



**REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

27 September 2018

**DR REINHOLD LOPATKA
CHAIRMAN OF THE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEE
ON MATTERS OF THE EUROPEAN UNION OF THE
NATIONAL COUNCIL**

**MR CHRISTIAN BUCHMANN
CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROPEAN UNION COMMITTEE OF
THE FEDERAL COUNCIL**

Dear colleagues,

It is my great pleasure to congratulate you for the active and constructive work during the parliamentary dimension of the Austrian presidency of the Council of the European Union. I am confident that the LX COSAC in Vienna will be the successful conclusion of your efforts.

I am writing to you in regard to a matter that was raised during the LIX COSAC in Sofia when the parliaments of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine submitted a letter to the Presidency. They inquired about the possibility of amending the Rules of Procedure of COSAC in order to allow them to be invited to COSAC meetings on a regular basis. As I informed the colleagues from Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, as well as the other delegates in Sofia, I found that the request deserved further consideration.

I am convinced that there is indeed room for improvement of the existing framework. Therefore, in accordance with section 11 of the Rules of Procedure, I am submitting my proposal for their revision. It is my sincere belief that close parliamentary cooperation not only with the candidate countries but also with the potential candidates, the Eastern Partnership partner countries and the EFTA countries, is valuable and necessary for the future of our Union and we should strive to enhance and facilitate it.

Following the established procedure I would like to share my proposal and this letter with the rest of the COSAC delegations in accordance with the deadline prescribed in the Rules of Procedure. I would also like to invite you to include my proposal in the agenda of the LX COSAC for further debate.

I would like to thank you once again for our fruitful cooperation during the Bulgarian presidency and I hope we can continue the good work in the following months.

Yours sincerely,

**KRISTIAN VIGENIN
CHAIRMAN OF THE
COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS AND
OVERSIGHT OF THE EUROPEAN FUNDS**

Proposal for amendment of the Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union submitted by the Bulgarian delegation

A new paragraph to be included:

3.2a Observers from other Parliaments

Two members of the Parliaments of each EU potential candidate country, EFTA country and Eastern Partnership partner country shall be invited as observers to plenary and extraordinary COSAC meetings as well as to the meetings of the Chairpersons of Committees for Union Affairs. The Presidency, after consultation with the Troika, may withdraw an invitation on a case by case basis.