



President of the European Parliament, Mr Sassoli  
Vice-President of the Commission, Ms Suica  
Minister of State for Europe, Mr Roth

## **Hosting a citizens' event during the Conference on the Future of Europe**

Dear Ms Suica, Dear Mr Sassoli, Dear Mr Roth.

03 July 2020

It is with great pleasure that we in the Danish Parliament's European Affairs Committee received the news on an agreement in the Council on its position regarding the Conference on the Future of Europe. Hopefully, the interinstitutional talks may now be concluded swiftly in order for the conference to begin during German presidency.

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The Conference will be a very important element in the democratic dialogue on current and future challenges and solutions in Europe. I strongly agree with thoughts on a partnership-based approach to the Conference. Engaging with various actors can help reaching out to all parts of society. National parliaments play a key role in these efforts. Not only in terms of engaging with citizens, but also in taking a shared ownership for the conference, which is a prerequisite for its success.

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The Danish Parliament therefore kindly offers to host a European level citizens' event whenever it is again safe to gather larger number of people in light of the covid19 pandemic.

The Danish Parliament has a long tradition of dialogue and debate with citizens on European Affairs. The parliament has for instance organised weekend events in different regions of the country with 400 citizens selected by polling institutes to constitute a representative sample of the population. The model has been deliberate democracy and the issues debated has been European. These events have been very successful. Please see the attached paper for further details.

By hosting a citizens' event as part of the Conference on the Future of Europe we hope to contribute with our experience in engaging citizens in the very important debate on the future of Europe.



FOLKETINGET

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Søren G. H.', is written over a faint, light blue circular watermark. The signature is fluid and cursive.

Chair of the European Affairs Committee of the Danish Parliament

ANNEX:

Contribution from the Danish Parliament. Engaging with citizens on EU Affairs, 20 December 2019