

REPLIES TO QUESTIONNAIRE CONCERNING THE LANGUAGE REGIME OF COSAC

The COSAC Secretariat had as of Friday 14 May 2004 received eighteen replies to the questionnaire on possible changes to the interpretation regime of COSAC.

Nine parliaments have expressed their willingness to consider a reduced interpretation regime for COSACs meetings, while nine have replied that they wish to maintain the present system that provides interpretation from and into all EU languages.

However there are big differences in the views of the ten Parliaments who are willing to consider amending the present interpretation regime. Five of them suggest that it should still be possible for COSAC participants to *speak* in their own language, but the access to interpretation could be limited to a reduced number of languages. The remaining five find it sufficient that interpretation is provided to and from 2-5 of the languages of the EU.

	<i>Would you prefer another language regime?</i>	<i>Would you prefer to maintain the present regime of simultaneous interpretation into the official languages of the EU?</i>
Austria (both chambers)	Yes, English, French, and German.	No
Belgium (Chamber of Representatives)	No	Yes
Belgium (Senat)	No	Yes
Cyprus	No	Yes
Czech Republic (Senat)	English and French, but it should be possible to bring own interpreter.	No
Denmark	No	Yes
Estonia	It should be possible to speak one's own language.	Yes
France (Assemblée Nationale)	Yes, but it should be possible to bring own interpreter.	No
France (Senat)	Yes, prefers English, French, German, Italian and Spanish, but willing to discuss other possibilities.	No
Germany (Bundestag)	Yes, English, French, German, Italian and possibly Spanish	No
Germany (Bundesrat)	Yes, English, French, German, Italian and possibly Spanish	No
Greece	No	Yes
Latvia	Yes but it should preferably be possible to speak one's own language. However, also willing to accept English/French + language of host country.	No
Lithuania	No	Yes
Luxembourg	Yes. French and English.	No
Poland	Yes, interpretation into English, French and language of the country holding the presidency, but the host should be able to provide the technical facilities for delegations who bring their own interpreters.	
Portugal	No	Yes
Sweden	No	yes

