



## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC**

**BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, 24 MARCH 2024**

### **PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

CHAIR: Ms Eliane TILLIEUX, Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European affairs, Belgian *Chambre des représentants/Kamer van Volksvertegenwoordigers*, and Mr Gaëtan VAN GOIDSENHOVEN, Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs, Belgian *Sénat/Senaat*;

Mr Péter BALASSA, Vice-Chair of the Committee on European Affairs of the Hungarian *Országgyűlés*;

Mr Francisco José CONDE LÓPEZ, Chair of the Joint Committee for EU Affairs of the Spanish *Cortes Generales*, and Mr Pere Joan PONS, Member of the Joint Committee for EU Affairs of the Spanish *Cortes Generales*;

Mr Othmar KARAS, First Vice-President, European Parliament, and Mr Salvatore DE MEO, Chair of the Committee for Constitutional Affairs, European Parliament.

### **1. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC**

Ms Eliane TILLIEUX, Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European affairs, Belgian *Chambre des représentants/Kamer van Volksvertegenwoordigers*, welcomed the delegations of the Presidential Troika of COSAC (hereinafter referred to as "the Troika"). She then referred to the [agenda of the Meeting of the Troika](#), previously circulated to all delegations, which was adopted without amendments.

### **2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE LXXI COSAC**

Mr Gaëtan VAN GOIDSENHOVEN, Co-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs, Belgian *Sénat/Senaat* presented the [draft programme of the plenary meeting of the LXXI COSAC](#), which was adopted without amendments.

### **3. PRESENTATION OF THE 41ST BI-ANNUAL REPORT OF COSAC**

Mr VAN GOIDSENHOVEN referred to the [41st Bi-annual report of COSAC](#) which was drafted by the COSAC Secretariat on the basis of replies to the related questionnaire

circulated to national Parliaments/Chambers on 16 January 2024, with a deadline on 8 February for submitting the answers. He then gave the floor to the Permanent Member of the COSAC Secretariat, Mr Jakob SJÖVALL, who made a brief presentation of the report.

## **5. DRAFT CONTRIBUTION AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE PLENARY MEETING OF THE LXXI COSAC**

Ms TILLIEUX introduced the procedure regarding the adoption of Contribution and Conclusions by the LXXI COSAC.

She recalled that the Presidency had consulted the Troika for comments and reactions about the initial drafts of the Contribution and Conclusions on two occasions, firstly on 18 March 2024 and on 22 March. A revised version of the Contribution was made available to the Troika on 22 March, as a basis for the discussion at the meeting of the Presidential Troika. She noted that several amendments to the draft Contribution had been put forward by delegations within the set deadline of 19 March and that the Presidency had distributed a table with those amendments.

Moreover, she informed the Troika that the Presidency had tried to accommodate the majority of these amendments in the compromise text distributed ahead of the meeting, provided they were not contradictory with the original draft or addressed matters that were beyond the agenda of the LXXI COSAC.

Mr Othmar KARAS proposed adjustments, on behalf of the European Parliament delegation to paragraphs 51, 62, 65 and 66 of the draft Conclusions. These proposed amendments were accepted and the draft text thus changed accordingly.

Mr BALASSA indicated that the amendment to paragraph 51 of the draft Contribution would be resubmitted by the Hungarian delegation. At the same time, he noted that, in the absence of Mr Zoltán TESSELY, Chair of the Committee on European Affairs of the Hungarian *Országgyűlés*, Mr BALASSA would for the time being limit himself to this remark, and noted that further proposals for amendments could be tabled after the Troika meeting.

Ms TILLIEUX concluded that a new draft would be submitted to delegations after the Troika meeting, with an opportunity for delegations to table further proposals for amendment until 12.00 on 25 March 2024.

## **6. LETTERS RECEIVED BY THE PRESIDENCY**

Ms TILLIEUX recalled the letters received by the Presidency requesting, i.a., invitations to attend the COSAC meeting that were received before the Chairpersons meeting. All the letters mentioned were made available on [IPEX](#).

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Ms TILLIEUX thanked the Spanish Presidency, who were leaving the Troika, and gave the floor to Mr BALASSA, who remarked that as concerns the incoming Hungarian Presidency, he was pleased to be able to welcome COSAC to Budapest, where the Chairpersons meeting will be held on 28-29 July and the LXXII COSAC on 27-29 October.