

To the Chair of the competent Committee(s) on the
CFSP/CSDP

Place and date: The Hague, 7 December 2015
Re: Save the date: Interparliamentary Conference CFSP/CSDP, 6-8 April 2016
Reference: 2015Z23518/2015D47489

Dear Colleague,

It is a great pleasure to announce the dates of the next meeting of our Interparliamentary Conference (IPC) on CFSP/CSDP in The Hague. The IPC will take place from Wednesday 6 April till Friday 8 April 2016 and will be held at the premises of Parliament in The Hague, the Netherlands. As agendas for the next year are filling up quickly, we would like to take this opportunity to share our enthusiasm for welcoming you to The Hague in April. We expect to circulate a draft version of the programme eight weeks prior to the Conference, but we are pleased to be able to give you a flavour of the preparations so far.

You will take part in a simulation game, based on a crisis scenario in the area of Security and Defence. This discussion will focus specifically on parliamentary decision-making by national parliaments regarding the deployment of rapid reaction forces. The Minister of Defence of the Netherlands will participate in this discussion. We will also dedicate a session to a discussion on the strategic review of the European Security Strategy. The High Representative / Vice President, Ms Mogherini, has already confirmed her participation. We have also invited the Secretary General of NATO, Mr Stoltenberg, to take part in this session, so as to reflect the broader discussion about the relation between the EU and NATO in this area. In addition, we are organising workshops on current issues, such as the foreign policy aspects of migration.

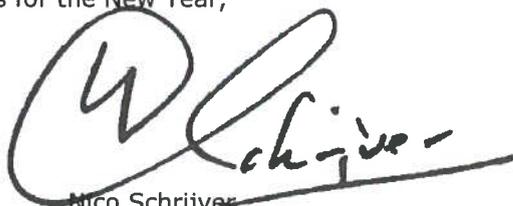
Finally, you will get a flavour of what The Hague has to offer. You are, for example, invited to join us for an early morning run/walk through the city centre on 7 April. Together with our Dutch colleagues, we will ensure a very warm welcome to the city of Peace and Justice, and make every effort to make your stay an enjoyable one. We hope you will mark your calendars for 6 - 8 April 2016 and look forward to welcoming you to the upcoming meeting of our Conference in The Hague!

Wishing you a wonderful holiday season and good wishes for the New Year,

Yours faithfully,



Angélien Eijssink
Chair of the Political
Preparatory Group IPC CFSP/CSDP
Netherlands Parliament



Nico Schrijver
Deputy Chair of the Political
Preparatory Group IPC CFSP/CSDP
Netherlands Parliament