



**Interparliamentary conferences
Dutch EU Presidency 2016**

To Mrs. Sikow-Magny
catharina.sikow@ec.europa.eu

Place and date: The Hague, November 10, 2015
Concerning: Invitation to participate in a panel session at the Interparliamentary Conference on Energy, Innovation and Circular Economy on Monday April 4, 2016, The Hague, The Netherlands

Dear Mrs. Sikow-Magny

Recently your assistant Ms. Larisa Antohi has been in touch with Ms. Simone Melis, one of our staff members, concerning the upcoming Interparliamentary Conference on Energy in the Netherlands. I hereby send you the official invitation to this conference.

From the 1st of January, 2016, the Netherlands will hold the biannual rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union. As part of the parliamentary dimension of the EU Presidency, the Dutch Parliament will organise an Interparliamentary Conference (IPC) on Energy and Innovation with a special focus on Circular Economy in The Hague from Sunday 3 until Monday 4 April 2016. The conference will be attended by approximately 100 key legislators: national parliamentarians dealing with energy and climate change from the 28 national parliaments in the EU as well as members of the European Parliament. The key question the conference will address is: *How to speed up the cost-effective transition towards a clean, competitive and secure Energy Future?*

The Monday morning programme opens with contributions from Vice-President Sefčovič (Energy Union) of the European Commission and Commissioner Vella (Environment) from the European Commission, followed by a speech by the Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. Kamp. After the opening statements there will be a plenary panel discussion with four renowned experts. This panel discussion will take place from 11.00h – 12.30h.

The afternoon programme consists of parallel sessions on four different topics: Energy Infrastructure and Security of Supply; Energy Conservation – Energy-saving cities; Sustainable Energy Sources and Circular Economy.

As chair of the political preparatory group that organizes this conference, I would like to kindly invite you to participate in the panel discussion on Energy Infrastructure and Security of Supply. Each session will have three panel members who will hold a 'Ted Talk-style' introduction. After these short presentations, there will be a discussion between the participants and the panel members. For the panel on Energy Infrastructure, the two other speakers that we have invited and who have already confirmed their attendance will be Mr. Frans Rooijers as CEO of CE Delft (<http://www.cedelft.eu/>) and Mr. Peder Andreasen, President of ENTSO-E (<https://www.entsoe.eu/>).

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I would therefore be most grateful if you would be willing and available to be on the panel in The Hague. Travel expenses will be covered by the Dutch Parliament.

We very much look forward to working with you and your staff in the preparation of this panel discussion. For further information please refer to the clerk of the conference parleu2016@staten-generaal.nl, tel. +31-70-3182388

I am looking forward to receiving your response.

Thank you very much.

Yours sincerely,



Mr. Michiel VAN VEEN
Chair of the Political preparatory group Interparliamentary Conference on Energy, Innovation and Circular Economy
States General of the Netherlands

Energy infrastructure and security of supply

This parallel session on energy infrastructure and security of supply focuses on the requirements that the energy infrastructure must meet in order to enable a successful transition to a sustainable energy supply, and to continue to guarantee security of supply to end-users.

The transition to a sustainable energy supply presents major challenges to the energy infrastructure. Unlike centrally-generated energy from fossil fuels, the amount of sun and wind is much more variable, resulting in more significant fluctuations in the supply of energy. Moreover, in the future more energy will be produced locally, often by private individuals and therefore supplied to the energy network less evenly. Energy sources will also be used for different applications than was the case in the past, including electricity for vehicles, which has repercussions in terms of the demand for electricity and the way it needs to be supplied. The conversion of energy from one form to another (power-to-gas or vice versa) will also be necessary in many cases in order to compensate for fluctuations in supply and demand and/or store energy temporarily or transport it more easily.

One of the key implications of all of this is the need for the capacity of networks – including the interconnection capacity between different European countries and connections to offshore wind farms, etc. – to be expanded or modified in many places. Networks will also need to become smarter (so-called smart grids) in order to link supply and demand quickly and efficiently and compensate for fluctuations, locally, regionally and at European level. Other issues that will be raised at this parallel session include: what structural framework will be required to make this possible? How can the market model be designed to ensure that the right incentives for investment and investment security are in place in order to enable a sustainable energy infrastructure, whilst at the same time guaranteeing security of supply to businesses and consumers? In addition,

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what role can and should the EU play, and what should be left to private initiatives or partnerships with (neighbouring) member states?

For this parallel session, we are looking for experts who have a good understanding of the challenges at stake and who can help formulate answers to the question of the role Europe should play.

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