



Dear Speaker, dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to invite your Parliament to the **High-level Interparliamentary Conference on Migration and Asylum in Europe on Thursday 19 November 2020** in the European Parliament. The Conference will take place under our joint auspices and that of the President of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, and will be organised together with the Portuguese and Slovenian Parliaments (Trio Presidency).

Even though we would have preferred a personal meeting, the High-level Interparliamentary Conference will take place remotely via videoconference due to the current limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The aim of the Conference is to promote a broad dialogue on the management of migration in Europe in its various aspects launching an interparliamentary process. We believe that this meeting could contribute to defining comprehensive and sustainable approaches to migration challenges, which have been further heightened by the pandemic. The High-level Interparliamentary Conference will bring together political leaders, policymakers and also practitioners to address the topics of responsibility sharing among Member States, managing external borders while safeguarding fundamental rights as well as tackling root causes of migration, promoting integration in the EU and a stable socio-economic environment in third countries.

We are convinced that by listening to each other's points of view, the High-level Interparliamentary Conference can contribute to make progress and find common ground in the area of asylum and migration policy of the European Union, which are of great importance to all EU citizens.

We hope that your Parliament/Chamber will be represented at the High-level Interparliamentary Conference and we are convinced that your participation will contribute to fruitful discussions on this important issue.

We are pleased to send you the preliminary draft agenda. Further details of the meeting will be sent in due course to your Parliament's services responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

David Maria SASSOLI

President of the European Parliament

Dr. Wolfgang SCHÄUBLE

President of the German Bundestag