# Finnish Expatriate Parliament 10th Session

Finnish Expatriate Parliament – a joint cooperative *forum* of expatriate Finnish organisations decides on matters important to Finns living abroad. The FEP is a *medium* through which their joint decisions reach decision makers in Finland. As a *lobbyist organisation* the FEP promotes expatriate Finnish views and improvement of conditions. 543 expatriate Finnish organisations in 37 countries follow FEP activities. Due to the global Covid-19 pandemic, the 10. Session in 2021 will be held long-distance, as an on-line Session.

**Participation**

All expatriate Finns and Finns abroad – whether they hold Finnish citizenship or not – are entitled to participate in the Finnish Expatriate Parliament through their local Finnish expatriate association. **An association which ratified FEP by-laws, can send its representative to the Parliament Session**. An association with over 500 members may send two representatives. An association with membership exceeding 1 000, can send three reps. Associations can send session observers. They do not have voting right but have right of speech at committees on committee permission.

**Joining the Finnish Expatriate Parliament**

There are no financial advantages or burdens attached to joining the FEP. To join the FEP work, an association ratifies FEP by-laws and standing order. This entitles an association to participate in the FEP by sending their representatives to the plenary session and, to submit initiatives.

**Initiatives**

FEP activities are based on initiatives made by Finnish expatriate organizations for resolutions, to be adopted by the Parliament Session. Initiatives are submitted to Finland Society no later than three months prior to the session. During the Session, they are drafted into motions for resolutions, which the plenary session debates and either adopts or dismisses. Resolutions guide the work of FEP Speakers’ Council and Finland Society.

The previous 9th Session, a 20th anniversary Session in June 2017 adopted 56 resolutions. From 21 countries, 186 representatives and 74 official observers (260 participants) represented 193 expatriate Finnish organisations**.** Present were also invited guests and expatriate press. The resolution compilation is given to the Prime Minister, whose office sends it to a round of commentary in the Government. The 10th Session in 2021 will be situated in **Finland Village, open 7.-13.6.2021** to all by Finland Society.

**More about the 10th Session:** [**usp.fi**](https://suomi-seura.fi/fep-welcome-page-www-usp-fi/)

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**FEP advocacy work is part of Finland Society services to Finns abroad – like Finland Village (Suomi-kylä):** [**suomi-seura.fi**](https://suomi-seura.fi/en/)

**TIMETABLE, the 10th SESSION**

**10.12.2020** Invitations sent to FEP associations

**10.3.2021** Registration deadline for organisations and Initiatives

**29.4.2021** Registration deadline for individual participants: names & choice of Committee

**10.5.2021** Summary of Initiatives, Activity report and session Agenda to participants

**7.-13.6.2021** **FINLAND VILLAGE**

virtual village by Finland Society

**5.-10.6.2021** Regional on-line meetings for Session preparation. 6.6. Speakers’ Council preparatory on-line meeting

**10.6.2021** Ev. Lut. Church of Finland, Ministry of Finns Abroad: video service

11. - 12.6. PLENARY SESSION on-line Session

**12.9.2021** Session minutes sent to all participants & organisations

***Welcome in 2021!***

***Finnish Expatriate Parliament***

***Finland Society***

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 *Ulkosuomalaisparlamentti*

11-12 June 2021, on-line session Helsinkndia Hall

