

Parliamentary Responses COVID-19 – April 25 – 1 May 2020

Countries (A to Z)	Parliamentary Responses to COVID-19	Relevant links
Australia	Within the context of COVID-19, the South Australian parliament passed a law in parliament that makes full vaccination of children up to the age of six compulsory: children that do not meet requirements will be banned from childcare.	https://7news.com.au/lifestyle/health-wellbeing/no-jab-no-play-vaccination-legislation-passes-sa-parliament-c-1008593
Canada	Canadian parliament held its first virtual meeting on Tuesday, with 280 of Canada's 338 MPs connected, and will parliamentary meetings twice a week following the success of this first meeting. Remote voting however is not currently allowed.	https://www.politico.com/news/2020/04/28/canadian-parliament-gathers-virtually-219155
China	The National People's Congress (NPC) will be meeting in May following a two-month delay, to signal the pandemic is under control. Parliament is expecting 3,000 delegates from across the country.	https://edition.cnn.com/2020/04/29/asia/china-npc-meeting-resume-intl-hnk/index.html
Czech Republic	The lower house of the Czech parliament voted to extend the state of emergency until May 17, a week earlier than anticipated as the country plans to reopen the economy.	https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-czech/czech-parliament-backs-short-emergency-extension-as-lockdown-seen-ending-early-idUSKCN22A30V
France	The French National Assembly voted and approved on Tuesday the government lockdown exit strategy, with 368 MPs voting for, 100 against and 103 abstaining.	https://www.lefigaro.fr/politique/de-confinement-l-assemblee-nationale-approuve-largement-le-plan-du-gouvernement-20200428
Japan	Parliament will be passing an extra \$241 billion budget to fund cash payouts and loans to firms in the country. This will fund part of the 41.1 trillion stimulus package Prime Minister Shinzo Abe unveiled in early April.	https://whbl.com/news/articles/2020/apr/30/japans-parliament-to-pass-241-billion-extra-budget-to-combat-pandemic-fallout/1012701/

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Morocco	<p>The parliament of Morocco approved a decision on Thursday to suspend a foreign debt ceiling of \$3 billion, allowing the country to increase its borrowing to face the economic impact of the pandemic.</p> <p>In April, Morocco had already reached their limit as they drew a liquidity line of \$3 billion from the IMF to finance balance of payments.</p>	https://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL8N2CIA3W
Tanzania	<p>Parliament has been suspended following the second death of a legislator in the past 10 days from coronavirus.</p> <p>Three parliamentary sub-committees have met this week to call for quick government action to stimulate business activities.</p>	https://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Tanzania-parliament-suspended-another-lawmaker-dies/688334-5538876-2xj4j1/index.html https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/business/Tanzanian-firms-call-for-bailout-as-earnings-dip-economy-slows/2560-5534428-irnd9z/index.html