



Draft as of 31.03.2015

Plenary Meeting of the LIII COSAC

31 May – 2 June 2015
Riga

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, 31 May 2015

14:00 – 19:00 Arrival of delegations and registration for the event at the hotels

Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC

17:40 Departure from the hotels to the Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre

18:00 – 19:00 Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC
Venue: Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre, Ķīpsalas iela 8

19:20 Departure by bus from the Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre to the National Library of Latvia

19:30 Departure by bus from the hotels to the National Library of Latvia

20:00 Dinner hosted by *Ms Lolita Čigāne*, Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
Venue: National Library of Latvia, Mūkusalas iela 3

22:00 Return to the hotels by bus

Monday, 1 June 2015

Meetings of the political groups

7:40 Departure by bus from the hotels to the Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre

8:00 – 8:50 Meetings of political groups
Venue: Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre, Ķīpsalas iela 8

8:30 Departure by bus from the hotels to the Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre

8:30 Coffee and registration for the event (for those not yet registered)
Venue: Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre, Ķīpsalas iela 8



9:00 – 9:30

OPENING SESSION

Welcome address by *Ms Ināra Mūrniece*, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

Introductory remarks by *Ms Lolita Čigāne*, Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia

Procedural matters of the Plenary Meeting of the LIII COSAC

- Adoption of the agenda for the Plenary Meeting of the LIII COSAC
- Presentation of the 23rd Bi-Annual Report of COSAC
- Procedural matters

Debate

SESSION I

State of Play of the Latvian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

9:30 – 11:00

Ms Laimdota Straujuma, Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia

Debate

11:00 – 11:15

Coffee break
Hall 1

SESSION II

European Union Energy Policy: State of Play, Challenges and Opportunities

11:15 – 12:45

Mr Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the European Commission for Energy Union

Mr Jerzy Buzek, Chair of the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy of the European Parliament, *TBC*

Mr Petr Hlobil, Chair of the *Green 10*, *TBC*

Debate

12:45

Family photo

13:00 – 15:00

Lunch
Hall 2

13:40 – 14:40

LUNCH SESSION

Dealing with the Security Concerns in the Middle East and North African Region

Venue: Hall TBC; working language – English

Moderator: *Mr Ojārs Ēriks Kalniņš*, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia, *TBC*

Speakers:

– *Mr Karim Emile Bitar*, Senior Research Fellow of the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs *IRIS*, *TBC*

– *Mr Charles Lister*, Visiting Fellow of the *Brookings Doha Center*, *TBC*



SESSION III

15:00 – 17:00

The European Union as a Global Actor: EU Trade Policy for next five years

Ms Cecilia Malmström, European Commissioner for Trade

Ms Elena Bryan, Senior Trade Representative, United States Mission to the EU, **TBC**

Debate

17:00

End of first day

Return to the hotels by bus

17:10 – 18:00

Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC

Consideration of the draft Contributions of the Plenary Meeting of the LIII COSAC

18:10

Return to the hotels by bus

19:30

Departure by bus from the hotels to the Residence of the Saeima Presidium

20:00

Dinner hosted by *Ms Ināra Mūrniece*, Speaker of the Saeima of the Republic of Latvia
Venue: Residence of the Saeima Presidium, Jūrmala

22:30

Return to the hotels by bus

Tuesday, 2 June 2015

8:30

Departure by bus from the hotels to the Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre
Venue: Ķīpsala International Exhibition Centre, Ķīpsalas iela 8

SESSION IV

Future of the Parliamentary Scrutiny of the European Union Affairs

9:00 – 10:00

1. National Parliaments' Involvement in EU Decision-Making: State of Play and Overview of Existing Instruments

Mr Herman De Croo, Member of the Flemish Parliament **TBC**

Mr/Ms TBC

Debate

10:00 – 11:00

2. Green Card: Towards an Enhanced Political Dialogue

Mr Dominic Hannigan, Chairman of the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs
of the Houses of the Oireachtas, **TBC**

Mr/Ms TBC Representative from the national Parliament

Debate



- 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee break
Hall 1
- 11:30 – 12:30 **3. The European Commission’s Multiannual Work Programme and the Role of Parliaments**

Ms Maria João Rodrigues, Member of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs of the European Parliament, **TBC**
Ms/ Mr TBC

Debate
- 12:30 – 13:30 **Adoption of the Contributions of the Plenary Meeting of the LIII COSAC**
- 13:30 – 15:00 Lunch
Hall 2
- 15:00 End of the Plenary Meeting of the LIII COSAC
- 15:15 **Return to the hotels by bus**
Optional – guided tour in the Old Town of Riga

Departure of delegations

