



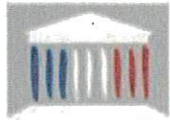
*Congreso de los Diputados*

**REUNIÓN DE PRESIDENTES DE COMISIONES DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES DE  
PARLAMENTOS EUROPEOS.  
PARÍS.  
28 DE MAYO DE 2026**

El día 28 de mayo de 2026 tuvo lugar en París una reunión de Presidentes de las comisiones de Asuntos Exteriores de Parlamentos Europeos convocada por el Presidente de la de la Asamblea Nacional Sr.D. Bruno Fuchs.

Acudió a la misma el Vicepresidente Segundo de la Comisión de Asuntos Exteriores del Congreso de los Diputados D. Carlos Rojas García, quien estuvo asistido por el Letrado de la Comisión D. Manuel Alba Navarro.

Se adjunta el informe de la Comisión elaborado por los servicios de la Comisión anfitriona.



**ASSEMBLÉE  
NATIONALE**

COMMISSION DES  
AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES

*Laurent Saunier*

RÉPUBLIQUE FRANÇAISE  
LIBERTÉ-ÉGALITÉ-FRATERNITÉ

Paris, 8 June 2026

## Synthesis

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*Subject: Key points from the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Conference of Chairs of the Foreign Affairs Committees of European Parliaments, organised by the President of the Foreign Affairs Committee at the French National Assembly*

On 28 May 2026, the second edition of the conference of the chairs of the foreign affairs committees of European parliaments was held at the National Assembly on the initiative of President Bruno Fuchs, following the inaugural session in Strasbourg on 27 November 2025. The key points from the discussions between the participants, a list of whom is provided in the annex, are summarised below.

### **1. Opening remarks by President Bruno Fuchs**

At the start of the meeting, **President Bruno Fuchs** expressed his pleasure at welcoming his counterparts, both in person and remotely, to the conference. He noted that the French Minister for Foreign Affairs had conveyed his great satisfaction regarding the holding of this event and that he would have liked to speak at it had he not been prevented from doing so by commitments abroad. He then added that the Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine would be joining the meeting at some point for a discussion.

Noting that Europe was under attack from all sides, President Bruno Fuchs considered it important to defend the European vision and project against the attacks and attempts at fragmentation to which they are being subjected. He believed that it was the responsibility of parliamentarians, who represent citizens, to commit themselves to defending the sovereignty of Europeans, their values and their rights. He concluded by stating that this conference, by facilitating in-depth discussions on a wide range of topics, met this need.

### **2. Open discussion on current challenges and priority areas for action and reflection**

**Mr Armin Laschet**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Bundestag, described the conference as a major innovation, as no meeting of this kind had taken place for decades. Referring to the various crises plaguing the international situation, he

considered it important to be able to share views, particularly on the issue of Ukraine and on relations with the United States. He concluded by calling for greater European sovereignty, but also for greater competitiveness across the continent, as advocated in the Draghi report.

**Ms Christine Schwartz-Fuchs, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Federal Council of Austria**, expressed concern about the rise in scepticism towards democracies and Europe. She also expressed the hope that prospects for integration into the European Union would be offered to the Western Balkan states and Moldova.

**Mr Pavel Fischer, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Czech Senate**, considered it necessary to discuss strategy given such a heavy international agenda. He hoped that this type of meeting would continue and declared himself ready to invite the participants to Prague for a further session in a year's time.

**Mr Harris Georgiades, outgoing Chair of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs of the House of Representatives of Cyprus**, whose term of office has just come to an end, called for a better shared understanding of the concerns of each European Union Member State, as the Eastern Mediterranean is a source of concern for Cyprus. He called for unity, which is a source of strength.

**Mr Marko Mikhelson, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu of Estonia**, welcomed this opportunity to address strategic issues. He considered it necessary to keep dialogue formats as informal as possible. Referring to the war in Ukraine, which is raging across the European continent, he expressed the hope that the link between the chairs of the foreign affairs committees would not be limited to meetings but that it might also take the form of more direct channels, such as a Signal group.

**Mr Peter Frølich, Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of the Parliament of Norway**, emphasised that the European continent as a whole, to which Norway belongs, faces enormous security challenges. He noted that €200 billion will be allocated to the defence of the Kingdom of Norway over the coming years. He also mentioned Norway's contribution to the European Union's energy security, illustrating the ties that bind his country to the EU-27.

**Ms Elza Pais, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal**, emphasised the challenges that threaten the security and stability of the foundations of the European order. She called for a strengthening of European security, particularly in the context of the war in Ukraine. She also stressed the need to safeguard Europe's energy supplies in order to make it more resilient.

**Mr Pawel Kowal, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Sejm of Poland**, emphasised that the war in Ukraine is having an impact on European countries, as illustrated by drone and missile incursions on Europe's eastern flank. He announced that on 10 May 2027, the Marshal of the Sejm will organise a conference on the new security and defence framework in Europe and called on participants to support this initiative.

**Ms Emily Thornberry, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom**, emphasised the need for a review of defence and security

capabilities in Europe, in a world order undergoing radical upheaval. She condemned Russian initiatives (attacks on undersea cables, cyberattacks, assassinations, etc.) aimed at establishing a 'polar' and undemocratic order. She called for the establishment of rules, particularly in the commercial sphere. Whilst an estimated 253,000 Russian soldiers are reported to have died in Ukraine, the fighting continues and Ukrainian soldiers are giving their lives to defend Europe. Ms Emily Thornberry concluded by emphasising that the United Kingdom wishes to work with the Member States of the European Union to strengthen the continent's security and defence.

**Mr Grzegorz Schetyna, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Senate of Poland**, has called for the swift release of the €90 billion loan to Ukraine. Referring to the growing sentiment in Europe that one can only rely on oneself, he argued that the European Union must demonstrate its value through concrete results.

**Mr Maurizio Gasparri, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Italian Senate**, noted that many consider social spending to be more important than military spending. He argued that European countries must allocate more public funds to defence and emphasised that the Italian government had called for greater flexibility in the implementation of the Stability and Growth Pact. He considered it necessary for European parliaments to cooperate more closely.

**Mr Gusty Graas, Chair of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg**, identified three main challenges to be addressed: increasing defence spending to 5% of gross domestic product (GDP), in line with the standards agreed at the summit of Heads of State and Government of the North Atlantic Alliance in Washington; the war in Ukraine; the enlargement of the European Union to include the Western Balkans, Ukraine and Moldova. He expressed his pleasure at being able to engage in an ongoing dialogue on these issues.

**Mr Carlos Rojas García, Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Congress of Deputies of Spain**, emphasised the significance of the items on the agenda: the increase in defence efforts and Ukraine. He considered it important for parliamentarians to exchange views in order to better convince the public of the validity of the policies adopted to strengthen the Atlantic Alliance as well as European defence. He stressed that defence also helps to preserve the rule of law, democracy and European values.

**Mr Márton Hadju, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly**, stated that he was a member of the new majority in the Hungarian National Assembly, which had won 57% of the vote in the last election. He declared himself ready to endorse the remarks made earlier, considering that the Hungarian people had wished to put an end to sixteen years of Russian-influenced rule. He believed that Hungary's place is within the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and declared his commitment to the rule of law. To convince the Hungarian people of the validity of his commitment to the European Union, Brussels must nevertheless quickly demonstrate that the Union is of benefit to Budapest, notably by unblocking the funds frozen during Orbán's term of office. Mr Márton Hadju finally expressed the view that enlargement, particularly towards the countries of the Western Balkans, was necessary.

### **3. Working session on the main challenges and areas for action for Ukraine**

At the start of this session, **Mr Oleksandr Merejko, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Policy and Interparliamentary Cooperation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**, expressed his gratitude to the audience for all the support given to his country. Referring to the €90 billion loan granted by the European Union member states, he argued that it would enable his country to continue fighting to win. Regarding the front line, he noted that the situation had generally stabilised, even though the distance to cover was 1,700 kilometres. Recently, Russian forces have not gained ground, which shows that Ukraine is winning the war. Moreover, Putin realises he is losing ground, which is prompting him to step up strikes against civilians and infrastructure, but he will not succeed in undermining Ukrainian resilience. President Oleksandr Merejko also called for his country's integration into the European Union, noting that it already meets the criteria for this.

**Mr Hadju Gabor, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Romanian Chamber of Deputies**, emphasised the importance of maintaining a direct relationship with Ukraine, similar to the exchanges established within inter-parliamentary assemblies such as that of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). He considered that, in addition to Ukraine, assistance should not overlook the case of the Republic of Moldova. Referring to the domestic situation in Romania, he stated that the pro-European coalition in power would remain so, despite the crisis triggered by the recent vote of no confidence in the government. He concluded by emphasising the need both for a stronger Europe and for closer transatlantic ties, which would entail exchanges with members of the US Congress, which also includes many friends of Europe.

**Mr Marko Mikhelson, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu of Estonia**, stated that the Ukrainian issue was of existential importance for Europe and that it was at a critical juncture. He emphasised that Russia would not compromise unless forced to do so. He called for caution regarding Russian blackmail, which involves dangling the prospect of talks before certain capitals, as no meaningful outcome can be expected, given that Russia's objective is to build an empire and destroy Europe. To ensure that the Russians never attack a European country or a member of the Alliance, Ukraine must win.

**Mr Karsten Hønge, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Folketinget of Denmark**, indicated that the outgoing Prime Minister would likely soon lead a centre-left government in the country. Recalling the 'Greenland moment' at the start of 2026, he emphasised that the attitude of the US authorities could create insecurity. He expressed his gratitude to Denmark's European friends, who had helped the Kingdom to oppose US ambitions.

**Mr Oleksandr Merejko, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Policy and Interparliamentary Cooperation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**, confirmed that his committee would make its first overseas visit to Romania, followed by another to Estonia.

**Mr Remigijus Motuzas, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Seimas of Lithuania**, welcomed the unity shown by representatives of both European Union member states and non-member states in the face of major challenges concerning the territorial integrity of a country undergoing aggression in complete violation of international law. He called for increased pressure on Russia, which has not fundamentally changed. He expressed the hope that sanctions would continue and be stepped up.

**Mr Márton Hadju, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly**, stated that Ukraine is the victim and Russia its aggressor, and noted that Kyiv was responding appropriately. Whilst emphasising Tisza's support for the Ukrainian cause, he observed that the Hungarian public was perhaps less firmly committed to resolving this conflict in Kyiv's favour.

**Ms Emily Thornberry, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom**, called for the foreign affairs committees of European parliaments to work closely with that of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. She called for issues illustrating the suffering of the Ukrainian people to be brought to the fore.

**Mr Armin Laschet, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Bundestag**, considered it problematic that the positions agreed jointly between the EU-27 and Kyiv were being discussed in Moscow between President Putin and President Trump's special envoys. He criticised diplomatic initiatives aimed at resuming dialogue with Moscow, arguing that only a Ukrainian victory would allow for a lasting resolution of the conflict. He lamented that Europe is currently not at the negotiating table, describing this situation as regrettable.

**Mr Pawel Kowal, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Sejm of Poland**, considered that developments in the political situation in Ukraine following the war were a matter of concern for his country, with the precedent of Georgia serving as a counter-example in this regard.

**Mr Oleksandr Merejko, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Policy and Interparliamentary Cooperation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**, expressed his hope of visiting the United Kingdom. He considered that the challenge of reconciling the strengthening of Europe's security and defence strategy without weakening the transatlantic link was significant and called for further contributions of air defence equipment to counter Russian attacks.

#### **4. Discussions with the President of the National Assembly and during lunch at the Hôtel de la Questure**

Following the morning session, the conference delegates were received at the Hôtel de Lassay, where they were introduced to **President Yaël Braun-Pivet**.

During lunch, **Mr Guillaume Klossa, President of the EuropaNova think tank**, pointed out that the United States collects data from Europeans and that this yields returns of around 20 per cent, whilst the bulk of European savings flows into the US economy. However,

for the past seventeen years, the State Department has considered Europe incapable of establishing itself as a power on a par with the United States. In November 2026, EuropaNova launched the Europa Power Initiative in Strasbourg, with 250 opinion leaders, to explore ways of strengthening Europe's power. The question today is how to create a shared future. Mr Guillaume Klossa argued that this requires greater autonomy not only economically, but also in defence, culture and the media, and that the support of parliamentarians from European countries is essential in this regard. As 2029 will be a key European election year, Europeans must define the vision of Europe they desire, or risk being outstripped by the United States and China.

**Mr Vincent Guérend, Director for European Union Affairs at the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs**, after noting that Minister Jean-Noël Barrot was attending the informal 'Gymnich' summit in Cyprus to discuss the major issues of the day, pointed out that foreign affairs rest on two pillars: the bilateral pillar, which leads to the signing of numerous treaties; active cooperation on a number of shared challenges, in the fields of security and defence, the economy, etc. He emphasised that, at the last conference of French ambassadors, President Emmanuel Macron had highlighted three priorities: the economic agenda, the security agenda and the defence of democracy. However, with regard to these priorities, the aim is to increase European cooperation in order to achieve greater efficiency.

During the ensuing discussion, **Mr Pavel Fischer, Chair of the Czech Senate's Foreign Affairs Committee**, took the floor to ask for further details on the Europa Power Initiative.

Meanwhile, **Mr Hadju Gabor, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of Romania**, raised questions about the scope of Europe's power and the means of keeping the transatlantic relationship alive. He proposed organising meetings on a quarterly basis, involving members of the US Congress.

#### **5. Continuation of the working session on the main challenges and areas for action for Ukraine, extended to include issues relating to the strengthening of European sovereignty**

When the discussions resumed, **Mr Maurizio Gasparri, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Italian Senate**, was keen to set out his country's position on the issue of Ukraine. Italy continues to provide strong support to Ukraine and is in favour of that country's accession to the European Union. Parliaments are the link to citizens, which is why exchanges at their level on such sensitive issues must be stepped up and maintained on a regular basis.

**Ms Elza Pais, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal**, considered that the violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine constituted the most serious breach of the international order since the Second World War. She expressed the hope that support for the country would continue, not only militarily but also economically and in terms of energy. Highlighting the moral, ethical

and political reasons underpinning the continuation of such support, she noted that Portugal is part of this effort and that parliamentarians must relentlessly explain the reasons behind the European effort in support of Ukraine.

Noting that he had been in Kyiv during a recent heavy bombardment, which had made him acutely aware of the civilian population's ordeal, **Mr Gusty Graas, Chair of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs of the Chamber of Deputies of Luxemburg**, expressed the view that a collapse of Ukraine in the face of Russia would be disastrous for the European Union and urged the Union to continue its efforts.

**Mr Carlos Rojas García, Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Congress of Deputies of Spain**, highlighted three major challenges in this regard: the sustainability of the military effort, particularly in anti-aircraft systems; Ukraine's preparation for the changes required by accession to the European Union; convincing the public that this is a just cause, which calls for an educational role on the part of the parliaments of European states.

**Ms Christine Schwartz-Fuchs, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Federal Council of Austria**, expressed the view that the European Union should consider Russia's call for talks aimed at a political solution, with a view to a ceasefire. She drew attention to the suffering of the civilian population.

**Ms Emily Thornberry, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom**, emphasised the need to assert that nothing concerning Ukraine can be decided without Ukraine and that nothing concerning Europe can be decided without Europe. Putin is not preparing any compromise; he talks of talks but it is a joke to him.

**Mr Márton Hadju, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly**, considered it important to explain to the public the stakes involved in issues such as that of Ukraine, and indicated that he would organise hearings and meetings on the subject within his committee.

**Mr Pavel Fischer, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Czech Senate**, pointed out that the Russians must recruit some 44,000 soldiers every month to make up for their losses, which illustrates Ukraine's successes. He urged caution regarding deep fakes and the manipulation of information on digital platforms disseminated by Russian propaganda: these tactics aim to weaken public support for the Ukrainian cause and must be combated. In this regard, France has considerable experience with techniques to combat such manipulation, and parliamentarians from other countries would do well to take a close interest in them.

**President Bruno Fuchs** emphasised that he had visited Moldova and Georgia in 2023 and had already warned of the risks associated with information manipulation. He noted that the Foreign Affairs Committee had recently held a closed-door meeting on manipulation in electoral processes, which had provided an opportunity to discuss the methods used to counter it, and he agreed that this was a crucial issue.

**Mr Marko Mikhelson, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu of Estonia**, argued that everyone must ask themselves whether their country and its government

are actually doing enough to help Ukraine stand up to Russia. The United States has just realised that resolving the conflict will be very difficult because Russia wants an outright surrender, whereas Ukraine simply wants to continue to exist.

**Ms Emily Thornberry, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom**, stated that her committee had produced a report on the subject of disinformation which had shown that the UK was fairly effective in this area. She referred to Iranian bots exploiting Scottish nationalists and lamented that a significant part of the problem stems from the fact that digital platforms do not address the issue of manipulation, whilst the authorities look the other way, often claiming they are not responsible. She concluded that this issue is, however, of paramount importance.

**President Bruno Fuchs** emphasised that, in addition to its strategic and military dimensions, strengthening Europe also requires improving its economic strength and competitiveness.

**Mr Pavel Fischer, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Czech Senate**, stated that his committee, which also has responsibility for security matters, was concerned that today's senior police officials no longer embody the spirit of moderation and responsibility that has long prevailed in society.

**Mr Marko Mihkelson, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu of Estonia**, considered it urgent for European countries to invest in both defence and resilience. Looking ahead to the summit of NATO heads of state and government in Ankara in July, he believed that including the issue of Ukraine in the conclusions would in itself send a powerful message to Russia. In any event, Europeans can never become allies of Putin, who remains an ally of the Chinese.

Providing an update on the ongoing negotiations between the United States and Denmark regarding Greenland, which are shrouded in a degree of secrecy, **Mr Karsten Hønge, chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Danish Folketing**, stated that his country was prepared to allow the United States to establish new military facilities in Greenland, as already permitted under the 1941 treaty. There is talk of reopening two or three bases there, which does not pose any particular problem. However, the recent visit by President Trump's special envoy to Nuuk proved less positive. Although the temperature has cooled on this issue, Donald Trump has not given up. Had he not used the words he did, he might have succeeded in destabilising Denmark and the Europeans. Thanks to the unity and solidarity of Europeans with Denmark and Greenland, he has probably failed to annex this territory.

## **6. Closing session and adoption of a joint declaration**

To conclude the discussions, **Chairman Bruno Fuchs** wished to address the arrangements for ensuring the long-term sustainability of the format he had initiated in the form of this conference, and invited suggestions and ideas from his counterparts on this point.

**Mr Hadju Gabor, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of Romania**, considered that the conference meeting had demonstrated the value of a platform for cooperation between chairs of foreign affairs committees and hoped that, every six months or annually, similar meetings would be organised in a European capital and that, every two months, virtual meetings would take place on more specific agendas.

**Mr Marko Mihelson, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu of Estonia**, expressed his support for virtual meetings every six months, with more frequent virtual meetings on specific topics where necessary, and for face-to-face meetings once a year.

**Ms Emily Thornberry, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom**, questioned the practicality of hybrid arrangements, combining both online and in-person elements, arguing that face-to-face meetings allow for more in-depth and candid exchanges.

**Mr Hadju Gabor, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of Romania**, considered it undesirable to extend the format to US parliamentarians, as this could undermine the European cohesion fostered through this type of conference.

**Mr Maurizio Gasparri, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence of the Italian Senate**, was keen to emphasise the importance of keeping the United Kingdom within the framework of this conference.

**Ms Elza Pais, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal**, supported the idea of meetings that allow for the most frank and direct exchanges.

**Chairman Bruno Fuchs** considered it necessary to adopt reasonable principles in view of the constraints inherent in parliamentarians' schedules. Taking up Chairman Fischer's suggestion to hold the next meeting in Prague, he noted that a consensus was emerging on this point.

The participants then examined and debated a draft joint declaration, the text of which is attached and which a majority of them co-signed.

## Appendix n°1

### List of participants

- *In person:*

- **Mr Bruno Fuchs**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly,
- **Mr Karsten Hønge**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Folketing of Denmark,
- **Mr Pavel Fischer**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Czech Senate,
- **Mr Gusty Graas**, Chair of the Foreign and European Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg,
- **Mr Armin Laschet**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Bundestag,
- **Mr Maurizio Gasparri**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee of the Italian Senate,
- **Mr Hadju Gabor**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies of Romania,
- **Ms Emily Thornberry**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Commons of the United Kingdom,
- **Mr Carlos Rojas García**, Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Congress of Deputies of Spain,
- **Ms Elza Pais**, Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal,
- **Mr Marko Mihelson**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu of Estonia,
- **Mr Pawel Kowal**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Sejm of Poland,
- **Mr Márton Hadju**, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly.

- *Via videoconference:*

- **Mr Oleksandr Merejko**, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Policy and Interparliamentary Cooperation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine,
- **Ms Christine Schwarz-Fuchs**, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Austrian Federal Council,
- **Mr Harris Georgiades**, former Chair of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs of the House of Representatives of Cyprus,
- **Mr Remigijus Motuzas**, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Seimas of Lithuania,
- **Mr Grzegorz Schetyna**, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Senate of Poland.

## Appendix n°2

### Joint Declaration adopted at the French National Assembly on 28 May 2026

Gathered in Paris on 28 May 2026, the Chairs of the foreign affairs committees of European parliaments were invited to a conference focusing on major international challenges and on strengthening interparliamentary coordination across Europe.

This meeting facilitated the emergence of converging positions aimed at strengthening cooperation between parliaments to address global crises and reaffirming the essential role of legislative institutions in shaping Europe's response to international developments, through the declaration below.

We, the chairs of the foreign affairs committees of the parliaments of many states on the European continent:

Reaffirm our unwavering support for Ukraine and its people in the face of the illegal war of aggression waged by Russia by:

- preserving European cooperation and ensuring the continuity of political, economic, humanitarian and security support for Ukraine for as long as necessary;
- fully engaging in all negotiations concerning the future of Ukraine and the security of the European continent;
- considering the organisation of a joint parliamentary mission to Ukraine;
- affirming that Europe must actively contribute to the establishment of a just and lasting peace in Ukraine, based on respect for international law.

Europe is also called upon to play a central role in the prevention and resolution of international conflicts. Such an ambition requires a stronger, more sovereign and more united Europe.

We call for decisive progress towards greater European strategic autonomy in key sectors such as defence, industry and technology, through enhanced coordination and sustained investment in a competitive and sovereign European industrial base.

We further emphasise the urgency of strengthening Europe's competitiveness and ensuring the effective implementation of the recommendations set out in the Draghi report.

We reaffirm our shared commitment to democratic values, the rule of law and the European model. In the face of foreign interference, Europe must equip itself with more effective and better-coordinated tools to safeguard its democratic institutions and public debate.

We call on the European institutions and Member States to strengthen their collective capacity to identify, prevent and combat hybrid threats aimed at undermining democratic institutions, social cohesion and European security.

Finally, we emphasise the importance of strengthening cooperation between European parliaments through an increased exchange of legislative initiatives and best practices, as well as through enhanced dialogue with civil society. Parliamentary diplomacy remains a key pillar of trust between nations and of more coherent and effective European action in the service of its citizens.