

Brussels, 9th January 2024

Dear colleagues,

During the first semester of 2024, Belgium will have the honour to hold the presidency of the Council of the European Union for the 13<sup>th</sup> time. Within the framework of the Parliamentary Dimension of this presidency, it is our pleasure to invite you to the 24<sup>th</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy that will take place in Bruges, from 3 to 5 March 2024.

As you all well know, the IPC for CFSP/CSDP is a semestrial event that brings together distinguished parliamentarians, policymakers, diplomats, scholars, and experts to discuss and exchange ideas on the current challenges and opportunities facing the European Union in the realm of foreign and security affairs.

As you will see from the attached draft agenda, the main conference themes will be the priorities of CFSP/CSDP, supporting Ukraine against the Russian aggression, and the Strategic compass and EU resilience. It goes without saying that the ongoing process of enlargement will also be on the agenda. And last but not least, we've also foreseen the opportunity to hold an urgent debate on a current topic.

We strongly believe that fostering collaboration between parliamentarians, policymakers and experts is crucial for addressing the multifaceted challenges facing the European Union. We therefore sincerely hope that you will be able to join us for this important event. Your participation will be highly appreciated, and we look forward to the opportunity to exchange ideas and perspectives with you.

We would also like to take this opportunity to convey to you and your beloved ones our best wishes for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Buysrogge  
Chair of the Committee on  
Defence of the House of  
representatives



Mark Demesmaeker  
Chair of the Committee on  
Transversal Affairs of the  
Senate



Els Van Hoof  
Chair of the Committee on  
Foreign Affairs of the House  
of representatives