The COSAC Chairpersons’ meeting took place in Zagreb on 20-21 January 2020. It was the first interparliamentary event of the Croatian Presidency and brought together the Chairs of the EU Affairs Committees of the EU Parliaments and Chambers, the EP, and candidate and guest countries.

The European Parliament was represented by the First Vice-President, Mrs Mairead McGuinness, in charge of relations with national Parliaments and the Chair of the Constitutional Affairs Committee, Mr Antonio Tajani. The Directorate for Relations with National Parliaments of DG PRES prepared this meeting and provided support and advice to the Members of the European Parliament.

At the beginning of the meeting, Mr Domagoj Ivan Milošević, Chairman of the European Affairs Committee of the Croatian Parliament, gave the floor to Lord Kinnoull, Chair of the EU Committee of the House of Lords. Lord Kinnoull expressed his sadness to participate in the last COSAC meeting as a Member of the EU and hoped for the continuation of fruitful relations between the United Kingdom and the European Union. Most participants regretted the departure of the UK and hoped that the close cooperation would continue.
The first session started with an address by Mr Andrej Plenković, Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Croatia, who presented the Priorities of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the European Union, namely a Europe that develops, connects, protects & an influential Europe. His speech raised a lot of interest and resulted in an intensive debate with more than 25 interventions on various issues, mainly enlargement, migration and the Multiannual Financial Framework.

The second session was dedicated to the Conference on the Future of Europe. Ms Dubravka Šuica, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of democracy and demography and VP McGuinness were the keynote speakers. Ms Šuica emphasized the importance of national Parliaments' involvement in the Conference and communicated the next steps to come. VP McGuinness informed about the debate in the EP Plenary and the adoption of an EP resolution. She insisted on the importance to put "citizens first" and that both the European and national Parliaments should work together in that direction. With more than 15 interventions, there was an overall call by all national Parliaments to be involved as much as possible. The Croatian Chair assured that the Conference on the Future of Europe would be part of the agenda of the COSAC Plenary.