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Mr Arthur Elzinga

President of the Standing Committee for
European Affairs

Senate of the States General of the
Kingdom of the Netherlands

Binnenhof 22, Postbus 20017
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Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation

Dear Mr Elzinga,

On behalf of the Swiss delegation for relations with European institutions and their member states, I would like to congratulate you on the presidency of the Council of the European Union, which your country will assume for the twelfth time in January of next year. Endeavouring to contribute to strengthening dialogue and inter-parliamentary cooperation, the Swiss delegation for relations with European institutions and their member states continually strives to foster active, lasting and regular exchanges.

Since the Italian presidency in 2014, a delegation from the Swiss Federal Assembly has been invited to attend the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC). Switzerland's participation in these meetings has contributed greatly to strengthening dialogue and inter-parliamentary cooperation with its most important partners, the members of the EU.

That is why it would be a great honour to be able to represent a Swiss delegation with observer status at the next meeting of the chairpersons of COSAC, and at the COSAC plenary meeting. Participation at future inter-parliamentary meetings during the Dutch presidency of the Council of the EU would provide a valuable opportunity to strengthen bilateral relations.



In my capacity as president of the delegation for relations with European institutions and their member states, I would be very grateful if you would consider Switzerland's request to attend the forthcoming meetings of COSAC as an observer, as well as at future inter-parliamentary meetings planned during the Dutch presidency.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Kathy Riklin
Member of the National Council
President of the EFTA/EU Delegation