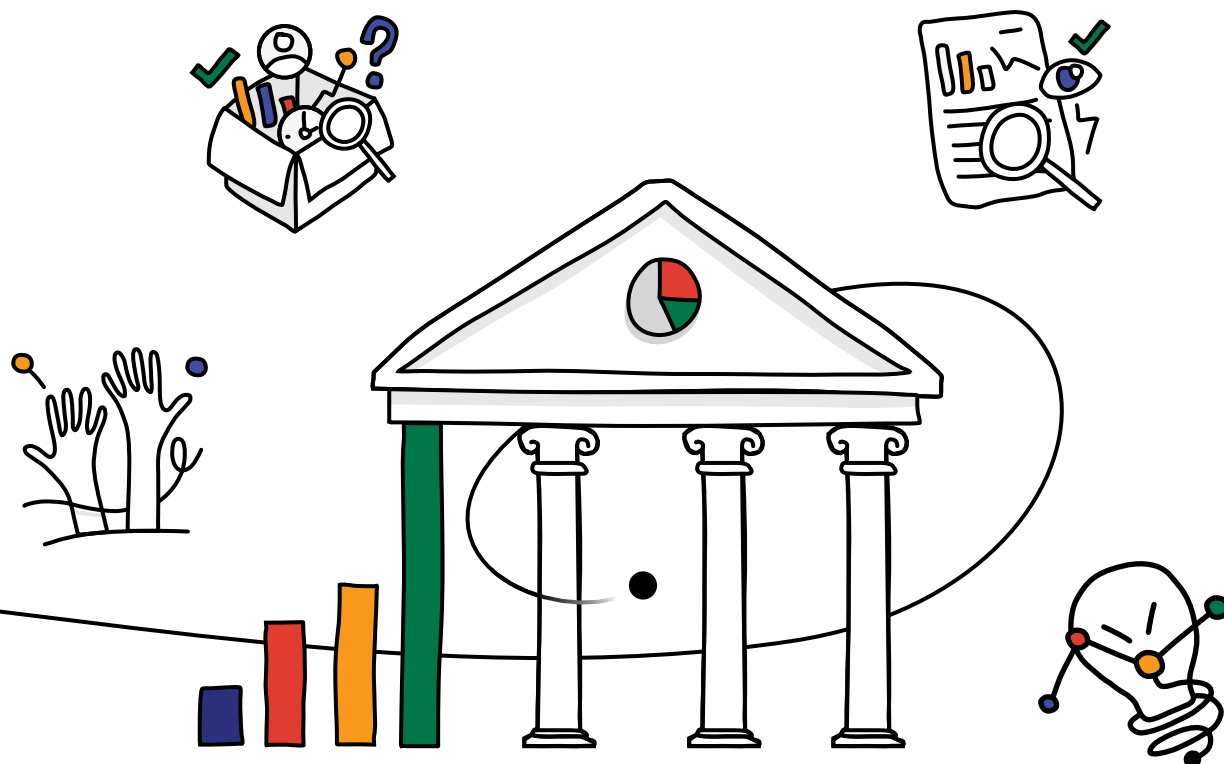




ParliMeter Resource booklet:

Abbreviations and Glossary



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PMG PARLIAMENTARY
MONITORING GROUP
OUTA openup:
ORGANISATION UNDOING TAX ABUSE

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List of Abbreviations

4IR	Fourth Industrial Revolution
ACSA	Airports Company of South Africa
ACTT	Anti-Corruption Task Team
AfCFTA	Agreement on African Continental Free Trade Area
AG	Auditor-General
AGSA	Auditor-General of South Africa
ALHA	Agricultural Land Holding Account
ANC	African National Congress
APP	Automated Passport Processing
APP(s)	Annual Performance Plan(s)
APRM	African Peer Review Mechanism
ARC	Agricultural Research Council
ASRI	African Space Research Institute
ASSAf	Academy of Science of South Africa
ATC	Announcements, Tablings and Committee (Reports)
ATNS	Air Traffic Navigation Services
AU	African Union
BBI	Broadband Infraco
BCOE	Basic Conditions of Employment
BDM	Broadcasting Digital Migration
BEP	Bucket Eradication Programme
BMA	Border Management Authority
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa- inter-governmental organisation
BRP	Business Rescue Practitioners

BRRR(s)	Budgetary Review & Recommendations Report(s)
BRT	Bus Rapid Transit
BSA	Brand South Africa
CACH	Central applications clearing house
CASP	Comprehensive Agricultural Support Programme
CBRTA	Cross- Border Road Transport Agency
CCMA	Commission for Conciliation, Mediation and Arbitration
CCOD	Compensation Commissioner for Occupational Diseases
CDT	Communications and Digital Technologies
CEDAW	Convention On The Elimination Of Discrimination Against Women
CEF	Central Energy Fund
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
CET	Community Education and Training
CGE	Commission for Gender Equality
CGS	Council for Geo-Science
CHE	Council on Higher Education
CMS	Council for Medical Schemes
CoCT	City of Cape Town
COGTA	Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs
COVID-19	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CPA	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
CRDP	Comprehensive Rural Development Programme
CRL	Cultural, Religious and Linguistic Communities
CRLR	Commission on Restitution of Land Rights
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

CSIR	Council for Scientific and Industrial Research
CSO(s)	Civil Society Organisation(s)
CTICC	Cape Town International Convention Centre
CV	Curriculum Vitae
CWP	Community Work Programme
DA	Democratic Alliance
DAFF	Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries
DALRRD	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development
DARDLEA	Department of Agriculture, Rural Development, Land and Environmental Affairs
DCDT	Department of Communications and Digital Technologies
DCOG	Department of Cooperative Governance
DDM	District Development Model
DFFE	Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
DG	Director-General
DHA	Department of Home Affairs
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
DIRCO	Department of International Relations and Cooperation
DLTC/VTC	Driving License Testing Centre/Vehicle Testing Centre
DMRE	Department of Mineral Resources and Energy
DOH	Department of Health
DPME	Department of Planning, Monitoring, and Evaluation
DPO	Designated Police Officer
DPWI	Department of Public Works and Infrastructure
DRDLR	Department of Rural Development and Land Reform
DSI	Department of Science and Innovation

DTT	Digital Terrestrial Television
DWYPD	Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities
ECLB	Eastern Cape Liquor License
EFF	Economic Freedom Fighters
EMB	Electoral Management Body
ERA	Electricity Regulation Amendment
ERRP	Economic Reconstruction and Recovery Plan
EU	European Union
FFE	Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment
FIC	Financial Intelligence Centre
FMD	Foot and Mouth Disease
FMPPLA	Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act
FOI	Freedom of Information
FPB	Film and Publications Board
FPSU	Farmer Production Support Unit(s)
GBV	Gender-Based Violence
GBVF	Gender-based violence and femicide
GCIS	Government Communication and Information System
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
GNU	Government of National Unity
GPW	Government Printing Works
GRIP	Gender Based Violence Intervention Program
HDA	Housing Development Agency
HET	Higher Education and Training
HFCT	Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technologies

HQ	Head Quarter
HR	Human Resource
HSRC	Human Sciences Research Council
HySA	Hydrogen South Africa
ICASA	Independent Communications Authority of South Africa
ICT(s)	Information Communication Technology(ies)
IDEA	Institute For Democracy And Electoral Assistance
IDP	Indicators For Democratic Parliaments
IEC	Independent Electoral Commission/ Electoral Commission of South Africa
IF	Institutional Forum
IFP	Inkatha Freedom Party
IGR	Intergovernmental relations
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPID	Independent Police Investigative Directorate
IPTN	Integrated Public Transport Network
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
ISD	Institution Supporting Democracy
ITB	Ingonyama Trust Board
ITU	International Telecommunications Union
JSC	Judicial Service Commission
JSCI	Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence
KAS	Konrad Adenauer Stiftung
KPMG	Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler
KZN DARD	KwaZulu-Natal Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

LGBTQIA+	Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, intersex, asexual, and the + (expanding and new understanding of different parts of the very diverse gender and sexual identities.)
LHWP	Lesotho Highlands Water Project
LOGB	Leader of Government Business
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDB	Municipal Demarcation Board
MDDA	Media Diversity and Development Agency
MISA	Municipal Infrastructure Support Agent
MP	Members of Parliament
MRE	Mineral Resources and Energy
MTBPS	Medium-Term Budget Policy Statement
MTSF	Medium-Term Strategic Framework
MWCF	Mines and Works Compensation Fund
NA	National Assembly
NACI	National Advisory Council on Innovation
NAMC	National Agricultural Marketing Council
NARYSEC	National Rural Youth Service Corps
NC(V)	National Certificate (Vocational)
NCGBVF	National Council on Gender-Based Violence and Femicide
NCOP	National Council of Provinces
NDI	National Democratic Institute
NDP	National Development Plan
NECSA	South African Nuclear Energy Corporation
NEHAWU	National Education, Health and Allied Workers' Union

NEMISA	National Electronic Media Institute of South Africa
NERSA	National Energy Regulator of South Africa
NHI	National Health Insurance
NHLS	National Health Laboratory Service
NHRI	National Human Rights Institution
NIHSS	National Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences
NNR	National Nuclear Regulator
NPA	National Prosecuting Authority
NPL	Northam Platinum Limited
NRF	National Research Foundation
NSF	National Skills Fund
NSFAS	National Student Financial Aid Scheme
NSI	National System of Innovation
NSP	National Strategic Plan
NYDA	National Youth Development Agency
NYS	National Youth Service
OBP	Onderstepoort Biological Products
OHO	Office of the Health Ombud
OHSA	Occupational Health and Safety Act
OHSC	Office of Health Standards Compliance
OSBP	One-Stop Border Post
OTP	Office of the Premier
OUTA	Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse
OVAC	Oversight and Accountability Model
OVG	Office of the Valuer-General

PA	People's Assembly
PAA	Public Audit Act
PAC	Public Accounts Committee
PAIA	Promotion of Access to Information Act
PARI	Public Affairs Research Institute
PBO	Parliamentary Budget Office
PC(s)	Portfolio Committee(s)
PCCAA	Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act
PCHA	Portfolio Committee on Home Affairs
PCI	Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry
PCJPS	Portfolio Committee on Justice and Correctional Services
PCPE	Portfolio Committee on Public Enterprises
PE	Public Enterprise
PESI	Presidential Employment Stimulus Initiative
PFMA	Public Finance Management Act
PLAS	Proactive Land Acquisition Strategy
PLS	Post-Legislative Scrutiny
PMG	Parliamentary Monitoring Group
PMP	Pretoria Metal Pressing
POE	Ports of Entry
POPIA	Protection of Personal Information Act
POR	Parliamentary Oversight Report
PPECB	Perishable Products Export Control Board
PPU	Public Participation Unit
PR	Proportional Representation

PRASA	Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa
PRMG	Provincial Road Maintenance Grant
PSA	Public Servants Association
PSC	Public Service Commission
PSET	Post-School Education and Training
PTNG	Public Transport Network Grant
Q&A	Question and answer(s)
QCTO	Quality Council for Trades and Occupations
R&D	Research and Development
RADP	Recapitalization and Development Programme
RDI	Research, Development and Innovation
RFP(s)	Requests for Proposal(s)
RFSAP(s)	Radio Frequency Spectrum Assignment Plan(s)
RIA(s)	Regulatory Impact Assessment(s)
RMIPPPP	Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme
RPL	Recognition of Prior Learning
RRT	Rapid Response Teams
RSR	Railway Safety Regulator
RTIA	Road Traffic Infringement Agency/Authority
RTMC	Road Traffic Management Corporation
SA	South Africa
SAA	South African Airways
SAAO	South African Astronomical Observatory
SABC	South African Broadcasting Corporation
SACAA	South African Civil Aviation Authority

SACNASP	South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SAFCOL	South African Forestry Company SOC Limited
SAFLII	South African Legal Information Institute
SAHPRA	South African Health Products Regulatory Authority
SAHRC	South African Human Rights Commission
SAI	Supreme Audit Institution
SAIIA	South African Institute of International Affairs
SALGA	South African Local Government Association
SALT	Southern African Large Telescopes
SAMRC	South African Medical Research Council
SAMSA	South African Maritime Safety Authority
SANBI	South African National Biodiversity Institute
SANCO	South African National Civics Organisation
SANDF	South African National Defence Force
SANEDI	South African National Energy Development Institute
SANParks	South African National Parks
SANRAL	South African National Roads Agency Limited
SANSA	South African National Space Agency
SAPO	South Africa Post Office
SAPS	South African Police Service
SAQA	South African Qualifications Authority
SARS	South African Revenue Service
SAVC	South African Veterinary Council
SAX	South African Express Airways

SCOPA	Standing Committee on Public Accounts
SDG 16	Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)
SDG 16.6	Sustainable Development Goal 16.6 (Develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels)
SDG 16.7	Sustainable Development Goal 16.7 (Inclusive, participatory, and representative decision making)
SDG(s)	Sustainable Development Goal(s)
SDP	Sanitary Dignity Programme
SETA(s)	Sector Education and Training Authority(ies)
SFF	Strategic Fuel Fund
SG	Secretary General
SIP 11	Strategic Integrated Project for agro-logistics
SITA	State Information Technology Agency
SIU	Special Investigating Unit
SKA	Square Kilometre Array
SKAO	Square Kilometre Array Observatory
SOC(s)	State-owned company(ies)
SOE	State-owned enterprise
SOE	State-owned entity
SRV	Sundays River Valley
SRVGA	Sundays River Valley Growers Association
STEM	Science, Technology, Engineering and Math
STI	Science, Technology, and Innovation
SWHP	Solar Water Heater Programme
TCC	Thuthuzela Care Centre

TCTA	Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority
TIA	Technology Innovation Agency
TKLA	Traditional and Khoi-San Leadership
TVET	Technical and vocational education and training
UHC	Universal Health Coverage
UIF	Unemployment Insurance Fund
UIFW	Unauthorised, irregular and fruitless and wasteful expenditure
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nation(s)
UNCAC	United Nations Convention Against Corruption
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UPR	Universal Periodic Review
USAASA	Universal Service and Access Agency of South Africa
USAf	Universities South Africa
VBS	Venda Building Society
VFS	Visa Facilitation Services
WCAG	Web Content Accessibility Guidelines
WEGE	Women Empowerment and Gender Equality
WFD	Westminster Foundation for Democracy
WIPO	World Intellectual Property Organisation
WS	Water and Sanitation
WYPD	Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities
ZADNA	za Domain Name Authority

Glossary

Access for Persons with Disabilities	The provision of physical, informational, and communication infrastructure to ensure people with disabilities can participate fully in parliamentary activities.
Accessibility	The extent to which parliamentary processes, information, and participation mechanisms are available and usable by all people, including marginalised and disabled groups.
Accountability	The obligation of parliamentarians and public officials to answer for their actions, decisions, and the use of public resources, and to face consequences for failure to meet legal and ethical standards.
Accountability Framework	A structured approach to ensuring that all actors in an organisation or system are held responsible for their actions and decisions.
Accountability Gaps	Areas in governance or public institutions where there is insufficient responsibility, oversight, or transparency, leading to inefficiencies or potential corruption.
Accountability Mechanisms	Systems put in place to ensure that government officials and public institutions are answerable for their actions, including financial audits, oversight committees, and independent investigations.
Accountable Parliament	A parliament that is responsible for its actions and decisions, ensuring that members and processes are answerable to the public.
Ad Hoc Committees	Temporary committees formed to address specific issues or challenges, which disband once their task is complete.

Adjournment Debate	A debate held at the end of a parliamentary sitting, often focusing on specific issues raised by individual members of parliament that may not require formal legislation.
Administrative Autonomy	Refers to parliament's independence in managing its internal operations, staffing, and resources without interference from external bodies.
Administrative Capacity Tracker	A monitoring tool measuring the effectiveness of Parliament's internal operations, including staffing, resource management, and decision-making.
Administrative Efficiency	The ability of an organisation or government body to perform its tasks and duties in a timely, cost-effective, and efficient manner.
Adoption	The process by which a constitutional amendment or legislation is formally approved by parliament, typically requiring a supermajority for most changes.
Affirmative Action	Legislative and institutional measures designed to promote the recruitment, retention, and advancement of historically disadvantaged groups.
Air Traffic and Navigation Services	An entity that provides air navigation services in South Africa.
Airports Company South Africa	A state-owned entity responsible for managing South Africa's airports.
Amendments	Proposed changes or additions to existing legislation or constitutional provisions, often requiring approval through formal procedures.
Annual Public Accounts Committee Reports	Summaries of activities, findings, and recommendations issued by the Public Accounts Committee to Parliament.

Annual Reports on Budget Transparency	Documents published by Parliament detailing how transparent and participatory the budget processes were throughout the fiscal year.
Anti-corruption	Actions, laws and systems used to prevent, detect, and punish corruption.
Anti-Corruption Framework	A set of laws, policies, and institutions designed to prevent and combat corruption in government, ensuring integrity in public offices.
Anti-Corruption Measures	Legislative and institutional efforts to detect, prevent, and punish corruption, ensuring that public officials are held accountable for misuse of public office.
Anti-Political Interference	Mechanisms and policies designed to protect parliamentary processes and decisions from being unduly influenced by political parties or external actors.
Asset Declaration	A legal requirement for MPs and public officials to publicly disclose their financial assets, helping to prevent conflicts of interest and corruption.
Audit Compliance Records	Documents tracking adherence to financial auditing standards and recommendations from previous audits of government departments.
Audit Recommendations	Suggestions made by auditors to improve financial management and compliance within parliamentary operations.
Audit Report Timelines	Schedules detailing the deadlines for government departments to submit financial audits and for Parliament to review these reports.
Audit Reports	Official documents produced by auditors to assess and review the financial practices, records, and operations of government bodies, departments, or organisations.
Audit Scrutiny	Parliamentary examination of financial management, audit outcomes, and compliance with public finance legislation.

Auditor-General of South Africa	The independent institution responsible for auditing government departments and providing reports to SCOPA on how public funds are spent.
Autonomy	Parliament's ability to operate independently from the executive branch, with self-governed procedures and administrative functions.
Bailouts	Financial assistance provided by the government to failing businesses or entities, often state-owned companies, to prevent their collapse and stabilise the economy.
Belgrade Principles	International principles governing the relationship between National Human Rights Institutions and parliaments.
Benchmarking Best Practices	The process of comparing parliamentary operations and performance against established best practices or international standards.
Bicameral	A system where the legislative body consists of two separate chambers, such as the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces.
Bicameral System	A legislative system in which parliament is divided into two separate chambers or houses, typically an upper and a lower house. For example, the South African parliament has two chambers: the National Assembly (lower house) and the National Council of Provinces (upper house). Each chamber usually has different roles and powers, contributing to a more comprehensive legislative process.
Bill	A proposal for a new law or an amendment to an existing law presented for debate and approval in parliament.
Bill Tracker	A tool within ParliMeter that tracks the progress of legislative bills, helping citizens stay informed about parliamentary developments.

Blockchain Technology	A secure, decentralised method of recording data, suggested for integration into ParliMeter to ensure the integrity and security of the data presented.
Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa	An association of five major emerging economies, which cooperate on political, economic, and development issues at a global level.
Breach of Parliamentary Privilege	The violation of the rights and protections afforded to parliamentarians in the exercise of their duties, including freedom of speech within the parliament and immunity from certain legal actions.
Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment	A policy aimed at increasing economic participation by black South Africans in the formal economy, particularly in business and ownership opportunities.
Bucket Eradication Programme	A project aimed at eliminating the use of bucket toilets, which are still used in some areas in South Africa.
Budget Constraints	Limitations on the number of financial resources available for spending or allocation, often leading to difficult choices about which priorities to fund.
Budget Reallocation Records	Documentation of changes made to budget allocations during the fiscal year, providing insights into financial management and priorities.
Budget Review and Recommendations Reports	Annual reports submitted by portfolio committees to assess government departments' performance and make budgetary recommendations to the National Treasury.
Budget Scrutiny	The process by which parliament examines the government's proposed budget, reviewing the allocation of public funds to ensure accountability and alignment with public interests.

Budgetary Autonomy	The authority of parliament to manage and approve its own budget, ensuring sufficient resources for its functions, including members of parliament compensation and operational costs.
Bureaucracy	The administrative system governing the operations of parliament, including civil servants and their functions in legislative support.
By-election	A special election held to fill a parliamentary seat that has become vacant between general elections, often due to resignation or death of a member of parliament.
Campaign Rights	The freedoms and protections that allow political parties and candidates to campaign fairly and lawfully during elections.
Candidacy	The right or process through which an eligible person stands for election as a candidate.
Candidacy Rights	The rights of eligible citizens to stand for election either independently or through a political party.
Capacity Building	The process of improving the skills, abilities, and resources of individuals, institutions, or organisations to enhance their performance and effectiveness.
Caucus	A group of members of parliament or a political party who meet to discuss and coordinate their policies, strategies, and decisions. Caucuses are often formed based on party lines or shared interests within a party, allowing members to align their efforts on legislative issues and debate party positions before engaging in formal parliamentary sessions.
Censure	A formal disapproval or condemnation of the actions of a government minister or the government itself by parliament, which can lead to political consequences such as resignation.

Central Repository	A centralised location, either digital or physical, where records, laws, or documents are stored securely for easy access by MPs, staff, and the public.
Citizenship Rights	The legal rights of citizens to participate in democratic processes, including voting, attending public hearings, and holding officials accountable.
Civic Education	Activities and programmes aimed at improving public understanding of parliament's role, processes, and opportunities for participation.
Civic Technology	Digital tools and platforms designed to enhance public participation, improve transparency, and make government data more accessible and actionable for citizens.
Civic Voluntarism Model	A theory suggesting that technology empowers individuals to participate more actively in civic activities, enhancing their engagement with democratic processes.
Civil Servant	An employee of the government who works in a non-political role, often involved in the administrative and operational functions of parliament.
Civil Service	The permanent professional branches of government administration, excluding elected officials and the military, responsible for implementing policies and administering public services.
Civil Society Engagement	Efforts to involve non-governmental organisations, advocacy groups, and the public in the legislative process, ensuring that policy development reflects a wide range of interests and concerns.
Civil Society Organisation	A non-governmental organisation that advocates for the interests of society, such as human rights, environmental protection, or other community-focused goals.

Coalition Building	The process through which political parties cooperate to form working majorities or governing arrangements.
Code of Conduct	A set of rules that governs the behaviour of members of parliament, ensuring they act in the public interest and uphold parliamentary integrity.
Cognitive Load	The mental effort required to process and understand information. In the context of ParliMeter, reducing cognitive load involves making complex data easier to interpret.
Combating Sexism, Harassment and Violence	Institutional measures and policies to prevent and respond to discrimination, abuse, and misconduct within parliament.
Commission for Gender Equality	An independent constitutional institution established in terms of Chapter 9 of the Constitution of SA and is mandated to promote respect for gender equality and the protection, development, and attainment of gender equality in South Africa.
Commitment	A strong dedication or pledge to a particular cause, policy, or responsibility, often in the context of public duty or governance.
Committee	A group of MPs assigned to focus on specific tasks, such as examining bills, budgets, or overseeing government actions.
Committee Composition	The structure and membership of parliamentary committees, including how members are allocated across parties and groups.
Committee Hearings	Public or closed sessions where parliamentary committees engage with stakeholders, experts, and the public to gather input on legislation or investigate specific issues.
Committee Leadership	Positions of authority within parliamentary committees, such as chairpersons or vice-chairs, responsible for guiding committee work.

Committee of Inquiry	A special committee set up by parliament to investigate specific issues, often related to government misconduct or policy failures.
Committee on Section 194 Enquiry	A parliamentary committee responsible for investigating allegations of misconduct and considering the removal of high-ranking public officials, such as the Public Protector, through a formal inquiry process.
Committee Stage	A phase in the legislative process where a bill is examined in detail by a parliamentary committee. The committee may suggest amendments, consult experts, or hold hearings before reporting back to the full parliament.
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association	An association that supports parliamentary democracy, offering training and collaboration between parliamentarians from Commonwealth countries.
Community Works Programme	A South African initiative that provides short-term work opportunities for unemployed individuals.
Compliance	The act of adhering to laws, regulations, standards, or guidelines set by governing bodies or authorities.
Compliance Mechanisms	Institutional systems used to ensure adherence to laws, policies, rules, and international obligations.
Compliance Reports on Conflict of Interest	Documents evaluating whether members of parliament and staff adhered to rules requiring the declaration of financial or other interests that might affect their impartiality.
Compliance Scorecard	A tool used to evaluate adherence to rules, laws, or policies, often displayed visually to show where performance meets or fails expectations.

Confidence and Supply Agreement	An arrangement where a minority government secures support from another party to remain in power by agreeing to specific policies or budget measures.
Conflict-of-interest Declaration	The formal disclosure by MPs or public officials of any personal, financial, or professional interests that could potentially influence their official duties.
Conflicts of Interest	Members of parliament are required to declare financial interests and avoid situations where their personal interests' conflict with their duties as public representatives.
Consensus	General agreement or shared understanding among a group, often reached through discussion and negotiation.
Consequence Management	Disciplinary and corrective actions taken in response to misconduct, maladministration, or non-compliance.
Consequence Management Systems	Mechanisms within parliament to ensure accountability for misconduct or failure to meet performance standards, including disciplinary actions.
Constituency(ies)	A constituency refers to a group of people represented by a particular political leader or organisation. In a political context, it can mean the residents of an electoral district who elect a representative to government. However, in a broader sense, it can refer to any group of stakeholders or citizens who have a common interest and seek representation in policymaking processes. These groups may range from geographic regions to socio-economic or interest-based groups.
Constituency Engagement	Activities through which members of parliament interact with their constituencies to gather public input and represent their interests in parliament.

Constituency Periods	Time allocated to members of parliament to engage with their constituents, respond to their needs, and provide updates on legislative developments.
Constitutional Amendment Bill	A bill aimed at changing the provisions of South Africa's constitution, typically to address emerging challenges, expand rights, or improve governance structures.
Constitutional Amendment Tracker	A tool monitoring the progress of proposed amendments to the constitution, including key milestones and approval status.
Constitutional Amendments	Special processes that allow for changes to a nation's constitution, often requiring a supermajority in parliament and public consultations.
Constitutional authority	Power given by the Constitution to perform certain duties, such as making laws or overseeing government.
Constitutional Framework	The legal and institutional structures defined by a nation's constitution that guide the functioning of its government and its democratic processes.
Constitutional Integrity	The adherence to and respect for the Constitution as the highest legal framework in a country, ensuring that laws, policies, and actions align with constitutional principles.
Constitutional Mandate	The responsibilities and duties given to government officials or institutions as outlined in the country's constitution, which dictates their powers and obligations.
Constitutional Oath	A pledge made by public officials to uphold the Constitution and perform their duties with integrity and responsibility.
Constitutional Principles	The basic legal values and rules set out in the Constitution that guide elections, representation, and democratic governance.

Constitutional Provisions	The legal rules established within a country's constitution that govern the procedures and actions of parliament, including legislative processes and parliamentary dissolution.
Constitutional Review Committee	A parliamentary committee tasked with reviewing South Africa's constitution and making recommendations for amendments to ensure it remains relevant and reflective of the nation's democratic values.
Constitution-making and Amendment	The process through which Parliament or a constituent assembly drafts, debates, and enacts changes to the national constitution.
Consultative Process	A method of engaging stakeholders, including the public and expert groups, to provide input into decision-making or the development of policy.
Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women	An international human rights treaty that obligates states to eliminate discrimination against women and promote gender equality.
Corruption	The abuse of entrusted power for personal or corporate gain, often involving bribery, fraud, or other illicit activities.
Corruption Networks	Organised systems or groups involved in corrupt practices, often influencing government or institutional decisions for personal gain.
Corruption Prevention	Measures taken to reduce or eliminate corrupt practices within organisations or governments, including transparency initiatives, enforcement of laws, and ethical standards.
Crisis Management	The process of managing and addressing situations that pose a significant risk to the stability or effectiveness of an organisation or government, particularly during emergencies or unforeseen events.

Crisis Procedures	Special rules or processes applied by Parliament during emergencies to ensure legislative continuity and appropriate responses to crises.
Cross-Cutting Issues	Topics or problems that affect multiple sectors or areas of governance, such as gender inequality, poverty, or climate change, and require coordinated efforts across different domains to address effectively.
Cross-Party Cooperation	Collaborative efforts between MPs from different political parties to achieve common goals, particularly on issues of national importance.
Cross-party Group	An informal group of members of parliament from different political parties who come together to discuss or advocate for specific policy issues, such as environmental concerns or human rights.
Cross-Sector Collaboration	The act of different sectors or government departments working together to address complex issues that span across multiple areas of governance, such as poverty, education, and health.
Cybersecurity	Measures and protocols implemented to protect parliament's digital infrastructure and data from threats, ensuring secure and reliable information processing.
Cybersecurity in Parliament	Measures taken to protect parliament's digital assets and infrastructure from unauthorised access, ensuring secure operations for members of parliament and staff.
Data Privacy	The protection of personal information provided by citizens, ensuring that it is not misused or disclosed without consent.
Data Visualisation Tools	Features that represent data graphically to make complex information more understandable and accessible to users.
Decision-Making Bodies	Formal parliamentary structures, such as committees and governing bodies, where important discussions and decisions take place.

Delegated Legislation	Laws or regulations made by an authority under powers granted by an existing Act of parliament, allowing for more detailed regulation or procedural rules.
Department of Higher Education and Training	The South African government department responsible for higher education and vocational training.
Department of Mineral Resources and Energy	The department overseeing mining, energy policy, and regulation in South Africa.
Digital accessibility	Making online information and platforms usable for everyone, including persons with disabilities and people with limited technology access.
Digital Accessibility Standards	Guidelines ensuring that parliamentary websites, documents, and digital platforms are usable by people with disabilities and accessible to the public.
Digital Divide	The gap between those who have easy access to digital technology and the internet and those who do not, often due to economic, geographic, or social factors.
Digital Governance	The use of digital tools and platforms to enhance the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of government processes and services.
Digital Infrastructure	The electronic systems and technologies used to facilitate communication, record-keeping, and other essential functions within parliament.
Digital Literacy	The ability to use digital technology effectively, a focus within parliamentary reforms to ensure that all citizens and government officials are equipped to engage with digital tools and platforms.
Digital Participation	Public engagement with parliamentary processes through online platforms, virtual hearings, and electronic submissions.

Digital Participation Tools	Online platforms (e.g., petitions, submissions) that allow citizens to engage with parliamentary processes digitally.
Digital Technologies in Parliament	Tools and platforms used to enhance legislative processes, communication, and public engagement, such as dashboards and virtual meeting tools.
Digital Transformation	The integration of digital technologies into parliamentary processes, enhancing efficiency, transparency, and public engagement.
Digital Voting	The use of digital technologies for MPs to cast their votes in parliamentary proceedings, allowing for remote participation.
Disciplinary Case Logs	Records of misconduct cases and disciplinary actions taken against members of parliament or parliamentary staff for breaches of conduct.
Discretionary	The ability to make decisions or take actions based on personal judgment or preference, rather than following strict rules or guidelines.
Disruption	A disturbance or interruption in a process or system that causes it to function improperly or less efficiently, often used in the context of governance or service delivery failures.
Dissolution	The formal process by which a parliament is disbanded, usually leading to new elections. Clear guidelines for dissolution are often established in a country's legal framework. It may occur at the end of a parliamentary term or after a vote of no confidence.
Document Archiving System	A structured repository for managing parliamentary documents, ensuring easy access to past reports, legislative records, and session transcripts.
Dysfunctional	Not operating or functioning as intended, often leading to inefficiency, ineffective results, or operational failure.

Effective Parliament	Refers to a parliament that operates autonomously, follows procedural rules, and carries out legislative functions independently of external influences.
Efficacy	The ability to produce a desired or intended result, particularly in relation to government actions, policies, or programs.
Efficiency Gains	Improvements made to processes or systems that result in better performance, such as reducing costs, increasing productivity, or speeding up service delivery.
E-Government	The use of digital tools and technologies by government institutions, including parliament, to improve services, communication, and engagement with the public.
Election Rights Compliance Reports	Assessments documenting whether elections meet international standards for fairness, accessibility, and transparency.
Electoral Amendment Bill	Legislation aimed at amending South Africa's electoral laws, particularly focusing on enhancing the independence of candidates and improving the electoral system's inclusivity and transparency.
Electoral Commission of South Africa	The independent body responsible for managing elections in South Africa, ensuring free, fair, and credible electoral processes.
Electoral Fraud	Illegal or dishonest actions that undermine the fairness or integrity of an election.
Electoral Integrity	Ensuring elections are conducted fairly and transparently, with equal access and rights for all citizens to vote and participate in democratic processes.

Electoral Reform	Initiatives aimed at changing the electoral system to improve fairness, accountability, and representation, such as the inclusion of independent candidates in parliamentary elections.
Electoral rights	The rights people have to vote, stand for election, and participate in the electoral process.
Electoral System Design	The way an electoral system is structured to convert votes into parliamentary seats.
Electoral Threshold	The minimum level of electoral support a party or candidate may need to gain parliamentary representation.
Emergency Debate	A parliamentary session called at short notice to discuss an urgent or emerging issue.
Emergency or Crisis Procedures	Special procedures that allow parliament to function during emergencies, altering its normal procedures in response to crises.
Emergency Session Procedures	Rules for convening and managing parliamentary sessions during national emergencies, ensuring timely responses to crises.
Employment Equity Act	SA legislation requiring institutions to promote equal opportunity and eliminate unfair discrimination in the workplace.
Enabling Environment	The legal, institutional, and procedural conditions that allow public participation to occur effectively.
Engaged Citizenship	The active participation of citizens in political and civic life, including monitoring government actions, providing feedback, and contributing to decision-making processes.
Engagement	The active involvement of citizens and stakeholders in the decision-making processes of parliament.

Environmental Oversight Activities	Parliamentary initiatives focused on monitoring environmental policies, climate action, and sustainability practices within government programs.
Equal-Opportunity Employer	A legal requirement that parliament recruit, employ, and promote staff without discrimination.
Ethical Breaches by Members of Parliament	Violations of parliamentary codes of conduct, including conflicts of interest, misuse of public resources, or failure to declare financial interests.
Ethical Standards	The expected conduct for members of parliament and parliamentary staff, which includes maintaining integrity, accountability, and impartiality in all parliamentary activities.
EU Enhancing Accountability and Transparency Programme	A European Union-funded initiative aimed at supporting governance reforms, including the development of tools like ParliMeter for enhancing transparency.
Evidence-Based Decision Making	The practice of making decisions, policies, or laws based on data, research, and empirical evidence, rather than on assumptions or political ideologies.
Executive	Refers to the President, Deputy President, and the Cabinet Ministers, responsible for implementing laws, policies, and decisions made by parliament.
Executive Accountability	The responsibility of government leaders (e.g., the President, Cabinet Ministers) to be answerable to parliament and the public for their decisions and actions.
Executive Oversight	The role of parliament in monitoring and reviewing the actions and policies of the executive branch of government to ensure accountability.

Executive Summoning in Committee	The practice of calling members of the executive branch to appear before parliamentary committees to answer questions or provide information.
Executive undertaking	A promise or commitment made by a minister, department, or government official to Parliament.
Expanded Public Works Programme	A government initiative to provide temporary work opportunities, particularly for marginalised groups, in public infrastructure and services, aiming to reduce poverty and unemployment.
Expenditures	The act of spending money, particularly in reference to government funds allocated to specific projects, departments, or activities.
Explanatory Materials	Documents or resources designed to simplify and explain complex parliamentary processes, laws, or bills for the general public.
Extortion	The act of obtaining something, often money, through force, threats, or coercion.
Failure to Comply	When an individual, organisation, or government body does not follow established rules, regulations, or laws.
Family-Friendly Facilities	Facilities and services provided by parliament to support MPs and staff with caregiving responsibilities.
Fast-Track Legislation	A special process that allows urgent laws to be passed more quickly than usual, often with limited debate or committee scrutiny. This is typically used during emergencies.
Feedback Loops	Systems that capture and incorporate user feedback to improve a platform or service over time, ensuring that it evolves based on the needs and experiences of its users.

Feedback Mechanisms	Systems through which parliament communicates to the public how their input was considered or used in decision-making.
Filibuster	A tactic used by members of parliament or senators to delay or obstruct the passage of legislation by extending debate, often by speaking for long periods.
Financial Administration Amendment Bill	Legislation intended to revise or improve the management of public finances within parliament, ensuring transparency, accountability, and compliance with budgetary standards.
Financial Independence Scores	Indicators that evaluate the extent to which Parliament controls its own budget and financial decisions, independent of the executive.
Financial Management of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act (2009)	Legislation that outlines the financial management framework for South Africa's parliament, ensuring budgetary autonomy and accountability in managing public funds.
Financial Mismanagement	The improper or inefficient handling of financial resources, often resulting in waste, fraud, or corruption.
Financial Transparency	The open and clear reporting of financial information and expenditures, ensuring that the public and relevant stakeholders can access and evaluate the use of government funds.
Fiscal Discipline	The practice of maintaining control over government spending and ensuring that it aligns with budgetary constraints and long-term economic sustainability.
Fiscal Responsibility	The principle of managing government finances in a way that ensures sustainable spending, efficient use of resources, and the avoidance of excessive debt.

Formal framework	The official laws, rules, policies, or structures that guide how Parliament should work.
Freedom of Information	Legal provisions that allow citizens to access information held by public bodies, promoting transparency and public oversight of government actions.
Freedom of Information Compliance	The extent to which parliament and other public institutions fulfil their legal obligations to provide requested information to the public.
Gamification	The application of game-like elements in non-game contexts, such as creating rewards or challenges in ParliMeter to engage users.
Gantt Chart for Budget Processes	A type of bar chart illustrating the timeline and key stages of budget formulation, review, and approval in Parliament.
Gauteng Freeway Improvement Project	An infrastructure project designed to improve and expand the Gauteng freeway system.
Gender Balance	A distribution of men and women in parliament or parliamentary bodies that promotes fairness and inclusion.
Gender Equality	The principle that all individuals, regardless of gender, should have equal rights and opportunities, often discussed in parliamentary policies and cross-party groups.
Gender Mainstreaming	The integration of a gender perspective in all aspects of law-making and budgeting, promoting equality between men and women.
Gender Parity	A situation where women and men are represented in roughly equal numbers, especially in parliament and leadership roles.
Gender Parity Initiatives	Programs or policies aimed at achieving equal representation and participation of women in parliamentary and political activities.

Gender-Based Violence	Violence that is directed at an individual based on their gender, particularly violence against women and children, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse.
Gender-disaggregated data	Information separated by gender so that differences between women, men and other groups can be seen clearly.
Gender-Neutral Language	The use of language that avoids bias towards a particular gender, particularly in legislative drafting to ensure inclusivity.
Gender-Responsive Budgeting	An approach to budgeting that takes gender equality into account, ensuring that resources are allocated in ways that promote equitable outcomes for all genders.
Governance	The processes, systems, and rules that guide and control an organisation or institution, ensuring that it operates effectively, efficiently, and ethically.
Governance Architecture	The institutional framework, rules, policies, and structures that guide parliamentary operations.
Governance Capacity Building	The process of strengthening the skills, resources, and systems of governance bodies to improve their ability to manage resources, make decisions, and effectively serve the public.
Governance Challenges	Problems or obstacles that hinder the effective management, oversight, and operation of public institutions or governance structures.
Governance Failures	Situations where government institutions or leaders fail to meet their responsibilities or perform their duties effectively, leading to poor outcomes for citizens or the public sector.

Governance Framework	The rules, procedures, and structures that ensure the effective and transparent management of parliamentary functions, including decision-making, accountability, and resource allocation.
Governance Reforms	Changes made to improve the functioning, transparency, and accountability of governance systems, often in response to failures or inefficiencies.
Governance Structure Diagrams	Visual representations of the hierarchical organisation and roles within Parliament, clarifying responsibilities and decision-making flows.
Governance Structures	The frameworks or systems within which decisions are made and executed in an organisation or government, including roles, processes, and authority distribution.
Government Delays	The postponement or slow response to administrative tasks, legislative processes, or service delivery, often due to inefficiency, resource limitations, or mismanagement.
Government Institutions	Formal organisations or bodies that are part of the public sector, such as ministries, departments, agencies, and other entities responsible for implementing government policies and programs.
Government Oversight	The process by which the actions and decisions of government officials and institutions are monitored and reviewed, often with the aim of ensuring accountability and preventing corruption.
Hansard	The official, verbatim transcript of parliamentary debates. It provides a detailed record of all discussions, questions, and speeches made in parliament.
High-Level Panel	A committee formed to review and propose improvements for significant national policies or strategies.

Human Resources	The department responsible for managing parliamentary staff, including recruitment, retention, and development policies.
Human Rights Impact Reports	Assessments focused on ensuring that laws, policies, or actions comply with human rights principles and contribute to their promotion.
Human Rights in Law-making	Ensuring that all legislation aligns with the Constitution's Bill of Rights, protecting citizens' rights through the law-making process.
Human Rights Mainstreaming	The systematic integration of human rights principles into all parliamentary activities.
Human Rights Obligations	International and domestic legal commitments requiring parliament to protect, promote, and fulfil fundamental rights.
Human rights screening	Checking whether a law, policy or decision protects people's rights and does not unfairly harm certain groups.
Hybrid and Virtual Meeting Models	New approaches to parliamentary meetings and sessions that incorporate both in-person and digital participation, allowing for broader involvement, especially in response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Hybrid Sessions	Parliamentary sessions that combine in-person and virtual participation, allowing MPs to attend remotely, especially during emergencies or crises.
Impact Assessment	The process of evaluating the potential or actual effects of a policy, program, or project on various stakeholders, often conducted to gauge its success or identify areas for improvement.
Impact Assessment Logs	Records tracking the evaluations performed to determine the socio-economic, environmental, or human rights impacts of proposed or enacted legislation.

Impeachment	A parliamentary process in which the Head of State, government officials, or ministers may be removed from office for unlawful conduct or breaches of constitutional duties.
Implementation	The process of putting decisions, plans, or policies into effect, ensuring that they are carried out as intended.
Implementation Gaps	Areas where policies, programs, or strategies are not being fully or properly implemented, often leading to inefficiency or failure to achieve intended outcomes.
Impunity	The exemption from punishment or consequences for illegal or unethical actions, often occurring when institutions or individuals are not held accountable for wrongdoing.
Incentives	Rewards or motivations designed to encourage specific behaviour or actions, often used in the context of public policy to promote certain outcomes.
Inclusion	The practice of ensuring that all individuals, regardless of background or ability, have equal access to parliamentary processes.
Inclusive Governance	A form of governance where all groups, including marginalised or disadvantaged communities, are represented and have the opportunity to participate in decision-making processes.
Inclusive Governance Framework	A strategic approach that ensures participation from all segments of society, including marginalised and vulnerable communities, in decision-making processes.
Inclusive Institutional Practices	Internal parliamentary policies and workplace standards that promote equality, diversity, and accessibility.

Inclusive Parliament	A parliament that ensures equal participation of all societal groups in law-making, oversight, and budgeting and promotes diversity within its institutional practices.
Incompatibility Regulations for Members of Parliament	Rules that prevent members of parliament from holding positions or offices that could conflict with their legislative responsibilities.
Incompetent Leadership	Leadership that fails to effectively guide, manage, or address issues within an organisation or government, often resulting in poor outcomes or inefficiency.
Independent Communications Authority of South Africa	The regulatory authority for broadcasting, telecommunications, and postal services.
Independent Electoral Commission	A body tasked with overseeing elections in South Africa, ensuring they are free, fair, and conducted in accordance with the country's constitution.
Independent Members of parliament	Members of parliament who are not affiliated with any political party and often act as neutral voices or advocates for specific issues.
Independent Police Investigative Directorate	An independent government agency responsible for investigating complaints against the police, particularly cases involving misconduct or abuse of power.
Indicators for Democratic Parliaments	A comprehensive self-assessment tool for evaluating a parliament's performance and capacity against established democratic standards, focusing on effectiveness, accountability, transparency, and other democratic characteristics.
Ineffectiveness	The lack of ability or capacity to achieve intended results or goals, particularly in the context of government actions, public services, or legislation.

Inefficiency	The failure to achieve a desired outcome using the least number of resources, time, or effort, often due to poor management, lack of accountability, or systemic issues.
Inequality	The state of not being equal, particularly in terms of wealth, opportunities, or treatment, often used to describe social and economic disparities.
Information Communication Technology	Encompasses technologies that provide access to information through telecommunications, including the internet, wireless networks, cell phones, and other communication mediums.
Information Overload	A situation where users are overwhelmed by excessive amounts of information, making it difficult to process and extract meaningful insights. Simplified visualisations and summaries can help mitigate this issue.
Infrastructure	The fundamental facilities and systems serving a country, city, or area, such as transportation, communication, power supply, and public services.
Inquiries	Investigative processes conducted by parliamentary committees or other bodies to examine specific issues, actions, or policies.
Institute For Democracy And Electoral Assistance	An international organisation that supports sustainable democracy worldwide through providing comparative knowledge, assisting in reform processes, and influencing policies.
Institutional Autonomy	Parliament's legal ability to represent the people's interests by convening sessions, managing its committees, and passing laws independently.
Institutional Autonomy Index	A measure that assesses the degree of freedom Parliament has from external interference in its operations and governance.

Institutional Capacity	The availability of resources, staff, systems, and structures enabling parliament to fulfil its participatory functions.
Institutional Capacity for Public Participation	Parliament has established frameworks, such as the Public Participation Services, to facilitate citizen involvement in legislative and oversight processes.
Institutional Culture	The norms, values, behaviours, and practices that shape how parliament functions internally.
Institutional Development of Parliament	Efforts made to improve the long-term capabilities and performance of parliament, often involving strategic planning, monitoring, and innovation.
Institutional Integrity	A measure of a parliament's independence, professionalism, and resistance to external influences, ensuring fair decision-making processes.
Institutional memory	The knowledge, records, and experience that an institution keeps over time so that lessons are not lost.
Institutional Reforms	Changes made within the structures or processes of an institution, such as government bodies, to improve their operations, effectiveness, and accountability.
Institutional Strengthening	The process of improving the performance and functionality of an institution, organisation, or government body, particularly through reform, capacity building, and better management.
Institutional Weaknesses	Gaps or deficiencies within organisations or systems that hinder their ability to function effectively, often due to poor management, lack of resources, or corruption.

Institutionalisation	The process of embedding a practice or tool into the standard operations of an institution or system, ensuring its long-term sustainability and integration into daily functions.
Integrated ICT Backbone	A robust infrastructure system for integrating information and communication technology across various sectors within parliament, aimed at improving efficiency, data-sharing, and service delivery.
Integrated ICT System	A system that integrates various information and communication technologies to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of parliamentary operations and service delivery.
Integrated Legislative System	A technology-driven system aimed at modernising parliamentary functions, allowing for better management of legislation, procedures, and parliamentary records.
Interactive Engagement	Features within platforms like ParliMeter that allow users to actively interact with the content, such as participating in discussions, giving feedback, or contributing to data analysis.
Interactive Features	Elements of a platform that encourage active participation, such as discussion forums, voting tools, or interactive maps, designed to engage users and facilitate collaboration.
Interactive Voting Margins Chart	A visual tool showing the breakdown of voting results for each bill or motion, highlighting margins and party-line voting trends.
Intergovernmental Coordination	The process of ensuring that different levels of government (national, provincial, local) work together effectively to achieve common goals and implement policies.
Internal Controls	Procedures and policies implemented within an organisation or government entity to ensure accountability, safeguard assets, and ensure

that activities are conducted in accordance with established laws and regulations.

International Human Rights Treaties	Agreements ratified by parliament that bind SA to global human rights standards.
International Parliamentary Forums	Platforms where national parliaments meet to discuss and address global issues, such as the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Pan-African parliament, fostering collaboration and shared solutions.
Inter-Pares Programme	An international initiative promoting peer learning between parliaments, helping them strengthen their institutional capabilities and democratic practices.
Inter-Parliamentary Collaboration Agreements	Formal arrangements between parliaments from different countries or regions to share knowledge and coordinate on policy issues.
Inter-Parliamentary Union	An international organisation of national parliaments, promoting democracy, peace, and cooperation among member states through dialogue and shared experiences.
Interpellation	A formal procedure where members of parliament ask detailed questions to government ministers, often requiring a debate or explanation of a particular government action or policy.
Intersectional Data	Data that reflects overlapping social identities such as gender, race, disability, and age.
Intervention	An action taken to address a problem, correct an issue, or change a situation, particularly in governance or public policy.
Inviolability	Legal protection that prevents the arrest or detention of MPs during the course of their duties without parliamentary consent.

Inviolability of Members of Parliament	A principle ensuring that members of parliament are protected from legal actions for speeches made or votes cast within parliamentary proceedings.
Involuntary Removal	The process through which an MP is removed from office, either through legal grounds or constitutional violations before their term expires.
Joint Committee	A committee composed of members from both houses of a bicameral parliament. Joint committees often address issues that require collaboration between the two chambers.
Joint Rules Committee	A parliamentary committee responsible for setting and overseeing the rules and procedures that govern the functioning of both the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces.
Judicial Commission of Inquiry	A formal investigation by a commission established to examine a particular issue or set of issues, often involving allegations of misconduct, corruption, or systemic failure in government or public institutions.
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung	A German political foundation active globally, including in South Africa, focused on promoting democracy, rule of law, and sustainable development.
Law-making	The core function of parliament, which involves the introduction, debate, amendment, and passing of legislation. It includes various stages such as the first reading, committee review, and final vote.
Law-Making Process	The stages through which legislation is developed, debated, amended, and adopted by parliament.
Legal Compliance	The act of adhering to laws, regulations, and established rules in the execution of government or organisational tasks, ensuring that actions are within legal frameworks.

Legislation	Laws passed by parliament, which are the result of the legislative process and which govern various aspects of society.
Legislative Agenda	The set of legislative priorities or objectives that a government or legislative body aims to accomplish within a particular time frame.
Legislative Committees	Subdivisions of parliament focused on specific areas of public policy or government operations, tasked with reviewing legislation, conducting investigations, and making recommendations for action.
Legislative Deadlock	A situation in which there is no progress or agreement on passing legislation, typically due to political disagreements or a lack of consensus.
Legislative Delays	The postponement or slow progress of legislative actions, such as passing laws, debating policies, or responding to national issues, often due to political gridlock or inefficiency.
Legislative Drafting	The process of creating new laws or amending existing ones. This involves drafting clear, precise legal texts that can be debated and approved by parliament.
Legislative Framework	The structure of laws and regulations that govern a country, such as the Constitution, Acts of parliament, and other legal documents, which guide the functioning of government and the protection of citizens' rights.
Legislative Gridlock	A situation where there is an inability to pass or make progress on laws or policies due to political disagreement or opposition, often resulting in inaction or stagnation.
Legislative Independence Scores	Metrics measuring the autonomy of parliament from executive influence, reflecting the extent of independent law-making capacity.
Legislative Outcome Summaries	Reports summarising the results of parliamentary votes, debates, and the enactment of legislation.

Legislative Procedure	The formal process through which laws are proposed, debated, amended, and passed in parliament. It includes committee stages, plenary debates, and voting.
Legislative Process Tracker	A feature on the ParliMeter dashboard that monitors and displays the progress of bills, from introduction to enactment.
Legislative Processes	The steps involved in making and enacting laws, including drafting, debating, amending, and passing laws through a parliamentary system.
Legislative Reforms	Changes made to existing laws or regulations in order to improve their effectiveness or address emerging issues.
Legislative Scrutiny	The process of carefully reviewing, questioning, and analysing proposed laws, policies, and government actions to ensure they are in the best interest of the public and aligned with legal frameworks.
Legislative Transformation	The process of evolving legislative frameworks to be more inclusive, responsive to public needs, and aligned with democratic principles, including legal reforms like the amendment of the constitution.
Legislative Transparency	The practice of making legislative processes and outcomes clear and understandable to the public, enabling citizens to monitor the activities of their representatives.
Legislature Tourism Oversight Forum	A forum designed to enhance oversight by promoting accountability in government tourism activities and ensuring effective use of state resources in the sector.
Lesotho Highlands Water Project	A large-scale project that involves the construction of dams and tunnels to provide water to South Africa from Lesotho.

LGBTQI+	An inclusive term referring to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, and Intersex persons, and other sexual minorities.
Lobbying	Efforts by individuals or organisations to influence parliamentary decisions, policies, or legislation, often requiring transparency to prevent undue influence.
Lobbying Registry	A public database where lobbying activities are recorded, ensuring transparency in interactions between parliament and interest groups.
Lobbyist	An individual or organisation that seeks to influence government policy or legislative decisions, often representing corporate or interest group interests.
Maladministration	The inefficient or improper management of public affairs or services, often involving mismanagement, neglect, or misuse of power.
Mandates	Official orders or instructions given to individuals or institutions, particularly by government bodies, outlining their responsibilities or authority.
Marginalised communities	Groups that face barriers to power, resources, services, or participation, often because of poverty, location, disability, age, or discrimination.
Marginalised Groups	Marginalised groups are those that experience disadvantage or exclusion from mainstream social, economic, or political opportunities. These groups are often sidelined due to factors such as race, gender, disability, income, or geographic location. Marginalisation can result in limited access to resources like education, employment, healthcare, or political representation, further perpetuating inequality.
Media Access	The ability of journalists and media outlets to observe, report, and comment on parliamentary proceedings freely.

Media Access to Parliament	Accredited journalists are allowed to report on parliamentary activities, ensuring transparency through media coverage.
Mediation Committees	Committees tasked with resolving disagreements between the two chambers of parliament (in bicameral systems) regarding proposed legislation.
Medium-Term Strategic Framework	A government plan detailing South Africa's strategic goals for a five-year period.
Member of Parliament	An elected or appointed representative serving in the South African Parliament, responsible for legislating, oversight, and representing public interests.
Mismanagement	The improper or inefficient handling of resources, tasks, or policies, often resulting in wasted funds, poor outcomes, or failed projects.
Mismanagement of Funds	The improper handling or use of financial resources, often leading to waste, inefficiency, or corruption.
Mismanagement Reports	Documents produced to highlight cases of inefficiency, corruption, or misappropriation of resources in government operations, often reviewed by Parliament.
Mobile Optimisation	Designing platforms to be easily accessible and functional on mobile devices, particularly important in regions with high mobile internet usage but limited access to desktop devices.
Money Bills Amendment Act	Legislation governing the processes for amending national budget-related bills in South Africa, ensuring parliamentary control over financial matters.

Monitoring	The continuous process of observing and checking the progress or performance of an organisation, project, or system to ensure it is functioning as intended.
Monitoring and Evaluation	The ongoing process of assessing the progress, outcomes, and impact of policies, programs, or initiatives to ensure they are achieving their intended goals.
Monitoring of Parliamentary Diplomacy Initiatives	A system for tracking the outcomes and impact of international engagements led by Parliament.
Motion of No Confidence	A parliamentary motion used to express that the current government no longer has the support of the majority of members of parliament, which can lead to its resignation or dissolution of parliament.
MP Attendance Tracker	A feature in ParliMeter that monitors and displays the attendance of members of parliament, promoting transparency in their participation.
Multilingual Engagement	Strategies Plans to provide parliamentary information and services in multiple languages to ensure inclusivity and accessibility.
Multilingual Engagement Strategies	Plans to provide parliamentary information and services in multiple languages to ensure inclusivity and accessibility.
Multilingual Interpretation	Simultaneous interpretation services provided during plenary and committee proceedings.
Multilingual Service Delivery	The provision of parliamentary information and services in all official languages to ensure accessibility.
Multi-Party Women's Caucus	A parliamentary group composed of female parliamentarians from different political parties, focused on advancing gender equality and addressing issues affecting women in South Africa.

Multi-Year Research Plan	A long-term strategic plan designed to guide and prioritise research within parliament, focusing on areas critical for policy development, legislative effectiveness, and national development.
National Assembly	One of the two houses of South Africa's parliament, representing the people of the country, and tasked with legislating and holding the executive accountable.
National Council of Provinces	The upper house of South Africa's parliament, which represents provincial interests and participates in the lawmaking process, particularly on matters affecting provinces.
National Democratic Institute	A non-profit organisation that works to strengthen democratic institutions worldwide through civic engagement, governance support, and election assistance.
National Development Plan	A long-term strategy to eliminate poverty and reduce inequality in South Africa by 2030 through various socio-economic reforms.
National Health Insurance	A proposed system aimed at providing affordable healthcare to all South Africans, regardless of their financial status, through a centralised, government-managed fund.
National Human Rights Institution	An independent institution established by law to promote and protect human rights, such as the SA Human Rights Commission.
National Prosecuting Authority	An independent body tasked with prosecuting criminal cases on behalf of the state, ensuring that individuals suspected of criminal activity, including corruption, are held accountable.
National Student Financial Aid Scheme	A South African government initiative that provides financial assistance to disadvantaged students in higher education.

National Youth Development Agency	A SA public entity established under the National Youth Development Agency Act (Act 54 of 2008) and is mandated to initiate, facilitate, implement, coordinate, and monitor youth development interventions aimed at addressing challenges faced by young people aged 14–35 years.
Non-Accountability	The legal protection of MPs from legal actions or sanctions while performing their parliamentary duties, ensuring free expression and independence.
Non-Accountability of Members of Parliament	A provision granting members of parliament immunity from prosecution for actions or statements made in the course of their official duties.
Non-compliance	Failure to adhere to established rules, laws, regulations, or guidelines, often leading to consequences or penalties.
Non-Partisan Parliamentary Analysis	Research and data provided by independent bodies like the Parliamentary Budget Office, ensuring impartial insights into legislative issues.
Normative Framework	The legal and policy standards guiding parliamentary conduct and democratic governance.
Official Publication	The formal release of legislation after its passage, usually in an official gazette, to ensure it becomes legally binding and publicly accessible.
Open Data	Data that is freely accessible and usable by anyone, typically provided by government institutions or organisations to encourage transparency and public engagement.
OpenUp	One of the organisations involved in the development of ParliMeter, focused on promoting transparency and accountability through open data initiatives.
Operational Consistency	Uniform application of policies and procedures across parliamentary structures.

Operational Efficiency	The ability of an organisation or government entity to use its resources in the most effective way possible to achieve its goals, without unnecessary waste or delays.
Opposition	The political parties in parliament that do not form the government. They play a crucial role in holding the government accountable through debate, questions.
Opposition Parties	Political parties that are represented in parliament but are not part of the governing majority.
Organisation Undoing Tax Abuse	A South African non-profit organisation focusing on promoting transparency, accountability, and participatory democracy, often through parliamentary oversight and public engagement projects.
Outreach Programs	Initiatives by parliament to educate the public, engage citizens, and encourage participation in democratic processes.
Outreach Programs for Marginalised Groups	Initiatives aimed at engaging communities that are traditionally underrepresented in parliamentary processes, such as youth and persons with disabilities.
Oversight	The process of monitoring and supervising the actions of the executive (government), typically by parliament or other governing bodies, to ensure transparency and proper functioning.
Oversight and Accountability Model	A framework adopted by Parliament to strengthen mechanisms that ensure the executive branch is held accountable for its actions.
Oversight Committees	Specific groups within a parliamentary system tasked with ensuring that government actions, policies, and programs are being implemented effectively and in accordance with the law.

Oversight Function	The role of parliament in monitoring and reviewing the actions of the executive and other public bodies to ensure laws are being implemented as intended.
Oversight Mechanisms	Processes and systems designed to monitor the activities of government and parliamentary functions, ensuring they are carried out according to legal and ethical standards.
Oversight Visits	Official visits conducted by portfolio committees or other parliamentary bodies to observe the implementation of policies, check on government performance, and ensure that services are delivered effectively.
Pan-African Parliament	The legislative body of the African Union (AU), consisting of members from each AU member state, focusing on promoting peace, democracy, and economic integration across the continent.
Parliamentary Administration	Staff and systems supporting the operations of parliament.
Parliamentary Autonomy	Refers to the independence of parliament in managing its own affairs, including setting its rules, procedures, and agenda, without interference from the executive branch.
Parliamentary Bodies	Internal structures of parliament, including committees, caucuses, and governing bodies, through which parliamentary work is organised.
Parliamentary Budget Cycle	The stages through which parliament scrutinises, amends, and approves the national budget, ensuring transparency and accountability in financial decisions.
Parliamentary Budget Office	A non-partisan body in South Africa that provides independent and professional analysis on the national budget, supporting the legislature's role in financial oversight.

Parliamentary Calendar	A schedule that outlines the dates for parliamentary sittings, debates, committee meetings, and other official activities throughout the legislative session.
Parliamentary Committee	A group of members of parliament appointed by parliament to focus on specific legislative areas, such as law-making, oversight of government actions, or financial scrutiny.
Parliamentary Committee of Inquiry	A parliamentary committee in South Africa that investigates specific matters or allegations, often with the power to subpoena witnesses and gather evidence.
Parliamentary committee on Ethics and Member's interests	A committee within parliament that is tasked with overseeing ethical standards and investigating any complaints or violations related to MPs' conduct.
Parliamentary Committees	Structures within parliament responsible for detailed legislative scrutiny, oversight, and public engagement.
Parliamentary Constituency Offices	Offices established to serve as a link between members of parliament and the communities they represent, providing support for constituents and facilitating parliamentary functions at the grassroots level.
Parliamentary Democracy Offices	Offices established to promote democratic engagement and participation, ensuring that parliamentary activities are accessible and inclusive, particularly in underserved areas.
Parliamentary Diplomacy	The practice of members of parliament engaging in international relations through dialogue, mediation, and cooperation to foster understanding between nations.
Parliamentary Effectiveness	The capacity of parliament to carry out its duties, such as passing laws, overseeing the executive, and ensuring that the government acts in the public's best interests.

Parliamentary Environment	The legal, procedural, and cultural context within which public participation takes place.
Parliamentary Ethics	The moral and ethical standards that members of parliament are expected to uphold, including transparency in the use of public resources and the avoidance of conflicts of interest.
Parliamentary Expenditure	Refers to the financial management and accountability of how parliament spends its budget, including members of parliament' salaries, allowances, and office expenses.
Parliamentary Immunity	Legal protections granted to members of parliament, allowing them to speak freely in parliamentary sessions without fear of prosecution or lawsuits for their statements.
Parliamentary Income Reports	Documents detailing the financial benefits, allowances, and resources provided to members of parliament to ensure transparency regarding public expenditure on parliamentary activities.
Parliamentary Inviolability	A form of legal protection for MPs that prevents them from being arrested, detained, or searched without the consent of parliament, usually related to actions performed in their official capacity.
Parliamentary Majority	The political party or coalition with the most seats in parliament, typically forming the government. They usually have the power to pass legislation and set the parliamentary agenda.
Parliamentary Monitoring Group	A South African organisation that tracks parliamentary activities and provides insights into legislative processes. The information provided includes detailed records of South African parliamentary committee meetings, enhancing transparency and public access to parliamentary proceedings.

Parliamentary Oversight	The process by which parliament monitors and reviews the actions and expenditures of the executive branch of government to ensure accountability and transparency.
Parliamentary Oversight Report	An annual publication by OUTA evaluating the performance of Parliament in holding the executive accountable.
Parliamentary Participation Scorecards	Visual tools that track and display the levels of participation by members of parliament, committees, or political groups in parliamentary processes.
Parliamentary Privilege	Special legal immunities and protections granted to members of parliament, allowing them to perform their duties without interference, such as freedom of speech within parliamentary debates.
Parliamentary Procedures	The rules and guidelines that govern how members of parliament conduct debates, make decisions, and maintain records within the legislative framework. These procedures ensure that members of parliament fulfil their legislative duties responsibly.
Parliamentary Session	A period during which parliament meets to conduct its business, such as debating and voting on legislation.
Parliamentary Sovereignty	The principle that parliament is the supreme legal authority, capable of creating or ending any law, subject to limitations set out by a constitution.
ParliMeter	A digital platform developed to enhance transparency in South Africa's parliamentary processes by providing real-time data on parliamentary activities, such as members of parliament attendance and legislative progress.
Participation Rates in Oversight Hearings	Metrics tracking how actively MPs and the public engage in parliamentary oversight activities such as hearings and inquiries.

Participatory Democracy	A form of democracy in which citizens have the power to actively participate in decision-making processes, beyond just voting in elections, often facilitated by technology.
Participatory Governance	A governance approach that emphasises active citizen involvement in public decision-making.
Participatory Innovation	The process of engaging citizens in the co-creation and development of tools or policies, ensuring that they are involved in the decision-making process and have a stake in the outcomes.
Participatory Parliament	Encourages active citizen engagement in the legislative process through public participation, hearings, and consultations.
Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa	The state-owned company that operates the country's rail services.
People's Assembly RepLocator	An online tool that allows citizens to identify their elected representatives based on location or constituency.
People's Assembly	An initiative designed to bring together citizens and parliamentarians, fostering dialogue, understanding, and participation in the legislative process.
Performance Indicators	Metrics used to evaluate the effectiveness or success of policies, programs, or actions, often based on predetermined goals or targets.
Performance Metrics	Quantifiable indicators used to measure the effectiveness and success of government programs, projects, or departments in meeting established goals.

Performance Reviews	The process of assessing the effectiveness, efficiency, and quality of the work performed by an individual, department, or organisation, often with the goal of improvement or accountability.
Petitions	Formal written requests or appeals made to a governing body, typically by citizens, to demand action on specific issues or policies.
Plain Language	Communication that avoids technical jargon to ensure parliamentary information is understandable to the general public.
Plenary	The full assembly of parliament, where all members meet to debate and vote on proposed laws and decisions.
Plenary Sessions	The full assembly of parliament, where key decisions and votes on legislation are made. It is the most visible part of parliamentary work.
Policy Advocacy	The act of supporting or promoting specific policies or legislative changes, often carried out by civil society organisations, researchers, or citizens seeking to influence government decision-making.
Policy Agility	The capacity of parliament to respond quickly and appropriately to changing policy environments.
Policy Evaluation	The process of assessing the effectiveness and impact of policies after they have been implemented, identifying any unintended consequences or areas for improvement.
Policy Formulation	The process of creating or designing policies, strategies, and frameworks to address specific issues, objectives, or challenges within a governance system.
Policy Gaps	Areas where existing policies fail to address certain issues, leaving room for inefficiencies or unaddressed problems that require new or amended policies.

Policy Implementation Challenges	Difficulties faced when attempting to put policies into practice, often due to a lack of resources, poor coordination, or resistance from stakeholders.
Policy Implementation Gap	The disparity between formal policy commitments and actual practice.
Policy Influence	The extent to which public input affects legislative or oversight outcomes.
Policy Integration	The process of combining or aligning different policies to ensure they work together harmoniously and do not contradict each other.
Policy Misalignment	The situation where policies do not align with the objectives, needs, or goals of a government or society, often leading to inefficiency or unproductive outcomes.
Policymaking	Policymaking refers to the process through which governments, organizations, or institutions develop and implement laws, regulations, and guidelines that affect the public. This process involves identifying issues, setting agendas, formulating policies, adopting them, implementing, and evaluating their outcomes. It is influenced by a range of stakeholders including elected officials, civil servants, interest groups, and the public.
Political Accountability	The principle that political leaders and elected representatives must be answerable to the public for their actions and decisions during their term in office.
Political Accountability Mechanisms	Systems or processes that ensure political leaders and institutions are answerable for their decisions and actions, and that they are held responsible for their performance and conduct.
Political Competition	The contest between political parties and candidates for public support and electoral success.

Political Diversity	The representation of a broad range of political parties, ideologies, and viewpoints within parliament.
Political Dynamics	The forces and interactions that shape political behaviour, decisions, and structures, including relationships between political parties, leaders, and institutions.
Political Group Representation	Refers to the distribution and participation of political parties or groups within Parliament and their roles in decision-making processes.
Political Groups	Formal groups of members of parliament organised by party or political affiliation to coordinate activities and pursue shared legislative objectives.
Political Infighting	Internal conflicts and struggles for power within a political group or organisation, often hindering decision-making and policy implementation.
Political Instability	A situation where political systems or institutions experience disruption, often resulting in uncertainty, conflict, or an inability to make decisions effectively.
Political Neutrality	The principle that public institutions and officials should remain impartial and avoid being influenced by political considerations when making decisions or carrying out duties.
Political Party Funding Act	Legislation that governs the disclosure and regulation of political party funding in SA to ensure transparency and accountability in political financing.
Political Patronage	The practice of granting government positions, contracts, or benefits in exchange for political support or loyalty, often leading to inefficiency or corruption.

Political Pluralism	The presence and recognition of multiple political parties, viewpoints, and interests within a democratic system.
Political Point-Scoring	The act of using political situations or decisions to gain political advantage or favour, often at the expense of addressing the actual issue or need.
Political Stability	The condition in which political systems and institutions are functioning effectively and without disruption, allowing for consistent governance and policy implementation.
Political Willpower	The commitment and determination of political leaders to take actions or make decisions necessary to address pressing issues, often in the face of challenges or opposition.
Portfolio Committees	Groups within parliament that oversee the work of government departments and agencies, ensuring accountability and performance.
Post-Legislative Scrutiny	A parliamentary process that reviews the implementation and impact of laws after they have been enacted to ensure they are functioning as intended. A process through which parliaments review and assess the implementation and impact of legislation after it has been enacted.
Presidency Oversight Committee	A specialised parliamentary committee responsible for monitoring the executive branch, including the President, ensuring adherence to governance and accountability standards.
Presidium	A collective governing body in parliament that organises parliamentary work, drafts agendas, and coordinates committee activities. It usually includes the Speaker, Deputy Speaker, and committee chairs.
Presidium Composition Guidelines	Policies outlining the roles and representation of members within the parliamentary presidium, ensuring balanced leadership.

Prevention and Combating of Corrupt Activities Act	SA legislation that defines corrupt activities and outlines measures for combating corruption in both the public and private sectors.
Private Member's Bill	A bill introduced by a member of parliament who is not part of the government, usually from the opposition or backbenchers. These bills have less likelihood of becoming law but are important for raising issues.
Proactive Engagement	The act of taking deliberate and planned actions to address issues or opportunities before they become problems or crises.
Procedural Autonomy	Parliament's authority to adopt and amend its own rules of procedure, ensuring its operations are independent of the executive branch.
Procedural Delays	Delays caused by the administrative or procedural steps required to complete a task or process, such as legislative actions or government decision-making.
Procurement	The process of acquiring goods and services by parliament, subject to legal frameworks that ensure fairness, transparency, and value for money.
Procurement Framework	A set of rules and regulations guiding the acquisition of goods and services within parliament, ensuring compliance with legal and ethical standards.
Professional Development of Members of Parliament	Training and capacity-building activities aimed at improving the skills and effectiveness of parliamentarians in fulfilling their roles.
Professionalism Feedback from Members of Parliament	Evaluations provided by members of parliament regarding the support they receive from parliamentary staff, focusing on efficiency, responsiveness, and professionalism.

Promotion of Access to Information Act	South African legislation that provides the public with the right to access information held by the state or other public bodies, subject to certain limitations.
Promulgation	The formal process by which a law, after being passed by parliament, is signed by the Head of State (e.g., President) and officially enacted or put into effect.
Proportional Representation	A system of electoral representation where seats in parliament are allocated to political parties based on the proportion of votes they receive in an election.
Proportional Representation System	An electoral system where the number of seats a political party receives in parliament corresponds to the number of votes they receive in elections.
Proportionality	The principle that seats or positions should be allocated in proportion to electoral support or representation levels.
Protection of Personal Information Act	A South African law aimed at protecting personal information held by public and private bodies, balancing transparency with privacy.
Proxy Voting	A system that allows members of parliament to have their votes cast by another member of parliament if they are unable to attend the parliamentary session.
Public Access Incident Reports	Records of issues encountered by the public in accessing parliamentary premises or information, used to improve accessibility.
Public accessibility	How easy it is for ordinary people to access Parliament, its information, meetings, and participation opportunities.

Public Accountability	The obligation of government bodies, including parliament, to be answerable to the public, with transparency and justification for actions taken on behalf of citizens.
Public Accountability Framework	A set of principles, tools, and processes designed to hold public officials, government entities, and organisations accountable for their actions, especially regarding the use of public resources.
Public Accounts Committee	A parliamentary committee responsible for overseeing the government's financial activities, ensuring transparency and accountability in the use of public funds.
Public Accounts Follow-Up Actions	Steps taken by Parliament to ensure that government departments implement the recommendations made by the Public Accounts Committee.
Public Authorities	State institutions or officials with responsibility for administering, regulating, or overseeing public processes such as elections.
Public Budget Consultation Sessions	Open forums or meetings where citizens and stakeholders can provide input or feedback on budget proposals before their approval in Parliament.
Public Consultation	A process by which parliament seeks input from the public on proposed constitutional amendments or other significant legislative changes.
Public Education Office	A body responsible for educating the public about parliamentary functions and promoting public participation in legislative processes.
Public Engagement	The active participation of the public in governance, decision-making, and accountability processes, aimed at improving the responsiveness and legitimacy of government actions.

Public Engagement Feedback Summaries	Reports consolidating feedback received from public consultations, hearings, or outreach events.
Public Finance Management Act	South African legislation that regulates the financial management of national and provincial government departments, ensuring fiscal discipline, accountability, and transparency.
Public Health Crises	Events or situations that significantly affect public health, such as pandemics, disease outbreaks, or inadequate healthcare systems, requiring urgent government response and intervention.
Public Hearing	An official meeting where citizens can express views on a matter before a parliamentary committee.
Public Hearings	Sessions held by parliamentary committees or plenaries to gather public input on specific issues, bills, or policies.
Public Input	Submissions, evidence, opinions, or feedback provided by the public during parliamentary processes.
Public Involvement Index	A tool used to measure the level of public participation in parliamentary processes, aiming to improve engagement and ensure that legislative actions reflect the needs of the population.
Public Participation	Public participation involves the process by which individuals or groups engage in decision-making activities, particularly in the context of governance and policymaking. It allows citizens to contribute their perspectives, ensuring that policies reflect the needs and priorities of diverse groups, especially marginalised communities. This can occur through public consultations, hearings, community forums, or collaborative policymaking processes.

Public Participation in Oversight	The involvement of citizens in monitoring parliamentary oversight activities, often through public hearings and consultations.
Public Participation Mechanisms	The structures or methods through which the public can engage with and contribute to government decision-making processes, such as consultations, hearings, or surveys.
Public Participation Model	A proposed framework to ensure that citizens have a meaningful opportunity to participate in legislative processes, enabling greater transparency and inclusivity in decision-making.
Public Participation Office	A parliamentary unit responsible for coordinating and managing public engagement activities.
Public Participation Services	A unit within parliament designed to enhance public engagement, allowing citizens to participate in legislative processes through hearings and submissions.
Public Participation Standards	Guidelines for involving the public in legislative and policy-making processes, ensuring that citizens have a meaningful opportunity to provide input on decisions affecting their lives.
Public Participation Unit	A unit within Parliament designed to enhance public engagement, allowing citizens to participate in legislative processes through hearings and submissions.
Public Procurement	The processes parliament uses to acquire goods and services, which must be transparent, competitive, and in line with legal guidelines.
Public Procurement Compliance	Refers to the adherence to procurement processes that ensure transparency, fairness, and efficiency in the use of public funds for goods and services.

Public Protector of South Africa	An independent constitutional body that investigates complaints from the public regarding government actions or decisions, particularly in cases of maladministration or violations of human rights.
Public Scrutiny	The process of examining, investigating, or inspecting the actions, decisions, or policies of the government or organisations by the public and media.
Public Sector Capacity	The resources, skills, and systems that government agencies and institutions have at their disposal to carry out their mandates and deliver services to the public.
Public Sector Capacity Gaps	The difference between the required capabilities of government institutions and their actual ability to perform tasks or deliver services, often due to insufficient resources, training, or staff.
Public Sector Reform	Changes made to improve the efficiency, accountability, and responsiveness of government organisations and services, aimed at delivering better outcomes for citizens.
Public Services	Services provided by the government or state to its citizens, including education, healthcare, sanitation, and public safety.
Public Sphere Theory	A theoretical framework that suggests open communication between the state and the public enhances democratic governance by allowing citizens to participate in deliberation and oversight.
Public Submissions	A process where citizens and stakeholders can provide input on proposed laws, ensuring public participation in the legislative process.
Public Trust	The confidence that citizens have in government institutions to act in the public's best interest, often enhanced by transparency, accountability, and effective communication.

Public Trust Erosion	The gradual loss of confidence by citizens in their government or public institutions, often due to corruption, inefficiency, or a lack of transparency.
Public Works Programme	A government initiative to create work opportunities for vulnerable groups by engaging them in community development projects aimed at improving public infrastructure and services.
Question Time	A dedicated period during parliamentary sessions when MPs are allowed to ask questions to the Prime Minister, ministers, or other members of the executive, holding them accountable for their actions.
Questions to Ministers	A formal mechanism allowing members of parliament to question government ministers, holding them accountable for their departments' actions and decisions.
Quorum	The minimum number of Members of Parliament (MPs) required to be present for parliamentary business to be conducted legitimately.
Quorum Failure	Occurs when the minimum number of members required to hold a parliamentary session is not met, invalidating proceedings.
Quota System	A measure used to increase representation by reserving or encouraging a certain proportion of seats or candidates for particular groups.
Real-Time Attendance Tracker	A dashboard feature monitoring and displaying members of parliament' presence or absence during ongoing parliamentary sessions.
Real-Time Data	Information that is delivered immediately after collection, without delay, allowing users to track ongoing processes, such as parliamentary activities, as they happen.
Real-Time Quorum Counter	A feature of the parliamentary dashboard that monitors and displays quorum status during active sessions to ensure compliance.

Re-assessment	The process of evaluating or reviewing something again to determine if adjustments or changes are necessary.
Record-Keeping	The systematic process of documenting parliamentary decisions, debates, and other activities to ensure transparency and accountability.
Records Management	The systematic process of creating, storing, categorising, and disposing of documents and records in parliament to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficient operation.
Recurrent Issues	Problems or challenges that repeatedly arise and require consistent attention, often highlighting gaps in the system or governance.
Reform	A change or improvement made to a system, policy, or process to make it more effective or fair.
Regulatory Environment	The set of rules, laws, and regulations that govern how organisations, businesses, and governments operate, especially in relation to their responsibilities to the public.
Regulatory Framework	A system of rules, regulations, and standards designed to guide and control the actions of government entities, businesses, or other institutions.
Regulatory Impact Assessment	An evaluation of the social, economic, and environmental effects of proposed legislation.
Regulatory Oversight	The process of monitoring and enforcing compliance with laws, regulations, and standards set by government agencies or regulatory bodies.
Representation of Political Diversity	Ensures that parliament reflects the political diversity of the population through proportional representation in elections.

Representative Parliament	A parliament that accurately reflects the diversity of society and is capable of representing the interests of all citizens, including minority groups.
Representativity	The extent to which parliamentary processes reflect the diversity of the population.
Resource Allocation	The distribution or assignment of available resources (e.g., financial, human, material) to different sectors, departments, or projects based on priority and needs.
Resource Mobilisation	The process of gathering and managing resources (financial, human, or material) to support programs, projects, or policies, ensuring that adequate resources are available for their execution.
Resource Scarcity	The condition in which there is insufficient availability of resources, such as funds, personnel, or materials, to meet the needs of programs or services.
Resources Allocation	The distribution or assignment of financial, human, or material resources to various programs, departments, or activities within an organisation or government.
Responsive Parliament	Engages with the public's concerns and responds to emerging issues through legislative and policy-making actions.
Road Traffic Infringement Agency	An entity that manages and enforces road traffic violations in South Africa.
Road Traffic Management Corporation	A state-owned corporation responsible for road traffic safety and enforcement in South Africa.

Rules of Procedure	Formal guidelines that govern the conduct, structure, and processes of parliamentary sessions, including debates, voting, and the passing of legislation.
Ruling Party	The political party or coalition that holds the majority of power in parliament and forms government.
Rural Communities	Populations located outside urban centres that often face greater barriers to parliamentary participation.
Sanctions	Penalties or measures taken against individuals, groups, or entities that fail to comply with laws, rules, or regulations.
Second Reading	A key stage in the legislative process where the general principles and purpose of a bill are debated in parliament. It is often followed by a vote on whether the bill should proceed.
Sector Education and Training Authorities	Bodies responsible for managing skills development within specific sectors of the South African economy.
Sector Oversight Model	A strategic framework designed to enhance the oversight function of parliament by providing clear guidelines and methods for monitoring and evaluating government performance across different sectors.
Sectoral Committee	A parliamentary committee focused on specific sectors such as health, education, or finance, tasked with monitoring and making recommendations on issues within their domain.
Security Legislation Logs	Records of all bills and laws related to national security, including their development, debate, and outcomes.
Select Committee	A parliamentary committee appointed to investigate and report on specific issues, such as public administration or human rights. Select committees play a vital role in scrutinising government activities.

Service Backlog	The accumulation of unmet demands or delayed services, often due to inefficiencies, resource shortages, or system failures.
Service Delivery	The provision of public services to citizens, including essential services such as water, sanitation, education, and healthcare.
Session Agenda Logs	Detailed records of items scheduled and discussed during parliamentary sessions, ensuring transparency and documentation.
Session Convening Policies	Guidelines outlining the procedures for calling and organising parliamentary sessions, ensuring orderly legislative business.
Social Contract	The unwritten agreement between the government and its citizens, where the government agrees to protect and serve the public while the citizens agree to abide by the laws and contribute to societal well-being.
Social Justice	The constitutional principle of fairness, equality, and dignity in public policy and governance.
Social Media	Platforms such as X, Facebook, and Instagram used by parliament to communicate with the public and engage citizens in dialogue.
Social Media Outreach Metrics	Tools tracking Parliament's engagement with the public via social media platforms, including reach, interactions, and sentiment analysis.
Socio-Economic	Socio-economic refers to the interrelationship between social and economic factors. This term is often used to describe issues where both social and economic elements are at play, such as poverty, unemployment, income inequality, and access to education or healthcare. Policies aimed at addressing socio-economic disparities often focus on improving economic opportunities and social welfare for disadvantaged populations.

South African Airways	The national airline of South Africa.
South African Broadcasting Corporation	The state-owned public broadcaster in South Africa.
South African Human Rights Commission	A constitutional body promoting and protecting human rights in South Africa.
South African National Parks	An organisation that manages national parks in South Africa.
Speaker	The presiding officer in the South African National Assembly, responsible for maintaining order during parliamentary debates and ensuring that parliamentary rules and procedures are followed.
Speaker's Ruling Logs	Records documenting the decisions and rulings made by the Speaker of parliament during sessions, ensuring procedural fairness and order.
Speaker's Ruling	A formal decision made by the Speaker of parliament on matters of procedure or conduct within the chamber, ensuring that parliamentary rules are followed.
Special Investigating Unit	A government agency tasked with investigating and preventing corruption and other serious financial misconduct within state bodies.
Specialised Committees	Parliamentary committees focused on specific areas such as defence, health, or finance, tasked with scrutinising related government activities and ensuring accountability.
Stakeholder	Any individual or group that has an interest in or is affected by the decisions and actions of parliament.

Stakeholder Consultation Timelines	Schedules detailing when and how public or stakeholder consultations will occur during legislative, budget, or policy processes.
Stakeholder Engagement	The process of interacting with individuals, groups, or organisations that have an interest in or are affected by a particular policy or decision, in order to inform and guide decision-making.
Stakeholder Feedback Mechanism	Systems put in place by Parliament to collect opinions, suggestions, and concerns from citizens, civil society, and other stakeholders.
Stakeholders	Individuals, groups, or organisations with an interest in a particular issue, policy, or project, including the public, government bodies, businesses, and civil society organisations.
Standing Committee	A permanent committee in parliament responsible for reviewing and scrutinising specific areas of legislation or government functions.
Standing Committee on Public Accounts	A South African parliamentary committee tasked with reviewing the financial activities of government departments and entities to ensure public funds are used efficiently and effectively.
Standing Orders	The formal written rules governing the proceedings and operations of parliament, including how members participate and how decisions are made.
State Capture	A form of systemic corruption where private interests influence state decision-making for personal gain. It was widely discussed in the context of the Zondo Commission and its findings.
State Failure	A situation in which a government is unable to meet the basic needs of its citizens, maintain control over its territory, or ensure public safety and order.

State of Emergency	A government-declared condition that temporarily enhances the executive's powers in response to a national crisis, subject to parliamentary oversight.
State-Owned Companies	Entities owned and operated by the government, often involved in key industries like energy, transport, and telecommunications, which are subject to parliamentary oversight to ensure proper governance and accountability.
State-Owned Entities	Companies or organisations that are owned or controlled by the government, typically involved in providing essential public services or infrastructure.
Strategic Oversight	A form of oversight that focuses on ensuring that government or organisational strategies and objectives are being achieved effectively, often through periodic reviews and assessments.
Strategic Oversight Planning	The process of organising and structuring oversight activities to align with long-term goals and priorities, ensuring that resources are used effectively to monitor government performance.
Strategic Planning	The process of defining long-term goals and determining the best course of action to achieve those goals, often used in the context of governance and policy development.
Strategic Priorities	Key goals or objectives that an organisation or government sets as a focus for its efforts, often identified as critical for long-term success or addressing major issues.
Structural Reform	Fundamental changes to the way an organisation or government operates, often aimed at improving efficiency, accountability, or addressing systemic issues.

Subpoena Power	The authority of parliamentary committees to compel individuals or organisations to provide documents or testimony in legal or investigative matters.
Substantive Oversight	A form of oversight focused on the effectiveness and outcomes of government actions, policies, and programs, rather than just procedural or technical checks.
Supermajority	A voting requirement that exceeds a simple majority, often used in constitutional amendments or other significant decisions requiring broader consensus.
Supplementary Question	A follow-up question asked by a member of parliament during question time, often to clarify or challenge the response provided by a government minister.
Supreme Audit Institution	A national institution responsible for auditing government accounts and ensuring that public funds are managed and spent according to legal requirements and policy goals.
Sustainability in Civic Technology	The ability of a digital tool to adapt over time, maintaining relevance and functionality while responding to evolving user needs, technological advancements, and governance challenges.
Sustainable Development Goals	A set of global goals established by the United Nations to address challenges like poverty, inequality, and climate change by 2030, with SDG 16 focusing on building effective, accountable institutions.
Sustainable Funding Models	Approaches for ensuring that projects, programs, or government initiatives have sufficient and reliable funding over the long term, often through diverse sources or financial strategies.

Systemic Inefficiencies	Problems within an organisation or system that arise due to fundamental flaws in structure, processes, or operations, hindering overall performance and effectiveness.
Systemic Issues	Problems that arise from the way a system or institution operates, affecting its overall functioning, and often requiring structural changes to resolve.
Systemic Reforms	Large-scale changes aimed at addressing the underlying causes of systemic issues within institutions, organisations, or governance frameworks.
Taking Parliament to the People	An outreach initiative where parliament engages directly with citizens by holding sessions in various regions, promoting inclusivity.
Technical and Vocational Education and Training	Education and training that is focused on practical skills and vocational knowledge.
Third Reading	The final stage in the parliamentary debate on a bill, focusing on the final text, after which a final vote is held to either pass or reject the bill.
Trans-Caledon Tunnel Authority	A government agency involved in overseeing water projects like the Lesotho Highlands Water Project.
Transformative Constitutionalism	The constitutional project of redressing historical injustice and achieving substantive equality.
Transparency	The principle of making government actions and decisions accessible and understandable to the public, often through open reporting and public access to information.
Transparency Checkpoints	Specific points in legislative and budgetary processes where information must be made publicly available to ensure openness and accountability.

Transparency International	A global non-governmental organisation that promotes transparency and fights corruption in government and the private sector through advocacy, research, and policy recommendations.
Transparency Mechanisms	Institutional measures that promote openness, access to information, and public accountability.
Transparency Metrics	Key performance indicators used to measure how open and accessible parliamentary processes are to the public and stakeholders.
Transparency of Parliamentary Work	Refers to the openness of parliamentary operations, where decisions, processes, and information are made available to the public.
Transparency of the Legislative Process	Ensuring the public has access to parliamentary debates, reports, and legislative proceedings through broadcasts, public hearings, and the parliamentary website.
Transparency Tools	Methods or technologies used to increase visibility and openness of government activities, often through digital platforms or public reports.
Transparent Parliament	Ensures public access to parliamentary debates, processes, and records to maintain openness and accountability.
Treasury Advice Office	An office within parliament that provides guidance and advice on financial matters, including budgeting, expenditures, and financial governance, to support effective decision-making.
Underfunded	When a program, department, or project does not receive sufficient financial resources to carry out its activities effectively.
Underrepresented groups	Groups that are not adequately present or influential in decision-making spaces.

Unfunded Mandates	Obligations or responsibilities assigned to government bodies or organisations without providing the necessary financial resources to fulfil them.
Unicameral System	A parliamentary structure with a single legislative chamber responsible for passing laws, as opposed to a bicameral system.
United Nations Convention Against Corruption	An international treaty aimed at combating corruption globally, promoting effective anti-corruption measures and fostering international cooperation.
Universal Periodic Review	A UN process by which the human rights records of South Africa, and other member states, are reviewed and discussed with the goal of improving national human rights practices.
Universal Suffrage	The right of all eligible adult citizens to vote, without unfair discrimination.
Urgent Question	A fast-tracked inquiry submitted by MPs requiring immediate executive response.
User Engagement	The degree to which users interact with and remain involved in a platform over time, influenced by factors such as accessibility, relevance, and interactivity.
User-Centered Design	A design approach that focuses on the needs, preferences, and limitations of end-users, ensuring that digital tools are intuitive and accessible to a diverse audience.
Valuing Public Concerns	A parliamentary practice of listening to and acting on citizen input.
Veto	The power of the President or Head of State to reject a bill passed by parliament, typically subject to the ability of parliament to override the veto with a larger majority.

Virtual Hearings	Committee meetings conducted online to enable remote public participation.
Virtual Sessions	Parliamentary sessions held online or remotely, typically using video conferencing tools, allowing MPs to participate in discussions and decision-making without being physically present.
Vote of Confidence	A parliamentary vote to determine whether the executive (government) still has the support of the majority of members of parliament. If the vote fails, it may lead to the resignation of the government or a dissolution of parliament.
Voter Apathy	A lack of interest or motivation among citizens to participate in elections or political processes.
Voter education	Information that helps people understand elections, voting rights and how to participate.
Voter Representation	The principle that elected representatives in parliament should act in the best interests of their constituents, ensuring diverse and inclusive representation.
Voter Turnout	The percentage of eligible voters who participate in an election, which serves as an indicator of public engagement and trust in democratic processes.
Voting Mechanism	The procedures and systems by which MPs cast votes on legislative matters, often involving physical or electronic systems to record individual decisions.
Voting Procedure Guidelines	Documentation detailing the rules governing how votes are conducted in parliament, including quorum requirements, and voting methods.

Voting Record(s)	Documentation of how individual members of parliament or political groups voted on specific bills, providing transparency and accountability in legislative decisions.
Web Accessibility	The practice of making digital content, including parliamentary websites, accessible to people with disabilities.
Website Accessibility	The extent to which citizens can easily navigate and use parliament's digital platforms.
Westminster Foundation for Democracy	A UK-based organisation that promotes democratic governance and supports the development of political systems and parliamentary institutions.
Whip	An MP responsible for ensuring party discipline and voting alignment within their party, often providing guidance to members on how to vote on important matters.
Whistleblower	An individual who exposes wrongdoing, unethical practices, or illegal activities within an organisation or government, often protected by law from retaliation.
Whistleblower Protection	Legal safeguards that protect individuals who report unethical or illegal activities within government institutions from retaliation.
Whistleblower Protection Guidelines	Policies designed to protect individuals who report corruption or misconduct from retaliation, ensuring a safe environment for disclosure.
Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities	A parliamentary committee focused on the rights and issues of women, youth, and people with disabilities.
Workforce Diversity	The representation of different genders, races, abilities, and backgrounds within the parliamentary administration.

Work-Life Balance	Institutional measures enabling MPs and staff to balance parliamentary duties with personal responsibilities.
Workplace Dignity	The right of MPs and staff to a professional environment free from harassment and discrimination.
Youth and Gender Empowerment	Legislative efforts focused on improving opportunities for young people and women, addressing issues like employment, education, and gender-based violence, and promoting equal participation in society.
Youth Engagement	Specific efforts by parliament to include young people in democratic processes.
Youth Inclusion	The involvement of young people in parliamentary processes, both through youth representation in Parliament and through platforms such as Youth Parliament.
Youth Participation Dashboard	A feature for the parliamentary dashboard that tracks and visualises the involvement of young people in parliamentary processes and outreach activities.
Zondo Commission	Officially known as the Judicial Commission of Inquiry into Allegations of State Capture, this was a commission of inquiry set up to investigate allegations of corruption in South Africa's government and state-owned enterprises.