



REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
NATIONAL COUNCIL
PRESIDENT

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COURTESY TRANSLATION

Ljubljana, 26 May 2021

Dear Madam President, Mr President,

On 1 July 2021, the Republic of Slovenia will assume the Presidency of the Council of the European Union. It is an honour to be able to assume the Presidency for the second time, not least because Slovenia is also celebrating 30 years of independence.

The European Union has changed significantly since our first Presidency of the Council of the EU in the first half of 2008. The parliamentary dimension of the Presidency has been expanded and national parliaments have been granted greater powers. The European family has welcomed an additional member and, sadly, had to part ways with another. We have faced numerous challenges, with the economic crisis, wave of migration, and terrorist threats being chief among them. At the same time, the EU has continued to develop and grow, proving time and time again that it can survive and withstand the sternest of tests. We are therefore certain that the COVID-19 pandemic, which has been the focus of sustained efforts not only by the EU but the entire international community, will once again bear this out. The pandemic has touched almost every aspect of our lives, eclipsing a number of other pressing issues.

In light of all this and based on the German, Portuguese, and Slovenian trio programme, Slovenia has drawn up a list of priorities for the Presidency. Our aim is to help strengthen the EU's resilience and ensure that it is prepared to effectively deal with potential crisis situations in the future that go beyond the scope of any one Member State and require a joint EU response. We will also work towards the effective economic regeneration of the EU, based on a green transition and digital transformation. We understand that the EU is first and foremost its citizens, which is why we will endeavour to promote a Europe based on the rule of law and work towards preserving the European way of life. Finally, because peace and prosperity hinge on good relations with other members of the international community, we will devote special attention to enhancing the Common Foreign and Security Policy and transatlantic relationships, as well as those within our immediate neighbourhood, the Western Balkans.

The parliamentary dimension will follow the key points of the Presidency. At the same time, the National Assembly and the National Council would like to leave their own mark as representatives of the people. It therefore gives us great pleasure to be able to provide you with the enclosed calendar of planned parliamentary activities scheduled to take place in Slovenia and Brussels during Slovenia's Presidency of the Council of the EU.

We certainly hope that circumstances will permit a face-to-face meeting in Slovenia in the second half of 2021.

Yours sincerely,

Igor Zorčič
Speaker of the National Assembly

Alojz Kovšca
President of the National
Council



Calendar of interparliamentary conferences and meetings organised as part of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Slovenian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

DATE	CONFERENCE	LOCATION
19 July 2021	Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) – Meeting of the Chairpersons	Ljubljana – videoconference
8–9 September 2021	Inter-parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (IPC CFSP/CSDP)	Ljubljana, Brdo Congress Centre (conference format to be confirmed)
28 September 2021	Inter-parliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union (SECG)	Ljubljana – videoconference
25–26 October 2021	The Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol	Brussels, European Parliament
Scheduled for November 2021	High-level Interparliamentary Conference on Migration and Asylum in Europe	Brussels, European Parliament
28–30 November 2021	LXVI Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (LXVI COSAC)	Ljubljana, Exhibition and Convention Centre (conference format to be confirmed)
Scheduled for November/December 2021	Inter-parliamentary Committee Meeting on the Evaluation of Eurojust`s Activities	Brussels, European Parliament
30–31 January 2022	Meeting of the Secretaries-General of the European Union Parliaments (EUSG)	Ljubljana, National Assembly
Scheduled for 4–5 April 2022	Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments (EUSC)	