

European Parliament



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## CONFERENCE of PRESIDENTS

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# MINUTES

of the ordinary meeting of Wednesday

**16 October 2019**

Paul-Henri Spaak Building, Room 06B01

**BRUSSELS**

**CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS****MINUTES**

of the ordinary meeting of

Wednesday, 16 October 2019

from 15:00 to 17:30 hours

Paul-Henri Spaak Building, Room 06B01

Brussels

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CONFERENCE OF PRESIDENTS

MINUTES

of the meeting of Wednesday 16 October 2019

from 15:00 to 17:30 hours

Brussels

The meeting opened at 15.05 hours with Mr David Maria SASSOLI,

President of the European Parliament, in the chair

Present

Mr SASSOLI, President

Political Group Chairs

Mr	WEBER	(EPP)
Ms	GARCÍA PÉREZ	(S&D)
Mr	CIOLOŞ	(Renew Europe)
Ms	KELLER (Co-Chair)	(Greens/EFA)
Mr	ZANNI	(ID)
Mr	ZÍLE (Acting)	(ECR)
Mr	SCHIRDEWAN (Co-Chair)	(GUE/NGL)
Ms	DODDS <sup>1</sup>	(NI)

Also Present

Mr WELLE, Secretary-General  
Mr WINKLER, Deputy Secretary-General

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<sup>1</sup> Present pursuant to Rule 26 (2) of the Rules of Procedure

Invited:

Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs

Also Invited

Mr VERHOFSTADT, coordinator of Parliament's steering group on the UK withdrawal  
 Ms HÜBNER, member of Parliament's steering group on the UK withdrawal  
 Mr SILVA PEREIRA, member of Parliament's steering group on the UK withdrawal

The Council<sup>2</sup>

represented by Ms MAROTTA  
 Mr KERLEROUX

The Commission<sup>2</sup>

represented by Ms CORTES  
 Mr CHAIMOWICZ  
 Mr LE GAL

The Vice-President of the Commission/High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy<sup>2</sup>

represented by Mr PAVONCELLO

Office of the President

Mr MANNELLI  
 Ms DOUAUD  
 Ms KYST  
 Ms PANZETTI  
 Ms PEREIRA  
 Mr CUILLO  
 Mr COBUCCI  
 Mr CANAPARO  
 Ms CUEVAS

Office of the Secretary-General

Ms ALTENBERG  
 Ms FERNÁNDEZ PERLES  
 Ms POPTCHEVA  
 Mr VILELLA

Secretariat

DG Presidency (PRES)

Mr LANE/Ms ROBSON/Ms GANDOLFO/Ms SAILIS<sup>2</sup>/  
 Ms VLASTARA<sup>2</sup>/Ms TARDIOLI-SCHIAVO<sup>2</sup>

DG Internal Policies (IPOL)

Mr RIBERA D'ALCALA/Mr CHIOCCHETTI/  
 Mr HUBER/Ms FONTANILI<sup>2</sup>  
 Mr PACHECO<sup>3</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Present for items 2-3

<sup>3</sup> Present for item 6

DG External Policies (EXPO)	Mr DUCCI
DG European Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS)	Mr TEASDALE
DG Communication (COMM)	Mr DUCH GUILLOT/Ms COLARD
DG Personnel (PERS)	Mr KNUDSEN
DG Infrastructures and Logistics (INLO)	Ms LINNUS
DG Translation (TRAD)	Mr RICHTER
DG for Logistics and Interpretation for Conferences (LINC)	Ms WALTER-DROP
DG Innovation and Technological Support (ITEC)	Mr PETRUCCI
DG Security and Safety (SAFE)	Mr CAROZZA
Legal Service (SJ)	Mr DREXLER/Ms MARTINEZ IGLESIAS
Directorate for relations with political groups	Mr SCHWETZ
Secretariat of the Bureau	Mr TZIORKAS

Political groups

Mr KAMP/Ms SCRIBAN/Ms LASKAVÁ/Ms BENSOUAG	(EPP)
Mr HOPPE/Ms GLIUBIZZI/Ms MÜLLER/Mr GUERRA/Ms BALLARIN	(S&D)
Mr BEELS/Mr RASMUSSEN/Mr McLAUGHLIN/Mr FILOTE	(Renew)
Mr LINAZASORO	(Greens/EFA)
Mr CLAEYS/Mr TEUSCHER/Mr CURRI	(ID)
Mr BESZLEJ/Mr DOUMBOUYA/Ms HEALY	(ECR)
Ms LEPOLA/Ms ASLETT-RYDBJERG/Mr CARTY <sup>4</sup>	(GUE/NGL)
Mr BORDEZ	(NI)

Ms WOLLNY, Ms SCHADE, Mr ROHLJE, Ms BERTULESSI, Mr VAUGIER, Ms PORTELA and Ms MILSOM acted as secretaries to the meeting.

<sup>4</sup> Present for item 6

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The Conference of Presidents

- noted and adopted the draft agenda in the form shown in these minutes (PE 641.592/CPG).



2. Exchange of views with the Executive Vice-Presidents-designate of the incoming European Commission:

- Mr DOMBROVSKIS, Executive Vice-President-designate for an Economy that Works for People
- Ms VESTAGER, Executive Vice-President-designate for a Europe Fit for the Digital Age
- Mr TIMMERMANS, Executive Vice-President-designate for the European Green Deal

The item was postponed to a subsequent meeting and an exchange of views on the state of play of the hearings of Commissioners-designate was held instead.

2. State of play of the hearings of the Commissioners-designate - exchange of views

The Conference of Presidents

- took note of the following document:
  - a Commission press release dated 10 September 2019, entitled ‘The von der Leyen Commission: for a Union that strives for more’, and annexes, including an overview entitled “European Commission 2019 – 2024, Allocation of portfolios and supporting services” (PE 641.577/CPG);
- heard the President recall the Conference of Presidents’ decisions on the preparation and organisation of the hearings of Commissioners-designate, noting that the indicative calendar for the organisation of the hearings, approved by the Conference of Presidents on 12 September 2019, foresaw that Parliament’s vote in plenary on the College of Commissioners would have been held on 23 October 2019;
- heard the President recall that, on 30 September 2019, the Committee on Legal Affairs had concluded, pursuant to Parliament’s Rules of Procedure, that Ms PLUMB and Mr TRÓCSÁNYI, then Commissioners-designate, were unable to exercise their functions in accordance with the Treaties and the Code of Conduct, and, on 10 October 2019, at a joint

meeting of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy and the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection the majority required for the approval of Ms GOULARD, then Commissioners-designate, could not be reached;

- heard the President underline Parliament's commitment to ensuring a process that allowed the incoming Commission to take up its work without delay, while noting that Council still had to nominate new candidates;
- heard him state that, consequently, the exchange of views with the Executive Vice-Presidents-designate had been postponed to a subsequent meeting of the Conference of Presidents; and heard him propose to hold an exchange of views on the state of play of the hearings instead and also to reflect on an adjusted calendar for the additional hearings;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group, Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, Mr CIOLOŞ, Chair of the Renew Europe Group, Ms KELLER, Co-Chair of the Greens/EFA Group, Mr ZANNI, Chair of the ID Group, Mr ZĪLE, acting Chair of the ECR Group, and Mr SCHIRDEWAN, Co-Chair of the GUE/NGL Group, which focussed, inter alia, on the following points:
  - the smooth and efficient implementation of the hearings of Commissioners-designate in accordance with Parliament's Rules of Procedure, resulting in Parliament exercising fully its prerogative and duty of scrutiny;
  - the positive perception of Parliament's role in the process of the investiture of the new Commission and the recognition of the autonomy of the institution;
  - the perception of the public hearings as an element enhancing democracy at Union level;
  - the diligent work undertaken by parliamentary committees;
  - the role of the Committee on Legal Affairs;
  - the importance of committees continuing to apply the same standard;
  - the quality of the hearings of the Commissioners-designate;
  - Parliament's commitment and preparedness to resume the hearing procedure swiftly, while adhering fully and diligently to the rules and principles of a due process, with a view to allowing a vote on the college at one of the forthcoming part-sessions, so that the incoming Commission could take up its work without delay;

- the need for the President-elect of the incoming Commission to call on Member States to present suitable candidates for the remaining vacancies, and the responsibility of the Member States not to delay the approval of the Commission;
  - the importance of all EU institutions working and acting effectively, given the numerous challenges the European Union was facing and the testing geopolitical context;
- heard Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, report that committees were prepared to respond to different scenarios, and to conduct the remaining hearings in an orderly manner in line with Parliament's Rules of Procedure, noting that any timeline set with a view to a possible vote on the college of the new Commission would depend on the date on which Parliament received the information on the new Commissioners-designate;
- heard the President summarise that Parliament's hearings of Commissioners-designate had been undertaken in an efficient, transparent and democratic manner;
- heard him conclude that there was a clear political commitment by Parliament to be ready to proceed with the hearings, in accordance with Parliament's established rules and principles, as soon as the required information would be received;
- heard the President undertake to convey Parliament's stance in his speech at the forthcoming European Council meeting.

3. Approval of the draft Minutes of the meeting of 19 September 2019

The Conference of Presidents

- noted and approved the draft Minutes of the ordinary meeting of 19 September 2019 held in Strasbourg (PE 639.549/CPG and annex).

4. Adoption of the final draft agenda for the October II part-session (from 21 to 24 October 2019) and of the draft agenda of the November I part-session (from 13 to 14 November 2019) - Scheduling of key debates in plenary

The Conference of Presidents

- noted the following documents:
  - a draft agenda for the October II part-session (from 21 to 24 October 2019) as adopted by the Conference of Presidents on 19 September 2019 in Strasbourg;
  - a preliminary draft agenda for the November I part-session in Brussels (from 13 to 14 November 2019);
  - a provisional table dated 16 October 2019 summarising committee and delegation meetings planned for the October II part-session (from 21 to 24 October 2019) in Strasbourg (PE 641.712/CPG);
  
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group, Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, Mr CIOLOȘ, Chair of the Renew Europe Group, and Mr ZÍLE, acting Chair of the ECR Group, and adopted the final draft agenda for the October II part-session in Strasbourg and the draft agenda for the November I part-session in Brussels without modification.

## 5. Communications by the President

### 5.1 Working Group on the Conference on the Future of Europe

#### The Conference of Presidents

- heard the President recall that Ms VON DER LEYEN, President-elect of the European Commission, had named as one of her priorities the organisation of an EU-wide conference on the Future of Europe, and that Parliament should be ready to engage with the new Commission on that without undue delay; and heard him note that, in a letter dated 16 October 2019, Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, had provided proposals concerning Parliament's role in the Conference on the Future of Europe, following discussions in the Committee on Constitutional Affairs;
- heard the President propose that the Conference of Presidents set up a working group with the objective of preparing a proposal for Parliament's approach to the organisation of the Conference on the Future of Europe, taking into full account the key role of the European Parliament and its Members as directly elected representatives of the citizens of the European Union;
- heard him suggest that the working group should take up its work as soon as possible and present its reflections and proposal to the Conference of Presidents at the beginning of 2020, at the latest;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group, Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, Mr CIOLOŞ, Chair of the Renew Europe Group, Ms KELLER, Co-Chair of the Greens/EFA Group, Mr ZANNI, Chair of the ID Group, Mr ZÍLE, acting Chair of the ECR Group, and Mr SCHIRDEWAN, Co-Chair of the GUE/NGL Group, during which Group Chairs welcomed the proposal for the working group, and which focussed on:
  - the Conference on the Future of Europe as a political process;
  - the need for Parliament to assume a leading role in the process;
  - the composition of the working group, its mandate and the timeline;
  - the establishment of the working group as temporary ad hoc structure;
  - the involvement of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs;
  - the Conference of Presidents' leading and coordinating role;

- conveying the message of Parliament's commitment with regard to the Conference on the Future of Europe to the European Council and the Council of the EU;
- heard Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, set out the views of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs;
- heard the President propose that the working group be composed of one representative from each political group and one Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, and that it prepare a proposal on Parliament's approach to the Conference on the Future of Europe, including, inter alia, the scope, the governance, the duration, the structure, the stakeholders, the objectives and the expected actions and outcome;
- endorsed the President's proposal;
- heard the President invite the Group Chairs and the Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs to submit the names of their representatives ahead of the forthcoming meeting of the Conference of Presidents.

5.2 Invitation of Mr SCHÄUBLE, President of the German Bundestag, to address Parliament's plenary at the ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall

The Conference of Presidents

- heard the President propose to invite Mr SCHÄUBLE, President of the German Bundestag, to address plenary at the ceremony marking the 30th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin wall, on 13 November 2019, in Brussels;
- heard Ms KELLER, Chair of the Greens/EFA Group;
- endorsed the President's proposal.

5.3 Invitation of Mr SENTSOV, laureate of the 2018 Sakharov Prize

The Conference of Presidents

- heard the President recall that in September 2019, Mr SENTSOV, Ukrainian filmmaker and laureate of the 2018 Sakharov Prize, had been released from prison in Russia; and heard him state that he had invited Mr SENTSOV to the November II 2019 part-session in Strasbourg, so that, on 26 November 2019, the 2018 Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought could be presented to him in person;
- endorsed the President's approach.

#### 5.4 Invitation of Mr Abiy AHMED ALI, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, to address Parliament's plenary

##### The Conference of Presidents

- heard the President report that he had invited Mr Abiy AHMED ALI, Prime Minister of Ethiopia and laureate of the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize, to address Parliament at a forthcoming part-session.

#### 5.5 Written procedures of the Conference of Presidents

##### The Conference of Presidents

- heard the President report that, on 9 October 2019, the photo of an email sent by Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, in response to a proposal for decision of the Conference of Presidents by written procedure had been published by a journalist on social media;
- heard the President stress that internal procedures of the Conference of Presidents must be treated in a professional and confidential manner, and that disseminating internal and confidential information was unacceptable;
- heard him evoke the necessity of trust and the appropriate level of confidentiality in order to maintain the good and efficient cooperation.

#### 5.6 Events held on Parliament's premises

##### The Conference of Presidents



- heard the President report that, earlier that week, he had requested that, due to its commercial character, an event planned to be held on Parliament's premises and co-organised by some Members be cancelled;
- heard the President recall that events organised on Parliament's premises should under no circumstances have a commercial nature or purpose and should not aim at advertising or promoting commercial activities or companies, noting that, while companies and businesses might be invited to events organised by Members or political groups, they were not permitted to hold events themselves, nor to co-organise them;
- heard him underline that the respect and the image of the institution had to be preserved; and heard him undertake to propose to the Bureau to review the existing rules in light of that requirement;
- heard him thank the Group Chairs for conveying that message to their Members and for their cooperation on the matter.

6. Preparation of the European Council meeting on 17 and 18 October 2019The Conference of Presidents

- took note of a note dated 9 September 2019 from the General Secretariat of the Council on the annotated draft agenda of the European Council meeting on 17 and 18 October 2019 (PE 641.603/CPG);
- heard the President note that, in his speech to the European Council, he would focus, inter alia, on the following aspects:
  - the next institutional cycle and Parliament's commitment to enabling the incoming Commission to take up its duties swiftly, while adhering fully to Parliament's rules and principles in the process;
  - Parliament's position on the Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) and Own Resources and its role and prerogatives in the procedure leading to the adoption of the MFF and related decisions;
  - the need for the EU's resources to reflect its political priorities and ambitions;
  - the importance of a leadership role for the EU at global level in the fight against climate change, welcoming the proposals from the incoming Commission and underlining that sufficient resources needed to be provided for a European Green Deal, inter alia, with a view to guaranteeing an efficient and fair transition;
  - Parliament's favourable position as regards the opening of accession talks with North Macedonia and Albania;
  - Parliament's condemnation of Turkey's military operation in northern Syria, calling on the European Council to take a strong stance and to act to bring about peace and stability in the region;
- heard the President invite Mr VERHOFSTADT, coordinator of Parliament's steering group on the UK withdrawal, to report on the state of play of the negotiations on the UK withdrawal from the EU;

- heard Mr VERHOFSTADT report on the issues currently under negotiation and the regular exchanges of the Steering Group on the UK withdrawal with Mr BARNIER, EU Chief Negotiator for the Article 50 TEU negotiations with the United Kingdom;
- heard the President thank Mr VERHOFSTADT and the members of the steering group on the UK withdrawal for their work and commitment;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group, Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, Mr CIOLOȘ, Chair of the Renew Europe Group, Ms KELLER, Co-Chair of the Greens/EFA Group, Mr ZANNI, Chair of the ID Group, Mr ZĪLE, acting Chair of the ECR Group, and Mr SCHIRDEWAN, Co-Chair of the GUE/NGL Group, during which broad support for the President's approach was expressed;
- endorsed the lines set out by the President for his speech.

7. Outcome of the negotiations on the appointment of the European Chief ProsecutorThe Conference of Presidents

- took note of the following documents:
  - a letter dated 3 October 2019, co-signed by Mr LÓPEZ AGUILAR, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties (LIBE), Justice and Home Affairs, Ms HOHLMEIER, Chair of the Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT), and Ms PAGAZAURTUNDÚA, first Vice-Chair of the LIBE Committee, reporting that a common accord with Council on the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor was found corresponding to Parliament's position that Ms Laura Codruța KÖVESI should be appointed as European Chief Prosecutor (PE 641.665/CPG);
  - a letter dated 25 September 2019 from Ms RISLAKKI, Chair of the Council's Permanent Representatives Committee, confirming the common accord reached between Parliament and Council at the meeting of the negotiating teams on 24 September 2019 (PE 641.666/CPG);
- heard the President recall that, at its meeting on 18 July 2019, the Conference of Presidents had reaffirmed Parliament's position that Ms KÖVESI should be appointed as European Chief Prosecutor;
- heard him recall that, at its meeting on 12 September 2019, the Conference of Presidents had decided that Parliament's negotiating team be composed of the LIBE Chair, the CONT Chair and the first LIBE Vice-Chair, and had invited the negotiating team to report back on the negotiations, and to submit in due course a proposal for endorsement by the Conference of Presidents of a common accord for the adoption of a joint decision of Parliament and Council on the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor;
- heard him note that Parliament's negotiating team confirmed that a common accord with Council on the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor had been found, at the meeting of the negotiating teams on 24 September 2019, corresponding to Parliament's position that Ms Laura Codruța KÖVESI should be appointed as European Chief Prosecutor;

- heard him highlight that the common accord constituted a major achievement for the European Parliament that had long fought to establish the European Public Prosecutor's Office and had successfully striven for Ms KÖVESI's appointment;
- heard the President outline that, further to the Council's confirmation of the common accord reached between Parliament and Council, Parliament had to take a formal decision on the endorsement of the appointment, in view of the preparation of a joint decision with the Council appointing Ms KÖVESI, and that, in the absence of specific rules, it was for the Conference of Presidents, pursuant to Rule 27(3) of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, to decide on the procedure to be followed for Parliament's endorsement of the common accord;
- heard the President propose to proceed to a vote in plenary;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group, Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, Mr CIOLOȘ, Chair of the Renew Europe Group, Ms KELLER, Co-Chair of the Greens/EFA Group, Mr ZANNI, Chair of the ID Group, Mr ZÍLE, acting Chair of the ECR Group, and Mr SCHIRDEWAN, Co-Chair of the GUE/NGL Group;
- decided that Parliament's decision on the endorsement of the appointment of the European Chief Prosecutor, in view of the preparation of the joint decision with the Council, should be taken by the Conference of Presidents;
- subsequently, endorsed, by a large majority, the common accord of Parliament and Council that Ms KÖVESI be appointed European Chief Prosecutor; and mandated the President to sign the joint decision of the European Parliament and the Council appointing Ms KÖVESI as European Chief Prosecutor.

8. Resumption or continuation of unfinished business from the 8th parliamentary term - application of Rule 240

The Conference of Presidents

- took note of a letter dated 13 September 2019 from Mr SASSOLI, Parliament's President, to the Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs (CCC), requesting that the parliamentary committees discuss unfinished business under the ordinary legislative procedure and other legislative procedures for which they are responsible and that the outcome of the committees' screening be submitted to the Conference of Presidents, pursuant to Article 240 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure (PE 639.572/CPG);
- took note of two letters dated 11 July 2019 from Mr SASSOLI, Parliament's President, to Mr RINNE, President-in-Office of the Council of the EU, and Mr JUNCKER, President of the European Commission, informing them of the application of Rule 240 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure (PE 639.570/CPG and PE 639.571/CPG);
- took note of a letter dated 13 September 2019 from Mr TAJANI, Chair of the CCC, (PE 641.600/CPG and revised annexes dated 15 October 2019), submitting the outcome of the committees' screening exercise, which included:
  - a list of unfinished files under the ordinary legislative procedure on which work should be resumed (Annex I, part A);
  - a list of files on which Parliament had already adopted a first-reading position and which were awaiting Council's first-reading position (Annex I, part B);
  - a list of unfinished files under other procedures (NLE, CNS and APP) on which work should be resumed (Annex II);
  - a list of legislative proposals which Parliament invited the Commission to withdraw (Annex III);
- took note of a letter dated 19 September 2019 from Ms DELLI, Chair of the Committee on Transport and Tourism, submitting the recommendation that the work on the three Mobility Package files be resumed (Posting of drivers (2017/0121(COD)), Driving time (2017/0122(COD)) and Road Market Access (2017/0123(COD)));

- heard Mr SCHIRDEWAN, Co-Chair of the GUE/NGL Group, state that his Group would agree to approve that the proposal for a Regulation on Trade between the northern part of Cyprus and the Community Customs Territory: special conditions 2004/0148(COD) be kept in the list of files on which work should resume, on the understanding that the dossier would remain blocked in the Committee on International Trade until further progress on the Cyprus question could be achieved;
- heard Mr ZANNI, Chair of the ID Group, express the view that the proposal for a Regulation on Trade between the northern part of Cyprus and the Community Customs Territory: special conditions 2004/0148(COD) should be withdrawn;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group, Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, Mr CIOLOŞ, Chair of the Renew Europe Group, Ms KELLER, Co-Chair of the Greens/EFA Group, Mr ZANNI, Chair of the ID Group, and Mr ZÍLE, Acting Chair of the ECR Group;
- approved, by a large majority, the outcome of the committees' screening of unfinished business as set out in the revised annexes dated 15 October 2019, and invited the President to inform Council and Commission accordingly.

9. Budgetary procedure - nomination of the delegation representing Parliament in the Conciliation Committee under Article 314 (5) TFEU

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 15 October 2019 from the coordination of the political groups on a proposal for the nominal composition of Parliament's delegation to the Conciliation Committee for the 2020 EU budget (PE 641.716/CPG);
- recalled that, in line with its previous decisions and pursuant to Parliament's Rules of Procedure, the delegation to the Budgetary Conciliation Committee should be composed of its President and 27 other Members, a number equal to the members of the Council delegation, preferably drawn from amongst Members of the committee responsible for budgetary issues and other committees concerned, based on a proposal from the political groups;
- approved the proposal submitted by the coordination of the political groups.



10. Requests from parliamentary committees to draw up own-initiative reports under Rule 54 and related requests

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 30 September 2019 from Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs (CCC), submitting requests from parliamentary committees for authorisation to draw up own-initiative reports under Rule 54 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure (RoP) (PE 641.627/CPG);
- noted and endorsed the drawing-up of ten annual activity and monitoring reports under heading D, six of which by the BUDG, CONT, ECON, JURI Committees under automatic authorisation and subject to the quota, and four of which by the AFET, CONT, ECON and PETI under automatic authorisation and not subject to the quota;
- noted that, with regard to the proposed BUDG annual report on the financial activities of the European Investment Bank - annual report 2019 (under automatic authorisation and subject to the quota), the ECON Committee was associated under Rule 57 of Parliament's RoP, pursuant to Annex I of the relevant provisions on granting authorisation for drawing up own initiative reports;
- noted and endorsed the drawing up of four motions for non-legislative resolutions pursuant to Rule 105(2), two by the INTA Committee and two by the PECH Committee;
- further noted the requests from the AFET Committee and the SEDE Subcommittee to draw up two annual reports (under automatic authorisation and not subject to the quota) on the implementation of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and on the implementation of the Common Security and Defence Policy, respectively;
- endorsed the AFET(SEDE) requests subject to the receipt of the relevant reports from the Council, in line with the relevant rules.

11. Calendar of ordinary meetings of the Conference of Presidents for 2020

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of and approved the draft calendar of the ordinary meetings of the Conference of Presidents for 2020 (PE 641.579/CPG).

12. Request from the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs to split the Commission proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on credit servicers, credit purchasers and the recovery of collateral

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 22 July 2019 from Mr GUALTIERI, then Chair of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (ECON), and an electronic mail of 20 September 2019 from Ms AALTO and Ms AHO, Co-Chairs of the Working Party on Financial Services of the Council, submitting a request to split the Commission proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council on credit servicers, credit purchasers and the recovery of collateral ('NPL Directive') (COM(2018)135 - 2018/0063(COD)) (PE 639.507/CPG and annex and PE 639.507/CPG and annexes);
- recalled that the 'NPL Directive' was part of a package of measures presented by the Commission in 2018 with a view to tackling non-performing loans (NPL) which consisted of:
  - a draft Regulation amending Regulation (EU) No 575/2013 as regards minimum loss coverage for non-performing exposures for newly originated loans that become nonperforming ('NPLs Regulation') - (COM(2018) 134 - 2018/0060 (COD)) - introducing minimum coverage levels for non-performing loans;
  - a draft Directive on credit servicers, credit purchasers and the recovery of collateral, the "NPL Directive", dealing with secondary markets and providing banks with a mechanism of out-of-court value recovery for secured loans;
- recalled that the 'NPLs Regulation' and the 'NPL Directive' had been referred to the ECON Committee as lead committee, on 16 and 19 April 2018, respectively, with the Committees on Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) and on Legal Affairs (JURI) providing for an opinion under Rule 56 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure on the proposal on the 'NPL Directive';
- recalled that, on 14 March 2019, Parliament had adopted the first reading agreement on the Commission proposal on the 'NPLs Regulation', which had then been approved by the Council on 9 April 2019 and had been published in the Official Journal on 25 April 2019;

- noted that, at its meeting on 27 March 2019, the COREPER had reached a general approach on the part of the 'NPL Directive' dealing with the development of secondary markets and had agreed to split the Commission proposal as follows:
  - one part relating to the development of secondary markets; and
  - one part relating to the Accelerated Extrajudicial Collateral Enforcement (AECE), corresponding to Title V of the proposed Directive;
- noted that, at their meeting on 18 July 2019, the ECON Committee coordinators had decided to endorse the split of the 'NPL Directive' as proposed by the Council;
- in view of the above, approved the proposed split and the drawing-up of the respective legislative reports, underlining that the split was without prejudice to the future substantive discussion in Parliament and Council relating to the original proposal on the 'NPL Directive';
- underlined that the part of the provisions relating to the AECE would be dealt with in a legislative report under the lead of the ECON Committee.

13. Composition of the Democracy Support and Election Coordination GroupThe Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 16 October 2019 from Mr KAMP, Secretary-General of the EPP Group, submitting a proposal on behalf of the coordination of political groups for the composition of the Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group (DEG) (PE 641.917/CPG);
- recalled that, under the relevant Rules, following the election of Parliament and the setting-up of political groups and standing committees and delegations, the seats of the DEG should be allocated by the Conference of Presidents in a way reflecting the composition of Parliament;
- recalled that, under the relevant implementing provisions, the DEG should consist of 15 Members, including Members from the Committees on Foreign Affairs (AFET) and on Development (DEVE) and from inter-parliamentary delegations;
- recalled further that the Chairs of AFET and DEVE as well as the Chair of the Conference of Delegation Chairs should be Members of the DEG and that the DEG should be co-chaired by the Chairs of the AFET and DEVE Committees;
- took note of the proposal submitted by the coordination of the political groups whereby the DEG should be composed as follows:

15 members out of which:

- 13 posts to be distributed among political groups (including the ex-officio Members, the Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, the Chair of the Committee on Development, and the Chair of the Conference of Delegation Chairs): 4 EPP, 3 S&D, 2 Renew Europe, 1 Greens/EFA , 1 ID, 1 ECR, and 1 GUE/NGL;
- 2 ex-officio posts to be attributed to the Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights and Parliament's Vice-President(s) with responsibilities linked to the mandate of the Group (these posts were not attributed under d'Hondt);
- approved the proposed composition.

14. Nomination of the Deputy Executive Director of the European Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol)

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 9 September 2019 from Mr LÓPEZ AGUILAR, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE), submitting an opinion on the appointment of the candidate selected for the position of Deputy Executive Director of the European Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol) (PE 641.588/CPG and annexes);
- recalled that, under Articles 54(2) and 55(2) of Regulation (EU) No 794/2016 establishing Europol, the Deputy Executive Director should be appointed by the Council from a shortlist of candidates proposed by Europol's Management Board, and that, before appointment, the candidate selected might be invited to appear before Parliament's competent committee, which should subsequently give a non-binding opinion;
- noted that Europol's Deputy Executive Director should be appointed for a term of four years, renewable once;
- noted that, at its meeting on 18 July 2019, the Council had selected Mr Jürgen EBNER as candidate for the position of Deputy Executive Director of Europol;
- noted that the LIBE Committee had held a hearing for Mr EBNER on 5 September 2019 and that, subsequently, the LIBE Committee Coordinators had given a positive opinion on his appointment as Deputy Executive Director of Europol;
- endorsed the LIBE recommendation and invited the President to inform the Council and the Chair of Europol's Management Board accordingly.

15. Request from the Committee on Budgetary Control to hold an extraordinary meeting in Luxembourg on 19 November 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 30 September 2019 from Ms HOHLMEIER, Chair of the Committee on Budgetary Control (CONT), requesting authorisation to hold an extraordinary meeting of the CONT Committee in Luxembourg, on 19 November 2019 (PE 641.629/CPG);
- recalled that, at its meeting on 10 December 2018, the Bureau had pointed out that missions to locations “outside Parliament’s three places of work” meant missions outside Parliament’s own premises and that visits to other places than the European Parliament in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg, such as to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, were counted against the respective committee’s annual quota, with the exception of those visits which were based on Treaty provisions (for example budgetary and legislative trilogues);
- noted that the extraordinary meeting was planned to take place on Parliament’s premises;
- recalled that, under Protocol No 6 of the Treaties, the committees of the European Parliament should meet in Brussels;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, committees might be authorised to meet in Strasbourg during weeks set aside for Parliament’s part-sessions;
- recalled that the Rules made no provision for committee meetings in Luxembourg;
- noted that interpretation into three languages had been requested;
- recalled the principles governing ‘resource-efficient full multilingualism’ under Parliament’s Code of Conduct on Multilingualism;
- noted that, as a general principle, the availability of resources, such as interpretation services, needed to be taken into account when Parliament’s work was concentrated in one of its places of work, in accordance with its calendar, and when considering a request for a meeting in one of Parliament’s other places of work;

- noted that the proposed date coincided with a day set aside for political group activities (Tuesday);
- authorised the request, on an exceptional basis and without setting a precedent.



16. Request from the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy to send a delegation to Budapest, Hungary, and to Vienna, Austria, from 28 to 30 October 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 9 September 2019 from Ms VĂLEAN, Chair of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy (ITRE), requesting authorisation to send a delegation of eleven Members to Budapest, Hungary, and to Vienna, Austria, from 28 to 30 October 2019 (three days including travel time) (PE 641.576/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted regarding travel by committees outside the three places of work and inside the European Union, candidate countries and EEA countries;
- recalled that, under Article 2(5) of the applicable Rules, no travel might be undertaken in an election year in the period from 1 April to 30 September, and that the number of Members who might be authorised to travel during the remainder of the year should be equal to half the annual quota of the committee concerned, divided fairly between the outgoing and the incoming committee;
- noted that, under the applicable Rules, committees should travel during the weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities, without exceeding three days including travel time;
- noted that the dates proposed coincided with three days set aside for external parliamentary activities (Monday to Wednesday of week 44);
- noted that interpretation into two languages had been requested;
- recommended the authorisation of the mission, within the limit of the available quota in an election year, plus the Chair out of quota, and forwarded its recommendation to the Bureau for final decision.

17. Request from the Committee on Development, the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs, and the Subcommittee on Human Rights to send an ad hoc delegation to the Global Refugee Forum in Geneva, Switzerland, from 16 to 18 December 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 19 September 2019, co-signed by Mr TOBÉ, Chair of the Committee on Development (DEVE), Mr LÓPEZ AGUILAR, Chair of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE), and Ms ARENA, Chair of the Subcommittee on Human Rights (DROI), requesting authorisation to send a ten Member ad hoc delegation, including the DEVE, LIBE and DROI Chairs, to the Global Refugee Forum in Geneva, Switzerland, from 16 to 18 December 2019 (three and a half days, including travel time) (PE 641.611/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that ad hoc delegations should, as a rule, be made up of seven Members, and that, in extraordinary circumstances and on duly substantiated political grounds, the Conference of Presidents might authorise the sending of an ad hoc delegation with more or fewer than seven Members;
- recalled that, where possible, ad hoc delegations should undertake missions during weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities;
- further recalled that the plenary sitting was the major forum for the business of Parliament and that, in principle, no other meeting might be held simultaneously;
- noted that the dates of the ad hoc delegation coincided with three days set aside for Parliament's December 2019 part-session in Strasbourg (Monday to Wednesday of week 51) and the preceding Sunday afternoon;
- authorised the sending of a ten Member ad hoc delegation composed of one Member from each political group, plus the Chairs of the DEVE, LIBE and DROI Committees;
- invited the President to request from the Commission and the Council the inclusion of the participating Members in the European Union's delegation to the above-mentioned forum and to excuse their absence from Monday to Wednesday of Parliament's December 2019 part-

session in Strasbourg, in line with Article 31 (3) of the Implementing Measures for the Statute for Members of the European Parliament.

18. Request from the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly to hold a meeting of the enlarged Executive Bureau in Strasbourg, on 23 and 24 October 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 27 September 2019, from Mr LÓPEZ, Chair of the Delegation to the Euro -Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EuroLat), requesting authorisation to hold an EuroLat enlarged Executive Bureau meeting in Strasbourg, on 23 and 24 October 2019 (PE 641.636/CPG, annexes and financial statement);
- recalled that, under the applicable rules, bureaux of multilateral assemblies should, in principle, meet on the margins of their plenary sessions or via video conferences;
- recalled that, in accordance with the applicable Rules, delegations might hold meetings simultaneously with a plenary sitting in Strasbourg on Wednesdays from 15.00 to 19.00 and on Thursdays from 9.00 until voting time, provided they did not coincide with key debates;
- noted that the dates coincided with two days set aside for Parliament's October II 2019 part-session in Strasbourg (Wednesday and Thursday of week 43);
- further noted that interpretation was requested into five languages;
- authorised the request, on an exceptional basis, on the understanding that the programme would only start after 15.00 on Wednesday and provided that it did not coincide with a key debate.

19 Request from the DEEA Delegation to hold the 53rd meeting of the European Economic Area Joint Parliamentary Committee in Vaduz, Liechtenstein, from 29 to 31 October 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 3 October 2019 from Mr SCHWAB, Chair of the Delegation for Northern cooperation and for relations with Switzerland and Norway and to the EU-Iceland Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) and the European Economic Area (EEA) JPC, requesting authorisation to hold the 53rd meeting of the EEA JPC Committee in Vaduz, Liechtenstein, from 29 to 31 October 2019 (two and a half day, including travel time) (PE 641.662/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, at its meeting on 22 November 2010, the Bureau had endorsed the EEA JPC Rules of Procedure, which allowed for two JPC meetings per year;
- noted that the dates of the mission coincided with two and a half days set aside for external parliamentary activities (Tuesday afternoon to Thursday of week 44);
- noted that no interpretation had been requested;
- authorised the request.

20. Request from the Delegation to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee to hold the 11th EU-Serbia SAPC meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, on 30 and 31 October 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 2 October 2019 from Ms FAJON, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Parliamentary Committee, requesting authorisation to hold the 11th EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Committee meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, on 30 and 31 October 2019 (plus travel time) (PE 641.658/CPG and financial statement);
- recalled that the 10th EU-Serbia Stabilisation and Association Committee meeting had taken place in Strasbourg, in March 2019;
- noted that the dates proposed for the mission coincided with three days set aside for external parliamentary activities, in line with the applicable Rules;
- noted that interpretation into three languages had been requested;
- authorised the request.

21. Request from the Delegation to the EU-Kazakhstan, EU-Kyrgyzstan, EU-Uzbekistan and EU-Tajikistan Parliamentary Cooperation Committees and for relations with Turkmenistan and Mongolia to hold the 8th Annual EU-Tajikistan Parliamentary Cooperation Committee meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, from 31 October to 2 November 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 3 October 2019 from Mr MARTUSCIELLO, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Kazakhstan, EU-Kyrgyzstan, EU-Uzbekistan and EU-Tajikistan Parliamentary Cooperation Committees (PCC), requesting authorisation to hold the 8th meeting of the EU-Tajikistan PCC in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, from 31 October to 2 November 2019 (four and a half days, including travel time) (PE 641.644/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- noted that the dates of the mission coincided with two and a half days set aside for external parliamentary activities and two days without parliamentary activity (Wednesday to Sunday of week 44);
- noted that interpretation was requested into three languages;
- authorised the request.

22. Request from the DEEA Delegation to hold the 38th EU-Switzerland inter-parliamentary meeting in Strasbourg, on 27 and 28 November 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 3 October 2019 from Mr SCHWAB, Chair of the Delegation for Northern cooperation and for relations with Switzerland and Norway and to the EU-Iceland Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) and the European Economic Area (EEA) JPC, requesting authorisation to hold the 38th EU-Switzerland inter-parliamentary meeting in Strasbourg, on 27 and 28 November 2019 (PE 641.663/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, each inter-parliamentary delegation might hold one inter-parliamentary meeting per year to be held alternately in one of Parliament's places of work and in the third country/countries concerned;
- recalled that, in accordance with the applicable Rules, delegations might hold meetings simultaneously with a plenary sitting in Strasbourg on Wednesdays from 15.00 to 19.00 and on Thursdays from 9.00 until voting time, provided they did not coincide with key debates;
- noted that the dates proposed coincided with two half days set aside for Parliament's October II 2019 part-session in Strasbourg (Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning of week 48);
- noted that interpretation had been requested into three languages;
- authorised the request, on exceptional basis, provided that resources were available.



23. Request from the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EuroLat) to hold the 12th EuroLat plenary session and related meetings, in Panama City, Panama, from 12 to 14 December 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 27 September 2019, from Mr LÓPEZ, Chair of the Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly (EuroLat), requesting authorisation to hold the 12th EuroLat plenary session and related meetings, in Panama City, Panama, from 12 to 14 December 2019 (five days, including travel time) (PE 641.635/CPG, annexes and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, as a general rule and in line with established practice, the Assembly met in principle once a year, alternately in a Latin American or Caribbean country, and on Parliament's premises or, on an exceptional basis, in the Member State holding the rotating EU Presidency of the Council;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, missions should be undertaken during weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities;
- noted that the proposed dates coincided with one day set aside for political group activities, one day set aside for political group and parliamentary committee activities and three days without parliamentary activity (Wednesday to Sunday of week 50);
- further noted that interpretation was requested into five languages;
- authorised the request, on an exceptional basis.

24. Request from the Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group to send an election observation delegation to observe the presidential elections in Sri Lanka, to be held on 16 November 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 27 September 2019, co-signed by Mr McALLISTER and Mr TOBÉ, Co-Chairs of the Democracy Support and Election Coordination Group (DEG), requesting authorisation to send an election observation delegation to observe the presidential elections in Sri Lanka, to be held on 16 November 2019 (PE 641.619/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that the presidential elections in Sri Lanka had been included in the list of possible additional priorities for Parliament's election observation delegations for the second half of 2019, approved by the Conference of Presidents on 11 April 2019;
- noted that the European Union had received an official invitation to observe the elections in question and that a European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM) would be deployed to Sri Lanka, enabling a European Parliament delegation to be integrated into a long-term observation framework;
- noted that the mission, excluding travel time, coincided with one day set aside for parliamentary committee activities, half a day set aside for political group activities, two half days set aside for Parliament's part-session, half a day set aside for parliamentary committee activities, three days without parliamentary activities, one day set aside for parliamentary committee activities and one day set aside for political group activities (from Tuesday of week 46 to Tuesday of week 47);
- noted that, in line with the Code of Conduct for Members of Parliament participating in election observation delegations, the work of a delegation lasted from the first briefing to the final press conference;
- noted that no interpretation had been requested;
- authorised the sending of a delegation to observe the presidential elections in Sri Lanka to be composed of seven Members appointed by the political groups in accordance with the rolling d'Hondt system, which should also apply to the non-attached Members, that approval

being subject to the fulfilment of the relevant criteria for the sending of an election observation mission and the security situation on the ground not precluding the sending of such a mission;

- invited the President to excuse the Members concerned from the plenary sitting in Brussels on 13 and 14 November 2019, in line with Article 31(3) of the Implementing measures for the Statute of Members of the European Parliament.

25. Request to send a delegation to the 62nd COSAC meeting, to be held in Helsinki, Finland, from 1 to 3 December 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 1 October 2019, co-signed by Ms McGUINNESS, Vice-President in charge of relations with national parliaments, and Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO), reporting on the COSAC Chairpersons' meeting in Helsinki, Finland, on 21 and 22 July 2019, and requesting that Parliament nominate a delegation of up to six Members to participate at the 62<sup>nd</sup> COSAC plenary meeting in Helsinki, Finland, from 1 to 3 December 2019 (two and a half days plus one day travel time) (PE 641.637/CPG, annexes and financial statement);
- recalled that the 62<sup>nd</sup> COSAC plenary meeting in Helsinki, Finland, from 1 to 3 December 2019, had been included in the calendar of inter-parliamentary activities with national parliaments for the second half of 2019, which had been endorsed by the Conference of Presidents on 11 April 2019, noting that the delegation would have to be authorised on an individual basis;
- took note of the draft programme for the 62<sup>nd</sup> COSAC meeting;
- noted that the mission, travel included, coincided with one and half days without parliamentary activities (Saturday and Sunday of week 48) and two days set aside for parliamentary committee activities (Monday and Tuesday of week 49);
- noted that no interpretation had been requested;
- authorised the request to send a delegation of up to six Members, to be nominated by the political groups in accordance with the rolling d'Hondt system, taking due account of the overall political balance within Parliament, the delegation to be headed by one Vice-President with responsibility for relations with national parliaments and with COSAC, as well as the Chair of the AFCO Committee, in line with Rule 143 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, the other Members of the delegation to be chosen in the light of the subjects to be discussed at the meeting and preferably to be drawn from the Committees on Constitutional Affairs (AFCO), on Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI), and Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE).

26. Request from the Greens/EFA Group to hold a meeting of a delegation of the Group in Tampere, Finland, on 9 November 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 2 October 2019, co-signed by Ms KELLER and Mr LAMBERTS, Co-Chairs of the Greens/EFA Group, requesting authorisation to hold a meeting of a delegation of the Group in Tampere, Finland, on 9 November 2019 (plus one and a half days travel time) (PE 641.659/CPG and financial statement);
- noted that the date proposed coincided with a day without parliamentary activity (Saturday of week 45);
- noted that no interpretation had been requested;
- authorised the request.

27. Regular items for the scrutiny of the conference of Presidents

27.1 Delegated and implementing acts - Screening of current files

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- recalled its decision of 19 April 2012 to request the competent services to carry out an ongoing screening procedure of upcoming legislative proposals in order to avoid placing on the plenary agenda any vote(s) leading to a first-reading agreement on dossiers where such decisions might be legally questionable;
- recalled its decision of 27 November 2014 to request a monthly overview of the delegated acts (and draft RPS measures) under scrutiny, indicating also any possible action taken by committees;
- took note of a letter of 17 September 2019 from Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, forwarding the results of the screening of files in view of the October 2019 part-sessions (PE 641.615 /CPG); and noted that no legal concerns had been raised in relation to any of the dossiers scheduled for vote during those part-sessions.

27.2 Overview of delegated acts and draft RPS measures currently under EP scrutiny

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a note dated 10 October 2019 from the Secretary-General, providing an overview of the state of play on delegated and implementing acts as at 10 October 2019 (PE 641.696/CPG and annexes);
- recalled the horizontal guidance it had adopted on 19 April 2012 on the inclusion of delegated acts in the basic legislative act; consequently, maintained its request to the Conference of Committee Chairs to carry out a monthly screening of the agreements reached;
- recalled its decision of 27 November 2014 to request a monthly overview of the delegated acts (and draft RPS measures) under scrutiny, indicating also any possible action taken by committees.

27.3 First reading agreements - Committee decisions to enter into negotiationsThe Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter of 10 October 2019 from Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, submitting recent decisions adopted by committees in view of first, early second and second reading as well as the state of play of files currently under negotiation (PE 641.697/CPG);
- recalled its decision of 12 March 2015 to request the competent services to ensure the greatest degree of transparency in the legislative process possible and to request that an overview of negotiating mandates for first reading agreements be made available to it on a regular basis, and noted that the Conference of Committee Chairs would continue to provide systematic information to the Conference of Presidents on all legislative files under negotiation in first, early second and second reading, in accordance with the decision of the Conference of Presidents of 10 March 2011;
- noted that under Rule 71 and Rule 72 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure, committee decisions to enter into first reading negotiations and early second reading negotiations should be announced in plenary.



28. Urgent matters and any other business28.1 Request from the Delegation for relations with the United States of America for authorisation to hold the 84th EU-US inter-parliamentary meeting/Transatlantic Legislators' Dialogue, in Helsinki, Finland, on 4 and 5 November 2019The Conference of Presidents

- took note of a letter dated 10 October 2019 from Mr SIKORSKI, Chair of the Delegation for relations with the United States of America, requesting authorisation for 15 Members, including the Delegation Chair, the Chair of the Committee on International Trade and the Chair of the Subcommittee on Security and Defence, to attend the 84th EU-US Inter-parliamentary Meeting/Transatlantic Dialogue (IPM/TLD), in Helsinki, Finland, on 4 and 5 November 2019 (plus travel time) (PE 641.702/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities of standing inter-parliamentary delegations for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, in line with long-standing practice, the EU-US IPM/TLD was held twice a year, alternately in the United States and in the Member State holding the rotating Presidency of the Council of the EU;
- recalled that, at its meeting on 17 January 2019, it had authorised the 83rd EU-US IPM/TLD meeting (14 Members, including the Delegation Chair and two rapporteurs or committee chairs) to be held in Washington D.C., United States of America, from 26 February to 1 March 2019 (four and a half days, including travel time);
- recalled that, in principle, the quotas applicable during an election year should be equivalent to half the quotas for the reference period, divided equally among the two six-month periods;
- recalled that, under the Rules in force, only members of the delegation and the current committee rapporteur(s), provided that that was justified by the agenda of the IPM concerned, were entitled to participate in inter-parliamentary meetings;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, missions should be undertaken during weeks set aside for external parliamentary activities;

- noted that the proposed dates coincided with half a day without parliamentary activity and two and a half days set aside for parliamentary committee activities (departure on Sunday afternoon of week 44 and return on Wednesday morning of week 45);
- heard Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group;
- authorised the request, on an exceptional basis.

28.2 Request from the Delegation for relations with the Korean Peninsula to hold the 21st EU-Republic of Korea inter-parliamentary meeting, in Brussels, on 4 November 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 10 October 2019 from Ms EDTSTADLER, Chair of the Delegation for relations with the Korean Peninsula, requesting authorisation to hold the 21st EU-Republic of Korea inter-parliamentary meeting (IPM), in Brussels, on 4 November 2019 (PE 641.698/CPG, annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, according to the Code of Conduct on Multilingualism, during committee weeks, delegation meetings were in principle to be scheduled during Thursday afternoon time slots;
- recalled its decision of 29 October 2015 to permit meetings of inter-parliamentary delegations in Brussels on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings, whilst complying fully with the Code of Conduct on Multilingualism, particularly in regard to the scheduling arrangements set out in Article 7, and on the condition that strict priority be given to requests from parliamentary committees;
- recalled that, under Article 8 (3) of the applicable Rules, each inter-parliamentary delegation might hold one inter-parliamentary meeting per year, unless otherwise stipulated in international agreements, to be held alternately in one of Parliament's places of work and in the third country or countries concerned;
- recalled that the 20th EU-Republic of Korea IPM had been held in Brussels in March 2018;
- noted that the date proposed coincided with a Monday afternoon set aside for parliamentary committee activities (Monday of week 45);
- noted that interpretation into four languages was requested;
- authorised the request, on an exceptional basis, provided that resources were available.

28.3 Request from the Delegation to the EU-Chile Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) to hold the 27th EU-Chile JPC meeting in Santiago de Chile, Chile, on 28 and 29 October 2019

The Conference of Presidents, without debate

- took note of a letter dated 10 October 2019 from Ms RODRÍGUEZ-PIÑERO, Chair of the Delegation to the EU-Chile Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC), requesting authorisation to hold the 27th EU-Chile JPC meeting in Santiago de Chile, Chile, on 28 and 29 October 2019 (five and a half days, including travel time) (PE 641.694/CPG, annexes and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, each standing inter-parliamentary delegation might hold only one inter-parliamentary meeting per year;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, in principle, the duration of missions should not exceed five days including travel time;
- noted that the draft agenda of the 27th EU-Chile JPC meeting foresaw meetings in the afternoon of Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning of week 44.
- further noted that the dates proposed for the mission coincided with four days set aside for external parliamentary activities (from Monday to Thursday of week 44) and one and a half days without parliamentary activity (Saturday afternoon and Sunday of the preceding week), and that it would exceed five days;
- noted that interpretation was requested into four languages (active) and one language (passive);
- noted that the 26th JPC EU-Chile meeting had been held in Brussels in June 2018;
- authorised the holding of the 27th EU-Chile JPC, provided that the mission did not exceed five days, including travel time.

28.4 Request from the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly to hold a Bureau meeting in Kiev, Ukraine, on 30 October 2019

The Conference of Presidents

- took note of a letter dated 9 October 2019 from Mr KUBILIUS, Co-President of the Euronest Parliamentary Assembly (PA), requesting authorisation to hold a meeting of the Bureau of the Euronest PA, in Kiev, Ukraine, on 30 October 2019 (two and a half days, including travel time) (PE 641.695/annex and financial statement);
- recalled that, due to the fact that 2019 was an election year, no programme of activities for the second half of 2019 had been submitted;
- recalled that, under the applicable Rules, bureaux of multilateral assemblies should, in principle, meet on the margins of their plenary sessions or via video conferences;
- noted that the dates of the mission coincided with two and a half days set aside for external parliamentary activities (Tuesday afternoon to Thursday of week 44);
- further noted that interpretation into two languages was requested;
- heard Mr WEBER, Chair of the EPP Group;
- authorised the request, on an exceptional basis.

29. Items for information29.1 Internal correspondenceThe Conference of Presidents

- noted the following documents:

- the Conclusions of a Written Procedure dated 9 October 2019 on the request for authorisation to hold a resumed hearing of Ms GOULARD, Commissioner-designate for Internal Market (PE 641.676 CPG/Conclusions);
- the Conclusions of a Written Procedure dated 8 October 2019 on the request for authorisation to hold a resumed hearing of Mr WOJCIECHOWSKI, Commissioner-designate for Agriculture (PE 641.669 CPG/Conclusions);
- the Conclusions of a Written Procedure dated 8 October 2019 on the composition of the delegation to the Conciliation Committee for the 2019 EU budget (PE 641.631/CPG/Conclusions);
- the Conclusions of a Written Procedure dated 8 October 2019 on three items (PE 641.657/CPG/Conclusions);
- a letter dated 9 October 2019 from Ms GARCÍA PÉREZ, Chair of the S&D Group, concerning the handling of written procedures of the Conference of Presidents (PE 641.715/CPG);
- a letter dated 7 October 2019 from Ms ĎURIŠ NICHOLSONOVA, Chair of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, on the resumption of business on social security systems (PE 641.672/CPG);
- a letter dated 3 October 2019 from Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, on the submission of comitology documents under the regulatory procedure with scrutiny during the period of the winter recess 2019 (PE 641.673/CPG and annex);
- a letter dated 2 October 2019 from Mr LANGE, Chair of the Committee on International Trade, on the resumption of business on dual-use recast procedures (PE 641.648/CPG);

- a letter dated 25 September 2019 from Ms DELLI, Chair of the Committee on Transport (TRAN), on the postponement of the TRAN Committee mission to the Balearic Islands, initially scheduled to take place from 28 to 30 October 2019 (PE 641.617/CPG);
- a letter dated 20 September 2019 from Mr TAJANI, Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs, concerning the activities with national parliaments planned by parliamentary committees in the second half of 2019 (PE 641.614/CPG).

29.2 Inter-institutional correspondence

There was none.

29.3 External correspondence

There was none.

30. Date and place of the next meeting

The Conference of Presidents

- noted that its next ordinary meeting would be held on Thursday, 24 October from 10:00 to 12:00 in room R1.1, in the Louise Weiss Building, Strasbourg.

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The meeting closed at 17:17 hours.