DRAFT OPINION

of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs

for the Committee on Foreign Affairs

on the implementation of the common foreign and security policy - annual report 2021
(2021/2182(INI))

Rapporteur for opinion: Gerolf Annemans
SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs calls on the Committee on Foreign Affairs, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions into its motion for a resolution:

1. Notes that the geopolitical impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and a quickly deteriorating security environment are posing unprecedented challenges to the Union’s common foreign and security policy; emphasises that, in the face of these challenges, the Union needs to stay resilient and improve the speed of its responses to the fast-changing global environment;

2. Notes the Union’s committed relationship with NATO, which remains fundamental to EU security policy; welcomes, in this regard, the ongoing preparation of the new EU-NATO Joint Declaration, which will be presented before the end of the year;

3. Calls for increased efforts to fight foreign disinformation and information manipulation, which negatively influence the Union’s ability to implement effectively its internal and foreign policies;

4. Calls for the strengthening of parliamentary oversight of EU external action, including by continuing its regular consultations with the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and the Commission; calls for the swift conclusion of negotiations to replace the 2002 Interinstitutional Agreement on Parliament’s access to sensitive information of the Council in the field of security and defence policy;

5. Offers other EU institutions its active participation in activities that aim to counteract the global backsliding of democracy, including through election observation and parliamentary diplomacy.