



Deutscher Bundestag

Chairpersons of the Committees on
Health, Research and Digital Affairs
from the national parliaments
of the European Union
and the European Parliament

10 July 2020
Enclosures: 2

Erwin Rüdgel, MdB
Chairman of the Committee on Health

Dr Ernst Dieter Rossmann, MdB
Chairman of the Committee on
Education, Research and Technology
Assessment

Manuel Höferlin, MdB
Chairman of the Committee on the
Digital Agenda

German Bundestag
Platz der Republik 1
11011 Berlin

Invitation

Dear Chairpersons,
Dear Colleagues,

The Covid-19 pandemic has far-reaching impacts on public health, as well as on social and economic development in our member states and across the world. It presents the European Union with one of the greatest challenges since its foundation. Our task is to find a coordinated way to stop the spread of the virus, reinforce cooperation in the field of health in the European Union, promote medical research and work in concert to rebuild the European economies.

Against this background, we would like to invite you, as chairpersons of the committees on health, research and digital affairs from the national parliaments of the EU member states and the European Parliament, to take part in the Conference

**Europe in the pandemic:
research and innovation for a more resilient health system
on 7 September 2020.**

In line with the work programme of the German Bundestag and Bundesrat for the Parliamentary Dimension of the German Presidency of the Council of the EU, we intend to discuss current issues in the field of health and research policy in connection with the Covid-19 pandemic. In a first session, we plan to talk about the lessons to be learnt from the crisis for the strengthening of healthcare systems in the EU. In a second session, we will explore the question of how European research policy can contribute to sustainable crisis management. In both



areas, we will examine the opportunities presented by digitalisation.

We ask for your understanding of the fact that, contrary to our original plans, we have decided due to the pandemic not to hold a physical meeting at the German Bundestag in Berlin, but instead to organise the meeting in the form of a **video conference** on **7 September 2020**, from **14:00 to 18:00 hrs**.

Up to four chairpersons or their deputies can be nominated from each parliament to take part in the conference.

We attach the **draft programme** (enclosure 1), along with an **information sheet** (enclosure 2) **containing technical information**, including on accreditation and on the video-conference format.

Please bear in mind the **deadline for registration** for the conference, which is **12 August 2020**.

We look forward to your participation.

Yours sincerely,

Erwin Rüdchel

Dr Ernst Dieter Rossmann

Manuel Höferlin