



The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

# IPEX - What does it stand for?

<http://www.ipex.eu>

[uwe.jaensch@bundestag.de](mailto:uwe.jaensch@bundestag.de)

[Vilnius, 10 October 2014](#)





## The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

### Legal Basis

#### Treaty of Lissabon (Article 12)

National Parliaments contribute actively to the good functioning of the Union:

- a) through being informed by the institutions of the Union and having draft legislative acts of the Union forwarded to them in accordance with the Protocol on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union;
- b) by seeing to it that the principle of subsidiarity is respected in accordance with the procedures provided for in the Protocol on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality;
- c) by taking part, within the framework of the area of freedom, security and justice, in the evaluation mechanisms for the implementation of the Union policies in that area, in accordance with Article 70 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, and through being involved in the political monitoring of Europol and the evaluation of Eurojust's activities in accordance with Articles 88 and 85 of that Treaty;
- d) by taking part in the revision procedures of the Treaties, in accordance with Article 48 of this Treaty;
- e) by being notified of applications for accession to the Union, in accordance with Article 49 of this Treaty;
- f) by taking part in the inter-parliamentary cooperation between national Parliaments and with the European Parliament, in accordance with the Protocol on the role of national Parliaments in the European Union.



**The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange**

PROTOCOL (No 1)

## **ON THE ROLE OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS IN THE EUROPEAN UNION**

### *Article 1*

Commission consultation documents (green and white papers and communications) shall be forwarded directly by the Commission to national Parliaments upon publication. The Commission shall also forward the annual legislative programme as well as any other instrument of legislative planning or policy to national Parliaments, at the same time as to the European Parliament and the Council.

### *Article 2*

Draft legislative acts sent to the European Parliament and to the Council shall be forwarded to national Parliaments...

### *Article 3*

National Parliaments may send to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission a reasoned opinion on whether a draft legislative act complies with the principle of subsidiarity, in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Protocol on the application of the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality.



## The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

### PROTOCOL (No 2)

## ON THE APPLICATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF SUBSIDIARITY AND PROPORTIONALITY

#### *Article 1*

Each institution shall ensure constant respect for the principles of subsidiarity and proportionality, as laid down in Article 5 of the Treaty on European Union.

#### *Article 4*

The Commission shall forward its draft legislative acts and its amended drafts to national Parliaments at the same time as to the Union legislator.

The European Parliament shall forward its draft legislative acts and its amended drafts to national Parliaments.

The Council shall forward draft legislative acts originating from a group of Member States, the Court of Justice, the European Central Bank or the European Investment Bank and amended drafts to national Parliaments...



## The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

### *Article 6*

Any national Parliament or any chamber of a national Parliament may, within eight weeks from the date of transmission of a draft legislative act, in the official languages of the Union, send to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission a reasoned opinion stating why it considers that the draft in question does not comply with the principle of subsidiarity. It will be for each national Parliament or each chamber of a national Parliament to consult, where appropriate, regional parliaments with legislative powers.



## The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

### *Article 7*

1. The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission, and, where appropriate, the group of Member States, the Court of Justice, the European Central Bank or the European Investment Bank, if the draft legislative act originates from them, shall take account of the reasoned opinions issued by national Parliaments or by a chamber of a national Parliament.

Each national Parliament shall have two votes, shared out on the basis of the national Parliamentary system. In the case of a bicameral Parliamentary system, each of the two chambers shall have one vote.

2. Where reasoned opinions on a draft legislative act's non-compliance with the principle of subsidiarity represent at least one third of all the votes allocated to the national Parliaments in accordance with the second subparagraph of paragraph 1, the draft must be reviewed. This threshold shall be a quarter in the case of a draft legislative act submitted on the basis of Article 76 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union on the area of freedom, security and justice.



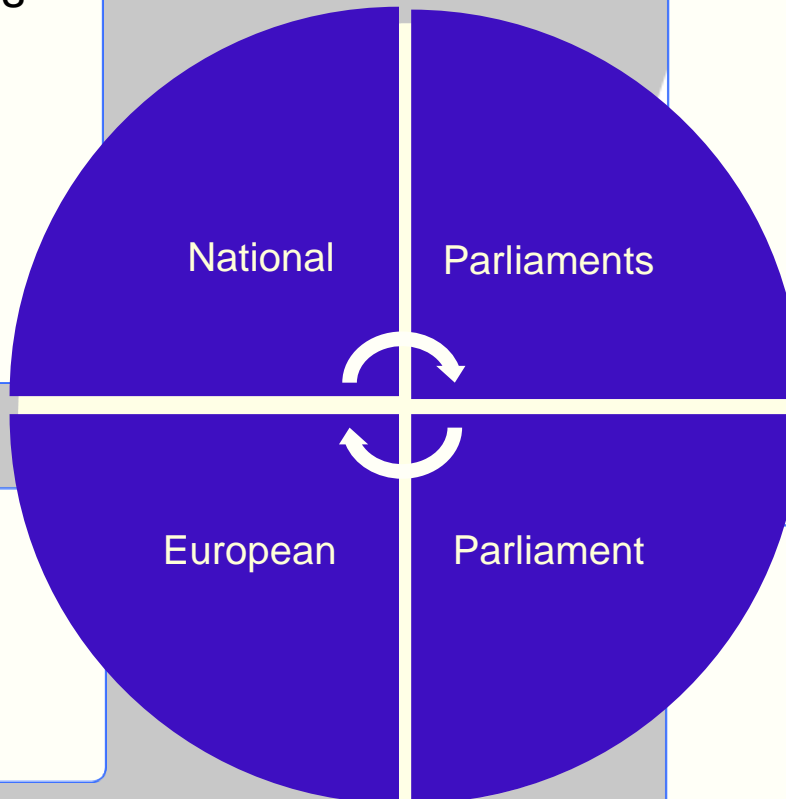
The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

## Interparliamentary Cooperation

Conference of Speakers  
of the European Union  
Parliaments and other  
interparliamentary  
Conferences

Conference of  
Community and  
European Affairs  
Committees  
(COSAC)

IPEX



Representatives of  
the national  
Parliaments in  
Brussels



## The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

### Basis of data

- Metadata and documents of the European institutions, published in form of dossiers in the IPEX DATABASE
- Information and documents coming from national Parliaments transmitted and directly uploaded by the national IPEX Correspondents to the IPEX DATABASE
- Information about recent parliamentary debates, adopted legislation, hearings or visits to be transmitted as NEWS to the IPEX information officer who uploads it to the NEWS section of IPEX
- Information and documents explaining European affairs and how they are dealt with in the NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS section
- Information and documents of the presidency of the Speakers Conference and other interparliamentary conferences



**The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange**

## **The IPEX database**

Information exchange (Webportal/IPEX HOMEPAGE with Database of DOCUMENTS)

- about consultation documents of the European Commission (according to Protocol no 1)
- about draft legislative acts (according to Protocol no 1)
- between national Parliaments and the European Parliament about legislation in shared competences regarding
  - subsidiarity (8-week deadline according to Protocol no 2)
  - proportionality
- in the framework of the Political Dialogue with the Commission (formerly known as Barroso Initiative and recently confirmed by President Juncker who announced to „improve the interaction with national Parliaments“)



**The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange**

## **The IPEX homepage and subsite with the NEWS section**

Information exchange between the national Parliaments and the European Parliament referring to European affairs

- about parliamentary debates, adopted legislation, hearings and visits

By respecting the Guidelines for News in IPEX

- politically independent and factually accurate information
- clearly relevant to the content of the IPEX site
- drafted into the English/French language and when not available, providing an abstract in English/French
- identifiable in terms of their source
- respectful of the official names of the EU Member States and candidate countries as used by the EU institutions according to UN resolutions



**The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange**

## **The national Parliaments IPEX subsites**

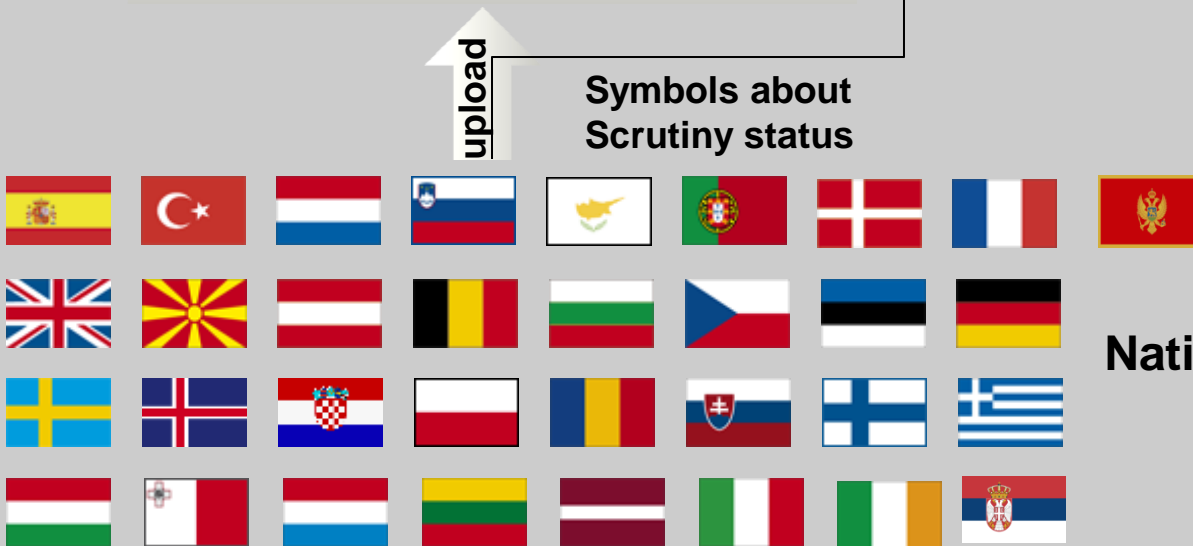
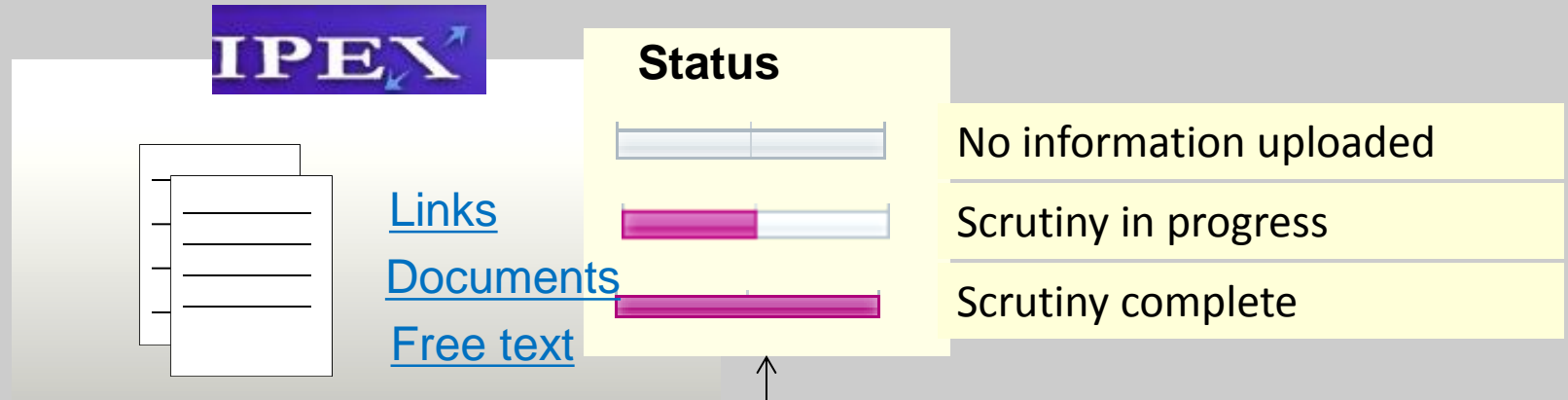
Information exchange between the national Parliaments and the European Parliament referring to European affairs aiming to improve their guidance and scrutiny procedures with a view to achieving greater consistency

- about national legal basis and rules of procedure (f.i. procedures when checking aspects of subsidiarity and proportionality)
- about structures and activities of the administrations of the national Parliaments



The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

## Upload of documents and links with informationen about scrutiny status



National IPEX Correspondents



The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange

More information by uploading freetext or symbols



National IPEX Correspondents



**The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange**

## **IPEX - What does it stand for?**

**Platform for exchange of information between the national Parliaments and between the national Parliaments and the European Parliament**

**Platform used by the national Parliaments in their relationship with the European Union institutions**

**Information about the contribution of the national Parliaments to the legitimacy and the good functioning of the European Union dedicated to bringing the European Union closer to citizens**

<http://www.ipex.eu>

[uwe.jaensch@bundestag.de](mailto:uwe.jaensch@bundestag.de)



## The platform for EU Interparliamentary Exchange



<http://www.ipex.eu>