

Committee on Budgetary Control The Chair

Subject: Invitation to an Interparliamentary Committee Meeting on the "Role of national parliaments in overseeing the spending of EU funds and the Next Generation EU plan", 26 June 2023 in Brussels

Dear Colleague,

Exercising parliamentary budgetary oversight is of paramount importance in ensuring that public money is spent economically, efficiently and effectively and that potential misuse or fraud is prevented or detected, and eventually prosecuted. This oversight is not least important in relation to the Next Generation EU funds, which in many ways build on a new set of principles. For the oversight of funds based on the multiannual financial framework, both national parliaments and the European Parliament play a role but when it comes to the Next Generation EU funds, the role of national parliaments is even more crucial.

At EU level, the Budgetary Control Committee (CONT) of the European Parliament is competent to control the implementation of the Union budget, including for the Next Generation EU, and to prepare decisions on discharge to the Commission and all other Union institutions, agencies and bodies which are ultimately taken by Parliament. Furthermore, the Committee is responsible for the relations with the Court of Auditors as well as for the relations with the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and the European Public Prosecutor Office (EPPO).

Exercising these parliamentary control functions involves many challenges and therefore, the CONT Committee would like to invite all national parliaments to a discussion about common experience and challenges in relation to the control of the spending of EU funds, as well as of funds under the Next Generation EU plan.

This Interparliamentary Committee Meeting (ICM) will take place on 26 June 2023 from 15.00 to 18.00 (CET) in Brussels and in physical presence only. Before the ICM, a walking networking lunch will be served from 13:30.

As you will see from the enclosed draft programme, we have divided the discussions in two panels and each panel will be opened with short opening remarks by colleagues from either national parliaments or from the CONT Committee. After the introductory speeches, there will be a joint exchange of views with both MPs and MEPs (with interventions of approximately 2-3 minutes per member). Following the exchange of views, the initial speakers are invited to give feedback and/or closing remarks.

The CONT Committee is convinced that this event will provide an opportunity to learn from each other, to raise awareness of common challenges and to share ideas and best practices. We sincerely hope that you will be able to accept our invitation and we are looking forward to welcoming you to the ICM on 26 June 2023.

Yours sincerely,

Mouika Hohlueier

Monika Hohlmeier

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