



Congreso de los Diputados

SECRETARIO GENERAL DEL CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS LETRADO MAYOR DE LAS CORTES GENERALES	
28 FEB. 2017	
Nº ENTRADA	Nº SALIDA 179

INFORME SOBRE LA REUNIÓN DE LOS SECRETARIOS GENERALES DE LOS PARLAMENTOS DE LOS ESTADOS MIEMBROS DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA CELEBRADA EN BRATISLAVA (ESLOVAQUIA) EL DÍA 21 DE FEBRERO DE 2017.

El pasado día 21 de febrero tuvo lugar en Bratislava, capital de la República eslovaca, una reunión de los Secretarios Generales de los Parlamentos de los Estados miembros de la Unión Europea con el objeto de preparar la Conferencia de Presidentes de Parlamentos de países de la Unión Europea, que se celebrará entre los próximos días 23 y 24 de abril de 2017.

A la misma asistió en nombre de España una delegación compuesta por el Letrado Mayor del Senado, D. Manuel Caveró Gómez, y por el Secretario General del Congreso de los Diputados, D. Carlos Gutiérrez Vicén. La lista de los restantes participantes figura como ANEXO I al presente informe.

La reunión se celebró en el Federal Hall del Castillo de Bratislava con el orden del día que figura como ANEXO II.

La Sesión de Apertura comenzó a las 9 horas y acogió los discursos de bienvenida del Presidente del Consejo Nacional de la República Eslovaca, Sr. D. Andrej Danko y del Secretario General de dicha Cámara, Sr. D. Daniel Guspan. Ambos dieron la bienvenida a las delegaciones y desearon éxito a la conferencia de Presidentes remarcando la existencia de un objetivo común como es la reforma del papel del Parlamento en la construcción europea, dentro de la defensa de los derechos fundamentales y de la diversidad y la protección de nuestros valores comunes. El Sr. Danko se refirió expresamente al próximo aniversario del Tratado de Roma, lo que a su entender era una obligación extra para recordar el papel de los Secretarios Generales en tanto que máximos responsables de la Administración de los Parlamentos nacionales de los Estados miembros en la construcción europea. Por su parte el Sr. Danko insistió en el papel de los Parlamentos en esta construcción europea y la necesidad del reforzamiento de los lazos entre estos Parlamentos nacionales de los Estados miembros de la Unión Europea.

Tras aprobar el orden del día se inició la Sesión I dedicada a debatir la Agenda de la Conferencia de Presidentes de los Parlamentos de la Unión Europea que tendrá lugar los próximos días 23 y 24 de abril en el mismo Castillo de Bratislava.

Dicha Conferencia, tras una sesión de apertura en la que el Presidente del Consejo Nacional de la República de Eslovaquia presentará las conclusiones de la Presidencia eslovaca y su dimensión parlamentaria, se desarrollará sobre las siguientes líneas de discusión:

- Sesión I: El futuro de la Unión Europea en el contexto global de los cambios actuales y el papel de los Parlamentos nacionales en todo ello. En particular reflexionando sobre las consecuencias de las distintas crisis, la crisis económica, la



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crisis de los refugiados, la producida por la salida del Reino Unido de la Unión Europea, etc.

- Sesión II: El acercamiento de la agenda de los Parlamentos a los ciudadanos. Tratando cuestiones como las oportunidades que ofrecen las nuevas tecnologías para este acercamiento y la tensión entre los movimientos extremistas y populistas en el sistema tradicional de partidos políticos.
- Sesión III: Discusión y adopción de las conclusiones incluyendo el debate sobre la propuesta del Grupo de Trabajo de la Troika presidencial sobre el Grupo de Control Parlamentario, Conjunto de Europol, conocido como JPSG, por sus siglas en inglés Europol Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group.

Se acompaña, como ANEXO III el borrador del orden del día de la próxima Conferencia de Presidentes de Parlamentos de los Estados miembros de la Unión Europea que se celebrará los próximos días 23 y 24 de abril de 2017.

Por otra parte, el Secretario General de la Cámara de Representantes de Malta, Sr. D. Raymond Scicluna, presentó con la ayuda de un vídeo la dimensión de la actual Presidencia maltesa de la Unión Europea, exponiendo con detalle el conjunto de todas las reuniones que tendrán lugar.

La Sesión II se dedicó a tratar cuestiones relativas al IPEX y al apoyo de las administraciones parlamentarias en el control preliminar y la calidad de la legislación de la Unión Europea. Asimismo, se debatió el Informe anual del IPEX correspondiente al año 2016 que fue presentado por la Presidencia de Luxemburgo, en concreto por D.^a Isabelle Barra.

Concluido el debate se aprobó el Informe Anual del IPEX 2016, así como la propuesta de creación de un grupo de trabajo sobre una estrategia global para IPEX. Ambos documentos se acompañan como ANEXO IV.

Tras una breve suspensión la reunión se reanudó a las 11.00 horas con la Sesión III dedicada al estudio del documento preparado por el Grupo de Trabajo de la Troika presidencial sobre el JPSG de Europol.

Al respecto se incorpora como ANEXO V, además de la propuesta original del Grupo de trabajo y de las enmiendas presentadas, la nota elaborada por la Letrada Representante permanente de las Cortes Generales en el Parlamento Europeo que recoge las principales implicaciones de la puesta en marcha de este Grupo Conjunto de Control Parlamentario. En particular se debatió sobre las enmiendas presentadas por la representación de Alemania que inciden sobre la composición del Grupo (pidiendo la ampliación del número de sus miembros al doble por cada Estado miembro, cuatro en lugar de dos) y sobre la posibilidad de celebrar reuniones extraordinarias cuando un número de miembros cualificado lo solicite. El Secretario General del Parlamento Europeo puso de relieve las dificultades de configurar un órgano con esta composición y al mismo tiempo que adopte sus acuerdos por votación dado que no respetaría el principio de



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proporcionalidad. Asimismo se discutió sobre la creación de un Secretariado Permanente de este Grupo Conjunto.

A la vista de los debates se concluyó en la necesidad de redactar un nuevo borrador de texto que se remitiría para su discusión y, en su caso, aprobación por la Conferencia de Presidentes.

La Sesión IV se centró en la cuestión de la cooperación interparlamentaria después de un amplio debate sobre el propósito de esta cooperación y la explicación de las distintas experiencias al respecto en Reino Unido, Alemania, Portugal, Holanda, Eslovaquia y el Parlamento Europeo, se clausuró la reunión con la exposición por parte del Sr. Guspan de las conclusiones finales.

Palacio del Congreso de los Diputados, a 27 de febrero de 2017.

Carlos Gutiérrez Vicén

SECRETARIO GENERAL
DEL CONGRESO DE LOS DIPUTADOS



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ANEXO I

LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES



**MEETING OF SECRETARIES GENERAL
OF THE EU PARLIAMENTS**

20 – 21 February 2017

Bratislava

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

**REUNION DES SECRETAIRES GENERAUX
DES PARLEMENTS DE L'UE**

20 – 21 février 2017

Bratislava

LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

**MEMBER STATES – ÉTATS MEMBRES****AUSTRIA – AUTRICHE - ÖSTERREICH****Federal Parliament / Parlement fédéral / Bundesparlament**

Mr / M. Harald DOSSI

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Gerhard KOLLER

Head of the EU Relations Division

BELGIUM – BELGIQUE – BELGIË**House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Kamer van volksvertegenwoordigers**

Mr / M. Roeland JANSOONE

1st Counsel for European Affairs**Senate / Sénat / Senaat**

Mr / M. Gert VAN DER BIESEN

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Tim DE BONDT

Secretary of delegation

Ms / Mme Iuna SADAT

Advisor

BULGARIA – BULGARIE - БЪЛГАРИЯ**National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Народно събрание**

Mr / M. Ivan SLAVCHOV

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme. Iliana ATANASSOVA

Interpreter

**CROATIA – CROATIE – HRVATSKA****Parliament / Parlement / Hrvatski sabor**

Mr / M. Davor ORLOVIĆ

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Andrea HALAMBEK

Head of the International
and European Affairs Department**CYPRUS – CHYPRE – ΚΥΠΡΟΣ****House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Βουλή των
Αντιπροσώπων**

Ms / Mme Vassiliki ANASTASSIADOU

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Hara PARLA

Senior International Relations Officer

CZECH REPUBLIC – RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÉQUE – ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA**Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Poslanecká Sněmovna**

Mr / M. Petr KYNŠTETR

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Veronika KRUPOVÁ

Clerk of the International Affairs
Department**Senate / Sénat / Senát**

Mr / M. Jiří UKLEIN

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Jiří KRBEC

Head of the International Affairs
Department

Mr / M. Daniel PÁNEK

Official

**DENMARK – DANEMARK – DANMARK****Parliament / Parlement / Folketinget**

Mr / M. Carsten U. LARSEN

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Pernille DELEURAN

Head of the International Department

ESTONIA – ÉSTONIE – EESTI**Parliament / Parlement / Riigikogu**

Ms / Mme Maria ALAJÕE

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Gea RENNEL

Head of the Foreign Relations
Department

Ms / Mme Kristi SÕBER

National Parliament Representative
to the European Parliament

Ms / Mme Siiri SILLAJÕE

Coordinator of the EU Council
Presidency**FINLAND – FINLANDE – SUOMI****Parliament / Parlement / Eduskunta**

Ms / Mme Maija-Leena PAAVOLA

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Peter SARAMO

Head of the EU Affairs Secretariat,
Counsel to the Grand Committee**FRANCE – FRANCE****National Assembly / Assemblée nationale**

Ms / Mme. Marie-France HÉRIN

Director of the European Affairs
Department

**Senate / Sénat**

Mr / M. Jean-Louis HÉRIN

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Philippe DELIVET

Director of the European Affairs
Committee Service**GERMANY – ALLEMAGNE – DEUTSCHLAND****German Bundestag / Bundestag allemande / Bundestag**

Mr / M. Horst RISSE

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Saskia LEUENBERGER

Head of the International
Parliamentary Assemblies Division**Federal Council / Conseil fédéral / Bundesrat**

Mr / M. Georg KLEEMANN

Head of delegation

Deputy Secretary General

Ms / Mme Sandra MICHEL

Senior Official for Parliamentary
Relations**GREECE – GRÈCE - ΕΛΛΑΔΑ****Hellenic Parliament – Parlement hellénique – Βουλή των Ελλήνων**

Mr / M. Konstantinos ATHANASIOU

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Anastasi FRANGO

Head of the Directorate for European
and Bilateral Affairs**HUNGARY – HONGRIE – MAGYARORSZÁG****National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Országgyűlés**

Mr / M. Krisztián KOVÁCS

Head of the EU Department

**IRELAND – IRLANDE – ÉIRE****Parliament / Parlement / Houses of the Oireachtas**

Mr / M. Peter FINNEGAN

Head of delegation

Secretary General / Clerk of the Dáil
Éireann

Ms / Mme Cait HAYES

Permanent Representative of the
Irish Parliament to the European
Union**ITALY – ITALIE – ITALIA****Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Camera dei Deputati**

Mr / M. Paolo VISCA

Head of the EU Affairs Department

Senate / Sénat / Senato

Ms / Mme Beatrice GIANANI

Permanent Representative of the
Italian Senate to the EU**LATVIA – LETTONIE – LATVIJA****Parliament / Parlement / Saeima**

Ms / Mme Sandra PAURA

Head of the Interparliamentary
Relations Bureau**LITHUANIA – LITUANIE – LIETUVA****Parliament / Parlement / Seimas**

Ms / Mme Daiva RAUDONIENĖ

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Matas MALDEIKIS

Permanent Representative of the
Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania
to the European Union

**LUXEMBOURG – LUXEMBOURG – LËTZEBUERG****Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés**

Ms / Mme Isabelle BARRA

Deputy Secretary General

MALTA – MALTE – MALTA**House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Kamra tad-Deputati**

Mr / M. Raymond SCICLUNA

Head of delegation

Clerk to the House

Ms / Mme Eleanor SCERRI

Director for International Relations

NETHERLANDS – PAYS-BAS - NEDERLAND**Senate / Sénat / Eerste Kamer der Staten-Generaal**

Mr / M. Geert Jan HAMILTON

Head of delegation

Secretary General

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

Mr / M. Harke HEIDA

Head of delegation

Deputy Secretary General

Ms / Mme Janneke TIMMER

Clerk of the EU Affairs Committee

POLAND – POLOGNE – POLSKA**Parliament / Parlement / Sejm**

Ms / Mme Agnieszka KACZMARSKA

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Bogdan JANOWSKI

Director of the International Affairs
Bureau

Mr / M. Adam DUDZIC

Deputy Director of the International
Affairs Department

Ms / Mme Katarzyna BARTKOWIAK

Interpreter

**Senate / Sénat / Senat**

Mr / M. Jakub KOWALSKI

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Leszek KIENIEWICZ

Director of the Office for International
and European Union Affairs

Ms / Mme Agata WÓJCIK

Official for International and
European Union Affairs

Ms / Mme Natalia CHARITONOW

Interpreter

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

Mr / M. Albino AZEVEDO SOARES

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Maria João COSTA

Permanent Representative of the
Portuguese Parliament to the
European Union**ROMANIA – ROUMANIE – ROMÂNIA****Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Camera Deputaților****Senate / Sénat / Senat****SLOVAKIA – SLOVAQUIE – SLOVENSKO****National Council / Conseil national / Národná rada**

Mr / M. Daniel GUSPAN

Secretary General

**SLOVENIA – SLOVÉNIE – SLOVENIJA****National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Državni zbor**

Ms / Mme Uršula ZORE TAVČAR

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Samo NOVAK

Advisor

National Council / Conseil national / Državni svet**SPAIN – ESPAGNE – ESPAÑA****Congress of Deputies / Congrès des députés / Congreso de los Diputados**

Mr / M. Carlos GUTIÉRREZ

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Senate / Sénat / Senado

Mr / M. Manuel CAVERO

Head of delegation

Secretary General

SWEDEN – SUÉDE – SVERIGE**Parliament / Parlement / Riksdag**

Mr / M. Claes MÅRTENSSON

Head of delegation

Deputy Secretary General

Ms / Mme Livia SPADA

Official

UNITED KINGDOM – ROYAUME-UNI**House of Commons / Chambre des Communes**

Mr / M. Matthew HAMLYN

Head of the Overseas Office



House of Lords / Chambre des Lords

Mr / M. David BEAMISH

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Mr / M. Paul DOWLING

National Parliament Representative
to the EU

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT - PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN

Mr / M. Klaus WELLE

Head of delegation

Secretary General

Ms / Mme Christine VERGER

Director for Relations with National
Parliaments

IPEX – INTERPARLIAMENTARY EU INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Mr / M. Calin Mihai RACOTI

IPEX Information Officer



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ANEXO II
ORDEN DEL DÍA

MEETING OF SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE EU PARLIAMENTS

20 – 21 February 2017, Bratislava

PROGRAMME

Monday, 20 February 2017

15:00 – 18:00 Arrival of delegations and registration for the meeting at the hotels

Meeting of Secretaries General of the Troika

16:30 Departure from the hotels to the Bratislava Castle

17:00 – 17:45 Meeting of Secretaries General of the Troika
(Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia, European Parliament)

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (**Meeting Room in the Winter Riding School Foyer**)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

17:30 Departure from the hotels to the Bratislava Castle

18:00 Welcome drink

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (**Federation Hall**)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

18:20 Guided tour of representative and exhibition premises of the Bratislava Castle

19:00 **Dinner** hosted by Mr. **Daniel GUSPAN**, Secretary General
of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (**Art Gallery**)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

21:30 Return to the hotels



Tuesday, 21 February 2017

08:30

Departure from the hotels to the Bratislava Castle

Registration (for those not yet registered)

09:00 – 9:20

Opening session of the Meeting

Welcome address by Deputy Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Introductory remarks by Mr. **Daniel GUSPAN**,
Secretary General of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Adoption of the agenda of the Meeting

Debate

09:20 – 10:10

Session 1:
Presentation of draft programme of the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments

Speaker

Mr. **Daniel GUSPAN**, Secretary General of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Debate

10:10 – 10:25

Presentation of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Maltese EU Council Presidency

Speaker

Mr. **Raymond SCICLUNA**, Clerk to the House of Representatives of the Republic of Malta

10:25 – 10:40

Family photo

10:40 – 11:00

Coffee break

Venue:

*Bratislava Castle (1st Floor of the North Wing)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava*

11:00 – 12:00

Session 2:
IPEX related issues

- IPEX Annual Report
- Conclusions on IPEX
- Approval of composition of the IPEX Board
- IPEX Digital Strategy
- Various

**Speaker**

Ms. **Isabelle BARRA**, Deputy Secretary General of the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Debate

12:00 – 13:00

Session 3:

Draft proposal for the modalities of the JPSG on Europol - implications on national parliaments' administrations

Speaker

Ms. **Vanda ŠIPOŠOVÁ**, Representative of the National Council of the Slovak Republic to the European Parliament

Debate

13:15 – 14:30

LunchVenue:

Bratislava Castle (1st Floor of the North Wing)

Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

14:30 – 15:30

Session 4:

Engagement of parliaments' administrations in development assistance – lessons learnt, sharing know-how and best practices

Speakers

Mr. **Daniel GUSPAN**, Secretary General of the Chancellery of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Mr. **Claes MÅRTENSSON**, Deputy Secretary General of the Swedish Riksdag

Debate

15:45

Return to the hotels

Departure of delegates

MEETING OF SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE TROIKA

20 February 2017, Bratislava

AGENDA

Monday, 20 February 2017

16:30 Departure from hotels to the Bratislava Castle

17:00 – 17:45 Meeting of Secretaries General of the Troika
(Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia, European Parliament)

1. Presentation & adoption of agenda of the Meeting of Secretaries General of the EU Parliaments

2. IPEX related issues

3. Presentation of draft programme of the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments
(23 – 24 April 2017, Bratislava)

4. Letters received by the Presidency

5. Any other business

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (*Meeting Room in the Winter Riding School Foyer*)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

17:50 Departure for a welcome drink, guided tour and dinner



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ANEXO III

BORRADOR DEL ORDEN DEL DÍA DE LA PRÓXIMA CONFERENCIA DE PRESIDENTES DE PARLAMENTOS DE LOS ESTADOS MIEMBROS DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA

Draft as of 10 February 2017

CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF THE EU PARLIAMENTS

23 – 24 April 2017, Bratislava

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, 23 April 2017

15:00 – 18:00 Arrival of delegations and registration for the conference at hotels

Meeting of Speakers of Parliaments of the Troika

16:30 Departure from hotels to the Bratislava Castle

17:00 – 18:00 Meeting of Speakers of Parliaments of the Troika
(Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia, European Parliament)

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (**Representative premises**)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

18:00 Departure from the hotels to the National Council of the Slovak Republic

18:30 Welcome drink

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (**Hall of Knights**)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

19:00 **Dinner** hosted by Mr. **Andrej DANKO**, Speaker of the National Council
of the Slovak Republic

Venue:

Bratislava Castle (**Art Gallery**)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

22:00 Return to the hotels

Monday, 24 April 2017

08:30 Departure from the hotels to the Bratislava Castle

Registration (for those not yet registered)

09:00 – 9:45

Opening session

Welcome address by Mr. Andrej DANKO,
Speaker of the National Council of the Slovak Republic

Adoption of the agenda

Presentation of achievements of the Slovak EU Council Presidency
and its parliamentary dimension

10:00 – 10:10

Family photo

10:10 – 10:30

Coffee breakVenue:

Bratislava Castle (1st Floor of the North Wing & Garden Pavilion)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

10:30 – 12:00

Session 1:

Future of the EU as a global player in the context of the current
global changes and the role of national parliaments

Debate

12:00 – 13:30

LunchVenue:

Bratislava Castle (1st Floor of the North Wing & Garden Pavilion)
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka 1, Bratislava

13:30 – 15:00

Session 2:

Bringing parliamentary agenda closer to citizens in the modern
era – sharing best practices

Debate

15:00 – 16:00

Discussion and adoption of the Conclusions

16:15

Closing remarks

16:30

Return to hotels

Departure of delegations



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ANEXO IV

INFORME ANUAL DEL IPEX

IPEX ANNUAL REPORT 2016

MEETING OF THE SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION PARLIAMENTS

21-22 February 2017

Bratislava

Mr Claude Frieseisen

Secretary General of the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand
Duchy of Luxembourg

Chair of the IPEX Board

Dear Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is with a great pleasure that I take the floor to present the 2016 IPEX annual report. I am particularly pleased to report on the IPEX activities, because I supported the initiative of an interparliamentary information exchange platform since its presentation back in 2000 at the Conference of the Speakers of the European Union Parliaments. Looking back at the last years, I feel very proud to observe that this instrument of interparliamentary dialogue is one of the most successful and concrete projects realised in cooperation with the national Parliaments of the European Union and the support of the European Parliament. Indeed, the original goals of IPEX have been largely achieved; however, there are new challenges ahead of us that we have to face.

As you may know, 2015 and 2016 have been two challenging and enriching years for our Parliament. Indeed, during the second semester of 2015, the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies organised six interparliamentary meetings as well as a COSAC Working Group as part of the parliamentary dimension of the Presidency of the Council of the EU.

In February 2016, the Chamber of Deputies hosted the Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments. And finally, on 22-24 May 2016, we officially concluded our Presidency with the Conference of the Speakers of the European Union Parliaments and we had the honour to take over the rotating IPEX Presidency, according to the IPEX guidelines adopted in Rome in 2015. As stated during the Secretaries General meeting held in Luxembourg in February 2016, I firmly believe that the mechanism of the rotating presidencies will lead to an increased feeling of ownership of IPEX by all EU Parliaments.

It was with a great respect and profound admiration for the work performed so far by the previous IPEX presidencies, that Luxembourg took over this exciting but also demanding challenge. 2016 has been a particularly fruitful year for IPEX in many aspects, and, therefore I would like to express my sincere thanks to the members of the Board, to the IPEX Information Officer as well as to the national Correspondents.

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A. Meetings under Luxembourg Chairmanship

During its chairmanship, the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies has organised the following events:

- Three **Board meetings** (1 July 2016 and 27 January 2017 in Luxembourg and 21 October 2016 in Brussels)
- The annual **national Correspondents meeting** (1-2 December 2016 in Luxembourg)
- Three **Working group** meetings (digital strategy in Warsaw and Luxembourg, Organisation of national Correspondents meeting in Luxembourg)

Four Working groups have been active during the Luxembourg Chairmanship.

- 1) Working group on the digital strategy, co-chaired by Mr Gianpaolo Araco and Ms Tania Tennina
- 2) Working group on the institutions, chaired by the Information officer, Mr Calin Racoti
- 3) Working group on the fora, chaired by Mr Calin Racoti
- 4) Working group on the organisation of the IPEX national Correspondents meeting, chaired by Mr Yves Carl

I would like to thank the IPEX Board members who chaired the working groups for their active involvement and their dedication in reaching the goals set by the IPEX Board.

B. New order of presidencies

Dear Colleagues,

Before entering into further details concerning the achievements of the past term, allow me to remind you that the chairmanship had to take into account a decision of the Council of the European Union, which also had an impact on IPEX.

Following the UK decision to relinquish the Council presidency in the second semester 2017, the Council decided to move forward, by 6 months, the order of presidencies, starting, as of 1 July 2017. On 26 July 2016, the Council adopted decision 2016/1316 5 establishing a revised order in which the Member States will hold the presidency of the Council of the EU until 2030.

The revised order of the presidencies foresees that Estonia will take over the presidency of the Council of the EU during the second semester of 2017. This decision had a direct impact on the composition of the IPEX Board, in particular in view of art. 4 of the IPEX guidelines, which states:

The Board consists of members representing:

- a. the national Parliaments holding the previous, current and upcoming Presidency of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments;*
- b. the national Parliament of the member state holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union during the first semester of the year in which the Board takes office;*

Accordingly, the ex-officio composition of the IPEX Board was the following:

- a. Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia
- b. The Netherlands

The Luxembourg Chairmanship sent a letter to the Estonian Parliament informing the Riigikogu about this decision and about their upcoming chairmanship in 2018, while asking them to delegate a representative to the IPEX Board.

The Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies received a letter from the Estonian Parliament stating that Ms Maria ALAJÕE, Secretary General of the Estonian Riigikogu, would join the Board.

C. Priorities of the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies

In 2015, the IPEX Board, under the Luxembourg chairmanship, mainly focussed on the following issues:

- IPEX Handbook
- IPEX Leaflet

- the digital strategy
- Financing the IPEX information officer

First and foremost, the priorities of the Luxembourg Presidency consisted in finishing two projects already launched by previous presidencies. These were, first of all on the one hand, the Handbook for the Correspondents and on the other hand the Leaflet. I am very pleased to announce that both projects have been realised during the past 12 months.

IPEX Handbook

The Handbook's purpose is to provide support to the Correspondents by giving them a general overview of how IPEX is embedded in the interparliamentary framework, with a particular regard to the EU legislative process. It informs about the functionalities of the website and offers a guide on how to upload information on IPEX. It is a compact 11-pages document which also contains the guidelines as well as some reference documents.

IPEX Leaflet

The Leaflet is an instrument aiming at the promotion of IPEX, both, inside the national Parliaments or Chambers, and outside the parliamentary framework to groups interested in parliamentary activities. It provides for a very short overview of what IPEX stands for, its objectives, structure and database. The leaflet contains also a page dedicated to the national Correspondents and their role as a network facilitator and IPEX ambassador and where every national Parliament is free to add its contacts.

The Board decided, in particular, that the English and French IPEX Leaflet versions should have the same format, but every national Parliament could customize the Leaflet by translating it in its own language(s) and put in pre-defined spaces, its logo or national flag, possibly the IPEX correspondent's contacts and other relevant information according to a standard template. Pursuant to this decision, the Luxembourg Chairmanship contacted an external agency in order to realise the graphical layout of the above-mentioned leaflet. The Chairmanship took charge of the costs for the graphical realisation, but the costs related to the adaptations made by the national Parliaments should be taken over by themselves, as discussed and approved during the Board meeting.

Financing the IPEX Information Officer

a) Cofinancing

In July 2016, the Presidency sent out a letter of intent asking national Parliaments/Chambers for their commitment in participating in the co-financing

of the IPEX Information Officer. The Parliaments/Chambers were informed that the costs would be shared in equal parts according to the number of participating national Parliaments, and that the estimated maximum amount would be 70.000€ per year for the given period (2017-2018). The maximum contribution per national Parliament would be € 4,667 per year; the minimum would be 2.500 € per year, depending on the number of participating parliaments. The bills will be sent by the Belgian Senate at the beginning of each year and will bear a mention that they are accounted for and audited following the rules applicable to the Senate. After receiving the commitment of at least fifteen national Parliaments of at least fifteen Member States over the elapsed year, the commitment has become effective.

b) Contract with the Information Officer(IO)

As decided previously by the IPEX Board, the Belgian Senate concluded an employment contract with the IPEX IO (Mr Calin RACOTI) as of 1 January 2015 for a fixed term of two years which, according to the Belgian law automatically turned into a non-fixed term contract after these two years, as of 1 January 2017. The Board decided to continue the contract with the IPEX information officer.

The chair wants to thank the Belgian Senate for having hired the IO and for being transparent in the management of the costs.

D. Adoption of the IPEX digital strategy

At their last meeting held in Luxembourg on the 15 February 2016, the Secretaries General, after having endorsed the note on the Role of IPEX, in their conclusions on IPEX “call on the IPEX Board to present proposals for the definition of a digital strategy, meant to provide IPEX with a comprehensive and efficient strategy with the view of a mid-term work programme to be carried out by the rotating presidency”.

The IPEX Board set up a working group dedicated to the drafting of a digital strategy. The working group, chaired by Ms Tania Tennina, IPEX Board member from the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies, and Mr. Gianpaolo Araco, IPEX Board Member from the Italian Senate, undertook considerable efforts and proposed the IPEX digital strategy to the Board.

The IPEX digital strategy will guide the decisions of the IPEX Board regarding the future development of IPEX. After its adoption by the Secretaries General, the IPEX digital strategy will be complemented by a 3-year work programme, which will ensure continuity in the management of projects that span over more than one (rotating)

chairmanship and will indicate the priorities, the projects, the activities to be undertaken, as well as the timeframe for individual projects.

The digital strategy will outline the strategic approaches needed to be taken in order to achieve and implement the IPEX goals in relation to the target IPEX audience, the information, and services provided by IPEX.

It will also define the guiding provisions on the short-term maintenance and upkeep of the website.

Furthermore, it will identify how to involve national Correspondents more actively in the exchange of information and, finally, identify the relevant actions for the promotion of IPEX.

I am very proud to announce to you that the Board has finalised its work on the digital strategy on 27 January and that the final document for the IPEX digital strategy has been submitted to the Secretaries general and should be adopted at our meeting in Bratislava.

The 3-year work programme will be adopted by the IPEX Board following the adoption of the IPEX digital strategy by the Secretaries General. The Board will be responsible for the implementation of the work programme, whereas the IPEX Chair will be responsible for constant monitoring of the work programme implementation.

E. IPEX national Correspondents meeting

The Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies also had the honour of hosting the IPEX national Correspondents meeting from 1-2 December 2016 in Luxembourg. 53 participants representing 26 Member States and 4 candidate countries attended this Correspondents meeting.

Based on the proposals by the working group on the organisation of the national Correspondents meeting, chaired by Mr Yves Carl from the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies, a draft programme was adopted by the members of the Board. The first day of the meeting basically consisted in 2 trainings held by the IPEX Information Officer. One training was for the newcomers and the second one was for the more experienced correspondents.

On the second day, participants gathered in the plenary hall of the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies in order to discuss two main subjects: "IPEX as a facilitator for the Exchange of Parliamentary Information in practice" and "Exchange of Parliamentary Information in Practice - Introduction of E-TrustEx and the Functions of NP Databases".

Former Chairman of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs, Defense, Development and Immigration of the Luxembourg Chamber of Deputies and Member of the European Parliament, Mr Ben Fayot recalled the historical context in which IPEX was developed as a merely information instrument for national Parliaments and how it became a platform for the parliamentary dimension of EU issues. He also focused on the importance of the implication of national Parliaments in the EU legislative process and the responsibility of every single member of the Parliaments to deal with EU matters, not only in the framework of the EU affairs committee but also in every single sectoral committee.

Mr de Bondt, Advisor to the European Affairs unit of the Belgian Senate, insisted on the fact that IPEX should become a “one-stop shop”, i.e. the place where you could find all the documents related to the parliamentary dimension of EU issues information on EU discussions in national Parliaments and other EU related initiatives. He also stressed the importance to have another user’s conference and to enhance the visibility of IPEX with adequate promotional material. Finally, he said that IPEX should be “THE” facilitator for the exchange of parliamentary information on EU matters.

In their presentation about e-TrustEX, Ms Deprez and Ms Smets from the European Commission explained that this project was part of a rationalisation process for EU documents launched by the EC. They announced that in 2017 eTrust-Ex would also start transmitting the replies to national Parliaments’ opinions and that one year later the reception of these opinions would also be possible via eTrust-Ex.

F. Future of IPEX

IPEX has gone through many evolutions and developments since its start in 2000. It has proved to be a reliable instrument and a relevant platform, not only for the exchange of documents and information, but also, and most importantly, for the exchange of ideas and for human exchange, i.e. networking. Indeed, we have to bear in mind that such a huge project would not have been possible without the commitment of many persons at all levels, political and non-political. At this stage, I would encourage the future presidency to follow this path and to continue bringing those people together who have a vision of a bright future for IPEX. The digital strategy clearly attests that IPEX is ready to take on new challenges and to be strictly forwardlooking.



A Digital Strategy for IPEX

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2 Introduction

At their last meeting held in Luxembourg on 15 February 2016, the Secretaries General, after having endorsed the note on the Role of IPEX, in their conclusions on IPEX “call on the IPEX Board to present proposals for the definition of a digital strategy, meant to provide IPEX with a comprehensive and efficient strategy with the view of a mid-term work programme to be carried out by the rotating presidency”.

The main goal established for IPEX by the Speakers Conference is mentioned in the IPEX Guidelines:

“The objective of IPEX is to support interparliamentary cooperation in the European Union by providing a platform for the electronic exchange of EU-related information between Parliaments in the Union (...).”¹

PROCEDURAL ISSUES

Adoption

The IPEX Digital Strategy (described in this document) has been drafted by the working group established for the purpose by the Board². This document takes into account the outcome of consultations with the National Correspondents.

The final draft, after having been approved by the IPEX Board at its meeting on 27 January 2017 in Luxembourg, is presented by the IPEX Board to the Secretaries General for adoption at their meeting of 20-21 February 2017.

The Digital Strategy (DS) is implemented through a 3-year Work Programme (WP).³

The 3-year Work Programme is adopted by the IPEX Board after the adoption of the IPEX Digital Strategy by the Secretaries General.

Implementation

The **Board** is responsible for the implementation of the Digital Strategy and Work Programme. The **National Correspondents** take active part in the implementation of the DS and WP. The DS and WP implementation constitutes a regular point on the NCs meetings agenda.

¹ IPEX Guidelines, Rome 2015

² The WG was established on 2 October 2015 in Brussels and enlarged on 1 July and 21 October 2016 in Luxembourg.

³ The Working Group has drafted a first version of this WP – in compliance with the content of the proposed Digital Strategy – simultaneously with the process of finalising the Digital Strategy.

Financing

For any action or activity included in the Work Program affecting the IPEX Digital System the following procedure will be launched:

1. The European Parliament - which is hosting the IPEX Digital System - will perform an evaluation of the activity, both in terms of technical feasibility and in terms of the estimated costs for the implementation;
2. If the evaluation of the activity shows that it can be performed at no or little cost (for example: editorial activities that can be carried out by the Information Officer, actions to be performed by the National Correspondents, etc.) the IPEX Board may request to start the activity;
3. If the analysis identifies that a financial effort is required, the Board submits to the Secretaries General for approval a proposal for the activity and the suggested co-financing scheme for its execution. The Secretaries General decide if and how to ensure co-financing by IPEX member parliaments of the proposed activity. Only when it has been decided (and covered), the IPEX Board will ask to start the activity.

Monitoring

The constant monitoring of the implementation of the DS and WP is the responsibility of the **IPEX Chairs** in the framework of their **annual IPEX reports** submitted to the Secretaries General – with regard to the parts carried out by a given IPEX Board Chairmanship. The reports cover also issues relating to the compliance of the executed tasks with the objectives defined in the IPEX WP and DS.

The report presenting the implementation of the DS and WP takes into account information in this regard submitted in writing by NCs. The organisation and editing of the NCs contribution to the implementation report are the duty of the IPEX Chair preparing the report.

The Secretaries General carry out the general review and assessment of the Digital Strategy after the end of the first full 3-year WP period, on the basis of a proposal submitted to them by the IPEX Board and drafted by a working group set up by the IPEX Board.

Revision and amendments

The revision of this Digital Strategy is the responsibility of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments.

The amendments to the Work Programme are the responsibility of the IPEX Board.

3 The Digital Strategy

The IPEX Digital Strategy:

a) is a comprehensive plan that will guide the decisions of the IPEX Board regarding the future development of IPEX. After its adoption by the Secretaries General of EU parliaments, the IPEX Digital Strategy will be complemented by a 3-year Work Programme which will ensure continuity in the management of projects that span over more than one (rotating) chairmanship and will indicate:

- the priorities
- the projects and activities to be undertaken
- the timeframe for individual projects.

b) outlines the **strategic approaches** to be taken **for achieving and implementing the IPEX goals, as established by the Speakers Conference and further explained by the Secretaries General in the IPEX basic documents⁴, in relation to the target IPEX audience, and the information and services provided by IPEX.**

c) defines **the guiding provisions on the short-term maintenance and upkeep of the website**, including the process and actors (workflow) for validation of current changes and updates, taking into account the “IPEX general editorial rules” adopted by the Board.⁵

d) identifies how to **actively involve National Correspondents in the achievement of the DS goals.**

e) describes **relations with other actors** and platforms in the framework of EU information exchange

f) identifies the relevant actions for the **promotion of IPEX** and presents possibilities for further development of communication.

3.1 Target audience

While IPEX is open to the general public, Members and their assistants, political groups and parliamentary civil servants of the Parliaments in the EU are the main target groups of IPEX. Actions undertaken in view of the further development of the platform will therefore mainly focus on the needs of these categories of users.

⁴ IPEX Guidelines, Rome 2015; Guidelines for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation in the European Union, Lisbon 2008; Speakers Conference and Secretaries General meetings conclusions on IPEX; the note “Role of IPEX”, Luxembourg 2016

⁵ “IPEX general editorial rules” are published on the subpage “IPEX for Correspondents”

3.2 Types of information to be exchanged

IPEX as a network of people and as a multifunctional platform shall provide the following types of information:

- I1. proposed EU legal acts and other documents transmitted to NPs by EU institutions;
- I2. *Lettres de saisine* and information about indicative deadlines for subsidiarity scrutiny calculated on the basis of the *Lettres de saisine*;
- I3. documents and information from National Parliaments concerning general scrutiny of EU documents;
- I4. reasoned opinions and other relevant information from National Parliaments concerning the subsidiarity control;
- I5. news from Parliaments, including structured information (e.g. bulletins);
- I6. information and documents of interparliamentary cooperation, including a Calendar of events;
- I7. relevant contact information;
- I8. basic information about national parliaments and their EU-related procedures;
- I9. glossary of terms used on IPEX (subject to regular updating);
- I10. research papers from EU parliaments;
- I11. impact assessment reports of the proposed EU legislation;
- I12. information from National Parliaments concerning the parliamentary dimension of EU Council Presidencies.

3.3 Services to be provided

IPEX as the main comprehensive platform providing for the electronic exchange of EU information, the IPEX digital System has to ensure the following services:

- S1. sharing in near real time the scrutiny status of EU documents in NPs, including general scrutiny and subsidiarity control;
- S2. sharing in near real time the parliamentary activity related to EU matters in the parliaments members of IPEX;
- S3. sharing a Calendar of interparliamentary cooperation events;
- S4. hosting websites:
 - of IPCs established by the Speakers,
 - of joint parliamentary scrutiny bodies (EP plus NPs) established by EU legislation according to the conclusions of the EUSC held in Nicosia in 2013;
- S5. providing information customised for the user profile (setting alerts, storing searches, etc.);
- S6. allowing for multiple access levels according to users profiles;

- S7. searching the website;
- S8. functioning as an institutional repository of interparliamentary cooperation;
- S9. fulfilling a general reference function.

3.4 Tools and methods for promoting IPEX

In order to promote the usage of IPEX and to ensure the continued utility of the IPEX network and database the Digital System includes the following elements:

- P1. implement a Search Engine Optimization strategy;
- P2. promote cross linking;
- P3. ensure the greater accessibility⁶ of the IPEX website;
- P4. provide direct and online training to parliamentary staff;
- P5. create and distribute promotional material.

3.5 Guiding provisions on the short-term maintenance of the website

Short-term maintenance covers any aspect for keeping the IPEX digital system operational, as well as guaranteeing that their content is accessible, up to date and complies with the standards set for the IPEX platform, taking into account "IPEX general editorial rules" adopted by the Board. More precisely this covers:

M1. Server and hosting environments

All technical aspects concerning the functioning of IPEX digital system are entrusted to the European Parliament.

IT services of the EP may act autonomously (without intervening in the IPEX content) to take any action that is necessary to keep IPEX digital system operational or, taking into account available resources, improve its performance.

M2. Accessibility and access control

The access control and user management is executed by the IPEX Information Officer, in accordance with the IPEX Guidelines (Art. 9 (2b)) and decisions of the IPEX Board.

The IPEX Information Officer, in line with the IPEX Guidelines and other instructions received from the IPEX Board, grants or restores users' access rights to the IPEX digital system.

M3. Information and content management

The management and supervision of content published throughout the IPEX digital system is ensured by the IPEX Information Officer, acting under the

⁶ <http://www.w3.org/WAI/> - accessed on 4 January 2017

supervision of the IPEX Board, as well as by the IPEX Correspondents on their national Parliaments' pages (the pages with national Parliaments' exclusive ownership).

The Information Officer and IPEX Correspondents ensure that the documents/information published on IPEX website are in line with *IPEX general editorial rules* :

- 1) the Information Officer ensures the coherence with *IPEX general editorial rules* of all publications of the entitled stakeholders⁷, subject to the reservation in point 2 below,
- 2) the national Correspondents are responsible for their national Parliaments' pages.

The daily maintenance and monitoring of the timelines and accuracy of the information published throughout the IPEX digital system performed by the IPEX Information Officer comprises:

- a) monitoring and possible correction of the terminology in order to ensure the coherence of the names and terms published on the website - in accordance with *Glossary of terms used on the IPEX website*⁸,
- b) monitoring of the **technical correctness** of published documents and information - right form, also linguistic, in the right place, according to the template provided by *IPEX general editorial rules*,
- c) ensuring the translation of the agreed parts of the website in strict cooperation with IPEX Correspondents,
- d) checking the actuality and correctness of the links,
- e) asking the national Correspondents⁹ to take corrective actions on the content of the national Parliaments' pages if needed.

3.6 Relations with other actors in the framework of EU information exchange

External developments in the (digital) exchange of EU information can have an effect on IPEX as a digital platform and as a network. The IPEX Board should consider their impact on IPEX when necessary.

The IPEX Board key purpose in its external strategy is to ensure that the IPEX goals are met. The Board promotes IPEX as the main platform for EU interparliamentary information exchange between the Parliaments in the EU. Mutually beneficial interaction and cooperation with other platforms, forums and networks should be

⁷ The entitled stakeholders – apart from the IPEX Information Officer and national Correspondents – are: EC, EP, EIB, Presidencies of interparliamentary conferences or bodies hosted on IPEX website.

⁸ Glossary is published on IPEX website: "About IPEX" (Basic documents) section.

⁹ The National Correspondents, supported by the IPEX Information Officer, are responsible for the documents and information on national Parliaments' pages – uploaded by IPEX Correspondents manually and/or via XML feed.

considered and fostered by the Board whenever necessary and when this feeds into the evolving needs of the target IPEX audience.

IPEX current environment: the other stakeholders participating in NPs' EU information exchange

The IPEX Digital Strategy takes also into consideration the environment in which IPEX operates, which means databases or other digital tools containing the same documents and information of NPs as IPEX does or serving the same goal of exchange of information between EU Parliaments on EU affairs (ex. the EP statistics).

The NPs' documents uploaded into IPEX are – in parallel – forwarded into other EU databases, namely that of the Commission, European Parliament, Council (see the Annex 4.3). IPEX does link these databases to its website. However, in order to ensure the enhanced reliability of IPEX information, it is proposed to analyse relations between IPEX and other EU databases containing NPs documents, to ensure the role of IPEX as main source of information for its audience.

The reasons for such an analysis is to be found in the description of EU databases content (NPs documents) listed in Annex 4.3.

After such an assessment, involving the Board and National Correspondents (taking, if possible, into consideration also the planned 3 institutions database), its results in the form of specific expectations or requests in relation to other EU databases as well as in relation to IPEX itself are written down into the Work Programme.

3.7 Involving National Correspondents

Having in mind the fundamental role of national Correspondents as contributors of IPEX, with a view to achieve an even greater exchange of information through the website and giving the national Correspondents greater ownership in the project, their involvement should be based on an enhanced and structured dialog between them and the IPEX Board.

The enhanced dialogue, involving also the implementation of the Digital Strategy, could take the following forms:

- regular questions on concrete issues of the website (f.i. assessment of the functioning of certain mechanisms (ex. SRC)) – electronic form of questionnaires,
- regular updating of the Glossary (once a year, a method to be envisaged),
- reports at the Board meeting on the course of this dialogue.

The NCs take part in drafting the reports on the implementation of the DS in accordance with the procedure described in the paragraph "Monitoring".

4 Annexes

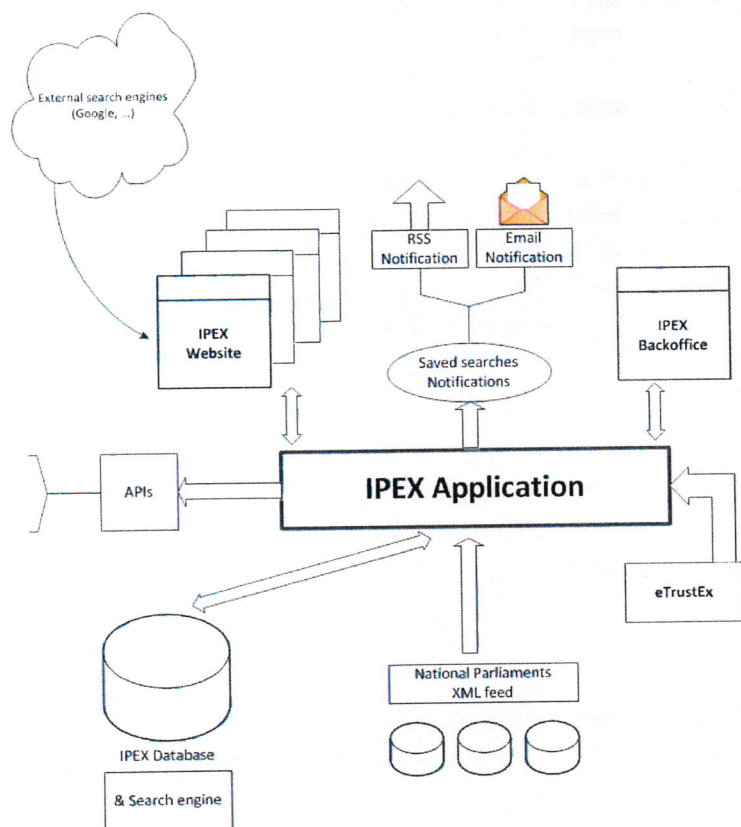
4.1 Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
IPEX platform	includes a digital system and a human network responsible for accomplishment of the IPEX tasks (mission)
IPEX digital system	is composed of the application, the database and the website – see below p. 4.2.
IPEX network	identifies the human actors of the IPEX platform, which contribute and interact to collect, produce, store, forward and publish relevant information
Database	technical element of the IPEX platform where the (mostly structured) information is stored, to be available for retrieval and use, with search function in the Documents database and Calendar
Website	the collection of webpages on the internet that is available when using a web browser to view www.ipex.eu
Application	a computer program that handles information to be stored into or retrieved from the database
General scrutiny	examination by national parliaments of proposed EU legal acts and other documents
Subsidiarity control	examination by national parliaments of the compliance of EU legislative proposals with the subsidiarity principle, according to <i>Protocol [no. 2] on the application of subsidiarity and proportionality principles</i> annexed to the TEU and TFEU
IPEX basic documents	for the purpose of this DS we intend by basic documents all the documents adopted by the Speakers Conference or Secretaries General dealing with the tasks of IPEX.
IPEX digital information channels	All digital channels through which IPEX publishes or communicates (IPEX Website, Social Media, etc.)

4.2 The IPEX digital system

According to the note on the “Role of IPEX”, IPEX is defined as “a multifunctional platform supporting inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union by organising human resources and providing technical means for the electronic exchange of information on all EU-related parliamentary activities”.

The “technical means” provided by the IPEX platform can be defined as the IPEX Digital System. The following diagram shows the main components of the IPEX Digital System and how they interact.



The diagram above is useful to understand the various elements that could be affected by the Digital Strategy and the Work Program (that is defined according to the DS itself).

4.3 IPEX relations with other actors¹⁰

Commission

- [National Parliament opinions and Commission replies](#) - European Commission's database containing reasoned opinions of national parliaments on subsidiarity, other opinions (political dialogue) sent to the European Commission and replies from the Commission (no search possibility)

European Parliament

- [European Parliament's register](#) - reasoned opinions of national parliaments can be found in the "Official documents forwarded by other institutions and by Member States" part, in the "National parliaments" section (the earliest was published on 22.07.2014).
- [Legislative Observatory](#) - reasoned opinions of national parliaments are published, together with other documents of the procedure, in *Documentation gateway - National parliaments* section, since July 2014. Records of procedures

¹⁰ Data concerning the content and functionalities of the databases and statistics – as of January 2017

from the years 2010 to 2013 contain only links to relevant *dossiers* in IPEX database (and not links to individual reasoned opinions).

Information about NPs' documents forwarded to the EP can be found in:

- [Statistics on subsidiarity checks](#) - EP's Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments publishes "State of play" before each EP plenary session and lists the documents received from national Parliaments that concern legislative proposals on the plenary agenda, as well as the documents received since the publication of the last note. Also annual Protocol 2 statistics are available – the last as of 3 June 2015.

Council

- [Public register of Council documents](#) - in this register reasoned opinions can be found by typing "reasoned opinion" in *Words in subject* part of the search form (the list contains only 35 results since 2010)

3 institutions – a possible future database:

- Future common database of legislative dossiers (including trilogues) – upon the basis of Art. 39 of the *Interinstitutional agreement on better law-making* of 16 April 2016



Congreso de los Diputados

ANEXO V

GRUPO DE CONTROL PARLAMENTARIO

CONJUNTO DE EUROPOL



CORTES GENERALES

NOTA RELATIVA A LA PROPUESTA DEL GRUPO DE TRABAJO DE LA TROIKA PRESIDENCIAL SOBRE EL GRUPO DE CONTROL PARLAMENTARIO CONJUNTO DE EUROPOL

Por primera vez, el Parlamento Europeo y los Parlamentos nacionales de la Unión Europea procederán al control conjunto de una autoridad ejecutiva europea, Europol, la agencia de la UE en materia policial, a través de un Grupo de Control Parlamentario Conjunto (GCPC). Hasta ahora, la cooperación interparlamentaria europea se ha limitado a intercambios de buenas prácticas en otras áreas.

Régimen jurídico y antecedentes

El fundamento jurídico para la creación de este Grupo de Control Parlamentario Conjunto de Europol se encuentra en el **artículo 88 del Tratado de Funcionamiento de la UE**, que prevé que el control de las actividades de Europol se realizará conjuntamente por el Parlamento Europeo y los Parlamentos nacionales. A su vez, el **artículo 51.1 del nuevo Reglamento de Europol de 11 de mayo de 2016¹**, que entrará en vigor el 1 de mayo de 2017, concreta las modalidades de este GCPC, señala que el Parlamento Europeo y los parlamentos nacionales determinarán conjuntamente su organización y reglamento interno con arreglo al artículo 9 del Protocolo nº 1 del Tratado; y prevé que el GCPC efectuará una supervisión política de las actividades de Europol.

Las Conclusiones de la Conferencia de Presidentes de Parlamentos de la UE (CPPUE) celebrada en Luxemburgo en mayo 2016 propusieron un calendario para la definición del formato del GCPC. Se encargó a un grupo de trabajo, denominado Troika, compuesto por representantes de los Parlamentos de Luxemburgo, Eslovaquia y Estonia, y el Parlamento Europeo, preparar una propuesta después de haber recabado la opinión del resto de Parlamentos nacionales. Tras enviar un cuestionario el 23 de septiembre de 2016, al que respondieron 34 Cámaras/Parlamentos, entre los que no se encontraban las Cortes Generales, la Troika presentó una primera propuesta el 22 de noviembre de 2016, que fue discutida en la reunión interparlamentaria que se celebró en Bruselas, en la Comisión de Libertades del Parlamento Europeo el 28 de noviembre de 2016, a la que acudieron sendas delegaciones del Congreso de los Diputados y el Senado de España.

¹ REGLAMENTO (UE) 2016/794 DEL PARLAMENTO EUROPEO Y DEL CONSEJO de 11 de mayo de 2016 relativo a la Agencia de la Unión Europea para la Cooperación Policial (Europol) y por el que se sustituyen y derogan las Decisiones 2009/371/JAI, 2009/934/JAI, 2009/935/JAI, 2009/936/JAI y 2009/968/JAI del Consejo.



CORTES GENERALES

Sobre la base de dichas consultas a los Parlamentos nacionales, la Troika presentó una segunda propuesta el 16 de diciembre de 2016, a la que los Parlamentos nacionales pudieron presentar enmiendas hasta el 4 de febrero de 2017. El objetivo de la Presidencia es que dicho texto sea consensuado con carácter previo y adoptado en la Conferencia de Presidentes de Parlamentos de la UE que se celebrará en Bratislava el 23 y 24 de abril de 2017.

Propuesta del grupo de trabajo de la Troika sobre el Grupo de Control Parlamentario Conjunto de Europol

La vigente propuesta de la Troika para la creación de este Grupo, que se adjunta a la presente nota como anexo 1, se centra en sus características esenciales, con el objetivo de facilitar su constitución lo antes posible, ciñéndose a lo establecido en el nuevo Reglamento de Europol y con el objetivo último de asegurar la eficiencia y facilitar el funcionamiento del GCPC. Los elementos centrales de dicha propuesta son:

1. **Composición.** Los miembros del GCPC deben ser elegidos por cada Cámara/Parlamento, teniendo presente la necesidad de que se trate de parlamentarios expertos en la materia y su continuidad en el tiempo. Cada Parlamento podrá nombrar a dos de sus miembros, un parlamentario por Cámara en el caso de Parlamentos bicamerales. El Parlamento Europeo podrá nombrar 10 miembros del GCPC.
2. **Presidencia.** El GCPC será presidido conjuntamente por el Parlamento de la Presidencia y el Parlamento Europeo.
3. **Número de reuniones.** El GCPC se reunirá dos veces por año, en el primer semestre la reunión se celebrará en el Parlamento de la Presidencia, mientras que en el segundo semestre se celebrará en el Parlamento Europeo. Podrán convocarse reuniones extraordinarias si lo acuerda el Parlamento de la Presidencia y el Parlamento Europeo.

Posiciones de los Parlamentos nacionales respecto a la propuesta de la Troika

De las 41 Cámaras parlamentarias de la Unión Europea, 4 han presentado enmiendas (las dos **Cámaras alemanas, la Dieta polaca y el Parlamento de Chipre**), que pueden consultarse en el anexo 2; y 2 han realizado comentarios a la propuesta de la Troika (**Asamblea Nacional francesa, Parlamento danés**), a los que hay que añadir sin ser miembro de la UE al **Parlamento noruego**. Los **Parlamentos de Suecia, Portugal, Croacia, Países Bajos y Lituania** así como la **Cámara de los Lores británica**, han apoyado sin matices la propuesta de la Troika. Todas estas contribuciones pueden encontrarse adjuntas a esta nota como anexo 3.



CORTES GENERALES

Se resumen a continuación las posiciones de los Parlamentos nacionales que han enmendado o comentado la propuesta.

La enmienda más amplia en su contenido e inflexible hasta ahora en su defensa ha sido presentada por el **Bundestag alemán**, que defiende los siguientes puntos principales:

1. **Composición.** Cada Parlamento podrá nombrar a cuatro de sus miembros, dos parlamentarios por Cámara en el caso de Parlamentos bicamerales, así como a sus sustitutos.
2. **Número de reuniones.** Deben poder convocarse reuniones extraordinarias si lo pide un tercio de los miembros del GCPC.
3. **Quórum y adopción de decisiones por mayoría.**
4. **Derecho de consulta y pregunta.** Un tercio de los miembros del GCPC deben poder pedir la comparecencia de los directivos de Europol, a los que podrán plantear preguntas orales, con dos semanas de antelación, o escritas.
5. **Creación de subgrupos.** El Bundestag propone la creación de un Comité Directivo, que fijaría la estrategia del GCPC, y de dos o tres subgrupos que se centrarían en materias concretas como por ejemplo la cooperación de Europol con FRONTEX y darían continuidad al control parlamentario.
6. **Creación de una secretaría permanente.**

El **Bundesrat alemán** apoya la enmienda del Bundestag sobre la composición del GCPC y rechaza en particular que la delegación del Parlamento Europeo sea más numerosa que las de los Parlamentos nacionales.

La **Dieta polaca** aumenta en su enmienda el número de parlamentarios nacionales por delegación, a 6 por Parlamento nacional, 3 por Cámara, y reduce el número de miembros del Parlamento Europeo a un máximo de 6, en la línea de la COSAC.

El **Parlamento de Chipre** enmienda dos aspectos de la propuesta de la Troika en la línea defendida por el Bundestag alemán:

1. **Composición.** Junto a los dos parlamentarios por Parlamento nacional, apuesta por incluir la figura de los sustitutos.
2. **Reuniones extraordinarias,** deben poder ser convocadas si así lo solicita un tercio de los miembros del GCPC.



CORTES GENERALES

Entre los Parlamentos que han realizado comentarios a la propuesta de la Troika están el **Parlamento danés**, el que, dado que Dinamarca está negociando un nuevo modelo de cooperación con Europol, ha comunicado a la Troika que concretará su participación una vez constituido el GCPC. Por su parte, la **Asamblea Nacional francesa** apoya la enmienda del Bundestag alemán en todos sus puntos (expresamente en lo referente al quorum, derecho de consulta y pregunta, creación de subgrupos y secretaría permanente) salvo en lo referente a la composición, ya que consideran necesario que el GCPC sea un órgano reducido, sin especificar sin embargo el número de miembros que desearían por delegación. Al mismo tiempo, a Asamblea Nacional francesa apoya la propuesta de la Troika en lo referente a la continuidad de las delegaciones, los sustitutos, la libertad de los Parlamentos bicamerales para decidir su representación y la posibilidad de convocar reuniones extraordinarias.

Por último, cabe destacar que el **Parlamento noruego** ha solicitado ser observador permanente en el GCPC, dada la estrecha cooperación que Noruega mantiene con Europol y en la línea de su participación en la Conferencia interparlamentaria para la PESD.

A nivel informal, a través de la red de representantes de Parlamentos nacionales en Bruselas, los **Parlamentos de Irlanda, Letonia y el Senado checo** han comunicado así mismo que prevén apoyar la propuesta de la Troika.

Posición de las Cortes Generales

Según la Ley 8/1994, de 19 de mayo, por la que se regula la Comisión Mixta para la Unión Europea, es competencia de esta Comisión "Participar en las actividades de Eurojust y de Europol, en los términos establecidos en los artículos 12 del Tratado de la Unión Europea y 85 y 88 del Tratado de Funcionamiento de la Unión Europea..." (artículo 3 n).

No obstante, a la citada reunión interparlamentaria organizada por la Comisión de Libertades Públicas del Parlamento Europeo en Bruselas el 28 de noviembre de 2016, por no estar aún constituida la Comisión Mixta para la UE, se envió a dos delegaciones de las Comisiones de Interior del Congreso y del Senado.

Por el Congreso, asistieron:

- Excmo. Sr. D. Jose Alberto Martín-Toledano Suárez (Portavoz Grupo Parlamentario Popular)
- Excmo. Sr. D. Antonio Ramón María Trevín Lombán (Portavoz Grupo Parlamentario Socialista)



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- Ilmo. Sr. D. Pablo Javier Pendas Prieto, Letrado de las Cortes Generales

Por el Senado, asistieron:

- Excmo. Sr. D. José Cruz Pérez Lapazarán, Portavoz del Grupo Parlamentario Popular
- Excmo. Sr. D. Antonio Casimiro Gavira Moreno, Vice-portavoz del Grupo Parlamentario Socialista
- Ilmo. Sr. D. Eugenio de Santos, Letrado de la Comisión de Interior

El programa² y el informe³ de la reunión están disponibles en la web del Senado, cabe destacar que el Senador Pérez Lapazarán propuso que fueran 4 en vez de 2 los miembros del GCPC por Parlamento Nacional.

Sin embargo, las Cortes Generales, y en concreto la Comisión Mixta para la Unión Europea en cuanto órgano competente en materia de Europol, no han considerado conveniente presentar enmiendas a la propuesta de la Troika objeto de este informe, que se ha considerado razonable en líneas generales.

Debate de la propuesta de la Troika en la reunión de Secretarios Generales y la CPPUE 2017

Tanto la propuesta de la Troika para la creación del GCPC como las enmiendas y comentarios que han sido presentados por los Parlamentos nacionales serán sometidos a la aprobación de la CPPUE que tendrá lugar los días 23 y 24 de abril de 2017 en Bratislava, así como con carácter previo y a nivel administrativo, en la reunión de Secretarios Generales de 20 y 21 de febrero de 2017 en Bratislava. Cabe destacar que no está previsto que se abra un nuevo plazo de enmiendas a este texto.

² Programa de la reunión interparlamentaria organizada por la Comisión de Libertades Públicas del Parlamento Europeo en Bruselas el 28 de noviembre de 2016:

http://www.senado.es/web/wcm/idc/groups/public/@cta_doc_rrii/documents/document/mdaw/mta1/~edisp/20161128programawebeuropolbrus.pdf

³ Informe de la reunión interparlamentaria organizada por la Comisión de Libertades Públicas del Parlamento Europeo en Bruselas el 28 de noviembre de 2016:

http://www.senado.es/web/wcm/idc/groups/public/@cta_doc_rrii/documents/document/mdaw/mta1/~edisp/20161128informewebeuropolbruse.pdf



CORTES GENERALES

A la vista de lo expuesto en la presente nota, es patente la falta de consenso entre los Parlamentos nacionales sobre los elementos esenciales del GCPC de Europol, lo que sumado al carácter inflexible de la defensa de su posición que llevan a cabo ciertos Parlamentos como el alemán, complica en gran medida la adopción de la propuesta de la Troika en las condiciones previstas actualmente por la Presidencia eslovaca.

Bruselas, a 14 de febrero de 2017

Carmen Sánchez-Abarca Gornals

Letrada de las Cortes Generales ante la Unión Europea

ANEXOS

Anexo 1. Propuesta del grupo de trabajo de la Troika sobre el Grupo de Control Parlamentario
Conjunto de Europol (lengua inglesa)



NATIONAL COUNCIL
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Europol Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group

Draft Text

Of Troika Working Group

For the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments, 23-25 April 2017

Explanatory note

Pursuant to the conclusions of the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments (Luxembourg 22-24 May 2016), the Working Group comprising the Troika of the Conference of Speakers (the Parliaments of Luxembourg, Slovakia, Estonia and the European parliament) conducted a consultation of EU Parliaments/Chambers in order to define the modalities of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) for Europol in the form of a questionnaire. The questionnaire comprising three basic questions was sent to all national parliaments/chambers and the European Parliament on 23 September 2016. All together, 34 Parliaments/Chambers representing 25 Member States and the European Parliament have answered the questionnaire. On the basis of the replies a draft proposal for the modalities of the JPSG was prepared by the Troika Working Group and presented to all Parliaments/Chambers as a basis for further discussion in the LIBE Inter-parliamentary Committee Meeting on 28 November 2016 (LIBE ICM).

As per the conclusions of Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments (Luxembourg 22-24 May 2016) the LIBE Inter-parliamentary Committee Meeting was the main forum for political discussion on the modalities of the JPSG. 31 Parliaments/Chambers representing 23 Member States and the European Parliament participated in the LIBE ICM. On the basis of the discussion in the LIBE ICM, the Troika Working Group has updated its draft proposal where necessary and is presenting the following draft text outlined in the next chapter to the Parliaments/Chambers.

While broad agreement was found on most issues, both consultations showed opposing visions on some elements. This second compromise version attempts to find a balance and to reconcile these opposing views. Parliaments/Chambers may submit amendments with respective justifications to this draft text by 3 February 2017. The draft text and amendments shall be made available in the Meeting of Secretaries General of EU Parliaments on 20-21 February in Bratislava for final endorsement by the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments on 23-25 April in Bratislava.

For all the Parliaments'/Chambers' information, the following paragraphs set out the reasoning behind each section of the draft text and the suggested compromises contained therein, on the basis of the discussion in the LIBE ICM. Several basic hypotheses underline the overall reasoning of the Troika Working Group: priority should be given to basic modalities of the JPSG so as to convene the group as soon as possible; tasks of the JPSG are already set out in Regulation 2016/794 and are specific to Europol's function as a cooperation body in police matters; it is important to ensure efficiency and workability of the newly created body.

On the question of membership in the JPSG, no Parliament/Chamber expressed opposition to the draft proposal that members of the JPSG should be selected individually by each Parliament/Chamber, bearing in mind the necessity to ensure substance matter expertise and recommending to draw from the responsible committee/committees. DE Bundestag further suggested that members should be appointed by their respective Parliament/Chamber to the JPSG for the duration of their parliamentary mandate in order to ensure continuity of the work of the JPSG. The need to ensure continuity was included in the draft text.

On the question of numerical composition of the JPSG, there was broad support for the draft proposal of the Troika in the LIBE ICM. Three Parliaments/Chambers (DE Bundestag, ES Senate, PL Sejm) emphasized that national Parliaments/Chambers should be able to nominate more than 2 members of the JPSG, in order to make better provisions for bicameral parliaments and to reflect political diversity in

Parliaments/Chambers. On the other hand, many others emphasized the need to keep the body small. In order to preserve the succinct nature of the proposed structure to ensure efficiency and workability, the original proposal of 2 members per Parliament (1 for each Chamber in the case of bicameral Parliaments) is therefore maintained. A stipulation is added allowing the two Chambers of bicameral parliaments, if they so wish, to come to a different arrangement between themselves that would result in the nomination of 2 members on behalf of the Parliament as a whole. Furthermore, in view of the EP's original proposal to include all 60 members of the LIBE committee, the EP urged for a modestly larger numerical representation, while agreeing on all other elements of the proposal. The total membership of the JPSG would thus be 66 members (or 64 depending on Denmark's participation).

On the question of presidency, frequency and place of meetings no opposition was expressed to the proposal to have the JPSG jointly presided by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the EU and the EP. This part of the proposal is therefore maintained. Several Parliaments/Chambers however expressed the opinion that one meeting of the JPSG per year would not be enough (DE Bundestag, ES Senate, UK Lords, HU, CY, GR, PL Sejm). The new draft text therefore proposes bi-annual meetings of the JPSG. In order to maintain the balance between the national Parliaments and the EP, and with a view to the current distribution of work in the institutional framework of inter-parliamentary cooperation, it is proposed that one of these meetings is held in the first half of the year in the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the EU in the first semester and the second meeting is held in the European Parliament. Additionally, the option of an extraordinary meeting is maintained. Time and place of such a meeting should be decided by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the EU and the EP as co-presidents of the JPSG. Moreover, some delegations expressed the need to define the circumstances of an extraordinary meeting, which was also added to the new draft text.

On additional matters and questions outside the scope of the basic modalities of the functioning of the JPSG, some supplementary suggestions were made, though none received immediate broad support in the LIBE ICM. The EP mentioned the need for the establishment of a secretariat for the JPSG. The DE Bundestag suggested that the JPSG should also have working groups, that effective procedures for voting and quorum should be discussed as one cannot work with the assumption that decisions will be taken on the basis of consensus. Moreover, they proposed that powers and tasks of the JPSG in between meetings, links with other European institutions and the setting up of a Secretariat should be considered, and that a constituent meeting of the JPSG should be held as soon as possible. The DK Parliament considered that it is crucial to establish how the JPSG will work and take up cases. The HU Parliament suggested that the language regime of the JPSG should be established according to Article 7 of the Stockholm guidelines. The CY Parliament also posited that sub-committees could clarify the role of the JPSG. The LT Parliament also suggested that work of the JPSG can be done in regional format and sub-committees. The Troika Working Group considers that these matters fall within the scope of the rules of procedure, which the JPSG should decide on itself once constituted.

Draft text of the Conclusions of the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments of 23-25 April 2017 in Bratislava as pertaining to the Europol JPSG

The Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the European Union pursuant to:

- a) Article 88 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,*
- b) Protocol Number 1 on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union to the Treaty on the European Union,*
- c) Regulation 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol),*
- d) The tasks of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group set out in Regulation 2016/794,*

And in accordance with the Conclusions of the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments of 22-24 May 2016 in Luxembourg,

Agrees that as concerns the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) to carry out scrutiny of Europol's activities:

- 1) Members of the JPSG shall be selected individually by each Parliament/Chamber, bearing in mind the necessity to ensure substance matter expertise as well as long-term continuity and recommending to draw from the responsible committee/committees in Parliaments/Chambers.;*
- 2) Each Parliament shall have the right to nominate 2 members of the JPSG, in the case of bicameral parliaments each Chamber shall have the right to nominate 1 member of the JPSG (unless otherwise agreed between the two Chambers). The European Parliament shall have the right to nominate 10 members of the JPSG;*
- 3) The JPSG shall be presided jointly by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament;*
- 4) The JPSG shall meet twice a year. In the first half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. In the second half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the European Parliament. If necessary, an extraordinary meeting can be convened upon agreement of the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament, to address matters of urgency or matters that cannot be reasonably included in the agenda of the ordinary meetings. Time and place of the extraordinary meeting shall be decided by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament;*

And recommends that a constituent meeting of the JPSG should be held as soon as possible in order to adopt its rules of procedure so as to enable full work to begin in the second semester of 2017.

Anexo 2. Enmiendas de los Parlamentos nacionales a la propuesta de la Troika para la creación del Grupo de Control Parlamentario Conjunto de Europol (lengua inglesa)

18th electoral term



Deutscher Bundestag

Proposals on the second draft produced by the Troika Working Group on 16 December 2016 Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol

The German Bundestag thanks the Troika Working Group for its second draft of conclusions for the Conference of Speakers and Presidents of European Parliamentary Assemblies, to be held in Bratislava from 23 to 25 April 2017, and for its work relating to the establishment of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol.

Under Article 88(2) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) and Article 51(1) of Regulation (EU) No 2016/794, hereinafter referred to as the 'new Europol Regulation', scrutiny of Europol activities is exercised by the European Parliament together with national parliaments. To this end, a specialised Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group, hereinafter referred to as the 'JPSG', is to be established by the national parliaments and the competent committee of the European Parliament.

This means that, for the first time, the European Parliament and national parliaments will jointly oversee a European executive authority. Interparliamentary cooperation in permanent bodies has hitherto been restricted to exchanges of good practice.

Article 51(1) of the new Europol Regulation goes much further and lays the foundations for **permanent interparliamentary scrutiny**.

In order to ensure that such permanent interparliamentary scrutiny possesses sufficient legitimacy, **balanced representation of the various political groups** must be guaranteed in the new JPSG. In the view of the Bundestag, this can only be achieved if the national parliaments are able to send a sufficient number of representatives to the JPSG.

From the very start, the JPSG should be able to perform its tasks as defined in the new Europol Regulation. Accordingly, before the group is constituted, it is not enough to reach agreement on the number of representatives to be sent to the JPSG and on the frequency of its meetings. The Bundestag proposes that, as soon as possible and in good time for the Conference of Speakers of 23 to 25 April 2017, **agreement be reached on other key features of the JPSG's *modus operandi*, such as the decision-making procedure, hearing and questioning rights, appointment of subgroups and creation of a secretariat**. This groundwork should ensure that interparliamentary scrutiny can be permanently and effectively exercised.

On the basis of the foregoing remarks, the Bundestag wishes to comment as follows on the current draft from the Troika Working Group (part I) and on other matters concerning the operating procedures of the JPSG (part II):



I.

1. Composition of the JPSG

- A. In the view of the Bundestag, the JPSG should have at least four members from each national parliament.

Rationale

In this way the composition of national parliaments can be taken into account. The number of representatives of national parliaments should be increased so as to maintain the balance between the political groups in each parliament that send members and to ensure that opposition groups are duly represented. By having the number of its members increased from six, as proposed in the first draft from the Troika Working Group, to ten, the European Parliament has ensured that all of its political groups are represented in the JPSG. The national parliaments are seeking equal treatment in this respect.

- B. The Bundestag welcomes the reference in the present draft to long-term continuity in the composition of the JPSG. The members selected by parliaments should be appointed for the duration of the electoral term of the parliament in question. The Bundestag proposes that this matter be clarified in the draft conclusions for the Conference of Speakers.

Rationale

The purpose of this proposal is to guarantee the availability of specialised expertise and operational continuity and to make it possible to form a network of experts.

- C. The Bundestag proposes that the national parliaments or their chambers appoint substitute members of the JPSG who can represent the full members of the JPSG in their absence.

Rationale

This kind of substitution arrangement ensures full representation of the national parliaments and the European Parliament in the JPSG as well as corresponding to the practice of parliamentary bodies.

- D. The Bundestag welcomes the fact that the second draft from the Troika Working Group gives Member States with bicameral systems sufficient flexibility to determine themselves how their national representation is to be divided between the two chambers of Parliament.



Rationale

This flexibility takes account of the diverse constitutional and political circumstances in Member States.

2. Extraordinary meetings

The Bundestag welcomes the fact that the number of ordinary meetings of the JPSC has been increased to two in the new draft and that an extraordinary meeting may also be held. In this context, the Bundestag deems it desirable not to limit the number of extraordinary meetings. In the view of the Bundestag, besides the European Parliament and the national Parliament of the Member State holding the presidency of the Council, one third of the members of the JPSC should also be able to require the convening of an extraordinary meeting.

Rationale

Within one year, several situations could arise in which there appeared to be an urgent need to convene a meeting and discuss an issue. In view of the small number of ordinary meetings, the obstacles to convening an extraordinary meeting should not be unduly great.

II.

The Bundestag also proposes the following additional principles for the *modus operandi* of the JPSC:

1. Quorum and decision-making

The summary conclusions prescribed by Article 51(5) of the new Europol Regulation should be adopted by a majority of the members.

Rationale

Provision should be made for a voting procedure which lends the conclusions the degree of legitimacy required for the scrutiny of Europol. Unlike the interparliamentary conferences held for the purpose of exchanging good practices, such an arrangement seems necessary for a group that exercises the rights of scrutiny enshrined in primary legislation and in the new Europol Regulation.

2. Rights of hearing and questioning

- A. One third of the members of the JPSC should be able to require the Chairperson of the Management Board, the Executive Director or their



respective Deputies and the European Data Protection Supervisor to appear at meetings of the JPSC to discuss matters relating to the activities of Europol.

Rationale

Under the new Europol Regulation, the Chairperson of the Management Board, the Executive Director or their Deputies are to appear before the JPSC at its request to discuss matters relating to Europol activities (Article 51(2)(a)), and the European Data Protection Supervisor is to appear before the JPSC at its request to discuss general matters relating to the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms of natural persons in the context of Europol activities (Article 51(2)(b)). This significant right of oversight will enable the JPSC to ensure that it is well informed when adopting conclusions under Article 51(5) of the new Europol Regulation. For this reason, and in view of the small number of its ordinary meetings, there must not be unduly high barriers to the exercise of the JPSC's right to hear the aforementioned persons.

- B. The right of the JPSC to hold such hearings should be accompanied by a right vested in each individual member of the Group to obtain oral answers to his or her questions. So that well-founded answers can be given to these questions, the questions should be submitted to the chair of the JPSC two weeks before the meeting. The chair would then forward the questions to the competent Europol departments so that an answer can be formulated in preparation for the meeting.

Rationale

If there is an effectively structured right to ask questions, the JPSC will be able to exercise adequately its right to hold hearings as enshrined in Article 51(2) of the new Europol Regulation.

- C. Besides the right to obtain oral answers to questions in connection with the right to hold hearings, each member and substitute member of the JPSC should be permitted, outside the framework of the Group's meetings, to address an appropriate number of written questions to the Management Board and the Executive Director.

Rationale

With regard to the permanent scrutiny for which Article 51(1) of the new Europol Regulation provides, the members of the JPSC must be given effective access to information outside as well as inside their meetings. This is the purpose of the right to have their written questions answered.



3. Appointment of subgroups

So that its oversight duties can be performed effectively, the JPSC should be able to appoint subgroups – a steering committee and two to three other subgroups – or, where necessary, *ad hoc* bodies. A steering committee should draft the political and strategic objectives of the JPSC. Potential thematic focal points for the other subgroups are Europol's cooperation with EU agencies such as Frontex or with non-EU countries and international organisations, protection of personal data in the context of Europol activities and budgetary matters. The subgroups should make recommendations to the full JPSC relating to particular points in the conclusions referred to in Article 51(5) of the Europol Regulation, these recommendations having been adopted by a majority of the subgroup members. The subgroups themselves should determine how frequently they meet.

Rationale

The establishment of operationally efficient and well-informed subgroups to prepare and support the work of the JPSC and the pooling of specialised expertise will enable the Group to exercise effectively its scrutiny of Europol activity.

4. Creation of a secretariat

The JPSC and its subgroups should be assisted by a secretariat. Among the tasks of the latter would be to draw up the meeting agendas jointly with the European Parliament and the Parliament of the Member State holding the presidency of the Council after consulting the steering committee, to organise meetings, to send meeting documents and preparatory documentation to Group members and to draw up the minutes of meetings.

Rationale

Permanent administrative support must be guaranteed so as to ensure that the JPSC and its subgroups can function properly.

Translation

*His Excellency
The Speaker of the National Council
of the Slovak Republic
Dr. Andrej Danko
Bratislava
SLOVAKIA*

Berlin, 2nd February 2017

Dear Mr. Speaker,

The German Bundesrat would like to thank the Troika for the good preparatory work and guidance of discussions so far on provisions pertaining to the Rules of Procedure for the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol. Parliamentary scrutiny of a European agency, exercised jointly by the European Parliament and national parliaments, is to be implemented for the first time.

As policy issues concerning the police in Germany fall primarily within the ambit of the federal states, represented in the Bundesrat, it is particularly important to us to ensure that we are also involved in parliamentary scrutiny of the European Police Office, Europol.

The Bundesrat would therefore like to focus its comments in particular on Point 2 of the Troika draft on the composition of the JPSG, and proposes the following wording:

"Each Parliament shall have the right to nominate 4 members of the JPSG, in case of bicameral parliaments each Chamber shall have the right to nominate 2 members of the JPSG. The European Parliament shall have the right to nominate 10 members of the JPSG."

Substantiation:

The Bundesrat recognises the need to limit the size of the group to ensure efficient scrutiny of Europol. At the same time, the Troika's current proposal, which envisages two members per national parliament or one member per chamber, poses considerable challenges for bicameral parliaments in particular, as adequate representation must be ensured for both chambers and also—in keeping

...

with parliamentary practice—for representatives of majority and minority parliamentary groups. Increasing the number of members to be appointed to this group to four per national parliament or two members per chamber would take this concern more fully into account.

The Bundesrat would like to emphasise in particular the importance of upholding independent rights for both parliamentary chambers to appoint members to the group. The Bundesrat is of the opinion that there is no need for the formulation currently envisaged in the Troika draft, whereby it is also possible for alternative arrangements to be agreed upon by the two parliamentary chambers ("unless otherwise agreed between the two Chambers"). If both chambers are in agreement, the original wording already offers scope for the chambers to decide upon a different arrangement. If it is not possible for both chambers to reach an agreement, the current wording could lead to misunderstandings and differing interpretations.

Yours most respectfully

(signed)

*Malu Dreyer
President of the Bundesrat*

The conclusions of the Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the European Union of 23-25 April 2017 in Bratislava pertaining to the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG)

The Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the European Union agrees that as concerns the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) to carry out scrutiny of Europol's activities:

- 1) *Members of the JPSG shall be selected individually by each Parliament/Chamber, bearing in mind the necessity to ensure substance matter expertise as well as long-term continuity and recommending to draw from the responsible committee/committees in Parliaments/Chambers;*
- 2) *Each Parliament shall have the right to nominate 2 members of the JPSG, in the case of bicameral parliaments each Chamber shall have the right to nominate 1 member of the JPSG (unless otherwise agreed between the two Chambers). The European Parliament shall have the right to nominate 10 members of the JPSG;*
- 3) *The JPSG shall be presided jointly by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament;*
- 4) *The JPSG shall meet twice a year. In the first half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. In the second half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the European Parliament. If necessary, an extraordinary meeting can be convened upon agreement of the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament, to address matters of urgency or matters that cannot be reasonably included in the agenda of the ordinary meetings. Time and place of the extraordinary meeting shall be decided by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament;*
and recommends that a constituent meeting of the JPSG should be held as soon as possible in order to adopt its rules of procedure so as to enable full work to begin in the second semester of 2017.¹

Amendment to the conclusions proposed by the Sejm:

- 2) ***Each Parliament shall have the right to nominate 6 members of the JPSG, in the case of bicameral parliaments each Chamber shall have the right to nominate 3 members of the JPSG (unless otherwise agreed between the two Chambers). The European Parliament shall have the right to nominate 6 members of the JPSG;***

Substantiation:

From the very outset the Sejm of the Republic of Poland has stressed the need to nominate more than 2 members to the JPSG in order to take better account of bicameral parliaments, to reflect the political diversity and to ensure an appropriate composition of the committees in particular parliaments. The extended JPSG is justified by the already functioning structures of cooperation such as the Interparliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security

¹ Draft text of Troika Working Group for the Conference of Speakers of 23-25 April 2017, p.4.

Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), as well as the Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union (under Article 13).

The Sejm of the Republic of Poland maintains its view expressed in the online questionnaire sent to the Troika Working Group and at the meeting of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) on 28 November 2016.



REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



Nicosia, 3 February 2017

Amendments proposed by the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus to the Draft Text of the Conclusions of the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments of 23-25 April in Bratislava as pertaining to the Europol JPSG.

Amend paragraph 2 as follows:

2) Each Parliament shall have the right to nominate 2 members of the JPSG (and 2 substitutes), in the case of bicameral Parliaments each Chamber shall have the right to nominate 1 member (and 1 substitute) of the JPSG (unless otherwise agreed between the two Chambers). The European Parliament shall have the right to nominate 10 members (and 10 substitutes) of the JPSG. **Substitutes will be able to participate only when titular members are absent.**

Justification:

The option of substitute members would guarantee effective participation of all National Parliaments and the European Parliament without compromising the necessity to maintain participation of MPs with substance matter expertise to ensure continuity of the work of the JPSG.

Amend paragraph 4 as follows:

4) The JPSG shall meet twice a year. In the first half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. In the second half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the European Parliament. If necessary, an extraordinary meeting can be convened upon agreement of the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament or **by at least one third of the member National Parliaments** to address matters of urgency or matters that cannot be reasonably be included in the agenda of the ordinary meetings. Time and place of the extraordinary meeting shall be decided by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament.

Justification:

One third of participating National Parliaments should be considered as a significant number indicating that an issue causes extensive concern and is deemed important to discuss.

/ET.

Anexo 3. Comentarios de los Parlamentos nacionales a la propuesta de la Troika para la creación del Grupo de Control Parlamentario Conjunto de Europol (lengua inglesa)

Statement by the Committee on Justice
2016/17:JuU23



Parliamentary control of Europol

Summary

In accordance with Ch.9, Art. 20 of the Riksdag Act, the Committee has examined a document from a working group consisting of representatives of the Parliaments in Luxembourg, Slovakia and Estonia and of the European Parliament, containing a proposal on the establishment of a Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol.

According to the proposal, the members of the Scrutiny Group shall be appointed by each of the Parliaments/Chambers. Each national parliament may nominate two members, and the European Parliament ten members. According to the proposal, the Scrutiny Group shall meet twice a year. The Presidency shall be shared by the European Parliament and the country currently holding the Presidency of the Council.

The Committee can, with a certain degree of hesitation, accept the proposal. However, it is important that the number of members in the JPSC does not exceed the proposed number, and that the number of ordinary meetings per year does not exceed the two proposed meetings. The Committee would also like to stress that scrutiny of Europol should be simple, quick and concrete, and that it is opposed to the establishment of a new institution or secretariat to assist the JPSC.

The examined documents

Europol Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group. Draft Text of Troika Working Group for the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments, 23-25 April 2017.

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The Committee's proposal for a decision by the Riksdag

A Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol

The Riksdag puts the Statement on file.

Stockholm 26 January 2017

On behalf of the Committee on Justice

Beatrice Ask

The following members participated in the decision: Beatrice Ask (Moderate Party), Annika Hirvonen Falk (Green Party), Helene Petersson i Stockaryd (Social Democratic Party), Elin Lundgren (Social Democratic Party), Krister Hammarbergh (Moderate Party), Arhe Hamednaca (Social Democratic Party), Anti Avsan (Moderate Party), Susanne Eberstein (Social Democratic Party), Johan Hedin (Centre Party), Anders Hansson (Moderate Party), Petter Löberg (Social Democratic Party), Adam Marttinen (Sweden Democrats), Roger Haddad (Liberal Party), Linda Snecker (Left Party), Andreas Carlson (Christian Democrats), Lawen Redar (Social Democratic Party) and Runar Filper (Sweden Democrats).

Account of the matter

The matter and its consideration

After consulting the party group leaders, the Speaker decided that a document from the European Union on the establishment of a Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol would be considered by the Riksdag (cf. Ch.9, Art. 20 of the Riksdag Act). The document contains a draft text from a working group (the Troika), consisting of representatives of the Parliaments in Luxembourg, Slovakia and Estonia and of the European Parliament. A final adoption of the Scrutiny Group's working procedures etc. is planned for the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments in Bratislava on 23-25 April.

The Chamber referred the matter to the Committee on Justice for examination on 11 January 2017.

The Committee's examination

A Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol

The Committee's proposals in brief

The Riksdag puts the Statement on file.

Background

The Europol Regulation came into force in May 2016 and will start to apply on 1 May 2017. Article 51 deals with the subject of joint parliamentary scrutiny. It opens as follows:

Pursuant to Article 88 TFEU, the scrutiny of Europol's activities shall be carried out by the European Parliament together with national parliaments. This shall constitute a specialised Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) established together by the national parliaments and the competent committee of the European Parliament. The organisation and the rules of procedure of the JPSG shall be determined together by the European Parliament and the national parliaments in accordance with Article 9 of Protocol no. 1.

Further, the article states that the JPSG shall politically monitor Europol's activities in fulfilling its mission. The article also lists the documents that are to be submitted to the JPSG for its information and with regard to obligations regarding discretion and confidentiality.

The process for defining the JPSG's working procedures

The conclusions from the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments in Luxembourg from May 2016 propose a step-by-step procedure for defining the JPSG's working procedures. A working group (the Troika), comprising representatives of the Parliaments of Luxembourg, Slovakia and Estonia and the European Parliament was given the task of preparing a proposal after obtaining the opinions of the other parliaments.

On 23 September 2016, the Troika sent a questionnaire to all national parliaments and the European Parliament. The Troika wanted answers to the following questions:

1. Who should participate in the JPSG?
2. How many members should the Group have?

¹ Regulation (EU) 2016/794 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 May 2016 on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) and replacing and repealing Council Decisions 2009/371/JHA, 2009/934/JHA, 2009/935/JHA, 2009/936/JHA and 2009/968/JHA.

3. How often should the group meet and who should be Chair?

All together, 34 parliaments/Chambers representing 25 member states and the European Parliament answered the questionnaire. On the basis of the replies, the Troika presented a draft proposal on 22 November 2016, which was subsequently discussed at the inter-parliamentary committee meeting at the European Parliament on 28 November 2016. From the Riksdag, two members of the Committee on Justice participated in the meeting.

Following the opinions from both consultations (the questionnaire and the inter-parliamentary committee meeting), the Troika presented a compromise proposal on 16 December 2016. The intention is that the proposal shall be adopted at the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments in Bratislava on 23-25 April 2017. It is this text that will be considered in this Statement.

As stated above, the Europol Regulation will start to apply on 1 May 2017.

Proposal regarding the work procedures of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol

In the current document, the Troika presents, on the basis of the opinions submitted in response to earlier drafts, the reasoning that has led to the current proposal. One point of departure has been to prioritise the basic modalities of the JPSG so that the Group can convene as soon as possible. Furthermore, the Troika notes that the JPSG's tasks are already set out in the Europol Regulation and that they are specific to Europol's function as a body for cooperation in police matters. Finally, it is stated that it is important to ensure efficiency and workability in the newly created body.

The explanatory text also mentions a number of further issues and questions, in addition to the question of the basic modalities of the JPSG, which was discussed at the inter-parliamentary committee meeting in the European Parliament on 28 November 2016. This includes, for example, the need for the establishment of a secretariat for the JPSG as well as sub-committees and working groups. The Troika considers that these matters fall within the scope of the rules of procedure, which the JPSG should decide on itself once constituted.

On the basis of this reasoning, the following modalities are proposed for the JPSG.

1. Members of the JPSG shall be selected individually by each Parliament/Chamber, bearing in mind the necessity to ensure substance matter expertise as well as long-term continuity and recommending to draw from the responsible committee/committees in Parliaments/Chambers.
2. Each Parliament shall have the right to nominate 2 members of the JPSG, in the case of bicameral parliaments each Chamber shall have the right to nominate 1 member of the JPSG

(unless otherwise agreed between the two Chambers). The European Parliament shall have the right to nominate 10 members of the JPSG.

3. The JPSG shall be presided jointly by the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament.
4. The JPSG shall meet twice a year. In the first half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union. In the second half of the year, the JPSG shall meet in the European Parliament. If necessary, an extraordinary meeting can be convened upon agreement of the Parliament of the country holding the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union and the European Parliament, to address matters of urgency or matters that cannot be reasonably included in the agenda of the ordinary meetings.

Finally, it is recommended that a constituent meeting of the JPSG should be held as soon as possible in order to adopt its rules of procedure so as to enable full work to begin in the second semester of 2017.

The position of the Committee

Firstly, the Committee would like to refer to what it has said earlier about parliamentary scrutiny of Europol (Statement 2010/11:JuU21 p. 10 f). The Committee considered that it is important that there is parliamentary monitoring of activities directed towards combating crime, in particular because these types of activities often impinge on the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens, for example, the protection of personal privacy. This also applies to Europol. In the view of the Committee, it is important that there is parliamentary scrutiny to ensure that a balance between measures intended to protect citizens and measures intended to protect the rights of the individual is maintained.

Furthermore, the Committee still considers, regarding the forms for parliamentary scrutiny, that these should be simple, rapid and concrete and that no new authorities need be established for this purpose. It should focus primarily on following up results and strategies, rather than on scrutinising individual decisions.

As regards the current proposal on the modalities of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol, the Committee can, with a certain degree of hesitation, accept the proposal. The proposal is, essentially compatible with what the Committee has previously expressed, for example, about the scrutiny being simple, rapid and concrete and that no new authorities should be established for the purpose. The Committee maintains this position, and would like to stress how important it is that the JPSG does not develop into a disproportionately large and costly activity. On the basis of this position, the Committee would like to express the following opinions about the proposal.

In similarity with what the Troika proposes regarding the matter of representation in the JPSG, the Committee considers that in view of the need to ensure subject matter expertise, it is reasonable that each Parliament/Chamber determines its representatives in the Group. As previously stated by the Committee, it is natural for the national parliaments (and the European Parliament) to be represented by representatives of the committee responsible for police matters. The insight of the national parliaments into Europol can also contribute to securing the legitimacy of European cooperation, especially in the field of police cooperation. The Committee agrees with the Troika's assessment that the members should be chosen for a longer period in order to guarantee continuity.

As regards the number of members in the JPSG, the Committee considers that the Group should not be too big as this could have a negative impact on the efficiency of its work. The Committee would like to stress how important it is that the JPSG is an efficient and result-oriented body which plays an active role in scrutiny of Europol's activities, with a focus on following up results and strategies. With the right composition and a well-balanced size, the JPSG should also be able to carry out its scrutiny without excessive costs for the EU's taxpayers.

According to the current proposal, each national parliament shall have the right to nominate two members for the JPSG. The Committee supports the proposal and considers that it is well-balanced to achieve efficiency and at the same time to reflect the composition of the parliaments and their diversity in a fair manner. The proposal also meets the needs of the parliaments with two chambers, which can nominate one member per chamber. The Committee is opposed to having a greater number of members.

The Troika proposes that the European Parliament should nominate ten members for the JPSG. This is an increase of four members compared with the previous proposal of 28 November 2016. Even though the Committee considered that six members was a reasonable number, it can with a certain degree of reluctance, accept the increase to ten members. However, it is important that there are no further increases, as this could have a negative impact on the efficiency of the Group's work. In light of the fact that Europol's primary task is to support the member states' law enforcement authorities and to facilitate their opportunities for cooperation, it is, in the opinion of the Committee, also reasonable that the member states have a greater representation in the JPSG than the European Parliament does.

As regards the frequency of meetings, the Committee prefers the previous proposal of one meeting per year, with the opportunity to call an extraordinary meeting. Increasing the number of ordinary meetings to two per year is not in line with the Committee's view that scrutiny should be conducted simply and without generating unnecessary additional costs. At the same time, the Committee notes that several member states have said that one meeting per year is not sufficient. In view of this, the Committee can accept the new proposal.

Furthermore, the Committee notes the proposal on a joint Presidency between the European Parliament and the parliament of the country holding the Presidency of the Council. If the JPSG is to meet twice a year, the Committee has no objections to holding the meetings in the first half of the year in the national parliaments, and the meetings in the second half of the year in the

European Parliament, but it would like once again to stress that Europol's task is to support the member states' law enforcement authorities.

Finally, the Committee would like to clarify that it is strongly opposed to the establishment of a new institution or a new secretariat for the purpose of examining Europol's activities. This is admittedly not mentioned in the current proposal, but the Committee still feels it appropriate to express its opinion in light of the opinions that were presented at the inter-parliamentary committee meeting in the European Parliament in November 2016.

APPENDIX

List of examined documents

Europol Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group. Draft Text of Troika Working Group for the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments, 23-25 April 2017.



HRVATSKI SABOR
ODBOR ZA UNUTARNJU POLITIKU
I NACIONALNU SIGURNOST

Zagreb, 26. siječnja 2017.

**Predmet: Stajalište Odbora za unutarnju politiku i nacionalnu sigurnost o
Nacrtu teksta Radne skupine trojke o modalitetima rada Zajedničke
skupine za parlamentarni nadzor Europolu
- dostavlja se**

Odbor za unutarnju politiku i nacionalnu sigurnost, na 8. sjednici, održanoj 26. siječnja 2017., u skladu s člankom 51. Poslovnika Hrvatskoga sabora, zauzeo je stajalište o kompromisnom prijedlogu Nacrta teksta Radne skupine trojke o uspostavi i modalitetima rada Zajedničke skupine za parlamentarni nadzor Europolu (JPSG) kroz sljedeći zaključak:

1. Odbor za unutarnju politiku i nacionalnu sigurnost podržava kompromisni prijedlog Nacrta teksta Radne skupine trojke o modalitetima rada Zajedničke skupine za parlamentarni nadzor Europolu, bez amandmana, jer tekst predstavlja kompromisni, balansirani prijedlog, koji je uzeo u obzir sve elemente rasprave na međuparlamentarnom sastanku odbora LIBE-a 28. studenoga 2016.

Obrazloženje:

Odbor smatra kako predloženi modalitet rada Zajedničke skupine za parlamentarni nadzor Europolu ne odudara od drugih uspostavljenih konferencija međuparlamentarne suradnje u Europskoj uniji kao što su Međuparlamentarna konferencija o stabilnosti, gospodarskoj koordinaciji i upravljanju u EU-u, Međuparlamentarna konferencija o Zajedničkoj vanjskoj i sigurnosnoj politici i Zajedničkoj sigurnosnoj i obrambenoj politici. Ujedno, smatra kako je trojka uzela u obzir sve elemente rasprave od 28. studenog 2016, te sačinila izbalansiran i kompromisan prijedlog.

S poštovanjem

PREDSJEDNIK ODBORA

Ranko Ostojić

Dear Vanda,

Following the submission to national parliaments of the Draft text of the Troika Working Group for the Europol JPSG on 16 December 2016, the Domestic Policy and National Security Committee of the Croatian Parliament discussed the Draft proposal on 26 January 2016, and adopted the following conclusion:

"Domestic Policy and National Security Committee supports the compromise proposal of the Draft text of the Troika Working Group on the modalities of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group for Europol, without amendments, as the proposed text represents compromise and balanced proposal which has taken into account all elements of the discussion in the LIBE Interparliamentary Committee Meeting of 28 November 2016."

For information, I am attaching the Position of the Domestic Policy and National Security Committee of the Croatian Parliament on the Draft text of the Troika Working Group on the modalities of the Europol JPSG (in Croatian) which contains the abovementioned conclusion.

Kind regards,

Tanja

Tanja Babić



predstavnica Hrvatskog sabora u Europskom parlamentu

Representative of the Croatian Parliament-Sabor to the European Parliament

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HOUSE OF LORDS

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3 February 2017

Mrs Edita Pfundtner
National Council of the Slovak Republic
Námestie Alexandra Dubčeka I
812 80 Bratislava I
Slovakia

Dear Mrs. Edita Pfundtner

Thank you for sending me the draft text of the Troika Working Group on the Europol Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group. The House of Lords supports the Troika's text and does not wish to submit any amendments at this stage.

Kind Regards

Yours sincerely,

Tim Boswell

Lord Boswell of Aynho
Chairman of the European Union Committee

Dear Vanda,

On behalf of Mr. Svein Roald Hansen, chair of the EFTA EEA Delegation of the Norwegian Parliament, I would like to provide a comment to the draft text of the Troika Working Group on the Europol JPSG.

As you are aware, Norway takes a great interest in the work of the new JPSG and has on several occasions expressed a view to be associated to group. Thus the Norwegian Parliament would like to suggest an addition to the current draft text:

2 bis) Parliaments of European non-EU member states who are Europol partner countries and members of Schengen, can participate as permanent observers to the JPSG, each with 2 members.

Reasoning

Norway entered an operational agreement with Europol in 2001, and has enjoyed an excellent cooperation with Europol ever since. Norway is among the third countries that exchange most information with Europol, and the level of information exchange is increasing. The cooperation between the EU and Norway in the area of cross-border policing is thus mutually beneficial. On the basis of Norway's operational agreement with Europol, Norway's Schengen membership, and Norway's close co-operation with the EU on justice and home affairs more generally, the Norwegian Parliament believes it would be mutually beneficial if Norwegian MPs would be associated with the JPSG as observers. In the case of the EU Inter-parliamentary Conference on the Common Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and on the Common Security and Defence Policy, the rules of procedures states that European non-EU NATO Members are permanent observers. This has been important for Norway and the clear rule simplifies the participation. We hope this can serve as an example also for the JPSG, that the Norwegian Parliament can participate in the new Group with two MPs as permanent observers, on the basis of Norway being a non-EU, but Schengen member and close Europol partner.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any further information from me or have any questions.

Thanks a lot for your assistance!

Kind regards

Per

Per S. Nestande
Representative of the Norwegian Parliament
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Dear Vanda,

As chair of the European Affairs Committee, and as such on behalf of the Danish Parliament, I would like to provide a comment to the draft text of the Troika Working Group on the Europol JPSG.

As you are aware, Denmark as a full Member of the European Union, and liable under the jurisdiction of the European Court of Justice, is currently in the process of negotiating a new cooperation model with Europol, to establish a close cooperation between Denmark, Europol and the other participating states.

The Danish Parliament takes a great interest in the work of the new JPSG and would like to express an interest in view to be associated to the group as closely as possible. For now we want to express the overall interest as Parliament to participate as closely as possible, and will be willing to contribute more concretely in view of the future text of the statute of the JPSG.

Kind regards,

Erik Christensen,

Chair of the European Affairs Committee in the Danish Parliament

Chère Vanda,

J'ai eu la position de l'Assemblée nationale sur Europol.

Nous soutenons la proposition du Bundestag **sauf pour ce qui concerne la composition du groupe de contrôle (point 1 A). Il nous paraît important que cet organe soit restreint.**

En revanche, il nous semble possible de soutenir les points 1B (pérennité de la composition), 1C (sur les suppléants), 1D (pour les parlements bicaméraux, liberté de représentation). Soutien aussi sur le point 2 relatif aux séances extraordinaires.

L'Assemblée nationale est aussi d'accord sur la suggestion allemande relative au quorum (II.1), sur le droit de consultation et de question (II.2), la constitution de sous groupes (II.3) et la création d'un secrétariat permanent (II.4).

Faute de temps, je suis désolé de ne pas pouvoir faire un texte en anglais mais on peut en reparler lundi.

Passe un excellent week-end,

Vincent

Vincent VIVES

Représentation de l'Assemblée nationale auprès de l'Union européenne

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a AV Europe

Dear all,

The Portuguese Parliament, after a debate in the competent committees, would like to express its acceptance of the draft text of the Troika Working Group for the Europol JPSG as distributed in the 16th of December.

Best regards,

Maria João

mariajoao.costa@natparl.ep.europa.eu



Dear, Vanda,

I just wanted to inform You that Seimas supported the Troika's draft's text proposal without any remarks. Good job.

Have a great day,

Best,



Matas Maldeikis

Lietuvos Respublikos Seimo nuolatinis atstovas Europos Sąjungoje
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