

Committee on Constitutional Affairs
The Chair

To the Chair(s) of the Committee concerned

Subject: Interparliamentary Committee Meeting (ICM) on Wednesday 10 October, organised by the Constitutional Affairs committee (AFCO)

Honourable Chairperson,

I have the pleasure of inviting you to the Interparliamentary Committee meeting that the Constitutional Affairs Committee (AFCO) will hold on Wednesday 10 October 2018.

The main aim of this meeting will be to exchange views and to reflect with the national Parliaments on the state of the debate on the Future of Europe, in order to assess institutional and political evolutions that have followed the adoption of Parliaments resolutions of 16 February 2017, on “Improving the functioning of the European Union building on the potential of the Lisbon Treaty” (Bresso/Brok report), on “Possible evolutions of and adjustments to the current institutional set-up of the European Union” (Verhofstadt) and on “Budgetary capacity for the euro area” (Böge/Berès) ¹, taking stock of the different proposals recently presented by relevant institutions and Member States and presenting Parliament’s priorities in the current debate on the future of Europe.

We are all conscious of the enormous challenges that the European Union is facing, from the still palpable effects of the economic and financial crisis to the refugee crisis, or the threats to the security of citizens deriving from terrorism, not to mention the need to address the withdrawal of the United Kingdom and its consequences. Thus, it is crucial to discuss how the Union can best address those challenges in order to be able to carry on ensuring peace, security and prosperity for its citizens.

I believe that we, national and European parliamentarians should also exchange views on possible institutional consequences linked to such challenges, taking into consideration the next European election on May 2019. As such, I am proposing that a large part of our common discussions concentrate on the possible future institutional evolution of the European Union.

Our committee greatly values the debates we already had with members of national parliaments in the run up to the adoption of the mentioned reports.

¹ P8_TA(2017)0049, P8_TA(2017)0048, and P8_TA(2017)0050, adopted on 16 February 2017

I am therefore very pleased to invite up to four Members of your corresponding committee(s) (two from each chamber in the case of bi-cameral Parliaments) to attend this meeting on Wednesday 10 October, from 14h30 to 17h30, on the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels.

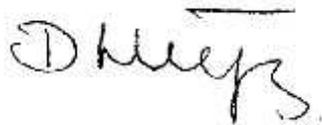
Gernot Blümel, President of the Council of the European Union and Austrian Federal Minister at the Federal Chancellery for the EU, Arts, Culture and the Media has confirmed his presence for the introductory part of the meeting and we hope that First Vice-President of the Commission Frans Timmermans can also attend to the debate.

You will find attached the draft programme that I am proposing at this stage. Should you be unable to attend, or should you desire to do so, we would welcome any written contributions from your committee, which would also be distributed to the participants.

Practical details regarding the ICM will be forwarded in due course to the services of your Parliament, responsible for relations with the European Parliament.

I sincerely hope that your committee will be able to accept our invitation and I am looking forward to welcoming you at the European Parliament on 10 October 2018.

Yours sincerely,



| Prof. Danuta Hübner _PhD

Annex: Draft Programme