



Staten-Generaal

H.E. Jens Stoltenberg
Secretary General of NATO
NATO Headquarters
Blvd Leopold III
B-1110 Brussels
BELGIUM

The Hague, 26 June 2015

Dear Secretary General,

As you might be aware, the Netherlands will hold the rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union during the first six months of 2016. As part of the parliamentary dimension of the EU Presidency, the Dutch Parliament will organise the biannual Interparliamentary Conference (IPC) on the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy in The Hague from 6 till 8 April 2016.

Cooperation between NATO and the EU is high on our agenda. At the IPC in Latvia on 4 - 6 March 2015, we spoke about forging synergies between the EU's Common Security and Defence Policy and NATO with Deputy Secretary General Ambassador Alexander Vershbow. We have often discussed this issue with you and your predecessors in the NATO Parliamentary Assembly as well. At the same time, a strategic review of the European Security Strategy is underway, under the guidance of the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the European Commission, Ms Mogherini.

In the run-up to the completion of the new European Security Strategy and the NATO Summit on 8 - 9 July 2016 in Warsaw, the strategic review of the European Security Strategy will be a main topic of interest at the interparliamentary conference in The Hague in April. To reflect the broader discussion about the relation between the EU and NATO in this area, our ambition is to organise a joint session with Ms Mogherini and you. It is therefore a great pleasure to invite you as a keynote speaker on this subject in the morning of **8 April 2016**.

My colleagues and I are keen to ensure that the Interparliamentary Conference on CFSP/CSDP we will be hosting in The Hague will be relevant, innovative and engaging. Needless to say, we consider your participation critical in this respect.

I, as well as the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to NATO, H.E. Marjanne de Kwaasteniet, will be very pleased to further discuss your attendance at the IPC in 2016 and we are both open to any further questions you might have.

We very much look forward to working with you and your staff in the preparation of this conference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'A. Eijssink', written in a cursive style.

Ms. Angélien EIJSINK
Chair of the Political Preparatory Group IPC CFSP/CSDP
States General of the Netherlands