



The “European Affairs in the Croatian Parliament” bulletin is published monthly by the European Affairs Department. It provides the reader with an overview of parliamentary activities in the field of EU affairs and inter-parliamentary cooperation as well as with access to EU documents forwarded to national parliaments.

In Focus

European Affairs activities of the MP's in the 9th term of the Croatian Parliament

In the 9th term, the Parliament continued to participate in the European legislative process in accordance with the Law on Cooperation between the Croatian Parliament and the Government of the Republic of Croatia in the European Affairs and its Rules of Procedure and the powers of national parliaments arising from European Union law.

Parliament regularly monitored the work of the Government by discussing reports from all European Council meetings. The Committee on European Affairs and the competent working bodies considered individual reports from the meetings of the Council of the European Union as well as the positions of the Republic of Croatia on individual draft acts, and in three cases the Committee on European Affairs participated in the process of proposing candidates for EU institutions.

Interparliamentary cooperation in the European Union is also a form of the influence of national parliaments on the decision-making process at the European level, as a result of which members of the Croatian Parliament in the 9th term participated in 156 meetings.

As the national parliament of an EU member state, the Croatian Parliament is the host of the parliamentary dimension of the Croatian Presidency of the Council from 1 January to 30 June 2020.

The calendar of the parliamentary dimension of the Croatian presidency provided for the holding of five inter-parliamentary conferences and meetings (four in Zagreb and one in Brussels). However, due to the circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic and the cancellation of international activities in the European Union institutions and member states, the Croatian Parliament organized only three conferences.

However, despite the cancellation of the 6th meeting of the Europol Joint Parliamentary Oversight Group (JPSG), the Croatian Parliament, ie the Committee on Internal Policy and National Security, decided, in its capacity as co-chair of the Europol Joint Parliamentary Oversight Group, to monitor the activities of Europol in writing, in accordance with the provisions of Art. 12 and 51 of the Europol Regulation.

In relation to the cancelled plenary meeting of COSAC, the Committee on European Affairs, in cooperation with the members of the Troika, conducted the procedure of adopting the 33rd Bi-annual report of COSAC. Additionally, European Affairs Committee organised Extraordinary Meeting of the Chairpersons of COSAC via videoconference on 16 June 2020.

Below are statistical data on the activities of the Croatian Parliament arising from the membership of the Republic of Croatia in the European Union in the 9th term from 14 October 2016 to 18 May 2020.

**Government's reports on meetings of the European Council**

Government's reports on meetings of the European Council						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Report related to the meetings of the European Council held in the previous year	-	1	1	1	1	4
Report on meeting of European Council	1	3	2	2	-	8

Government's reports on the meetings of the Council of the European Union						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Report considered at the European Affairs Committee session (together with the other relevant Committee)	2	2	1	-	1	6
Received position of the Republic of Croatia on the Council meeting	-	68	76	59	2	205

Reports on the meetings of the Council of the European Union by Ministry

Reports on the meetings of the Council of the European Union by Ministry						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Ministry of the Foreign and European Affairs	1	2	-	-	-	9
Ministry of Agriculture	1	-	1	-	1	7

Debates on the position of the Republic of Croatia on a document of the European Union

Debates on the position of the republic of Croatia on a document of the European Union			
	Positions of the Republic of Croatia	Opinions of competent committees	Conclusions of the European Affairs Committee
Work programme 2017	38	43	38
Work programme 2018	42	52	33
Work programme 2019	25	23	32
Work programme 2020	-	-	-
In total	105	118	103



Thematic session of the Committees on European policies

Session of the Committees						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
European Affairs Committee	-	5	2	3	-	10
Finance and Central Budget Committee	-	1	3	-	-	4
Agriculture Committee	-	2	-	-	-	2
Committee on Regional Development and European Union Funds	-	1	1	1	-	3
Foreign Policy Committee	-	-	2	-	-	2
Defence Committee	-	-	1	-	-	1
Committee on Maritime Affairs, Transportation and Infrastructure	-	-	1	-	-	1
Health and Social Policy Committee	-	-	1	1	-	1

Debate on National Reform Programme and Convergence Programme						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Joint Session of European Affairs Committee and Finance and Central Budget Committee	-	1	1	1	1	4

Participation in the procedure of proposing candidates of the republic of Croatia for the institutions and bodies of the European Union

Implemented procedures		
		Approved candidates
European Affairs Committee Session held on 14 December 2018	Procedure for the appointment of Judges of the General Court of the Court of Justice of the European Union in the mandate 2019 – 2024	Prof. dr. sc. Vesna Tomljenović Prof. dr. sc. Tamara Perišin
European Affairs Committee Session held on 27 February 2019	Procedure for the appointment of Judge of the European Court of Auditor in the mandate 2019 – 2024	Ivana Maletić
European Affairs Committee Session held on 22 August 2019	Procedure for the nomination of Member of the European Commission in the mandate 2019 – 2024	Dubravka Šuica



Political dialogue of the European Commission with national parliaments of EU member states

Opinions submitted to the European Commission by the Croatian Parliament						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Opinion	-	2	2	-	1	5

Opinions submitted by relevant Committee						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
European Affairs Committee	-	1	1	-	1	3
Agriculture Committee	-	-	1	-	-	1
Health and Social Policy Committee	-	1	-	-	-	1

EU documents forwarded directly to the Croatian Parliament

EU documents forwarded directly to the Croatian Parliament						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Number of documents	183	711	773	553	172	2341

Implementation of European law

Implementation of European law						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Number of laws adopted	14	50	71	47	25	207

Inter-parliamentary Cooperation in the European Union

Participation of MP's at the meetings of Inter-parliamentary Cooperation						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Number of meetings	8	46	36	51	15	156



Participation of MP's by the meeting type						
	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	IN TOTAL
Meetings organised by European Parliament or national parliament in the framework of the parliamentary dimension of the Council of the European Union Presidency	4	21	23	20	3	71
Visits by the European Union officials and officials of member states	4	19	11	23	10	67
Meetings in the framework of Macro-Regional Strategies of the European Union	-	1	1	1	-	3
Meetings in the framework of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for Mediterranean	-	-	-	2	-	2
Other meetings	-	5	1	5	2	13

Calendar of inter-parliamentary conferences and meetings within the framework of the Parliamentary Dimension of the Croatian Presidency of the Council of the European Union

1 January – 30 June 2020

Date / Meeting
19 – 20 January 2020 Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs (COSAC), Zagreb
18 – 19 February 2020 Inter-parliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union, European Parliament, Brussels
2 – 4 March 2020 Inter-parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP), Zagreb
22 – 23 March 2020 6th Meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group (JPSG) on the European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation (Europol), Zagreb CANCELLED
24 – 26 May 2020 LXIII Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC), Zagreb CANCELLED
16 June 2020 Extraordinary Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs (COSAC), Zagreb VIDEOCONFERENCE



Activities of the Croatian Parliament in the Decision-Making Process

Activities of the European Affairs Committee

European Affairs Committee held two sessions in May 2020 as follows:

- On its 58th session held on 8 May 2020, European Affairs Committee adopted Work Programme for the consideration of the positions of the Republic of Croatia for 2020. Additionally, Committee adopted Report on its activities for 2019 and submitted it to the plenary for approval.
- On its 59th session held on 15 May 2020, joint session with Finance and Central Budget Committee, European Affairs Committee debated on National Reform Programme 2020 and Convergence Programme 2020 – 2021.

Application of EU law

In May, Croatian Parliament enacted 7 laws in the process of implementation of European law.

EU documents Forwarded Directly to the Croatian Parliament

According to the Protocol (no 1) on the Role of the National Parliaments in the European Union, all draft laws and communications shall be forwarded directly to the national parliaments.

The Croatian Parliament publishes on a daily basis the EU documents received, along with the information on: document number, adoption procedure, transmission date and subsidiarity deadline.

In May 2020, EU institutions forwarded to the Croatian Parliament [59 documents](#): 37 draft laws and 22 communications and other non-binding documents.

Inter-parliamentary Cooperation in the European Union

Inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union encompasses the cooperation between the European Parliament and the national parliaments and the cooperation among the national parliaments in the frame of the parliamentary dimension of the Council Presidency.

All conferences, meetings and other activities that take place in the framework of inter-parliamentary cooperation in the European Union planned for May and June are not held until further notice due to the situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic.



Parliamentary dimension of the Croatian presidency of the Council of the European Union

Activities of the Croatian Parliament in the Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of the European Union (COSAC)

Following the decision to cancel the LXIII Conference of Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of the European Union (COSAC) due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts of the earthquake that hit Zagreb, the Chairman of the European Affairs Committee Domagoj Ivan Milošević, acting as the chair of the COSAC, proposed that the Presidential Troika meet by video conference to exchange views on the further course of action of the COSAC as a forum for interparliamentary cooperation in light of the current crisis caused by the coronavirus.

The Presidential Troika held the extraordinary meeting on 20 May and decided that an Extraordinary Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees for Union Affairs would be held via video conference. The topics to discuss will be the common European response to the COVID-19 outbreak and its impacts on the Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027 and the Conference on the Future of Europe. The main points of the meeting will be presented to the Commission and the Council.

The meeting is held on 16 June 2020 from 09.00 to 12.00 hrs CET via the Cisco Webex platform. All documents are available [here](#) and on IPEX. The meeting is open to the public by means of [web streaming](#).

Activities of the Croatian Parliament in the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol

The 6th Meeting of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol is cancelled due to the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts of the earthquake that affected Zagreb on 22 March 2020.

Having consulted with the other members of the Presidential Troika, the Co-Chairs of the Joint Parliamentary Scrutiny Group on Europol Ranko Ostojić and Juan Fernando López Aguilar decided to cancel the JPSG meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the impacts of the earthquake in Zagreb.

In order to ensure the continuity of the JPSG activities during the coronavirus crisis, an electronic exchange of information has been proposed between JPSG members and the Europol Executive Director, the Chairperson of the Europol Management Board, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the Chair of the Europol Cooperation Committee, who are invited, as keynote speakers of the cancelled meeting, to submit their written contributions by 1 June 2020.

JPSG members are also invited to submit their written contributions and questions, following the contributions of the keynote speakers, if they are interested by 15 June 2020. A consolidated answer will be provided to all contributions and questions by 30 June 2020.

All contributions will be distributed by e-mail and published [here](#) and on IPEX.

