



*Draft as of 30 January 2023*

## **Meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments 6 February 2023, Prague (Videoconference)**

### **Draft Conclusions on IPEX**

1. The Secretaries General take note of the Annual Report on the current status of IPEX and thank the IPEX Board for its work in 2022.

2. The Secretaries General approve the following composition of the IPEX Board during the Czech Chairmanship, scheduled to be after the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments on 24–25 April 2023 in Prague:

- Ex-officio members:

- The Czech Republic (Chamber of Deputies, Senate), which will assume the Chairmanship of the IPEX Board after the Conference of Speakers of Parliaments of the European Union Member States on 24–25 April 2023
- Spain (Cortes Generales)
- Hungary (National Assembly)
- Sweden (Riksdag)
- European Parliament

- National parliaments willing to contribute to the Board and its activities:

- Austria (Bundesrat, Nationalrat)
- Bulgaria (National Assembly)
- Cyprus (House of Representatives)
- Denmark (Parliament)
- France (Assemblée Nationale, Sénat)
- Germany (Bundestag)
- Greece (Parliament)
- Ireland (Houses of the Oireachtas)
- Italy (Chamber of Deputies, Senate)
- Luxembourg (Chamber of Deputies)
- The Netherlands (Senate)
- Poland (Sejm, Senate)
- Portugal (Assembleia da República)
- Romania (Chamber of Deputies, Senate)
- Slovenia (National Assembly)

*[to be updated after the Board Meeting based on submitted letters of intent and at the end of the Secretaries General Meeting in case of impromptu volunteering]*

According to the IPEX Guidelines, the IPEX Information Officer, COSAC, the ECPRD, the European Commission, and the Council also participate in and contribute to IPEX Board meetings.

3. The Secretaries General recognize IPEX as a unique platform that fosters interparliamentary cooperation and provides a wide range of EU-related information.

4. The Secretaries General are in favour of continuing to raise awareness about the role of IPEX within interparliamentary cooperation, paying special attention to adjustments to users' needs and ensuring the technical accuracy, accessibility, and reliability of the entire IPEX platform.

5. The Secretaries General recognize the work accomplished as part of the three-year IPEX Work Programme (2021–2023), seeing it as a good foundation for the future smooth development of IPEX in the next cycle.

6. The Secretaries General welcome the follow-up to the baseline study, providing new insight into the use of IPEX and strengthening interparliamentary networks.

7. The Secretaries General recognize the initiative to enhance exchanges between IPEX and the scientific community, welcoming the introduction of a new segment of the follow-up study questionnaire intended for the scientific community.

8. The Secretaries General encourage greater emphasis on training National Correspondents, since improving the functionality of IPEX for users also implies a need for practical training and regular updates to the instruction and training materials.

9. The Secretaries General recognize the efforts aimed at promoting and growing the visibility of IPEX.

10. The Secretaries General approve the new revised IPEX Guidelines. The Secretaries General also recognize the work and effort invested into this task by the Slovenian Chairmanship.

11. The Secretaries General recognize the efforts put into the development of IPEX v3, making the IPEX platform more reliable and accessible.

12. The Secretaries General welcome the organization of the annual IPEX National Correspondents Meeting on 27 and 28 October 2022 in Ljubljana at the National Assembly. The Secretaries General thank the Slovenian Board Chairs for organizing the meeting. The Secretaries General recognize the Annual IPEX Correspondents Meeting as an excellent opportunity for additional training and the exchange of views.

13. The Secretaries General welcome the improved cooperation between IPEX and the Democracy Support Network (DSN). The Secretaries General encourage all national parliaments to update and actively share information in a timely manner via the IPEX

platform and the DSN Network, as well as to seek new avenues for cooperation in this area.

14. The Secretaries General thank the Belgian Senate for continuing to employ the IPEX Information Officer.

15. Based on the European Council's decision from June 2022, granting candidate status to Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, as well as the European Council's decision from December 2022, granting candidate status to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Secretaries General extend an invitation to the parliaments of the Republic of Moldova, Ukraine, and Bosnia and Herzegovina to join IPEX and look forward to constructively working with them in the future.

16. The Secretaries General recognize that IPEX is developing into an effective platform for information exchange and evolving into a unique one-stop-shop for information on the European Union.