

Deutscher Bundestag



Bundesrat

Chairpersons of the Committees for
Union Affairs of the national Parliaments
of the European Union and the
European Parliament

Berlin, 27 October 2020
Enclosures: 2

Gunther Krichbaum, MdB
Chairman of the Committee on
European Union Affairs

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Guido Wolf
Chairman of the Committee on
European Union Questions

Bundesrat
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Dear Colleague,

For a long time we had hoped to be able to meet with you in person in Berlin later this autumn. Unfortunately, in Europe we are currently experiencing another continued increase in Covid-19 infection rates. In many places, restrictions on daily life have been re-implemented in an attempt to curb infections. In light of this situation, it is with a heavy heart that we have decided not to hold a physical meeting of COSAC with a limited number of participants.

Instead, we wish to invite you and a delegation from your parliament to a virtual Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) on

30 November and 1 December 2020.

During the event, we would like to take a first look back at the German Presidency of the Council of the EU together with you and continue our discussion of the lessons to be taken from the corona crisis. The focus of our deliberations will be on questions regarding the EU's future, looking in particular at the Conference on the Future of Europe and cooperation at European level during pandemics. In addition, we will examine the issue of how a responsible partnership between the EU and Africa might look. Another session is dedicated to a topic of current particular interest in the form of what we refer to as an





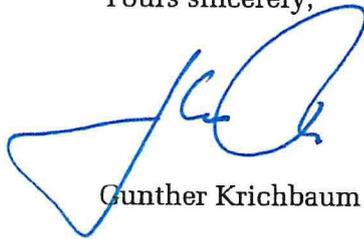
“Aktuelle Stunde” debate. In the spirit of a lively and interesting exchange, we expressly encourage you to speak freely and spontaneously.

As already mentioned at the COSAC Chairpersons’ meeting on 14 September 2020, the video conference format unfortunately only allows a reduced number of languages to be offered. The presidency will ensure simultaneous interpretation in English, French and German. We strongly urge you to use a headset to allow your contributions to be interpreted.

Enclosed you will find a **draft programme** along with **technical information** in preparation for the conference. We would be delighted if you could register by 16 November 2020.

Stay healthy!

Yours sincerely,



Gunther Krichbaum

A blue ink signature of Gunther Krichbaum, featuring a large, stylized initial 'G' and 'K'.

Guido Wolf

A blue ink signature of Guido Wolf, written in a cursive style.