



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL COUNCIL

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Dear colleagues,

We are honoured to invite you to the Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP) on behalf of the National Assembly and the National Council of the Republic of Slovenia. The Conference will take place on 9 September 2021 as part of the parliamentary dimension of the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

While we would have liked to see delegation members attend the Conference in person, it will be held as a videoconference in view of the epidemiological situation.

The current challenges at the centre of each Presidency of the EU Council include the European Union's role in safeguarding peace and security, its efforts to ensure prosperity, democracy, human rights, and the peaceful coexistence of nations, as well as its role as a global actor on the international stage. Over the past year, Europe has been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, which has claimed countless lives around the world. The pandemic has once again proved that we can only address global systemic risks through a coordinated response undertaken by all national and European stakeholders.

The numerous challenges faced by the European Union today will significantly influence our future path. The EU must therefore show an even more united and decisive front when dealing with external partners, while finding effective approaches to promoting the values on which it was founded to other countries around the world. The Conference will be a good opportunity to discuss the priorities of the EU common foreign and security policy, its position as a global actor in a multipolar world, the enhancement of regional partnerships with Western Balkan countries, and the integration of armed forces in the development of civil protection capabilities in the context of the Solidarity Clause.

We are enclosing a draft programme and general information on the Conference.

We look forward to your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Monika Gregorčič
Chair of the
National Assembly Committee
on Foreign Policy

Samo Bevk
Chair of the
National Assembly Committee
on Defence

Bojan Kekec
Chair of the
National Council Commission
for International Relations and
European Affairs