



Delegation for relations with Mercosur

DMER_PV(2023)1207_1

MINUTES

of the meeting of 7 December 2023, 14.30-16.30

Brussels

The meeting opened on Monday 7 December 2023 at 14.38, with Jordi Cañas (Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda

OJ - PE 596.580v01-00

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of meetings of

- DMER meeting of 23 March 2023 PV - PE 596.577v01-00
- DMER – Parlasur Interparliamentary Meeting of 5 June 2023 PV - PE 596.579v01-00

The minutes were approved.

3. Chair's announcements

The Chair announced the Conference of Presidents' decision on 23 November 2023 authorising the sending of a mission to Argentina from 18 to 21 December 2023 and discussed preparation for the mission.

4. General elections in Argentina: assessment of results

The Ambassador of Argentina to the European Union summed up the different stages of the electoral process that led to the appointment of a new president, partial changes to the Congress of Argentina, the appointment of provincial governors and Argentina's representatives in the Mercosur Parliament. He emphasised the peaceful and orderly nature of the entire electoral

process.

The Ambassador of the European Union to Argentina discussed the scale of the political changes resulting from the elections. He underscored the strong bilateral relationship, recently reflected in the signing of two memoranda of understanding on energy and sustainable value chains for strategic materials, as well as visits to Argentina by high-level EU representatives. He also expressed confidence that negotiations between the EU and Mercosur on their association agreement could be concluded soon.

Members bemoaned the fact that the agreement had not yet been concluded. They asked about the position of Javier Milei's new government on a number of topics and agreed on the importance of maintaining the good bilateral relationship. Some Members criticised the new Argentine President's more controversial political positions.

Speakers: Jörgen Warborn (EPP, Sweden), Kathleen van Brempt (S&D, Belgium), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE, Belgium), Miguel Urbán Crespo (The Left, Spain), Mónica Silvana González (S&D, Spain).

5. Current situation in Venezuela: analysis of the outcome of the opposition's primary elections and of the agreement in principle adopted in Barbados

Maria Corina Machado, opposition candidate in Venezuela's presidential elections, reported on the Venezuelan opposition's satisfaction about having managed to elect a single candidate for the 2024 presidential elections in Venezuela, which she hoped would be fair and free. She asked the European Parliament to observe the presidential election to ensure it was a clean process and monitor respect for human rights in Venezuela. She also expressed her concern that the controversy regarding the Essequibo region could be used by the Venezuelan regime as an argument for suspending the presidential elections, and mentioned the potential to destabilise the region.

Members asked questions about how united the opposition was around the candidate and the potential for the presidential election process to change as a result of the Essequibo region controversy.

Speakers: Jordi Cañas (Renew, Spain), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE, Belgium).

6. Impact of the European Union's cooperation policies on Mercosur countries

The DG INTPA representative said that cooperation with Mercosur countries took different forms depending on the status of its members, which ranged from high-income and lower/middle-income countries. In any case, Mercosur members participated actively in regional EU programmes in fields including forest management, the green economy, combating inequalities, public health, gender equality and combating organised crime.

The Ambassador of the EU to Paraguay gave a detailed analysis of the EU's priority areas for cooperation with Paraguay, in particular a green, resilient economy and combating inequalities. He also discussed other EU cooperation programmes implemented in Paraguay and shared information about the actual results achieved.

The representative of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) said that PAHO and the EU had been strategic partners in the region and had achieved remarkable results in areas including microbial resistance, optimising surveillance systems, closer collaboration on research and innovation and development of production capacity.

The Members who spoke referred to the need to make full use of the wide range of EU programmes for cooperation with Mercosur Member States, drew attention to the need for cooperation programmes that ensured sustainability and asked for civil society to be fully involved.

Speakers: Mónica Silvana González (S&D, Spain), Samira Rafaela (Renew, Netherlands), Saskia Bricmont (Verts/ALE, Belgium).

7. Any other business

None.

8. Date and place of next meeting

The Chair announced that the date and place of the next delegation meeting would be communicated in due course.

The meeting closed at 16.47.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATASTAΣH ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
 LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRS/DALVIŲ SĀRAŠAS/
 JELENLÉTI ÍV/REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŚCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
 LISTĀ DE PREZENTĀ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/NÄRVAROLISTA**

Бюро/Меса/Председништво/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείо/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsedništvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Jordi Cañas (P), Mónica Silvana González (VP)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Bouλευτές/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
José Manuel Fernandes, Miguel Urbán Crespo, Kathleen Van Brempt, Jörgen Warborn
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Samira Rafaela

209 (7)	
216 (3)	
Izaskun Bilbao Barandica, Saskia Bricmont	
56 (8) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Σημείο της ημερήσιας διάταξης/Agenda item/Point OJ/Točka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkės punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Aģenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dzennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Punkt på föredragningslistan)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S.E. Atilio Berardi Hueda, jefe de la Misión de la República Argentina ante la Unión Europea • Amador Sánchez Rico, Ambassador of the European Union to the Argentine Republic (by video conference from Buenos Aires) 	Punto 4
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Corina Machado, opposition candidate for the 2024 presidential election in Venezuela (by video conference) 	Punto 5
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diana Montero Melis, jefe de unidad adjunta, Unidad para América del Sur y Operaciones Regionales, DG INTPA, Comisión Europea • Javier García Viedma, Ambassador of the European Union to the Republic of Paraguay (by video conference from Asunción) • Luis Jiménez McInnis, Director para relaciones exteriores, asociaciones y movilización de recursos, Organización Panamericana de la Salud (PAHO) (por videoconferencia) 	Punto 6

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatiejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Nověrotáji/Stebétojai/Megfigyelők/Osservaturi/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

CESE: Carlos Silva, Ewa Tomaszewska

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Mε πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tāc-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitación președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Komissionen/Kommission/Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Diana Montero Melis, Paolo Toselli, Gómez Iniesta

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Evropská služba pro vnitřní činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa väliseenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action Service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Europska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europaeačka Služba Działalń Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Ação Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttrre åtgärd (*)

Jordi Garcia Martinez

Други институции и органи/Otras instituciones y organismos/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner og organer/Andere Organe und Einrichtungen/Muud institutsioonid ja organid/Λοιπά θεσμικά όργανα και οργανισμοί/Other institutions and bodies/Autres institutions et organes/Druge institucije i tijela/Altre istituzioni e altri organi/Citas ieshades un struktūras/Kitos institucijos ir įstaigos/Más intézmények és szervek/Istituzzjonijiet u korpi oħra/Andere instellingen en organen/Inne instytucje i organy/Outras instituições e outros órgãos/Alte instituições și organe/Iné inštitúcie a orgány/Muut toimielimet ja elimet/Andra institutioner och organ

Други участници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klátesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Parteicipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Altı participantı/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétaire des groupes politiques/Tajništvo klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politiske gruppe sekretariāts/Frakcijų sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoportok titkársága/Segretariat gruppi političi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secretariado dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupín/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/De politiska gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Juan Salafranca, Kathryn Stack
S&D	Luca Fossati
Renew	Itziar Munoa Salaverria, Ursula Pondelek, Ignacio Roussy
Verts/ALE	Marta Ruiz
ECR	
ID	
The Left	
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelár predsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantslej/Γραφείο του Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsjednika/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinet tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli

Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelár generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäribüro/Γραφείο του Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinet tas-Segretarju Ĝeneral/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalného sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekretærrens kansli

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Generaldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/ Direttorato Generali/Directoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES	
DG IPOL	
DG EXPO	Wolfgang Igler, Maciek Jastrzebiec-Pyszynski, Katarina Jastrzembska
DG EPRS	
DG COMM	
DG PART	
DG PERS	
DG INLO	
DG TRAD	
DG LINC	
DG FINS	
DG ITEC	
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Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Õigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisés tárnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/ Wydział prawnego/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättsstjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία της επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétaireat de la commission/Tajništvo odbora/Segreteria della commissione/ Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Segretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissie secretariaat/ Sekretariat komisji/Secretariado da comissão/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottsssekretariatet	
Juan Carlos Perez Navas, Clotilde Sebag	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistente/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočník/ Avustaja/Assistenter	
Rebecca Alrutz	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
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Tjänsteman