



*Congreso de los Diputados*

## **INFORME SOBRE LA REUNIÓN DE LOS SECRETARIOS GENERALES DE LOS PARLAMENTOS DE LOS ESTADOS MIEMBROS DE LA UNIÓN EUROPEA CELEBRADA EN LUXEMBURGO EL DÍA 15 DE FEBRERO DE 2016.**

El pasado día 15 de febrero tuvo lugar en Luxemburgo 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 22 y 24 de mayo de 2016.

A la misma asistió en nombre de España una delegación compuesta por el Letrado Mayor del Senado, D. Manuel Cavero 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 la Sala de reuniones II del *European Convention Center Luxembourg* 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 de la Cámara de Diputados del Gran Ducado de Luxemburgo, Sr. D. Mars Di Bartolomeo y del Secretario General de dicha Cámara, Sr. Claude Frieseisen, 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. Se refirieron expresamente a la Declaración de Roma sobre una mayor integración europea y la posibilidad de suscribirla antes de la Conferencia, así como a la posibilidad de debatir enmiendas a la misma.

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 22 a 24 de mayo en el mismo Centro de Convenciones de Luxemburgo y con la presencia del Sr. Jean-Claude Juncker, Presidente de la Comisión Europea, cuya asistencia se confirmó

Dicha conferencia se desarrollará sobre varias líneas de discusión:

- Sesión I: la gestión de los flujos migratorios (incluyendo el rescate y recepción de refugiados, reasentamiento, Acuerdo de Schengen, protección de fronteras exteriores, etc.).
- Sesión II: las conclusiones de la Conferencia de Presidentes de Parlamentos de la Unión Europea celebrada en Roma los días 20 y 21 de abril de 2015.



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- Sesión III: el estudio de mecanismos de refuerzo de la Unión Europea (en particular la presentación de la Declaración de Roma: “El camino hacia una mayor integración europea”).
- Sesión IV: el papel de los Parlamentos en la cooperación interparlamentaria (con debates sobre el diálogo político, el control parlamentario de Europol, consultas entre Parlamentos, etc.) y
- Sesión V: el reforzamiento de la seguridad ciudadana con respecto a las libertades fundamentales, debatiendo sobre nuevos medios de lucha contra el terrorismo y el papel de los Parlamentos nacionales.

Se acompaña, como ANEXO III el 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 22 a 24 de mayo de 2016

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 2015 y presentado por la Presidencia italiana.

Concluido el debate se aprobó el Informe Anual del IPEX y Luxemburgo se ofreció para desempeñar la próxima presidencia anual de IPEX. Ambos documentos se acompañan como ANEXO IV.

Tras una breve suspensión la reunión se reanudó a las 11:45 horas con la Sesión III dedicada al estudio del papel de los Parlamentos en la educación para la ciudadanía. En este tema la Ministra de Educación del Gran Ducado de Luxemburgo hizo una extensa exposición sobre los mecanismos de participación de los Parlamentos en esta cuestión y de modo particular la firma de la Carta del Consejo de Europa sobre Educación para la Ciudadanía Democrática y los Derechos Humanos.

Después de un amplio debate sobre las ideas anteriores y la explicación de las distintas experiencias al respecto en Austria, Francia, Reino Unido, Chipre, Alemania, Hungría, Eslovenia, Irlanda y el Parlamento Europeo, se clausuró la reunión con la exposición por parte del Sr. Frieseisen de las conclusiones finales.

Palacio del Congreso de los Diputados, a 15 de marzo de 2016.

Carlos Gutiérrez Vicén

SECRETARIO GENERAL



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**ANEXO I**

**LISTA DE PARTICIPANTES**



**Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European  
Union Parliaments**

**14<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup> February 2016**

**Luxembourg**

**DRAFT LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Réunion des Secrétaires généraux des Parlements de  
l'Union européenne**

**14 – 15 février 2016**

**Luxembourg**

**LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS PROVISOIRE**



**AUSTRIA – AUTRICHE – ÖSTERREICH**

**National Council / Conseil national / Nationalrat**

**Federal Council / Conseil fédéral / Bundesrat**

Mr / M. Harald DOSSI, Secretary General

Mr / M. Gerhard KOLLER, Official, Head of the EU affairs division

**BELGIUM – BELGIQUE – BELGIË**

**House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Kamer van volksvertegenwoordigers**

Mr / M. Marc VAN DER HULST, Official, Deputy Secretary General

Mr / M. Roeland JANSOONE, Official, Advisor

**Senate / Sénat / Senaat**

Mr / M. Hugo HONDEQUIN, Secretary General

Mr / M. Tim DE BONDT, Official, Secrétaire de délégation

**BULGARIA – BULGARIE – БЪЛГАРИЯ**

**National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Narodno sabranie**

Mr / M. Ivan SLAVCHOV, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Nina KOUNOVA, Interpreter



**CROATIA – CROATIE – HRVATSKA**

**Parliament / Parlement / Hrvatski sabor**

Ms / Mme Andrea HALAMBEK, Official, Head of the Office for International and European Affairs

**CYPRUS – CHYPRE – ΚΥΠΡΟΣ**

**House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Vouli ton Antiprosopon**

Ms / Mme Vassiliki ANASTASSIADOU, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Hara PARLA, Official, Senior International Relations Officer

**CZECH REPUBLIC – RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE – ČESKÁ REPUBLIKA**

**Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Poslanecká Sněmovna**

Mr / M. Petr KYNSTETR, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Silvia DEMIR, Official, Head of the International Unit, Foreign Relations Department

**Senate / Sénat / Senát**

Mr / M. Jiří UKLEIN, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Kateřina KOŠAŘÍKOVÁ, Desk Officer at the International Relations Department



**DENMARK – DANEMARK – DANMARK**

**Parliament / Parlement / Folketinget**

Mr / M. Carsten LARSEN, Secretary General

Mr / M. Morten KNUDSEN, Official, Chief EU-Adviser

**ESTONIA – ESTONIE – EESTI**

**Parliament / Parlement / Riigikogu**

Ms / Mme Maria ALAJÕE, Secretary General

**FINLAND – FINLANDE – SUOMI**

**Parliament / Parlement / Eduskunta**

Mr / M. Peter SARAMO, Official, Counsel to the Grand Committee, Head of EU Secretariat

**FRANCE – FRANCE**

**National Assembly / Assemblée nationale**

Ms / Mme Marie-France HÉRIN, Official, Directrice du service des Affaires européennes

**Senate/ Sénat**

Mr / M. Jean-Louis HERIN, Secretary General, Secrétaire général de la Présidence du Sénat

Mr / M. Philippe DELIVET, Official, Chef du service de la commission des affaires européennes



**GERMANY – ALLEMAGNE – DEUTSCHLAND**

**German Bundestag / Bundestag allemand / Bundestag**

Mr / M. Horst RISSE, Secretary General

**Federal Council / Conseil fédéral / Bundesrat**

Ms / Mme Ute RETTLER, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Sandra MICHEL, Official, Desk Officer for Parliamentary Relations

**GREECE – GRÈCE – ΕΛΛΑΔΑ**

**Hellenic Parliament / Parlement hellénique / Βουλή των Ελλήνων**

Mr / M. Konstantinos ATHANASIOU, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Anastasia FRAGKOU, Official, Head of the European Affairs Directorate

**IRELAND – IRLANDE – ÉIRE**

**Parliament / Parlement / Houses of the Oireachtas**

Mr / M. Peter FINNEGAN, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Cait HAYES, Official, National Parliament Representative

**ITALY – ITALIE – ITALIA**

**Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des députés / Camera dei Deputati**

Mr / M. Paolo VISCA, Official, Chef du Bureau pour les Relations avec l'Union européenne





**Senate / Sénat / Senato**

Mr / M. Luigi GIANNITI, Official, Head of Research Department

**LATVIA – LETTONIE – LATVIJA**

**Parliament / Parlement / Saeima**

Ms / Mme Karina PĒTERSONE, Secretary General

**LITHUANIA – LITUANIE – LIETUVA**

**Parliament / Parlement / Seimas**

Mr / M. Antanas DIMAITIS, Deputy Secretary General

Ms / Mme Loreta RAULINAITYTĖ, Official, Director of the Information and Communication Department

Mr / M. Matas MALDEIKIS, Official, Permanent Representative of the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania to the European Union

**LUXEMBOURG – LUXEMBOURG – LËTZEBUERG**

**Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des Députés**

Mr / M. Claude FRIESEISEN, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Isabelle BARRA, Deputy Secretary General



**MALTA – MALTE – MALTA**

**House of Representatives / Chambre des représentants / Kamratad-Deputati**

Mr / M. Raymond SCICLUNA, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Eleanor SCERRI, Official, Director International Affairs

**NETHERLANDS – PAYS-BAS – NEDERLAND**

**Senate / Sénat / Eerste Kamer der Staten-Generaal**

Mr / M. Geert Jan HAMILTON, Secretary General

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

Ms / Mme Renata VOSS, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Janneke TIMMER, Official, EU Advisor

**POLAND – POLOGNE – POLSKA**

**Parliament / Parlement / Sejm**

Mr / M. Adam PODGÓRSKI, Secretary General

Mr / M. Adam DUDZIC, Official, Deputy Director

Mr / M. Bogdan JANOWSKI, Official, Director

Ms / Mme Aneta KOWALSKA, Interpreter

**Senate / Sénat / Senat**

Ms / Mme Ewa POLKOWSKA, Secretary General



Mr / M. Leszek KIENIEWICZ, Official, Head of the Office for the International and EU Affairs

Ms / Mme Agata WÓJCIK, Official, Office for the International and EU Affairs

Ms / Mme Aleksandra TORRES, Interpreter

### **PORTUGAL – PORTUGAL – PORTUGAL**

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

Mr / M. Albino AZEVEDO SOARES, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Maria João COSTA, Official, Permanent Representative of the Portuguese Parliament to the EU

### **ROMANIA – ROUMANIE – ROMÂNIA**

**Chamber of Deputies / Chambre des Députés / Camera Deputaților**

Mr / M. Cristian – Adrian PANCIU, Secretary General

### **SLOVAKIA – SLOVAQUIE – SLOVENSKO**

**National Council / Conseil national / Narodnarada**

Mr / M. Daniel GUSPAN, Secretary General

Mr / M. Martin CIMERMAN, Official, Foreign Affairs Officer

Mr / M. Marek LISÁNSKY, Official, Advisor to the Speaker



**SLOVENIA – SLOVÉNIE – SLOVENIJA**

**National Assembly / Assemblée nationale / Državni zbor**

Ms / Mme Uršula ZORE TAVČAR, Secretary General

**SPAIN – ESPAGNE – ESPAÑA**

**Congress of Deputies / Congrès des Députés / Congreso de los Diputados**

Mr / M. Carlos GUTIÉRREZ VICÉN, Secretary General

**Senate / Sénat / Senado**

Mr / M. Manuel CAVERO, Secretary General

**SWEDEN – SUÈDE – SVERIGE**

**Parliament / Parlement / Riksdag**

Mr / M. Claes MÅRTENSSON, Deputy Secretary General

Ms / Mme Karin BROMS, Official, Permanent Representative of the Riksdag to the EU institutions

Ms / Mme Abigail CHOATE, Official, Head of EU coordination

**UNITED KINGDOM – ROYAUME-UNI**

**House of Commons / Chambre des Communes**

Mr / M. David NATZLER, Secretary General, Clerk of the House of Commons



Mr / M. Crispin POYSER, Official, Clerk of the Overseas Office

**House of Lords / Chambre des Lords**

Mr / M. Simon BURTON, Official, Reading Clerk and Clerk of the Overseas Office

**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT – PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN**

Mr / M. Klaus WELLE, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Christine VERGER, Official, Directrice

Ms / Mme Karen FREDSGAARD, Official, Advisor



**CANDIDATE COUNTRIES – PAYS CANDIDATS**

**ALBANIA - ALBANIE- SHQIPËRIA**

**Parliament / Parlement / Kuvendi**

Ms / Mme Albana SHTYLLA, Secretary General

**MONTENEGRO – MONTÉNÉGRO – ЦРНАГОРА**

**Parliament / Parlement / Skupština**

Mr / M. Sinisa STANKOVIC, Secretary General

Ms / Mme Irena MIJANOVIC, Official, Head of the Secretary General's Office



## **OTHER PARTICIPANTS – AUTRES PARTICIPANTS**

### **SPEAKERS – ORATEURS**

Mr / M. Mars DI BARTOLOMEO, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Mr / M. Harald DOSSI, Secretary General of the Austrian Parliament

Ms / Mme Michèle SCHILT, Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg, Zentrum fir politesch Bildung (Centre pour l'éducation à la citoyenneté)



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**ANEXO II**  
**ORDEN DEL DÍA**





## Meeting of the Secretaries General of the EU Parliaments Luxembourg, 14 and 15 February 2016

### Draft Programme

#### Sunday 14 February 2016

15.00 - 19.00 Arrival of delegations and registration for the meeting at the hotels

#### **Meeting of the Secretaries General of the Troika (Italy, Luxembourg, Slovakia and European Parliament)**

16.00 Departure from the hotels

16.30 Meeting of the Secretaries General of the Troika

*Address : European Convention Center Luxembourg  
meeting room D  
4, place de l'Europe  
L-1499 Luxembourg*

17.45 Departure by bus for a guided tour of the City of Luxembourg, followed by a welcome dinner at the cultural center Les Arquebusiers

19.30 Departure by bus for the welcome dinner (for those who are not taking part in the guided tour)

20.00 Welcome dinner at the cultural center Les Arquebusiers

*Address : Cultural center Les Arquebusiers  
142, Val-Sainte-Croix  
L-1370 Luxembourg*

22.00 Return to hotels

#### Monday 15 February 2016

8.30 Departure by foot from hotels

Registration at the European Convention Center Luxembourg (for those who are not yet registered)



*Address : European Convention Center Luxembourg  
4, place de l'Europe  
L-1499 Luxembourg*

- 9.00**                    **Opening of the meeting (meeting room 2)**
- Introductory remarks by Mr Claude Frieseisen, Secretary General of the Chamber of Deputies
- Welcome address by H.E. Mr Mars Di Bartolomeo, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies
- Adoption of the agenda
- 9.15**                    **Session I : Presentation of the draft agenda of the Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments (Luxembourg, 22 - 24 May 2016)**
- Debate
- 10.15**                   **Presentation of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Dutch Presidency**
- 10.30**                   **Session II : Questions related to IPEX**
- IPEX annual report
  - Conclusions on IPEX and approval of the composition of the IPEX Board
  - Various
- Debate
- 11.15**                   **Coffee break**
- 11.45**                   **Session III : Role of Parliaments in citizenship education**
- Speakers**
- Ms Michèle Schilt, Ministry of Education, Children and Youth of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, *Zentrum fir politesch Bildung* (Centre d'éducation à la citoyenneté)
- Mr Harald Dossi, Secretary General of the Austrian Parliament
- Debate
- 12.45**                   **Family photo**
- 13.00**                   **Lunch at the European Convention Center Luxembourg**
- 14.30**                   **Return to hotels**



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### **ANEXO III**

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



## Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments Luxembourg, 22 - 24 May 2016

### Draft programme

#### Sunday 22 May 2016

14.00 - 19.00 Arrival of delegations and registration for the meeting at the hotels

#### **Meeting of the Troika (Italy, Luxembourg, Slovakia and European Parliament)**

17.30 Departure by foot from hotels

18.00 - 19.00 Meeting of the Troika

*Address : European Convention Center Luxembourg  
4, place de l'Europe  
L-1499 Luxembourg*

19.00 Departure to the welcome dinner

19.00 Departure by bus to the welcome dinner (for those who have not participated in the Troika meeting)

19.30 Welcome dinner

22.00 Return by bus to hotels

#### Monday 23 May 2016

8.00 Departure by foot from hotels

Registration (for those who are not yet registered)

*Address : European Convention Center Luxembourg  
4, place de l'Europe  
L-1499 Luxembourg*

8.30 Opening of the meeting



CHAMBRE DES DÉPUTÉS  
GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

Welcome speech by H. E. Mr Mars Di Bartolomeo, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Adoption of the agenda

9.00 - 11.15

Session I - Management of migration flows

*(discussion points : rescue and first reception of refugees, relocation and resettlement, respect of the Schengen acquis, protection of the external borders, peace, development cooperation...)*

Debate

11.15 - 11.45

Coffee break

11.45 - 12.15

Session II - Follow-up on conclusions of Conference of Speakers of EU Parliaments (Rome, 20 - 21 April 2015)

Debate

12.15

Presentation of the Parliamentary dimension of the Dutch Presidency

12.30

Family photo

12.45 - 14.15

Lunch at the European Convention Center Luxembourg

14.15 - 16.15

Session III - Strengthening of the European Union

*(discussion points : presentation of the Rome declaration "Greater European integration : the way forward", European solidarity / division, European social dimension, respect of fundamental rights,...)*

Debate

16.15

Departure of the Speakers of Parliament and heads of delegation to the Grand Ducal Palace

16.15

Return of the other participants to hotels

16.45

Audience given by HRH the Grand Duke to Speakers of Parliaments and heads of delegation (tbc)

Return to hotels

19.10

Departure from hotels to the official dinner

19.30

Official dinner

22.00

Return to hotels

**Tuesday 24 May 2016**



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CHAMBRE DES DÉPUTÉS  
GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG

- 8.30 - 10.30      Session IV - Role of National Parliaments and interparliamentary cooperation
- (discussion points : enhanced political dialogue (green card), parliamentary scrutiny of Europol, European semester, consultations among Parliaments,...)*
- Debate
- 10.30 - 11.00      Coffee break
- 11.00 - 12.45      Session V - Ensure the security of citizens while respecting fundamental freedoms
- (discussion points : new means of fighting against terrorism, role of National Parliaments,...)*
- Debate
- 12.45              Adoption of conclusions
- 13.15              Lunch at the European Convention Center Luxembourg
- 15.00              Departure of delegations



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**ANEXO IV**  
**INFORME ANUAL DEL IPEX**



## MEETING OF THE SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION PARLIAMENTS

15 February 2016, Luxembourg

### CONCLUSIONS ON IPEX

1. The Secretaries General take note of the annual report on the current status of IPEX and thank the IPEX Board for its work in 2015.
2. The Secretaries General confirm the following composition of the IPEX Board during the Slovak Presidency of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments in 2016/2017:
  - Luxembourg (Chamber of Deputies), Chair of the IPEX Board (*ex officio*);
  - Italy (Chamber of Deputies and Senate) (*ex officio*);
  - Slovakia (National Council) (*ex officio*);
  - The Netherlands (Chamber of Deputies and Senate) (*ex officio*);
  - *(the list to be completed according to the information being collected by the Chair)*
  - The European Parliament (*ex officio*);
  - Any other national Parliament wishing to participate in the work of IPEX Board.

According to the IPEX Guidelines, COSAC, the ECPRD, the European Commission and the Council participate in and contribute to the IPEX Board meetings.

3. The Secretaries General thank the IPEX Board, and the Italian Parliament as its Chair, for the efforts undertaken in order to implement the new Guidelines, adopted in Rome on 13 March 2015. The Secretaries General appreciate that the rotating presidency mechanism has been successfully put into practice and trust that this will lead to an increased feeling of ownership of IPEX by all EU Parliaments.
4. The Secretaries General thank the Austrian Parliament for hosting the Annual IPEX Correspondents Meeting on 5-6 November 2015 in Vienna. They recall the importance of the Annual IPEX Correspondents meetings as an excellent opportunity for networking and encourage the Correspondents to be promoters of in-depth trainings for parliamentary staff. The Secretaries General also thank the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg and the European Parliament for hosting the Board meetings held respectively in Luxembourg on 29 June 2015 and in Bruxelles on 2 October 2015.
5. The Secretaries General express their gratitude both to the Senate of Belgium for offering to formally hire, as of January 2015, the IPEX Information Officer and to the European Parliament for providing the logistics and the infrastructure.



6. The Secretaries General, reaffirming the importance to continue the practice of organising IPEX Users conferences, agree to first focus on the implementation of the outcome of the Conference held in Copenhagen on 26 of January 2015 - as stated in the Report of the Conference submitted by the Board - before organizing a new meeting and mandate the Board on this issue
7. The Secretaries General thank the Board for the fruitful debate held on the role of IPEX and, having taken into consideration the final note drafted on the subject, express their agreement on its content.
8. The Secretaries General 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 ROLE OF IPEX

This short note summarises the key findings of the debate on the role of IPEX performed by the IPEX Board.

IPEX is 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. While it is targeted at users in parliaments, most content is also opened to the public.

It started as a specific project launched by the EU speakers Conference (EUSC) in Rome in 2000 and then developed in accordance to precise objective and goals set out by the Speakers Conference itself. The current IPEX system was launched in 2006 in order to fully implement the mandate of the Speakers Conference in Rome in 2000.

The Guidelines for Interparliamentary Cooperation (GIC), adopted by the Speakers Conference in 2004 and amended in 2008, as well as the IPEX Guidelines, are the legal and political framework for the development and functioning of IPEX, stating *inter alia*, that “*The objective of IPEX is to support inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union by providing a platform for electronic exchange of information on all EU-related parliamentary activities.*”

Under this framework, it is possible to infer that IPEX is:

- 1) a multifunctional platform used by the network of EU parliaments to support the interparliamentary cooperation in the EU and facilitate the exchange of information and documentation also by means of the information supplied by a network of Correspondents;
- 2) a project not restricted to National Parliaments but which includes also - on equal footing - the European Parliament, as a member of the EU parliamentary community;
- 3) a system which supports all the EU related activities and tasks of National Parliaments and of the European Parliament: general scrutiny of EU documents, monitoring of subsidiarity of EU legislative proposals, including the early warning mechanism, political dialogue, interparliamentary cooperation but also common projects promoted by the Speakers Conference;
- 4) a website addressed primarily to parliamentary users (Members, staff and political groups) while being open, to the general public (academics or other interested persons). IPEX provides also the possibility to host the exchange of information on sensitive topics reserved to restricted users.

- 5) a platform with a threefold function: information channel, reference website and institutional repository of interparliamentary cooperation.

The effectiveness of IPEX as a multifunctional platform for interparliamentary cooperation will increase if each National Parliament is able to provide, according to the recommendations of the Speakers of the EU, information about EU related activities in English and/or French. At the same time all initiatives adopted in the EU Parliaments targeted at increasing the knowledge on IPEX among its potential users are welcome and represent a valuable way for expanding the usage and importance of IPEX in the EU decision making processes.