



19.11.2019

COSAC Agenda Proposal of the Hellenic Parliament

Mr Nikitas Kaklamanis
First Vice President and
Chairman of the Special Standing
Committee on European Affairs
Hellenic Parliament

Dear Vice President Kaklamanis,

I refer to your letter of 13 November 2019, in which you propose that the issue of Migration and Asylum is put on the agenda of the LXIII COSAC, to be held in Zagreb next year.

Your proposal has been discussed by COSAC's Presidential Troika, which agreed with the following position of the incoming Croatian Presidency:

The incoming Croatian Presidency is fully aware of the relevance of the issue of migration, and understands the desire to ensure Europe's readiness to respond effectively to medium and long-term migratory challenges and put in place a fair, more efficient and sustainable European migration governance and asylum system. It is, furthermore, the incoming Croatian Presidency's belief that this topic deserves to be discussed in various fora, COSAC included. It is the incoming Croatian Presidency's understanding, however, that the issue of migration would be represented at fora taking place simultaneously with the LXIII COSAC Conference that is to take place in Zagreb on 24 - 26 May, 2020, most notably at the European Parliament's LIBE Committee-organised ICM taking place the same week as the COSAC Conference. It is the incoming Croatian Presidency's belief that it would be better to avoid such an unfortunate overlap of discussions on this important topic, which would, unavoidably, result in reducing the visibility of the debate on this pertinent topic. In conclusion, the view of the incoming Presidency is that it would be better to use the first next possibility provided in the COSAC framework to discuss the issue of migration. That would, furthermore, enable

the deliberations to draw upon the experience of the implementation of the Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Border and Coast Guard, which has been adopted but has not yet entered into force.

Your letter has been appended to the documents of the Helsinki COSAC and will be debated there under the appropriate heading.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Satu Hassi". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Satu Hassi
Chairperson, Grand Committee
Parliament of Finland