

**Conclusions of the
Meeting of representatives of the
Committees on European Affairs of National Parliaments of
Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, and Poland**

Pärnu, September 6, 2010

Representatives of the commissions for European affairs of Riigikogu of the Republic of Estonia, Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, Sejm and Senate of the Republic of Poland, who met in Pärnu on September 5-6, 2010:

Sustainable development and the programme EU2020

- Stress that Member States should take into account lessons learned from the implementation of the Lisbon strategy.
- Express their common belief that the clear objective of EU 2020 strategy should be to regain scope for action and be able to mobilize the necessary resources to sustain growth-enhancing investments while ensuring the sustainability of public finances and social protection systems in order to maintain intergenerational solidarity and cohesion.
- Strongly support development and creation of transport and energy interconnections and the creation of European energy policy.
- Emphasize that the goals of EU2020 should be supported by the future Financial Perspective.

Parliamentary control of the European Security and Defence Policy

- Note that creation of a special mechanism, structure or forum cannot be decided before the common understanding of the interpretation of Lisbon Treaty Article 9 of Protocol 1 on the role of national Parliaments in parliamentary control of CSDP has been reached. The creation of a new format is not desirable *per se* unless it has been convincingly proved that the existing forms cannot provide the same results than the possible new forms.
- Suggest that the Member State holding the rotating Presidency could have a special role irrespective of the creation of a new body or leaving the scrutiny to be exercised by the existing bodies (COFACC and “CODAC”).
- Believe that it is best to avoid additional costs for national Parliaments and to accommodate new role of national Parliaments into the existing framework that will allow to keep within the current budget.

The Belgian Presidency

- Strongly support the strengthening of budgetary policies and overall level of competitiveness in the European Union.
- Are of the opinion that sustainability of public finances is the main operative tool for recovery of EU's economies.
- Stress that rigorous implementation of the stability and growth pact, enhanced economic policy coordination, and when necessary, establishment of tougher sanctions are needed.
- Emphasize that our interest is a smoothly functioning single market. In the context of the re-launch of the single market it is important that the Single Market Act, currently prepared by the European Commission, be ambitious and lead to reduction of differences and market fragmentation.
- Confirm their belief that the reform of EU common agricultural policy should be carried out in a way that it would be fair to all Member States and would enable European agricultural sector to become more competitive and sustainable in the future.