Conferência Interparlamentar sobre a Estabilidade, a Coordenação e a Governação Económica na União Europeia (artigo 13.º do TECG)

Praga, 10 e 11 de outubro de 2022

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Prague, 7 July 2022

Dear colleagues,

We are honoured to invite you on behalf of both chambers of the Parliament of the Czech Republic and on behalf of all our relevant committees to the Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU, which will take place as part of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union on 10 - 11 October 2022 in Prague.

We would appreciate your participation at the meeting because we believe that it will inspire and enrich the discussion and will be a valuable contribution to exchanging views on the current situation in Europe and on addressing the grand challenges we have to face in these difficult times.

The draft programme, practical information and instructions for your registration are attached. Please note that the latest date for your registration is 23 September 2022. We would like to ask you for a timely registration, in particular if you plan to use the hotels offered by the Presidency. We cannot guarantee the capacity of the hotels beyond the dates set out in the practical information attached.

It will be our great pleasure to welcome you in the beautiful and historical city of Prague and, after a long pause, to meet again in person at the Conference.

Respectfully yours

Josef Bernard
Chairman of the Committee on the Budget,
Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the
Czech Republic

Ivan Adamec
Chairman of the Committee on Economic
Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of
the Czech Republic

Vít Kaňkovský
Chairman of the Committee on Social Policy,
Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the
Czech Republic

Vladislav Vilímec
Chairman of the Committee on National
Economy, Agriculture and Transport, Senate
of the Parliament of the Czech Republic

Interparliamentary conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU

(IPC – SECG)

Prague, Czech Republic

10 -11 October 2022

Programme

Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Parliamentary Dimension

Version of 23rd September

Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (IPC - SECG)

10 - 11 October 2022, Prague

The draft programme

Sunday 9 October 2022

14:00 – 19:00	Arrival of delegations and registration of participants in the hotels

Monday 10 October 2022

08:00 – 10:45	Arrival of delegations and registration of participants in the hotels
10:45	Departure from the hotels to the meeting of political groups
11:30 – 12:30	Meeting of political groups
12:15	Departure from the hotels to the conference venue
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch
14:00 – 14:30	**Opening Session** *Opening remarks:* **Ms. Markéta Pekarová Adamová**, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic **Mr. Josef Bernard**, Chairman of the Committee on the Budget, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic **Mr. Vladislav Vilímec**, Chairman of the Committee on National Economy, Agriculture and Transport, Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic
14:30 – 16:30	**Session 1: Recovery and Resilience Facility - National Recovery and Resilience Plans (current state of implementation and new challenges)** *Speakers:* **Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis**, Executive Vice-President of the European Commission, *Video Message* **Mr. Mikuláš Bek**, Minister for European Affairs, Czech Republic*, TBC* Representative of the EU Commission*, TBC* **Ms. Anna Hubáčková**, Minister of the Environment, Czech Republic
16:30	Return to the hotels

18:00	Departure from the hotels for the ceremonial meeting at Prague Castle
19:00 – 20:00	Cultural programme - Cathedral of Saint Vitus
20:00 – 22:30	Dinner – Spanish Hall, Prague Castle

Tuesday 11 October 2022

08:15	Departure from the hotels to the conference venue
09:00 – 10:30	**Session 2: Energy independence costs - the financing of energy and climate measures** *Speakers:* **Mr. Robert Habeck**, Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Climate Action, Germany, *TBC* **Mr. Mika Tapani Lintilä**, Minister of Economic Affairs, Finland, *TBC* **Mr. Jozef Síkela**, Minister of Industry and Trade, Czech Republic
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee break
10:30 – 11:00	Family photo
11:00 – 12:30	**Session 3: Strengthening Europe’s economic resilience - preparedness for future crises** *Speakers:* **Mr. Mikołaj Dowgielewicz**, Deputy Secretary General of the European Investment Bank **Mr. Luděk Niedermayer**, Vice-Chair of the ECON Committee, European Parliament
12:30 – 13:00	**Closing Session** *Closing remarks:* **Mr. Ivan Adamec**, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Affairs, Chamber of Deputies, Parliament of the Czech Republic
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch Departure of delegations

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Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU

(IPC – SECG)

Prague, Czech Republic

10 – 11 October 2022

Session 1: Recovery and Resilience Facility - National Recovery and Resilience Plans (current state of implementation and new challenges)

Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Parliamentary Dimension

Recovery and Resilience Facility

The COVID-19 pandemic represents one of the greatest global challenges that has affected many aspects of society. As a result of the pandemic, and in particular the measures taken by individual governments against the spread of COVID-19, the GDP in the EU fell by 5.7% interannually in 2020, with an even larger fall of 6.1% in the euro area. The year 2021 marked a return to economic growth.

Annual real GDP growth in the EU and euro area in %

	2019	2020	2021	2022*	2023*
EU	1.8	-5.7	5.3	2.7	2.3
Euro area	1.6	-6.1	5.2	2.7	2.3

* European Commission estimate
Source: Eurostat, EC Spring Economic Forecast

Member States have already agreed to support a faster recovery, resilience and sustainability of the European economy in the crisis-stricken year 2020. In July 2020, at an extraordinary meeting of the European Council the final form of the post-pandemic economic recovery plan, the *Next Generation EU* (NGEU) was approved. Key instrument supporting the recovery plan is the temporary *Recovery and Resilience Facility* (RRF), established by Regulation 2021/241 on the RRF (the Regulation), with funding of EUR 723.8 billion (in current prices) in loans (EUR 385.8 billion) and grants (EUR 338 billion). The facility will be financed by joint borrowing by the Commission on behalf of the EU on the capital markets. The Commission is empowered to borrow up to EUR 806.9 billion (in current prices) over the period 2021–2026. The amount of the contribution for each Member State is apportioned on the basis of a calculation laid down in the Regulation.

The NGEU is intended to lead to economic resilience and recovery and to achieve the objectives of climate neutrality and digital transformation. The RRF is divided into six pillars:

- green transition;
- digital transformation;
- smart, sustainable and inclusive growth;
- social and territorial cohesion;
- health, and economic, social and institutional resilience;
- policies for the next generation.

National Recovery and Resilience Plans

To benefit from the RRF Member States must prepare national *Recovery and Resilience Plans* (RRPs) containing a programme of reforms and investments to be implemented by the end of August 2026.[1] The RRPs should reflect the 2019 and 2020 *Country Specific Recommendations* (CSRs) received under the *European Semester* (ES) cycle, while contributing to progress towards the EU priorities. At least 37% of spending should be earmarked for green transformation and at least 20% for digital transformation. In the end, Member States' plans allocated 40% of spending to climate targets and 26% to digital targets.

The European Semester cycle had been used as an established tool for coordinating economic and budgetary policies to prepare and approve the national RRPs. For 2022, the ES cycle has been adjusted to include the implementation of these plans. Within the ES, Member States are required to report twice a year on the

[1] An overview of the national Recovery and Resilience Plans and their implementation can be found online at the Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard (RRF Scoreboard) website HERE.

implementation of the plans, with the Commission recommending the report submissions in the National Reform Plan (in April) and the Draft Budget Plans (in September).

A Member State may submit a reasoned request for payment twice a year. Once the request is submitted, the Commission has two months to assess its eligibility. Funding is conditional on meeting the targets and milestones set out in the national plans. The funds are disbursed once the set milestones and targets are met.

Implementation of National Recovery and Resilience Plans

Monitoring the implementation of the RRF

The Commission regularly evaluates the implementation of the national RRPs. The Commission reports provide an overview of the state of implementation of the RRF and describe its expected contribution to the climate and digital objectives and the six key pillars.

The Commission published its first report on the implementation of the RRF one year after the facility's establishment. The second report on the implementation of the RRF was published in July 2022. Both reports evaluate the implementation of the RRF as successful. Significant progress has been made in the implementation of the RRF – the implementation is on track and supporting the green and digital transformation. The Commission notes that milestones and targets are being met on time. The largest amount of funding has so far been disbursed for actions in the areas of health, economic, social and institutional resilience and smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

Implementation of the RRF: Latest state of play

All 27 Member States have already submitted national recovery and resilience plans[2] and 25 plans have been approved as of 20 September 2022. 21 states have received pre-financing payments. Ten requests for first and three requests for second payments have been submitted to the Commission. Seven first payments and one second payment were made. In total, EUR 79.41 billion in grants and EUR 33.37 billion in loans have been disbursed so far (20 September 2022).

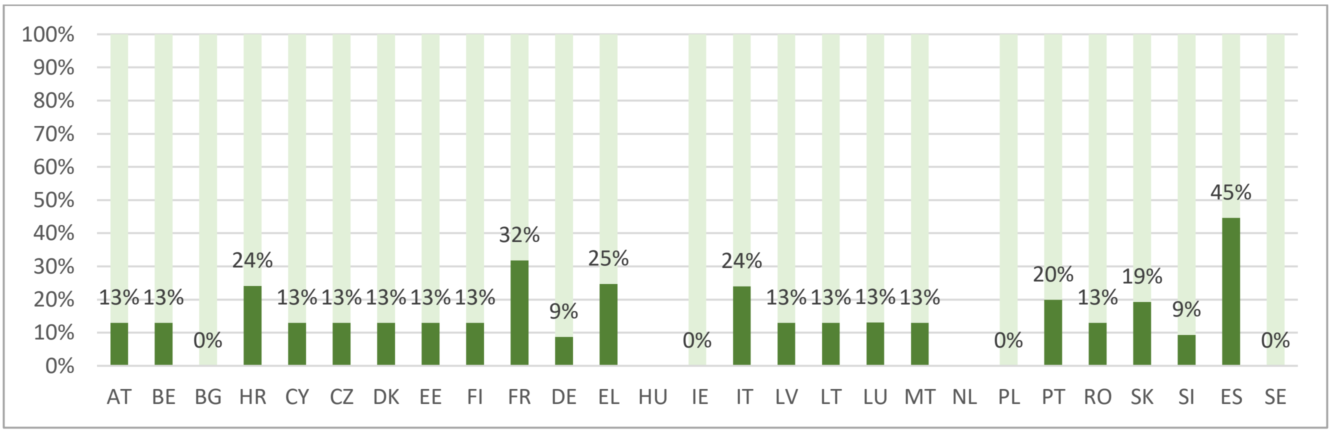
[2] On 8 July 2022, the Netherlands submitted its national RRP as the last Member State to do so.

Implementation of the RRF – state of play as of 20 September 2022

	AT	BE	BG	HR	CY	CZ	DK	EE	FI	FR	DE	EL	HU	IE	IT	LV	LT	LU	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SK	SI	ES	SE
Plan submitted to the Commission	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Plan approved by the Commission	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Plan approved by the Council	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Pre-financing payment received	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	
Request for first payment submitted			X	X	X					X		X			X	X						X	X	X		X	
First payment received				X						X		X			X							X		X		X	
Request for second payment submitted				X											X											X	
Second payment received																										X	

Source: EC, Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard (RRF Scoreboard)

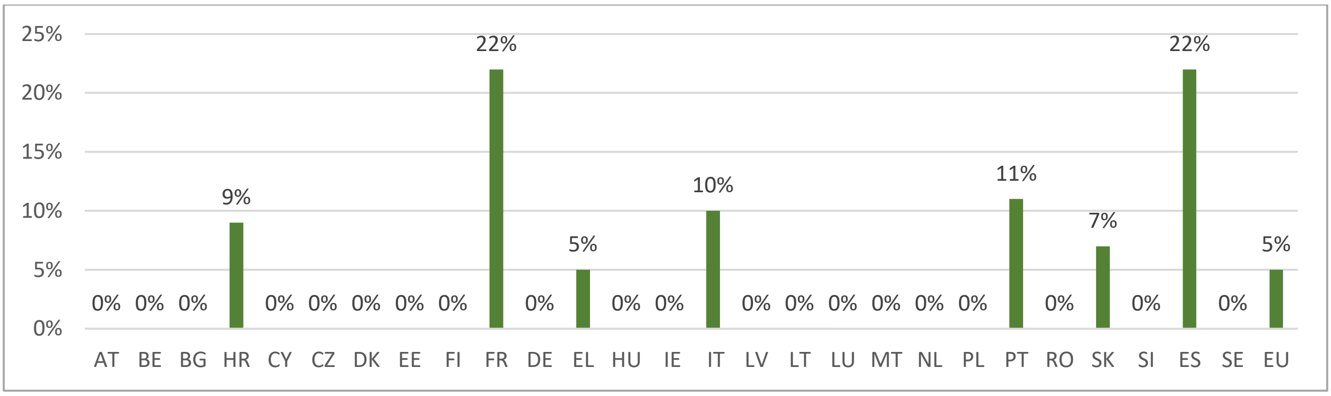
Implementation of the RRP – disbursement of funds



Source: EC, Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard (RRF Scoreboard)

Member States have so far met on average 5% of the milestones and targets reported by the countries to the Commission and subsequently verified and validated by the Commission.

Implementation of the RRP – milestones and targets met, %



Source: EC, Recovery and Resilience Scoreboard (RRF Scoreboard)

Current challenges and possible change of plans

Rising inflation and **especially rising energy prices** are among the main challenges today. Energy prices on global markets started to rise as early as 2021. This was mainly due to the coronavirus crisis and the surge in consumption associated with the economic recovery. Following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, the uncertainty surrounding energy market supplies added to further rising energy prices.

Rising inflation is also negatively affecting the implementation of national recovery and resilience plans. For example, the Czech government cites rising prices as a risk to RRP implementation. It specifically states that rising prices of materials and construction work, long-term workload of construction companies, and continued inflationary pressure to an extent not anticipated during the preparation of the national RRP, can have negative impacts on the RRP implementation.

Another challenge the EU countries are facing is the **war in Ukraine itself** and its economic and humanitarian impact. The conflict just beyond the EU's borders has caused a refugee wave, with a total of 3.5 million refugees registered for temporary protection in EU countries; most of them in Poland (1 222 000), Germany (670 000), the Czech Republic (392 000), Italy (145 000), Spain (128 000), Bulgaria (87 500) and Slovakia (81 000).[3]

The war in Ukraine is exacerbating the current negative effects on the economy and slowing GDP growth. According to the European Commission's spring economic forecast, GDP growth in the EU and the euro area is expected to slow to 2.7% and 2.3% respectively, in 2022 and 2023. Uncertainty and inflation have a particularly negative effect on the recovery. The possibility of a further increase of energy prices or a complete cut-off of gas supplies from Russia must be taken into account as well. A next wave of the COVID-19 pandemic also remains a risk to economic development.

Updating and amending national recovery and resilience plans under the RRF Regulation

In accordance with Article 11 of the Regulation, the Commission updated the maximum contribution for each Member State at the end of June. From 1 January 2023, it will be possible to update the RRPs in accordance with the newly set maximum financial contribution values.

At the same time, Article 21 of the RRF Regulation contains a provision according to which, if a Member State is unable to comply in part or in full with the RRP due to objective circumstances, a reasoned request may be made

[3] Current UNHCR data available at Situation Ukraine Refugee Situation (unhcr.org)

to the Commission to submit a proposal for amendments or to submit a new RRP. The Commission shall consider the justification for the request and approve or reject it.

Commission's reaction to energy market developments – REPowerEU

In its Spring Package Communication, the Commission states that the ES and the RRF provide a robust framework to ensure effective policy coordination and address the current challenges, in particular the war in Ukraine, rising energy prices and the disconnection from fossil fuels from Russia. In response to geopolitical developments and the economic situation, this year's *Country Specific Recommendations* (CSRs) also provide guidance for new dedicated chapters in the RRP under the new REPowerEU initiative, which is the EU's plan to rapidly reduce dependence on Russian fossil fuels and to accelerate the green transition.

REPowerEU is the Commission's response to developments in the global energy market and its disruption due to the Russian invasion of Ukraine. It is designed to help reduce dependence on fossil fuels through reforms and investment in green transition and the creation of a more resilient energy system. The RRF is set to continue to be the main instrument and driver of investment and reform in the coming years and it targets new challenges in combination with the new REPowerEU initiative. Therefore, the Commission has prepared a proposal amending the RRF Regulation to **allow Member States to add specific chapters in their national RRPs on new reforms and investments to meet the objectives of the REPowerEU plan**. The Commission also proposes to increase the funding for the RRF by EUR 20 billion in the form of grants, which it proposes to raise from the sale of allowances under the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).

Topics for discussion:

How is the implementation of the national recovery and resilience plans going and what are its first results?

What obstacles and challenges are encountered in the implementation of the plans and how can it be more effective?

How are national parliaments involved in monitoring the implementation of the national recovery and resilience plans? Are the data, information and tools provided by the Commission/governments sufficient for effective monitoring of the plans' implementation?

How can the national recovery and resilience plans reflect new challenges, e.g. in connection with the war in Ukraine? Do they need to be revised?

Prepared by the Parliamentary Institute, Office of the Chamber of Deputies, Version of September 20

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Session 2: Energy independence costs – the financing of energy and climate measures

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Introduction – Energy and Climate Transition

In 2019, the EU has enshrined an objective of achieving climate neutrality by 2050 in the European Green Deal (EGD). Subsequently, the goals of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2030 and achieving climate neutrality by 2050 were incorporated in the so-called Climate Law. The European Climate Law was finally adopted in June 2021. Specific plans to achieve these goals were presented in July 2021 as part of the Fit for 55 package.

The green transition involves considerable costs and will have significant social impacts, especially in some regions. The current energy crisis and the necessary transformation of the energy sector, related for example to a cut-off from the Russian Federation's fossil fuels, represent additional costs, mainly for countries more dependent on those sources.

Fit for 55 package

The package amends key EU climate legislation (emissions trading, energy taxation, support for renewables, support for energy efficiency, stricter standards for new cars) and introduces new mechanisms (a carbon tariff, the Social Climate Fund). The European Parliament and the Council must agree on the final form of the individual proposals in the package.

Architecture of the Fit for 55 package and main points of the Commission proposal

Financial instruments – pricing	Objectives	Standards – regulations
Stronger Emissions Trading System (ETS) – increase in linear reduction factor, one-off reduction in the overall emission cap, strengthening of market stability reserve; **phasing out of free allowances in aviation**	Revision of the Effort Sharing Regulation – 40% reduction target by 2030 (compared to 2005) – instead of 30%	**Stricter rules for passenger car and van emissions** – average zero emissions for newly registered vehicles by 2035 (and an interim reduction target of 55% and 50% by 2030 for passenger cars and vans)
Extension of the ETS to maritime transport **Introduction of a parallel system for road transport and buildings from 2025**	Revision of the LULUCF Regulation – carbon sequestration target of 310 million tonnes of CO_2 equivalent by 2030	Infrastructure for alternative fuels (electric charging every 60 km and hydrogen fuels every 150 km)
Revision of the Energy Taxation Directive (progressive inclusion of aviation fuel)	**40% renewable energy target** by 2030 – instead of 32% (targets for heating and cooling; addressing forest biomass)	ReFuelEU for aviation
New carbon offset mechanism at the border (carbon tariff) – fully applicable from 2026 on carbon-intensive products imported into the EU (cement, iron, steel, aluminium, fertilisers, electricity)	**New target for energy efficiency** (36–39%) plus an obligation for the public sector to renovate at least 3% of total floor area each year	ReFuelEU for maritime transport

Measures of support
A new Social Climate Fund (funding from revenues from a new emissions trading system for fuels in buildings and road transport, primarily to help citizens invest in energy efficiency, new heating and cooling systems and cleaner mobility on the basis of national plans)
Strengthening the Innovation and Modernisation Fund

Financing climate and energy measures

The EU's Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) for 2021–2027, together with the *Next Generation EU* (NGEU) post-pandemic recovery plan, totalling over EUR 2 trillion in current prices (EUR 1 211 billion under the MFF and EUR 807 billion under the NGEU), devotes at least 30% of resources to climate-related spending. *National Recovery and Resilience Plans (RRPs)* should contribute to green transition and digital transformation, with at least 37% of the total financial allocation contributing to environmental objectives.

The NGEU is to be financed by joint borrowing by the Commission on behalf of the EU in the capital markets. The Commission is empowered to borrow up to EUR 806.9 billion (current prices) over the period 2021–2026. The debt is to be repaid by the Commission using new own resources.

Next generation of EU own resources

In December 2021, the Commission proposed introduction of new own resources. Negotiations on individual proposals are underway in the Council and the European Parliament.

1) **a resource based on the *EU Emission Trading System*** – 25% of the revenues from allowances auctioned under the EU ETS. The *Fit for 55* package also includes a revision of the EU ETS. Emissions from the maritime and aviation sectors are to be gradually included. Introduction of the EU ETS for buildings and road transport is also being discussed. The EU ETS is expected to contribute an average of EUR 9 billion per year to the EU budget over the period 2023-2030;
2) **a resource based on the *Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM)*** – 75% of the revenues from the sale of certificates under the Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism. The mechanism targets carbon-intensive goods and aims to reflect in the price of imported goods a carbon price equivalent to the amount that would be paid if the goods were produced in the EU. It is estimated to bring an average of EUR 0.5 billion per year to the EU budget over the period 2023-2030;
3) **a resource of 15% of the share of the residual profits of the largest and most profitable multinational enterprises redistributed to Member States where the goods or services are used or consumed** – based on the OECD/G20 agreement ("Pillar I") on the reform of the international tax framework. This source could bring EUR 2.5–4 billion per year to the EU budget.

Just Transition Fund

The Just Transition Fund, established by Regulation (EU) 2021/1056, is part of the broader Sustainable Europe Investment Plan, which complements the just transition part of the InvestEU programme and the European Investment Bank's (EIB) Public Sector Loan Facility. The Fund is a key instrument to help regions most affected by the green transition, i.e. the transition to climate neutrality, and to mitigate its negative impacts.

The EUR 17.5 billion in resources of the Just Transition Fund comes from both the MFF 2021–2027 (EUR 7.5 billion) and the NGEU (EUR 10 billion). The disbursement of the Fund's resources is conditional on the preparation of a Just Transition Plan, which includes information on where the resources are to be used based on the estimated economic and social impacts of the green transition.

Social Climate Fund

The proposal to create a *Social Climate Fund (SCF)* aims to mitigate the social impacts of the transition to climate-neutral economy. The proposal specifically responds to the plan to introduce a new separate ETS for the buildings and road transport sectors. The Fund is to be used by Member States to mitigate the negative social impacts of the new ETS.

The Fund's resources are to be used as follows:

1) financing temporary direct income support for households placed at risk by the introduction of the new EU ETS;
2) support for emission-reducing measures and investments in the road transport and construction sectors.

Measures and investments can relate to reducing dependence on fossil fuels through, for example, renovating buildings and improving their energy efficiency; decarbonising heating and cooling in buildings; promoting low carbon and public transport, etc.

The Fund is to be established for the period 2025–2032. The total financial envelope of the Fund is proposed at EUR 72.2 billion (in current prices), of which EUR 23.7 billion is intended for 2025–2027 and EUR 48.5 billion for 2028–2032. 25% of the Fund's resources is to be financed by revenues from emissions trading for the buildings and road transport sectors. The European Parliament and the Council must agree on the final proposal.

Revision of the Energy Taxation Directive

The "Fit for 55" package includes a revision of the *Energy Taxation Directive (ETD)*. The draft amendment was presented by the European Commission in July 2021 and its form is currently being discussed in the EU Council. The aim of the revision is to ensure that the taxation of various energy products (fuels, heating fuels or electricity) is proportionate to their environmental impact.

The proposal introduces a new tax rate structure based on the energy content of fuels and electricity and their environmental impact, broadens the tax base and adjusts minimum rates, which are to be updated annually based on inflation. Furthermore, some exemptions will be phased out and taxation of aviation fuel and heavy oil in the maritime industry will be introduced.

Rising prices on energy markets

Energy prices started to increase slightly in the first quarter of 2021, rising at a faster pace in the second half of the year. The rise in energy prices was mainly driven by the COVID-19 crisis and a surge in consumption associated with the economic recovery. Following the outbreak of war in Ukraine, the uncertainty surrounding gas and oil supplies has further fuelled the rise of energy prices.

Therefore, in October 2021, the European Commission issued a Communication entitled Tackling rising energy prices: A toolbox for action and support, in which it points out that the price increase comes in a period of economic recovery after the coronavirus crisis and that it may lead to weaker support for the energy transition. In the Communication, the Commission calls for swift coordinated action and points to the possibilities for targeted measures available to the Member States under the existing EU legal framework.

Subsequently, in March 2022, the Commission presented another Communication: Security of supply and affordable energy prices: Options for immediate measures and preparing for next winter. The Communication summarises the advantages and disadvantages of specific exceptional short-term options to mitigate energy price increases. It also proposes common European measures to address the root causes of the gas market issues to secure supplies at reasonable prices for next winter and beyond. Amendment of Regulation 2017/1938 concerning measures to safeguard the security of gas supply was also approved, introducing, for example, an obligation to fill gas storage facilities to at least 90% of capacity (80% for 2022).

Joint gas purchasing

In April 2022, the EU Energy Platform was established to support joint gas purchasing through aggregation and structuring of demand, optimised and transparent use of infrastructure and international outreach activities. The platform is a voluntary coordination mechanism. Regional units were also established: On 5 May 2022, the Commission and Bulgaria set up the first regional unit under the EU Energy Purchasing Platform, coordinated with neighbouring countries in South-East Europe. In June, another regional unit was initiated – for Central and Eastern Europe, linking the cooperation of the EU countries of Central and Eastern Europe with Ukraine and Moldova. The actual purchasing mechanism has not yet been introduced. However, it is part of the REPowerEU plan.

Windfall tax

A windfall tax could be one way to finance measures to reduce the negative impact of rising energy prices. This is not a new concept; a similar tax has historically been introduced in the UK or the US, for example in the banking or oil sectors. The windfall tax is applied to companies that generate a significant increase in their income as a result of circumstances or events for which they are not responsible. It is generally considered that windfall profits constitute excessive, undeserved or unfair profits. Excess profits must be visibly linked to an external cause, not to innovation, mechanisation or investment in the company. The tax is usually imposed for a limited period of time. Windfall profits tend to be associated with price volatile sectors.

In March 2022, as part of the REPowerEU plan, the Commission invited Member States to consider imposing temporary *windfall tax* measures on electricity producers. The introduction of this tax could be used by states to finance temporary emergency measures to combat high energy prices.

The new REPowerEU

The Communication from March 2022 entitled REPowerEU: Joint European action for more affordable, secure and sustainable energy sets out measures to end the EU's dependence on fossil fuel supplies from the Russian Federation before 2030. Subsequently, on 10 and 11 March 2022, EU leaders adopted the so-called Versailles Declaration on Russian aggression against Ukraine, as well as on the issue of improving defence capabilities, reducing energy dependence and building a stronger economic base. EU leaders agreed, among other things, to accelerate the reduction of overall dependence on fossil fuels, taking into account national circumstances. They also invited the Commission to present a plan to ensure security of supply and affordable energy prices during the next winter season.

In May, the Commission presented the REPowerEU plan containing a series of measures to ensure a rapid reduction of the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels. This is to be achieved through **energy savings, diversification of energy supply, rapid replacement of fossil fuels by accelerating Europe's transition to clean energy**. These three measures are to be supported by a smart combination of investment and reforms that will link the REPowerEU and the Next Generation EU post-pandemic recovery plan.

Energy savings are the quickest and cheapest means of solving the current energy crisis. For example, the Commission proposes to increase the Union's energy efficiency target. Member States should collectively ensure at least a 13% reduction of energy consumption in 2030 compared to 2020 projections. As part of the **clean energy transition**, the Commission also proposes to increase the Renewable Energy Directive's target to 45% by 2030, up from the 40% specified in last year's proposal. The Commission supports increasing the capacity of solar panels or expanding heat pumps. Accelerating the development of hydrogen infrastructure or boosting biomethane production should also help.

The Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF) is to receive an additional EUR 20 billion (in grants) for REPowerEU-related objectives. These additional resources can be used by Member States after they update their National Recovery and Resilience Plans and supplement them with REPowerEU chapters. The Commission also proposes to allow Member States to transfer part of the Structural Funds allocation to the RRF for the REPowerEU objectives.

Following the RePowerEU plan, the Regulation on coordinated demand-reduction measures for gas was approved in August 2022. In it, the Member States agreed, among other things, to reduce their demand for gas between 1 August 2022 and 31 March 2023 by 15% compared to their average consumption over the last five years. In September 2022, the Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation on an emergency intervention to address high energy prices. The proposal aims to reduce electricity consumption, to cap the market revenues that certain producers receive from the generation of electricity and redistribute them to final customers in a targeted manner. The proposal should also enable Member States to apply public interventions in the price setting for supply of electricity for households and small and medium-sized enterprises, and to establish rules for a temporary solidarity contribution for EU companies and permanent establishments with activities predominantly in the oil, gas, coal and refinery sectors. A political agreement was reached on the proposal at the extraordinary meeting of the Transport, Telecommunications and Energy Council, held on 30 September 2022.

Topics for discussion:

Do we need to rethink the EU's climate targets set by the European Green Deal?

How to finance the climate and energy transition? Are the existing and newly proposed instruments sufficient?

How can we eliminate the negative social impacts of green transition? Is the Social Climate Fund a sufficient solution?

How to further combat rising energy prices? What is your experience with the implementation of measures at national level?

How to further improve energy security by diversifying the EU's energy supply? Are joint European purchases of energy a solution?

Is the REPowerEU plan sufficient? Which of its parts need to be emphasised or changed? Should we add new objectives?

What other challenges and issues related to the energy and climate transition are not yet being addressed at EU level even though they should be?

Prepared by the Parliamentary Institute, Office of the Chamber of Deputies, Version of September 30

Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU

(IPC – SECG)

Prague, Czech Republic

10 – 11 October 2022

Session 3: Strengthening Europe's economic resilience – preparedness for future crises

Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Parliamentary Dimension

Introduction – Current (global) challenges

Europe had barely recovered economically from the effects of the financial and debt crisis, when it was hit by the coronavirus crisis. As a result of this crisis, and in particular due to the measures taken by individual governments against the spread of COVID-19, the GDP in the EU fell by 5.7% interannually in 2020, with an even larger fall of 6.1% in the euro area. By 2021, the economies have returned to growth. GDP growth in the EU reached 5.3 and the euro area 5.2%. However, the total value of GDP remained below the level of 2019 (pre-pandemic).

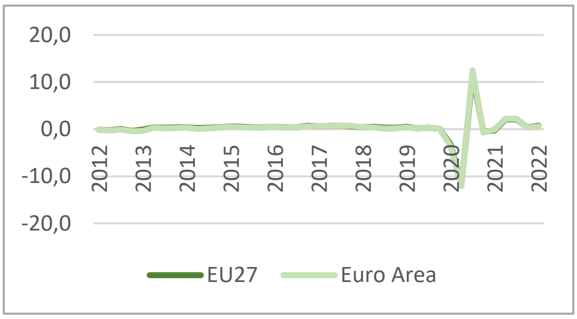
Annual real GDP growth in the EU and euro area since since 2019 (%)

	2019	2020	2021	2022*	2023*
EU	1.8	-5.7	5.3	2.7	2.3
Euro area	1.6	-6.1	5.2	2.7	2.3

* 2022 and 2023 data – European Commission estimate

Source: Eurostat, EC Spring Economic Forecast

Quarterly GDP growth in the EU and euro area

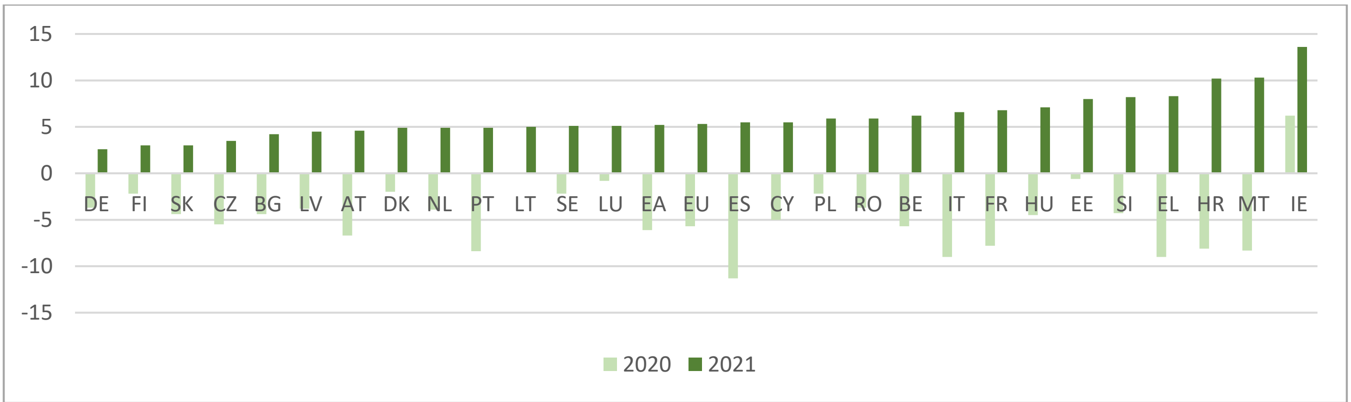


Source: OECD, Eurostat

The post-pandemic economic recovery brought with it the downside of rising prices. Energy prices in global markets started to rise as early as in 2021, mainly due to the surge in consumption associated with the economic recovery. The negative pressures associated with the economic recovery were expected to subside during 2021.

However, the positive development was halted by the Russian invasion of Ukraine. The war in Ukraine is exacerbating the existing negative effects on the economy and slowing GDP growth. In its Spring Economic Forecast, the Commission lowered its GDP growth estimates for 2022 and 2023 to 2.7% and 2.3% respectively compared to the winter forecast (the winter forecast had estimated GDP growth at 4% and 2.8% respectively).

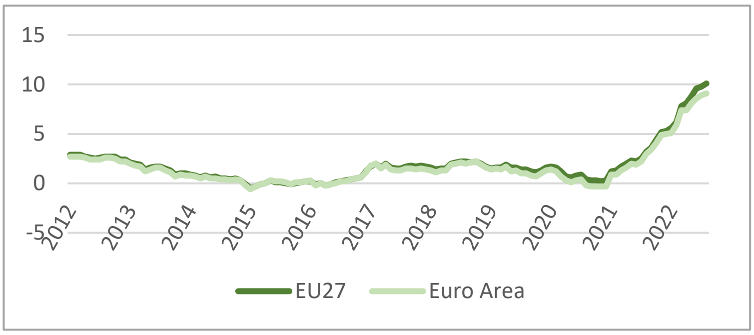
Chart 2: Annual GDP growth of EU Member States in 2020 and 2021



Source: Eurostat, (data as of 20 September 2022 – subject to change)

The war in Ukraine is amplifying upward pressure on commodity prices. Rising energy prices are accompanied by uncertainty over energy supplies. Moreover, the war threatens the production and export of agricultural crops, leading to rising prices in this area. In its spring forecast, the Commission estimates annual inflation rates for 2022 at 6.8% in the EU27 and 6.1% in the euro area. For 2023, the estimates stand at 3.2% for the EU27 and 2.7% for the euro area.

Monthly inflation rate since 2012 (%)



Source: Eurostat

Inflation and especially rising energy prices rank among the biggest challenges today. In August, the annual inflation rate reached 10.1% in the EU27 and 9.1% in the euro area. In June, inflation in some Member States reached above 15%. These were Estonia (25.2%), Latvia (21.4%), Lithuania (21.1%), Hungary (18,6%), the Czech Republic (17.1%) and Bulgaria (15%).

It is necessary to be prepared for further increase of energy prices as well as for a complete cut-off of gas supplies from Russia. The possibility of another COVID-19 pandemic remains a risk to economic development. Uncertainty and rising costs are also holding back investment. As a result of the war, EU countries are facing a wave of refugees from Ukraine.[1]

Strengthening EU resilience

Multiannual Financial Framework 2021–2027

The Multiannual Financial Framework 2021–2027 (MFF) was prepared in response to the coronavirus crisis as a post-pandemic recovery plan and it was complemented by the *Next Generation EU* (NGEU) recovery plan. In total, this represents funding of EUR 2 trillion (EUR 1 211 billion under the MFF and EUR 807 billion under the NGEU). More than half of the funding is earmarked for research and innovation, climate and digital transformation, recovery and strengthening resilience and preparedness for future crises.

Recovery and Resilience Facility[2]

The EU's main instrument to support recovery and build resilience of the economy is the temporary Recovery and Resilience Facility (RRF), which is part of the NGEU recovery plan. The RRF was established by Regulation (EU) 2021/241 on the RRF with a financial envelope of EUR 723.8 billion (in current prices) in the form of loans (EUR 385.8 billion) and grants (EUR 338 billion). The NGEU is intended to strengthen economic resilience and recovery and to achieve the objectives of climate neutrality and digital transformation.

In response to the energy market development and rising energy prices, the Commission has prepared a new REPowerEU plan, containing an amendment of the RRF Regulation to include new chapters on new energy measures in its national recovery and resilience plans.

New proposed financing facilities for European resilience

REPowerEU

In May this year, the Commission presented the REPowerEU plan in response to global energy markets development and the war in Ukraine. The plan sets out a series of measures to ensure a rapid reduction in the EU's dependence on Russian fossil fuels. This is to be achieved through energy savings, diversification of energy supplies, rapid replacement of fossil fuels by accelerating Europe's transition to clean energy. These three

[1] For data on the number of refugees from Ukraine in the EU, see the background materials to Session 1 – Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (IPC - SECG).
[2] For more information on the Recovery and Resilience Facility, see the background materials to Session 1 – Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (IPC – SECG).

measures are to be supported by smart investments and reforms that will link REPowerEU and the RRF. Therefore, REPowerEU is a complement to the RRF.

RRF financial resources are to be increased by EUR 20 billion (in the form of grants) for the REPowerEU objectives. These additional resources can be used by Member States after they update their national RRPs and supplement them with REPowerEU chapters. The funds are to be raised from the sale of EU *Emissions Trading System* (ETS) allowances. At the same time, there is still the possibility to use the RRF funds in the form of loans, which some Member States have not yet used.

The Commission also proposes to allow Member States to transfer up to 7.5% of the Structural Funds allocation to the RRF for the REPowerEU objectives, over and above the current 5%. At the same time, the proposal allows the Member States to transfer up to 12.5% of the funds allocated under the European agricultural fund for rural development.

The proposal to amend the RRF Regulation and related legislation in the context of the REPowerEU plan is currently under discussion in the European Parliament and the Council.

Social Climate Fund

In July 2021, the Commission presented a proposal for a Regulation establishing *a Social Climate Fund* (SCF). The proposal is part of the *Fit for 55* package under the *European Green Deal* (EGD). The aim of the EGD is to provide a framework for achieving the EU's climate targets for 2030 (reducing net emissions by at least 55% compared to 1990 levels) and 2050 (achieving climate neutrality). The purpose of the proposal is to create a new fund to mitigate the social impacts of the transition to a climate-neutral economy. Achieving climate neutrality and reducing dependence on fossil fuels will contribute to strengthening Europe's resilience.

Specifically, the proposal to create a new fund concerns the introduction of a new separate EU ETS for the buildings and road transport sectors. The Fund is to be used by Member States to finance the mitigation of the negative social impacts arising from the introduction of the new EU ETS.

Explicitly, the proposal enables the following use of the Fund's resources:

1) financing temporary direct income support for households placed at risk by the introduction of the new EU ETS;
2) support for emission-reducing measures and investments in the road transport and construction sectors.

Measures and investments can relate to practices reducing dependence on fossil fuels through, for example, renovating buildings and improving their energy efficiency; decarbonising heating and cooling in buildings; promoting low carbon and public transport, etc.

According to the Commission's proposal, the Fund is to be established for the period 2025–2032. The total financial envelope of the Fund is proposed at EUR 72.2 billion (in current prices), of which EUR 23.7 billion is intended for 2025–2027 and EUR 48.5 billion for 2028–2032.

The Fund is to be financed by the Union's own resources and from 2026 onwards by revenues from emissions trading for buildings and road transport (25% of the expected revenues). The projects supported by the Fund are to be financed by 50% from national resources. For this purpose, countries can use the revenues from the auctioning of their allowances under the ETS for the buildings and road transport sectors. Obtaining finance from the Fund is conditional on the preparation of a climate action social plan, which should include measures and investments, their expected costs, as well as milestones and targets. Such plan is subsequently to be assessed by the Commission. The final design of the Fund has not yet been approved.

Financing resilience in partnership with the European Investment Bank (EIB)

The role of the European Investment Bank is to provide funding for projects that meet the EU objectives. Together with the European Investment Fund, of which it is a majority shareholder, it is one of the main pillars of building a more resilient Europe. In addition to financing innovation, infrastructure or SMEs, the EIB is also a leader in green financing. By 2025, the EIB plans to increase its support for climate and environmental measures to 50% of all lending activities while promoting a just transition.[3] The aim is to promote green transition and strengthen economic resilience.

For example, the EIB is responsible for the implementation of 75% of the **InvestEU programme**, which provides long-term financing for EU objectives. It builds on the Investment Plan for Europe and is one of the main elements of the post-pandemic recovery plan under the NGEU. It should contribute to improving competitiveness, sustainable economic growth, employment, social resilience and cohesion, or to scientific and technological progress. Its specific objectives include support for research, innovation and digitisation, sustainable infrastructure, access to finance for SMEs and social enterprises. At least 30% of the Fund's resources are to be dedicated to the EGD objectives.

Member States can also invest the RFF funds into eligible projects through financial instruments, which may be implemented by the European Investment Bank. The EIB currently manages financial instruments of the RRF in three EU countries: Greece, Italy and Romania. In addition to resource management, the EIB can also help with additional financing and/or specialised advisory services.

Topics for discussion:

Do we need a new recovery and resilience plan as a response to the current crises?

How to increase Europe's resilience through investment? What are the best areas for direct investment?

How to finance the strengthening of Europe's resilience? Is it possible to use new instruments such as the forthcoming Social Climate Fund to mitigate the impacts of the climate transition?

Do we need to seek new paths for future management of crises (new (permanent) instruments) or should we work with already existing instruments?

Prepared by the Parliamentary Institute, Office of the Chamber of Deputies, Version of September 20

[3] Climate Bank Roadmap 2021-2025, EIB Group, November 2020

Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the EU (IPC SECG)

Conférence interparlementaire sur la stabilité, la coordination économique et la gouvernance dans l'UE – (IPC SECG)

Prague, Czech Republic, October 10 – 11, 2022

Prague, République tchèque, Octobre 10 - 11, 2022

List of participants
La liste des participants

Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union Parliamentary Dimension

Présidence tchèque du Conseil de l'Union européenne Dimension parlementaire

Version of October 4

Austria, Autriche

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Mr Žarko Tušek **Member of Delegation** Chairman EPP

Ms Orijana Petrin **Delegation Staff**

	Ms Karolina	Šestak	**Delegation Staff**	

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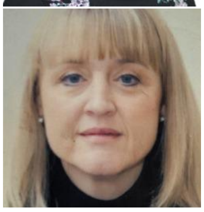	Ms Andrea	Jůzová	**Delegation Staff**	
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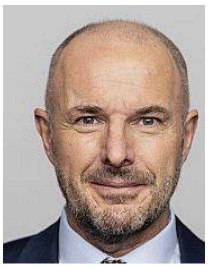	Mr Josef	Bernard	**Head of the Delegation** Chairman of the Committee on Budget	STAN/EPP

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Ms Stavroula Kousiappa **Delegation Staff**

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European Affairs Committee The Liberal Party

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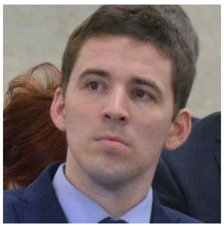
	Ms Krisztina Foucault-Váradi	**Delegation Staff**	
	Mr Dániel Nyilas	**Delegation Staff**	

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	Ms Elena Stoica	**Member of Delegation** Committee for Industries and Services - Member	Social Democratic Party (PSD)
	Ms Camelia Georgeta Nãstase	**Delegation Staff**	

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	Mr José María Sánchez	**Member of delegation** Constitutional Committee	Vox Party
	Mr Roberto Uriarte	**Member of delegation** Defence Committee	Podemos Party
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	Ms Kamila Podoná	**Delegation Interpreter**	

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	Ms Cecilia	Kennergren	**Delegation Staff**
	Mr Leif	Frenell	**Delegation Staff**
	Mr Mikael	Pyka	**Delegation Staff**
	Ms Helana	Winter	**Delegation Staff**

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	Ms Margarida	Marques	**Member of Delegation** BUDG	S&D
	Mr Alfred	Sant	**Member of Delegation** ECON	S&D
	Ms Lina	Gálvez Muñoz	**Member of Delegation** EMPL	S&D
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	Mr Kajus	Hagelstam	**Delegation Staff**	
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	Mr Nora	Milotay	**Delegation Staff**
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	Mr Wolfgang	Lehofer	**Delegation Staff**

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	Ms Marija Jevdjic	**Member of Delegation** Committee on the Economy, Regional Development, Trade, Tourism and Energy	JS
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Grand National Assembly, Grande Assemblée nationale

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Head of Delegation
Chairman of the Plan and Budget Committee, Grand National Assembly of Turkey

Mr Bülent Kuşoğlu

Member of Delegation
Member of the Plan and Budget Committee, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

Mr Deniz Esin **Delegation Staff**

Mr Hasan Karlıdağ **Security Delegation**

Keynote Speakers – Orateurs

	Ms Markéta Pekarová Adamová	**Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies of the Parliament of the Czech Republic**
	Mr Valdis Dombrovskis	**European Commissioner for Trade, Executive Vice President of the European Commission for an Economy that Works for People (on-line)**
	Ms Anna Hubáčková	**Minister of the Environment**
	Mr Marek Havrda	**Deputy Minister for European Affairs**
	Ms Maria Teresa Fabregas Fernandez	**Director of Recovery and Resilience Task Force of European Commission (on-line)**
	Mr Jozef Síkela	**Minister of Industry and Trade**

	Mr Jaroslav	Míl	**Economic expert,** **Former Government Commissioner for Nuclear Energy**
	Mr Mikołaj	Dowgielewicz	**Deputy Secretary General of the European Investment Bank**
	Mr Marián	Jurečka	**Deputy Prime Minister** **Minister of Labour and Social Affairs**

Guests/Observers

	Ms Andrea	Ferjenčíková	**European Investment Bank, Head of EIB Group Prague Office**
	Mr Ivan	Mušo	**European Investment Bank, EIB Group Prague Office**
	Ms Michaela	Opltová	**Parliament of the Czech Republic Chamber of Deputies, Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs**
	M Jiří	Hájek	**Parliament of the Czech Republic Chamber of Deputies, Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs**
	Mr Róbert	Teleky	**Parliament of the Czech Republic Chamber of Deputies, Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs**
	Mr Martin	Plíšek	**Secretary General of the Office of the Chamber of Deputies**

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Parliamentary Dimension

SENÁT PARLAMENTU ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

POSLANECKÁ SNĚMOVNA PARLAMENTU ČESKÉ REPUBLIKY

Inter-parliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union (IPC-SECG)

Prague, Czech Republic

Date: 10 – 11 October 2022

Practical Information

Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Parliamentary Dimension

Version of 8th July

CONFERENCE VENUE

O2 Universum
Address: Českomoravská 2345/17, 190 00 Praha 9, Czech Republic
https://www.o2universum.cz/en

To enter, please use entrance no. 18 (see the map on the last page)

REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

Accreditation

The Czech Presidency has implemented an online registration system for all meetings. You are kindly requested to send contact information for a Delegation Accreditation officer (DAO) for your institution (name, email address and phone number) to the following email address: accreditation@parleu2022.cz.

The DAO will receive a link to the registration system via email. The registration system allows them to register participants, view the accreditation status and make modifications to the persons registered before the registration deadline.

Every DAO is kindly asked to fill in the online registration form for the whole delegation by 25 September 2022.

Registration & Badges

Registration desks will be located in the lobby of each of the conference hotels and will be open for delegates to collect their ID badges on:

- Sunday, 9 October from 14.00 to 19.00
- Monday, 10 October from 8.00 to 10.45

Delegates arriving later than this can register at the main entrance of the conference venue on Monday, 10 October.

For security reasons, all participants are requested to wear their ID badges visibly at all times during the event. If you lose your badge, please contact the organisers at the registration desk or by email (accreditation@parleu2022.cz) immediately.

Delegates not staying at one of the recommended conference hotels are advised to notify the organisers of the hotel they will be staying at and indicate at which of the recommended hotels they would prefer to register and pick up their badges. They are also welcome to join the transfers from the recommended conference hotels to the conference venue and dinner location.

Colour coding of identity badges and lanyards

Red	Head of Delegation
Blue	Member of Parliament
Green	Keynote Speaker
Orange	Delegation staff
White	Observer
Black	Organisational staff
Violet	Interpreter
Yellow	Media
Grey	Technical staff

ACCOMMODATION

Participants are encouraged to book their hotel rooms as soon as possible at one of the recommended hotels below. Details relating to the various hotels are shown hereunder.
Rooms will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis.

Participants are kindly asked to book accommodation directly with the hotels using the links provided below in order to take advantage of the preferential rates.

OPTION 1: STAGES HOTEL PRAGUE, A TRIBUTE PORTFOLIO

Walking distance from the congress venue (3-minute walk)
Address: Českomoravská 19a, 190 00 Praha 9, Czech Republic
T: +420 221 000 000
https://www.stageshotel.com/en/

STAGES HOTEL Prague is inspired mainly by music and the great international shows taking place at the nearby O2 arena and O2 Universum. The reception is designed as a stage, therefore each guest can feel like a star when they enter. Other musical elements can also be found in the rooms. Instead of a classic lamp, you can find a reflector used for professional photo shooting, and the ordinary mirror has been replaced by a theatrical one, a Bluetooth speaker is among the room's equipment and there are many more details to enjoy. Guests can also discover numerous other original elements across the entire hotel. The hotel is member of Marriott International.

Room type	Rate per night per room
Standard Room Suite Room	3900 CZK / night / SGL room (approx. 160 EUR) 4150 CZK / night / DBL room (approx. 170 EUR) 4900 CZK / night/ SGL room (approx. 200 EUR) 5150 CZK / night / DBL room (approx. 210 EUR)
Including Excluding	Buffet breakfast, WiFi, access to fitness centre excl. 10% VAT and city tax (50 CZK, approx. 2 EUR)
Check in / Check Out	15.00 / 12.00
Reservation deadline	25 August 2022: 50% of the remaining contingent expires 9 September 2022: end of the reservation period

Reservation method. For online reservations please follow the link below:
[Book your group rate for IPC – SECG – Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union]

The deadline for booking is 9 September 2022. After this date, the availability and price of the rooms are not guaranteed. Credit card details are needed to guarantee the booking. You may also book a room directly with the hotel by email to: reservations@stageshotel.com or via phone +450 221 000 888.

Cancellation policy for individual rooms. Room reservations can be cancelled free of charge up to 1 day before arrival to the hotel, after which the individual customer is responsible for any charges, cancellations and charges concerning the reservations.

OPTION 2: PRAGUE MARRIOTT HOTEL

15 minutes by bus
Address: V Celnici 8, Prague, 110 00 Czech Republic
T: +420 296 895 050
https://www.marriottprague.cz

Prague Marriott Hotel is located in Prague's heart, next to Old Town Square and major tourist attractions, and at walking distance from the main shopping areas, Palladium Mall and Na Příkopě shopping street. The newly renovated hotel is known for its first-class service and spacious guest rooms. The rooms feature Marriott's luxurious signature bedding, a flat-screen TV and a seating area. A gym is available for all guests and is open 24 hours a day.

Room type	Rate per night per room (single / double occupancy)
Standard Room	5500 CZK / night / SGL room 5800 CZK / night / DBL room
Including Excluding	Buffet breakfast, WiFi, access to fitness centre Excl. 10% VAT and city tax (50 CZK, approx. 2 EUR)
Check in / Check Out	15.00 / 12.00
Reservation deadline	10 weeks before arrival 50% of the remaining contingent expires 6 weeks before arrival 75% of the remaining contingent expires 3 weeks before arrival 100% of the remaining contingent expires

Reservation method. For online reservations please follow the link below: https://www.marriott.com/event-reservations/reservation-link.mi?id=1652089388532&key=GRP&app=resvlink

The deadline for booking is 9 September 2022. After this date, availability and price of the rooms are not guaranteed. Credit card details are needed to guarantee the booking. You may also book a room directly with the hotel by email: prague.marriott@marriotthotels.com using the code F2IF2IA.

Cancellation policy. Room reservations can be cancelled free of charge until the date indicated in the confirmation of reservation. The customer is responsible for any changes, cancellations and charges concerning the reservation. The reservation must be guaranteed by credit card when booking.

OPTION 3: HILTON PRAGUE

15 minutes by bus

Address: Pobřežní 1, 186 00, Prague, Czech Republic
T: +420 224 841 111
https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/prghitw-hilton-prague/

Within walking distance from Prague Old Town´s major tourist attractions and the Palladium shopping mall, the newly renovated Hilton Prague Hotel offers comfort and excellent facilities. The bright and airy rooms, designed with convenience in mind, provide a place to unwind or start a new day.

Room type	Rate per night per room (single / double occupancy)
All Room Types	20% discount from the best available rate for SGL / DBL room 20% discount from the best available rate for SGL / DBL room
Including	Buffet breakfast, WiFi, VAT (excl. city tax), access to the spa & fitness centre, (subject to state COVID-19 restrictions)
Check in / Check Out	14.00 / 12.00
Reservation deadline	9 September 2022: end of the reservation period

Reservation method. For online reservations please follow the link below: http://eventsathilton.com/show/625e7383827c96950bbb1e48.

The deadline for booking is 9 September 2022. After this date, the availability and price of the rooms are not guaranteed. Credit card details are needed to guarantee the booking. You may also book a room directly with the hotel by email: pavla.silcova@hilton.com.

Cancellation policy. Room reservations can be cancelled free of charge until the date indicated in the confirmation of reservation. The customer is responsible for any changes, cancellations and charges concerning the reservation.

OPTION 4: BOTANIQUE HOTEL PRAGUE

15 minutes by bus
Address: Sokolovská 11, 186 00, Prague, Czech Republic
T: +420 226 222 600
https://www.hotelbotanique.com

A modern hotel inspired by nature with a "be-green" approach in the city centre of Prague simply focused on guest comfort. Offering fully renovated Superior & Premium rooms designed by famous Czech designers, Olgoj Chorchoj or bright and cosy Classic rooms. All rooms are equipped with comfortable beds, organic amenities and modern technology such as Samsung Smart HD TVs, USB ports, ambient LED lighting and powerful Wi-Fi you can rely on.

Room type	Rate per night per room (single / double occupancy)
Superior Room	145 EUR per room per night
Including	VAT, Buffet breakfast and use of hotel´s new fitness centre Fast WiFi connection, Nespresso coffee machine with capsules, tea kettle, mineral water, mini fridge, organic natural cosmetics and a laptop-sized safe
Check in / Check Out	15.00 / 12.00
Reservation deadline	First release of 20 rooms 45 days prior to arrival date

	Second release of the remaining 20 rooms 30 days prior to arrival date

Reservation method. For online reservations please follow the link below:
https://reservations.travelclick.com/109787?RatePlanId=5163491

Please use code **PSP2022** while booking accommodation via link above.

The deadline for booking is 9 September 2022. After this date, the availability and price of the rooms are not guaranteed. Credit card details are needed to guarantee the booking. You may also book a room directly with the hotel by email: reservations@hotelbotanique.com while using the code PSP2022.

Cancellation policy. Room reservations can be cancelled free of charge up to 14 days prior to arrival. The customer is responsible for any changes, cancellations and charges concerning the reservation.

TRANSFERS

Airport
We kindly ask the delegations to make their own arrangements for transport from and to the airport.

Václav Havel airport Prague (https://www.prg.aero/en#/) is located about 20 km from the city centre, which is approximately a 30-40 minute drive depending on traffic. You can reach Prague Airport by taxi or public transportation (bus, metro – for more information please visit: https://www.dpp.cz/en). If you travel by metro, the stations for hotels / conference venue are as follows:

- O2Universum: metro station Českomoravská (B line)
- Stages hotel: metro station Českomoravská (B line)
- Marriott hotel: metro station Náměstí Republiky (B line)
- Hilton hotel Prague: metro station Florenc (B, C lines)
- Botanique hotel: metro station Florenc (B, C lines)

Note that the prices of a taxi journey can vary based on traffic, however we encourage you to use official taxi companies operating at Václav Havel Airport (Taxi Praha or Fix Taxi: https://taxi-airport-prague.com) to avoid high rates from unofficial taxi companies.

The Uber and Bolt companies operate within the city of Prague. To book either, simply download their mobile application.

During the Programme
The Czech Parliament will provide a transportation service for the delegates to and from the conference and the dinner venue. Transport will leave and return to the recommended conference hotels only.

INTERPRETATION
Simultaneous interpretation of the plenary debates will be provided in Czech, English and French.

A limited number of booths can be made available on a first-come, first-served basis to delegations who wish to bring their own interpreters. Please inform the organisers about the need for additional booths in advance by email to parleu@parleu2022.cz by 10 September 2022.

CONFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Documents will be available online on www.parleu2022.cz and at the Information Desk during the meeting.

TAKING THE FLOOR

Chip cards necessary to request the floor will be handed out to MPs upon registration, together with the ID badge and lanyard.

Before the meeting starts, participants identify themselves very easily and quickly by holding their registration card in front of the conference unit placed on the desk at the participant´s seat. Requests to take the floor are submitted electronically by pushing the button with microphone sign. MPs will be allowed to speak once the moderator announces their name by pressing the microphone button once again.

During the meeting, the list of active speakers and participants on the waiting list are shown on the screen on the conference unit and on the large screens behind the stage. Speakers will be asked to take the floor in the same order the requests were received.

CATERING

Coffee breaks and a buffet lunch will be served at the conference venue.

SOCIAL EVENT

The gala dinner on 10 October 2022 will be a seated dinner in the Spanish Hall at Prague Castle. Prior to the dinner, there will be a unique concert held in St. Vithus Cathedral. Please don’t forget to take your badge to the dinner due to strict rules in Prague Castle area.

There will be a short walk on a cobblestone pavement in the Prague Castle area: very high-heeled shoes are not recommended.

If you have any dietary restrictions (e.g. vegetarian / vegan / lactose–free / gluten–free / nut allergy), please inform the organisers via the registration form.

WIFI

WiFi is available at the conference venue. Login details and password will be provided at the conference venue.

SMOKING

Smoking is permitted only in the designated areas outside the building.

MEDIA

The meetings will be broadcast in a live stream on www.parleu2022.cz. On submitting the registration form, you agree to transfer to www.parleu2022.cz, represented by delegated persons at the Chamber of Deputies and Senate of the Czech Parliament, the non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable and worldwide right to your speech and/or statements, and to all images and videos of you produced at the conference. This includes the right to sublicense, reproduce, modify, distribute, broadcast, publicly perform, publicly display and make available to the public in any form and in any medium, whether known or developed in the future, any such speeches, statements, images and videos.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Currency
The currency of the Czech Republic is the Czech Crown (CZK). 1 EUR = 25 CZK

Emergency Number
112

Country Code
+420

Time Zone
Local time in Czech Republic is UTC+1.

Power Supply
The Czech Republic uses type E power plugs and sockets. The standard voltage is 230 V, standard frequency is 50 Hz.

Weather
Prague's weather in October is very mild during the day with cooler temperatures at night. The weather can be quite cold as temperatures begin to cool down in autumn. You should also pack an umbrella as rainfall increases and the city can get quite windy. Prague enjoys an average temperature of 11°C that increases to 16°C during the warmest time of the day. The weather cools to just 7°C at night.

Tourism
The city centre is compact and the finest areas are mostly pedestrianised, therefore it is best to explore Prague on foot. Wenceslas Square, on one side of the city, to Prague Castle, on the other, is just a 30-minute stroll (walking via the Old Town, across the river and through the Lesser Town).

The first thing to do in Prague, therefore, is simply to wander through the streets and magnificent squares, to revel in the atmosphere and to admire the stunning architecture all around. Not-to-miss highlights are Prague Castle, Charles Bridge, Lesser Town and definitely Old Town Square with its magnificent Astronomical Clock.

To experience more from Prague, please visit https://www.prague.eu/en.

COVID-19 PROTECTION MEASURES

At the present time, there are no COVID-19 restrictions in the Czech Republic. However, restrictions are subject to change according to the current situation. Participants will be informed in advance if there are any changes. The latest information is also available on the dedicated web page of the Czech Ministry of the Interior - https://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/coronavirus-information-of-moi.aspx.

EMBASSIES

For information on embassies located in the Czech Republic, please visit:
https://www.mzv.cz/jnp/en/diplomatic_missions/foreign_missions_to_the_czech_republic/index.html

CONTACT PERSONS

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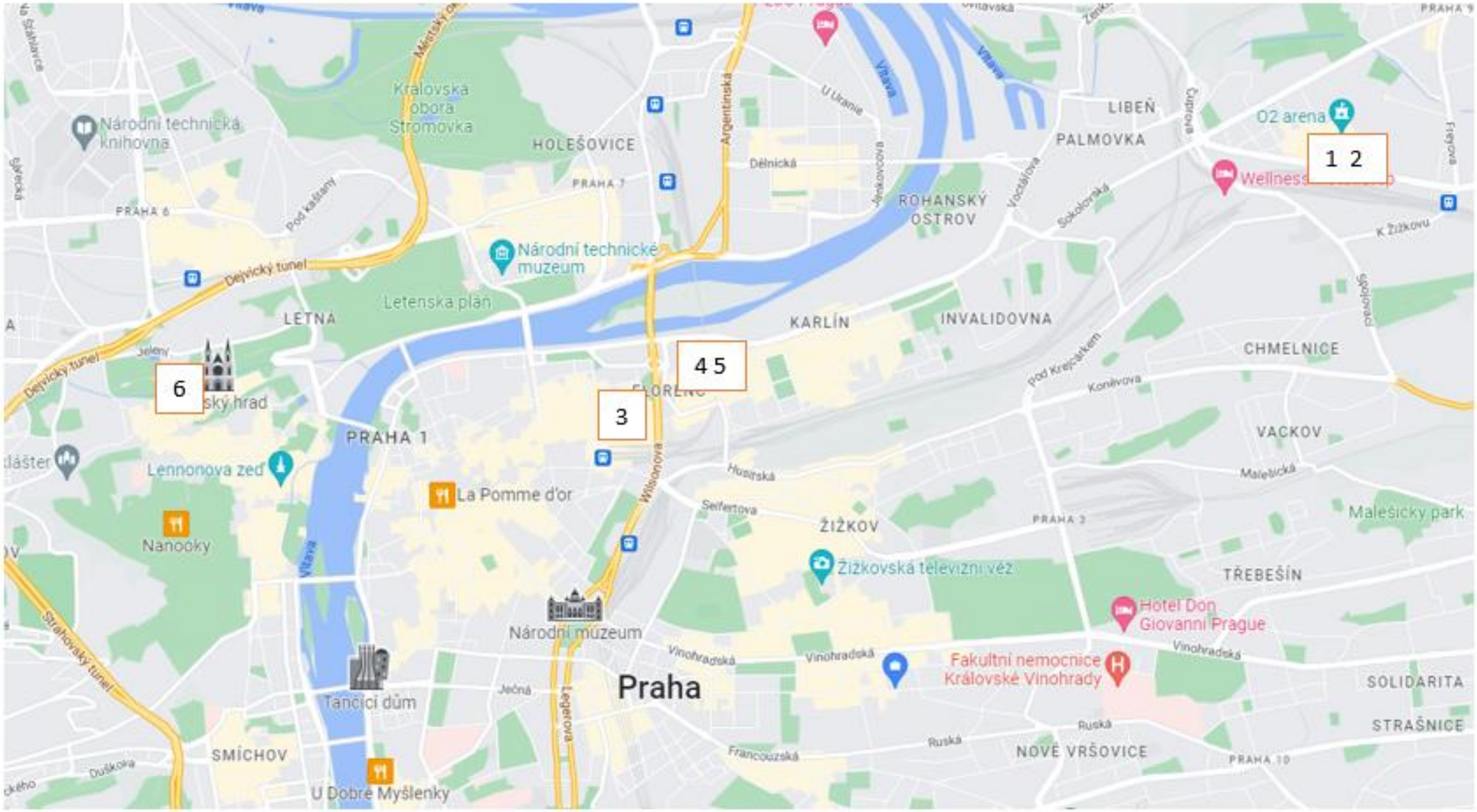
Should you need further information, please contact: parleu@parleu2022.cz

MAP OF POINTS OF INTEREST



1	O2 Universum (Conference venue)	4	Hilton Hotel Prague
2	Stages hotel	5	Botanique Hotel Prague
3	Marriott Prague	6	Spanish Hall at Prague Castle (Gala dinner)

CONFERENCE ENTRANCE

RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON STABILITY, ECONOMIC COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

PREAMBLE

Considering :

- *Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union;*

- *Protocol (No 1) of the Treaty of Lisbon on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union;*

- *the conclusions of the Conference of the Speakers of the European Union Parliaments, adopted on 23rd April 2013 in Nicosia, 8th April 2014 in Vilnius and 21st April 2015 in Rome;*

- *the guidelines for Interparliamentary Cooperation in the European Union adopted by the Conference of the Speakers of the European Union Parliaments on 21st June 2008 in Lisbon;*

these Rules of Procedure have been adopted on 10th November 2015 in Luxembourg.

1. DENOMINATION OF THE CONFERENCE

1.1. The Conference, following Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union, shall be named “Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union”, hereafter Interparliamentary Conference on SECG.

2. COMPETENCE AND SCOPE

2.1. The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in implementing the provisions of the Treaty in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the European Parliament and contribute to ensuring democratic accountability in the area of economic governance and budgetary policy in the EU, particularly in the EMU, taking into account the social dimension and without prejudice to the competences of EU Parliaments.

2.2 The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall replace the meetings of the chairpersons of relevant committees organised within the framework of the parliamentary dimension of the Presidency of the Council by the national Parliament of the Member State holding the Presidency, hereinafter referred to as the Presidency Parliament.

3. ROLE OF THE PRESIDENCY AND ORGANISATION OF THE MEETINGS

3.1 Frequency and place of meetings

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall convene at least twice a year, in coordination with the cycle of the European Semester. In the first semester of each year, it shall be held in Brussels and will be co-hosted and co-presided over by the Presidency Parliament and the European Parliament. In the second semester of each year, it shall be held in the Member State holding the EU Presidency and presided over by the Presidency Parliament.

3.2 Convocation of the meetings

The Interparliamentary Conferences on SECG should be convened before the presentation of the Annual Growth Survey and the adoption of the National Reform Programmes.

3.3 Presidential Troika

The Presidential Troika of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall consist of the delegations of the current, preceding and following Presidency Parliaments and of the European Parliament.

3.4 Agenda

A draft agenda to be submitted to other Parliaments shall be drawn up by the Presidency Parliament and in close cooperation with the Presidential Troika. In the first semester of each year the latter shall be drawn up together with the European Parliament.

3.5 Conduct of meetings

At the beginning of each meeting, the Presidency Parliament shall set the timetable of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG and shall determine the order and the length of interventions. In the first semester of each year these shall be set together with the European Parliament.

3.6 Documentation

The secretariat of the Presidency Parliament shall prepare the necessary documents. In the first semester of each year the documentation shall be prepared together with the European Parliament.

3.7. Modus operandi

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall operate on the basis of the principle of consensus.

3.8. Public access to the meetings

Meetings of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall be public, unless otherwise determined.

4. COMPOSITION

4.1 Members

The Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall be composed of delegations from the relevant committees of the national Parliaments of EU Members States and the European Parliament. The composition and size of delegations shall be determined by each Parliament.

4.2 Representatives of EU Institutions

The President of the European Council, the President of the Eurogroup and the relevant members of the European Commission and other EU Institutions should be invited to the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG to set out the priorities and strategies of the EU in the areas being discussed by this conference.

4.3 Observers

Two members of the Parliaments of each candidate country shall be invited as observers to the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG.

4.4 Special guests

The Presidency Parliament may also invite, after consulting the Presidential Troika, observers from other EU institutions or bodies as well as from other Parliaments as special guests. In the first semester of each year, these invitations shall be established together with the European Parliament. The delegations of other Parliaments shall be represented by one member each.

5. LANGUAGE REGIME

5.1 The working languages of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall be English and French.

5.2 Interpretation

Simultaneous interpretation from and into English and French, as well as from and into the language(s) of the Member State of the EU Council Presidency shall be provided by the Presidency Parliament in the second and by the European Parliament in the first semester of each year. Simultaneous interpretation into additional languages may be provided if requested; its costs shall be borne by the relevant national delegation or the European Parliament. The host Parliament shall make available the appropriate technical facilities.

5.3. Documents

The documents of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG shall be transmitted to national Parliaments and to the European Parliament in English and in French. Each Parliament shall be responsible for translating these documents into its official language(s). Each delegation shall be responsible for translating any document which it submits to the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG into English and/or French.

6. CONCLUSIONS

6.1 The Presidency Parliament may present non-binding conclusions on the outcome of the meeting in English and French. In the first semester of each year the latter may be presented together with the European Parliament.

7. *RULES OF PROCEDURE*

7.1. Any national Parliament and the European Parliament may submit proposals to amend these Rules of Procedure. Amendments shall be submitted in writing to all national Parliaments and the European Parliament within a reasonable time ahead of the meetings of the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG.

7.2. Any amendments shall be subject to a decision by consensus by the Interparliamentary Conference on SECG, and must be in accordance with the framework set by the Conference of Speakers of the EU Parliaments.

7.3. Proposals for a revision of the Rules of Procedure shall be put on the agenda of the first Interparliamentary Conference on SECG following the transmission of the proposal.

8. ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

8.1. These Rules of Procedure are drawn up in a single original in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic. Translations into the other official languages of the European Union shall be the responsibility of the relevant Parliaments. The Rules of Procedure shall enter into force on the date of their adoption.