

THE SPEAKER OF THE RIKSDAG



Stockholm, 25 February 2009

Dear Speaker, dear Colleague,

In the second half of 2009, Sweden will assume the Presidency of the European Union Council.

During the Swedish Presidency, the Riksdag will host interparliamentary meetings on themes linked to the Swedish priorities for the Presidency. Therefore we foresee discussions on subjects such as *environmental policy and climate change, financial sustainability, the Baltic Sea Strategy*, as well as *the Stockholm programme*. The latter in parts related to the fight against crime. One of the meetings will also address *equal opportunities* between women and men.

The meetings will be held in the Riksdag buildings in Stockholm, except for the meeting of the Chairpersons of Committees on Foreign Affairs, which will take place in Visby, on the island of Gotland.

During the Swedish Presidency, we also expect, as is customary, to host joint parliamentary meetings together with the European Parliament. Further information about these events will be sent out later.

I would also like to take this opportunity to inform you that the annual *Conference of the Speakers of the European Union Parliaments 2010* will take place in Stockholm on 14-15 May. Furthermore, I plan to invite the current extended troika of EU Speakers to Stockholm on 8 July 2009.

It gives me great pleasure to welcome representatives from your Parliament to the meetings listed below.

Invitations to the respective meetings, and further information on the specific themes to facilitate identification of relevant chairpersons in the parliaments will be communicated in due course. All information concerning each of these meetings will also be available both in the IPEX calendar and on the Riksdag website (www.riksdagen.se).

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Per Westerberg', is written over a horizontal line. A long, thin blue line extends from the end of the signature downwards and to the right.

Per Westerberg
Speaker of the Riksdag

DATE/TOPICS	HOST
5 - 6 July COSAC Chairpersons	<i>Chair of the Committee on EU Affairs</i>
6 - 7 September Sustainability in public finances, Economic Aspects of Climate Change	<i>Chair of the Committee on Finance</i>
6 - 8 September The Baltic Sea and relations with it's vicinity, Current foreign policy issues	<i>Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs</i>
27 - 28 September Deforestation and climate change	<i>Chair of the Committee on Environment & Agriculture</i>
4 - 6 October COSAC XLII	<i>Committee on EU Affairs</i>
11 - 12 October A balanced approach to legal security and the fight against organised crime, with a special focus on trafficking	<i>Chair of the Committee on Justice</i>
8 - 9 November European Security and Defence Policy	<i>Chair of the Committee on Defence</i>
13 - 14 November Conditions for equal participation in politics and work for women and men	<i>Chair of the Committee on the Labour Market</i> (responsible for business related to equal opportunities)