



Staten-Generaal

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To: Chancellor Sebastian Kurz
The President of the Council of the
European Union
P/a General-Secretariat of the Council
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European Affairs Committee
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Dear Chancellor Kurz,

During the meeting of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC), held in Sofia on June 17-19 2018, delegations of the national parliaments of the European Union and the European Parliament discussed the replies to the letter of December 20, 2017 regarding four proposals to enhance transparency in EU decision-making and to bring the European Union closer to its citizens.

Delegations concluded that the letters we received did not in substance engage with the four proposals that have been put forward by national parliaments. Delegations also noted that the Eurogroup has not provided any reply so far. At the end of the plenary session, the LIX COSAC decided to invite the Council and related bodies to further reflect via a point by point answer on the proposals. We attach the conclusions and contributions for your information, the relevant paragraphs are 2.6 and 2.7. Moreover, we attach the original paper, presented at the LVIII plenary COSAC, containing the four recommendations.

We note that the General Affairs Council of June 26, 2018 discussed the implementation of the IIA Better Law Making. We welcome the call from Member States for a broader discussion on modernising the Council's transparency policy. We believe that the COSAC-proposals, as put forward in the letter of 20 December 2017, together with the Court of Justice's case-law and the Ombudsman's inquiries may constitute a good basis for such a reflection. We would welcome the opportunity to discuss options for reform in person.



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We look forward to receiving your more detailed reply to our letter in due time, preferably before October 19th 2018, in order to be tabled for the next plenary COSAC on November 18-20 2018 in Vienna.

Yours sincerely,

Malik Azmani
Chairman of the Standing Committee on European Affairs,
House of Representatives of the Netherlands

Bastiaan van Apeldoorn
Chairman of the Standing Committee on European Affairs
Senate of the Netherlands

Erik Christensen
Chairman of the Standing Committee on European Affairs
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