



CORTES GENERALES



INFORME DE LA REUNIÓN DE PRESIDENTES DE LA COSAC CELEBRADA EN TALLÍN EL 10 DE JULIO DE 2017

La Conferencia comenzó el lunes 10 de julio de 2017 en la sede del Parlamento de Estonia con el orden del día y la relación de asistentes que se acompaña como **documentos 1 y 2**. La delegación de las Cortes Generales estuvo formada por la Presidenta y el Vicepresidente Primero de la Comisión Mixta para la Unión Europea, D.^a Soraya Rodríguez Ramos y D. Pablo Casado Blanco, acompañados del letrado de la Comisión, D. Manuel Delgado-Iribarren García-Campero, autor de este informe.

Tras el saludo de bienvenida del Presidente de la Comisión de Asuntos Europeos, D. Toomas Vitsut, se aprobó el orden del día de la reunión y el proyecto del orden del día de la reunión plenaria nº LVIII que se celebrará del 26 al 28 de noviembre de 2017 (**documento 3**). Así mismo, se dio cuenta del informe semestral (**documento 4**) y de otros aspectos procedimentales. Algunos miembros de la delegación pidieron que en futuras reuniones se reduzca el número de asuntos para poder debatir con más profundidad, al disponer de más tiempo.

I. Prioridades de la Presidencia de Estonia

El Primer Ministro del Gobierno de Estonia, D. Juri Ratas, concretó en cuatro las prioridades de su presidencia, que tiene el lema “Unidad a través del equilibrio”:

1) Una economía europea más abierta e innovadora, que reduzca y simplifique las normas reguladoras, pero salvaguardando los derechos de los consumidores en determinados sectores, como el bancario y el energético.

2) Una Europa más segura que pueda acometer la crisis migratoria, el terrorismo internacional y el crimen organizado.

3) Una Europa digital con libre circulación de datos pero de forma segura, que equilibre riesgos y beneficios.

4) Una Europa inclusiva y sostenible, que asegure una igualdad de oportunidades en educación y empleo, así como que equilibre los avances tecnológicos con respeto al medio ambiente. En suma, la búsqueda de un equilibrio sostenible entre innovación y tradición.

Intervinieron representantes de Irlanda, Italia, Portugal, Reino Unido, Islandia, Bélgica, Hungría, Francia, Alemania, Eslovenia, Parlamento Europeo, Georgia, República Checa, Chipre, Holanda, Rumania, Serbia, Macedonia, Noruega, Malta, Eslovaquia, Turquía, Montenegro, Chipre, España y Estonia, que plantearon cuestiones



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sobre el Brexit; el problema migratorio; la economía digital, mayor concentración en temas prioritarios, política de vecindad de la Unión Europea; y terrorismo internacional.

La Presidenta de la Comisión Mixta para la Unión Europea, D.^a Soraya Rodríguez Ramos, puso de relieve la importancia de hablar del futuro, en particular en problemas acuciantes como la migración, y manifestó su apoyo al programa de la presidencia de Estonia.

El Primer Ministro contestó globalmente a los intervinientes, señalando que todos los temas suscitados van a ocupar a su presidencia, en particular, la migración, el Brexit, la agenda digital y la libre circulación de datos.

Tras una breve pausa, a las 11: 15 se dio paso al segundo debate.

II. Las potencialidades de las nuevas empresas emergentes (de los “start-ups” a los “scale-ups”)

Los tres ponentes, D.^a Kristin Schreiber (Directora del Programa COSME de la Comisión Europea), D. Sten Tanikivi (Vicepresidente de Move Guides) y D. Ivo Spigel (cofundador de Perpetuum Mobile) recordaron que las “start-ups” son compañías de nueva creación con grandes posibilidades de crecimiento, y un fuerte componente tecnológico y de innovación, que generalmente buscan simplificar trabajos complejos. Así empezaron Google, Facebook o Twitter. Por “scale-ups” se entiende a aquellas empresas de alto crecimiento, con 3 años al menos en el mercado, con una tasa de crecimiento de empleo anual del 20% como mínimo. Se caracterizan porque perduran en el tiempo, generan empleo a largo plazo e impulsan el desarrollo profesional de sus empleados. Los ponentes pusieron algunos ejemplos en Estonia y Croacia y subrayaron las posibilidades que plantean en Europa, simplificando la legislación comunitaria para facilitar la eficiencia de “start-ups” y “scale-ups”, facilitando su financiación y con programas de I+D (**documento 5**).

A continuación tomaron la palabra representantes de Austria, Islandia, Hungría, Reino Unido, Francia, Holanda, Grecia, Bulgaria, Parlamento Europeo, Georgia, Polonia, Hungría, Estonia y España.

En las intervenciones se subrayó la necesidad de aprovechar estas nuevas posibilidades; los problemas de la competencia china; la importancia de los emprendedores y de la innovación; la cooperación de diferentes sectores y la libre circulación de datos.



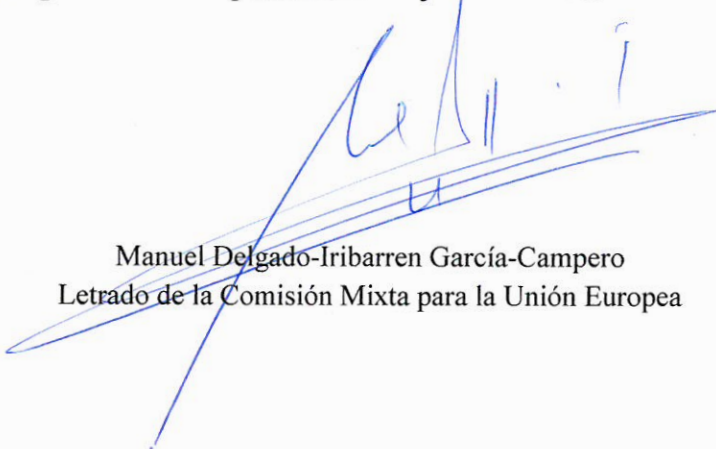
CORTES GENERALES

El Sr. Casado Blanco manifestó que suscribía las palabras del Presidente Juncker sobre su preferencia de una Europa mejor frente al lema Más Europa. En esta materia, recordó las previsiones de la Agenda de Lisboa sobre mejora de la competitividad, la innovación y la anticipación a los problemas; en particular llamó la atención sobre los efectos en pérdida de determinados puestos de trabajo como consecuencia de la economía digital y la necesidad de anticiparse a estos problemas.

Los ponentes intervinieron de nuevo y destacaron cómo están cambiando continuamente estos fenómenos y subrayaron que no es posible adoptar soluciones generales, sino que es preciso adaptarse a las necesidades y posibilidades de cada lugar, aprovechando las oportunidades que se plantean.

A las 13:00 horas, el Presidente Vitsut clausuró la Conferencia.

Palacio del Congreso de los Diputados, 28 de julio de 2017.



Manuel Delgado-Iribarren García-Campero
Letrado de la Comisión Mixta para la Unión Europea



Draft as of 20 June 2017

Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC 9–10 July 2017, Tallinn

Draft programme

Sunday, 9 July 2017

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 14:00–19:00 | Arrival of the delegations and registration for the meeting at the hotels |
| 14:45 | Departure by bus from the hotels |
| 15:00–16:00 | Visit to the Tallinn Design House
<i>Venue: Rotermanni 14, Tallinn</i> |
| 16:00 | Return to the hotels by bus |

Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 17:30 | Departure by bus from the hotels |
| 18:00–19:00 | Meeting of the Presidential Troika
<i>Venue: Conference Hall of the Riigikogu, Lossi plats 1a, Tallinn</i> |
| 19:00 | Departure for the dinner |

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 19:00 | Departure by bus from the hotels to the dinner venue |
| 19:30 | Dinner hosted by Mr Toomas VITSUT , Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu
<i>Venue: Restaurant Tuljak, Pirita tee 26e, Tallinn</i> |
| 23:00 | Return to the hotels by bus |

Monday, 10 July 2017

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 8:00 | Departure by bus from the hotels to the conference venue
<i>Venue: Plenary Hall of the Riigikogu, Lossi plats 1a, Tallinn</i> |
| 9:00–9:15 | Opening of the meeting
Welcome address by Mr Eiki NESTOR , President of the Riigikogu

Introductory remarks by Mr Toomas VITSUT , Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu |

Adoption of the agenda for the Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC

9:15–9:45

Procedural issues and miscellaneous matters

- Information of the results of the Presidential Troika of COSAC
- Draft Agenda of the LVIII COSAC
- Outline of the 28th Bi-Annual Report of COSAC
- Appointment of the Permanent Member of the COSAC Secretariat for 2018–2019
- Letters received by the Presidency
- Procedural issues

9:45–10:30

Priorities of the Estonian Presidency of the Council of the EU

Keynote speaker: **Mr Jüri RATAS**, Prime Minister of Estonia

Debate

10:30–11:15

Family photo and coffee break

11:15–12:55

From start-ups to scale-ups – EU's unused potential

Speakers:

Ms Kristin SCHREIBER, Director of COSME Programme and SME Policy, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, European Commission

Mr Sten TAMKIVI, Vice President, MOVE Guides (recently acquired Teleport, where Mr Tamkivi was founder & CEO)

Mr Ivo ŠPIGEL, co-founder of Perpetuum Mobile, writer

Debate

12:55–13:00

Closing remarks by Mr Toomas VITSUT, Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu

13:00–14:30

Lunch

Venue: White Hall of the Riigikogu

14:30

Return to the hotels by bus. Departure of delegations.



**Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC
9–10 July 2017, Tallinn**

List of Participants (*draft as of 7 July 2017*)

**Réunion des présidents de la COSAC
9-10 juillet, Tallinn**

Liste des participants (*projet à la date du 7 juillet 2017*)

Parliamentary Dimension
of the Estonian Presidency
of the Council of the
European Union

MEMBER STATES – ÉTATS MEMBRES

AUSTRIA – AUTRICHE

Federal Council / Conseil fédéral / Bundesrat

Mr Edgar MAYER	Head of Delegation, President of the Federal Council
Mr Gerhard KOLLER	Head of EU Participation and European Relations, Austrian Parliament
Ms Julia GROISS	EU and International Services, Austrian Parliament

BELGIUM – BELGIQUE

House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Kamer van volksvertegenwoordigers

Mr Veli YÜKSEL	Head of Delegation, Member of the Federal Advisory Committee for European Affairs
Mr Carlos DEMEYERE	Official

Senate / Sénat / Senaat

Mr Philippe MAHOUX	Head of Delegation, Chairman of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs
Ms Luna SADAT	Delegation Secretary

BULGARIA – BULGARIE

National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Narodno Sabranie

Mr Kristian VIGENIN	Head of Delegation, Chair of the Committee on European Affairs and Oversight of the European Funds
Mr Mladen LAMBEFF	Coordinator of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU
Mr Trifon NENOV	Adviser on the Parliamentary Dimension of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU
Ms Sofiya TSVETKOVA	Adviser on the Parliamentary Dimension of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU
Ms Kristina IGNATOVA	Adviser on the Parliamentary Dimension of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the EU

Ms Nina TODOROVA

Director of Directorate "Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union and European Cooperation"

CROATIA – CROATIE

Parliament / Parlement / Hrvatski sabor

Mr Miro KOVAČ

Head of Delegation, Member of the European Affairs Committee and Chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee

Mr Joško KLISOVIĆ

Member of the European Affairs Committee and Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee

Ms Jelena ŠPILJAK

Secretary of the European Affairs Committee

CYPRUS – CHYPRE

House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Vouli ton Antiprosopon

Mr Nicos TORNARITIS

Head of Delegation, Deputy Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Foreign and European Affairs

Ms Hara PARLA

Senior International Relations Officer

CZECH REPUBLIC – RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE

Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Poslanecká sněmovna

Mr Ondřej BENEŠÍK

Head of Delegation, Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs

Mr Filip FICNER

Secretary of the Committee on European Affairs

Senate / Sénat / Senát

Mr Václav HAMPL

Head of Delegation, Chair of the Committee on EU Affairs

DENMARK – DANEMARK

Parliament / Parlement / Folketinget

Mr Erik CHRISTENSEN

Head of Delegation, Chairman

Mr Søren SØNDERGAARD

Member of parliament

Mr Søren KOUSHEDE

Permanent Representative of the Danish Parliament to the EU

ESTONIA – ESTONIE

Parliament / Parlement / Riigikogu

Mr Toomas VITSUT	Chairman, European Union Affairs Committee
Mr Jaak MADISON	Vice-Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee
Ms Marianne MIKKO	Member of the European Union Affairs Committee
Ms Teele VARES	Adviser of the EU Affairs Committee
Ms Kristi SÕBER	Representative of the Riigikogu to the European Parliament

FINLAND – FINLANDE

Parliament / Parlement / Eduskunta

Ms Anne-Mari VIROLAINEN	Head of Delegation, Chair of the Grand Committee
Mr Peter SARAMO	Counsel to the Grand Committee, Director of the Secretariat for EU Affairs

FRANCE – FRANCE

National Assembly / Assemblée nationale

Ms Sabine THILLAYE	Head of Delegation, Chair of the Committee on European Affairs
Mr Frank BARON	Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on European Affairs

Senate / Sénat

Ms Fabienne KELLER	Head of Delegation, Vice Chair of the Committee on European Affairs
Mr Philippe DELIVET	Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on European Affairs

GERMANY – ALLEMAGNE

German Bundestag / Bundestag allemand / Bundestag

Mr Gunther KRICHBAUM	Head of Delegation, Chairman of the Committee on the Affairs of the European Union
Ms Heike BADDENHAUSEN	Clerk
Mr Frank GRAEF	Interpreter
Mr Alexander WOOD	Interpreter

Federal Council / Conseil Fédéral / Bundesrat

Ms Ute MÜLLER Head of the Secretariat of Committee on European Union
Questions

GREECE – GRÈCE

Hellenic Parliament / Parlement hellénique / Vouli ton Ellinon

Mr Anastasios KOURAKIS Head of Delegation, Vice-president of the Parliament, Chair of the
Committee for European Affairs

Ms Eleni KONSTANTINIDOU Head of the EU Department

HUNGARY – HONGRIE

National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Országgyűlés

Mr Richárd HÖRCSIK Head of Delegation, Chairman, Committee on European Affairs

Mr László JUHÁSZ Deputy Head of Department, Committee on European Affairs

Ms Zsuzsanna ROSTÁSI-SZABÓ Head of Section, EU Department

IRELAND – IRLANDE

Parliament / Parlement / Houses of Oireachtas

Mr Terry LEYDEN Head of Delegation, Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee on
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Ms Rachel BREEN Junior Clerk, Oireachtas Joint Committee on European Union
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ITALY – ITALIE

Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Camera dei Deputati

Mr Paolo TANCREDI Head of Delegation, Vice Chair EU Policy Committee

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Mr Davide Alberto CAPUANO Delegate Support Staff

Mr Olmeda CLAUDIO Interpreter

LATVIA – LETTONIE

Parliament / Parlement / Saeima

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Representative of the Parliament of Latvia to the EU

LITHUANIA – LITUANIE

Parliament / Parlement / Seimas

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Ms Renata LYGIENĖ

Adviser to the Committee on European Affairs

MALTA – MALTE

House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Kamra tad-Deputati

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Head of Delegation, Member of the Maltese House of
Representatives

Ms Karen MAMO

Research Analyst

THE NETHERLANDS – PAYS-BAS

House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Tweede Kamer der Staten-Generaal

Mr Malik AZMANI

Head of Delegation, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee

Mr Louis MIDDELKOOP

Deputy clerk

Senate / Sénat / Eerste Kamer der Staten-Generaal

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European Affairs

Ms Ilse VAN DEN DRIESSCHE

Assistant clerk of the Standing Committee on European Affairs

POLAND – POLOGNE

Parliament / Parlement / Sejm

Ms Izabela KLOC

Head of Delegation, Chairwoman of the European Union Affairs
Committee

Ms Kaja KRAWCZYK

Head of the European Union Division

Ms Natalia CHARITONOW

Interpreter

Ms Katarzyna Maria BARTKOWIAK Interpreter

Senate / Sénat / Senat

Mr Jarosław OBREMSKI Head of Delegation, Deputy Chairman of Foreign and European
Union Affairs Committee

Ms Lidia SPYRKO VEL ŠMIETANKO Head of unit

PORTUGAL – PORTUGAL

Assembly of the Republic / Assemblée de la République / Assembleia da República

Ms Regina BASTOS Head of Delegation, Chairperson of the European Affairs
Committee

Ms Maria João COSTA Permanent Representative of the Portuguese Parliament to the EU

ROMANIA – ROUMANIE

Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Camerei Deputaților

Mr Radu Costin VASILICĂ Head of Delegation, Member of the European Affairs Committee -
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Senate / Sénat / Senat

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Mr Sorin BOBOCEA Parliamentary advisor

SLOVAKIA – SLOVAQUIE

National Council / Conseil national / Národná rada

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Mr Tomáš NAGY Official, Department for European Affairs

SLOVENIA – SLOVÉNIE

National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Državni zbor

Mr Kamal Izidor SHAKER Head of Delegation, Chair of the Committee on EU Affairs

Mr Zvonko BERGANT Secretary to the Committee on EU Affairs

National Council / Conseil national / Državni svet

Mr Bojan KEKEC	Head of Delegation, Vice-president of the Commission for International Relations and European Affairs
Ms Aldijana AHMETOVIĆ	Legal adviser

SPAIN – ESPAGNE

Cortes Generales (Congress of Deputies and Senate / Congrès des députés et Sénat / Congreso de los Diputados y Senado)

Ms Soraya RODRIGUEZ	Head of Delegation, Chair of the Joint Committee for the European Union
Mr Pablo CASADO	Vice Chair of the Joint Committee for the European Union
Mr Manuel DELGADO-IRIBARREN	Official

SWEDEN – SUÈDE

Parliament / Parlement / Riksdagen

Mr Eskil ERLANDSSON	Head of Delegation, Deputy Chair of the Committee on EU Affairs
Ms Johanna MÖLLERBERG	Head of Secretariat of the Committee on EU Affairs
NORDFORS	

UNITED KINGDOM – ROYAUME-UNI

House of Commons / Chambre des communes

Ms Eve SAMSON	Clerk of the European Scrutiny Committee
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House of Lords / Chambre des lords

Baroness Kishwer FALKNER	Head of Delegation, Chairman, EU Financial Affairs Sub- Committee
Mr Christopher JOHNSON	Principal Clerk, EU Committee
Mr Paul DOWLING	National Parliament Representative to the EU

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT – PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN

Ms Mairead MCGUINNESS	Head of Delegation, First Vice-President of the European Parliament
Ms Deirdre O' HEA	Assistant to Mairead McGuinness

Mr Pekka NURMINEN	Head of the Institutional Cooperation Unit/Directorate General of Presidency
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Mr François NÉMOZ-HERVENS	Administrator
Mr Peter REICHERT	Political adviser – Relations with National Parliaments, Group S&D
Mr Paolo ATZORI	Administrator on parliamentary bodies, Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments

CANDIDATE COUNTRIES – PAYS CANDIDATS

FYROM – ARYM

Parliament / Parlement / Sobranie

Ms Shpresa HADRI	Head of Delegation, Member of the European Affairs Committee
Ms Liljana PETRESKA	Advisor of the European Affairs Committee

MONTENEGRO – MONTÉNÉGRO

Parliament / Parlement / Skupština

Mr Adrijan VUKSANOVIĆ	Head of Delegation, Chairman of the European Integration Committee
Mr Mihailo ANDJUŠIĆ	Member of the European Integration Committee
Ms Marija MARAS	Secretary of the European Integration Committee

SERBIA – SERBIE

National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Narodna Skupština

Mr Nenad ČANAK	Head of Delegation, Chair of the EU Integration Committee
Mr Dragan ŠORMAZ	Member of the EU Integration Committee
Mr Aleksandar DJORDJEVIĆ	Secretary of the EU Integration Committee

TURKEY – TURQUIE

Grand National Assembly of Turkey / Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie / Türkiye Büyük Millet Meclisi

Ms Zühal TOPCU	Head of Delegation, Member of the EU Harmonization Committee
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Mr Abdülvehap DOĞAN

Advisor to the EU Harmonization Committee

SPECIAL GUESTS – INVITÉS SPÉCIAUX

GEORGIA – GÉORGIE

Parliament / Parlement / პარლამენტი

Ms Tamar KHULORDAVA

Head of Delegation, Chairperson of the Committee on European
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ISLAND – ISLANDE

Parliament / Parlement / Althingi

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Ms Gunnthóra Elin

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NORGE – NORVÈGE

Parliament / Parlement / Stortinget

Mr Christian TYBRING-GJEDDE

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Mr Per NESTANDE

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SWITZERLAND – SUISSE

National Council / Conseil national / Nationalrat / Consiglio nazionale / Cussegl naziunal

Ms Kathy RIKLIN

Head of Delegation, Member of Parliament

Mr Cedric STUCKY

Secretary to the Swiss EFTA/EU delegation

OTHER PARTICIPANTS – AUTRES PARTICIPANTS

EUROPEAN COMMISSION – COMMISSION EUROPÉENNE

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Deputy Head of Unit

Ms Nelli TIMM

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COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION – CONSEIL DE L'UNION EUROPÉENNE

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GOVERNMENT OFFICE OF ESTONIA – CHANCELLERIE D'ÉTAT ESTONIENNE

Mr Jüri RATAS

Prime Minister of Estonia

Mr Klen JÄÄRATS

Director for EU Affairs

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Mr Kenneth CURMI

Member of the COSAC Secretariat, Maltese Kamra tad-Deputati

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SPEAKERS – ORATEURS

Mr Eiki NESTOR

President of the Riigikogu

Mr Jüri RATAS

Prime Minister of Estonia

Ms Kristin SCHREIBER

Director for COSME Programme and SME Policy, European
Commission

Mr Sten TAMKIVI

Vice-President, MOVE Guides

Mr Ivo ŠPIGEL

Co-founder of Perpetuum Mobile, writer

OBSERVERS – OBSERVATEURS

Mr Ekrem Mehmet EŞKAR

Second Secretary, Embassy of the Republic of Turkey



Draft as of 20 June 2017

**Plenary Meeting of the LVIII COSAC
26–28 November 2017, Tallinn****Draft programme****Sunday, 26 November 2017**

15:00–19:00 Arrival of the delegations and registration for the meeting at the hotels

Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC

17:00 Departure by bus from the hotels

17:30–19:00 Meeting of the Presidential Troika
Venue: Conference Hall of the Riigikogu, Lossi plats 1a, Tallinn

19:00 Departure by bus for the dinner

19:00 Departure by bus from the hotels to the dinner venue

19:30 **Dinner** hosted by **Mr Toomas VITSUT**, Chairman of the European Union Affairs
Committee of the Riigikogu
Venue: Seaplane Harbour, Vesilennuki 6, Tallinn

22:30 Return to the hotels by bus

Monday, 27 November 2017**Meetings of the political groups**

7:15 Departure by bus from the hotels

8:00–9:00 Meetings of the political groups
*Venue: Saku Suurhall, Paldiski maantee 104b, Tallinn*8:30 Departure by bus from the hotels to the conference venue
*Venue: Saku Suurhall, Paldiski maantee 104b, Tallinn*9:30–9:45 **Opening of the meeting**
Welcome address by **Mr Eiki NESTOR**, President of the RiigikoguIntroductory remarks by **Mr Toomas VITSUT**, Chairman of the European Union
Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu

Adoption of the agenda for the Plenary Meeting of the LVIII COSAC

9:45–10:00

Procedural issues and miscellaneous matters

- Information of the results of the Presidential Troika of COSAC
- Presentation of the 28th Bi-annual Report of COSAC
- Letters received by the Presidency
- Procedural issues

10:00–11:30

Session I: The future of European Union

Speakers:

H. E. Mrs Kersti KALJULAID, President of the Republic of Estonia

Representative of National Parliament

Representative of National Parliament

Debate

11:30–13:00

Family photo and lunch

13:00–14:30

Session II: Bringing Europe closer to its citizens: best practices of the national parliaments

Speakers:

Mr Frans TIMMERMANS, First Vice-President of the European Commission (tbc)

Mr Malik AZMANI, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee, House of Representatives (tbc)

Ms Danuta Maria HÜBNER, Chairperson of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs of the European Parliament (tbc)

Debate

14:30–15:00

Coffee break

15:00–16:30

Session III: Digital Single Market: current developments of e-services

Speakers:

Mr Andrus ANSIP, Vice-President of the European Commission and European Commissioner for Digital Single Market (tbc)

Representative of National Parliament

Representative of National Parliament

Debate

- 16:30 Return to the hotels by bus
- 16:30–18:00 **Meeting of COSAC Chairpersons**
Debate on the Draft Contributions and Draft Conclusions of the LVIII COSAC
- 18:00 Return to the hotels by bus
- 19:00 Departure by bus from the hotels to the dinner venue
- 19:30 **Dinner** hosted by **Mr Toomas VITSUT**, Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu
Venue: Estonia Concert Hall, Estonia puistee 4, Tallinn
- 23:00 Return to the hotels by bus

Tuesday, 28 November 2017

- 8:15 Departure by bus from the hotels to the conference venue
Venue: Saku Suurhall, Paldiski maantee 104b, Tallinn
- 9:00–10:15 **Session IV: State of play: building an effective and sustainable Security Union**
Speaker: **Mr Julian KING**, European Commissioner for Security Union (tbc)
Debate
- 10:15–11:30 **Session V: The external dimension of migration: preventing and combating irregular migration**
Speakers:
Mr Dimitris AVRAMOPOULOS, European Commissioner for Migration, Home Affairs and Citizenship (tbc)
Representative of National Parliament
Representative of National Parliament
Debate
- 11:30–12:00 **Coffee break**
- 12:00–12:45 **Adoption of the Contributions and Conclusions of the LVIII COSAC**
- 12:45–13:00 Closing remarks by **Mr Toomas VITSUT**, Chairman of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Riigikogu
- 13:00–14:30 **Lunch**
- 14:30 Return to the hotels by bus. Departure of the delegations.

Draft as of 20 June 2017

Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC 9–10 July 2017, Tallinn

Draft outline

28th Bi-annual Report of COSAC

Chapter 1 – The future of the European Union

With the 60th anniversary of the foundation of European cooperation being celebrated this year, and against the backdrop of an unprecedented number of challenges, the future of the European Union has been widely debated. Amid the challenges, which range from the UK referendum in favour of leaving the EU, the ongoing migrant and refugee crisis, the rise of populist political parties and a heightened terrorism threat, the Union, as it currently stands, is being increasingly questioned. In light of this, it is fitting to discuss the views of the national Parliaments on the future of the European Union. Building upon the 23rd Bi-annual report of COSAC, and with a view to further encourage this debate, Chapter 1 aims to identify the positions and views of the parliaments in the context of parliamentary scrutiny when considering EU policy documents related to the future of the EU.

The chapter is divided into two parts.

The first part aims to take stock of the views of the Parliaments/Chambers on the Commission's White Paper on the Future of the EU, and more specifically to discern their points of view on the five scenarios put forward by the European Commission.

The purpose of the second part is to exchange information and compile the opinions of the Parliaments /Chambers on recently published documents, such as the Commission's reflection paper on *harnessing globalisation* (COM(2017) 240) and on the *social dimension of Europe* (COM(2017) 206). Furthermore, it will endeavour to ascertain whether national Parliaments wish to reconsider institutional arrangements on the EU level and, more importantly, whether they would support changing the EU treaties in order to shape the future of the EU.

Chapter 2 – Bringing the EU closer to its citizens

The EU is often accused of opacity, complexity and inability to communicate clearly with its citizens. Although efforts have been made to bring the Union closer to its citizens (among others the European citizens' initiative, the Council regulation (EU) No 390/2014 establishing the 'Europe for Citizens' programme for the period 2014-2020), little attention has been paid to the role of national Parliaments in this equation. Communicating Europe is a complex matter, but national Parliaments, due to their proximity, are in a unique position to reach out to citizens and to make EU politics more transparent and accountable. Building upon the 26th Bi-annual Report of COSAC, the aim of this chapter is twofold: the first aim is to further investigate the best practices in involving civil society and citizens in debates on EU matters. The second aim is to find out how national Parliaments communicate their activities related to EU affairs to the general public.

This chapter is divided into two parts.

The first part addresses citizens' involvement in EU discussions and decision making. It does so by inquiring about possible action plans to improve interaction between Parliaments/Chambers and the wider public, as well as by compiling evidence on cooperation formats between these two parties. It further investigates the digital platforms that allow citizens to be more engaged in EU matters.

The second part addresses the visibility of EU-related parliamentary discussions and the decision making process. Parliaments/Chambers will be asked about the frequency of EU-related debates in the plenary, as well as about their transparency, i.e. whether the related documents are available to the public and whether hearings and meetings are open to the public. It will also inquire about the means and modalities of informing citizens on EU matters.

Chapter 3 – Digital Single Market

A deepened Single Market for digital innovation sets the tone for a prosperous European Union, with its citizens and businesses benefitting from the removal of digital barriers, and the opportunities that come with it. Making the Single Market fit for the digital age has been a key task in reinvigorating a cornerstone of European integration, but rapid innovation poses a number of challenges for policy makers. Keeping up with the pace of new economic and social phenomena in digital form is a major stumbling block for lawmakers, and requires quick but deliberated action.

Building on the discussions held during the meeting of the LIV COSAC, this chapter endeavours to further examine the progress made in the elaboration and implementation of the Digital Single Market Strategy which was launched by the European Commission in 2015. More specifically, the emphasis of this chapter is on the digital transformation of parliamentary procedures.

This chapter is divided into two parts.

The first part seeks information on the current voting mechanisms in the Parliaments/Chambers and on possible electronic solutions in parliamentary work.

The aim of the second part is to understand what importance individual Parliaments/Chambers place on the Digital Single Market Strategy, how it features in their EU policy, and which aspects of it have received the most attention from the parliamentarians.



Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC 9–10 July 2017, Tallinn

Background Information

From Start-ups to Scale-ups – EU's unused potential

Start-ups, often tech-enabled, generally combine fast growth, high reliance on innovation of products, processes and financing, utmost attention to new technological developments and extensive use of innovative business models, and, often, collaborative platforms. It is important to make use of the potential in the field of start-ups in order to encourage economic growth, and to enhance the EU's global competitiveness.

There is no lack of innovative ideas and entrepreneurial spirit in Europe. However, many new companies either do not make it beyond the critical first years or prefer to operate in third countries, where they face less regulatory barriers. Therefore, start-ups are not delivering their full innovation and job creation potential in Europe.

According to *Startup Hubs Europe*, there are more than 800,000 start-up companies in the EU, generating more than €420 billion in revenue and providing 4.5 million jobs. The European cities with the highest numbers of start-ups are London, Berlin and Munich.¹

The Startup Genome in its "Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2017" has listed the world's leading start-up cities. Five European cities, notably London (#3), Berlin (#7), Paris (#11), Stockholm (#14), and Amsterdam (#19) have made it to the TOP 20. Nine of the world's top-ranking start-up ecosystems are located in North America, with Silicon Valley and New York City holding the first and the second place.² Silicon Valley has been long known as the start-up hub of the world, home to many of the most successful start-up companies such as Apple, Google, Facebook, and Twitter. The question is, how can the EU, with a larger market than the US, become more globally competitive in this field.

Several Member States have already put in place or are considering initiatives to create an environment conducive to innovation and entrepreneurship. As a result, there is no major difference between the EU and the US when it comes to creating new companies. However, rather than flourishing and expanding in Europe and beyond, too few European start-ups survive beyond the critical phase of 2-3 years, with even fewer growing into larger firms.

Whilst there are a number of reasons behind this situation, an estimated 1 million new jobs could be created and up to €2000 billion (i.e. roughly 20 times the annual GDP of Austria) added to the GDP of the EU over the next 20 years if the share of scale-ups would match that of the US.

In the Single Market Strategy launched in October 2015, the Commission announced that it will look at how to make the Single Market more efficient for start-ups and scale-ups. It also stated that improving the

¹ <http://www.startuphubs.eu>

² <https://startupgenome.com/thank-you-enjoy-reading>

ecosystem for start-ups and scale-ups in Europe will have a direct beneficial effect on jobs and growth in the EU.

Last year, the European Commission launched a 4-month (from 31 March to 31 July 2016) public consultation on how to improve the environment for start-ups in Europe. Three main concerns were outlined: (i) too many regulatory and administrative barriers, especially in a cross-border situation; (ii) too few opportunities to find and engage with potential partners in finance, business and local authorities; as well as (iii) access to finance is a barrier to scaling up.

Following the consultation, the Commission communication on the *Start-up and Scale-up Initiative* was released on 22 November 2016. The main proposals of this initiative were: (i) to remove barriers for start-ups to scale-up in the Single Market; (ii) to create better opportunities for partnership, commercial opportunities and skills; as well as (iii) to facilitate access to finance.

As Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, has stated, *"Today start-ups do not fully take advantage of the opportunities of the Single Market. Starting and scaling up a company across Europe has to become simpler. Europe needs to become the first choice place for great business ideas to grow into successful companies. This is about new jobs, innovation and competitiveness for Europe."*³

There are also several initiatives taken at the Member State level to make their start-up ecosystems more competitive. For example, in many countries a start-up visa program has been launched to make it easier to attract highly-qualified workforce from third countries to work in the EU.

Another factor that could prove significant in the start-up field is investment in innovation. While the Europe2020 strategy aims to increase the combined public and private investment in R&D in the EU to 3% of GDP by 2020, in 2014 this number had only reached a rather modest 2.03%.

Some points for discussion:

- What concrete actions are being taken both at the EU as well as the national level that are encouraging the creation of start-up companies?
- What can policy makers and urban leaders do to better facilitate world class start-up ecosystems? Sharing best practices in the field of innovative entrepreneurship.
- How to ensure that the EU will become more competitive vis-à-vis the US and other global competitors in helping start-ups grow into scale-ups?

³ http://europa.eu/rapid/press-release_IP-16-3882_en.htm