



Version February 8, 2017

Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments

21-22 February 2017, Bratislava

Draft Conclusions on IPEX

1. The Secretaries General take note of the annual report on the current status of IPEX and thank the IPEX Board and the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, acting as its Chair, for their work in 2016.
2. The Secretaries General confirm the following composition of the IPEX Board during the Estonian Presidency of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments in 2017/2018:
 - Slovakia (Národná rada), Chair of the IPEX Board (ex officio);
 - Estonia (Riigikogu) (ex officio) ;
 - Austria (Nationalrat and Bundesrat) (ex officio)
 - Malta (Kamra tad-Deputati) (ex officio);
 - European Parliament (ex officio)
 - Belgium (Kamer van Volksvertegenwoordigers/Chambre des représentants and Senaat/Sénat);
 - Denmark (Folketing);
 - France (Assemblée nationale et Sénat);
 - Germany (Bundestag);
 - Greece (Vouli ton Ellinon);
 - Italy (Camera dei Deputati and Senato della Repubblica);
 - Luxembourg (Chambre des Députés)
 - Poland (Sejm and Senat);
 - Portugal (Assembleia da República);
 - Romania (Camera Deputaților and Senatul);
 - The Netherlands (Eerste and Tweede Kamer);
 - Any other Parliament wishing to participate in the work of the IPEX Board.

According to the IPEX Guidelines, COSAC, the ECPRD, the European Commission and the Council participate in and contribute to the IPEX Board meetings.



3. The Secretaries General thank the IPEX Board, and the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, acting as its Chair, for defining a digital strategy for IPEX “meant to provide IPEX with a comprehensive and efficient strategy with the view of a mid-term work programme to be carried out by the rotating presidency¹”. The Secretaries General formally adopt the document on the digital strategy submitted to them. The Secretaries General acknowledge the ongoing work which is being accomplished in view of a mid-term work programme. This programme will be elaborated under the responsibility of and adopted by the IPEX Board.
4. The Secretaries General thank the IPEX Board and the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, acting as its Chair, for their efforts in finalising the IPEX Handbook for the Correspondents whose aim it is to provide support to the national Correspondents by giving a general overview of how IPEX is embedded in the interparliamentary framework. Furthermore, the Handbook informs on the functionalities of the website and offers a guide on how to upload information on IPEX.
5. The Secretaries General thank the IPEX Board and the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, acting as its Chair, for bringing out the IPEX Leaflet which constitutes an instrument aimed at promoting IPEX, both, inside the national Parliaments and outside the parliamentary framework to groups interested in parliamentary activities. The Secretaries General thank the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for bearing the costs incurred by the design and the layout of this Leaflet and welcome the idea of leaving it to the national Parliaments/Chambers to translate it into their language(s).
6. The Secretaries General thank the Chamber of Deputies of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for hosting the annual IPEX Correspondents’ meeting on 1-2 December 2016 in Luxembourg. The Secretaries General underline the importance of the annual IPEX Correspondents’ meetings that represents an excellent opportunity for networking and further encourage the Correspondents to act as promoters of IPEX in their Parliaments.
7. The Secretaries General thank the European Parliament for hosting the Board meeting in Brussels on 21 October 2016.
8. Considering that the number of letters of intent signed by the Parliaments/Chambers have passed the foreseen threshold of at least 15 national Parliaments of at least 15 Member States, the Secretaries General acknowledge that the co-financing scheme of the IPEX Information Officer has entered into force.

¹ Conclusions of the meeting of the Secretaries General held in Luxembourg on 15 February 2016.



CHAMBRE DES DÉPUTÉS
GRAND-DUCHÉ DE LUXEMBOURG



9. The Secretaries General express their gratitude to the Belgian Senate for employing the IPEX Information Officer for a non-fixed term as of 1 January 2017 and for being transparent in the management of its costs. They also thank the European Parliament for providing the logistics and the infrastructure.